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**Report
of the
PINNACLE CLUB
LAHAUL
EXPEDITION
1980**

728

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B.G. Fowler Esq. B.D.S.

(g) Packaging was donated by:

Bowater Containers Ltd (boxes)
BXL Plastics Ltd (polythene)
3M United Kingdom Ltd (adhesive tape)

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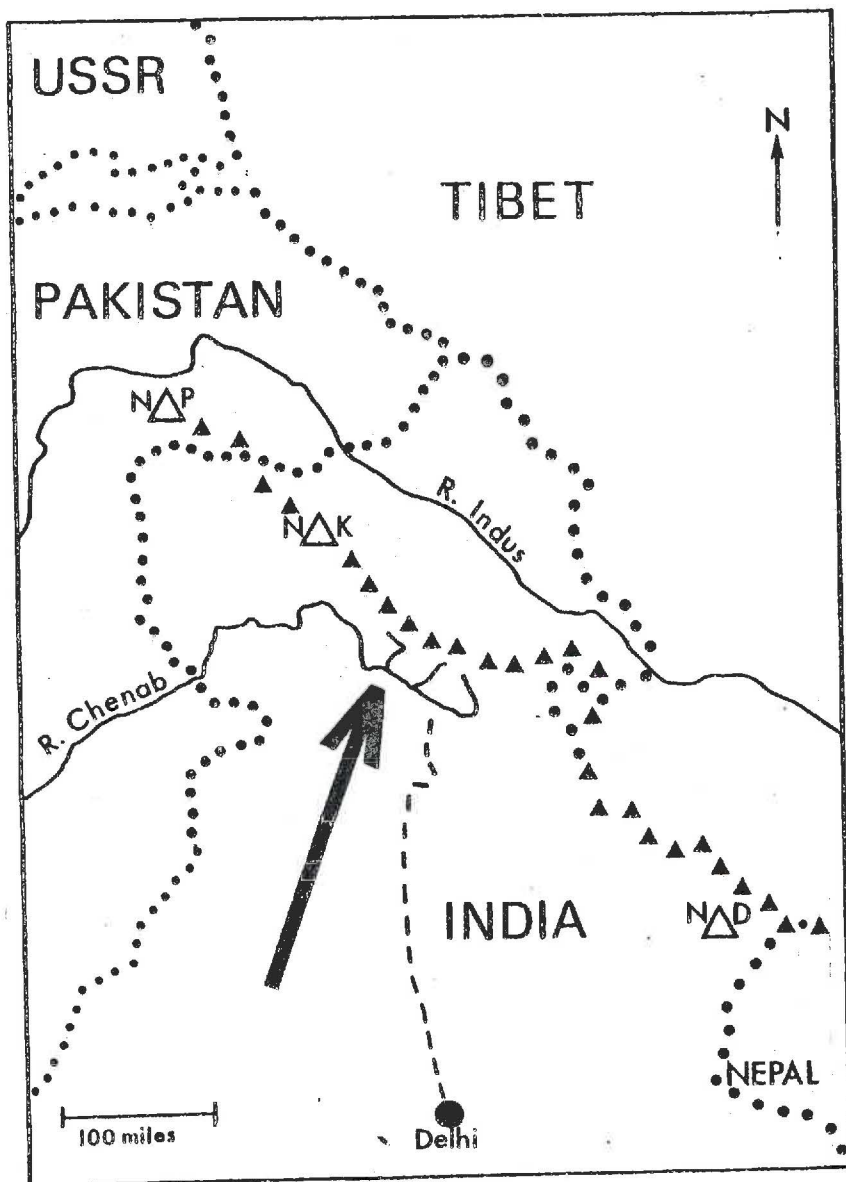
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* * * * *

Copies of this report and further details of the expedition are available from Sheila Cormack, 12 Greenfield Crescent, Balerno, Midlothian, EH14 7HD.

Map 1

North India



N P - Nanga Parbat

N D - Nanda Devi

N K - Nun Kun

2. Sponsors and helpers

We wish to thank all of the following for their help.

(a) Financial aid.

We received grants as follows:

	£
Mount Everest Foundation (given under the Alison Chadwick Award)	500
British Mountaineering Council	200
The George Sang Award (Scottish Mountaineering Trust)	200

(b) The following gave us invaluable advice on expeditions generally and information on the Miyar Nala and other areas which we considered visiting.

Meena Agrawal	Jon Flemming
John Allen	John Jackson
Mo Antoine	Paul Nunn
Dave Challis	Theo Quant
Rob Collister	Des Rubens
Janet Davies	Frank Solari

Our thanks go to Nea Morin and Doug Scott for being our Patrons.

We are also extremely grateful for the help and support given by our families, in particular by the husbands who so cheerfully encouraged their wives to go away for the summer.

(c) We thank British Airways who carried us and our equipment; with especial thanks to their London staff and to Mr. Chris Cross, their Manager India and Nepal, and his staff in Delhi who did everything possible to smooth our journey.

(d) Equipment was loaned, given free or sold to us at greatly reduced cost by:

Berghaus (waterproofs and Yeti gaiters)
 BNC Equipment Pool (loan of tents)
 Clive Rowland Outdoor Sports (for almost everything)
 Europasport (socks, sunscreen and lip-salve)
 Helly Hansen (polar wear)
 Karrimor International Ltd (rucksacks and karrimats)
 Ken Ledward of Klets (loan of tents and rucksacks; arranged a donation of Winnit Fell-boots)

Kodak Ltd (films)
 Millington International Sportswear (training shoes)
 Royal Geographical Society (loan of altimeter)
 Sprayway (thermal underwear)
 B.D. Trentham Esq. (lighters)
 Winnit Ltd (Fell-boots)

Each man-day ration provided a balanced diet weighing approximately 1 kg.

As expected we were not able to purchase fresh food apart from a few potatoes and eggs on the walk-in/out. However, we gathered delicious wild rhubarb from around base camp, together with puffballs and mushrooms.

8. (c) Medical Report (by Sheila Crispin)

The party was remarkably free of medical problems throughout the main expedition. The usual afflictions of headaches, blisters, pyrexia, vomiting and diarrhoea beset members of the party at various stages of the holiday but fortunately not simultaneously.

Everybody acclimatised with remarkable facility although most people showed some signs attributable to higher altitude such as lightheadedness, behavioural changes, headaches and, common to all, breathlessness.

Coryza, annoying non-productive coughs and mild chest complaints were less universally enjoyed by the expedition members; but fortunately all these varied conditions responded well to nature and the comprehensive collection of drugs which had been donated to us.

Our medical supplies were put to greater use in treating the local population where a variety of medical and surgical complaints were encountered. The majority were of a fairly trivial nature (wounds of assorted types, eye and skin infections for example) many would have been more readily treated by prevention through education rather than temporary cure (chronic coryza, chest complaints and low grade diarrhoea for instance). Occasionally we encountered more serious conditions where we could only hope that the patients would be prepared to make the long trek to hospital for further investigation.

Steph Rowland and Sheila Crispin left the main expedition two weeks in advance of the others as they both had commitments in Scotland. They departed just as the weather was improving and by way of adding insult to injury arrived back in Great Britain with Shigella Flexneri dysentery. Steph's condition was so serious that she was taken off the plane on a stretcher and had a week in the London Hospital. Happily she is now on the road to full recovery.

1. Introduction

This was an all women's expedition, made up of eight members of the Pinnacle Club.*

We aimed to visit a little known area, with virgin peaks which could be climbed 'Alpine style' without too much technical difficulty.

Since all but one of us are teachers of some description we had to go during July and August and so needed to choose a non-monsoon area. We wanted a fairly short walk-in from the roadhead to keep porter costs down and maximise our climbing time.

After many discussions with previous expeditioners we picked on the upper Miyar Nala, in the Lahaul District of Himachal Pradesh, North India. This is a valley running North from Udaipur in the Chenab valley. The Miyar Nala, for the upper half of its length, runs up against the Great Himalayan Range, and its tributary glaciers lead to peaks on the main Range itself, which was an attractive mountaineering proposition. (Map 2) We could reach Udaipur by bus and estimated it would take three days to walk in. The upper Miyar Nala seemed to offer endless scope for exploratory climbing with numerous peaks between 16,000 feet and 20,000 feet. We pinpricked on the most southerly 20,000 foot peak of the upper Miyar Nala as our main objective and booked and paid for this with the Indian Mountaineering Federation. With this 'IMF Peak' in mind we aimed for a Base Camp in the Gumba Nala, a side valley running NE from the Miyar Nala, about 30 miles N of Udaipur. This was a fortunate decision; we found more than enough climbing to occupy us for a month in the Gumba Nala system of valleys alone. Side valleys further N along the Miyar were much more barren and with few easy peaks.

As far as we could discover, the only climbing party that had visited the upper Miyar Nala before us was part of the Kings School, Ely, 1978 Expedition (led by Dave Challis). Other groups had undoubtedly trekked up the Miyar Nala but all climbing expeditions seem to have stopped lower down the valley to attempt Menthosa and Phabrang. This is perhaps explained by the fact that the upper valley has, until recently, been closed to foreign expeditions and even now parties have to register at the police post in Chaling.

* The Pinnacle Club is a women's mountaineering club, founded in 1921 to "foster the independent development of rock-climbing amongst women." Its current membership is about 140. Regular meets are held throughout Britain and there is a Club Hut in North Wales. Much of the expedition planning was done on Pinnacle Club meets!

The main efforts of the Kings School Expedition were concentrated on the Tharang Nala just above Khanjar. Offshoots of this expedition climbed odd peaks further N but only ones which were easily accessible from the Miyar Nala. We found no evidence of previous ascents on any of our peaks except for the one known to have been climbed by Kings School.

Between us we climbed 14 peaks of between 16,000' and 19,300', all but one of which are thought to be first ascents. (Map 3) Five of the peaks had a second ascent by different members of the expedition. We also reached several high cols and explored the Gumba system of valleys and glaciers and the upper Miyar Nala.

We didn't climb the 20,537' IMF Peak and we didn't come near to exhausting the climbing possibilities of the area.

It was a strikingly beautiful area with meadows of eidelweiss rising to steep rock walls and valleys leading back deeply to barren moraine-covered glaciers which branched with great complexity. The expedition was very satisfied with the area which suited our aims admirably. We very much enjoyed exploring unknown valleys and finding routes up unclimbed peaks.



(i)

IMF Peak and Camp 1
on the Gumba Glacier

8. (a) Equipment Report

We took too much climbing equipment. Because the routes we did were not of a high technical standard the only climbing equipment used (apart from ice-axes and crampons) was an occasional rope and sling.

The preferred clothing was shorts and T-shirts with Helly-Hansen polar suits for colder conditions and waterproofs in the rain. We wore training shoes for the walk in and on peaks of up to about 17,500', only resorting to boots for glaciers and the higher peaks. Duvets were appreciated at the high camps.

Our most useful tent was a Norwegian hoop tent which slept four in reasonable comfort but only weighed 4 kg. This was used at all camps away from Base. A two-man Ultimate tent was also used at Camps 1 and 2. Nylon bivi sacks were used at the bivis. In Base Camp we had two Vango Mark 5 tents, a small tent for the liaison officer and a large flysheet used as a kitchen/communal tent. The hoop tent and Ultimate were also used when everyone was in Base.

Cooking was done on one-pint primus stoves and an MSR stove. These were adequate although somewhat temperamental to light at altitude.

8. (b) Food Report (by Jean Drummond)

We took almost all our food from Britain. Weight was a consideration both for the air journey and to keep our porter loads to a minimum on the approach walk. Some food was donated and we thought it extremely unlikely that we would be able to purchase fresh food on the walk in.

With these considerations in mind and instructions to cater for large appetites, two types of menu were planned, one type for The Approach, Base Camp and Walk-Out, and one type for High Altitude Camps and Climbing Days. All evening meals consisted of a soup, main course and a sweet, with any tinned food rations being used at Base and Springlow Instant Cooking Foods being used in the high camps. These dried foods only fully rehydrated if they were well soaked. With the low boiling point it was not sufficient just to add boiling water. A pressure cooker was extremely useful at Base Camp for cooking the Batchelors dehydrated meals.

Healthy Life biscuits were our staple biscuit supplemented by Marks and Spencers Bran biscuits. Both types of biscuit had a good fat content and carried extremely well under all conditions. Expedition members, their Mum's and Aunts made over 50 lbs. of rich fruit cake generously laced with spirits. This was a firm favourite as well as being highly nutritious.

7. Budget

INCOME

Personal contributions

£
4089

Grants:

Mount Everest Foundation	£500
BMC	200
George Sang Award	200

900

£4989

EXPENDITURE

In Britain:

£

Flight to Delhi	£2929
Hire of bus	211
Peak fee	166
Insurance	170
Food	602
Medical (oxygen)	73
Equipment	73
Secretarial & miscellaneous	105

4329

In India:

Porters, ponies, etc.	£ 378
Accommodation	150
Travel (buses & taxis)	85
Sundries	47

660

£4989

2. Organisation

The following eight members of the Pinnacle Club formed the expedition team.

Sheila Cormack, leader, age 34,
12 Greenfield Crescent, Balerno, Midlothian EH14 7HD.

Stella Adams, age 33,
16 Mintdale, Kendal, Cumbria.

Sheila M. Crispin, medical officer, age 35,
Garden Cottage, Otterston, By Aberdour, Fife.

Jean Drummond, food organiser, age 46,
Ghyll House, Kirkland, Frizington, Cumbria.

A. Stephanie Rowland, age 36,
Springfield, Balblair, Conon Bridge, Ross-shire.

Angela M. Soper, age 38,
The Yews Tankersley, Nr Barnsley, S. Yorks. S75 3BQ.

Jacqueline A. Turner, age 26,
57 Fitzroy Road, London NW1 8TS.

Denise E. Wilson, age 43,
17 Low Mill Lane, Addingham, Ilkley, W. Yorks. LS29 0QP.

We were joined in Delhi by our Liaison Officer, Sushama Mahajan, age 24, 2 Chinoy Colony, Juhu Road, Bombay 400 049.

The main expedition lasted from 12 July to 30 August. These were the flight dates to and from London for four of the party (SA, JD, AMS, DSW). The other four arrived in Delhi two weeks ahead, spent three days on expedition organisation and then went to Kashmir for ten days, returning to Delhi to meet the others. ASR and SMC had to return to Britain on 12 August. They left Base Camp on 6 August.

Serious planning started in September 1979. The first three months were spent deciding where to go. An application was made to the Indian Mountaineering Federation and grant aid was applied for.

We travelled to Delhi by British Airways and were extremely fortunate to have help from their staff. We are especially grateful for their assistance in clearing the expedition baggage through Delhi customs and for the many other ways in which they helped us while we were in Delhi.

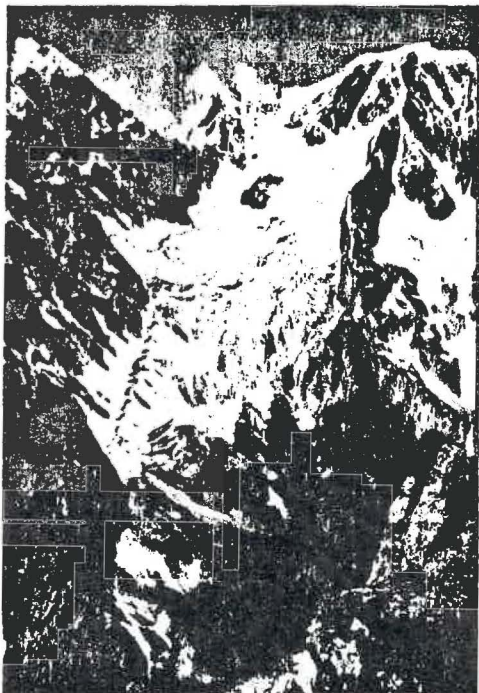
We took most of our food and equipment from Britain. This was packed in strong cardboard boxes, overwrapped with polythene, each box weighing 25 kg. The boxes held out until

returned to Britain, despite some of them remaining outdoors for the whole of the time at Base Camp.

One 25 kg. box made a neat porter load but this weight was not so convenient for loading onto ponies (which carried a nominal 80 kg.) or donkeys (40 kg.).

EC, JT and SR flew to Delhi by British Airways on 28 June with all the expedition baggage. Final customs documents had been obtained from the IMF by British Airways staff so customs were cleared within about three hours. In Delhi we stayed at the YWCA International Guest House (excellent accommodation and food at a reasonable price). We visited the IMF and British High Commission and bought sundry items. We had some difficulty getting paraffin since it was rationed. BA staff obtained it for us although we found out later that we could have got a permit from the IMF.

SNC flew to Delhi in time to join the Kashmir trip. The rest of the team arrived early on 13 July. We had 24 hours in Delhi and were then joined by our liaison officer and left for Lahaul in a private coach, hired from the Himachal Pradesh Tourist Development Corporation. The coach hire had been arranged in advance from Britain.



(ii)

Steph's Peak from Sentinel

Stella's Ridge is the rock ridge to the right of centre. At its apex is Jay's Col. The ascent route followed the snow basin and snow gully to the right of Stella's ridge; then from Jay's Col the rocks on the right were climbed up to the summit snowfield.



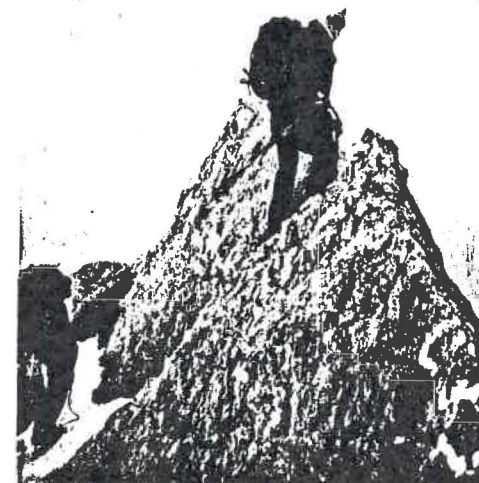
(vi)

Half Dome, Castle and Keep

Looking across to Yosemite Basin from Index Point. Half Dome is on the right and in the background are The Keep (left) and Castle (centre).

(vii)

On the summit of Castle.



6. The Walk Out

Sheila (Crispin) and Steph left Base on 6 August and made their own way to Delhi. Sushama accompanied them to Chaling where she arranged for ten porters to come to Base on 20 August and for one man to come up immediately to guard camp while all the expedition members were away climbing.

The main expedition left Base on 21 August and walked out to Udaipur in two long days, with an overnight stop at Chaling. The ten porters carried between them 11 loads of 25 kg. each. They were paid for four days at Rs 25/- per load per day. Expedition members each carried 20 kg.

One day (23 August) was spent in Udaipur and Triloknath Temple was visited on the day of the summer fair.

Public buses were used for the journey back to Delhi. The road was now open all the way to Udaipur. We travelled to Manali on 24 August and from there to Delhi overnight on 25 August. The buses were overcrowded and not particularly comfortable but were very cheap. The luggage cost as much as the passengers!

After a day visiting the Taj Mahal we flew to London by British Airways on 28 August.



(v)

Pinnacle Peak

The route followed the right-hand skyline ridge.

3. Journey to Base Camp (Map 2)

Twenty-four hours and three puncture stops took us from Delhi to Manali. Next day we drove over the Rhotang Pass to the village of Ruding in the Chenab Valley. Heavy rain the previous week had washed away a bridge and caused several landslides which had destroyed the road between Ruding and Udaipur. The hired bus left us at Ruding, 25 miles short of Udaipur - the usual roadhead. Because of a shortage of ponies and porters it took four days to get all the expedition gear to Udaipur. Ponies, a jeep, a lorry, donkeys and porters were all used to move our baggage in stages to Udaipur. Here we stayed in the PWD Rest House.

At Udaipur we hired 30 porters who each carried 25 kg. for Rs 25/- per day. (Rs 30/- for the sirdar who also carried a load.) They carried for four days and were paid for one extra return day.

The stages were only 7 to 8 miles or less per day. First day: Udaipur to Chamrat, second day to Urgus, third day to just above Khanjar, fourth day to Base Camp in the Gumba Nala. The walking was very pleasant; we had light sacks and easy days so could enjoy to the full this beautiful valley. Khanjar is the highest inhabited village. Cultivated fields and trees end here too.

While the gear was moving slowly along the road to Udaipur an advance party walked from Ruding to Udaipur and up the Biyar Nala, reaching the Gumba Nala three days ahead of the main expedition. They found a good site for Base Camp and made preliminary explorations of the Gumba Nala and upper Biyar Nala.

The whole party arrived at Base Camp on 24 July, about 6 days later than originally estimated.

(iii)

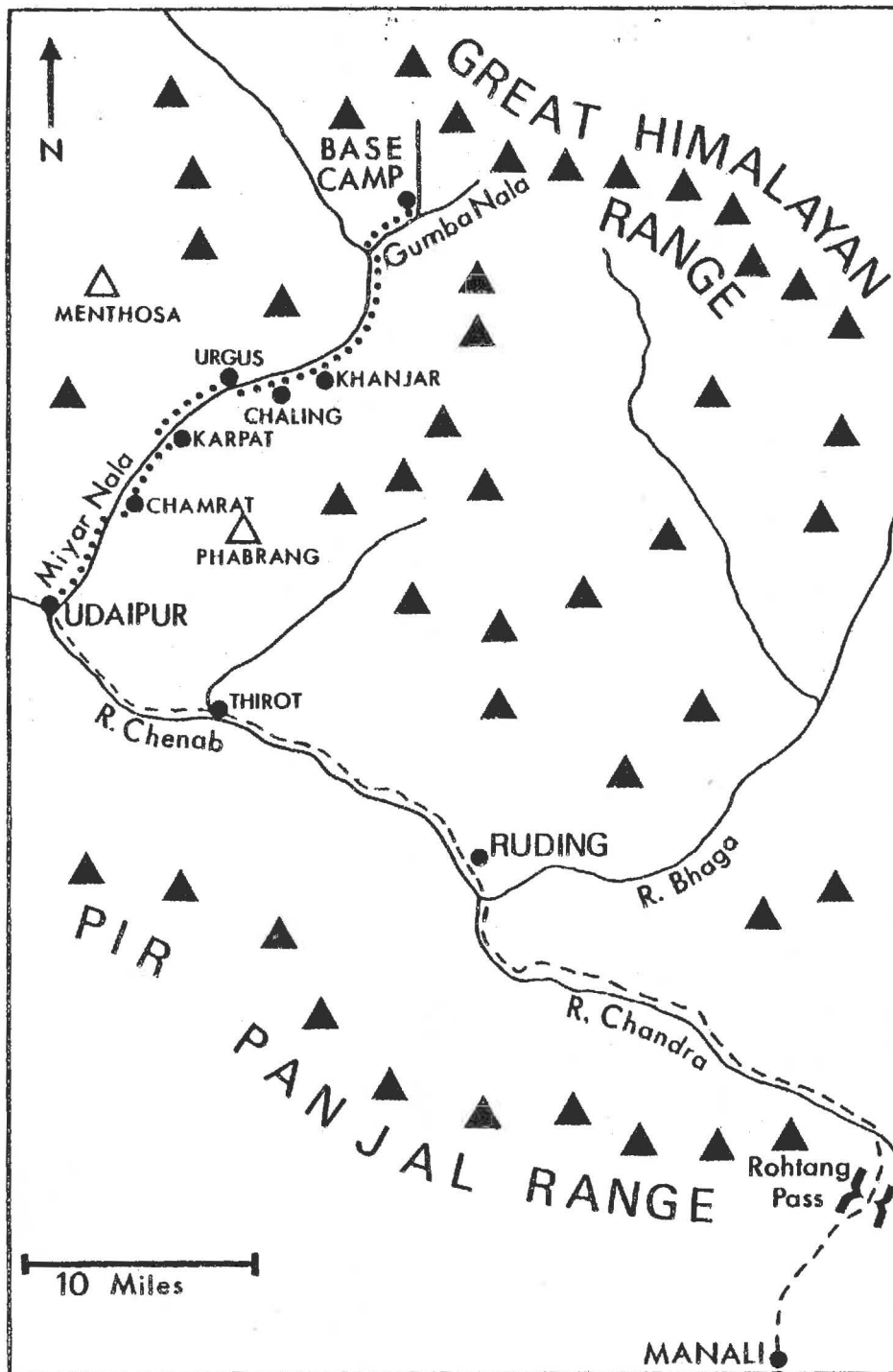
The Towers

Camp 2 is on the snow patch just beyond the glacier lake.



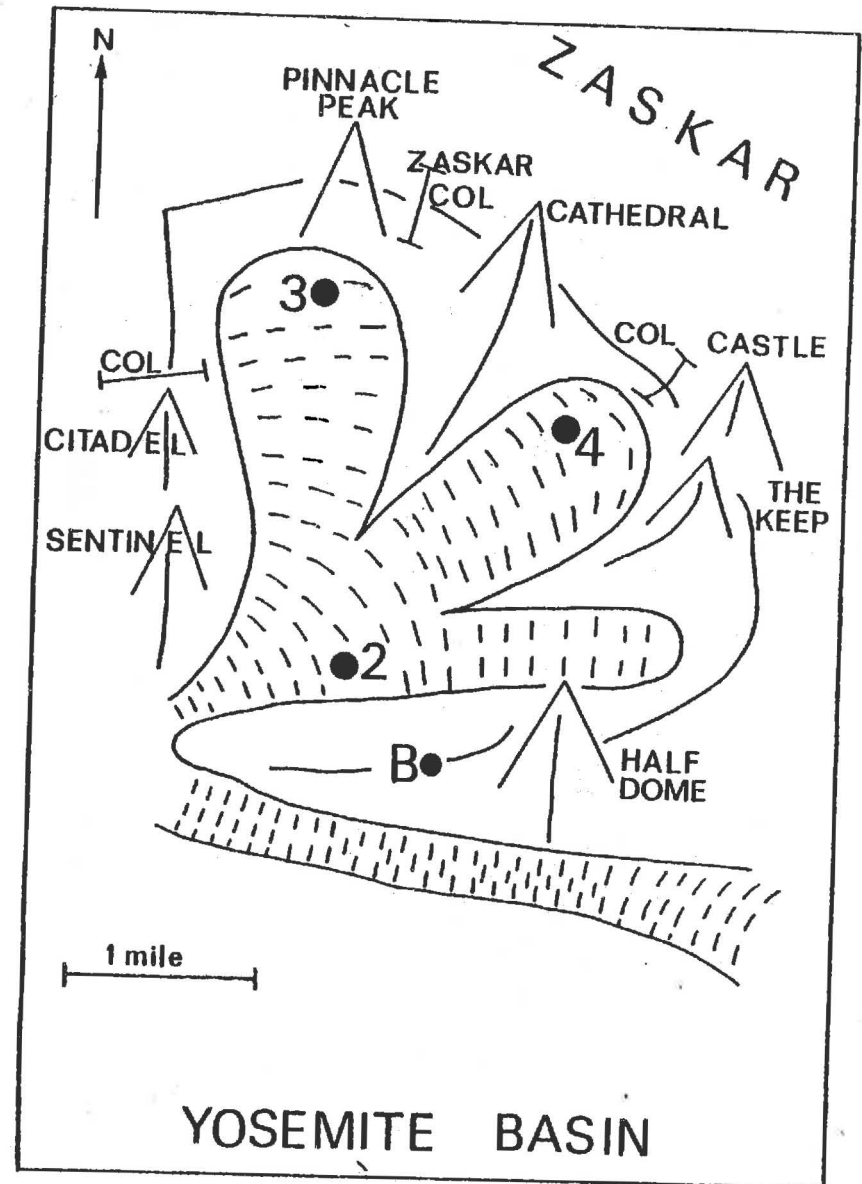
Map 2

Approach to Base Camp



Approach route: --- Road Track

Map 6



- 15 Pinnacle Peak 19,000' Map 6. (15 August)
From Camp 3 a snow gully was climbed to Zaskar Col (18,600') and the rock ridge followed N to Pinnacle Peak (PD).
- 16 Citadel Col 17,900' Map 6. (15 August)
From Camp 2 up the glacier and snow slopes to the col N of Citadel. The snow ridge leading from the col to the summit rocks of Citadel was climbed for a short distance. The summit rocks were steep and rotten and were not attempted.
- 17 Camp 4 (Cathedral) 17,500' Map 6. (16 August)
(i) From Camp 2 up an easy snow glacier to establish Camp 4 on the glacier below Cathedral Col.
(ii) On the same day, the second party moved direct from Camp 3 to Camp 4.
- 18 Cathedral Col 17,900' Map 6. (16 August)
A short but very loose scree slope above Camp 4 led to the col. The far side of the col fell in big crags to a glacier in Zaskar. Not a pass across the ridge. Cairns were found on the col, builders unknown.
- 19 The Keep 18,100' Map 6. (16 and 17 August)
An easy snow plod from Camp 4 (F). A 'Dru' shaped rock peak when seen from Camp 2!
- 20 The Castle 18,800' Map 6. (17 August)
From Camp 4 the route to The Keep was followed to a snow plateau below the summit of The Keep, then over snowy rocks and a snow ridge to a sharp rock summit (PD).



(iv) Half Dome from between Camp 2 and Camp 4.
- climbed approximately by the left skyline.

4. Attempts on IMF Peak (Map 5)

Peak 20,537' was booked with the IMF and is hereafter called 'IMF Peak'. It is situated near the head of the Gumba Glacier, just on its eastern side, on the Great Himalayan Range. There is one slightly lower peak between it and the Gumba Col at the head of the glacier. We never got close enough to make a real attempt on this peak.

The main approach to IMF Peak was made up the Gumba Glacier from Camp 1. The face of the mountain falling to the Gumba Glacier is very steep and about 5,000' high, with icefalls, avalanche tracks and steep rock ridges. It was well beyond the objectives of the expedition.

Gumba Col (about 18,000') at the head of the Gumba Glacier was reached. There may have been a route from the col onto the subsidiary peak north of IMF Peak, although it did not look easy. We were not prepared to employ the siege tactics which would have been necessary to make an attempt on IMF Peak by this route. We were further deterred by the objective dangers and by a heavy snowfall which occurred while we were at Camp 1.

The ridge leading south from IMF Peak formed the east wall of the Gumba Glacier and presented a steep face to the glacier all the way along. The ridge itself was very complex, in places knife-edged and with numerous rocky peaks along it. There was no possibility of traversing this ridge to reach the main peak.

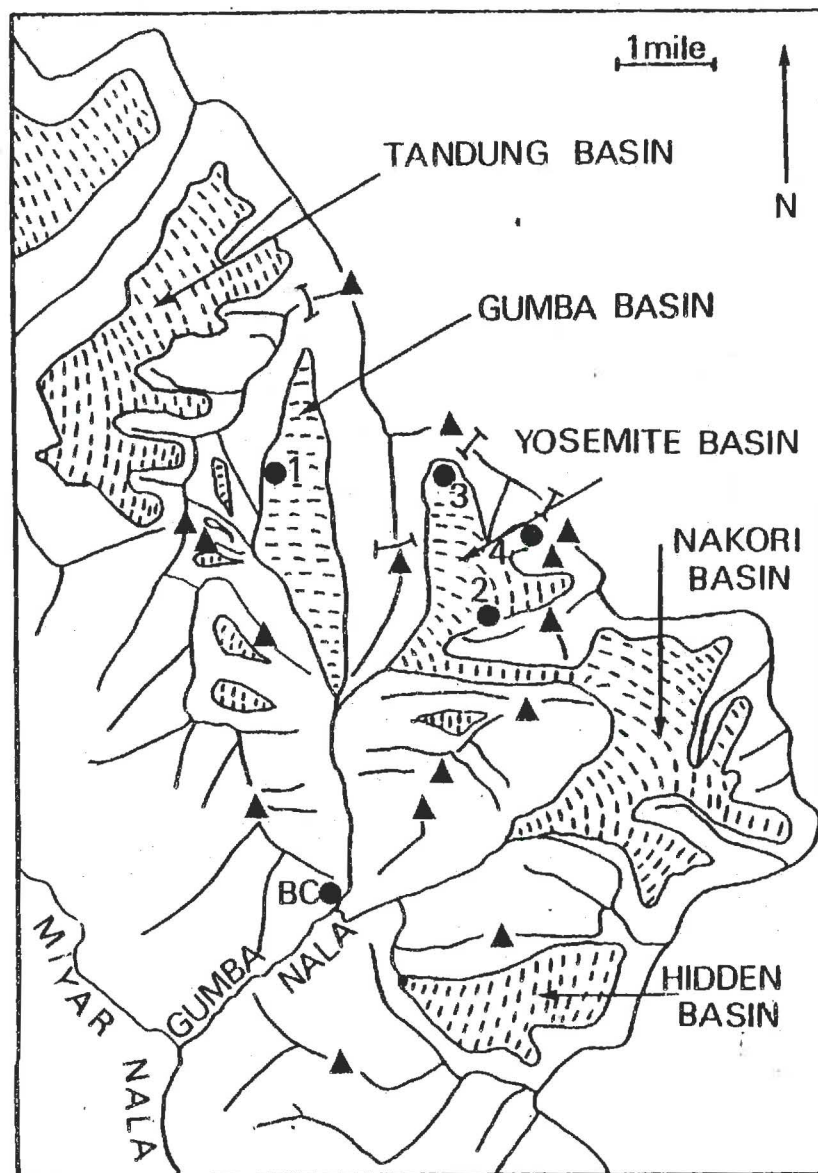
We also looked round the other sides of the IMF Peak for possible routes.

From the upper Miyar Mala we climbed to the Tandung Glacier and saw the back of the subsidiary peak, north of IMF Peak (Map 3). It was even less accessible from here than from the Gumba Glacier.

From Zaskar Col and Cathedral Col (Map 6) we looked down on the Zaskar Glacier which leads up to behind IMF Peak. Despite icefalls this looked the easiest approach to the mountain, although we could not see the whole route and our map stopped at the main ridge separating Lahaul from Zaskar. However, we could not cross to the Zaskar Glacier and a totally different approach would have to be made for an attempt from this side.

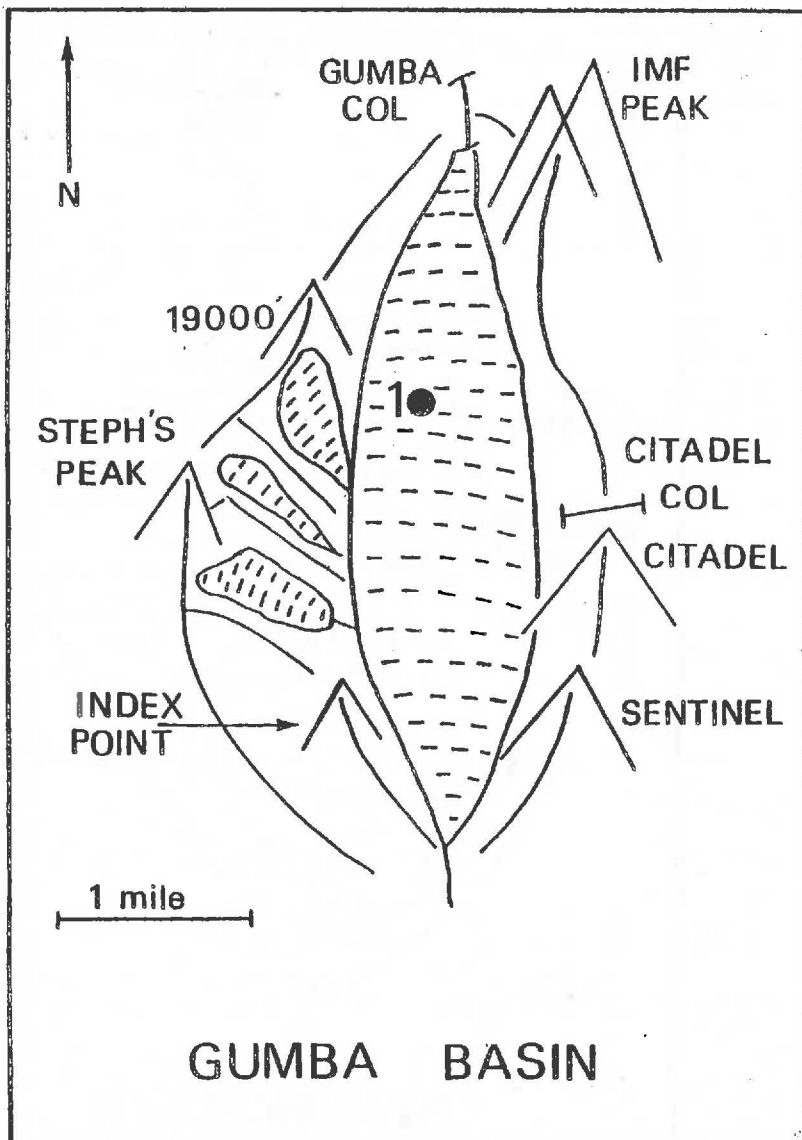
Map 3

The Gumba Nala Glacier Basins



☁ - Glacier ● BC - Base Camp ● 1 - Camp 1
 ▲ - Peak climbed

- 10 Gumba Col About 18,000' Map 5. (6 August)
From Camp 1 up the E side of the Gumba Glacier. A couloir of doubtful snow led up to a broad col. (PD)
- 11 Steph's Peak 19,300' Map 5. (8 August)
 - (i) Stella's Ridge (7 August)
The central ridge between the main glacier of Steph's Peak and the large snow basin was climbed from Camp 1 to a height of 17,900' (AD). The ridge was gained at a notch which was approached over moraine and a snow field. Excellent rock up the narrow ridge (Diff. to V. Diff. depending on the line taken) to a high point below a knife-edge section.
 - (ii) Steph's Peak was climbed on 8 August from Camp 1 up the snow basin to the E of the summit, reaching the col (Jay's Col, 18,000') at the top of Stella's Ridge and climbing the summit rocks above and right of the col. (D). Descent by a snow gully further S and a traverse back to Jay's Col. Unplanned bivi on the descent a short distance below the summit (in a bergschrund at about 18,800'). One member bivied in a snow hole on Jay's Col! Return to Camp 1 on the afternoon of 9 August.
- 12 Camp 2 (Yosemite Lake) 16,400' Map 6.
On 10 August two members carried food and equipment from Camp 1 to a dump in Yosemite Valley (at about 15,500') before returning to Base. Camp 2 was established on 12 August on a small snow patch below the lake at the Yosemite glacier snout. All members moved up to Camp 2 on 12 and 13 August.
- 13 Half Dome 19,100' Maps 4 and 6. (14 and 19 August)
 - (i) From Camp 2, on 13 August, a bivi was made among boulders on the W ridge of Half Dome at 16,400'.
 - (ii) The rock of the W ridge was very loose and on 14 August we traversed onto the glacier S of the peak and ascended it to the col (17,500') leading over to the Nakori Nala glacier system. From the col the SE ridge was climbed, up snow, then summit rocks and snow (PD). Return to Camp 2.
 - (iii) The route was repeated with a bivi on 18 August and climb on 19 August with descent to Base the same day.
 - (iv) This was the only occasion the map was notably inaccurate: Half Dome is not linked by a high ridge to the peaks on the main watershed of the Great Himalayan Range but is connected by a low col which leads up to the watershed ridge across several vertical rock pinnacles.
- 14 Camp 3 (Pinnacle) Map 6.
From Camp 2, up the glacier on 14 August to establish Camp 3 at 17,600', on snow below the mountain wall of Pinnacle Peak.



5. Peaks, Camps and Cols

The 1925 Survey of India one inch to one mile map was used. Apart from receding glaciers this was fairly accurate and proved adequate. We found a consistent discrepancy between the map heights and our altimeter readings. With the altimeter set at Base Camp to the map height of 13,050' summit readings were 400' lower than map height. Heights quoted in this report are map spot heights where these are given, or adjusted altimeter readings to the nearest hundred feet (that is, altimeter height plus 400').

Base Camp was situated at 13,050' on the W bank of the Gumba River just above the confluence with the Nakori Nala (Map 3). The site was a lovely meadow, between the river and a spring-fed stream. The advance party had chosen the site and the porters arrived on 24 July.

Around and below Base shepherds from the Punjab lived with their flocks during summer. Consequently there were rough tracks up the main valleys as far as the grazing extended. There was a bridge across the Gumba Nala just below Base. The Nakori Nala was not bridged. It was waded once but was too deep and fast flowing to cross again. The only other access to peaks S of Nakori Nala was by the bridge crossing the Gumba Nala above its confluence with the Miyar Nala.

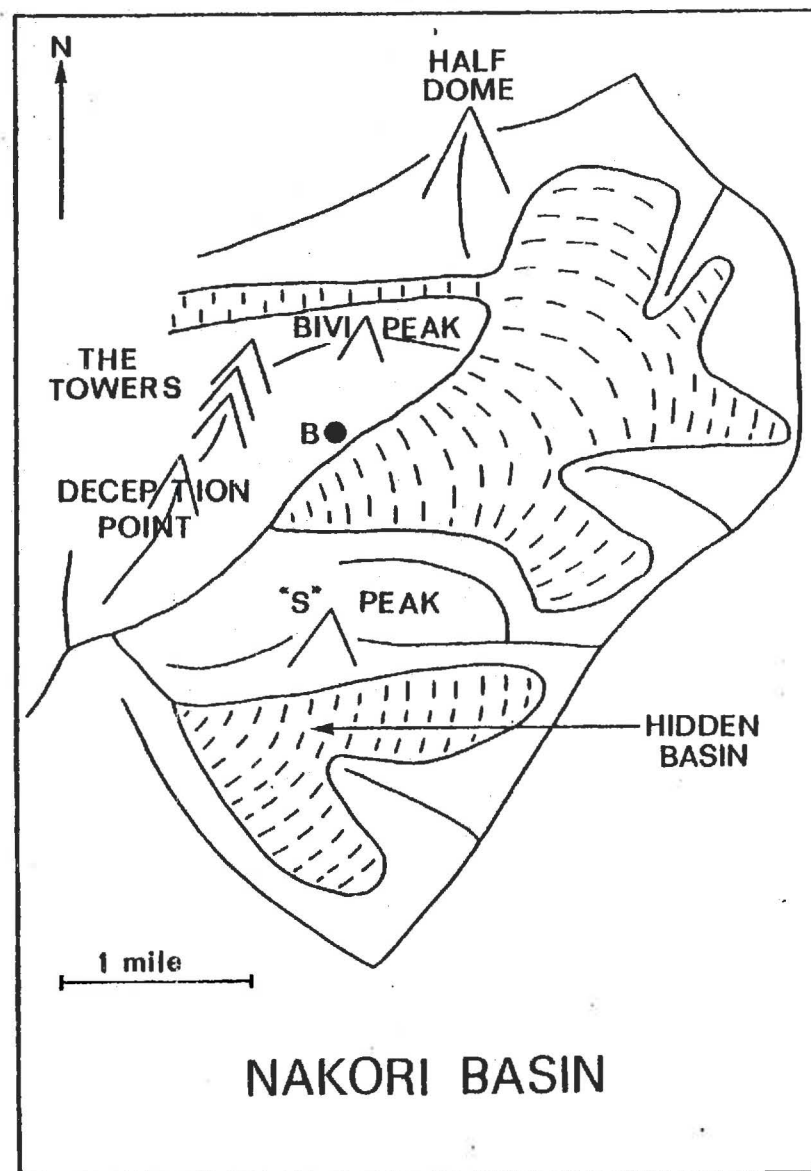
The weather was unsettled during the walk in and for the first 12 days at Base. There were about four very wet days. The rivers were very full, sometimes carving new channels, and even bridged crossings were impassable on some afternoons. During this time we made single day climbs from Base, and a four day trip at low altitude up the Miyar Nala to the glacier snout. For the last fortnight at Base Camp the weather was much more settled and several high camps were established and climbs done from these.

The following list is in chronological order of ascents. All peaks and cols except the main top of number 7 below and the col in number 18 below are thought to be first ascents. See maps 3, 4, 5 and 6 for locations.

- 1 Index Point 16,000' Map 5. (25 July and 2 August)
A short day from Base to help acclimatisation. Moraines and boulders followed by good (Mod.) rock at the top.
- 2 Deception Point 17,600' Map 4. (26 July and 19 August)
Up SW ridge from Base to the first summit of the 'Towers' ridge. Numerous rock steps (Diff.). Descent by an easy gully to Nakori Nala.
- 3 S Peak 17,536' Map 4. (26 July)
From Base up Nakori Nala until it was possible to cross the river. Up the valley to Hidden Basin and then the S slopes of the mountain and W ridge to the summit. Scree and small snow patches. Difficult river crossings on the descent.

- 4 Base Mountain 17,775' Map 3 (the peak NW of Base) (28 July)
From Base, down the Gumba Nala and up the S slopes of the mountain, over grass, mud, scree and snow patches. Scrambling at the top to a sharp summit.
- 5 Sentinel 18,141' Maps 5 and 6. (1 and 4 August)
From Base into Yosemite Valley and up the SE side of the mountain. Loose boulders but then excellent (Diff.) climbing on good rock at the top.
- 6 Walk up the Miyar Nala Map 3.
A four day exploratory trip when rain stopped climbing.
(i) 30 July. Walked from Base up the Miyar Nala (shepherds' track) to camp opposite Pimu Nala, at about 12,700'.
(ii) 31 July. Continued to Chudong Nala. This was too deep to wade easily so camped on its S bank (about 13,000'). Walked up to about 14,500' to get a view into the Chudong Nala glacier basin.
(iii) 1 August. Returned down Miyar Nala. Walked up the Tandung Nala (to about 15,000') to get a view of the glacier system and the back of the Gumba Col and IMF Peak. Continued down the Miyar and camped about two miles N of the Gumba Nala confluence.
(iv) 2 August. Returned to Base.
- 7 Bivi Peak 17,809' and The Towers 17,972' Map 4. (3 August)
(i) On 2 August a bivi was made at about 15,500', above Nakori Nala, on the S slopes of The Towers ridge.
(ii) Despite a wet night and misty morning the party continued, climbing easily north-eastwards onto Bivi Peak (17,809'). The ridge was then followed over (or round) four rock towers to the highest point of the ridge at 17,972' (alpine grade AD). The final tower between the highest top and Deception Point was not climbed. From the N side of the highest tower a gully was descended to Nakori Nala. Abseil slings were found here, believed to belong to the Kings School, Ely, 1978 Expedition.
- 8 Solo Point About 16,500' Map 3 (the peak SW of Hidden Basin. (5 August)
From Base down the Gumba Nala and across the bridge above the Miyar confluence. From the glacier basin to the West of here onto the ridge on the S side. The first top was reached. Steep scree. An enforced overnight bivi was made when the bridge back over the Gumba Nala was found to be under water.
- 9 Camp 1 (Gumba Glacier) Map 5.
The camp was established by four members of the expedition on 5 August, on a snow field at the W side of the Gumba Glacier, at 15,800'. The remaining two members of the team carried up on 7 August and one member made a second carry of extra food on 8 August.

Map 4



B - Bivi site