

Indians on the Bolivian side Pomaratu. They climbed to its top on October 12, placing only one camp at 17,000 feet. As far as is known, Parinacota (20,768 feet) had been climbed twice before. Pomarata, which seems to be the correct name (20,473 feet) was claimed as a first ascent by Bolivians in 1946, but there is no certainty of this climb. The top of Pomarata is heavily glaciated.

OSCAR GONZÁLEZ FERRÁN, *Club Andino de Chile*

### *Argentina*

*El Toro.* A most extraordinary find was made by two climbers, Erich Groch and Antonio Beorchia, when on January 28 they made what they had assumed would be the first ascent of El Toro (20,952 feet), in the Province of San Juan. On the summit they found what appeared to be a human head lying on the surface. When they tried to lift it, they discovered it was still attached to a mummified body. They returned with others to retrieve the body, which had been there at least 450 years, a sacrificial victim with a wound at the back of the head. He had been a young man of between 15 to 20 years. He was in a sitting position with his hands crossed below his knees, dressed in gray trousers with red trimmings, a red wool cap and a poncho. Under the body a rat was found, also mummified.

*Central Argentina.* The highest peak in the *Mongotes* group, a snow and ice peak about 19,350 feet high, was climbed in January by R. Arcidiácono, J. Bello and E. Fiorentini. In the *Enanos* group, just to the south, in January the first ascents were made of the Pico Boyán (5400 meters or 17,717 feet), Pico Elmer (5500 meters or 18,045 feet) and the Pico Dopas (5200 meters or 17,061 feet) by J. Boninsegna, D. Cobos, F. de Rosas, and B. Kambo, all of the Club Andinista Mendoza. An unnamed peak in the *Portillo* group, often unofficially called "Fraile Panzó," was ascended in February, 1963 by D. Avalor, M. Ferrer, M. Quiroga and U. Vitale; a new name, Pico Huarpes, was given to this peak. Its height is given as probably about 17,225 feet, although it seems likely that all heights in the Portillo group should be lowered c. 650 feet.

R. N. GALLOP, *Centro Andino Buenos Aires*

## ASIA

### *Tibet*

*Shisha Pangma.* The Chinese claim that they have made the first ascent of Shisha Pangma or Gosainthan (26,291 feet), the 14th highest mountain in the world and the last of the unclimbed 8000ers. They state that

they had previously reconnoitered to 23,500 feet. Then, early in 1964, a 195-man expedition was formed under the leadership of Hsu Ching. According to Chinese reports, they reached Base Camp north of the peak at 16,400 feet on March 18. Between 17,400 and 22,000 feet they apparently followed the eight-mile-long Yebokangal Glacier. (It is impossible to follow the route from the Chinese description.) From Base Camp to the summit was 22½ miles with Camp I at 17,400 feet, II (Advanced Base) at 19,000 feet, III at 20,650 feet, IV at 22,650 feet, the latter two in difficult terrain, V at 24,600 feet and VI at 25,250 feet. The summit assault party, originally of thirteen, left Base Camp on April 25 and reached Camp VI on May 1. Ten climbers, including the leader, were said to have reached the summit on May 2. A complete report by the deputy leader Chou Cheng appears in the *Alpine Journal* of November, 1964. There is no doubt that they reached high on the mountain, as may be seen from their photographs, but some mountaineers have received the news of summit success with skepticism.

### *Sikkim*

*Kabru Dome.* An 11-man Indian expedition of the Parbat Abhijatri Sangha, a mountaineering club in Calcutta, was led by Biswadeb Biswas. Kabru Dome (21,650 feet) was climbed on May 6 by Nema Bose, Madan Mondal, and the Sherpas Pasang Lama and Karma.

### *Nepal*

*Gyachung Kang.* The Federation of All Japan Mountaineering Unions expedition was composed of Ichiro Yoshizawa, deputy leader; Yukihiro Kato, Takeshi Takeda, Kazunobu Machida, Kiyoto Sakaizawa, Tadao Kitamura, Kazunari Yasuhisa, Toshiro Kikuchi, Chuji Kobayashi, Akio Otaki and myself as leader and doctor. The Nepalese liaison officer was Jai Chand Thakur. Pasang Phutar III directed 12 Sherpas and eight local porters. We left Kathmandu on February 11 and after reaching Namche Bazar on March 4, we established Base Camp on March 11 at 17,325 feet on the moraine of the Ngojumba Glacier. Camp I (March 17; 18,800 feet), Camp II (March 20; 19,550 feet) and Camp III (March 23; 21,000 feet) were also on the Ngojumba Glacier. We settled Camp IV on March 27 under the ice couloir at 21,800 feet and Camp V on April 5 in the couloir at 23,150 feet. Camp VI was pitched at 24,775 feet on April 6. On the 9th, Takeda and Otaki started from there at 8:30. Three hours later they arrived at the final ridge at about 25,250 feet and rested. At that time Akio Otaki slipped, falling to his death to the Gyachung Kang Glacier (the Tibetan side) some 6500 feet lower. We located that area,

but due to the very steep rock wall and the fact that we could not cross the border between Nepal and Tibet, we gave up the rescue. That same day Camp VI was established at 25,150 feet on the border ridge between Nepal and Tibet. On the 10th, Kato, Sakaizawa and Pasang Phutar III left Camp VI at seven A.M., and after great difficulties, especially a very steep rock knife-edged ridge, they stood on the summit (25,990 feet) at eleven o'clock. After an hour's stay they returned to the final camp at three. On the 11th, Machida and Yasuhisa stood on the summit at 11:30. The weather was very fine, and so from the summit, Everest came into their sight and they could see also many other fine mountains.

KAZUYOSHI KOHARA, *Federation of All Japan Mountaineering Unions*

*Cho Oyu.* A German expedition was led by Rudi Rott to Cho Oyu (26,750 feet), the seventh highest mountain in the world, to attempt its third ascent and the first one on skis. During the acclimatization period Fritz Stammberger and the Sherpa Aila climbed Napche Himal (21,654 feet) on April 6 and Stammberger and Georg Huber on the 11th climbed a 22,048-foot peak called locally Sasamba Ri; the latter lies in the semi-circle of ice peaks that ring in the Kyabruk Glacier on the south. On April 15 the attack on Cho Oyu began. On April 26 Huber, Stammberger, Dr. Alois Thurmayr and the Sherpa Phu Dorje left Camp IV at 23,600 feet on a summit attempt. Stammberger and Phu Dorje reached a spot 150 feet below the top, where the Sherpa remained while Stammberger climbed on alone to the true summit. The other two were met on the descent and were persuaded to return to Camp IV, whence they hoped to make another attempt. After two days in the high camp, it became apparent that no further summit attempt was possible. Indeed, when the three sahibs came out of the tents to begin the descent (Phu Dorje had already descended to send up more fuel, which was now exhausted), Thurmayr and Huber were too weak to move. Stammberger started down on skis alone for help. (Skis were impractical on the top 2000 feet of the peak.) Four Sherpas climbed upwards the next day, but only 60-year old Sirdar Dawa Tensing reached Camp IV with fuel. He descended, expecting the sahibs to follow. From Base Camp more Sherpa help was summoned from villages below. Finally Stammberger, Dawa Tensing, Phu Dorje and a post runner climbed back to Camp IV, where they found Huber already two days dead and Thurmayr delirious. Although they made a sled to carry the weakened climber down, Thurmayr died on May 7 during the evacuation between Camps III and II.

*Pethangtse, Barun Glacier.* The Rikkyo University expedition from Tokyo under the leadership of Hirotooshi Fukuda attempted Baruntse

(23,688 feet) four times between April 29 and May 9, but the highest they reached was still 150 feet below the summit; they were blocked off by the huge snow cornice. This was also the case on Pyramid Peak (22,430 feet), northeast of Chamlang, where Takeshi Kishino and Yasuji Endo were defeated at the altitude of 22,300 feet. Their only successful climbing was the fourth or fifth ascent of Pethangtse (22,080 feet) on May 16 by Takeo Yamanoi, Masami Okura and two Sherpas.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Langtrang Himal.* Osaka City University Himalayan Expedition consisted of Takeo Suzuki, leader; T. Kondo, Y. Kadota, T. Kiyohara, A. Ban, K. Jokei and S. Sasaki. We tried to climb Langtrang Lirung (23,750 feet) from the south ridge and reached the height of 18,850 feet but gave up climbing more because of the steep ridge. We did not try to climb it by the Lirung Glacier. We made the first ascent of Urukman (20,990 feet), which is located at the south part of the Langtrang Glacier (Tunga Glacier). Kiyohara, Ban, Jokei and a Sherpa climbed to the summit on May 5 from the south face. We also made the first ascent of Kyungka Peak (22,900 feet), which is located at the middle part of the Langtrang Glacier. Kondo, Sasaki and a Sherpa climbed to the summit on May 8 from the eastern glacier.

TADEO SAZUKI, *Osaka City University*

*Langtrang Himal.* The original intention of the Langtrang-Himal Anglo-Swiss Expedition had been to climb Ganesh Himal, but this seemed impossible owing to the shortage of time and difficulties over the route taken by Raymond Lambert in 1955. We were therefore given permission to attempt one of five peaks in the Langtrang-Jugal Himal area. Though fewer in number than originally planned, the Swiss guides, Ami Giroud, Michel Darbellay and Michel Rey, and I left Kathmandu for Langshisha on April 13. The approach march went from Trisuli Bazar to Betrawati, Dhunche, Syabru, Langtrang, Kyanjin Gompa and Langshisha (13,400 feet) where Base Camp was set up on April 20. After two days of reconnaissance it was decided to attempt yet unclimbed Dorje Lhagpa (c. 22,885 feet). Camp I was established on April 24 at 15,500 feet, five miles up the Trupaiku Glacier, and the Camp II on the 26th another four miles farther above the glacier and moraine on the col situated at the west flank of Dorje Lhagpa. Camps III and IV were established on April 29 and May 6 at 18,375 and 19,500 feet respectively up the west ridge. The ground from Base Camp to Camp II varied from moraine and scree to glacier and rotten snow. From Camp II to the summit there was

an extremely difficult and steep icy ridge, where fixed ropes were generally needed. Above Camp IV the ridge continued horizontally for 400 yards before rising again at  $55^\circ$  to 21,300 feet. This was equipped with fixed ropes and pitons, and steps were cut up to 20,675 feet, the highest point reached by Ami Giroud and Michel Darbellay on May 8 and by Michel Rey and sirdar Sonam Girmi on May 10. The plan for an assault to the summit on May 12 had to be abandoned because of heavy snowfall and regretfully we fell back to Camp II, where it continued to snow for four days. At this stage, for business reasons I had to return to Kathmandu ten days earlier than anticipated. Knowing there would be avalanche danger for some days and that there was insufficient time before the porters' return to Base Camp for the journey back to Kathmandu on May 23, it was decided to withdraw completely with a hope of being able to settle the score next year. During the two or three spare days at the end, Darbellay and Rey managed to reach within 650 feet of the summit of the virgin Fluted Peak (Gang Chhengpo, 20,978 feet) but again conditions prevented them from victory.

ANTHONY, LORD SHAFTESBURY, *unaffiliated*

*Langtrang Lirung.* The Canadian Peter Taylor returned to Langtrang Lirung (23,750 feet) in September and October to attempt a completely new route from the west. From Camp II at 21,400 feet, he and three Sherpas attacked the face of a 500-foot rock tower and reached 22,100 feet before deciding that the party was too weak for the climb, especially in the face of oncoming bad weather.

*Island Peak, Solu Khumbu.* The Danish climber Jesper Trier with three Sherpas climbed Island Peak (20,305 feet) on May 15. Several other ascents have been made.

*Glacier Dome, Annapurna Group.* The Federation of All-Japan Mountaineering Union's Chiba Prefecture expedition climbed in the Annapurna group. On October 16, Mitsuhiro Nishimura and the Sherpa Dorje stood on the summit of 23,800-foot Glacier Dome at 11:15 A.M., having climbed the western side. The leader was Sumio Shima; other members were Shoichi Ishikawa, Hiroshi Sato, Masami Takeuchi, Teruaki Arisawa and Yoshikatsu Takahashi.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Ganesh, Annapurna Group.* The Alpine Club of Kyoto sent an expedition to the southernmost peak of Annapurna I, Ganesh (23,800 feet) (not to be confused with the Ganesh Himal). On October 13 Masaaki

Kimura, Hiromichi Yoshino and Yutaka Ageta climbed the central peak, which is about 100 meters lower than the highest summit. On the 15th Shoichiro Uyeo and the Sherpa Mingma Tsering climbed the highest peak. The north peak is a little lower than the main one and remains virgin. The leader Haruo Higuchi and Kiyoo Shimada also took part.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Tamserku.* Sir Edmund Hillary returned to Solu Khumbu this year with a group of New Zealanders to continue his school and bridge-building program. This year an air strip was also constructed. In the post-monsoon period the climbers attacked Tamserku (21,730 feet), an extremely difficult peak close to Kangtega. On October 15 they moved into Base Camp at 16,000 feet. It took a week to work out a route up a couloir into an airy col on the south ridge, where Camp II was established and occupied for the two weeks of the climb to the top. Sherpas could not be used higher than the col because of difficulties. Very severe ice climbing above the col on ice bulges took hours of route preparation and included some ice climbing in stirrups. Camp III was placed on the flat top of one of the ice bulges. What had appeared to be a sheer step proved easier than it had looked. Finally a half-mile of an appallingly corniced ridge led to the top. The climbers set up a bivouac halfway along this section of ridge. On November 4 Lyn Crawford, Peter Farrell, Dick Stewart and John Mackinnon climbed to the summit, while Jim Wilson and Don Mackay waited in Camp III in support.

*Gauri Sankar, Rolwaling Himalaya.* Mr. Ian Clough was kind enough to send the *Editor* a detailed account of the British expedition led by Don Whillans; a summary follows. The other members of this light expedition were Dennis Gray, Terry Burnell, Ian Howell and Des Hadlum. They had only three high-altitude Sherpas, Girmi Dorje, Dawa Tensing and Ang Tsering. After a twelve-day march, they reached Lamabagar. Tibetan refugee porters helped them for another day up the Rong Shar gorge to Hum. Above, they ascended a steep valley which branched off the Rong Shar very close to the Tibetan frontier. Base Camp was set up in this valley on September 19 though they were still twenty miles from the peak. It took a week to hack a trail in the woods, where fixed ropes were needed even in the dense forest, to reach Advanced Base at tree line at 14,000 feet. The next camp was at the foot of a little glacier at the head of the valley, but when on October 3 they reached a 19,000-foot col, they were disappointed to find a deep valley coming up from Tibet between them and 23,440-foot Gauri Sankar. They found a lower pass of 17,000 feet over the ridge, but the ridge had bifurcated and so they

actually had to cross two passes before descending to the valley which led to the southwest face of the mountain. A new camp was set up between the passes. Poor weather persisted but they continued, finally making camp under the snout of the glacier at 15,500 feet. The route between these last two camps was complicated and sufficiently difficult to require fixed ropes. They hoped to reach the west ridge, which forms the frontier, and camp at 19,000 feet. The face proved difficult and was fixed with 1500 feet of rope. On October 16 Whillans and Clough reached the west ridge, but found it razor-sharp with no reasonable route. Beyond the ridge rose the northwest face, obviously difficult and dangerous but worth a try. It was a problem to get off the west ridge, cross a rock spur and slabs and gain the glacial shelves at the foot of the face. Deep powder snow impeded progress. Camp was set up in a cave dug in the snow at 19,000 feet in order to be safer from avalanches. Whillans and Clough climbed the face to 21,000 feet on good snow but found the climbing difficult. They reached a kind of ice bowl, inclined at 60° and overhung by rock bands. By chance Whillans broke into a natural cave in the ice, which was large enough to hold a tent. This, at 21,000 feet, provided the highest camp. They crossed the ice bowl, fixing ropes, and seemed ready to lift camp to the shoulder of the north ridge. The last part of the route would ascend a gully, which rose from 22,000 feet through the final cliffs. As they entered it, they were horrified to find it filled with green ice. It was too far to climb that day, October 28. As they turned to descend, an avalanche swept down the gully. Whillans was at the side and out of the track, but Clough was in its fringe and had a desperate time of it, hanging onto his axe. That night other avalanches tore out other sections of fixed ropes. It became obvious that the route was too dangerous and they abandoned the attempt.

*Attempt on Himlung Himal and Ascent of North Peak of Manaslu.* Our party was led by Jan Boon and consisted of Fons Driessen, Charles Dufour and me, Netherlanders, and Hubert Schriegl, Austrian. We left Kathmandu with 90 porters on September 6, traveled north along the Trisuli Gandaki to Syabrubensi, then in a westerly direction (south of the Ganesh Himal) to the great valley of the Buri Gandaki, north and then northwest along this to Sama, across the Larkya Pass (17,100 feet) to Bimtakhoti, where we arrived on September 30. The route from Syabrubensi to the Buri Gandaki was more or less unknown. Small, steep, slippery paths, leeches and heavy monsoon rains made that part of the route rather difficult. Dufour fell ill. He was picked up by helicopter and taken to the hospital in Kathmandu. He rejoined the expedition by helicopter and walked in to the first Base Camp. This we placed above Bimak-

hoti at 14,600 feet at the foot of the unclimbed Himlung Himal (23,380 feet), a mountain on the Nepalese-Tibetan border. From this camp we reconnoitered the Himlung Himal for ten days. First we tried the west ridge, but avalanches constantly crossed the difficult route to the ridge and it was too dangerous. For the same reason we gave up a route we found to the east side of the mountain. We finally discovered a long route on a very long ridge coming from the south to the peak, but though not dangerous, it was really difficult and too long for our small expedition. We returned to Bimakhoti and recrossed the Larkya Pass to Sama. We next headed for the unclimbed north peak of Manaslu (23,130 feet). On October 17 our second Base Camp was ready above Sama at the foot of the north peak at 13,800 feet. In seven days we placed four camps on the mountain: Camp I at 17,000 feet. Camp II on the Naike Col at 18,500 feet, Camp III in the icefall at 20,000 feet and Camp IV just above the icefall at 21,325 feet. At three difficult spots we used fixed ropes. One was a 100-foot icewall at 20,650 feet, perpendicular and overhanging, which was first climbed by Schriegl. On October 25 Driessen, Schriegl and I with the Sherpas Nima Tenzing and Ila Tsering climbed the steep summit ridge to the top. We left the mountains, going southwest to Thonje, northwest to Manangbhot and over the Thorungtse Pass to Muktinath. Boon descended the Kali Gandaki to Jomoson, climbed a high pass (18,000 feet) in a northwesterly direction to Chharkabhot and returned to Jomoson. The others went north to Kehami in the Kali Gandaki valley and south to Jomoson. We then continued on to Pokhara.

JAN G. DE LINT, *Koninklijke Nederlandse Alpen-Verenging*

*Kagmara Group and Kanjiroba Himal.* On our expedition to West Nepal, we were a party of five: John B. Tyson, leader; James Burnet, Dr. Robert Kendell, John Cole and I. We left Kathmandu towards the end of August and travelled via the Kali Gandaki to Tukuhe. From there, crossing a series of high passes and visiting the villages of Chharkabhot, Tarapgaon and Ringmi, we entered the Garpung Khola, east of Jagdula Gorge. The area had been visited before by Tyson's expedition in 1961 and by a ladies' expedition in 1962, but there still remain large tracts of unexplored country. Our objectives were to extend the 1961 photo-theodolite survey to the Kagmara group and the northern Kanjiroba Himal and also to attempt peaks of the northern Kanjiroba group, including the highest discovered in 1961 and some 22,600 feet high. One approach to the peak seemed to be possibly from the south along the Jagdula Gorge, and while Tyson and Cole mapped the Kagmara group, Kendell, Burnet and I reached the point where the important eastern left-bank tributary draining



the ranges to the north of Lha Shamma meets the main Jagdula stream. We felt this route was not practicable for laden coolies beyond this point. At this stage I had to leave the party, and returned by way of Jajarkot and Sallyana. The others moved round to the northwest of the group, travelling through Maharigaon and Wangri to the village of Dalphu which lies to the north of the River Langu. From Dalphu the highest mountain visible is Bhulu Lhasa and after penetrating the Langu Gorge eastwards from Dalphu and then striking southwards up a very steep tributary gorge they succeeded in climbing this peak on October 31. Its height has not yet been computed. From this summit, range upon range of "new" mountains were visible, including the highest mountain in the Kanjiroba Himal, which appeared practicable as a climbing proposition. Further mapping was done in this area before the party began the return journey, reaching Nepalganj at the end of November.

TREVOR H. BRAHAM, *Himalayan Club*

*Ratong.* This 21,911-foot peak, which lies on the Nepal-Sikkim frontier in the Kangchenjunga group, was climbed by an Indian expedition, led by Colonel B. S. Jaswal, principal of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute of Darjeeling. Nawang Gombu, Captain Ahluwalia and the Sherpas, Dorje Lhatoo and Ang Kami, reached the summit on October 29 and Tashi, Sonam Wangyal, Sonam Gyatso, Captains Bahuguna, Cheema and Joshi and Harish Rawat the next day. We approached from Darjeeling and crossed the Ratong La into Nepal and the Yalung Glacier. Base Camp was at 15,500 feet, Camp I at 17,000 feet and Camp II at 20,000 feet. There were 28 members of this "Pre-Everest Selection Expedition."

D. V. TELANG, M. D., *Himalayan Mountaineering Institute*

### *India*

*Kulu Pumori, Punjab.* Gwynn Stephenson and Harold Mellor of J.P.O.'F. Lynam's Bari Shigri expedition of 1961 attempted this lovely 21,500-foot peak. They reached 19,000 feet on the formidable northwest ridge but were forced by illness to retire. The first ascent of this mountain, now named Kulu Pumori, was made on June 6 by a party consisting of Dr. Franz Mohling, A.A.C., myself and the Ladakhis Wangyal and Ang Chook of Manali. Twelve valley porters helped us to cross the Rohtang La and to ascend the Chandra for 25 miles and left us on May 17 near the snout of the Bara Shigri Glacier in the valley of the Chandra River of Lahul. Thereafter, the work of ferrying stores and equipment was borne equally between the four climbers. Despite prolonged bad weather, Base Camp at Concordia, the junction of several glaciers, was finally established on May 28 with food supplies for 21 days. Two days were spent in re-

connaissance after which the northwest ridge and the eastern approaches were both ruled out. We decided to seek a route on the southwest ridge, the foot of which seemed accessible from a small névé draining the south face. Accordingly, Advanced Base Camp was sited on the main southern tributary of the Bara Shigri, near the junction of the névé icefall which descended from the south face of the mountain and beneath the impressive rock spire of Lal Qila (Red Fort) (20,830 feet). We set camps on the crest of the southwest ridge at 19,000 and 20,000 feet. From the latter, at six A.M. on June 6 Wangyal and I left for the summit. We made a diversion onto the steep snowfield of the south face to avoid a rock step a few hundred feet above Camp II and regained the ridge just short of the summit. We reached this, a perfect snow cone, at nine A.M. after climbing the rest of the spectacular, corniced snow ridge. Three days later, Mohling and Ang Chook repeated the ascent.

ROBERT PETTIGREW, *Alpine Club*

*Nanda Devi, Second Ascent.* American climbers will be particularly interested in the second ascent of Nanda Devi (25,645 feet), since it was first climbed in 1936 by a joint British and American expedition. They will also be happy to note that one of the summit team of this all Indian expedition was Nawang Gombu, who accompanied Jim Whittaker to the summit of Mount Everest. Nawang Gombu, Da Norbu and C. P. Vohra left Camp V at 24,500 feet early on June 20. Vohra had to stop 700 feet from the summit but the two Sherpas continued, reaching the top at 11:30. The expedition was led by Captain N. Kumar.

*Tharkot, Kumaon and Hathi Parbat, Garhwal.* Indians made several ascents in 1963, which were not reported in the *A.A.J.*, 1964. On June 1 Tharkot (20,010 feet) was climbed by K. P. Sharma, B. B. Ambastha, K. S. Thapa and the Sherpas Lhakpa and Hisse. On June 6 and 7 Sonam Gyatso, Lt. Kaushal, H. C. Rawat, Thondup Tsering, Lakpa Tensing, D. S. Sisodia, Dawa Norbu and Sonam Wangyal made the first ascent of Hathi Parbat (27,070 feet). Doubt has been cast about whether two peaks claimed by Indian expeditions were actually climbed or not. These are Nilkantha (*A.A.J.*, 1962, 13:1, p. 272) and Matri (*A.A.J.*, 1964, 14:1, p. 231.) It appears that the girls, Gira Shah, Kokila Mehta and Nandini Patel, with the photographer Rashmi Painter and three Sherpas probably ascended the Thelu Bamak (glacier) and climbed P. 19,690 feet rather than Matri.

*Attempts on Tirsuli and Nanda Devi East, Garhwal.* Our seven-man team left Delhi on April 15, and with seven Sherpas and over 100 porters reached the Tirsuli Base Camp, at Rugus, whence the Poles had

made their attempt in 1939. Strong winds and heavy snowfall hampered us, but we did establish Camp II at 18,500 feet during the first week of May. On the 10th we were ready to push off to Camp III, having already prepared the route, when a heavy snowfall forced us back to Base Camp. For seven days snow fell and fell and an avalanche swept down from 20,000 feet, moving about a mile and burying Camp II fifteen feet deep. Having lost half our equipment, we were forced to abandon our attempt on 23,210-foot Tirsuli. (The name for this peak has recently appeared as *Trisuli*. It should not be confused with *Trisul* which lies southwest of it. — *Editor*.) Though no longer fully equipped, we decided to continue and make our attempt on Nanda Devi East. On May 30 we established Base Camp at Bithal Gwar (14,000 feet). The next day we moved up to Camp I and finally three days later reached Longstaff's Col but there was absolutely no place to pitch tents. It took us three more days to manage to pitch two tents — 600 feet apart. The gendarmes beyond had become terrible and two attempts revealed no decent route. On June 11, with half of the team and Sherpas lying sick, and with meagre equipment, we had to abandon the peak when the Sherpas pronounced the task impossible and refused to go up. On the retreat two ropes slipped and fell 2500 feet. Although most escaped with minor bruises, one Sherpa broke his leg and was evacuated by helicopter.

M. S. KOHLI, Lieutenant Commander, Indian Navy, *Himalayan Club*

*Jaonli Peak, Garhwal.* An expedition of Indian schoolboys and two schoolmasters, led by Hari Dang of the Doon School, attempted 21,760-foot Jaonli Peak in the Uttarkashi district of Garhwal. They were stopped at 19,300 feet by bad weather.

*Panch Chulhi.* Led by Flight Lieutenant A. K. Chowdhury, Indians visited the Panch Chulhi region. They failed to climb Panch Chulhi I (22,650 feet) and Panch Chulhi II, but they did climb Panch Chulhi III (20,710 feet), IV (20,780 feet) and V (21,120 feet).

*Nar Parbat, Garhwal.* Nar Parbat (19,210 feet), which lies east of Badrinath, was attempted by a group from Bombay, led by L. R. Chari. Heavy snowfall prevented their reaching higher than 17,900 feet.

*Mulkillia, Central Labul.* The Indian Hari Dang with the French Alain and Cecile Barbézat attempted Mulkillia (21,380 feet), but they found the route too dangerous. They did make the first ascent of M5 (c. 20,900 feet) and climbed several other peaks.

*Mukar Bey.* Students and instructors of the Himalayan Institute of Mountaineering in Manali have reported climbing a number of high

peaks: Mukar Bey (19,910 feet) on October 6 and 13, CB 10 (Tara Pahar, 20,430 feet), CB 50 (20,000 feet) and M5 (20,900 feet).

*Mrigthuni, Garhwal.* The members who organized and took part in the Bharat Scouts and Guides Expedition were all Indian women Guide leaders who had attended courses at the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling. Though there was enthusiasm in plenty, experience was lacking and so I, a British Guide Commissioner and climber, was invited to lead the expedition. After a three-day journey by bus with seven Sherpas and all the equipment, we reached Joshimath, where we had great difficulty in recruiting porters, but eventually we set off with fifty. The seven-day approach march through wild country followed at first the route to Nanda Devi but diverged from it at Deodi, where we crossed the Rishi Ganga. Base Camp was established on the moraine of the Trisul Glacier and Camp I at 18,000 feet above a heavily crevassed icefall. From Camp II at 19,500 feet the first assault was made by Kurshid Unrigar and Rani Baghwandas. Rani reached the summit of Mrigthuni (22,490 feet) on October 10. Two days later, the second party of Durga Durung and Usha Sarpeshkar was successful, while all the remaining members went to over 20,000 feet.

JOYCE DUNSHEATH, *Ladies' Climbing Club*

### *Pakistan*

*North Barum Gol Valley, Hindu Kush.* During June and July five Americans, Stu and Barbara Krebs, Pat and Clarice Caywood and I, calling ourselves the "1964 American Hindu Kush Expedition," visited the North Barum Gol valley of the Hindu Kush Range in Chitral. We went by motor from Peshawar through Swat and Dir states to Chitral. We spent five days walking from Chitral Town to Base Camp at 12,800 feet on the edge of the North Barum Glacier, passing through Ghaghoszi, Barains and Barum. During the next five weeks we climbed five peaks over 17,000 feet, all probably first ascents. The first three ascents were made by all members by ascending directly to the ridge of the peaks on the right side of the lower part of the North Barum Glacier. The highest peak climbed was Kunotak (19,256 feet). Camp I was placed at the top of the first icefall of the glacier. Camp II at 17,400 feet was at the top of the second icefall on the upper part of the right branch of the North Barum Glacier. All five of us on July 9 climbed a snow gully to the ridge between the east peak of Tirich Mir and Kunotak and then followed the west ridge of Kunotak to the summit. On July 11 S. Krebs and P. Caywood climbed an 18,700-foot peak at the head of the North Barum Glacier. We reconnoitered the east peak of Tirich Mir to a height of 18,000 feet along

a southeast spur from the same glacier. We met the Norwegians who climbed the east peak of Tirich Mir from the South Barum Glacier.

GENE F. WHITE

*Southern Batura Mustagh, western Karakoram Range, Hunza.* A Canadian party comprising Fred Roots, leader, Donald Lyon, John Ricker, Lisle Irwin, Donald Poole, Hermann Jamek, Momin Khalifa and Karl Tomm, arrived at Aliabad, Hunza on May 25 to investigate the region south of Batura and to attempt to locate and climb a peak reported as Hachindar Kish, 23,500 feet, but not precisely identified or known to have been visited. After a fortnight of back-packing reconnaissances to unravel the local geography, Base Camp was established at 11,800 feet on Muchiohul Glacier, immediately south of the Batura massif. The name Hachindar Kish was finally settled on a magnificent slender rock spire on the west side of Muchiohul valley about four miles south of Batura. Reconnaissances of three sides of the Hachindar Kish massif revealed no route safe for portering or camps early in the season, and the upper 4000 feet of very steep rock, from any side, would require more mechanical aid equipment, and more time, than the party had. Attention was then turned to a pyramidal massif about 22,800 feet, between Muchiohul and Shishpur valleys, which the party called Sangemarmur (marble) from a conspicuous band of yellow marble crossing the summit. Seven camps were set out on the southwest face of this peak. From Camp V, at 17,500 feet, Ricker, Irwin and Tomm spent six days cutting up a steep ice apron, and reached the west ridge at 19,800 feet where they were stopped by ice-glazed rocks. From Camp VII at 19,500 feet on the broken southwest glacier Lyon and Poole and I pushed through what we thought was the worst of the technical difficulties and bivouacked at 20,650 feet in a bergschrund below what appeared to be a straightforward rock and ice spur leading to the summit. During the night we were struck by the first storm for many days, with heavy snow that so increased the avalanche activity that retreat was imperative. The expedition descended to Base Camp. After establishing two camps on July 9 Lyon and porter Johan Ali reached the summit of a glacier col about 18,200 feet immediately south of Batura between Batura and Hachindar Kish, which leads to the Baltar and Bola Das valleys. The next day Poole and I followed in their footsteps, and continued on to the summit of the next peak to the south, about 19,300 feet, which was called Batokshi after a goat pasture at its base. Some further exploration of the Yaiehisk and Shishpur glacier valleys was made in the meantime by Ricker and Irwin, and the party returned to Aliabad on July 15.

ERNEST FREDERICK ROOTS

*Rakaposhi.* The Irish Himalayan Expedition consisted of P. O'Leary, leader, G. Garrett, E. Goulding, T. Kavanagh, B. O'Flynn, S. Payne and myself. Captain Rafi Mohn was liaison officer and we had four Hunza high-altitude porters. After arriving at Base Camp on June 13, we reconnoitered the full length of the ridge over Secord Peak but decided it was too long after putting up two camps. We then tried a difficult rock rib plastered with snow which led to upper snow slopes below Tilman's Col. After taking a week to get 500 feet about Col Camp (II) at 14,250 feet, and with prospects the same for the next 1000 feet, we abandoned the route, which was not possible for laden porters. Our third try was up an icefall and upper snow slopes to Tilman's Col, probably a little to the right of his 1947 route. Above Camp III at 19,250 feet just below the crest of the ridge, we climbed a steep snow ramp and reached the ridge at the top of the first step above the col. The ridge was composed of gendarmes of rotten rock joined by cornices, also rotten, and would have required fixed ropes and siege tactics. As three climbers were unfit (two as a result of an avalanche which had destroyed Camp I), and as the porters refused to sleep above Base Camp, the remaining four climbers were too small a party for the work involved. We retreated, having probably reached 20,500 on July 11.

J. P. O.'F. LYNAM, *Himalayan Club*

*Tirich Mir East.* In 1950 Arne Naess headed an expedition which climbed to the highest summit of Tirich Mir (25,263 feet). This year he returned with his fellow Norwegians, Dr. Kjell Friis-Baastad, Ralph Höibakk, Anders Opdal and Per Vigerust. The transport officer was Lieutenant Sabir Kamal. They climbed the difficult south face to the eastern summit (25,236 feet), which is separated from the main peak by a ridge which dips to col of c. 24,775 feet. After flying to Chitral, they walked for four days to Base Camp (numbered as Camp I, 10,800 feet), arriving on May 26. They followed the 1950 route, through Camp II (14,100 feet) and Camp III (15,750 feet), to Advanced Base (Camp IV, 17,000 feet), which was occupied on July 6. During this period, seven peaks over 16,400 feet were climbed. Above Advanced Base, the route started sharply up, crossing an avalanche chute and ascended very steep snow, ice and rock to Camp V (19,700 feet), above which they were preparing the route with fixed ropes on July 16 when snow began to fall. The storm did not let up until July 21. They decided to make a quick assault by two men. The next day all moved to Camp V. The day after, they climbed over difficult rock and snow to another steep icefield and to the site of Camp VI just beyond at 21,325 feet on a comparatively flat snow rib which lay in

the face. On the 24th Høibakk and Opdal climbed a third icefield with packs of 55 pounds containing ten days' supplies to a bivouac spot at 23,000 feet. On July 25 they climbed a steep ice gully to a shoulder at 24,100 feet and thence reached the southeast ridge at 24,775 feet. They arrived on the summit in doubtful weather at four P.M.

*Momhil Sar.* Momhil Sar, the 24,090-foot peak which lies just west of Trivor, was climbed by an Austrian expedition from Styria. It was led by Hans Schell and included Rudolf Pischinger, Horst Schindelbacher, Leo Schlömmner and Rolf Widerhofer. After leaving Nagar on May 6, they reached Base Camp at 15,000 feet on the Gharesa Glacier four days later. They immediately attacked the approaches to the east, placing Camp I at 17,700 feet and Camp II at 19,350 feet. The weather was extremely bad and it was not until June 17 that Camp III was established at 21,300 feet below the col between Momhil Sar and Trivor. The next day they soon reached the col. (Thus far they followed the route of the successful British-American party on Trivor in 1960.) The east ridge above the col was too difficult without much route preparation and they had to return. Unfavorable weather continued but finally just after midnight on June 29 the whole party left Camp III, traversed up a steep, long ramp to the south ridge, which they reached early in the afternoon. They followed the ridge to the summit, getting there at 4:30. They had been out 22 hours by the time they returned to Camp III.

*Shakhaur, Roshgol area.* After their successful ascent of Momhil Sar, Rudolf Pischinger and Horst Schindelbacher joined fellow Austrians, Gerald Gruber, leader, and Reiner Göschl. Approaching via the Tirich and Tidren valleys, they climbed two new peaks and made a new route on the third during the last three weeks of August. Gruber and Pischinger made the first ascents of both Shakhaur (23,375 feet) on August 17 and Udren Zom (23,395 feet) on August 19. Schindelbacher and Göschl made a new route, the east ridge, of Nadir Shah (23,347 feet) on August 20, which was first climbed by Poles and French in 1962 from the Afghan side. Schindelbacher made a solo ascent, also by the north face of Udren Zom on August 22 when Göschl fell sick.

*Nanga Parbat, Rupal Face Attempt.* Dr. Karl Herrligkoffer's German expedition returned in the late winter to the face which had been reconnoitered in 1963. (*A.A.J.*, 1964, 14:1, p. 232.) After their arrival on February 28, they had bad weather nearly all the month of March. An avalanche swept off four of them, but without injury. Although they placed Camp I at 15,000 feet and Camp II at 17,400 feet, they reached no higher than 19,000 feet. The final straw, resulting from friction with their

Pakistani liaison officer, was withdrawal of the expedition's permission by the government.

*Minapin or Diran.* An Austrian party from Salzburg in May unsuccessfully attempted Minapin or Diran (23,861 feet), being driven back by bad weather, deep snow and avalanche danger. The climbers were Walter Fritsch, Heinz Eggert and Herbert Edtbaker.

*Turpin Peak.* A German expedition led by Philip Rosenthal was unable to reach the summit of its chief objective, Mazena Peak (23,300 feet), which lies above the Rupal valley south of Nanga Parbat. They did climb Turpin Peak (c. 19,000 feet), which lies still a little farther south.

K6. Germans from Berlin led by Peter Lipp had to give up their attempt to climb difficult K6 (23,890 feet) from the Kondus Glacier on the east because of bad weather after establishing three camps, the highest at nearly 22,000 feet. They were equally unsuccessful on nearby Changi Peak. Other members of the group were Dieter Hilliget, Norbert Körbler and Ulrich Roloff.

*Indus Kobistan.* The expedition led by Lieutenant M. W. H. Day of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge (England) visited the Siri Dara plateau, some ten miles east of Kalam in Swat State. The area was explored by T. H. Braham in 1962. (*A.A.J.*, 1963, 13:2, pp. 526-7 and *Himalayan Journal* v. 24, pp. 106-118.) An easy route was found on the left bank of the icefall and six peaks were climbed in the month of August. Some of these may have been first ascents, but on one mountain traces of a recent ascent were found. Two of the peaks were around 19,000 feet high, but there appear to be no summits in the area higher than Falak Ser (19,415 feet). The peak of 20,528 feet reported by the Survey of Pakistan does not exist. The cartography of the area is somewhat confused, but the highest Siri Dara peaks appear to correspond to those marked as Mankial on the existing maps and one of these lies on the Swat-Kandia divide.

ERIC GOODWIN, *Himalayan Club*

*Correction.* In the *A.A.J.*, 1964, 14:1, p. 226 there should have been an x after 54. Skyang Kangri to indicate that this peak was unclimbed.

### *Afghanistan*

*Stuttgart Hindu Kush Expedition, 1963.* Rolf Reiser, leader, Dieter Grundig, Alfred Kehrlé and Wolfgang Lutz traveled up the Panjir valley, over the Anjuman Pass to Anjuman and thence east into the Bologron valley, where they set up Base Camp at 14,000 feet on August 22, 1963. In the next month they climbed some 20 peaks which varied in altitude



from 16,650 to 18,900 feet. These included ascents by several routes of Koh-i-Bologron (17,553 feet) and, from a high camp at 16,650 feet, of Koh-i-Safed (18,900 feet), Kolei Sine Barfi (18,700 feet) and two other 18,000ers. *Bergkamerad*, Vol. 14, 1964, gives details.

*Polish Wakhan Expedition, 1963.* Under the leadership of Andrzej Wilczkowski, a group of Poles climbed in the Wakhan. On September 22, M. Gryczynski, B. Mac, A. Tikarski and Warteresiewicz made the third ascent of Kishmi Khan (c. 23,600 feet) and three days later the climb was repeated by T. Gozdecki and A. Miller. They also climbed M2 and Auar (both c. 21,325 feet) and Langusta-e-Barf (c. 23,000 feet). Also in the group were T. Batczak and N. Nichalski.

*Rakhuy Group, Kwaja Muhammad Range.* A group from Munich left Warsay with a pack train on July 3 for the Rakhuy group, where they set up Base Camp on the 13th. From July 15 to August 8 they climbed 17 peaks, of which 14 were over 5000 meters (16,404 feet). The highest peak measured 18,440 feet by aneroid. On August 12 they established a camp in the Seab valley, where the porters fell upon and murdered Erwin Rinkl and Walter Straass. The leader Ernst Haase and his brother Wolfgang escaped.

*Koh-i-Langar, Wakhan.* An expedition of the Traunstein section of the Deutscher Alpenverein alone of the number who applied was given permission for this remote part of Afghanistan, which lies near the Russian, Chinese and Pakistani frontiers. The leader was Dietrich von Dobenek; other members were Karl Brenner, Otto Huber, Konrad Kirch (John Harlin's companion on the Eiger), Karl Winkler, geologist Peter Mirwald and botanist Hans Roemer. After leaving Langar they moved up the Langar valley to Base Camp at 13,500 feet. There were two route-possibilities on Koh-i-Langar (23,166 feet). They preferred the one which led over the northwest spur of Peak 6170 (20,243 feet), which lies northeast of the main peak, over the summit of Peak 6170, down into the col, and up a long northeast ridge. After climbing a 16,000-foot peak on the western side of the valley for reconnaissance, they attacked the Koh-i-Langar. Camps were established in succeeding days at 17,225 feet and at 19,350 feet on the southwest of Peak 6170. They headed for the summit on July 6. The ridge ended in a kind of high plateau, out of which rose various summits. They all climbed one of 22,145 feet. Two days later Otto Huber climbed to the highest summit alone with a bivouac 200 feet below the top; he also reached the south summit. They did not attempt the other peak of 7000 meters, Koh-i-Skhawr, which was both difficult and dangerous. Instead, they explored the region to the east along the

upper reaches of the Oxus (here called Ab-i-Panja and Ab-i-Wakhan). They trekked to within a day of the Chinese frontier before they paused to climb Koh-i-Bay Qara (c. 17,700 feet), the most northeasterly of the Wakhan Pamir.

*Kob-i-Bandakor.* The Nagoya University party had as its first objective the climbing of Shakhaur, but when refused permission, they turned their eyes to the second ascent of Koh-i-Bandakor (21,851 feet), which had first been climbed by the Germans Hansemann, Hasse, Heine and Winkler in 1960. First of all the Japanese had difficulty in finding the mountain. Eventually they attacked it from the east and reached a lower summit on which they found a pennant left by the Germans. They abandoned the main peak because of complex and difficult rock conditions. The climbing leader was Hideji Matsui.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Hindu Kush.* An expedition from North Germany climbed in the Hindu Kush, possibly in the Koh-i-Chebrek region, and made the ascents of some 16 peaks, all of them less than 20,000 feet. The leader was Josef Ruf.

#### U.S.S.R.

*Soviet Climbs in Asia, 1963.* Russian climbers continue to be active in the high mountains of Asia. Reported in *Alpinismus* were the first ascent of the southeast ridge of Pik Engels (21,359 feet) in the southwest Pamirs by a group of six Moscow climbers led by W. Nekrasow in six days of difficult rock climbing; the first ascent of an 18,520-foot peak which they called Pik Nils Bohr in the western Pamirs by a group of Russian students accompanied by the Czech Frantisek Janouch; the first ascent of the north face of Pik Kirgkistan (15,880 feet) on the edge of the Tien-Shan by four climbers led by B. Studenin, a most difficult wall of 3500 feet which took five days; the ascent of Kysyl-Agyn (21,913 feet) in the Transalai range by Kirgiz climbers under W. Freifeld.

*Soviet Climbs in Asia, 1964.* Also reported in *Alpinismus* are accounts of climbs done in 1964. B. Romanow led a group which first made the first ascent of a nameless 20,571-foot peak in the Tien Shan. They then made a new route on Khan Tengri (22,950 feet) when from August 4 to 12 they climbed the northwest ridge, on which they placed four camps. Nearby a group led by E. Efumo made the first ascent of Pik Schaber (21,775 feet). In the Pamirs eight Uzbek climbers led by W. Eltshibekov made the first ascent of Pik Swestija (22,441 feet), which had been the highest unclimbed peak in the U.S.S.R. They made the ascent over Pik Ordshonikse (20,788 feet).