

were more rigorously applied in this part of the Karakoram, it would be more in line with the cost of porters in Baltistan. We arrived at the Rupal Base Camp for Nanga Parbat on August 12 after a harrowing tractor-jeep ride to the roadhead, from where we continued for two days on foot and horseback. On August 15 Alastair Reid, Michael Scott, David Marshall, Nazir, my 12-year-old daughter Martha and I went to the west side of Rupal Peak. After three bivouacs and some Grade 3 ice climbing we were established 800 feet from the summit. All but Martha, who had bad stomach pains, and I went to the summit via this new route. Then although none of us was in really good shape, Michael Scott, Reid, Nazir and I decided to go for the southwest ridge of Nanga Parbat. We climbed appalling loose rock to camp at 21,000 feet. The next day we reached 24,000 feet in a storm and hurricane-force winds. We backed down 500 feet and bivouacked. Reid was ill, possibly with a mild oedema, so we descended the next day to Base Camp. A few days later our much depleted party hired horses and galloped out to the roadhead.

DOUGLAS SCOTT, *Alpine Climbing Group*

*Diran and Rakaposhi Ascents and Tragedy.* There were three groups in this region in July and August, two smaller private parties and ours of the Upper Austria Alpine School. I was the leader of the Diran Group and Edi Koblmüller was the Rakaposhi leader. Our weather was excellent. From our 3650-meter Diran Base Camp we placed Camps I, II and III at 4900, 5500 and 6300 meters on the normal route. Between July 23 and 30, the summit (7266 meters, 23,840 feet) was reached by Fred Pressl, Heinz Thallinger, Roland Schulz, Edi Koblmüller, Ingo Granderath, Hungarian Istvan Katouna, Gerald Fellner, Nani Klappert, Herbert Spousta, Christl Stöger and me. Pressl and Koblmüller made the first descent of the north ridge on July 24. On July 27 we began to climb Rakaposhi East by the north buttress. After reconnaissance, we set out on July 30 on an alpine-style ascent from a 4500-meter Advance Base. From Bivouac I at 5500 meters to Bivouac II at 6000 meters, the route was up a 65° steep ice slope and a very exposed, sharp ridge. On August 1 Koblmüller, Pressl, Fellner and I reached the summit (7010 meters, 23,000 feet). We descended that day and the next in bad weather. At 4700 meters Fellner slipped and fell 100 meters down an ice slope. Despite medical attention, he died in the night.

GERHARD HABERL, *Oberösterreichische Alpinschule, Austria*

*Diran Attempt.* Our expedition consisted of Jaume Anglada, Miquel Serrat, Joan Sola, Xevi Robiró R., Xevi Roviró A. Josep Rovira, Joan Colet and me as leader. We had hoped to complete a new route up the north ridge, previously attempted by Spaniards in 1979, who got to the col at 5020 meters, and Japanese in 1981, who got to 5650 meters. On May 30 we contracted for 41 porters in the town of Minapin. In three days we got to Base Camp at 3615 meters on June 3. We placed Camp I at 4375 meters on July 5 in a spot protected from avalanches on the east glacier leading to the col. On June 10 the preparation of the route to