

to get higher in the unstable weather. Boivin suffered a severe retinal hemorrhage and descended from Camp IV to Base Camp by hang-glider. On September 9 Monaci and Leroy left Camp VI, heading for the summit in unsettled weather. Monaci soon felt it hopeless and stopped but Leroy kept on for another 350 feet. However it was obvious that winter had come and the attempt was abandoned. (We are indebted to Yannick Seigneur for this information. He also points out that one can live for 2½ months at over 20,675 feet and go five times to 26,250 feet without oxygen and that one can climb UIAA Grade V+ rock at 27,225 feet.)

*Broad Peak Attempt.* Our expedition was led by Dr. Franz Berghold and composed of Günther Knauseder, Horst Schindlbacher, Peter and Wastl Wörgötter and me. We had the usual approach problems, such as porter strikes, lost baggage and swept-away bridges, which delayed our arrival at Base Camp until the end of June. Our original plan of climbing a new route, the southeast buttress, was given up because of bad conditions and lack of time. We prepared the normal route with the variant used by the Poles, Japanese and French. In only nine days, in which the weather could not have been better, we fixed ropes and set up camps at 18,700, 21,000 and just under 23,000 feet. On July 12, the day Messner climbed K2, we were all at Camp III and in top form. We set out on Friday the 13th of July at 1:30 A.M. in icy cold. There was some difficult trail breaking. The forward group, both Wörgötters, Schindlbacher and Knauseder, reached the col at 25,600 feet at about 9:30 when the weather turned bad and drove them back. I had to give up sooner fearing frozen feet. Two other attempts ended, one at Camp II and the other at Camp III. Time was up and we had to quit. Dr. Berghold did high-altitude medical research during the expedition, using the most modern equipment. We wore electro-cardiograph equipment during our summit attempt.

HERBERT KARASEK, *Salzburg (Austria) Karakoram Expedition*

*Broad Peak Attempt.* Our Spanish expedition consisted of Carlos Soria, Miguel López, Mariano Arrazola, Salvador Rivas, Luis López and me. The route we picked was the west spur, which rises some 11,000 feet and has difficult spots. This was the Polish route of 1975 and coincides in great part with the first-ascent route of the Austrians in 1957. The approach march took ten days. A porter lost his life when he fell into the river shortly before Payu Camp. We placed Base Camp on the central moraine of the Godwin Austen Glacier at 15,600 feet. The weather was the worst that has been seen in the Karakoram for many years. Despite the daily snow storms and unstable weather, we went ahead preparing the route on the lower part of Broad Peak. After leaving a supply dump at 17,225 feet, we placed one camp at 18,375 feet and a second at

20,675 feet. Above Camp II we reached the height of 22,000 feet and continued to relay supplies. However, the persistent bad weather, the unfavorable radio weather reports and the fast approaching date of the arrival of the porters to evacuate us led to the decision to give up. We left Base Camp on August 19.

JERÓNIMO LÓPEZ, *Federación Castellana de Montañismo*

*Gasherbrum II, Chilean Expedition.* Our expedition consisted of Jorge Bassa, Claudio Gálvez, Rubén Lamilla, Claudio Lucero, Nelson Muñoz, Jorge Quinteros, Iván Vigouroux, Leonardo Zúñiga and me as leader. It took us two weeks to complete formalities in Islamabad. In Skardu we contracted 130 porters and left on April 27 for Base Camp. The approach march lasted 23 days, the Baltoro Glacier being completely covered with snow. Base Camp was set up May 23 on the Abruzzi Glacier at 16,900 feet. The porters returned from there. It was a task to find a safe and rapid route past the enormous crevasses and séracs of the South Gasherbrum Glacier. For eight days we worked up the glacier with camps at 18,000, 19,000 and 20,000 feet. We divided into two groups with Bassa, Zúñiga and Quinteros supplying the lower three camps, while the rest worked up the spur climbed by the Austrians in the first ascent in 1956. In the first week of June we climbed very steep snow and ice and set up three camps. Muñoz and Gálvez returned to Base Camp from 22,650 feet after much of the technical climbing had been done. Lamilla, Lucero, Vigouroux and I placed a high camp at 23,625 feet on June 7, from which we planned a lightning attack. Carrying little, on the 8th we advanced only to 24,950 feet, slowed by climbing difficulties and our exhaustion. The bivouac was fairly good but the night was long and cold. On the morning of June 9 we set out in clear cold weather. At 25,600 feet Vigouroux had to give up from fatigue and returned to Camp VI with Lamilla. Lucero and I pressed on and reached the summit (26,362 feet), exhausted, at six P.M. We knew we had to get back to Camp VI, which we reached under a luminous moon at midnight.

GASTÓN OYARZÚN, *Federación de Andinismo de Chile*

*Gasherbrum II.* Actually we were two expeditions which combined to save money. We lived much off the food of the region, particularly chapatties, which contributed to much dysentery. We placed Base Camp at 17,400 feet and Camps I, II and III at 19,700, 22,650 and 24,275 feet. On July 31 Hilmar Sturm, Dr. Karl Hub and I reached the summit (26,362 feet), followed on August 4 by Kurt Diemberger, Walter Lösch, the leader Hanns Schell, Alfred Schwab, Wolf Weitzenböck and the Pakistani liaison officer Fayyaz Hussein. For Diemberger it was his *fifth*