Kangbachen Attempt. Italian Dante Porta had hoped to climb Kangbachen by its northwest face solo. With several friends, he established Base Camp at 17,225 feet on April 20. With another member, he made Camp I at 18,375 feet on April 25 and returned to Base Camp. The next day Porta set out from Base for his solo push to the summit and reached 19,700 feet before returning to Camp I, where he became very ill from cerebral edema. The other member, Claudio Colizzi, and sardar Nga Temba carried supplies to Camp I on the 27th and found Porta unconscious there. They brought him to Base Camp on the 28th and that was the end of the climb.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club,* and ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kumbhakarna (Jannu). Our members were Georg Rubin, Res Leibundgut, Christian von Almen, Bruno Rankwiler, Daniel Anker and I as leader.* We reached Base Camp on the Yamatari Glacier at 4400 meters with about 30 porters on October 8. From October 10 to 15 we made acclimatization climbs on the neighboring hills. From October 16 to 19 we reconnoitered alpine-style as far as the "Boutoir" at 6300 meters on the French first-ascent route. Anker, Rubin and Rankwiler headed up on October 22 for a summit push and on October 25 Rankwiler and Anker reached the summit (7710 meters, 25,294 feet). Rubin had to wait at the last bivouac at 6900 meters because of a stomach upset. Leibundgut, von Almen and I set out on October 23, reached the summit on October 27 and descended that same day to the "Dentelle" at 6400 feet. We all climbed alpine-style without fixed ropes and artificial oxygen. The chief difficulties were wind and cold. The technical difficulties were less than we expected. The greatest were a 15-meter-high perpendicular ice wall at 5700 meters, powder snow on the "Boutoir," cornices on the "Dentelle" and snow-covered rock at the beginning of the summit cone. We had bivouacked at 5300, 6200 and 6900 meters. We bought most of our food in Kathmandu.

MARTIN FISCHER, *Schweizer Alpen Club*

Kumbakharna, Winter Ascent. South Koreans led by Kim Ki-Heyg made a successful 1984-85 winter ascent of Kumbhakarna (Jannu). One member and two Sherpas reached the summit by the southwest ridge.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Makalu West Pillar Attempt. We were Dwayne Congdon, Albert Sole, Sharon Wood (recipient of a Vera Watson-Alison Chadwick Onyszkiewicz grant) and Dr. Ken Bassett, *Canadians,* and Charles Sassara and I, *Americans.* We established Base Camp at 17,700 feet, where the 1971 French team had its Camp I, a rather bleak, exposed site, a little high for physical recovery. After

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* The climbers ranged in age from 57 to 62!—*Editor.*