

Notes 1971 Africa

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Algeria—The Djurdjura Mountains

This group of mountains lies about one hundred miles east of Algiers and about forty miles from the Mediterranean shore. During the summer of 1971 several new routes were made here by a French party. Of particular interest are:

Thaltatt. Petite Aiguille, on the South-east face the Grand Dièdre, about 250 m (TD Sup.). North face, direct, about 300 m (TD Sup.). 7th Doigt, South-east face direct, about 200 m (TD). 6th Doigt, left-hand crack on the South-east face direct, about 250 m (ED).

Gougane. The Shoulder of the West face, the Central Route—about 250 m (TD Sup.)

(The above notes were kindly provided by M. Henri Agresti.)

Hoggar

Garet-el-Djenoun The new route reported in *A.J.* 76 207 as on the East face is in fact on the West face. We are indebted to Mario Fantin for this correction.

Niger

Massif of L'Aïr This massif is one of the major mountain groups of the Sahara and it offers climbing problems like those of the Hoggar. It lies some 300 miles south-west of the Hoggar, the nearest town being Agadès, south of the massif. The massif had been visited by French groups in 1943 and 1960, and by an Italian expedition in 1967. Other French expeditions at Christmas 1970 and Easter 1971 explored the area further and made the following new routes of particular interest.

Aiguille de Temet—North arête About 100 m (III). This, so far as is known, was the first recorded ascent of the mountain. East face, about 80 m (IV and V). *Torre Zeni*, South-west arête, 260 m (IV and IV+). *Taghe*, Cime Principale, North face, 250 m (V). West arête, 300 m (V to VI).

These routes are fully described in a cyclostyled booklet entitled *Aïr, Montagnes de la Soif* by M Henri Agresti, to whom we are indebted for these notes.

Nigeria

On 8 October 1971 the *Daily Telegraph* reported what must surely be one of the most unusual and tragic of mountaineering accidents. According to the report, Mr Robert Michael Wilkinson, who was in charge of the Outward Bound School in Jos, died in a fall with five other members of a climbing party after an attack by a swarm of bees.

Ruwenzori

Members of the Uganda Mountain Club have erected a new hut at Kitandara. The following new routes have been made:

McConnell's Prong. First ascent by I. Howell and P. Snyder 24 July (IV and AI)

Alexandra. On 19 July the same party made a new route here by accident, thinking they were on Margherita. This is on the North face of the South-east ridge (III).

Mount Baker. Edward Peak was also climbed by a new route on 23 July via Edward 3 glacier and the South-west ridge.

Mount Baker. North-west buttress was also climbed during July by M. Lynch and D. Moriarty up the central ridge of the buttress (IV-V).

Mount Kenya

The first winter ascent of the South ridge by I. Allan and R. Higgins was reported in *Thrutch* 7/8, 1971. 12.

Alpinismus, July 1971, refers to the donation by the Salzburg Section of the O.A.V. of a poly-bivouac shelter to the Mountain Club of Kenya.

I. Howell, P. Snyder made the first ascent of the Diamond couloir and discovered some good rock-climbing in the Gorges Valley (see p 80).

Kilimanjaro

A complete west-east traverse is described on p 83.