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BRITISH
EVEREST
1980
EXPEDITION

EXPEDITION REPORT

BRITISH CONWAYS OGRE EXPEDITION 1980

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02 BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE MAIN EVENTS

Conway's Ogre 6422 m is known locally as Uzum Brak. It dominates the giant Biafo Glacier, is the most beautiful member of the Ogre Group, and was previously unattempted.

Permission was originally sought by Anthony Wheaton in 1979. A team was carefully chosen, and like so many carefully chosen teams, not one of the original party took part in the expedition. In January 1980 there were six prospective members, by March there remained three. Of these only Cairns had previous Himalayan experience, so he was designated 'Leader' for beaurocratic purposes. As a distinguishing mark, he wore a tie at all times. (For further information about the expedition members, see section 11, expedition brochure).

In 1980, Cairns and Will were living in Edinburgh, while Tony resided in East London. The Edinburghians sent down a removal van full of huge waxed cardboard boxes. These completely filled Tony's home from floor to ceiling. After weeks of confusing lists and muddled packing, 17 boxes totalling 100 Kilos were airfreighted to Rawalpindi. Cheap return airtickets were purchased from a sleezy bucket shop in Soho. Tony got the dates wrong, and the entire expedition turned up at Heathrow the day after the flight. By the time we reached Mrs. Davies Hotel, disorganisation was

in full swing. Clothes and boots had been brought from Britain for the Liason Officer. We had been told he would be five foot six, with size six feet. We waited eight days before he arrived from his unit, spending our time as usefully as we could. One day we visited old Buster Goodwin. He autographed copies of his Life Among The Pathans for us. We promised to visit him on our return, regretfully we did not.

Captain Farhut Kayani was not five foot six, he was huge. We spent yet more of our shrinking time buying him boots and clothes. It began to seem as if this commodity was running through our hands like money.
"Flease" we asked, "Why does everything take so long in Pakistan ?" Mr Awan, the genial Minister of Tourism spread his hands smiling.
" Ah, thats the way you British taught it to us."

On the eleventh day we flew towards Skardu. The airoplane's ceiling was barely sufficient to clear the passes around Nanga Parbat. Air turbulence bent the wings near double. At least one frightened passenger saw his life flash passed as the cracks of metal fatigue grinned menacingly from the flimsey wings. On landing he kissed the ground.

The only memorable aspect of Skardu airport is the public w.c. being the last, or first depending on direction. The graffitti said " Patric Valencon was here " .

The jeep took us to the expensive K2 Hotel. At dawn the next day we were confronted with a frightening band of would-be porters. Will listened to their chests without a stethoscope. ("If it can be cured on expedition it must be trivial, so we wont need a stethoscope.") He put two fingers on their backs and asked them to breath in deeply. There would be no response. He asked them again, slower and louder. Somehow the chronic asthmaticswere eliminated and eight were chosen to meet us at Bongla Bridge.

we travelled the fifty miles to Bongla by overloaded jeep. The driver took a callow youth to mend the road where it had been washed away. Once, we all got out to ford a river rather than risk floating down the torrent with the driver. We stopped at a lonely apricot tree in the middle of a desert, which the driver said was Bongla Bridge. Like magic the porters materialised, together with more hopefuls. We needed six more, and once again witnessed that marvelous performance in clear, slow, and very loud English.

" Now please, i n h a l e ... d e e p l y ."

The walk to Base Camp followed the usual stages to Askole, and was as near to uneventful as we could manage. The porters did not care to join us in the hot springs at Chapko. At Namla, Cairns was afflicted with a mysterious back pain, and was quite unable to walk. Tony and the porters continued on to Base Camp, where the party was reunited two days later.

Base Camp was marked 4000 m on the map. The porters called it Baintha Base Camp. In fact it was not the base of the Scott/ Bonnington Expedition to the Ogre (Baintha Brak), which was about five miles nearer Uzum Brak. We should have gone on to the latter camp, but this inaccuracy was not to become apparant till Tony and Will were high on the mountain and the glaciers spread out below. Our base had plenty of brushwood, Rhubarb, and Chives. In addition there were magnificent views of the West Wall of the Biafo.

The day after reaching Base, the team made a reconnaissance towards Snow Lake, the fabled source of the Biafo and Hispar glaciers, the articulation at the hub of the longest glacial system outside the Polar regions. The hope that an easy way lay round the back was soon lost in admiration and awe. The wind soughed through the giant granite spires. We were frightened by what we intended to do. Seventy years earlier Fanny Bullock Workman had written of the splendours of the Biafo West Wall. To us, the East side was far more impressive, and it contained Uzum. Perhaps the development of harder,steeper routes have altered the mountaineer's eye.

Everything was harder than it looked. Everything took us four times as long as we had planned. Tony and Will were quite unable to reach the intended Advanced Camp on their first attempt, inspite of taking three days about it.

The second attempt at Advanced Camp was interrupted by the rescue episode.(For this and the actual climbing see the Climbing Report, section C3.)

The third attempt succeeded, and Will and Tony returned to Base to recuperate during a patch of poor weather. It had taken three days to find a route through to the Advanced Camp, but they were able to complete the return journey in six hours. They glissaded the 500 m couloir, and leaped the crevasses.

Twenty five Kilo loads were carried up to the Advanced Camp for the last time on the fifth of August. The next day an attempt was made to climb a strange ice ramp (see section 12, plate 5) that looked as if it might lead somewhere useful. Unfortunately this was also an avalanche trap. The bergschrund was crossed at ten oclock pm so that a safe bivouac might be reached by dawn. Daybreak brought storm clouds and retreat. The ensuing storm lasted on and off for seven days, during which time the two were imprisoned in the tent. Drole conversation gave way to an improvised chess set, silence but for the wind, and that strange mixture of boredom and apprehension.

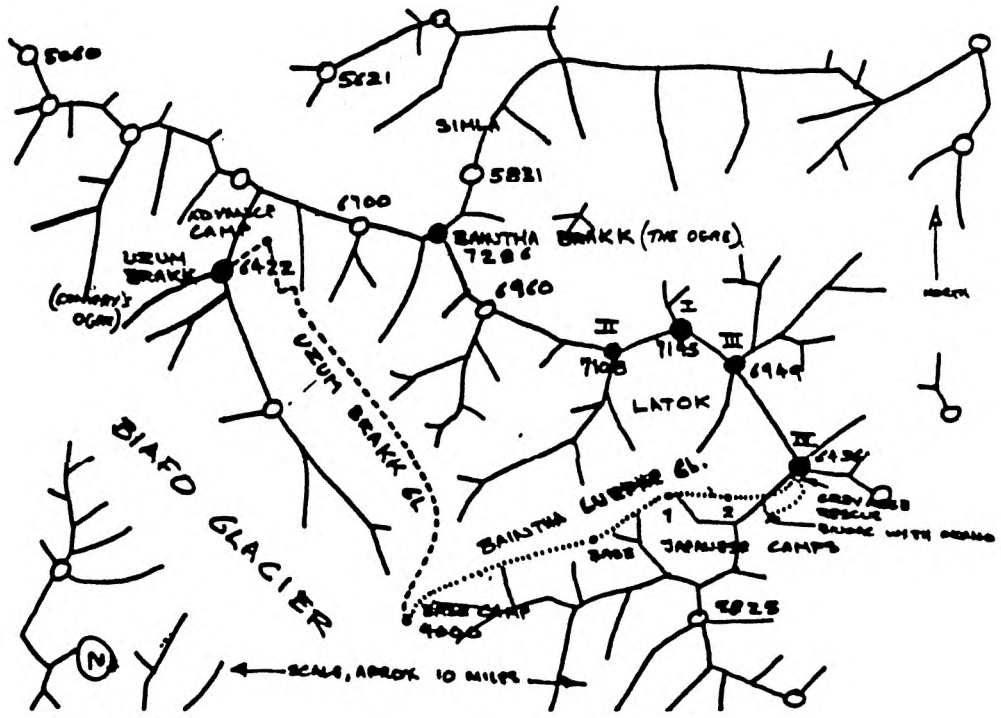
After the storm the North East face was climbed to it's junction with the summit ridge, which in turn was followed for a few pitches. The summit was not attained for reasons more fully explained in the Climbing Report.

British Conway's Ogre expedition 1980

Tony Saunders

Conway's Ogre (otherwise Uzum Brakk) (6422m) is in the Ogre-Latok chain beside the Biafo Glacier in the Karakoram.

In the late summer of 1980 2 expeditions were in the area—a Japanese attempting Latok IV and a British directed towards Uzum Brakk. On the descent from their peak, disaster threatened the Japanese summit party and members of the other expedition (Cairns Dickson, Tony Saunders and Will Tapsfield) became involved in the rescue operations.



Map 10

18 July ... On the descent from the summit of Latok IV Ohmiya and Okano were overtaken by poor weather and nightfall. They were still at a height of 5800m. All Ohmiya remembered of that bivouac was digging a ledge in the snow. 'Suddenly there was a small black hole through which the snow was pouring. I looked up and saw the weather was bad, so we carried on digging.'

24 July ... It was cold and much too early. Will, Cairns and I staggered under our 10 day loads. After an hour across the broken glacier, 2 figures appeared at the moraine. After a few distant exchanges we turned to go. One of us realised they were not greetings we heard in the wind, but something about an accident and a crevasse. As we clambered back, the 2 figures grew into the 2 expeditions' Liaison Officers. They were both called Captain Kayani and had already become friends. They told us of the most unfortunate accident. The 2 Japanese lead climbers had fallen 40m into a high crevasse. The leader had a complex, compound fracture of one leg, the other climber had broken ribs. A few years earlier on Baitha Brakk (the Ogre) less than 10 miles to the W, Bonington and Scott had suffered similar injuries. As James Joyce says 'history repeats itself with a twist'.

25 July ... Ohmiya was seen on the crest of a ridge above Japanese Camp 2. The 3 remaining members had climbed up from the base when Ohmiya and Okano were 4 days overdue. Later Dr Noda, the doctor, recalled: 'We saw Mr Ohmiya high up on the ridge waving; we waved back. We thought they must be both coming down, so we were very happy. We went back inside the tent to wait. Some hours later one of our members went outside and saw Mr Ohmiya in the same place, still waving. So we knew something was wrong'.

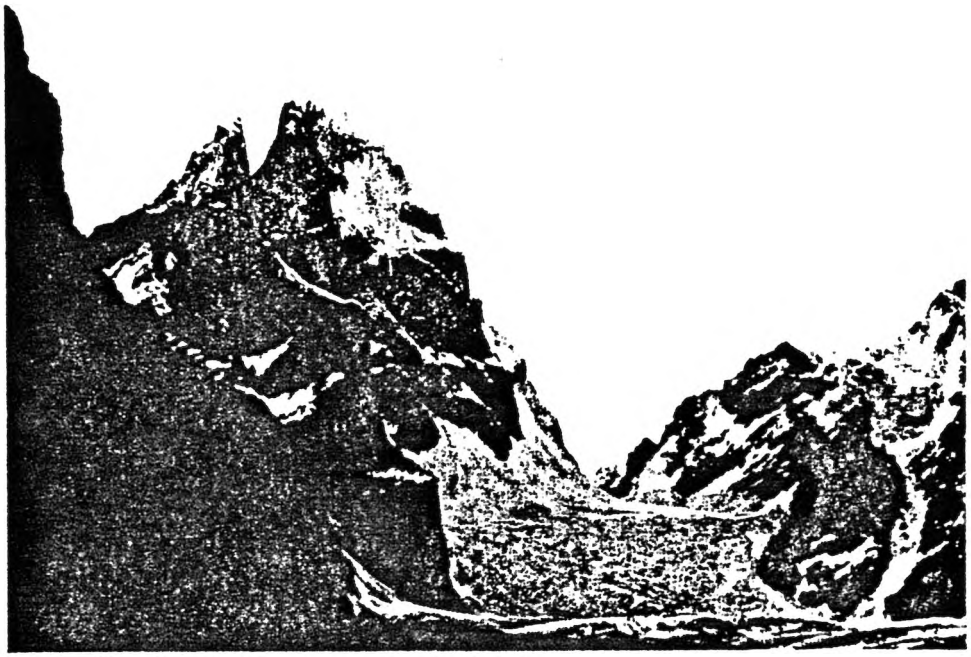
To get down to the ridge, Ohmiya had traversed the crevasse wearing one boot with crampon, aiding sections with 2 ice pegs. At the end of the traverse he had cut a tunnel through the snow and emerged just above some séracs. Okano could not follow because of his broken ribs. Having spent 3 nights in the crevasse, Ohmiya was now to spend 3 nights on the open face without sleeping bag, stove or food. It took 2 days to climb down to the broken ridge above Camp 2, where he was seen on the evening of his 3rd night on the face. The following day the 3 uninjured Japanese brought their leader down to Camp 2, while we carried kerosene, tea, sugar and flour up to the depleted Japanese camps.

26 July ... By late morning Will, Cairns and I were able to reach the crevasse. It was lens-shaped and with its vaults and brittle columns of ice, eerily gothic. Okano lay out of view on an ice ledge system, his sleeping bag solid with ice lumps. There was no food nor fuel and he was delirious. We hauled the injured man as if he was a sack; he looked surprised and blinked at his first sunlight for 8 days. He smiled, and so did we. With a mixture of bullying and cajolery, brews of tea and shots of Japanese painkiller, we were eventually able to lower him to the nearest glacier that night. The next day we hauled Okano sledgewise over the col above Camp 2 and lowered him the last few pitches to his waiting friends.

3 August ... The rescue episode severely curtailed our climbing stocks and, it turned out, our allocation of fair weather too. It was decided that Will and I should attempt the mountain while Cairns finished the botanical survey we had been sponsored to carry out.

We left Base Camp with 14 days food for the second time, weak-kneed under the 25kg loads, and hopeful.

6 August ... It soon became clear that all the easiest lines were exceptionally dangerous. The faces would run with avalanches whenever exposed to the sun. After much indecision, we compromised on a strange ramp line across the NE buttress.



92 Uzum Brakk from the lower Uzum Brakk glacier

The lower part would have to be climbed at night or in poor weather to avoid the usual avalanche danger, but the upper part looked safe enough. Setting out at 10pm, by 9am we had, according to plan, reached a safe niche to sit out the morning chutes. As the day wore on it became clear that a spell of poor weather was developing behind the mountain. The tell-tale cap on the Ogre opposite us, then the mackerel sky, finally wind, cloud and snow. We began to abseil down. Will called through the mist.

'B-e-l-o-w...'

'Whaaa?' as I raised my face, the rock hit my mouth. There appeared to be rather a lot of blood, and at least one of my front teeth was missing. Everything I said seemed to start with a sort of sibilant 'f'. Meanwhile, Will's crampons kept falling off. The next 9 abseils were an exquisite form of purgatory.

We spent the following 7 days confined to the advance camp tent. Will consoled me, 'At least your mouth will have a chance to heal without too much infection.'

13 August ... We crossed the bergschrund at midnight. The climbing was not as hard as we had expected, although the ramp ended with 3 pitches of Scottish gully climbing. From the bivouac ledge the NE buttress dropped out of sight to join the glacier some 600m below. We watched the fading alpenglow on the Ogre, the great unnamed peak and the Latoks behind. Our gloved fingers traced the British route on the Ogre, the long retreat with fearful injuries.

14 August ... It seemed no less exposed than the Traverse of the Gods. Floundering across the steep powder snow which slid disconcertingly over the edge to the glacier, we soon found ourselves in an area characterized by gullies of rotten ice. We considered this steep mixed ground to be the key to the route since a line through here would take us to the upper ice field. I tried to climb straight up but came to my senses half way up a finger crack wedging the ice tools and scraping with the crampons.

'I think I'll try going sideways here.'

'Good, I was about to untie.' Just for that I cut out an enormous resting ledge and showered Will with the ice detritus.

15 August ... A 3am start left the extremities too cold to solo up the steepening ice. Dawn broke like an egg, all over the summit, and soon we were blinking in the gelid glare. The transition couloir from the upper ice field to the summit ridge reared above our worried heads. After a steep entry we were confronted by a pitch of near-vertical ice, weaving through outcropping rocks. Soon we were timorously hooking rock flakes with our tools, and bridging the curved ice.

With agonized limbs we clambered gratefully on to the summit ridge, but our hopes were cruelly demolished. Although the ridge rose only 50 or so metres to the summit, it was repulsively corniced and the flanks sported numerous large flutings. There was in addition an enormous snow gendarme some 20m away, a crazily teetering 5 storey block. Well, we are not lunatics after all, apparently.

A few precarious abseils brought us back to the upper ice field as the light faded. Happily we set about our bivouac routine and were soon in the sleeping bags brewing the first of the 3 evening drinks. We shared a celebratory tin of sardines, half a packet of oatcakes, and contemplated our luck on this the first day of uninterrupted good weather for 10 days. At the other end of the Karakoram range our friend Michael Hoffmann was on Nanga Parbat, experiencing the same brief hiatus.

'Will'

'Mmm?' picking the sardine droppings from his beard.

'With this weather we might just make it down to the glacier by tomorrow night, Base Camp by the 17th, I could be in London by 10 days with luck.'

'Why worry?'

'My holiday leave ends today.' Just think, I thought, I could be watching Dr Who, slipping down sherbets in the Spread Eagle, and abusing my alimentary parts with chicken vindaloo. But here I am.

16 August ... All day the bivouac tent flapped in the vicious squalls, the spindrift packed between the mountain and our backs, forcing us off the ledge. The night was cold, and the 'minimum diet' was beginning to affect our bodies. The food supplies would allow us 2, perhaps 3 more days.

17 August ... Feeling we could sit out the weather no longer, we imagined a drop in the wind, and cleared the site. The wind returned almost immediately and nearly took the tent from our frozen digits. My glasses froze over, no amount of wiping would remove the ice rime for more than a few seconds. With wood-frozen limbs we felt our way down the ice field. After a few blinding pitches we found an undercut outcrop marking the end of the Traverse. With a sinking body temperature the brain and fingers fumbled at the complex operations required to secure a safe belay and bivouac. Inside the tent, out of the wind, we sat exhausted and contemplated our boots.

19 August ... After three days of disgusting blizzards, the dawn brought clear skies. Like drunken guardians the chalk dusted peaks leant together, overlooking the glaciers paternally. Hurried abseils took us down the final slopes, exhaustion dragging at the limbs.

21 August ... Will and I staggered into Base Camp, Captain Kayani, Muhamed Ali (the Liaison Officer's Cook) and Cairns crowded us with welcomes and news of the Japanese. Ohmiya and Okano were in Gilgit hospital, the others had sent a porterload of goodies from Askole. Even so, there was only just enough food for the walk to that village.

BOTANICAL REPORT. Cairns Dickson

This project was carried out in conjunction with, and principally for the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh.

The remoteness and ruggedness of the terrain arroundthe area means that not many expeditions go there soley to collect plants. A combination of Mountaineering and Botanical objectives is possible on small expeditions because not much equiptment is required.

The aim of the project was to collect different species in an altitude transect from Base Camp at 14 000 ft to below the snow line (S. Facing) at 17 000 ft.Over 40 species of plants and grasses were collected, using a large plant press for packing and transport. The value of a small collection such as this is the high quality of the specimens. They are presently being mounted and cross-referred by the RBS.

Comparing a high altitude specimen to its British Counterpart can reveal quite dramatic changes in structure to cope with the reduced life cycle (8 weeks) for some plants. Fertile specimens can be used for cross-fertilisation of propagation in Britain.

I consider this to be valuable and interesting project and would reccomend other expeditions to become involved in this feild.

List of dets. of CAIRNS DICKSON collection

August 1980: Expedition to N Pakistan

1. Lindelofia stylosa (Kar. & Kir.) Brand
2. Sedum heterodontum Hook. f. et Thom.
3. Salix karelinii Turcz.
4. Crepis flexuosa Clarke
5. Waldheimia tridactylites Kar. & Kir.
6. Oxyria digyna L.
7. Pleurogyne carinthiaca Griseb.
8. Geranium cf. grandiflorum Edgew.
9. Silene vulgaris (Moench.) Garcke
10. Epilobium angustifolium L.
11. Pedicularis pycnantha ~~sp. typica~~
12. Artemisia turczaninowiana Bess.
13. Epilobium latifolium L.
14. Anaphalis nubigena DC.
15. Ephedra sp.
16. ? Waldheimia tomentosa (Dcne) Regel (immature)
17. Saxifraga sp. (sterile)
18. ? Micropyrum
19. Calamagrostis pseudophragmites (Hall. f.) Koel.
20. ? Poa araratica Trautv.
21. Astragalus sp. (sterile)
22. Taraxacum sp.
23. Erigeron cf. bellidioides Benth.
24. Nepeta discolor Royle ex Benth.
25. Crepis sp. (immature)
26. Tanacetum sp.
27. Astragalus sp. (sect. Myobroma?)
28. Cicer songaricum Steph. = Cicer microphyllum Benth.

High Altitude Plants

29. Myosotis asiatica Schischk. & Serg.
30. Corydalis moorcroftiana Wall. ex Hook. f. et Thoms.
31. Pedicularis cheilanthifolia Schrenk v. albida (Pennell) Tsong
32. Stellaria graminea L.
33. Saxifraga flagellaris Willd. cf. var. komarovii (A. Los.) Hara
34. Leontopodium leontopodinum (DC.) Hand.-Mazz.
35. Sedum ewersii Ledeb.
36. Polygonum viviparum Linn.
37. Aconitum rotundifolium Kar. & Kir.
38. ? Gramineae
39. Trisetum spicatum (L.) Richb.
40. Silene gonosperma (Ruprecht) Bocquet
41. Sedum crassipes Hook. f. et Thom.
42. Potentilla argyrophylla Wall. var. leucochroa Th. Wolf.
43. Erigeron uniflorus L.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN
INVERLEITH ROW
EDINBURGH, EH3 5LR
SCOTLAND

MEDICAL PROJECT

In the original planning for the expedition, it had been hoped to undertake a fairly sophisticated project dealing with alterations in the metabolism of human brown adipose tissue upon exposure to altitude. Unfortunately, the non-climbing participants who were to supply the equipment, had to drop out at fairly short notice. Because of the small number of people on the expedition, and the combination of aesthetic and financial pressures to keep the equipment to a minimum, it was decided to abandon any complex project, involving both time and complicated equipment.

As an alternative, a small scale project was undertaken; in this regard, the expedition was, perhaps, fortunate in having an asthmatic member! In the past, there has been a fashion to send sufferers from respiratory diseases to sanatoria at high altitudes such as the Alps; this commenced with T.B., but has continued since then with severe asthmatic patients, with the rationale of reducing exposure to allergens. There is, however, a reason to suggest a possible factor by which such an environment might worsen asthma; recent research has shown that exercise-induced asthma is a phenomenon which is based on the hyper-reactivity of the bronchial tree on exposure to cold, dry air. It might be predicted, therefore, that the combination of the hyperventilation that occurs in response to the hypoxia of altitude, with the tendency to the coolness and dryness of the atmosphere, might be a significant stimulus provoking asthma.

The project merely consisted of recording twice-daily Peak flow-rates at the varying altitudes, throughout the expedition; the asthmatic (A.S.) and one normal subject (W.T.) did this daily, and A.S. also recorded his subjective symptoms, together with his inhaler usage.

Results:
The results did not achieve any statistical significance; however, A.S. clearly felt a subjective improvement in his

Cont/

symptoms, coupled with an almost complete cessation of required bronchodilater inhaler usage; the only exception was when early starts were made on very cold mornings.

A.S.'s peak flow recordings showed a trend to improvement, though not statistically significant, supporting these findings; and interestingly, W.T.'s showed a trend downwards (again not significant) presumably related to the mechanics of the P.E.F.R. recorder as regards gas pressures.

Discussion:

In this subject it seems clear that the benefit resulting from decreased exposure to allergens outweighed the potential harm of hyperventilation resulting in an improvement in lung function. This subject (an atopic individual) is aware that his asthma is related to allergen exposure, and finds exercise-induced symptoms relatively mild and infrequent, and the results fit in with this assessment.

These results provide some support for the concept that altitude may be beneficial for some sufferers from asthma, particularly if allergens are the dominant trigger factor; it would, however, be interesting to test other sufferers with differing trigger characteristics, to assess the more general validity of the findings.

MEDICAL REPORT

One member of the expedition (W.T.) was a doctor and looked after the medical affairs. In keeping with the light-weight nature of the expedition a very small medical kit was taken (see appendix). Fortunately, this decision was justified by events, as there were no real health problems with the team.

The main medical problem that occurred was in the rescue of Okano on Latok 1V; the problem posed, however, very much more one of practical management than of medicine. He was delirious when found, presumably due to a combination of hypothermia, dehydration and pain from his fractured ribs; the disorienting effect of three foreign strangers arriving like some deus ex machina must have compounded this problem. No real medical assessment or intervention was possible on the mountain, although once we had reached a point where we could happily lower or drag him I gave him an injection of Fortral (supplied by the Japanese), which rendered him rather more manageable.
A considerable degree of physical and mental stamina, spiced by a good deal of luck, were the main factors in his recovery.

A few notes of how various other problems were tackled may be of interest:

1. Acclimatisation

The team seemed to fare reasonably well in this respect. Although only one team member (C.D.) had been above European altitudes before, occasional transient headaches were the only symptom of altitude sickness experienced. The lengthy walk in to 4000 metres, and the time spent on Latok 1V up to 5500 m may have been helpful in this respect. Acetazolomide was not taken.

2. Diarrhoea

Episodes of diarrhoea, though frequent at lower altitudes, were always short lived; symptomatic treatment was taken (Lomatil and Codeine Phosphate) although I am unconvinced that they are of much effect in these illnesses, and no antibiotics were used. One member (A.S.) acquired Giardiasis on the walk out.

cont/

3. Frostbite

We were fortunate in not confronting this problem.

4. Vitamin Pills

Multivite were taken daily above base camp.

5. Analgesia

No controlled drugs were taken. Subcutaneous Fortral was given to Okano, and this successfully eased his pain and quietened his delirium. I think I would probably have been reluctant to have given anything stronger in view of his very poor condition. A compound fracture of tibia and fibular in a child was set under 1. V. Tangesic (not recommended for use in children), and this was the one time I felt the need for stronger analgesia.

6. Minor Wounds

These tended to heal very slowly; first aid and cleanliness is very important, and systematic antibiotics were used in one case.

7. Local Problems

The major medical problem was coping with the demands of local people. The whole problem of a foreign doctor passing briefly through an undoctored area is terribly complex, and my philosophy was to try and avoid contact of this nature whenever possible. The sight of the year old catheter used repeatedly for bladder drainage in a man with acute or chronic retention was extremely disturbing to one reared with antisepsis as a way of life.

APPENDIX

Drugs

1. Antibiotics: Ampicillin, Cloxacillin, Tetracycline, Flagil.
2. Analgesics: Aspirin, Distalgesic, Parenteral Temgeric.
3. Diuretics.)
4. Diazepan.) not used.
5. Local anasthetics.)
6. Parenteral Hydrocortisone and Salbutamol.)

Equipment

An inflatable leg splint. A variety of dressings, sutures, bandages and antiseptics.

A basic kit of instruments for minor first aid.

FOOD

The plan adopted for feeding the expedition was to fly out with the food that would be eaten above base camp, but to obtain all the food for the rest of the expedition in Rawalpindi or Skardu.
This led to a staple diet at or below base camp of rice, chapattis and dhal, supplemented whenever possible by eggs, fresh vegetables and the occasional chicken. We were very lucky in having Mohammed as our cook; he was not only very competent at producing palatable meals from very basic ingredients, but was also superb at planning the rations to last out our stay. A pressure cooker was a vital aid in dealing with both the rice and the pulses.
Between base camp and advance base the staple food altered to Raven freeze-dried products, which was acceptable, though tended to be a little monotonous.
Above advance base camp the rations were very strictly worked out, and two people shared the following amounts per day:

1 x 100 gm bar chocolate.
1 x 85 gm bar Kendal Mint Cake.
1 x 110 gm tin of sardines.
10 oatcakes.
2 portions of Chocolate 'Build-Up'.
2 helpings of porridge.
2 helpings of banana custard.
2 portions instant soup.
1 packet of 'Rise and Shine'.

This would weigh approximately 1 Kg.

This diet was clearly very meagre; it seemed successful in that we enjoyed our food, and could usually have eaten several days rations in a sitting. We were not aware of feeling weak because of lack of food, but we certainly both lost a lot of weight, and I suspect we were far more affected by the lack of food than we realised. However, how to get adequate calories without excessive weight is not a problem allowing a biological solution.

SOME USEFUL BALTI WORDS Tony Saunders

The trek in and out was facilitated by the desire to communicate with the porters in their own language. To this end the expedition kept a notebook of recurring words. One of the rather odd features illuminatedby this exercise is the similarity with Japanese of the numerals. Consider the units for example;

English	Balti	Japanese
One	CHICK	ICHI
Two	NIESS	NI
Three	SUM	SAN
Four	BJEE	SHI
Five	(G)HRAA	GO
Six	TRUK	ROKU
Seven	VDUN	SICHI
Eight	VGIAT	HACHI
Nine	URGU	KU
Ten	FSCHU	JU

One clue to this corespondance lies in the old name for the region, Little Tibet.

Marco Pallis says that Balti is in fact a dialect of Tibetan.

"Written Tibetan abounds in consonants; but the majority of these are now mute... It suddenly occured to us to address these Baltis in our ordinary Tibetan, but to sound all the mute consonants. In an instant they were beaming, and chattering to us in voluble Balti." (Peaks & Lamas p195)

It seems plausible that standard counting had been generally introduced as a part of Bhudism. In Japan the earlier form of the units is Hito, Futa ,Mit, Yon, Itsu, Mut, Nana, Yat, Kokono, To. This older system is still preserved in the language. We were not made aware of any alternative numerical system in Balti, and it is interesting to speculate that it may have not been decimal.

We have set out below a short list of some of the more common words, in the hope that it will prove of some use to future expeditions to this area, and lead to a more understanding attitude. This together with fewer and smaller expeditions may help to soften the terrible impact that western climbers have on

the indiginous way of life.

WORDLIST some more numbers.

11	j'schick
12	Jongas
13	juksum
14	tchubjee
15	chohraa
16	churuk
17	chudun
18	chobgiat
19	churgu
20	nishoo

people	
baby	balbis
child	barsut
youth	is,rma
man(no beard)	jaman
man(bearded)	apo
old man	pirie
children	meta chum
brother	porno
head	guenset
shirt	guonme
trousers	tsenu
jacket	tsurka
socks	kangtse
I	kang
y ou	gna
he	yang
we	sing
you	gna
they	soring

Time and motion

Mile	mill
this	duc
small	tzilzikut
big	eshen
little	min
up	kayar
down	katur
here	ildiac('diac)
there	la
further	iarr
half	pek
one and a half	chick na pek
day	ispan
hour	gantar
oclock	gantar
one hour	chick gantar
one oclock	gantar chick
yesterday	gonde
today	diring
tomorrow	belah
dayafter "	snalah
dayafter " "	zelah

adjectives

hot	tsar
cold	jiang muh
cold(adverb)	jiang sek
same	tsoh

verbs

to fall	onget
to sleep	anitoma
to stop/finish	chum
to speak	zaban
to speak Balti	Balti zaban
to make	ustat
to drink	tung
I make	kang ustat
y ou make	gna ustat
drink a little	min tunget

things

what is this?	duc chin?
name	mentagh
cash	inam
rain	nam kor onget
bad weather	nam kor
g ood weather	nam tang
clouds	koret
stone	mushi
bowl	carale
flower	mandoc
rope	rassi
sack	dollic
load(porter l.)	zgull

words implying good

good	liahmo
real	"
very	"
good	bunjo
good	bachshish
yes	liahmo
no	met
thankyou	asyouare

examples;

good water	liahmo chu
good apricot	bunjo chuli
bad water	met chu
no water	chu met
yes(there is)water	chu liahmo

food

food	zan
eat	zet
apricot	chuli
local mulberry	oseh
atta	bahpeh
roasted atta	nazpeh
wheat	trezros
lassi(buttermilk)	darba
porridge of nazpeh& darba	darby kulac
salt	paiju(paiyu)
tea	chai
milk	onga
eggs	biajon
onion	tsum
sugar	kara
rice	blass
chappati	chappati
paratha	parantha
water	chu
sweet	ldoc
karet	to knead
butter	marrh
ghee	kapo marrh

09 LIST OF EQUIPMENT

HILL CLOTHES

balaclava
ski Hat
cotton vest
long sleeved vest
one-peice fibrepile suit
fibrepile jacket
fibrepile pants
fibrepile waistcoat
Gortex jacket
Damart gloves 3 prs
nylon covered fibrepile gloves
underpants
longjohns
Gortex overtousers
socks 3 prs
Berghaus supergaiters
double boots
dark goggles

HILL TOOLS

ice axe
ice hammer
crampons + spare bolts etc.
ice screws 7no.*
rock pegs 7 no *
nuts on slings 6no *
carabiners 20 lightweight *
slings 2 long for bivis *
+ 4 short
abseil tape 20 m.*
descender
harness
helmet
headtorch + spare batts etc.
ropes 2 no 9 mm 50 m *
camara + film
large rucksack

BIVOUAC

Karrimat
sleeping bag
Gortex bivibag
bivitent (our own design) *
stove + gas cannisters *
food *
pencil + paper to write down rte description, in case of whiteout.*
altimeter *
compass *
first aid kit*
loo paper *
watch
Opinel knife + spoon
billie + handle*
nylon brush*
duvet

BASECAMP

maps + literature *
medical supplies*
rubber gloves *
boot polish + spare laces *
toothbrush + paste
food*
pressure cooker *
plate, mug, spoon
canopener*
shirt, shorts, jeans, joggers
sewing kit*
towel + soap (if needed)
file for crampons & tools *
plastic bags *
large parafin stove + fuel *
candles *
tents (2 at B.C. 1 at A.C.) *
extra rucksacks *

* indicates non personal items
It should be noted that in Pakistan expeditions are expected to provide clothes, boots, and a tent for the Liason Officer.

A LIST OF IMPORTANT OMMISSIONS

After the expedition we compared our original packing lists to the items actually needed. Set out below is the resulting list. They were all considered important but clearly not essential. For example, gas lighters could be bought in Rawalpindi as we planned but their manufacture was such as to render them near useless. We thought we could get good fuel containers in Skardu, but we should have bought them in 'pindi, and so on.

item	to be obtained in
dried onions	U.K.
plastic bags of all sizes, stuff sacks, and rubber bands	U.K.
good quality gas lighters	U.K.
" " fuel containers	'pindi
" " tarpaulins	'pindi
small tent & sleeping bag for liason officer's cook	U.K.
spring balance	'pindi
light weight boxes for loads (our boxes weighed 4 kg each)	'pindi
joggers(preferable to walking boots)	U.K.
binoculars	U.K.
wide brimmed sun hats. (Ours were narrow brimmed)	'pindi

SUMMARY OF COST

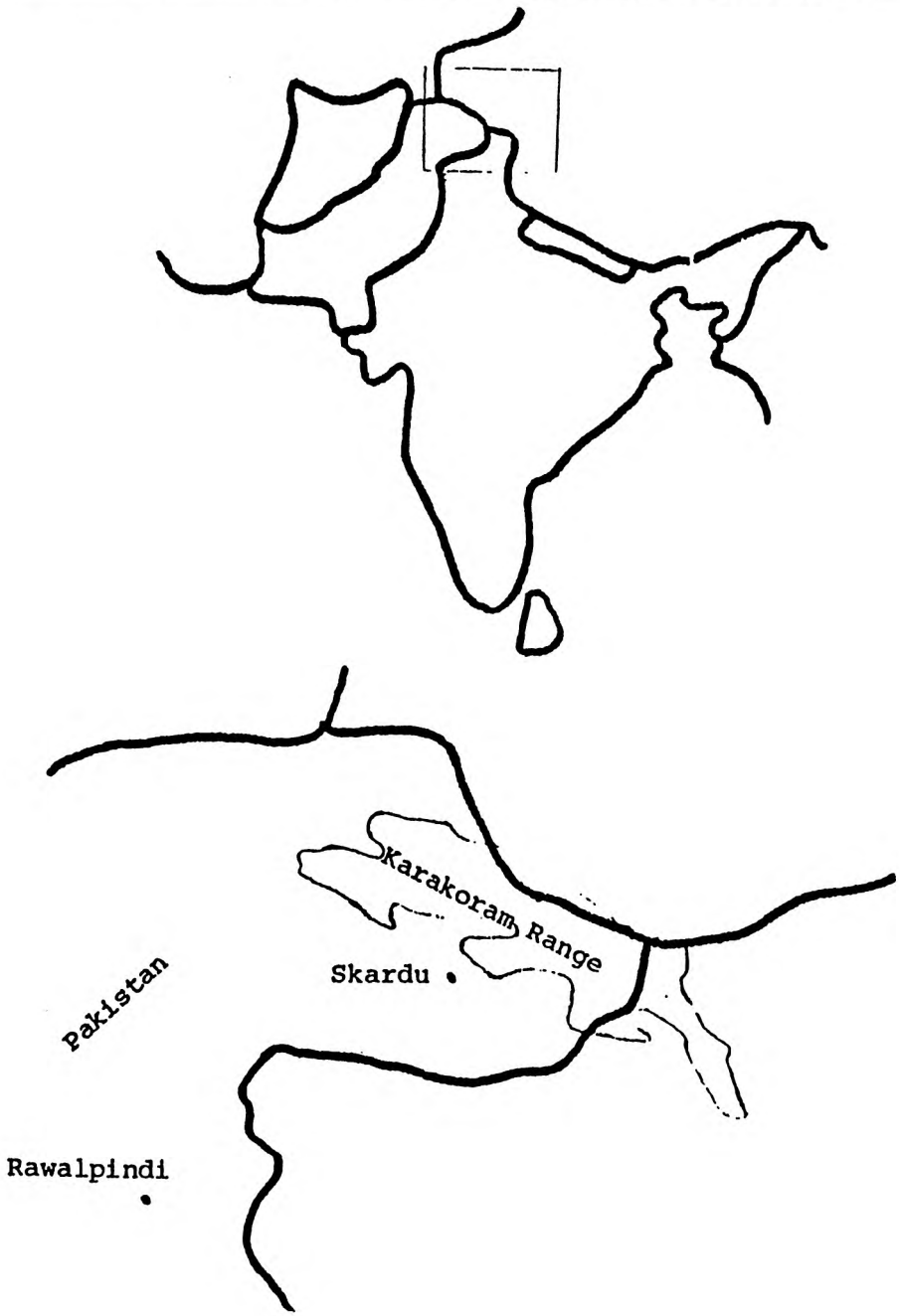
Item	£ Income	£ Expenses
Carneggie Institute	900.00	
M.E.F	400.00	
B.M.C.	200.00	
Midlothian R.C.	150.00	
Edinburgh University M.C.	100.00	
Cairns Dickson	762.00	
Tony Saunders	762.00	
Will Tapsfield	762.00	
Flights		1005.00
Airfreight		305.00
Peak Fee		460.00
BMC Insurance		103.00
L.O.equiptment		216.00
Films & processing		132.00
Brochures & printing costs		15.00
Travelors cheques		1680.00
Sundry expenses		217.00
Total	4200.00	4200.00

SUMMARY OF DATES

DATE	EVENT
31.6.80	Cairns, Tony & Will depart Heathrow.
07.7	Liason Officer reports for duty.
11.7	Expedition arrives Skardu.
13.7	By jeep to Bongla Bridge, ½ day walk to Dassu.
16.7	Arrive Askole
19.7	Expedition arrives Base Camp.
20.7	Recconnaissance up the Biafo Glacier.
21.7	T & W set off for AC (Advanced Camp), Bivouac on Uzum Brak Glacier.
23.7	T & W fail to discover route through ice-fall, and return to Base.
24.7	C, T & W set out for AC but are called back to help rescue Latock 4 team.
26.7	Okano rescued from crevasse, night spent on high hanging glacier.
31.7	T & W set off for AC
02.8	AC established
03.8	return to Base in 6 hours.
05.8	T & W set out for AC, large loads.
06.8	Fisrt attempt, Tony loses a tooth. Storm.
13.8	Second attempt bergschrund crossed at midnight.
15.8	Summit ridge reached.
19.8	T & W return to AC.
21.8	T & W reach Base.
23.8	Expedition returns to Askole, and splits up. C & W stay in Askole for a few days, T heads for London, where he arrives on 31.8.80.

1980

BRITISH CONWAYS OGRE EXPEDITION



AIMS OF THE EXPEDITION

The main objective of this four-man expedition is to climb a major unclimbed peak in the Karakoram range in North Pakistan. The mountain, Conway's Ogre (6422 m) lies 30 miles deep north of the Masherbrum massif position (35 56 N, 75 42 W).

The mountain was given this name as it was discovered by Sir Martin Conway, when he visited the area in the early 1900's.

Relatively few expeditions have visited the area and the peak has not yet been attempted. Information from D Scott's Ogre Expedition (1977) shows it to be a fine peak, of considerable technical difficulty (T D - Alpine Standard). We propose to tackle the mountain by its West Ridge (Vertical height 4500 ft) in an alpine style ascent.

We also intend to carry out a programme of scientific work, involving an investigation into the botany of the region.

An official request has been granted by Pakistan Government for permission to climb Conway's Ogre, approaching from the South.

SCHEDULE

We intend to leave Britain on 25 June 1980, and fly

to Rawalpindi and then on to Skardu with an internal flight. Jeeps will be hired for the next stage of the journey, up the Shigar valley as far as possible. Then porters will be commissioned to transport our equipment and provisions to our base camp on the lower Uzun Blakk Glacier. Leaving Skardu in early July, we expect to be established in our base camp by 15 July 1980. We hope to have completed our ascent by mid-August; this will have given us sufficient time for acclimatisation to the altitude and reduces the risk of being caught in bad weather. This timetable then allows us to carry out our scientific work, before our return to Rawalpindi in early September.

PERSONNEL

The four members of team have extensive mountaineering experience in Britain, Europe and the Himalayas including ascents of 6000 m virgin Himalayan peak, the north face of Les Droites and the north face of the Eiger in winter.

Cairns Dickson (leader)	Graduate (Biology)
Duncan McNeill	Undergraduate (Physics)
Anthony Saunders	Graduate (Architecture)
William Tapsfield (doctor)	Graduate (Medicine)

In addition, it is necessary for expeditions to Pakistan to have a liaison officer attached to them,

usually from the Pakistani armed forces. He must be equipped and maintained by the expedition, given a cost of living allowance and transported by air from his base to Rawalpindi, where he will join us.

ADMINISTRATION

Insurance cover for the whole party, liaison officer, porters and equipment is being negotiated.

We expect to obtain most of our food locally, but all our high altitude food will be taken with us. Equipment such as an altimeter and a radio transmitter (which is compulsory) have yet to be purchased. We hope to obtain discounts and gifts of food and equipment.

Finding sufficient financial support for a small venture such as this is our biggest problem. We are endeavouring to reduce expense to the minimum, and previous expedition experience has helped us to economise. Personal contributions are high, in order to reduce the need for grants. It would be unfortunate if the expedition were not to take place due to lack of financial support, as the total amount of money required is not very great, considering the remoteness and difficutly of the objective.

Our estimated budget is as follows:

Air Travel (4 x £270)	£1080
Baggage	£ 500
Travel in Pakistan	£2500
Insurance (BMC)	£ 300
Peak fee	£ 450
Equipment	£ 500
Food and fuel	£ 200
Miscellaneous	£ 300
TOTAL	£5830
Personal contributions (£400 each)	£1600
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	£4230

BOTANICAL PROJECT

Very few expeditions have been to this area, because of political and geographical reasons, and none have so far carried out any scientific work, so a botanical survey could be very revealing.

The Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh have asked for a plant collection to be made. Plants will be collected on our arrival in early July, dried, pressed, and photographed *in situ*. Seed samples can be taken before our return in the autumn. The Royal Botanical Gardens can supply all the equipment necessary for sampling.

An altitude transect from 12000-16000 ft should be possible on one of the lower ridges running down to the Biafo Gyang Glacier. A smaller transect will also be taken from as high as possible, down to the Uzun Blakk Glacier. This series of transects will provide an efficient system of study for the progression of vegetation.

It may be possible to link this work with a lichenographic study to give information on the rate of colonisation by plants in the sterile enviroment left after glacial recession. The sizes of the largest thalli of certain lichens are measured, and by comparing relative sizes we can deduce relative ages. The time scale may only be relative, as a size/age curve for lichens in the Karakoram is not available.

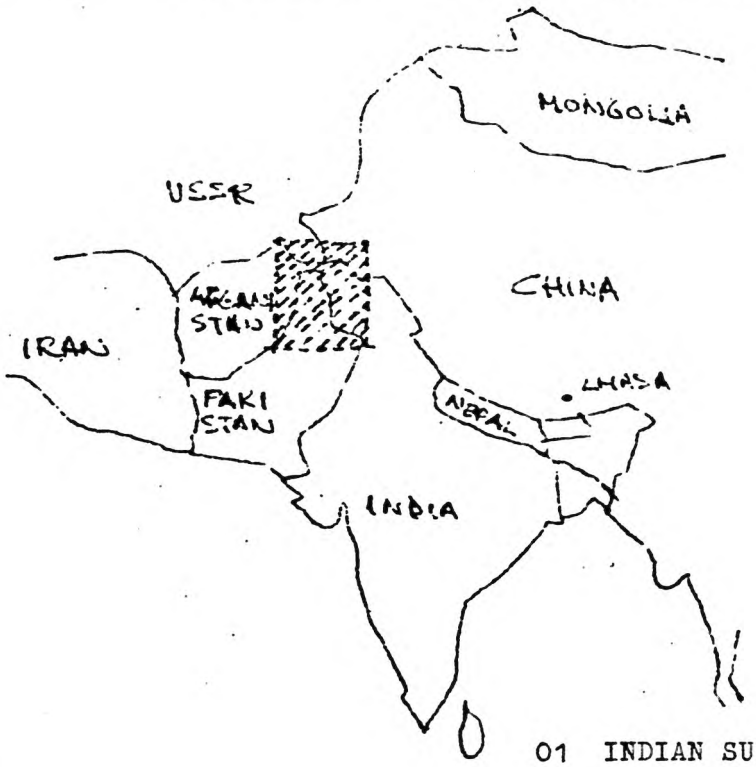
A further investigation into the ecology of the local higher plants will also be done to provide a comprehensive background to the sampling. This involves measurement of pH aspect and soil particle size, along with observations of structure and drainage.

The project will be carried out by all members of the team, under the guidance of the trained biologist. The back-up facilities at the Botanical Gardens will enable us to produce a separate scientific report. This is of paramount importance, as little or no literature on botany of this region is currently available.

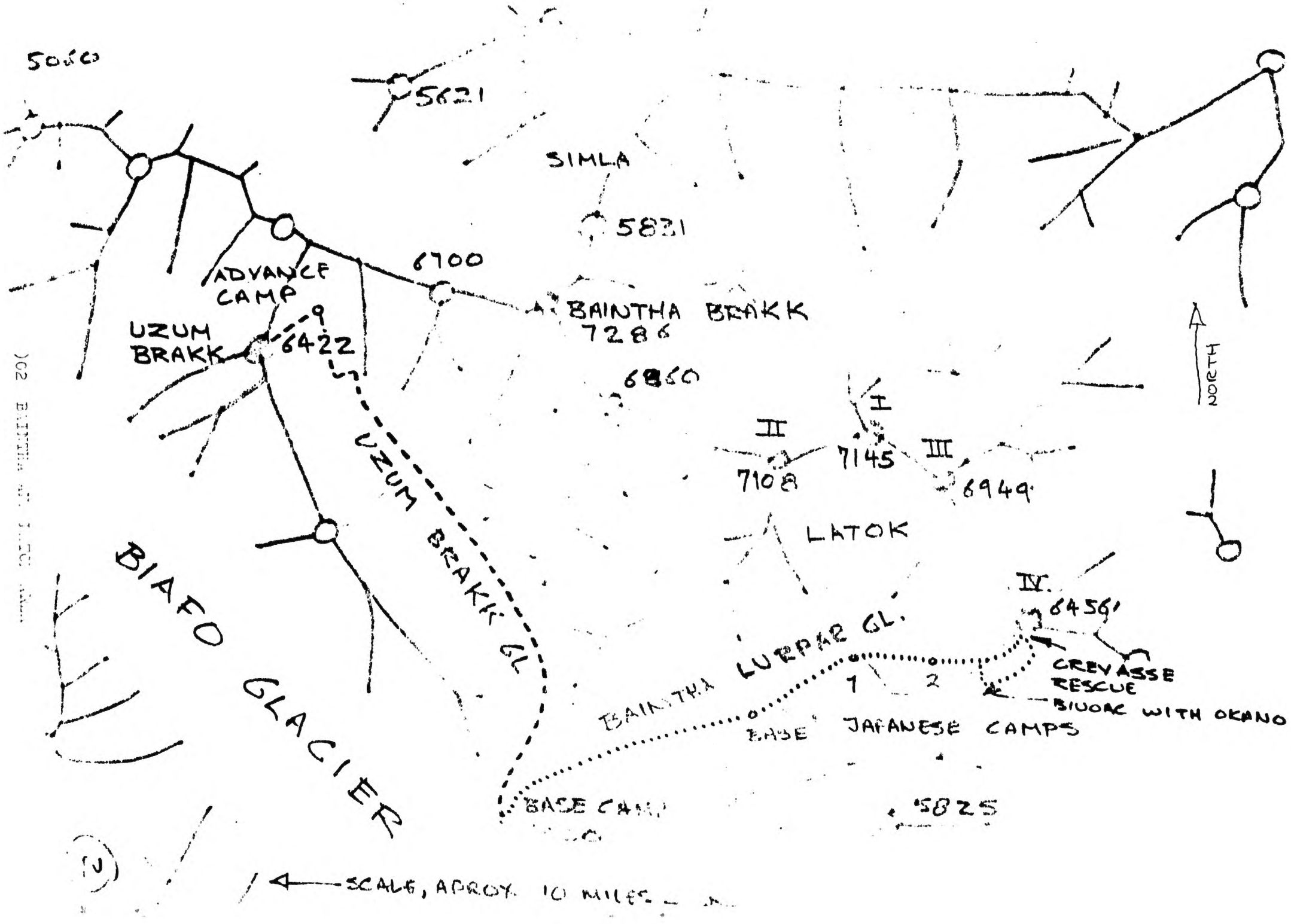
In the past, such a combination of mountaineering and scientific objectives has proved very fruitful on small expeditions such as ours; we have, however, taken care not to undertake too ambitious a programme of either, in order to ensure the smooth running and practicability of the expedition.

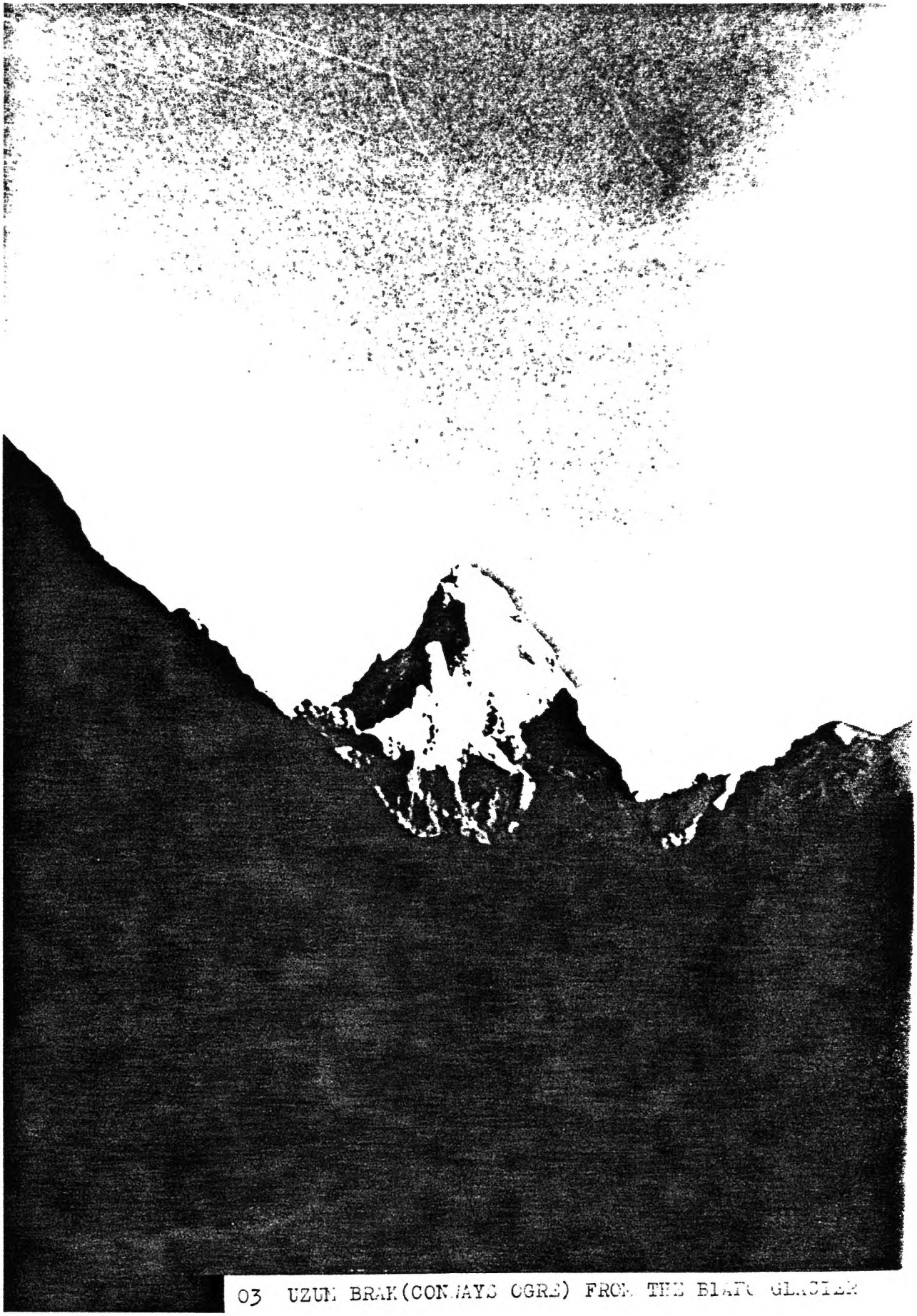
1A MAP OF KARAKORAM.

1B MAP OF INDIAN SUB CONTINENT

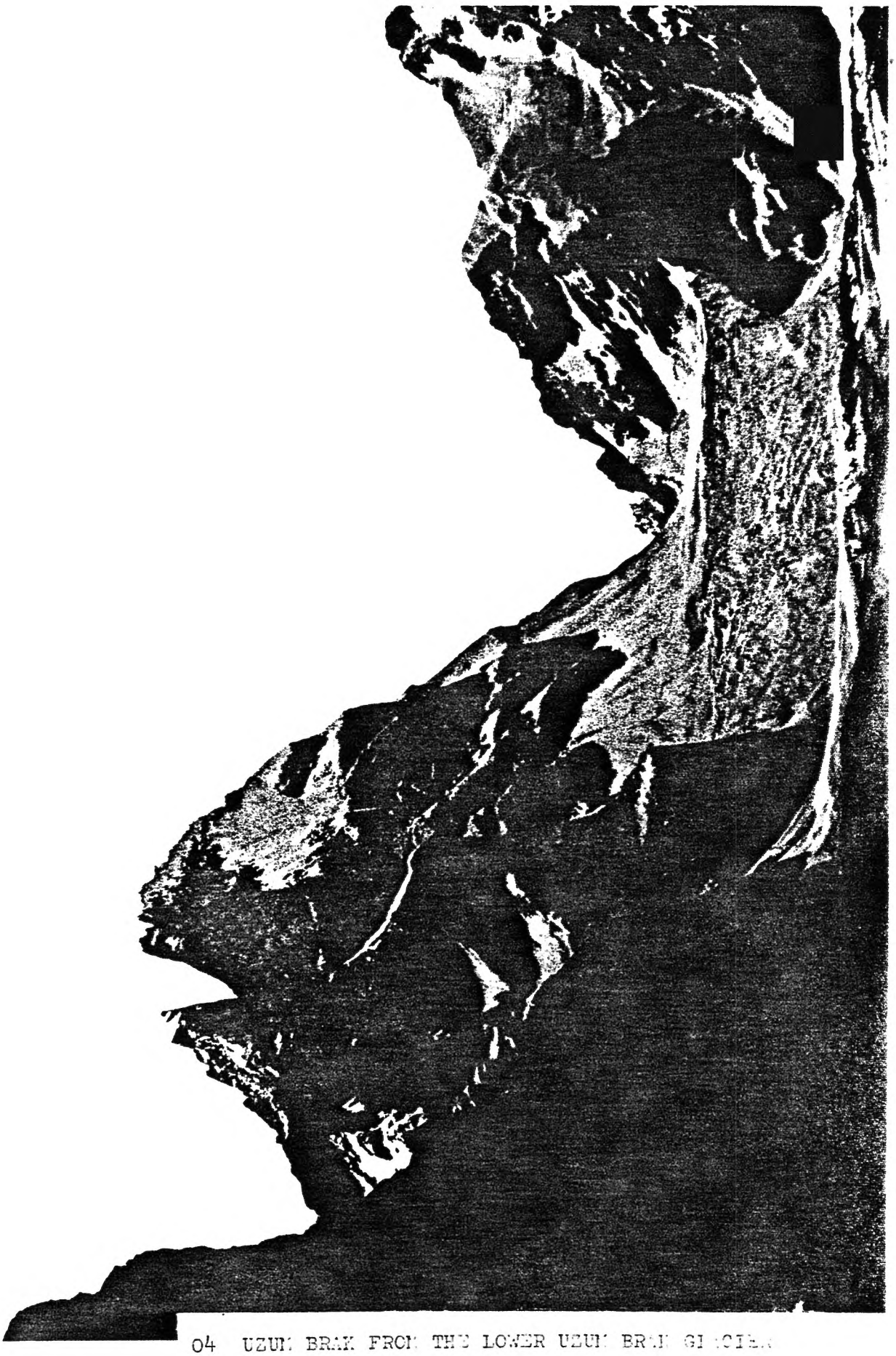


01 INDIAN SUBCONTINENT AND KARAKORAM RANGE


5060
5621
SIMLA
5821
6700
ADVANCE CAMP
UZUM BRAKK
6422
BAINTHA BRAKK
7286
6860
UZUM BRAKK GL.
II
I
III
7108
7145
6949
LATOK
IV.
6456'
BAINTHA LUPPAR GL.
1
2
CREVASSE RESCUE
BIVOAC WITH OKANO
BASE
JAPANESE CAMPS
BASE CAMP
5825
BIAFO GLACIER
NORTH
SCALE, APROX. 10 MILES

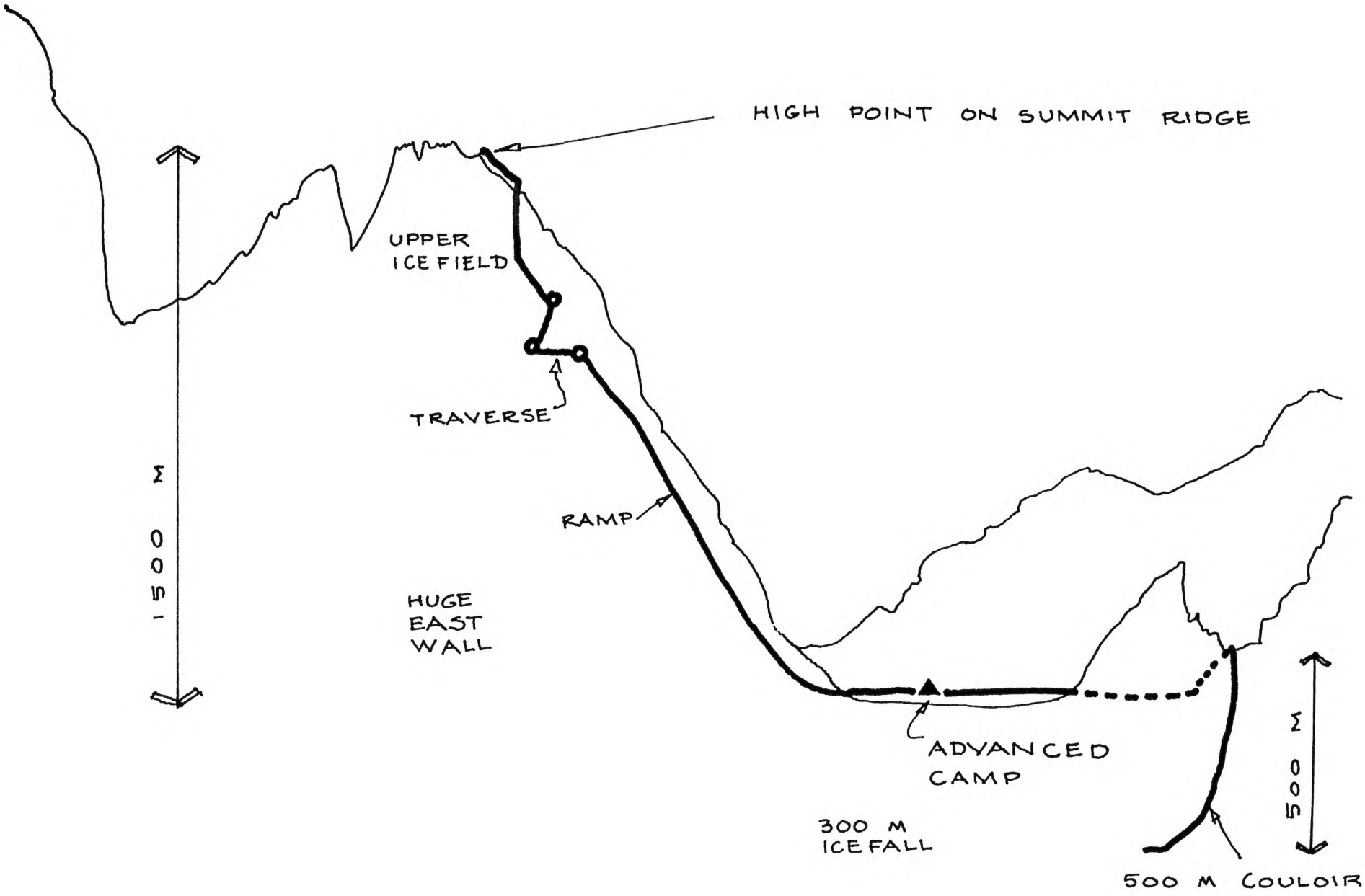


03 UZUN BRAK(CONWAYS OGRE) FROM THE BIAFO GLACIER



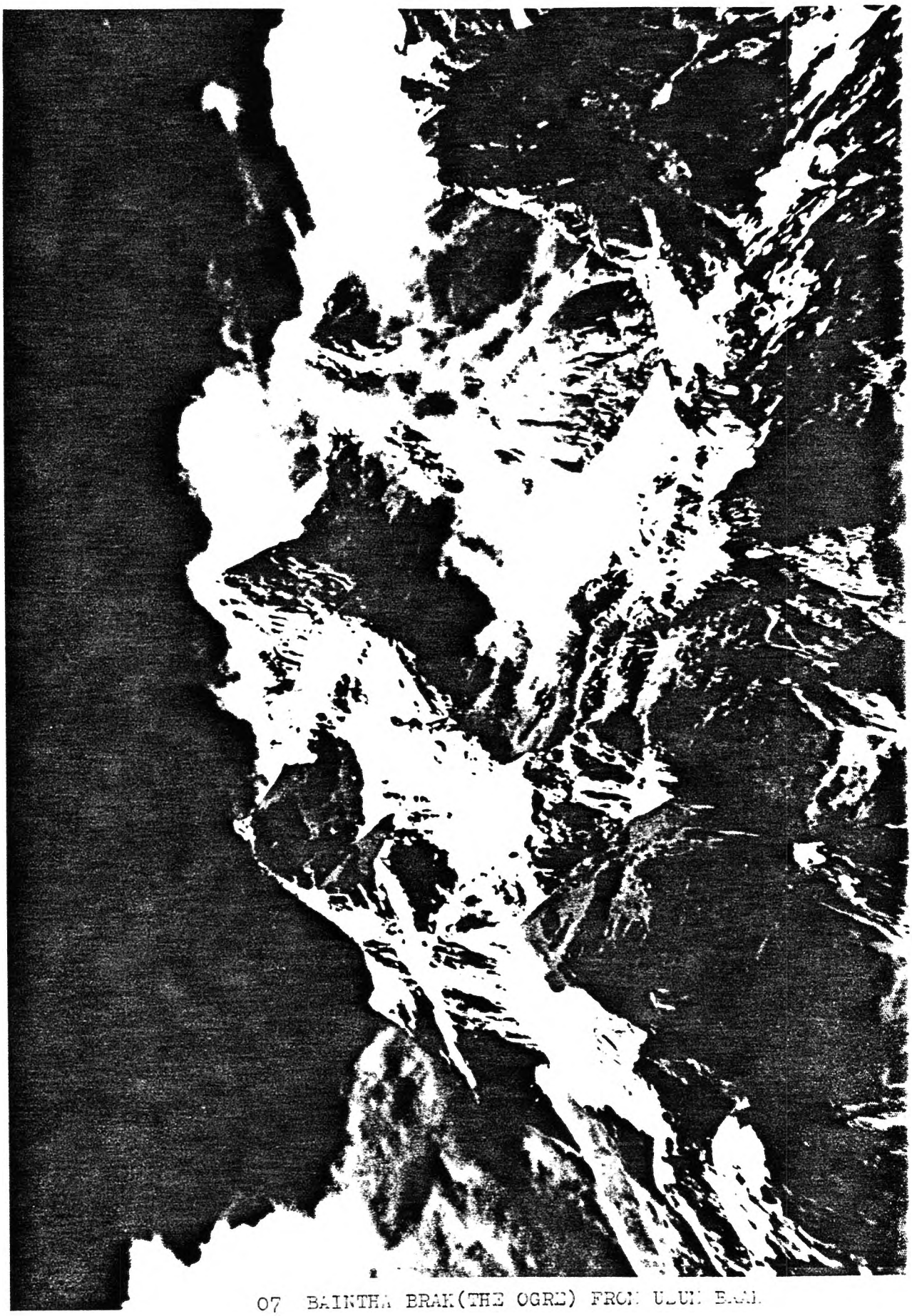
04 UZUM BRAK FROM THE LOWER UZUM BRAK GLACIER

05 UZUI BRAI FRCI. THE ADVAICL CAII, [illegible]


HIGH POINT ON SUMMIT RIDGE
UPPER ICE FIELD
TRAVERSE
RAMP
HUGE EAST WALL
Σ 1500
ADVANCED CAMP
300 M ICEFALL
Σ 500
500 M COULOIR

14.06

06 LATCH IV FRCM THE JAPANESE CAMP 1



07 BAINTHA BRAK(THE OGRE) FROM ULUR BAR

08 THE UNNAMED PEAK FROM ULUF BRU