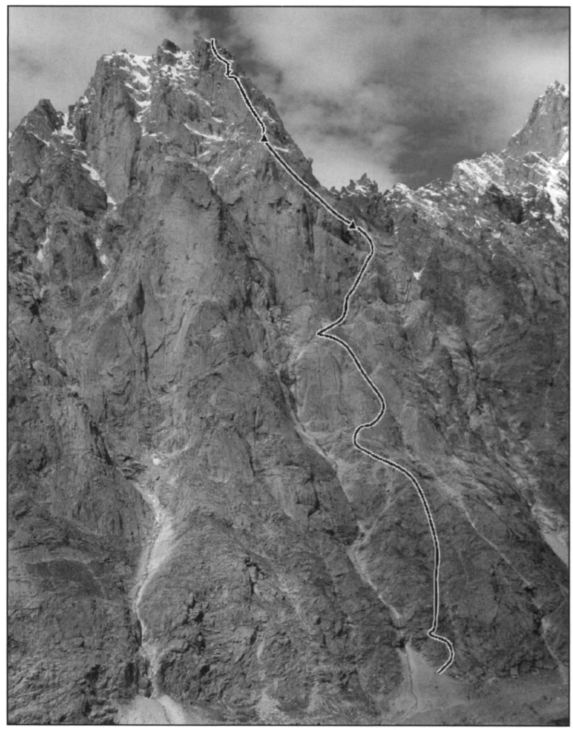
Seven hundred meters up the face, we hoped for a quick, sunbathed dash for the summit the next day. Instead, threatening skies and false summits made for a blue-collar finish. After soloing up moderate terrain past false summits, we reached the base of the third and final headwall. A long, broken pitch led to a steep cirque where our streak of luck appeared to end. Ken scouted to the right, then wisely retreated from an unprotectable face. Next I tried the left prow, which appeared to be blocked by an overhanging wart of granite. By stemming past an ice-chocked corner, I reached the base of the wart, and here our luck returned. A moderate ramp led to a crux pitch that gave way to the wart's top. Ken then led two mixed pitches with our one pair of crampons to reach the summit as snow began to fall.



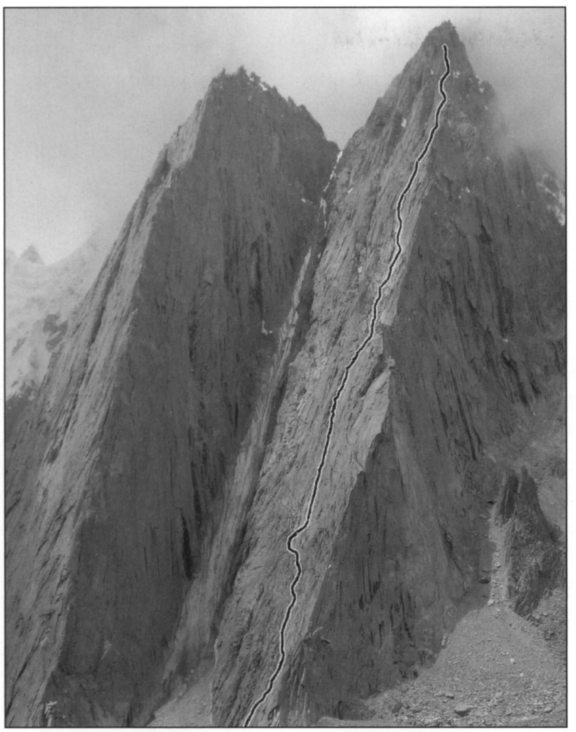
The Outside Penguin (1,200m, V 5.10 A1 M3) climbs the south face of Peak 5,750m, above the Baintha Lukpar Glacier. The peak had been climbed at least once from the opposite side. *Jeremy Frimer*

Our first descent option, heading toward easy-looking gullies, appeared far more involved than we'd anticipated while scouting. Hence, we began rappelling our line of ascent; shortly thereafter, darkness and a powerful snowstorm descended upon us. At the first decent ledge we endured a miserable, sleepless bivy as the storm raged. On the third day, we continued rapping and downclimbing. We reached the base that afternoon in the pouring rain, after some 800m of rapping, overjoyed for having made the most of what the weather gods permitted: the Outside Penguin (1,200m, V 5.10 A1 M3).

JEREMY FRIMER, *Canada*

Peak 5,200m, the Partition, to subsummit. During the summer of 2007, Luisa Giles (British, 25), Sarah Hart (Canadian, 27), and I (Canadian, 28) established a 900-meter free climb in the Karakoram. The route is on a possibly unclimbed 5,200m granite peak on the south side of the Choktoi Glacier, near the base of Latok III. This is the westernmost of two similar north-facing rock buttresses joined by a high col and ice couloir. The eastern of these two peaks holds the Indian Face Arête, established by Doug Scott and Sandy Allen in 1990.

In mid-July a weather window allowed for a one-day reconnaissance, during which we spotted a left-trending line of corner and ledge systems on the east face. This face appeared to possess superior rock to the north-facing ridge crest. We climbed the first few hundred meters



The Partition (900m, TD 5.10b) reached a sub-summit atop the arête at ca 5,200m on the westernmost of twin rock buttresses below Latok III. The Indian Face Arête (Allen-Scott, 1990) climbs the left tower's arête line. The West Wall (Chinnery-Coull-Hollinger-Morten, 1999) starts 80m up the gully between the towers and joins the Indian Face Arête at half height. The 2007 party found evidence of a rappel line left by an unknown team on the right tower. However, it is not known if this tower has been summited beyond the arête top. *Jacqueline Hudson Collection*

before altitude sickness and gastrointestinal problems turned us around. A second single-day attempt was thwarted by bad weather, although we managed to further our high point.

During the next weather window we completed the route over three days, including a planned and an unplanned bivouac. We followed a series of cracks to a system of left-trending ramps, which ended as the face steepened. We spent the first night at this junction. The second day we followed a steep corner system on clean granite (200m of continuous, high-quality 5.10) to reach an upper groove on the east face. This groove kicked back and allowed for some fast simul-climbing over 300m of left-trending lower-angle slabs. The terrain steepened again and we followed face cracks and shallow corners to the ridge crest. Another 200m to 300m of ridge climbing on more fractured granite brought us to a sub-summit at ca 5,200m at 4 p.m. The true summit was a few hundred meters away, and would have required crossing a number of loose corner systems to reach. Due to lack of time and a perceived absence of quality climbing ahead, we stopped at this point and descended.

The descent roughly reversed the route. A stuck rope on an early rappel wasted the remaining two hours of daylight, and required cutting one of the ropes. A series of rappels aided by moonlight brought us back to our stashed bivy gear by 11 p.m., and at this point we decided to stay on the wall for a second night. After finishing the descent, we devoured a breakfast of fresh bread, jam, boiled eggs, tea, and coffee brought to us by our worried base camp cook.

During the climb we found two old pieces of rappel tat (one low on the route, the other about two-thirds of the way up). It is possible that a previous party had reached the summit of this peak by another line, but it is unlikely that our line had been climbed before.

The route went free with 19 full 60m rope lengths, including many fantastic pitches of 5.9 and 5.10 climbing and roughly 300m of simul-climbing over moderate terrain. The Partition (900m, TD 5.10b) was named in honor of the 60th anniversary of Pakistan's independence, and also because the Indian Face Arête is situated on the adjacent peak—a metaphor for the

geography and politics of India and Pakistan.

We also made several attempts on Peak 5,700m, whose northeast ridge was our original objective. However, early reconnaissance showed the rock quality to be generally poor, with exfoliating loose granite.

JACQUELINE HUDSON, *Canada*

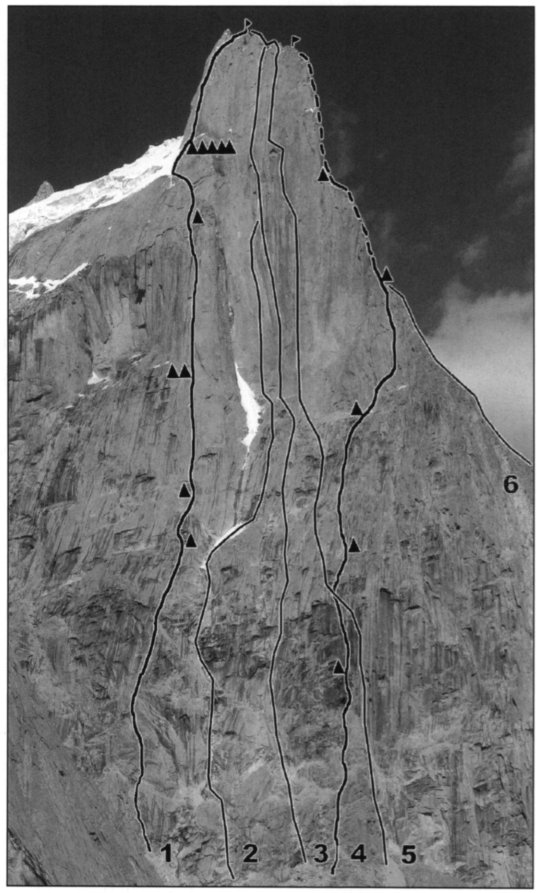
BALTORO MUZTAGH

ULI BIAHO AND TRANGO GROUPS

Great Trango Tower, northwest face, completion of Ukrainian route (2003) and new variation to Azeem Ridge; Broad Peak, attempt. In the summer of 2007 the Krasnoyarsk Federation of Alpinism, with support of the administration of the Krasnoyarsk Region, organized a Karakoram expedition. The goals were to ascend Great Trango Tower via technically complex new routes and to ascend Broad Peak by the classic route. Eleven climbers, a trainer, and a doctor, all from Krasnoyarsk, took part in the expedition.

We formed two teams: one for the Ukrainian route of 2003, the other to try a line right of the Russian route of 1999. The first team included Vladimir Arkhipov, Sergei Cherezov, Yuri Glasyrin, Oleg Khvostenko, Andrei Litvinov, and Aleksandr Yanyshevich. The second was made up of Evgenni Belyaev, Aleksei Komissarov, Igor Loginov, and Aleksandr Mikhalitsin.

The teams started at about the same time, on the 6th and 7th of July. On the Ukrainian route, we climbed capsule-style with portaledges and a large reserve of provisions. We had a precise description of the route, and at the end of every pitch we found a bolt with a rappel carabiner.



The northwest face of Great Trango Tower (ca 6,250m). (1) Ukrainian route to ca 6,050m (2003), completed to southwest summit (left flag) in 2007 by Krasnoyarsk expedition. (2) Lost Butterfly (Berecz-Nadasdi-Tivador, 1999), to 60m below ridge. (3) Parallel Worlds (Lowe-Ogden-Synnott, plus film crew, 1999), to summit ridge. (4) Krasnoyarsk variation to Azeem Ridge (Belyaev-Komissarov-Loginov-Mikhalitsin, 2007), to right flag on ridge. (5) The Russian Way (Koshelenko-Odintsov-Potankin and cameraman, 1999), to southwest summit. (6) Azeem Ridge (Cordes-Wharton, 2004), to southwest summit. *2007 Krasnoyarsk Karakoram Expedition*