

The first traces of floor A are found as long sloping spurs, projecting transversely into the valley below Taldic pass. Extending down the valley, it rapidly broadens out on alluvium-covered terraces, and appears to have emerged on to a waste-

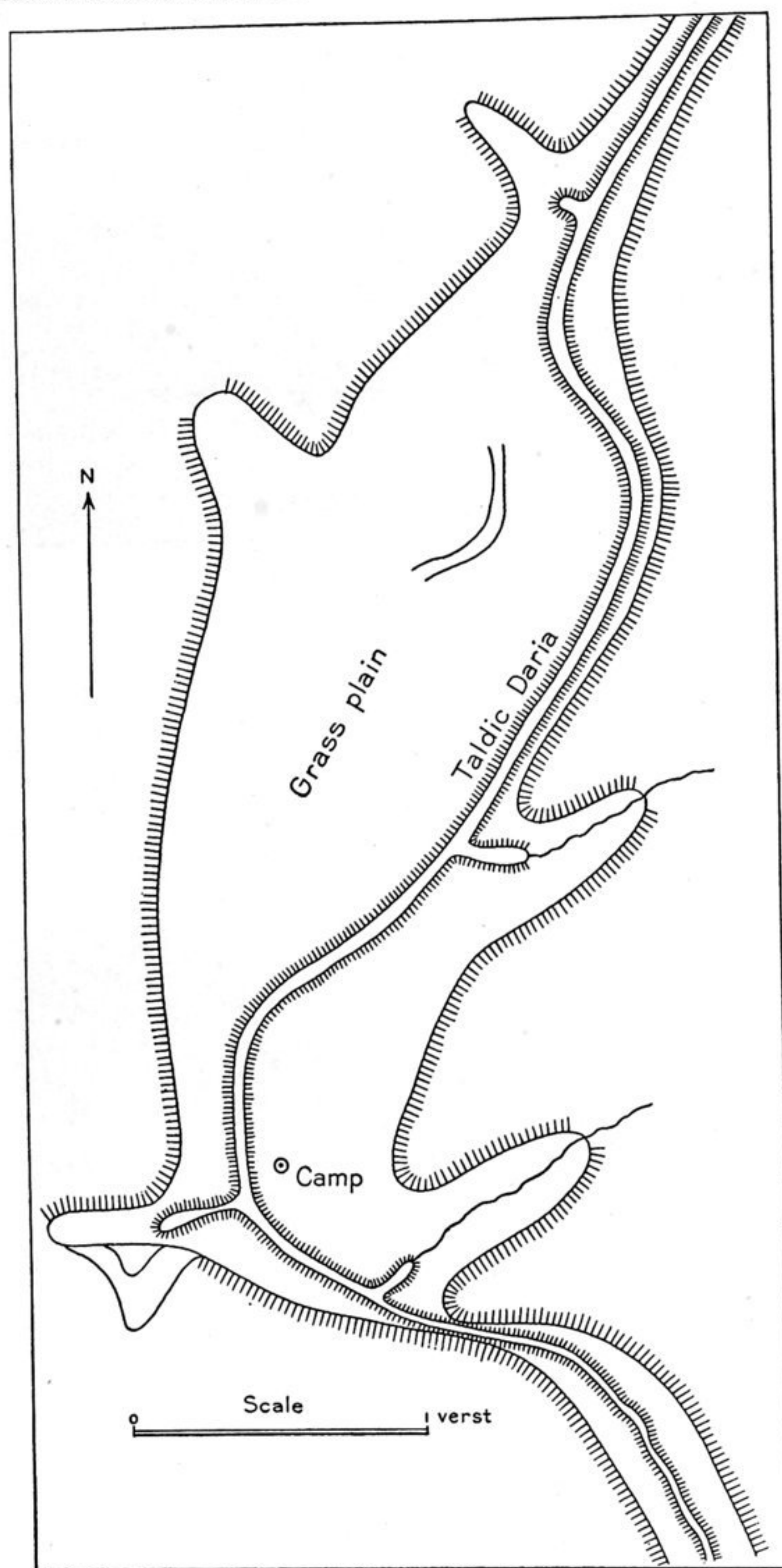


Fig. 115.—Map of the Ak-Busa-Ga grass plain and stream channels.

covered piedmont plain, reaching to within 25 versts north of the present Alai range axis. This plain has now been extensively dissected, and remains only in frequent flat-topped hills capped with horizontally lying conglomerate and in the sharper tops of other hills and spurs reaching to the proper height. It will be seen by the profile that it spreads horizontally to the north from the range axis and remains in terraces and alluvium 3,500 feet above stream at Gulcha. There were higher hills that rose as residuals from the alluvium covering portions of the level of floor A (fig. 112).

Reaching a point about 3 versts down the valley from Taldic pass, the stream emerges abruptly from its torrent gorge into the wide valley at Ak-Busa-Ga. The accompanying sketch map (fig. 115) gives a rough idea of the dimensions of the plain of the valley floor and positions of the main stream and tributary channels at Ak-Busa-Ga. Here we find a transitional state. The trunk stream has sunk a channel 15 feet deep through the grass plain and into alluvial conglomerates, while the side tributaries pass over falls into their gullies leading to it. Since these falls are some distance from the plain border, it is evident that these streams have not had time to cut back into their respective valleys since the trunk channel was sunk. Passing down through Ak-Busa-Ga outlet, we find that the grass plain is there higher above