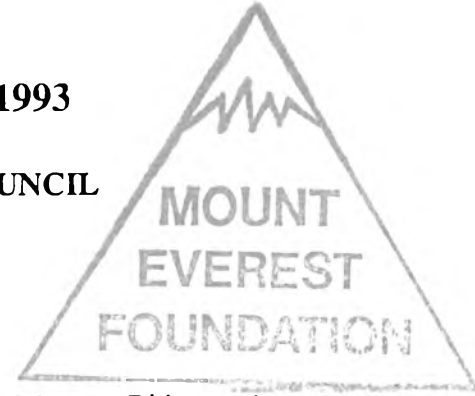


## BRITISH NANGA PARBAT EXPEDITION 1993

**SUPPORTED BY: BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL  
MOUNT EVEREST FOUNDATION  
MALDEN MILLS**



Our team consisted of Wojciech Kurtyka (Poland) and myself, to try the Mazeno Ridge and also Richard Cowper, who would join us on acclimatisation peaks. Our excellent Liaison Officer was Captain Ali and our two cooks, Hussein and Hakim, both from Hushe.

We left Islamabad by minibus on 20 July, arriving the next day after a 16-hour drive up the Karakoram highway at Gilgit. On 25 July we arrived Tarshing. For 3 days we acclimatised to the north of Tarshing, climbing up and around Sharsing. On 28 July we walked to Latobo and camped (3,580 m.). The next day we continued to the Mazeno Base Camp (4,100 m.) and on 30 July we walked up steeply to the Mazeno High Camp (4,900 m.), as per map. There are a number of stone circles here, used previously by trekking groups.

On 1 August Richard Cowper and myself set out for the southern-most point on the long ridge to the west of the Mazeno Glacier. This has the appearance of a spire, as seen from Base Camp, hence we called it the Mazeno Spire. In actual fact, when seen from the Ridge itself it is nothing like as steep.

After a lot of scrambling, I reached the summit, unroped, after a final 600 ft. of VS climbing up the south side, and a final 20 ft. hard section at 5a on the south-west side. There was no sign of anyone else having been there. Richard Cowper stopped some 20 ft. down from the summit.

After various walks around the area, and bad weather, Wojciech Kurtyka, Richard Cowper and myself set out to climb the highest of the peaks west of the Mazeno Glacier, which we called Mazeno West Peak. After a long 2,000 ft. climb up an avalanche chute, and up a final snow basin, we came to the summit (5,700 m.). Again, there was no sign of it having been climbed before. From the summit we had excellent views of the west end of the Mazeno Ridge and could see the whole of our climb of 1992, which looked much steeper when seen head-on. Wojciech and myself looked forward to going the same way, and to the summit of Nanga Parbat, which we could also see, some 10 miles away.

We came down, unroped, Wojciech, myself, and a long way behind - Richard Cowper. Wojciech was some 100 ft. lower, when a huge amount of fresh snow from the upper basin avalanched down. I scampered away from it towards rocks on the other side of the avalanche couloir but the moving snow caught me as I ran. I managed to get my axes in and held my position for a time, but the weight of snow built up and suddenly I was away, tumbling down some 1200 ft., bouncing over rock and ice cliffs. As is usual when it is all happening, there was no fear, only curiosity registering every sensation, and my thoughts upon them; like "this is it", "no, no, I'm still alive", and "how resilient the body is". All these thoughts, and others were going through my head, as I bounced down, and finally came out at the bottom. I was partially buried, but able to pull the snow away from my face, release the belt strap of my rucksack and breathe more easily. I wriggled out, only to find that I had severely wrenched the tendons of my right ankle and one with pins in it from the last time I had an accident in 1977 on the Ogre, also in Pakistan.

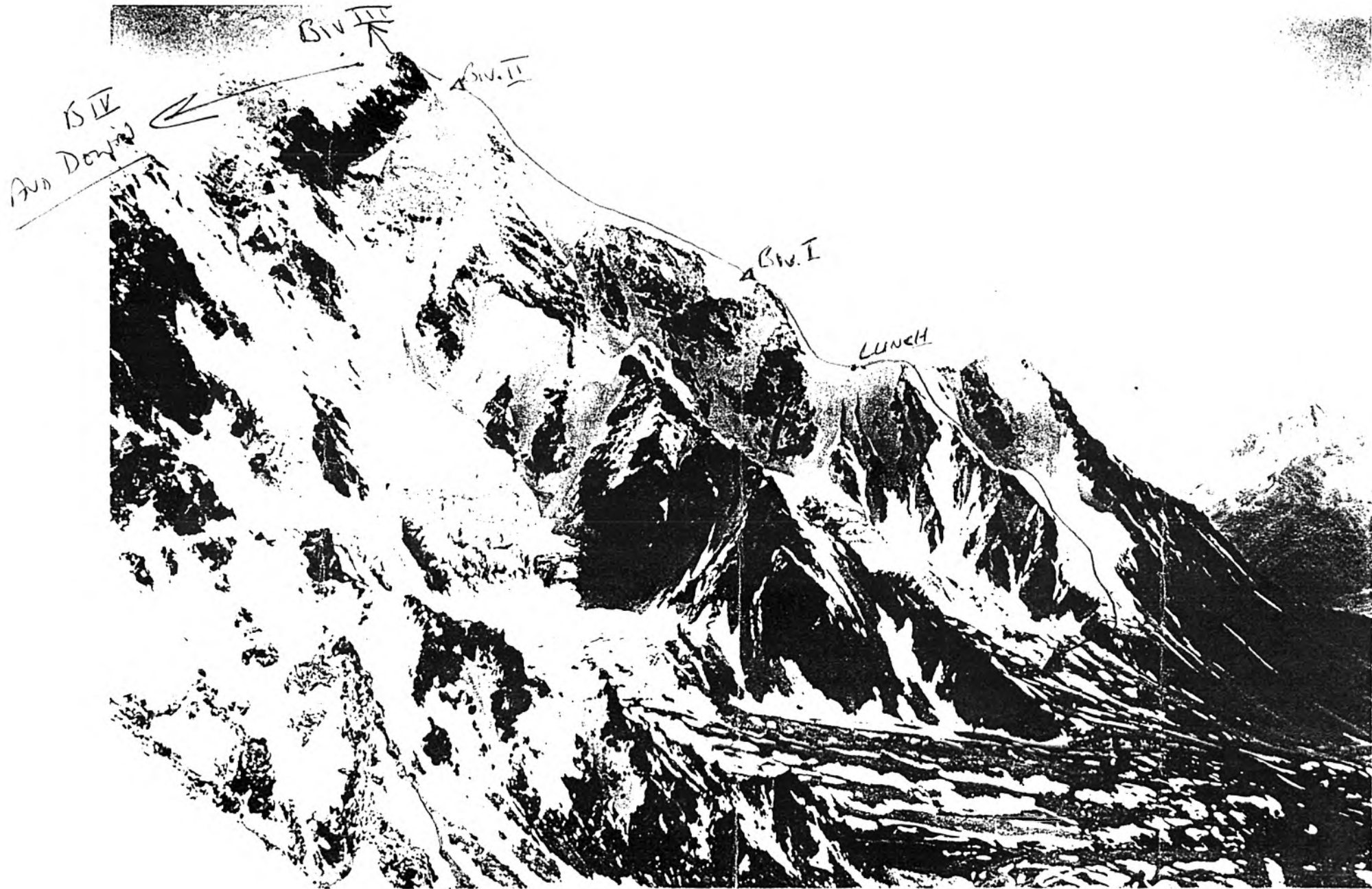
For 3 days we sat around at Base Camp, but it was obvious that my leg was not going to get better, so I rode a horse out to Tarshing and eventually took a jeep to Astor hospital. After looking at the X-ray, my suspicions were confirmed, that there would be no chance of further climbing that season on Nanga Parbat, in fact, no climbing for the rest of the year.

Richard Cowper came back to the U.K. with me. Wojciech stayed on to go trekking around the area with his wife and children, who came out to Pakistan after Richard Cowper and myself had departed.

The only tangible benefit of our visit to the climbing of the Mazeno Ridge is that we did see the west end of the ridge and we have some interesting photographs of it.

Whether it is Wojciech and myself who will return to climb it in the future, I don't know, but surely a team will climb it soon, and to my mind it will make one of the finest climbs in the Himalaya, and not that dangerous. It just needs someone strong, determined, a decent break in the weather, and a bit of good luck.

**DOUG SCOTT**  
**OCTOBER 1993**



NANGA PARVAT - WEST END OF  
MAZENO RIDGE  
FROM "MAZ. WEST PL."

# British Nanga Parbat Expedition 1993

Supported by: British Mountaineering Council  
Mount Everest Foundation

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## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

### INCOME

1. M.E.F. Grant	£	500
2. LITTLEWOODS	£	500
3. BMC	£	700
4. R.COWPERS ACCOUNTANT	£	25
5. SALE OF GOODS	£	350
6. POLARTEC AWARD(UK SHARE)	£	1333
7. PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	£	2839
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TOTAL :	£	6247

### EXPENDITURE

PEAK FEE	£	1667
AGENTS FEE	£	334
ADMIN. U.K.	£	353
HOTELS/TAXIS	£	374
EQUIPMENT	£	200
INSURANCE (LOCAL)	£	300
FOOD	£	833
BUS	£	300
JEEPS	£	233
LIAISON OFFICER	£	333
PORTER WAGES	£	1000
STAFF WAGES	£	320
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TOTAL :	£	6247

Members: Doug Scott, Sandy Allan, Wojciech Kurtyka, Richard Cowper