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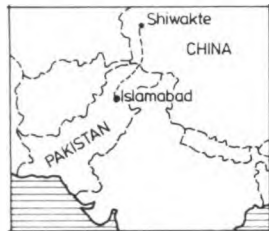


SHIWAKTE

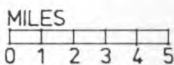
S.M.C. CENTENARY EXPEDITION 1988

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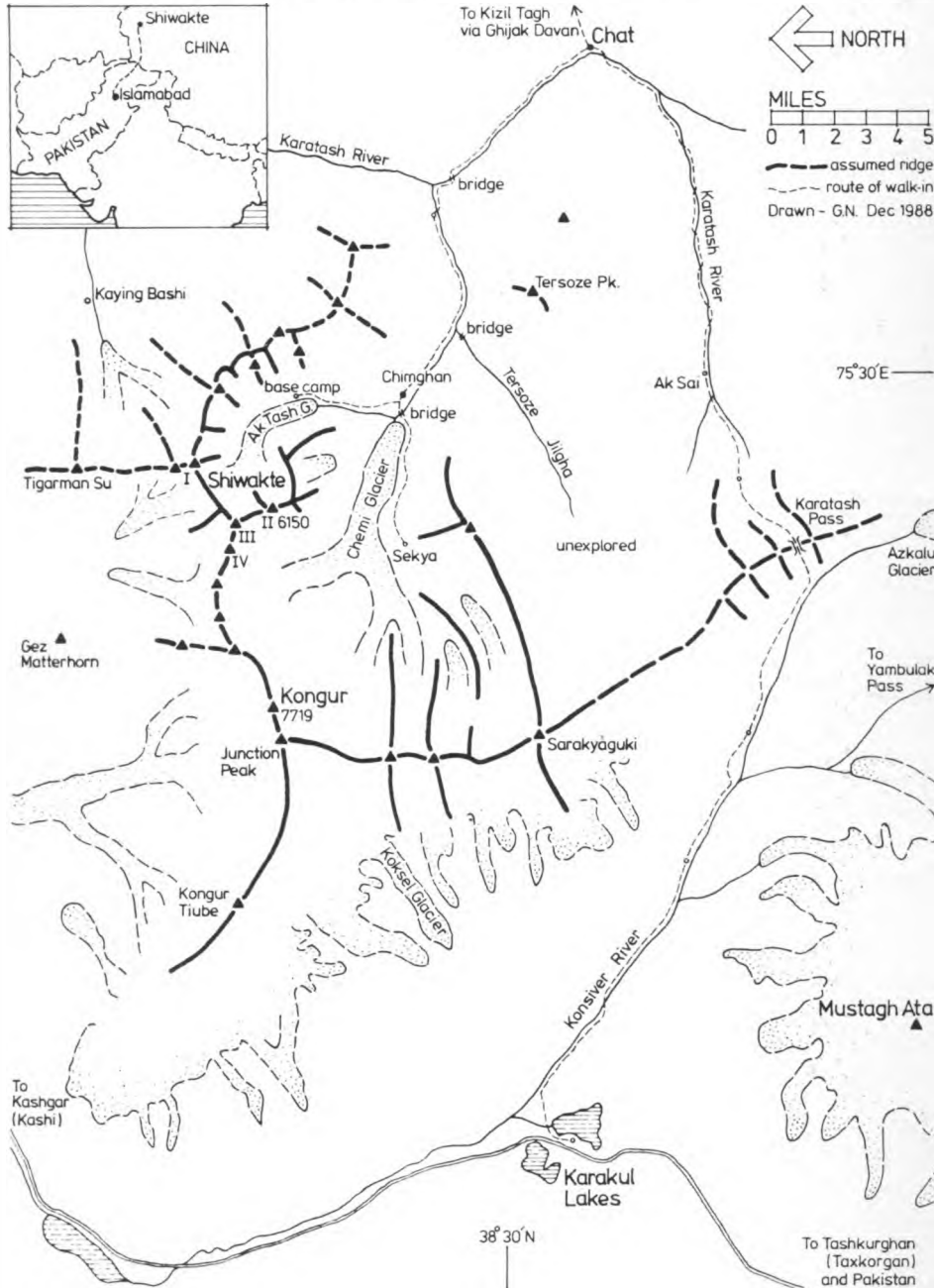
THE SHIWAKTE MOUNTAINS — XINJIANG — CHINA



To Kizil Tagh
via Ghijak Davan



— assumed ridge
- - - route of walk-in
Drawn - G.N. Dec 1988



To Kashgar
(Kashi)

38° 30' N

To Tashkurghan
(Taxkorgan)
and Pakistan

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SCOTTISH MOUNTAINEERING CLUB CENTENARY EXPEDITION, 1988

Members

Geoff Cohen
Hamish Irvine
Grahame Nicoll
Barry Owen
Stan Pearson
Des Rubens

1. Origins and objectives of the expedition

This expedition, first proposed by Malcolm Slessor in 1986, was formed to celebrate the centenary of the Scottish Mountaineering Club. It was intended to explore and climb in a remote area of China, and after long negotiations agreement was reached with the Chinese Mountaineering Association for an expedition to the South-east face of Naimona'nyi (Gurla Mandhata). Unfortunately, when Malcolm went to Beijing in April 1988 to complete the protocol it emerged that, owing to the condition of the roads in Tibet, it would require two weeks of driving by jeep to reach Naimona'nyi from Lhasa. This put the mountain beyond the expedition's reach in terms of both time and money. At short notice the CMA were persuaded to grant us permission to visit instead the Shiwakte mountains, which lie to the east of Mt. Kongur in Xinjiang.

These peaks were first described by C.P.Skrine in The Geographical Journal in 1925. His photographs, and the reports of the 1980-81 British Kongur expeditions, indicated that the Shiwakte mountains, though only just over 6000m, offered many exciting mountaineering challenges. No climbers had ever visited the range and the peaks appeared to be steep, jagged and of great technical interest. On the basis of Skrine's map we wished to place our base camp on the East side of the Shiwakte group however the Chinese would not allow us to approach from this side, but insisted that we leave the road at Karakul lake, the starting point for Mustagh Ata and Kongur base camps. This meant crossing the Karatash Pass (c 5000m) and effectively semi-circumnavigating the Kongur and Shiwakte group in order to reach our base camp on the Ak Tash glacier.

2. Narrative

2.1. Journey to base camp

On the third of July the expedition left Scotland for China via Pakistan. We flew to Islamabad and then travelled by bus to China with as little incident as any travel in that part of the world involves. Having already paid large sums of money to the Chinese and agreed a protocol, we naively thought our passage to the mountains would be relatively straightforward. How wrong we were.

The first in a mammoth series of negotiations started when the Chinese provided more vehicular transport than we had asked for; but this paled into insignificance when it came to hiring animals, there being no porters in the area. A never-ending and inconsistent stream of excuses were given as to why we could not travel to the Shiwakte mountains. The apparent failure of our money, some £6000, to arrive from Beijing hampered negotiations but eventually, after seven days of haggling, by which time we all agreed that diplomats earned their money, transport arrived in the form of two camels and two horses. This was despite having been told that the Karatash Pass, which we had to cross, was not possible for camels.

We completed the final pack, severely pruning our gear because of the limited transport and at last set off on 17th July. The last week had been spent at the Karakul Lakes where the horizon is dominated by the giants of Mustagh Ata and Kongur while the foreground is barren hills. It was through these hills that we now walked. Transport restrictions prevented our Liaison Officer and Interpreter from accompanying us. Despite the language problem we could now deal directly with our camel drivers and for the first time since leaving Britain we had at least some control over our own movements.

Our route started roughly south-east following glacial river beds with occasional pockets of greenery amongst a grey landscape. Despite the apparent lack of fertility grazing animals abounded and their owners offered hospitality, inviting us into their yurts for yoghurt and bread. Some of these people had probably rarely seen westerners before and we were the objects of considerable curiosity, but the Kirghiz were generally very friendly.

Difficulties with the camels on steep terrain meant that we had to ferry loads from time to time. This lengthened the days considerably and made our progress a great deal harder than if we had had horses.

On the first day we crossed the Konsiver River about 5 miles SE of Karakul and camped about 4 miles further on where the valley begins to narrow. On the second day we branched off slightly left from the main river and ascended rocky slabs left of a narrow gorge where the first ferrying of camel loads took place. We continued up a scree filled valley which opened out at about 4000m into a beautiful, flat, green upper valley.

This valley bends round SE after about 3 miles and the Karatash Pass was off to the left, but we weren't clear which of many possibilities it was. Neither were our camel drivers, as they proceeded straight up the valley and realising they had gone too far sought help from a lone shepherd who happened to be up there. This character guided us up the scree-covered slopes to the Pass; although the going was quite easy again the camels had to be relieved of most of their loads. The descent on the other side followed moraines for about a mile, which the camels naturally found difficult, then on to easy grassy slopes.

By the next day one of our camels was severely lame and managing barely a mile an hour on easy ground, so we stopped at Ak Sai, a cluster of yurts at about 4000m. Our 'guides' from Karakul refused to go further although the LO had promised they would take us to base camp; but they offered to find someone else to take over their commitment. Late that night they returned from their searches with a local man called Hari Beg, and a lengthy parley took place. Our difficult position was not helped by a lack of sufficient cash (having been assured that the CMA would pay the camel drivers out of our advance payment). Finally a combination of IOUs and the world-conquering US \$ elicited an agreement to provide six horses to take us on to base camp.

Imagine our disappointment when four horses and a camel turned up next morning! But protests were to no avail, we had to take what we were offered or abandon the expedition. Happily the Ak Sai camel was made of sterner stuff than its Karakul brethren and performed excellently almost all the way to base camp. We suspected this was partly because Hari Beg was more careful and solicitous for his beasts.

The narrow valley down from Ak Sai necessitated about 20 river crossings at which we gradually became more adept. Finally we reached the main Karatash river, which also had to be forded to reach Chat. This was a rather desolate village of flat-roofed mud houses, with few people around at that time of year.

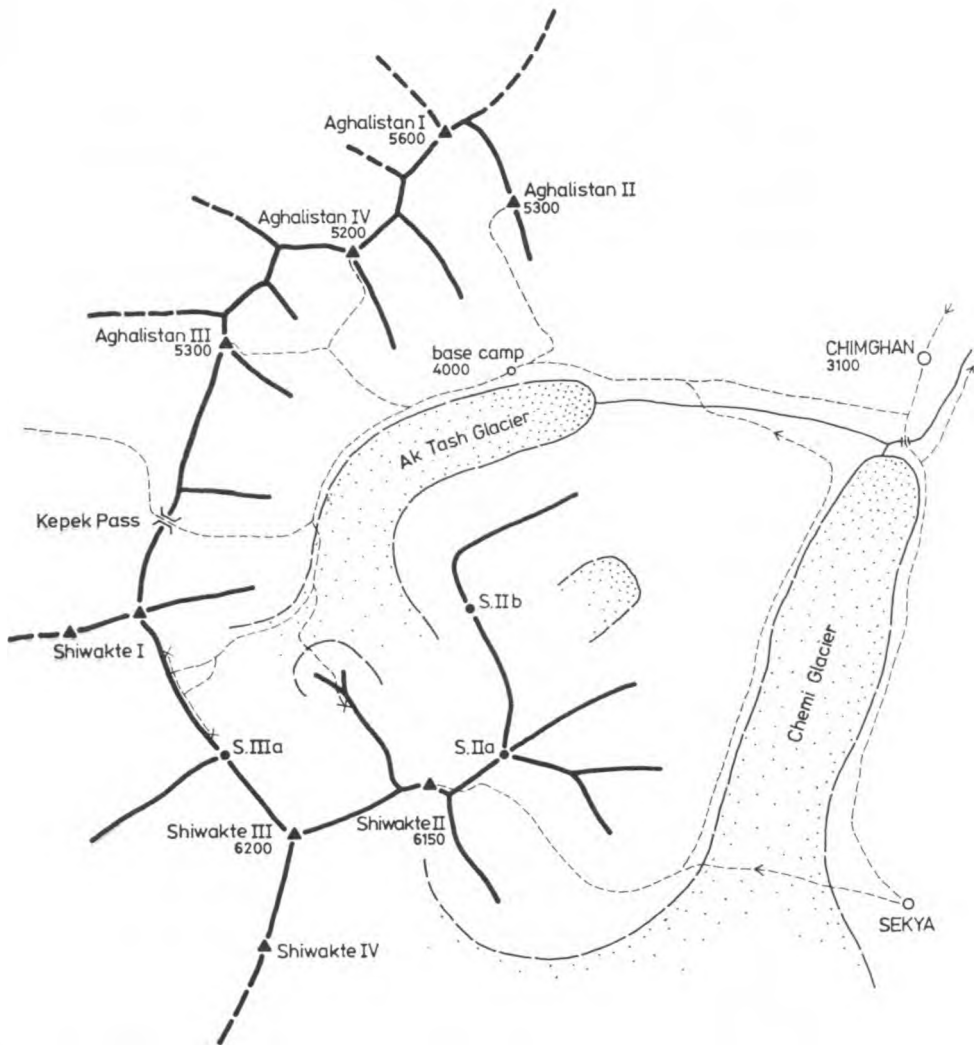
About five miles further down the Karatash a substantial bridge on concrete pillars allowed us to cross back to the west side and enter the Chimghan valley. Here Hari

Beg made a big mistake. The majority of the habitation and cultivation was on the north side of the Chimghan river, which he determined to cross, although at that time in the afternoon it was a forbidding prospect. Our suggestion that we move up the valley on the south side and cross higher up was ignored. A local camel herder was engaged to guide us across the brown maelstrom. On the first ferry across Hari Beg was so impressed by the danger that he refused to come back and get the rest of us, who thus seemed marooned without baggage or guide. Eventually the camel herder mounted us on some of his beasts and leading a line of four camels and another line of two horses charged into the torrent. Somewhere in the middle the animals seemed to get out of control and a horse was swept away! We all thought our time had come as the camels swayed against the current. But the poor horse managed to struggle out lower down and the camels somehow kept their feet and got across, to everyone's huge relief including Hari Beg.

On day seven we got our first sight of the SE face of Kongur, filling the valley ahead. Being unsure of the identity of the peaks we followed Hari Beg up a well-made track on the SW side of the Chemi glacier all the way to the summer settlement of Sekya (4000m), where all the locals gathered around us in amazement. It was a truly magnificent setting, with the ferocious-looking Shiwaktes, the vast snowy face of Kongur and the rounded 'Satellite' peaks lining the western horizon. To the south was a narrow valley curving westwards and bordered by a long ridge of elegant 'Alpine' peaks. Almost the whole population of the Chimghan valley seemed to have moved for the summer to these green pastures, hemmed in by rocky moraines.

In many ways it would have been an ideal base camp, but Des and Barry, who had gone ahead in the morning to scout out the area, arrived late at night to tell us that the Ak Tash glacier where we had planned to put our base was way over to the north-east, on the other side of Shiwakte II. As the side we could see looked fairly difficult we decided to stick to our original plan (we also hoped to find a place where we would be less bothered by the locals, friendly though they were). Hari Beg was persuaded to stay with us another day, and, after taking bearings on all significant peaks, we descended all the way to Chimghan (3100m) and ascended back to 4000m at an alp called Aghalistan on the east side of the Ak Tash glacier. The track here had a section impossible for camels, so we were forced to engage donkeys (our third species of animal transport) for this last section.

Allowing enough time for our return journey we now had only 18 days left to climb. We had originally planned between four and five weeks but the delays at Karakul and en route had reduced this considerably.



2.2. Shiwakte IIIa and Aghalistan II

The next day was spent sorting ourselves out and looking at the Shiwakte peaks from further up the glacier. Shiwakte III, with a steep east ridge apparently leading to an easier snowy ridge, was chosen as a suitable objective for our unacclimatised state. Stan was suffering from a bout of diarrhoea and sickness and so, with Grahame, he opted for a day's rest and then to attempt a snowy peak (c. 5300m) to the east of Aghalistan.

From a camp at the head of the Ak Tash glacier an easy couloir led us to a col some way to the east of Shiwakte IIIa, whence we traversed to the col below our ridge. From here we could clearly see the steep ridge ahead, now looking much harder than the 'warm-up route' we had set out for. The Gemini tents were soon pitched on some level snow and a foray onto the lower part of the ridge showed us our route for the next day. The weather continued to be perfect and after an early start we climbed some twenty pitches of interesting and varied climbing to reach poor ledges just as night fell. A long day!

The next day we cleared the rock steps and started up the snow ridge towards the shoulder of Shiwakte IIIa, which we hoped would offer a good platform for the night. Unfortunately the snow was really foul and lay on top of hard ice, so our progress was painfully slow. When Des eventually cut through the cornice at the shoulder, he found steep slopes on the far side and a continuation of the heavily corniced ridge above.

Knowing these sagging snow crests would have to be descended if climbed, and seeing an ominous halo around the sun we decided to turn back, and descended to a small platform which we enlarged for the two tents. From our high point we had seen that the ridge between Shiwakte IIIa and III was extraordinarily jagged and difficult - not at all the easy ridge with a few gendarmes that we had expected. Shiwakte IIIa was itself only a subsidiary top of the real prize, Shiwakte III, which would clearly have taken days of dangerous climbing to reach along that ridge. Beyond we had glimpses of the North-east ridge of Kongur and Shiwakte IV, both looking extremely difficult. The whole northern side of this range fell away very sharply indeed.

The next day we descended to the glacier with several difficult abseils. While walking back to base camp we came upon Grahame and Stan heading up towards Shiwakte I and we spent an hour recounting the events of the past few days.



Shiwakte III from the east. Shiwakte IIIa to the right.

They had ascended their snowy peak in two days finding easy going on good hard neve, with no technical difficulties. The summit, their first virgin peak, was an excellent viewpoint and they spent much time examining Shiwakte II, III and I for possible routes of ascent.

The day after returning to base camp they had walked up the Ak Tash glacier to try and sight the other four of us. Through binoculars they had seen us descending. Shiwakte I looked an attractive objective so they had returned to base the following day had set off back up the glacier with big sacks. It was here that the party reunited.

While Geoff, Des, Hamish and Barry continued their descent Grahame and Stan now camped at the foot of the couloir leading up to the col between Shiwakte I and III previously ascended by the others. Unfortunately, when starting up the iron hard ice of the couloir the next morning Stan found his left crampon kept coming off, as his new clip-on bindings were not compatible with his boots. The pair decided that, rather than continue with doubtful crampons, it would be sensible to return to base camp for the spare set and come back up. This was a fortunate decision as by the time they had reached base a violent storm had rolled in, heralding the start of five days of bad weather.

All six members were now together again and an almost continuous bridge game kept us occupied until the weather cleared on the 5th August, leaving us with only 8 days before we were due to leave. After a short discussion it was resolved that Grahame and Stan would return to Shiwakte I, having left much of their gear at the base of that mountain. Des and Barry would attempt the east ridge of Shiwakte II, the only feasible route from this side. And Geoff and Hamish would walk round to the west (Kongur) side of Shiwakte II and attempt the peak by a line seen briefly from our first 'false' base camp at Sekya.

2.3. The Ascent of Shiwakte II

On a glorious afternoon we shouldered our heavy sacks, went quickly down to Chimghan and sweated our way back up to Sekya by late evening. Next morning we got a reasonable view of the SW face of Shiwakte II and decided to try a line which led diagonally up to the high glacier between S.II and S.IIa. An alternative would have been to follow the main glacier north past the fearsome west buttress of Shiwakte II and seek a route up the west facing corrie beyond. As we later saw from the top this would indeed have been a good approach, but at the time we decided not to risk a long walk round which might only end with further difficulties.

The crossing of the Chemi glacier was quick – just two hours, as there were shepherds' tracks much of the way. From here we laboured up very steep grass slopes strewn with beautiful flowers, pausing now and then to admire the grand panorama of Kongur and the 'Satellite' peaks. Traversing left we gained a bouldery valley leading up to our face and camped at about 5000m near the start of the snow. There was a line of rotten-looking seracs a few hundred metres above but we found good protection for our tent under a rock overhang.

The night was cloudy and too warm, so we put off our early start. Going back to sleep Geoff dreamed it had cleared – and when he woke again at 7am, it had! After a ramp of loose snow over boulders we got onto quite good neve and quickly cramponed past the first line of seracs, then contoured into a glacier bowl. The seracs above looked very unstable and there was a lot of debris on the glacier. But the ground looked easy so we decided to take a chance as we would not be exposed to risk for long. Going as fast as we could we threaded a way past the barrier with only one steep icy section, where moving together caused Geoff some moments' unease.

The sun reached us as we gained an upper snowbowl with deep snow. Making for a point just left of a notch we had to pitch it for the first time as the slope got steeper and icier near the top. By early afternoon we were camped on the ridge between S.II and S.IIa at about 5750m. The ridge was crossed by the most horrendous crevasses but we managed to find a little flat spot and settled down to enjoy the wonderful vista to the south-west. Sadly on the other side the Ak Tash glacier was filled with cloud. On the ridge the sharp fang of S.IIa revealed itself out of the mist every now and then. An earlier suggestion to climb S.II by traversing over S.IIa from the col on the far side was now seen to be impractical!

On the 8th we moved diagonally right to cut a corner then ascended to the summit ridge, which formed a graceful Alpine arete for the last few hundred metres. We were on top by about midday, taking bearings as best we could in a bitter wind and poor visibility. Shiwakte III to the north seemed slightly higher than us and pretty difficult from this side. The best approach seemed up its WSW wall to a point on the W ridge not far below the summit.

The descent was not difficult, though the weather got worse on the 9th. We found a path down the north side of the Chemi glacier and were back in base camp the following day.

2.4. Attempts on Shiwakte II from east and Shiwakte I

On August 5th Grahame and Stan returned to Shiwakte I. The snowfall of the last few days, and bad weather early on the 6th, persuaded them to wait another day before climbing the straightforward but avalanche-prone slope to the col between Shiwakte I and Shiwakte IIIa. They camped there, enjoying good views and optimistic that the summit would be reached next day. However the weather changed for the worse again, and a big snowfall forced a wallowing retreat on the 9th down to base camp.

Barry and Des experienced similar problems on the East ridge of Shiwakte II. On the 6th they climbed up a steep couloir and snowslope, in very deep and dangerous condition, to establish a camp on 'the calotte'. This was a broad flat area at about 5200m below the long and highly corniced section of the ridge. Having already experienced a minor avalanche on the way up to the calotte they were not disposed to go further unless the weather was good and the snow improved. Unfortunately the next two days brought only more snow, low cloud and poor visibility, confining them to their camp. With the weather still poor on the 9th, they descended the dangerous snow to the Ak Tash glacier and back to base.

2.5. Last days at base camp

On 11th August Hamish and Grahame climbed up to the Kepek Pass which links the Chimghan valley to the valley of Kaying Bashi. This had been crossed by Skrine in the opposite direction over 60 years before, during his exploration of the Shiwakte range. He had called Kaying the happy valley and had been enchanted by its stands of fir trees (hundreds of miles from any other such trees), and by its hospitable Kirghiz inhabitants. It is very doubtful if any outsiders have visited the valley since Skrine. The pass was not difficult, but was icy on its north side. Hamish descended all the way down past a bend in the valley and was able to verify that Skrine's firs still remain!

Meanwhile the other four of us carried a camp to about 4600m under the peaks north-east of the bend in the Ak Tash glacier. The next morning, ironically the clearest of the whole trip, Des and Barry ploughed up a long scree slope to climb the flat-topped Aghalistan III (5300m) while Stan and Geoff enjoyed beautiful neve for the ascent of Aghalistan IV (5200m). Both peaks were perfectly straightforward but gave fabulous views in all directions, until the heat of the desert began to push cloud in from the north.

Had we had just another day Aghalistan I or Tersoze peak would have been obvious

objectives for this short period, but Hari Beg was expected – and duly arrived on his steed, with a wild whoop, as we sat around base that evening.

2.6. Return to Kashgar

Coming back down the Chimghan valley we crossed the river by a bridge at Chimghan village very near the outflow of the glacier and followed the south side without difficulty. There was another bridge over the Tersoze river (though Hari Beg insisted on driving the pack animals through the water). Hari Beg was determined not to risk his animals on the Karatash Pass and we had at an earlier stage reluctantly agreed that we would go with him over the Ghijak Dawan to Kizil Tagh. Language difficulties and haggling over payment continually beset us. For a long time we were unsure where Kizil Tagh was, as it was not shown on any of our maps, but we were told we could get a 'machine' from there to Kashgar and it was clear that this was a much quicker and easier route than retracing our steps.

Obviously we were quite interested in seeing new country and we were unsure how seriously to take what we had been told about its being a forbidden area. At one point Hari Beg had produced an official looking document which made us wonder if perhaps the LO had gone around to Kizil Tagh and was awaiting us there. On reflection this didn't seem very likely, so at Chat we decided to split up. Things were further complicated by the fact that only Stan and Barry had their passports with them, the rest of us having left ours at Karakul. We decided that Des and Geoff should return lightweight over the Karatash, to keep the arranged rendezvous with the LO and collect all the passports, while the other four would go with Hari Beg and all the gear to Kizil Tagh, hoping that the passportless pair would be able to talk their way past any police checkpoints.

The 'heavy' team reached Kizil Tagh in two long easy days from Chat on a very good path. After promising to report to the police in Kashgar they were allowed to board a coal lorry and arrived there, black and unofficial, on 17th August. They put up in the Chini Bagh, formerly the British Consulate, presently a cheap doss-house for indigent foreign travellers and soon to be demolished by the Chinese as a symbol of the imperial past. The police in Kashgar took a dim view of this dishevelled crew emerging from forbidden territory and immediately impounded the two available passports.

Meanwhile Des and Geoff had crossed the Karatash (under heavy snow in trainers) and reached Karakul after three long but enjoyable days. Each day was fortified by a yurt stop for bread and curds from the Kirghiz, for whose refreshingly simple hospitality they were deeply grateful. The LO and Interpreter were pleased to see them, for even

their apparently inexhaustible capacity to endure tedium had been tested by their 31 day wait – in which time they had not even gone for a walk! Transport to Kashgar followed swiftly, the Kizil Tagh ‘renegades’ were rounded up by the CMA and the whole team installed in the New Kashgar Hotel, complete with most modern facilities, including a bar and excellent Chinese cuisine.

Sadly we were not able to see much of Kashgar for the police, having apparently ‘lost face’, seemed determined to harrass us over our transgression. Our LO had little influence with them and we spent many hours sitting in the station answering questions which revealed their ignorance of local geography and listening to passages from the Chinese constitution. Our impression of a colonial situation in this part of Xinjiang was reinforced. Finally we were given a relatively small fine and asked to write an apology.

For our journey back to the border we were given what must have been the XMA’s oldest bus, all other transport being in use. It was noisy and slow, but heroically managed the job. A quick ride through Hunza in a jeep and we were back in Gilgit. We returned from there by public transport, finding Pakistan quiet despite the recent assassination of General Zia and the imminent Moharram celebrations.

3. Brief Diary of Expedition

3 July	Fly from London by PIA to Islamabad
6-9 July	Drive up Karakoram Highway to Chinese border
10-16 July	Waiting at Karakul Lake
17-24 July	Walk to base camp via Karatash Pass, Chat and Chimghan Jilga
26-30 July	Attempt on Shiwakte IIIa by GC, HI, BO and DR.
27-28 July	Ascent of Aghalistan II by GN and SP
31 July- 4 August	Very bad weather; confined to base camp
5-10 August	Ascent of Shiwakte II from W by GC and HI. Abortive attempts on Shiwakte II from E by BO and DR and Shiwakte I by GN and SP
11 August	HI and GN cross Kepek Pass to Kaying Bashi
12 August	Ascent of Aghalistan III by BO and DR; and Aghalistan IV by SP and GC
13-17 August	Return from base to Kashgar via Chat, Ghijak Dawan and Kizil Tagh by HI, BO, GN and SP.
13-18 August	Return from base to Kashgar via Chat, Karatash Dawan and

	Karakul by GC and DR
19-20 August	Negotiations in Kashgar
21-23 August	Drive to Islamabad
27 August	Fly to London

4. Equipment

Most of our gear was what we use in Scottish winter climbing, but certain items deserve special mention.

Mountain Gemini tents by **Wild Country** in Goretex fabric were superb on the mountain, being only slightly heavier than two bivvy bags yet offering much greater comfort and protection.

Lightweight rucksacks, made by **Murray Hamilton Mountain Gear**, offered a considerable weight saving over any other sacks we considered, and were used by all of us on the climbs.

* Step-in crampons, the **Salewa-Messner** type, were not only convenient but minimised the time spent without mitts at moments when frostbite was a risk.

Phoenix helmets were sufficiently light and comfortable to wear throughout the climbing - very welcome when there was so much poor rock about.

As we did not go to great altitudes and weather conditions and temperatures on the climbs were less extreme than we had allowed for, our clothing and, in particular our two superb **Rab** sleeping bags, were, on occasions, too warm! But in general we were very satisfied with our choice of clothing and equipment.

5. Food

Des researched various appendices from expedition books to attempt to marry the conflicting forces of weight, price, nutrition and edibility. In the end the diet was adequate and all members felt we ate very well. However Des did err in overestimating some quantities, particularly for sugar. While this is preferable to underestimating, it is still unnecessary. It came about through overestimating the daily quantity per person for some items: eg if one assumes every member will eat 2oz per day of item X and, in fact, only 1.5 oz per day is eaten, then for 180 mandays a total of $180 * 0.5 \text{ oz} = 5.6 \text{ lbs}$ of excess food will be taken. Moral: be careful when playing around with small quantities.

As well as the normal problem of likes and dislikes, the selection of food to take was made more difficult by the fact that three of the party were (or claimed to be) vegetarians. This meant that the sources of essential food constituents, notably protein, had to be carefully considered.

Mountaineering, like other high energy output activities, requires a high carbohydrate input: some like chocolate to be converted rapidly, and some to provide delayed energy, like rice and pasta. Fats, too, provide long term energy after having first been changed to carbohydrate.

Vitamins, while being important for 'back-up' aspects such as a healthy nervous system and the rapid healing of cuts, are generally regarded as less important because of the relatively short duration of the expedition.

Protein, however, is as important as any other factor, facilitating the building and repair (recovery) of muscle tissue. It had been decided before the trip that some of our protein needs would come from lentil, and a substantial quantity was acquired. Unfortunately, despite prolonged soaking and simmering they refused to soften. The problem was solved by the vegetarian eating cheese, the 'pseudo-vegetarians' cheese and fish, and the omnivores everything!

Having decided what food we needed we approached various manufacturers and retailers with a view to persuading them to donate quantities of their products to us.* This met with mixed success! Most firms politely declined but some, to whom we were especially grateful, donated generously. The latter firms are listed in the Acknowledgements.

Once the donations had arrived, the rest of our British purchases were made at the local Cash and Carry. Upon arrival in Pakistan the balance of the food was bought. These items such as flour, lentils, sugar, tinned jam etc could be easily obtained locally or were too heavy to be economically air freighted.

Des evaluated the palatability of the food by a small survey of members' tastes after we returned. The following items were singled out as being particularly successful.

Porridge (Pakistani origin), muesli, Orkney fudge, Duncan's chocolate (Edinburgh-based firm), Lees macaroon bars, Burton's shortbread, KP nuts and raisins, Primula cheese, drinking chocolate, Horlicks, Bird's Appeal (orange flavour), Miso soup, Vecon (both mentioned by carnivores!), Batchelor's chicken supreme, and the variety of herbs, spices, pickles and tomato puree.

For the carnivores we took a limited number of Batchelor's dehydrated packs. These were generally welcomed but no-one felt that more than a limited amount was necessary. Tinned meats evoked a mixed response. Salami was not very popular, though a limited quantity was appreciated. Everyone seemed content regarding tinned fish, rice, potato powder and pasta.

Chinese noodles bought in Pakistan were not successful, being rather glutinous. Dried mixed veg was also of limited appeal. Bird's Appeal (cold drink) grapefruit flavour was very acidic.

An important point arises from the experience of purchasing food in Pakistan. It is worth ensuring such food is of good quality – although most staples can be purchased economically in Pakistan, the quality is more variable than in the UK. For example our rice and porridge were excellent whereas the lentils and noodles were a failure. We all appreciated the good quality washed nuts and raisins brought from the UK, although less good and less clean nuts and raisins could have been purchased in Pakistan.

Although peanut butter is a highly efficient food in terms of calories/gram it was only moderately popular and should not be overly relied on. Tinned fish, in contrast, though rather an inefficient food, was always acceptable, even well above base camp.

The carnivore – vegetarian split was not a problem. Tinned fish and cheese generally substituted for meat. Occasionally the carnivores claimed that the vegetarians maintained exclusive rights over tasty veg items. On the other hand the veggies did have less choice. Nevertheless the expedition showed that such differing tastes can be accommodated successfully and bodes well for future carn/veggie relations.

We did not rely on purchasing food in China, and given the difficulty we had as an official group in doing anything, we did not regret this. But we did get 2 kg of onions in Tashkurgan which went a long way in adding a fresh taste to food at base camp.

Kitchen utensils for base camp were bought in Pakistan. It is easy to buy more than necessary – three large nested pots and a griddle were adequate at base camp. Lack of a pressure cooker was not felt. Two Optimus primuses of our own sufficed – pressure cookers and primuses on sale in Pakistan are of variable quality.

6. Medical report

One of the regulations required us to have a Medical Officer, so despite his having no qualifications whatsoever Grahame was appointed to this position. With the help of Dr Dave Blaney a list of drugs and other medical supplies was compiled. It is not possible to design a small medical kit which will offer medications for all emergencies, so inevitably the list was a compromise. Dave and Ian McRobbie (his helpful chemist) then managed to collect everything and it was squeezed into three 2-litre plastic ice cream boxes (almost).

Paracetamol	Scheriproct	Zinc oxide plaster
Ponstan Forte	Piriton	Crepe bandages
Temgesic	Stugeron	Elastocrepe
Septtrin	Aluminium Hydroxide	Steri-strip closures
Erythromycin	Tagamet	Melolin dressings
Flagyl	Chloromycetin	Gauze swabs
Fucidin	Amethocaine	Tubigrip
Metoclopramide	Zovirax	Micropore
Stemetil	Savlon	Sterile dressings
Codeine Phosphate	Clove Oil	Netelast
Imodium	Cavit	Finger bandage
Lasix	Tyrozets	Triangular bandage
Temazepam	Mycil	Suture pack
Diazepam	Daktacort	Cotton wool
Diamox	Anthisan	Plastic airway
Vermox		

The only item we were short of was ordinary plasters for blisters and minor cuts.

Before leaving we all had the necessary inoculations. However Geoff and Des decided to forego or forget to take malaria tablets; and throughout the expedition were reminded of this by the others, particularly when the familiar whine of mosquitoes was heard. Despite this no-one got malaria.

At some point or other everyone went down with travellers' sickness and diarrhoea; although very unpleasant this usually only lasted for 24 hours.

About a week into the trip Geoff broke out in spots and became feverish, breathless and unable to sleep. At first we did not know what to make of this : was it allergy, insect bites or something more exotic? Piriton was prescribed. After a few days in

which the condition worsened, it was suggested that Geoff might be allergic to the iodine that we had been using to purify our water, or suffering from iodine poisoning as he had accidentally swallowed some crystals. He immediately stopped taking iodine, soon started to recover and in a few days was back to his old self, though the spots remained. On return to UK Dr Dave Blaney expressed the opinion that chicken pox, contracted before leaving UK, was a more likely explanation than iodine allergy – however no further medical investigation has been made.

When we got to Kashgar at the end of the expedition Barry contracted a giardia infection which was treated with a course of 5*400mg Flagyl tablets per day for three days. A few days later Geoff got the same thing but this time, on Hamish's suggestion, took 10 Flagyl tablets all in one go. Both methods were successful. Then on the plane home Hamish started producing the now familiar eggy burps – Flagyl once again did the trick.

The Kirghiz people that we met seemed to be quite healthy; only their teeth and eyes (which were bloodshot due to smoky yurts) were in poor condition.

7. Transport

For British expeditions planning to climb in Western Xinjiang it is cheaper to fly to Pakistan and drive up the Karakoram Highway than to go via Beijing. Flights to Karachi are cheaper and more frequent than flights to Islamabad, but in view of time constraints and the long road journey ahead we preferred to fly direct to Islamabad. PIA gave us a very good deal including a generous baggage allowance. In spite of this we found it necessary to freight out some of our equipment.

As we were not climbing in Pakistan we had no official letter from their authorities that would allow us to import this equipment into Pakistan, so the customs insisted that it remain in bond and be accompanied by a customs officer as far as the Chinese frontier. This in itself was not a major problem; what was more annoying was that the customs would not release our freight until we completed a form which required the registration number of the vehicle in which we would cross the frontier. This meant hiring at some expense from NATCO (Northern Areas Transport Company) a rather larger vehicle than we needed – instead of using the normal bus service or hiring a cheap vehicle to Gilgit and another from there.

The Karakoram Highway seemed in reasonably good shape, except at the Jaglot slide about 40 km past Gilgit. Here we were held up for about 12 hours by a recent rockfall

6. Medical report

One of the regulations required us to have a Medical Officer, so despite his having no qualifications whatsoever Grahame was appointed to this position. With the help of Dr Dave Blaney a list of drugs and other medical supplies was compiled. It is not possible to design a small medical kit which will offer medications for all emergencies, so inevitably the list was a compromise. Dave and Ian McRobbie (his helpful chemist) then managed to collect everything and it was squeezed into three 2-litre plastic ice cream boxes (almost).

Paracetamol	Scheriproct	Zinc oxide plaster
Ponstan Forte	Piriton	Crepe bandages
Temgesic	Stugeron	Elastocrepe
Septrin	Aluminium Hydroxide	Steri-strip closures
Erythromycin	Tagamet	Melolin dressings
Flagyl	Chloromycetin	Gauze swabs
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occasions. As in Britain an increase in pressure brought veering winds and drier weather. However, once we arrived in the mountains, the weather did not always follow predictable patterns and on more than one occasion an increase in pressure led to poor conditions.

For the duration of the walk-in we largely enjoyed good weather with plenty of sunshine, rising pressure and light winds. This pleasant interlude was broken by some heavy rain upon our arrival at Sekya, which lasted overnight. The next day dawned completely clear and we were afforded brilliant views of the eastern side of Kongur and the Shiwakte range, before the tops were obscured by cloud as we travelled to the 'new' base camp at Aghalistan.

The following five days gave us possibly the best weather of the trip: long sunny periods and virtually no wind. During this time we attempted Shiwakte III and were glad of the settled conditions as the climbing was technically difficult. However, on the afternoon of the third day on the route, an impressive halo appeared around the sun, followed by high cloud from the west. These bad weather indicators contributed in no small way to the decision to retreat. A long day descending to base camp was followed by the expected bad weather, which kept us in our tents for the next four days.

Persistent rain and low cloud was now the order of the day, but, fortunately, little wind. The pressure oscillated during this period but not with the same energy one would normally expect with a depression in Britain. Then, just as the barometer fell a little and we settled for more rain, the skies began to clear and we saw mountains again. The rain we had experienced at 4000m had, not surprisingly, fallen as snow above 4500m, and had changed the complexion of the peaks.

Adopting the accustomed strategy of allowing freshly fallen snow to settle for 24 hours, we set off again. One party headed for Shiwakte I, one for the east ridge of Shiwakte II and one for the south-west face of Shiwakte II. This third pair were to enjoy marginally better weather on their side of the mountain, which enabled them to get to the top. On the eastern side of the range both teams got to about 5000m after two days of reasonable weather – sunny and cloudy at intervals. Despite the next day being quite good, the overnight snow on top of the unconsolidated snow from the previous bad weather meant that their routes still appeared avalanche prone. They decided to wait for a day. The next day produced low cloud, the occasional snow flurry, and another day in the tent. On this same day the south-west face team made their successful ascent in apparently much better visibility than we on the east side

enjoyed. By the next morning the weather had decided our fate, as we awoke to 15cm more snow. We would have had to wait several days (which we did not have), so we descended before the slopes below became even more avalanche prone.

We now had only two days before we had to leave, and perversely these were blessed with fair weather. The weather deteriorated again during the walk out, being particularly bad when the separate parties were crossing the Ghijak and Karatash Dawans, but neither pass was high enough for this to stop us. (Though if we had been trying to cross the Karatash with animals we would certainly have been delayed.) By the time Geoff and Des had returned to Karakul the weather had cleared brilliantly again.

9. Negotiations with the CMA

The number of British mountaineering expeditions to China is still very small compared with the number to India, Pakistan or Nepal. This is partly attributable to the cost, but also to the rather off-putting bureaucracy that has to be negotiated. In some aspects it is not as bad as the other Himalayan countries, but it is less familiar and harder to understand what is going on. The Chinese certainly lived up to their reputation for inscrutability with us. They did not seem to appreciate our wish to be fully informed on anything that was relevant to our expedition. Even the cost of the hotel room was a closely guarded secret!

The saga started with obtaining the regulations and scale of charges from the CMA in Beijing, and trying to choose an appropriate objective. As we wanted to go somewhere unusual for our centenary expedition we attempted to open a dialogue with the CMA and elicit some suggestions from them. This failed totally.

We originally wanted to go to the north side of the Gasherbrums, but the CMA said we would need to come in April/May in order to get across the Shaksgam River before it gets too high, and return in late August/September when the water gets lower. We were not really able to be away for so long, so although an American expedition told us that the river could be crossable till mid-June we decided to forgo this objective. We next tried the Kyagar glacier in the eastern Karakoram, but this met with a blank refusal, with no reasons given.

We applied for various peaks in Tibet as well as the Shiwakte group. Initially the CMA refused us Shiwakte but offered us either Nyenchentangla (N of Lhasa) or Naimona'nyi (Gurla Mandhata) . It should be said that we might not even have got this far if it had

not been for the efforts of Sandy Allan, at that time a putative member of the expedition. Sandy was in Beijing in 1987 to sign the protocol for the 1987 Altos Everest expedition and was able to prod the CMA on our behalf.

We decided to accept the offer of Naimona'nyi, a very high and little known peak which seemed to present the right kind of challenge. Fund raising on this basis went on right through the autumn of 1987 and spring of 1988. Initially we planned a large budget but our efforts to find sponsorship were unsuccessful. It was difficult to estimate the cost of an expedition to Naimona'nyi as much depended on the amount of transport we would require. It seemed to us that, with luck, we could get from the Nepal-Tibet border at Zangmu to Manasarowar in about 5-7 days. On this assumption it was financially just about feasible for us to proceed, even without sponsorship.

One of the expenses of organising a trip to China is the necessity to send someone in advance to sign the protocol. It seems that this may not be essential for expeditions to relatively well-known areas, eg Amne Machin, but it is likely to be required if intending to go to remote areas of Tibet or Xinjiang. In our case we were very fortunate that Malcolm Slessor, the originator of the expedition, had arranged a professional visit to Beijing in April 1988. This enabled us to get the protocol signed at no extra expense to the expedition.

When Malcolm arrived in Beijing he was told by the CMA that it would take us two weeks by road to reach Naimona'nyi. They seemed to prefer us to go from Kashgar, following the road across the high Chang Thang, as had the huge Sino-Japanese expedition to Naimona'nyi in 1985. Although coming from the east (Lhasa) appeared shorter on the map they maintained that it would require 14 days. Whether this was because of difficult roads or some other objection Malcolm was unable to discover. The upshot anyway was that Naimona'nyi became beyond our reach in terms of both time and money. Even if we had been able to afford it we would not have relished four weeks bumping along in lorries and jeeps.

Communicating with us by telex Malcolm managed to persuade the CMA to look again at our Shiwakte application and accept it. However we were refused permission to take the approach used by C.P.Skrine up the Kaying Bashi valley, east of Shiwakte. Instead the CMA insisted we leave the road at Karakul Lake the usual starting point for expeditions to Mustagh Ata and Kongur. It appears that their main reason was simply that this was the only approach the people in Beijing knew of. Even officials in Kashgar had only the haziest notion of the geography of the east side of the range.

If we had known from the first that we would be climbing in Xinjiang we might have

attempted to negotiate directly with the Xinjiang Mountaineering Association (XMA) – a strategy recommended by Nick Clinch at the Alpine Club symposium on China in 1987. Apart from possibly lower cost this might have ensured that the XMA fully understood what we wanted to do, and perhaps they might even have given some thought to its feasibility prior to our arrival. As it was, although we had paid 44,400 Yuan to the CMA in advance (in theory covering all costs as well as peak fees), none of this money seemed to have been passed to the XMA. We gathered that at the end of the calendar year the XMA would present an account to the CMA in Beijing for the costs involved in providing services to us. For this reason whenever we raised the question of settlement of our expedition account the Liaison Officer told us we should go to Beijing (totally failing to understand the impracticality of this, given our tight timetable and budget).

Although the XMA raised no problem about payment of our vehicle transport and accommodation – this all just went onto the final account – the LO did seem uncertain about the position regarding payment for the animal transport. In the initial negotiations at Karakul the locals made quite exorbitant demands for the trip over the Karatash Pass, and they wanted cash in hand – which we did not have because we thought we had paid for everything in advance. However the LO apparently did not have access to ready cash either! This was one of the reasons for the frustrating delay. Part of the problem appeared to be because Karakul was in a different administrative area from Kashgar; and this meant that the LO had little influence over the local people. In order to persuade them to 'volunteer' to take us over the Karatash we had to go to Kashgar and enlist the support of the 'Sports Director of Akto County'. Even this enigmatic character didn't seem to have a lot of leverage. A comprehension of the administrative hierarchy in China would clearly have been useful, but such knowledge is not come by easily.

So far as we could make out an important figure in the XMA headquarters in Urumqi was Mr Sun Jianzhang. The main people in Kashgar (our LO and a Mr Chen) seemed to be subordinate to him, while our interpreter was employed directly by the XMA in Urumqi. The role of the 'County Sports Directors' remained a mystery.

It seems possible for foreigners to negotiate directly with Mr Sun for access to 'closed areas' for we met a representative of a French trekking company who had done just this. However when we asked Mr Sun for permission to approach Chat from the east, over the Ghijak Dawan, we were refused. It wasn't clear whether this was simply because of the time that would be required to get approval from officials of other ministries concerned, or whether we were simply not important enough to

bother about, given our obviously low budget. We had a suspicion that the 'opening' of this area had been reserved for the French trekkers, who would bring more money than we could.

At the end of the expedition we all went to Kashgar to try and settle up accounts. This was put off till the very last moment by the LO; and almost resulted in a long delay as certain customs papers for re-export of our equipment had not been completed. After an incomprehensible last minute panic our interpreter managed to arrange everything.

We did not find it possible to extract any compromise from the XMA over a few budget items we felt to be unfair, so in a sense 'negotiation' over payment was a waste of time. But the XMA failed to charge us for some other items that they could have included, according to the regulations. However the CMA in Beijing rectified these omissions when calculating the refund due to us on our initial payment. Overall, given the regulations, the account was fairly drawn up and not too excessive.

10. History of exploration of Shiwakte

An excellent brief history of the exploration of the Mustagh Ata - Kongur massif is given by Michael Ward and Peter Boardman as an appendix to the account of the 1980-81 Kongur expeditions. They also give a select bibliography which will guide those interested to more detailed sources.

The first person to allude to The Shiwakte peaks seems to have been Sir Aurel Stein who managed, in 1913, to descend the gorge of the Karatash river down to the plains. Stein was not able to explore the Chimghan valley, but he named a peak Shiwakte in this area and produced a map showing two peaks of Kongur (Kongur and Kongur Tiube). Stein's original account is not easily accessible but his work in the Shiwakte area is carefully described by Skrine, whose article 'The Alps of Qungur' (*The Geographical Journal*, 1925, 385-409) formed the basis of our approach. Skrine was British Consul in Kashgar from 1922 to 1924 and took a particular interest in the Shiwakte peaks.

Most of Skrine's detailed work on Shiwakte was accomplished from the Kaying valley, reached from the north-east by a somewhat complicated route. He climbed a number of viewpoints of around 4200 - 4600 m and carefully photographed, mapped and named the Shiwakte peaks. On one occasion he crossed the Kepek Pass to the Ak Tash glacier but was unable to descend as far as Chimghan. His map of the Chemi

glacier and the great bowl beneath the SE face of Kongur was thus rather speculative. He also found an interesting route from Kaying via At Bel to the Tigarmansu glacier, which is on the north side of the range.

The only other climbing approach to the Shiwaktes appears to have been Bonington and Ward's brief foray up the Kurghan glacier in 1980. They were looking for an approach to Kongur and so did not have time to explore the Shiwaktes themselves, though they climbed a small peak on the west of the Kurghan glacier, north of Shiwakte IV.

The Karatash Pass is referred to by many of the early explorers but does not seem to have been a particularly popular or important route. It was crossed by Ney Elias in the 1880s, and again by Tilman in the the 1940s. Skrine refers to its use by Afghan drug smugglers but does not seem to have crossed it himself. From our observations it is still not heavily used, but we did meet one shepherd driving a flock over it in an easterly direction. Presumably, from pastures near the Pass on either side, this route, followed by the Ghijak Dawan, is an easier and cheaper way to get animals to the plains than via the road through the Gez gorge.

11. Nomenclature and Identification of Peaks

The name Karatash has been applied somewhat liberally to pass, river and peak in this area. The Karatash Pass seems to be unequivocally named, but the Karatash River is slightly ambiguous. Skrine and Tilman used the name for the river flowing east from below the Karatash Pass, and preserved the same name for the river which it joins about 3 miles south of Chat. It was our impression at this junction that the 'Karatash' River was but a tributary of the larger river flowing north; however we are not aware of any other name for this larger river. The so-called Karatash River then continues north past Chat, is joined by the Chimghan and threads through steep gorges to Khan Terek and Altunluk and out to the plains. In 1980 Bonington and Ward climbed a small peak called Karatash, which is north-east of Kongur and north-west of the Shiwakte peaks (see *Kongur* p.44), and is thus a good distance from the river and pass of that name.

The name Shiwakte is rather intriguing. It seems to have been first used on a map by Aurel Stein, who applied it to a peak south of the Chimghan River (see Skrine's map).



South-east face of Mt Kongur



Aghalistan Peaks from Aghalistan III

The people of the Chimghan valley clearly recognised the name, but it was not obvious what it meant to them. It did not seem to signify the actual Shiwakte peaks named by Skrine; it may just mean a high pasture. Skrine himself found the same problem, for he reports that the Kirghiz of Chimghan used the name 'for something - whether mountains, pastures or what I could not make out - at the head of their valley'. On the maps in Bonington's book (p.44, p.86) the label 'Tigarmansu and Shiwakte ranges' is placed to the north of the three Shiwakte peaks, which are not otherwise identified. In fact the upper photograph opposite p.89 of Bonington's book shows Shiwakte I on the left and Shiwakte IIIa on the right. (Incidentally it reveals the unpleasant nature of the ridge between IIIa and III; but of course we were not able to make the identification until after we had approached IIIa from the other side.)

Skrine's numbering of the Shiwakte peaks, to which we adhered, was a little eccentric. Shiwakte I was reportedly the lowest and Shiwakte II the highest, with Shiwakte III intermediate; though our observations suggest the latter is the highest. Shiwakte IIa is really just a sharp pinnacle to the south of Shiwakte II - from Sekya it looks quite distinct but from the Aghalistan side it look less significant, and less deserving of separate identification than the lower peak to its east which, for want of a better system, we called Shiwakte IIb. Although Shiwakte IIIa is only a shoulder of Shiwakte III it is probably far enough away and sufficiently distinct to retain its own identity. In the same spirit we have used Shiwakte I and Shiwakte Ia for the two ends of the long summit ridge of Shiwakte I. There are further (lower) summits on the ridge between Shiwakte IV and Kongur.

(Incidentally it may be worth noting here a misprint in Skrine's article - the photograph labelled 'Shiwakte Peak III from Aghalistan' shows, in fact, Shiwakte II. This photograph was used by Ian Cameron in 'Mountains of the Gods' (p.17) where unfortunately it has been confused with a photograph of a Karakoram peak.)

Skrine's map gives three spot heights above the lower Chimghan Jilgha and he refers to these peaks as part of the Chimghan range. The peaks that we climbed on the north-east side of base camp lie in what Skrine called the Aghalistan range, and we have accordingly numbered them Aghalistan I to IV. The highest in this range (approx 5600m) is Aghalistan I.

The large glacier whose snout is just above the village of Chimghan was called the Chemi glacier by Ward (*Alpine Journal 1981*). Higher up it divides into several tributaries (see map in *Kongur*, p.44) each of which will in due course need to be named. The mountain wall above the south side of this glacier in its lower section has

a number of conspicuous and attractive summits of around 6,000m that could be seen quite clearly from the Aghalistan peaks. Their summit ridge has a fairly sharp turn from east-west to north-east – south-west at the point more or less directly above the settlement of Sekya. The obvious name for these peaks would be Sekya I to IV, unless some local names can be discovered. These peaks can be seen on the left of the photo facing p.136 in *Kongur*.

There are two very obvious peaks of around 6700m on the main ridge running south from Kongur's Junction Peak. They do not seem to have been named, so we dubbed them Satellites I and II. They seemed to be quite approachable from either the Karakul or Chimghan sides, and although not technically difficult they are substantial and attractive snow peaks. One of them was briefly attempted in 1981 (*Kongur*, p.119), but we do not know of any successful ascents. To the south of these two is a third 'Satellite', seen quite clearly from near Karakul. This was climbed by Bonington and Rouse in 1980 and named Sarakyaguki (6200m). This may be the peak at the head of the valley that curves up south-west from Sekya; but it is possible that it is slightly further south and west, and, if coming from the east, best reached via the Tersoze Jilgha. The latter is a tributary of the Chimghan (shown at the right on the map in *Kongur*, p.44) which, according to Skrine's informants, provides a difficult pass over to the Konsiver and Karakul side. The entry to the Tersoze, near Chimghan, is a narrow steep-sided gorge which we had no time to explore; but at the time of our visit there was a camp of Kirghiz there, engaged on a small hydro-electric project. Although the Tersoze 'pass', if it exists, would provide a shorter and perhaps more interesting route from Karakul over to the east side of the mountains, our observations agree with Skrine that it is likely to be more difficult than the Karatash.

A very attractive snow peak of about 5800m overlooking the east side of the Tersoze was named Tersoze Peak. Further east there was one other reasonably large peak before the Karatash River. The whole region between the Chimghan and Karatash Rivers, though containing only low peaks, would repay investigation as it is hardly mapped.

Turning to the south-east face of Kongur itself, our photographs show the obvious features. There is at least one line up this huge face that looks reasonably safe, and several other possibilities. Finally the portion of glacier to the west of the ridge joining Shiwakte II and III should be mentioned. This is out of sight from Sekya, however our view from the summit of Shiwakte II suggests that this glacier would give the best access to Shiwakte III and would also give a straightforward route up Shiwakte II; it is also the obvious way to approach Shiwakte IV. There is a line from the glacier up the

south-west face of Shiwakte III, emerging on the main east-west ridge just a little way west of the summit.

12. Kirghiz words

There is a chapter of Chris Bonington's Kongur book entitled 'The lack of a Kirghiz phrase-book' - a portent we would have done well to heed. Our enquiries, made far too late just before departure, failed to reveal any information about the Kirghiz language. Doubtless some information could be found in the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. In the circumstances in which we found ourselves, having to make crucial bargains without the aid of an interpreter, some knowledge of the language would have been extremely useful. As it was we managed to pick up a few words in the course of our dealings with Hari Beg. Without pretending that this information has much reliability we present it here in case it is of use to future expeditions.

It should be noted that to climbers accustomed to India, Pakistan or Nepal, where even in remote places a little English may be understood, it will come as quite a shock to go to an area where virtually no-one speaks any English. One of us had taken some lessons in Chinese before we left, but did not know enough to be able to use it. In any case we expected that among the Kirghiz, Chinese would be little used. The Kirghiz language is related to Turkish but is written in an Urdu script. (Ability to read this might have been useful.) It is also closely related to the Uighur language spoken in Kashgar.

We were surprised to find that even in the remotest yurts people could read western numerals (and calculate accurately). Also some of them could read our script quite well even though they didn't seem to know the meaning of any of the words.

none	yok/yuk	man	adam
one	bir	woman/wife	khottun
two	ishke/yekke	child	bala
three	uch	girl	kizbala
four	tortd	boy	ughulbala
five	baysh	camel	toga
six	alte	horse	aart
seven	yette	donkey	yeshak
eight	sekkiz	yak	kotaz

nine	tokkuz	sheep	khoi/eskya
ten	oan	cow	kala
tent	chattr	good	yaksh
rope	arkan	bad	chatak
load/sack	juk	thank you	yakhmatt/rakhmatt
rucksack	popkye	listen	dijong
knife	pchak	day/sun	kun
barrel	tung	hour	saat
bridge	kapruk	a lot	tola
wind	shamal	salt	tuz
rain	yamgar	milk	sutt/ayakh
snow	khar		
black rock	karatash		
white rock	ak tash		
red hill/mountain	kizil tagh		
ice mountain	muztagh		

13. Budget

	Yuan	£ (£1=¥6.75)
Accommodation in China		
16 man-nights @ 80 in Tashkurgan	1280	
20 man-nights @ 130 in Kashgar	2600	
		575
Transport in China		
2 jeeps and 1 truck Kashgar-Pirali-Kashgar	4241	
extra jeeps between Karakul and Kashgar	1681	
1 bus Kashgar-Sost-Kashgar	4032	
		1475
L.O. and Interpreter		
Salaries 2 * 48 days * 37	3552	
Food 2 * 43 days * 28	2408	
Hire of equipment and clothing	1400	
Flights	330	
Insurance	820	
		1261
Animals and animal drivers		
2 horses for 8 days	416	
2 camels for 8 days	640	
3 men for 8 days	384	
hire of equipment and food for men	720	
paid to Hari Beg (private negotiation)	1524	
(outwith CMA account)		
		546
Peak registration fee	8250	1222
CMA 5% service charge	1225	182

		5261

Miscellaneous expenses in China		100
Flights London-Islamabad (* 6)		2904
Airport tax		120
Insurance		705
Visas		430
Transport in Pakistan		530
Customs in Pakistan		100
Freight to Pakistan		500
Excess baggage on return from Pakistan		200
Expedition food bought in Pakistan		100
Accommodation and meals in Pakistan		300
Food bought in UK		150
Equipment bought in UK (minus resale to members)		340
Administration (brochures, postage, photos for report)		500

Overall total		12240

Balance in account (16 Jan 1989)		144
Refund promised by CMA		1586

		13970

Income

Mount Everest Foundation	1000
Scottish Mountaineering Trust	500
Scottish Mountaineering Club	500
Scottish Sports Council	500
Martin Currie	100
Low Port Centre	50
Miscellaneous contributions (inc. M.Slessor, S.Allan)	150
Scotsman article (pre-expedition)	90
Personal contributions of members	11200

	14090

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Greens of Brighton	(pancake mix)
KP Foods Ltd	(nuts and raisins)
Leisure Drinks Ltd	(vegetarian pate)
J J Lees Ltd	(macaroon bars)
Melrose's Ltd	(coffee)
The Realeat Co Ltd	(vegeburger and vegebanger)
Real Foods	(muesli, honey, peanut butter)
Robertson (Orkney) Ltd	(fudge)
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