

SLOVENE MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITION SKI. EVEREST 2000

SPEECH

I will talk about Slovene mountaineering expedition Ski. Everest 2000.
Mt. Everest with 8848 m high is the highest mountain in the world.

At 7th of October Slovenia was the first again. Davo Karničar, 38 years old man from Jezersko was skiing from the top of Mt. Everest. He made nearly 3500 m distance with skies. He was skiing to the first Camp at 5360 high.

After 3 weeks of accommodation his dreams became truth. " We've done it. I couldn't believe. Is it truth? "he cried, leant against his ski's sticks. Smiling, burned face, peeling nose, gloving eyes- that was Davo. He was exhausted, breathless, but the work was finished. Sherpa helped him to take off the skies.

His last climbing stage began at 10 O'clock in the evening. Franc Oderlap, two sherpas and Davo climbed uphill before strong wind and snowslips. At 7 o'clock in the morning they reached the pick. Davo and Franc were the ninth and tenth Slovene who were on the highest mountain in the world. It was clear beautiful cloudless weather with extremely low temperature. After 1 hour Davo was ready for skiing downhill. He used an oxygen bomb for clever decisions. After peak's shoulder he reached Hillary's area, he thought the dangerous part of the path. There was a 15 m high rock wall nearly without of snow. He descended gently, fastened with rope to the wall. But the adventure just began. The snow was so dry and the area for skiing was so bad.

After psychic and physical efforts, he hit a body. Maybe it was a victim from mountaineering expedition in 1996. After reaching The South Peak it was a little easier. The snow was different and the camp was closer and closer. At the 3rd Camp he met the doctor Jurij Gorjanec and he gave him a vitamin drink. But there were still 6 km of dangerous: cracks in ice, dark stones without snow, snowslips,.. After 4 hours and the half he reached goal. The dreams came truth.

This is not a great success for Davo and his friends, but it is also a great promotion of Slovenia in the world. Like a year ago a lot of people round the world heard or watched on Internet about an extreme climber Tomaž Humar who climbed the South wall of Daulagiri. Years ago we heard about extreme climbers like: Viki Grošelj, Pavel Kunaver, Tomo Česen, Nejc Zaplotnik, ..

Notes:

Davo`s efforts were paid before. When he prepared for skiing in Himalaja he lost 2 fingers (north side of Mt. Everest in front of Tibet).

He was skiing with brother Drejc from Anapurna 4 years ago.