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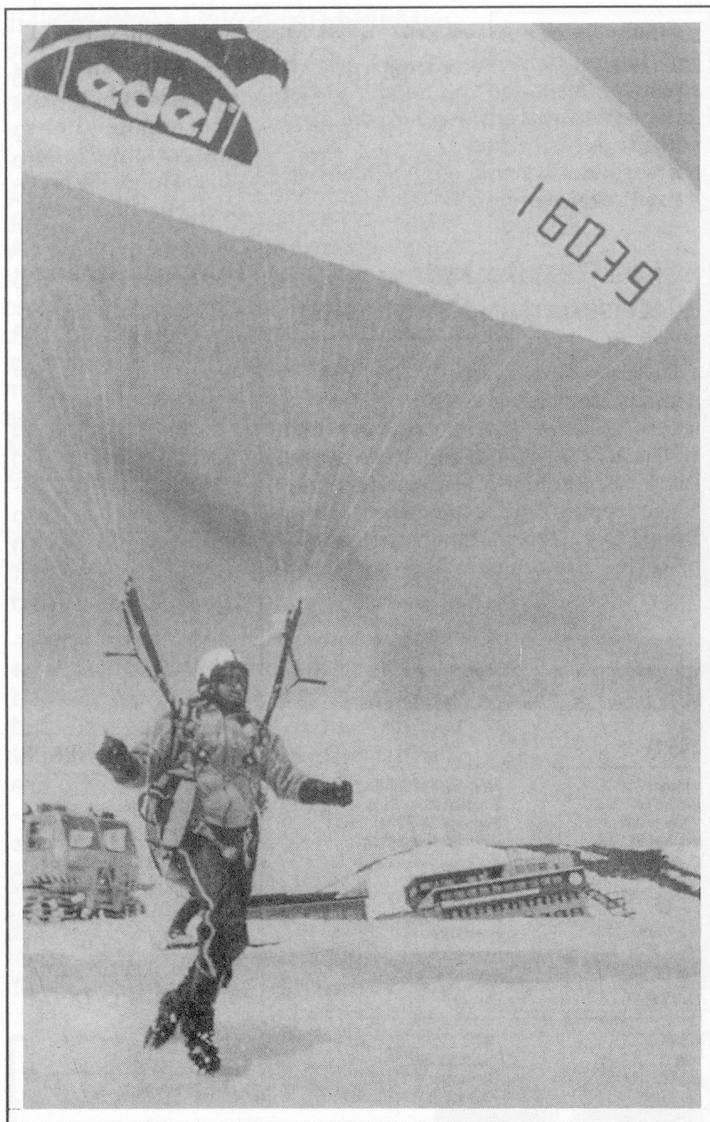
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UNUSUAL COMMUTERS

Researchers, working at the "Eidgenössisches Institut für Schnee und Lawinenforschung" on top of the Weissfluhjoch at 2660 m overlooking the Parsenn skiing area way above Davos, use some of the most unusual ways to get to and from work, particularly in the off-season, when the Parsenn mountain railway does not operate right up to the Weissfluhjoch. Travel to work can include bicycling to the Parsenn railway station in the valley, take the railway as far up the mountain as it will go and then travel the rest of the way by snowmobile. Some of the researchers prefer to jog all the way up from Davos to the Weissfluhjoch, a difference of 1100 m in altitude, a feat which takes them around 70 minutes if they are very fit.

Others again choose to travel to and from the Weissfluhjoch by mountain bike, unless of course the snow is too deep.

But it is for the return journey home that some researchers reach out for the most unusual form of travel. In winter, some of them will simply use their skis or a snowboard to return to Davos, but the more adventurous ones use hang-gliders and para-gliders. Under good weather conditions it takes them only a

few minutes from the time they jump off the Weissfluhjoch until they land right in the back yard of their own houses down in the valley. To have dinner ready when Dad comes home, Mum only has to look out the window. When she sees Dad jumping off the Weissfluhjoch, strapped to his hang-glider, she will know that he will be home within the next few minutes. That's what you call "dropping-in for a meal"....

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A researcher ready to jump off the Weissfluhjoch to return home to his family at the end of his shift, a most unusual way indeed to commute to and from work.

CONTRIBUTION FROM READERS

The following contribution has been sent in by Mr. Flepp of Wellington. We are sure you are going to enjoy the down-to-earth humour of it (our apology to non-German speaking members, but a translation into English would be meaningless).

DIE WUNDERSCHÖNE SCHWEIZ

Wo die Menschen aus psychologischen Gründen
"als Ausgleich" wohnen sollten:

Fleissige Leute in Faulensee und Lungern
Faule Menschen in Schaffhausen und Samstagern
Ledige Männer in Fraubrunnen und Frauenfeld
Jungfrauen in Mannried und Männedorf
Ungläubige Personen in Engelberg und Bischofszell
Konfessionslose in Kirchdorf und Kreuzlingen
Grosse Leute in Kleindietwil und Kurzdorf
Kleine Leute in Grosswangen und Langenthal
Schlanke Mädels in Breitenbach und Wellhausen
Korpulente Frauen in Glattfelden und Glattbrugg
Schuldenmacher in Baar und Busswil
Unschuldige Mädchen in Greifensee und Vögelinsegg
Die "zu früh Reifen" in Bubikon und Grüningen
Ehebrecher in Gattikon
Wasserscheue Menschen in Baden und Brunnen
Streitsüchtige in Einigen