

and reached Base Camp above Bharton at 12,450 feet on April 5. Camp I was established on April 9 at 15,250 feet below a branch of the north ridge. We followed this spur onto the 17,400-foot peak on the north ridge, fixing nine pitches. Camp II was established on April 14 at 17,225 feet. From Camp II there was first a sharp ice ridge, then easy rock and finally a gentle snow ridge to the snow plateau. We fixed 12 pitches. On April 17 Ueno was hit by an avalanche, swept off the ridge near the plateau and though he was held, he broke his leg. He climbed back into the ridge where he and three companions spent the night in a snow cave. By the 21st he had been brought down to Base Camp. Camp III was placed at 19,000 feet on the plateau on April 26. The section to Camp IV was the most difficult part. At first we climbed a snow wall to avoid a hanging glacier. Then we ascended the narrow, corniced north ridge. On this part we fixed 22 pitches. On May 10 we broke through the big cornice and stood on the great snowfield, where Camp IV was established on May 12 at 21,325 feet. On May 13 Kazusa, Nishimura and Norbu Jambu Sherpa completed this new route up the flat, broad snow slope to the summit (6983 meters, 22,911 feet).

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*Annapurna I.* Our expedition was composed of Gustav Harder, leader, Dr. Werner Müller-Esterl, Wolfgang Brög, Erika Heimrath, Klaus Harder, Thomas Hummler, Konrad Staltmayr and me. We left Pokhara on March 24 with 185 porters. After the difficult crossing into the upper Miristi Khola we set up Base Camp on April 6 on Annapurna's northern moraines at 14,275 feet. We chose the Dutch Spur, where there was difficult ice climbing. Camps I, II, III, IV, V and VI were established at 16,750, 19,200, 20,675, 22,150, 23,625 and 24,925 feet on April 9, 10, 14, 21, 28 and 29 respectively. Five Sherpas helped us. Avalanches threatened, thundering down on both sides of the spur and several times reaching Camp II. We had intestinal and respiratory problems. Erika Heimrath had to be evacuated by helicopter on May 6 with pneumonia. On May 1 Harder, Sherpa Ang Dorje and Staltmayr got to the top (8091 meters, 26,545 feet) in ten hours. They had carried skis to 26,100 feet, but it was too late for a ski descent. On May 3 Brög, Sherpas Maila Pemba and Ang Sanghi and I climbed to the top, but again it was too late for a ski descent. On the 4th and 5th Brög and I again tried to descend on skis but in vain. On May 11 we left Base Camp. We descended the whole Miristi Khola Gorge, which we recommend against.

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*Annapurna Middle Peak Ascent and Tragedy.* Expedition leader Ludwig Greissl, Udo Böning and Heinz Oberrauch on October 3 took ten