Numbur Attempt.

Five Norwegians, led by Arne Naess, attempted to climb Numbur (22,815 feet) by its southwest ridge. The expedition was delayed when Aeroflot took over three weeks to fly their equipment from Oslo to Kathmandu. All members got to 19,850 feet on October 29 but they gave up due to dangerous snow conditions, avalanche danger and bad weather.

Louis Audoubert, Club Alpin Français

Ama Dablam, West Face Attempt. Our expedition, consisting of Merv English, Geoff Cribites, Ken Hyslop and me as leader, was attempting a direct line on the west (Mingbo) face of Ama Dablam. We climbed up the right side of the great central gully below the right-hand ice bulge on which the American expedition in the spring of 1979 had its Camp III. This involved continuous water-ice with some steep bulges. We bivouacked a short distance below the ice bulge on a steep ice arête. The following day, October 24, we climbed steep water-ice for two pitches and then up a rock step to easier ground adjacent to the left ice cliff. Just before exiting left onto the top of this ice cliff at 21,000 feet to spend the second night, a large ice avalanche came off the central “dablam” ice cliff, directly under the summit. Armchair-sized blocks of green ice came screaming down at us. Ken Hyslop was killed; I suffered a broken arm, finger, rib and ankle and the other two were badly bruised and shocked. Two days of arduous descent rappels brought us to the lower slopes of the face. Here we were kindly helped by Reinhold Messner and Dr. Oswald Ölz, members of the Austrian Ama Dablam expedition, led by Wolfgang Naierz, to descend the remaining distance to our advanced camp at the bottom of the face at 17,500 feet.

Peter Hillary, New Zealand Alpine Club

Numbur. A joint Nepalese-Swiss expedition was co-led by Jacques Bouvier and Rinze Pasang Lama. There were seven Swiss and four Nepalese trying the 1963 Japanese route on the southwest ridge. They failed at 22,000 feet on May 21, having climbed from Camp II at 20,500 feet. The mountain is 22,815 feet high.

Michael J. Cheney, Himalayan Club

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