

Pakistan

Nanga Parbat Attempt. Although our expedition under the leadership of Jean-Pierre Frésafond arrived in Islamabad on April 8, we had to wait for two weeks until we could take the road constructed along the banks of the Indus by the Chinese. And then an earthquake blocked the road, which was destroyed in several places. Not being able to reach the Rupal Face to attack the central buttress, we decided to try the nearest west face, cost what it might. We tried to climb the very long Mazeno ridge, but the weather was very bad for thirty consecutive days. Moreover the ridge must be 15 miles long and is difficult. We could not set off alpine-style for ten days because of the weather. After having climbed the first of the five Mazeno peaks, we gave up to return some other day. The team had 23 French members and two Pakistanis.

LOUIS AUDOUBERT, *Club Alpin Français*

Nanga Parbat Attempt. Our expedition was composed of Walter Ruppert, leader, Lili Alfrid Ruppert, Walter Knezicek, Herbert Jesenko, Naz Gruber, Walter Snehotta, my brother Gerhard Neumayer and me. We attempted the 10,000-foot-high Diamir Face of Nanga Parbat. We were delayed 12 days in Rawalpindi waiting for baggage and only got to the Bunar Bridge on July 26. We set out from there to Base Camp with 70 porters. Base Camp was on the right moraine of the Diamir Glacier at 13,400 feet. On August 3 we set up Camp I at 15,425 feet at the beginning of a 60° rockfall-threatened ice couloir. We had to retire to Base Camp in the face of snowfall and subsequent avalanche danger. On August 14 we set up Camp II at 19,700 feet but were driven back down by bad weather. On August 17 we set out again. My brother and I reached 22,300 feet on the 19th but were again driven back by snowfall. This time the mountain was plastered with six feet of snow and we abandoned the attempt. Close to Camp I at about 16,000 feet we found the remains of Bob Broughton, the American lost on July 31, 1977. We buried him in a crevasse.

FRANZ NEUMAYER, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

Pakistan—Karakoram

K2. Italians Reinhold Messner, Friedl Mutschlechner, Renato Ciarrotto and Alessandro Gogna, German Michael Dacher and Austrian Robert Schauer made up a strong team that hoped to climb the well publicized "Magic Line" on K2. This route would have climbed to the Negrotto Saddle between K2 and the Angelus, ascended the south buttress to a point where it would traverse across the south face to meet the Abruzzi Ridge