

Gstrein and Ernst Kulhavy on a four-day reconnaissance discovered a way which gave access from Mukut across the ridge to a basin which lies at the foot of the upper slopes of the group. The climbers finally established Camp V at nearly 25,000 feet, but it was too difficult and far for them to climb to the summit from there in the unfavorable weather conditions; they withdrew to Base Camp on May 24. Other members of the party were Adolf Weissensteiner, Franz Huber, Dr. Klaus Kubiena, and the scientists Gerhard Fuchs and Hans Fischer.

*Langtang Himal.* The Australian Peter Taylor made the first ascent of a 21,592-foot peak in the Langtang Himal with two Sherpas despite bad weather.

*Saipal.* Our plan had been to climb Saipal (23,079 feet) from the north, but we were prevented from starting from Pithorgarh because of the Inner Line. We had no other choice but to approach the mountain from the south, starting at Tanakpur on September 1. After passing through Silgarhi, Bajang and Chainpur, we reached Base Camp at 13,350 feet on the Saipal Glacier on September 27. Camp I at 15,600 feet was made on October 2. The camps above were established all on the south ridge: Camp II (19,350 feet) on October 8, Camp III (19,650 feet) on the 17th and Camp IV (21,150 feet) on the 20th. Deputy Leader Katsutoshi Hirabayashi and the Sherpa Sirdar, Pasang Phutar III, reached the summit on October 21. After the ascent, four members walked out via Talkot, Jumla, and Dailekh to Nepalganj, while two walked to Pokhara via Mugu, traveling west and south of Dhaulagiri. Aside from Hirabayashi the expedition was made up of Katsuichi Fukada, Tashiro Matsumura, Kazuo Sato, Keijiro Okada and myself as leader.

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*Nalkankar.* The Northwest Nepal Scientific Research Expedition of Hokkaido University had as objectives to climb Nalkankar (24,032 feet) and to investigate the catchment basin of the Karnali River geologically. Led by Hisao Ando, they consisted of Koa Watanabe, Ryuji Miyaji, Teiichi Endo and Masando Hashimoto. Some exciting news reached here at last about them. On December 26, Hisao Ando and Miyaji reached Kathmandu in advance to report their activities to the Government of Nepal. The People's Republic of China army had captured Miyaji and Sherpa Ang Temba but released them soon, recognizing they had no bad and special aims. The leader announced in Kathmandu that there was no mountain in the area named Nalkankar, but the Government of Nepal protested against the announcement, saying that even if they could not find the peak, it did not mean the non-existence of the mountain. It was clearly