

*Nun.* Our 18-man party attempted to climb the west face of Nun (23,410 feet), a 6000-foot, 55° ice face, but the bare ice forced us onto the northwest ridge (the Czech route of 1976). The weather turned so warm—40° C. (104° F.) at 18,375 feet—that the snow ran off in floods and ice screws holding fixed lines melted out. The monsoon struck us at 20,675 feet and we gave up.

ERICH VANIS, *Österreichischer Alpenklub*

*Nun.* After an eight-man West German team led by Ekkehart Rubel failed at 19,700 feet due to inclement weather, the Swiss Sylvain Saudan brought a six-person team to Nun at the end of May. Not until June 20 did they set up Camp I at 19,000 feet. After an unsuccessful attempt, on June 26 the final assault commenced from Camp I. Along with his fiancée Mlle Marie Jose Valancot, the American photographer Del Mulkey and his cousin Eric Poumallou, Saudan reached the summit at three P.M. He skied down a gradient of 50° and reached Base Camp at seven P.M.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

*Nun, Northwest Ridge and West Face.* The highest summit (23,410 feet) between Nanga Parbat and the Garhwal Himalaya, Nun, was climbed by a 15-member Mountain Travel team, led by Galen Rowell. Five climbers reached the summit and twelve got to the 20,500-foot High Camp. The mountain was climbed semi-alpine style, not according to plan, but because of an unexpected shortage of tents and Sherpas. We lacked the tentage and manpower to fix the necessary two camps above 17,500 feet on the normal French route. Instead, six of the strongest climbers attempted the northwest ridge and west face in two days with only enough gear for one camp. Climbing was alpine style except for the assistance of three Sherpas who made a carry to High Camp, then returned to a lower camp the same day. Above the camp, we followed the 1976 Czech route up the northwest ridge for a few hundred feet and then veered away from the ridge, where the Czechs had fixed thousands of feet of rope, onto the unclimbed west face. At 22,000 feet progress was slowed by a long traverse on 55° ice. After the traverse, one rope of three elected to go for the summit and the others went down. Maynard Cohick, Peter Cummings, and I reached the summit late on the afternoon of June 18 in a localized blizzard. We descended in the dark to the High Camp. Two days later Kim Schmitz led another rope of three up the same route. Schmitz and Pat O'Donnell reached the summit an hour earlier in the day than we had, but Malcolm Jones, who waited below, was so exhausted that darkness caught them higher on the route than it had the first team. At ten P.M., with no lights on a moonless night, the rope of three was still above High Camp descending an ice bulge. Jones