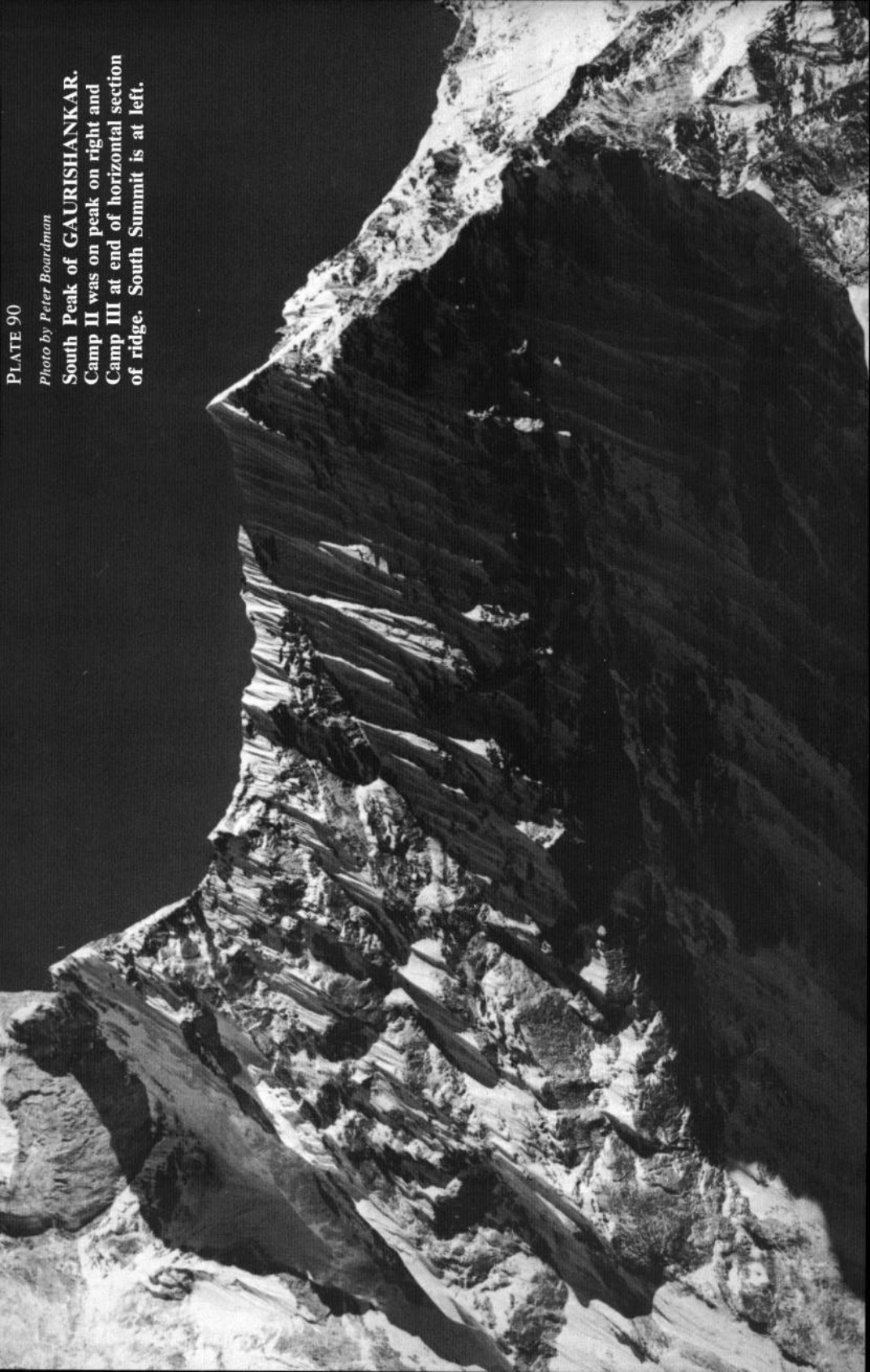


Gaurishankar, South Summit. Gaurishankar is a twin-peaked mountain. Its northern summit is 23,440 feet high and its southern one 23,000 feet. Before 1964 six expeditions tried unsuccessfully to climb the mountain. The Buddhist Sherpas living south of the peak can only see the southern summit and call it Jomo Tseringma. It is considered the most holy mountain of the Sherpas. Our team finally consisted of John Barry, Tim Leach, Swiss Guy Neithardt, Sherpa Pemba Lama and me as leader. We mounted a light-weight expedition taking a minimum of equipment. Though we had permission for either the south or the west ridge to the south summit, we chose the west ridge because it is slightly shorter. The approach march took ten days and went via Barabhishe, Charikot and Lamobagar. We hired 48 porters who carried by October 8 to the same Base Camp used by the American expedition in the spring. It was at 16,000 feet. Leach suffered from the altitude and could not rejoin us until October 28. Between October 10 and 18 we four carried loads to Advance Camp at 17,400 feet at the foot of the west ridge. We stocked it with 20 days' food for four people. Without redescending for further provisions, we fixed our 17 ropes between camps, pulling up the ropes as we moved up and stringing them out again. The climb took 23 days. The initial obstacle was a 1000-foot-deep gap in the ridge below two steep rock and ice towers. On the top of the second tower we established Camp I at 18,000 feet on October 24. The first stage of the west ridge rises to a pointed summit at 19,807 feet. After complicated route finding and Grade III and IV rock and mixed climbing, we perched Camp II apprehensively on its top on October 29. From Camp II the west ridge runs almost horizontally for a kilometer before rising again. The climbing was frequently nerve wracking, threading between large double cornices. We climbed four to six pitches a day. On November 3 we established Camp III at 20,000 feet behind a distinctive 65-foot rock tower where the ridge begins to steepen again. It was a relief to climb on stable rock and ice and to gain height again. Strong winds increased their force every day. On November 5 Barry was clipping into his belay anchor after leading a steep pitch when a strong gust knocked him off the ridge. He had untied from the main climbing rope but was still clipped into the 8mm fixed line. He fell 200 feet down two rock barriers on the north side before the rope arrested his fall; luckily the line snagged on the arête before the fall came fully onto me, who was belaying. He broke his left wrist, damaged his left knee and had a mild concussion. We helped him down to Camp II, where he waited out the climb, stoically refusing to eat our dwindling food supplies. The ridge rose steeply to 21,325 feet where another horizontal, snow-mushroomed, snow-pinnacled ridge began. A large cornice collapsed moments after Leach had stepped off it. We pulled up all the ropes used below Camp II and by November 7 had refixed them for the fourth and last time. On the morning of November 8 we four set out for the summit,

Photo by Peter Boardman

South Peak of GAURISHANKAR.
Camp II was on peak on right and
Camp III at end of horizontal section
of ridge. South Summit is at left.



carrying no bivouac equipment but a stove. We were over-optimistic. The south summit rises out of a large snow plateau at 22,300 feet but to reach the plateau we had to cross a 100-foot-deep gash in the ridge and then climb a steep headwall of rock and water ice. That day we climbed nine pitches, three of them in darkness. On November 9 we set off for the summit after a few sips of warm water. Although numbed by an unpleasant night, it was exhilarating after 20 days on the narrow ridge to walk up the gentle wide slopes of the south summit plateau. We reached the summit at nine A.M. We stood a meter below the topmost point out of respect to Gauri and Tseringma. We ruled out the traverse along the ridge to the northern summit since it looked as if it would take three or four days more. The descent of the route took three days and we had no food for the last two. Barry managed the long traverse and rappels without problems but with some pain.

PETER BOARDMAN, *Alpine Climbing Group*

Ganesh II. A joint Japanese-Nepalese expedition made the first ascent of Ganesh II (23,458 feet) under the leadership of Takeo Ohmori. They tried the southeast ridge but found it difficult and turned to the north face. On October 19 the climbing leader Dr. Hideo Ogura and Sherpas Pemba Tsering and Dawa Norbu got to the summit, followed on October 20 by Mitsuyasu Maeda and Shinji Eguchi, Sherpas Mingma Tenzing and Tendi, and Ogura for the second time. On October 21 Takashi Kitahara and Makoto Yoko reached the summit.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Pabil (Ganesh IV), 1978. The climbers who reached the summit of Pabil (See account in *A.A.J.*, 1979, page 270.) on October 20, 1978 were Hiroshi Yoshio, Takashi Tomita, Yoshiaki Hashimoto, Ichiro Yasuda, Masao Hashimoto, Tsuneo Shimoji, Kimiaki Aogagi, Yoshitaka Okuma and Teruo Suzuki of the Japan Workers' Alpine Federation and Yogen-dra Bahadur Thpa, Mingma Tenzing, Olang Sonam and Kamal Bhandari of the Nepal Police and Mountaineering and Adventure Foundation. On October 22, 1978 Nepalese Shinichi Omura and Japanese Miss Emiko Okutani reached the 23,300-foot summit.

SHIGEHIKI TOYODA, *Japan Workers' Alpine Federation*

Peak 29 or Dunapurna. The Klub Wysokogórski (High Mountain Club) of Zakopane organized an expedition of six to Peak 29 led by Ryszard Szafirski with Leszek Korniszewski as doctor. They discovered that

local people living in the valleys west of the peak call it Dunapurna.* Transport problems delayed their arrival at Base Camp at 13,125 feet until April 4. They were attempting a new route up the west buttress. On April 9 Advanced Base Camp was erected on the Thulagi Glacier at 14,750 feet. Maciej Berbeka, Ryszard Gajewski, Piotr Malinowski and Maciej Pawlikowski tackled the first main obstacle, a 2300-foot-high head-wall (UIAA Grade V, A2), where from April 10 to 13 they fixed 2000 feet of rope. On April 14 they placed Camp I at 18,375 feet. The route continued up difficult ice on the left of the crest of the buttress. Camp II was established at 20,675 feet on April 19 and Camp III at 23,300 feet on April 27. Above this camp towered a 350-foot face which Berbeka and Pawlikowski attempted under bad conditions on May 1. They had to turn back in deteriorating weather after fixing some rope. When it improved on May 5, Gajewski and Pawlikowski set off from Base Camp, followed on the 6th by Malinowski and Szafirski; Berbeka felt ill. On May 8 the first pair forced their way up the final part of the 350-foot face and traversed the ridge across icefields to the bottom of the highest rock pinnacle on the ridge. At 3:30 they reached the summit (25,705 feet). The last pitch of the climb involved mixed climbing of UIAA Grade V. They were late back in Camp III. As the tiny tent could not hold more than two, Malinowski and Szafirski gave up their places to the tired summitters and descended to Camp II, thus sacrificing their chances for a summit bid. In all, 4500 feet of rope were fixed. They feel in view of the topography of the mountain that the Japanese who fell to their deaths in 1970 could not have reached the summit.

MAREK BRNIAK, *Klub Wysokogórski, Kraków*

Manaslu, East Ridge Attempt. Our Argentine expedition was composed of Guillermo Vieiro, leader, Dr. Ernesto Fiorentini, Jorge Jassen, Hector Cuiñas, Edgardo Porcellana, Gerardo Maioli, Marcelo Aguilar, Pablo Castiarena, Avo Nakachian, Ulises Vitale, Julio Corradi, Jorge A. de León, Diego Rueda and me. We set out from Trisuli Bazar with 300 porters via the Buri Gandaki gorge. It took 15 days to get to the village of Sama. Base Camp was finally installed on September 1 at 14,100 feet at the foot of the unclimbed east ridge. To get Camp I established took almost two weeks and 3500 feet of fixed rope. The exposed route was subject to much rockfall. Camp I was at 17,000 feet. Camp II was set up shortly after that at 20,000 feet. While loads were being ferried up to Camps I and II, the route to Camp III was being prepared. The weather

* Nima Norbu Sherpa of Namche explains the Sanskrit. *Duna* stands for a plate made from the leaves of the *salla* tree. *Purna* means goddess. Therefore, Dunapurna means "Leaf plate of the goddess."

was quite bad with heavy snowfall. On October 8 Porcellana and one other were caught in a windslab avalanche going between Camps I and II. Porcellana was killed with a broken neck. His death and continuing bad weather forced us to give up the attempt. The highest point reached was 21,500 feet.

PETER BRUCHHAUSEN

Manaslu Attempt. An Italian expedition led by Lorenzo Massarotto attempted the east ridge of Manaslu (26,760 feet), which had unsuccessfully been tried by the French in 1977. They set up Base Camp on April 7 at 12,700 feet. Terrin Elvio and Vittorio de Savorgnani along with two Sherpas were struck by an avalanche on May 5 in their tents at 24,100 feet at Camp V, which they had just established. They escaped by tearing the tents open but suffered frostbite and had to be flown out. Their companions continued but had to give up at 24,600 feet for lack of manpower.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Manaslu North II. A Czechoslovakian expedition led by Vladimir Krupicka climbed Manaslu North II by its north ridge. They reported that there are two north peaks and that they climbed the second one of 7157 meters or 23,480 feet. Base Camp at 13,875 feet on the Larkya Glacier was set up on September 18. Despite bad weather, they established Camp V at 21,075 feet on October 15. On October 16 Jan Cervinka and Otakar Srovnal and on October 18 Krupicka and Dr. Miroslav Novotny reached the summit.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Himal Chuli. Attempt from the Southeast. We intended to climb Himal Chuli (25,895 feet) via the east ridge, approaching it from the Dordi Khola (south). The team consisted of Dick Jackson, Kevin Beardsley, Dr. Rick St. Onge, Jack Miller, Mike Yager, Stacy Standley and me as leader. We left Kathmandu on September 21 and on the second day out of Dumre, our trailhead, we were crippled by a porter strike, a loathsomely increasing phenomenon on Nepal expeditions. Our approach march took twelve days and Base Camp was established on October 2 at 15,500 feet. The monsoon weather was predictably heavy up until now, but it continued to snow every day throughout the expedition. Camp I was set at 17,000 feet on October 6 on a snow plateau above a heavily crevassed glacier. It was soon moved up to 17,500 feet on a narrow col on a spur of the east ridge. This spur proved to be the undoing of the expedition, as it was a series of loose rock gendarmes that became more treacherous daily as the fresh snow piled up. We hammered away at it for almost two weeks, although for several days

we were pinned down by snow. On October 17 after reaching 19,700 feet it was decided that further progress could be made only under unjustifiable risk. At this point we turned our attention to the adjacent south ridge. On October 21 a new Base Camp was established at 15,500 feet beneath the new route, but Miller, Yager and Standley left the expedition. Jackson, Beardsley, St. Onge and I established Camp I at 17,900 feet on October 24, ascending a gun-barrel gully to gain access to the smooth glacier above, but at this point St. Onge had to leave the climb due to an intestinal illness. On October 29 the three of us who remained established Camp II at 20,000 feet trudging up an ever steepening crevasse slope. On Halloween however we elected to go no further due to severe snow conditions and the immense distance yet to be covered.

SKIP HORNER

Nepalese Mountain Guide School. The Alpine Federation of Yugoslavia and the Nepal Mountaineering Association have successfully begun the School of Mountain Guides. In the Marsyandi valley between Pisang and Braga at 10,000 feet a building for 40 to 50 students was built from May to September under the supervision of Yugoslavs. (Water will be heated by a solar heater.) I directed the first course in the autumn with 20 members, half the normal number. Dr. Jože Andlovic, Danilo Cedelnik and Jernej Zaplotnik were the other instructors. The students had very varied experience, from veterans of 16 expeditions to office employees of tourist agencies. All needed instruction in rock and ice techniques since even the veterans had not been instructed on expeditions. I have never before so enjoyed climbing in the Himalaya. We climbed Chulu Peak, Pisang Peak and two new 6000ers. Our Nepalese friends are preparing an official inauguration around May 15 and will begin the next course on June 1. With 50 students there will be six instructors from Yugoslavia and four from Nepal. We hope one day to have instructors from other countries.

ALEŠ KUNAVR, *Alpine Federation of Yugoslavia*

Annapurna, Dutch Rib. Our expedition was to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the Federation of Shizuoka Prefecture Mountain Clubs. We were Hironobu Yagi, leader, Kazuo Ishikawa, Keizo Tanabe, Hiroyuki Takita, Hiroyuki Uno, Shuji Yanagisawa, Takashi Mitsui, Sadao Kudo, Seizo Tanaka, Yoshishige Morita, Katsuhiko Watanabe and I. We began our approach from Pokhara on March 6 with 230 porters. We placed Base Camp at 13,775 feet on the North Annapurna Glacier on March 28. Camps I, II, III, IV and V were established at 16,075, 17,725, 20,000, 22,475 and 24,600 feet on April 4,

13, 25 and 28 and May 4 respectively. The weather was bad on May 5 and the climbers descended to Camp IV. One of the pair suffered from high-altitude sickness and had to be carried down on May 6. On May 8 Tanaka and Sherpa Pemba reached the summit at 12:05 P.M. We withdrew from Base Camp on May 14.

YASUO KUBOTA, *Shizuoka Prefecture Mountain Federation, Japan*

Annapurna II Attempt. The aim of the expedition was to make the fourth ascent of the mountain, but doing it alpine-style with a team of three, Alan and Adrian Burgess and me. After a nine-day walk-in, we arrived at 11,500 feet, where our Base Camp was set up. The next three weeks were spent acclimatizing. We surveyed the north face, looking for a more direct route to the summit. The idea was crushed when one morning we witnessed the largest avalanche any of us had ever seen sweep the line of our proposed ascent, destroying Camp I. (We had been at Advance Base.) We then changed our line of attack to the route by which the mountain had first been climbed. On October 6 we began our ascent with fifteen days of food and fuel. After ten days, often harrassed by high winds and new snow, we had got to over 21,000 feet. Alan had been weakened by a severe stomach and bowel infection and decided not to go higher. On October 18 Adrian and I left camp at five A.M. on a bid for the summit. At eleven o'clock we were at 23,500 feet but had to turn back in the face of terrible winds. On October 20 we began our journey back to Kathmandu.

PAUL MOORES, *Alpine Climbing Group*

Annapurna III, South Face and West Ridge. Our expedition was composed of Peter Melling, Robin Whittam, Alan Deakin, Eric Penman, John Whittock, my wife Linda and me as leader. We had hoped to make a new route on Annapurna III. We left Kathmandu on October 5 for Base Camp at 11,500 feet with 26 porters. On the approach Melling fell 60 feet down a crag, sustaining a fractured leg and pelvis and a dislocated shoulder. He was evacuated by helicopter seven days later and remained in the hospital in Kathmandu for six weeks. We established three camps at 13,000, 15,000 and 17,000 feet respectively. Above Camp III we spent five days attempting to find a route through the heavily crevassed glacier, but we had to give it up owing to large crevasses and dangerous séracs. We eventually discovered a route via a rock buttress (UIAA grade V). Fixed rope was discovered on this section, a remnant of the 1978 American expedition. From Camp III on October 26 all six of us launched a summit assault which resulted in Mrs. Linda Rutland and Whittock reaching the summit via the south face and west ridge on November 6 after ten bivouacs. Throughout the ascent the weather was

good although extremely cold, at times reaching -35° C. Both summit climbers sustained minor frostbite to fingers and toes. The actual route taken was a combination of the Italian 1977 and the American 1978 routes. Above Camp III at 17,000 feet we used only snow holes and bivouac equipment. We had no Sherpas or oxygen. We returned to Kathmandu on November 16.

RON RUTLAND, *Lancashire Teachers Mountaineering Club*

Annapurna Ski Descent and Tragedy. Our team was composed of Dr. Lucien Adenis, Michel Berquet, Bernard Germain, Jean-Louis George, Yves Morin, Henry Sigayret and me and three Sherpas, Dawa Gyalzen, Chawang Rinzee and Dahunga Pemba Lama. We followed basically the route of the 1950 first ascent, which is not difficult save for a few very steep sections of séracs between 20,000 and 23,000 feet, and so was adequate for our ski project. However the north face of Annapurna is very dangerous because of avalanches. We left Kathmandu on March 13 and installed Base Camp on April 1. A porter strike in Choya, the last village, delayed our approach since we had to find a helicopter to help transport loads. Camp II was installed on April 6 at 18,000 feet and Camp III on April 17 at 20,675 feet. On the 18th an avalanche, which fell from the top, injured Dawa Gyalzen and Chawang Rinzee, who had to be carried down to Base Camp. From Camp III on, the ascent was alpine-style: Camp IV at 23,000 feet on April 27, Camp V at 23,950 feet on April 28 and Camp VI at 24,925 feet on April 29. The progress was relatively slow since carrying the skis up, without oxygen, was really exhausting. On April 30, despite a very strong north wind, Berquet, Germain, Morin, Sigayret and I left Camp VI, carrying one pair of skis. Morin and Sigayret reached the summit at five P.M. We other three reached the foot of the summit couloir and decided to give up there, provided the others got to the top. Yves Morin skied down and we gathered for the night at Camp VI. During the descent the day after, on a very steep ice section around 22,300 feet, Morin got his Jümar stuck while descending a fixed rope with his skis on; after a few minutes of effort to extricate himself, he died of exhaustion. After burying him, we continued the descent and reached Base Camp on May 3.

BENOIT RENARD, *Club Alpin Français*

Annapurna IV, Northwest Route, 1978. We were Chun Byung-koo, leader, Yoo Dong-ok, Byun Myu-keun, Lee Myung-ho, Chun Doo-sung and I, deputy leader. We left Begnas village on March 14, 1978 with 73 porters. During a heavy snowstorm at Chame village at 9000 feet, all the porters ran away. We managed to employ 22 high-mountain tribe people and relayed loads to Base Camp at 13,125 feet by April 5. The

snow was still six feet deep. We set up Camp I on April 9 at 16,550 feet. Camp II was placed at 18,500 feet on April 14, Camp III at 20,350 feet on April 17 and Camp IV at 21,650 feet on April 19. Due to a gale we cancelled our plan to set Camp V at 23,000 feet. On April 22 Yoo Dong-ok, Sardar Pasang Norbu and Sherpa Pemba Lama left Camp IV, bivouacked at 22,300 feet, left the bivouac at 5:30 A.M. and reached the summit of Annapurna IV (24,688 feet) at 3:50 P.M. of April 23, 1978, while a violent snowstorm raged. They spent another night at their bivouac because of the snowstorm and darkness. The following day, in a snow slide, they fell 500 feet between Camps IV and III, losing packs, cameras and ice axes. Narrowly having escaped death, they finally managed to return to Base Camp the same day. Yoo Dong-ok suffered severe frostbite and lost all five right toes and his big left toe.

HAHM TAK-YOUNG, *Korean Alpine Club*

Fang Attempt. An Austrian expedition led by Josef Mayerl set up Base Camp at 11,300 feet on April 2. Camps I, II, IV and V were established at 15,600, 18,375, 19,200 and 21,325 feet on April 6, 12, 14 and May 2 respectively. While descending from setting up Camp V, Herbert Oberwosterer slipped and fell to his death. The expedition was abandoned.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Fang Attempt, Southeast Ridge. A 20-man Italian expedition, led by Arturo Bergamaschi, set out from Pokhara on September 5 with 15 Sherpas and 155 porters. They went up the Modi Khola to the south side of Annapurna. Base Camp at 14,100 feet was reached on September 11. They placed Camp I at 16,400 feet on the 16th. Camp II up the glacier at 17,725 feet was pitched on September 26. Above, there was a 3000-foot steep rock and mixed rock-and-ice cliff, where they took six days preparing the route and fixing several thousand feet of rope. They reached the heavily corniced crest of the southeast ridge at 20,850 feet on October 2, but the snow was so unstable and the weather continued to be so unsettled that the decision was made to give up the attempt. When descending from Camp I to Base Camp, one of the climbers slipped and was injured so badly that he had to be helicoptered out. (The Editor is grateful to Professor Bergamaschi for this information.)

Annapurna South or Moditse. The expedition of 15 climbers was led by Jerzy Pietkiewicz. They were very keen and determined but sadly lacking in high-mountain experience. On April 15 the main party arrived at Base Camp, which had been set up by an advance party at the foot of Annapurna South. They found out there that their original objective,

PLATE 91

Photo by Roman Hryciów

ANNAPURNA SOUTH.



the southwest face, had already fallen to a Japanese expedition. After an all-night debate they became even more ambitious and decided to try the west face, a much more difficult but new route, with the northeast face as an alternative. Two groups set off on reconnaissance. The northeast-face party, Marian Piekutowski, Józef Koniak and Krzysztof Wielicki, found the route promising and was heading back toward Base Camp along a not-too-steep ridge. Piekutowski was coiling rope on a ledge when he received a powerful blow on the shoulders from a rock. He plunged some 35 feet but stopped, his feet fouled in the rope. When he managed to climb back to the ledge, he found Koniak, who had previously fallen onto him, still hanging on belay just above the ledge, badly hurt. His face purple and spitting blood, he soon expired. Leaving the body hanging, Piekutowski and Wielicki descended to Base Camp. While the leader was in Kathmandu to attend to formalities, the expedition members decided on carrying out an alpine-style push right away. On April 25 Kazimierz Smieszko, Zbigniew Czyzewski, Piekutowski and Wielicki left Base Camp for the west face. While still on the approach Piekutowski felt sharp abdominal pains and had to return. The leader Pietkiewicz arrived back that same day and radioed to the trio in their bivouac at the foot of the face to take the north face on the descent. The following morning he and three others set off without a radio to meet the summiters at the foot of the north face. The summit trio made rapid progress up a steep but easy 5000-foot-high couloir to bivouac in a saddle at 19,700 feet. The next day they worked up heavily crevassed icefields to an upper saddle at 21,000 feet. On the third day they continued up very steep mixed ice and rock until darkness stopped them halfway up a sheer ice slope at 22,000 feet, where they bivouacked half hanging off a shelf chipped out of the ice. The fourth day produced more difficult rock climbing. Zbigniew Czyzewski began to suffer strange pains. They managed to continue on to the top of the southwest buttress at 23,000 feet, where they spent a crowded night in a snow cave. Czyzewski was vomiting and could not keep his balance. Smieszko and Wielicki pressed on to the summit (23,921 feet) in only two hours on May 2. They radioed to Base Camp from the top that they would have to change their plans and descend their ascent route. After a second night in the cave, they started slowly belaying Czyzewski down. The descent was difficult and required many rappels. It took two days with an uncomfortable bivouac at 21,500 feet. Czyzewski recovered as they lost altitude. The support party reached the foot of the north face the day before the pair had got to the summit. Pietkiewicz announced that the following morning his team would attempt the north face. Jerzy Woznica objected strongly and refused to go. They lacked equipment and food. On May 2 Pietkiewicz, Jerzy Pietrowicz and Julian Ryznar set out. During the same day Pietrowicz had to descend and rejoin Woznica because of a strained

tendon in his leg. This pair was back in Base Camp on May 5. As the weather deteriorated, all began to worry about the north-face pair. Search parties failed to show any signs of the climbers. By May 15 it was obvious that they could not have survived. The last report of them came from a Japanese expedition which had seen with binoculars two tiny black spots at about 21,325 feet still moving upwards on May 4.

MAREK BRNIAK, *Klub Wysokogórski, Kraków, Poland*

Nilgiri Central. Our Matsuyama University Expedition was composed of Keizo Shigematsu, Jun'ichi Yuyama, Kohichi Sakata, Toshiro Hamada, Yasuo Tsuda, Dr. Toru Itano and me as leader. We flew by helicopter from Chhoya in the Kali Gandaki valley to Base Camp, as did the French Annapurna ski and the Austrian Fang expeditions, since porters refused to cross the Thulobugin Pass covered with snow. Base Camp was at 13,300 feet near the tongue of the Nilgiri Glacier not far from the Base Camp of expeditions on the north of Annapurna. We placed camps at 15,700 and 17,900 feet up the branch glacier between Nilgiri Central and South. This has two large, severe icefalls but above, its névé widens, enclosed by the southeast ridge of Nilgiri Central and the main ridge between Nilgiri Central and South. Our route to the névé was the same as that of the Japanese who climbed Nilgiri South in 1978. Our Camp III was placed on April 25 at 19,850 feet in a col above the névé on the southeast ridge. On April 30 Sakata and Tsuda reached the summit (22,769 feet) at 11:25, having climbed the southeast ridge to the main ridge south of the summit. They were supported by Yuyama, Hamada and me, who also got to the top on May 1 after a bivouac at the junction of the ridges.

MASAKI AOKI, *Japanese Alpine Club*

Nilgiri Central Attempt. A post-monsoon Japanese expedition was led by Tsutomu Nishimura. They reached only about 19,000 feet before giving up the attempt in late October.

Nilgiri North Attempt. Two Japanese, Kenzo Ichikawa and Nobuyaki Takeda, attempted 23,166-foot Nilgiri North by a new route, the southwest face, but were stopped on September 30 because of bad weather and because the route above 19,350 feet seemed too dangerous.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Patal Hiunchuli Attempt. A seven-woman Japanese expedition was given up after Hiroko Fujii, Noriko Yamazaki and a Sherpa were killed on October 9 by an avalanche low on Patal Hiunchuli (20,890 feet). The expedition, led by Hiroko Asano, was attempting the southeast face.

Tilicho, Second Ascent. In the autumn of 1965 three of us explored an unnamed 23,405-foot peak in the Annapurna Himal, which was later called Tilicho or more accurately Tilitso Himal (*tili*=remote; *tso*=lake in the Thakali language) after Tilitso (lake) which lies at its northern foot. It was placed under the climbing ban. We had made repeated applications to climb it every year, but when the ban was lifted in 1978, a French expedition was allowed to climb it in the autumn (*A.A.J.*, 1979, p. 273) and our permission was for the following spring. Our expedition consisted of Ikuo Saeki, climbing leader, Akira Ohta, Hitoshi Tsuji, Takashi Araki, Haruo Yamamoto, Yutaka Oe, Dr. Fumitaka Koyama and me as leader. On March 22 we left Pokhara with 65 porters and, via the Marsyandi River, arrived at Khangsar on April 1. Base Camp was established on April 3 at 13,775 feet, for the snow was too deep for the porters, rather than at 16,075 feet on the western shore of Tilitso. On April 7 we placed Advance Base Camp at 16,575 feet on the ridge south of East Tilitso Pass. On April 11 Temporary Camp I was placed where we had hoped to have Base Camp on the lake. Transport between Advance Base and Temporary Camp I was done by ski sled over the frozen lake. On April 14 Camp I was placed at 16,900 feet at the foot of the rocky north ridge of Tilitso Himal. Early the next morning a great avalanche fell from the Grande Barrière onto the lake, breaking the ice. We were then forced to take the long way around the lake, but our transport was almost finished. That day we moved to Camp I. On April 16 we set to work making the route on the north ridge of rotten rock, fixing some 6000 feet of rope up to Camp II, which was established on April 24 at 19,700 feet. The weather was fine on April 25. The first summit team of Araki, Yamamoto and Sherpa Mingma Tenzing left Camp II at 5:30 A.M. They climbed an ice slope of 350 feet straight up, went along the snow ridge for 1000 feet to the cornice, where they turned left along the ridge. Just below the summit Yamamoto's condition forced them to bivouac in a snow cave which they dug at five P.M. On the 26th the three started at six A.M. and stood on the summit at 7:45. After an hour's stay they descended to Camp I, arriving at 6:30 P.M. Also on April 26 Oe and Sherpa Nawang Yonde started from Camp II at four A.M., reached the top at two P.M. and were back at Camp II at six P.M. On April 28 all were back at Base Camp and reached Khangsar on April 29. Crossing the Thorong Pass to Muktinath and walking along the Kali Gandaki, we got back to Pokhara on May 9.

YOSHIMI YAKUSHI, *Tomari Mountaineering Club, Japan*

Tukuche, West Summit. A kind of French family "expedition" consisted of René Collet, his wife and daughter, two professional guides and a photographer. Monsieur Collet and guide Firmin Mollard reached the western summit on October 22. They had climbed up the north face and

over Junction Peak to the western summit. They considered the route to the main summit too dangerous.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Dhaulagiri. Our expedition was composed of Iñaki Aldaya, Dr. Javier Garayoa, Dr. Trinidad Cornellana, Gerardo Plaza, Angel Irigoyen, Angel Martínez, Javier Garreta, José Ignacio Ariz, Agustín Setuain, Juan Mary Eguillor, Mary Abrego, Javier Soroazabel, Pilar Ganuza, Joan Massons, Jordi Colomer, Jordi Pons, Ramón Bramona and me as leader. With 250 porters we left Pokhara on March 24. Following the Myangdi Khola route, we got to Base Camp at the foot of the north face of Dhaulagiri at 15,100 feet on April 8. We continued with our liaison officer Kamal Bhandari, sirdar Sonam Girmi, and Sherpas Ang Riti, Ang Nima, Lhakpa Dorje and Kami Nuru. After reconnaissance of the lower glacier and overcoming a barrier of séracs, we set up Camp I at 16,900 feet on April 11. Some rope was fixed and Camp II was pitched on the northeast col at 18,700 feet on April 15. We continued up the northeast spur to 21,750 feet, where we established Camp III on April 20. Between Camps III and IV we placed 1500 feet of rope on slopes averaging 45°. On May 2 the two tents of Camp IV were set up at 23,550 feet in the shelter of a rock wall. The lack of oxygen, temperatures around -20° F and 125-mph winds made progress difficult. Above Camp IV we had to fix more rope on the rock wall. Then a snow ridge led us to steep slopes which fell towards the north. We pitched Camp V in a spot relatively sheltered from the wind at 24,950 feet on May 9. During a two-day storm, four tents were destroyed at Camps III and IV and one was carried away by the wind at Camp V. It cleared and the wind dropped on May 12. Aldaya, Garayoa, Plaza, Pons and Ang Riti set out at three A.M. in -36° F temperature. They reached the summit (26,795 feet) at two P.M., where they found a 100-meter rope and a letter with two photographs left by the Japanese the previous autumn. It took them three hours to descend to Camp V. Another team of four climbers and a Sherpa were ready to attempt the climb the next day, but our sirdar predicted a sudden change of weather and we decided to retreat. We withdrew the camps in two days. Ours had been the seventh ascent of the mountain and the fifth by our route. During our climb we had met the Franco-Swiss expedition led by Sylvain Saudan, which hoped to climb the northeast ridge and descend on skis. After an official protest on our part, since they lacked permission from the Nepalese government, we reached an agreement by which they proposed to climb after we had. On the day after our triumph, six members of their expedition were in Camp V; they were overwhelmed by several avalanches brought on by the sudden change of weather. In one tent Dr. Jean Louis Sabarly and Erik Poumailloux were swept away and disappeared forever down the slope.

The next day during a dramatic descent, the Sherpa Pemba disappeared. Saudan, Marie-José Vallençot and Ollagnier got down to Base Camp in very bad shape, where they were attended by our Drs. Garayoa and Cornellana. They were later evacuated by helicopter with seriously frozen hands and feet. We left Base Camp on May 21. Our closely knit team was greatly aided by the cooperation and energy of our Sherpas and the magnificent direction of their sirdar Sonam Girmi.

GREGORIO ARIZ MARTÍNEZ, *Grupo Navarro de Alta Montaña, Spain*

Dhaulagiri Ski Attempt. (See also account immediately above.) The Franco-Swiss expedition led by Sylvain Saudan had been given permission for the northwest ridge but moved onto the northeast ridge, the Spanish route. On the night of May 13 two members died when an avalanche carried away their tent. Whilst the survivors retreated, Sherpa Pemba disappeared; he was the last member of the party and it is presumed that he fell from exhaustion or slipped, but nobody saw what happened.

MICHAEL CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Dhaulagiri I Attempt. An 18-man Polish expedition led by Gerard Małaczynski unsuccessfully attempted to climb Dhaulagiri by the north face. They reached 25,600 feet on October 3, 12 and 14, but bad weather, high winds and snowfall made progress beyond this point impossible.

MICHAEL CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Dhaulagiri II, III and V Traverse. Nineteen Japanese men were led by me, the only woman on the expedition. Base Camp was set up south of the peaks at 16,000 feet on the Tsaoulabon Glacier. There on September 3 the climbers split. One group established Camps I, II, III, and IV on the east ridge of Dhaulagiri II at 19,000, 21,325, 22,300 and 24,450 feet and on October 13 Camp V on the summit of Dhaulagiri II at 25,429 feet. Meanwhile the others placed Camps I, II, III and IV on the south ridge of Dhaulagiri V at 17,725, 19,350, 21,000 and 23,450 feet and on October 13 Camp V on the summit of Dhaulagiri V at 24,992 feet. Having left Base Camp on October 11, on October 14 Kozo Komatsu, Takayoshi Chiba, Koji Nezu, Shigetsugu Araki and Yukio Koga set out from the summit of Dhaulagiri II, bivouacked at 24,775 feet between Dhaulagiri II and III, went over the top of Dhaulagiri III (24,316 feet), bivouacked again between Dhaulagiri III and V at 23,625 feet, reached the summit of Dhaulagiri V on October 16 and were back in Base Camp the 17th. Shigeto Ogura and Yoshitomi Okura set out from Dhaulagiri V on the 14th, made the traverse, got to Dhaulagiri II on the

16th and were back in Base Camp on October 18. Ogura became altitude sick on the night of the 15th and had to be helped over Dhaulagiri II by Takao Maki, Jun Wakabayashi and Sherpa Ang Gyalzen. Three other Japanese and six Sherpas also climbed Dhaulagiri II and four Japanese and six Sherpas also ascended Dhaulagiri V.

MICHIKO TAKAHASHI, *Japanese Alpine Club*

Putha Hiunchuli (Dhaulagiri VII), 1978. In the post-monsoon season of 1978 Our German Alpine Club made the fourth ascent of Putha Hiunchuli (23,774 feet) by the south ridge of the south face. This route had been climbed twice before in the spring and fall of 1972 by Japanese. I was leader of the first group and Fritz Zintl of the second. The following members of Group I reached the summit on October 8 and 12, 1978: Martin Anwander, Dieter Hoetzel, Herbert Kaestler, Heinz Kobler, Franz Neubauer, Lothar Reiser, Max Stueckl, Peter Vogler, Theo Zunterer and I and Sherpas Ang Choppal, Ang Pasang and Nga Temba. The second group had the following on the summit on October 19: Ludwig Huber, Wolfgang Lutz, Wilhelm Odenthal, Gerhard Schaeuble, Udo Zehetleitner, Frau Angela Zintl and Fritz Zintl.

GÜNTER STURM, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Putha Hiunchuli. This expedition was a repeat of last year's commercial expedition organized and promoted by the German Alpine Club. There were two groups; the first of 14 persons led by Siegfried Hupfauer climbed from October 7 to 27; the second group of 12 led by Pit Schubert climbed from October 22 to November 11. They climbed the south ridge to the south face. On October 19 Trenkle, W. Kiechle, Huber, Rudolf Konrad, Fimmel and Sherpa Pemba reached the top. The next morning Hupfauer and his wife Gabi with Sherpa Ang Dorje got to the summit after a bivouac just below the top. On October 21 Rudolf Allramsreder and for a second time Ang Dorje reached the summit. Three members of the second group climbed to the top on November 3, followed on the 7th by two more and two Sherpas.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Kanjiroba, South Main Peak. A Japanese expedition led by Atsushi Inenaga reached the summit of the south main peak on November 4. Getting to the top were Sekio Matsunaga, Wataru Takasaki, Kaji Yada and Sherpa Ang Temba. They climbed the northwest ridge of the south summit.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Nampa Attempt. Our party included Susan Billings, Nancy Neiley, Jerry and Paul Sibley, Dr. Alan Sudweeks, Chuck Tolton, Matt Wells, Mark Udall and me as leader. Dr. Sudweeks had the misfortune to injure his knee on the approach and had to return to the United States. After much delay in Kathmandu, we flew to Bajang, in western Nepal. We reached Base Camp at 12,500 feet after a two-week approach along the Seti, Kali Gad and Chamliya rivers. By May 17 we eight were well established at 17,700 feet on the Api-Nampa col. We ran out of time a few days later and were forced to abandon our attempt on the west ridge. From a high point of 18,000 feet, we estimated it would take four or five days to climb to the summit and descend to Base Camp, but a nasty storm ate up our remaining time.

WILLIAM ROOS

India—Garhwal

Chiring We, Kalabaland Area. The Kalabaland Glacier lies east of the Milam Glacier. To the north lies Tibet, to the east, the Darma valley and western Nepal and to the south, the Chaudhara and Rajrambha peaks. Chiring We had never been attempted before. The Kalabaland Glacier was first visited by a small team from Delhi in 1967. In May of 1977 our association organized an expedition to this glacier which had logistic problems. The only ascent was that of P 18,372, a rocky pinnacle on the shoulder of Suli Top, made on June 9, 1977 by Zerkis Boga, Gombu and Govind Singh. In October of 1977 a team from the Himalayan Association, Calcutta, led by Minik Bannerjee, first penetrated the icefall and made the first ascent of Bamba Dhura. In 1979 our expedition of the Mountaineers of Bombay climbed the following peaks: *Bamba Dhura* (20,780 feet or 6331 meters; second ascent) on June 5 by Zerkis S. Boga and Chewang Tashi: From Camp III they reached the col between Bamba Dhura and Chiring We and followed the southeast ridge to the top; *"Kalabaland Dhura"* (20,030 feet or 6105 meters; first ascent) on June 6 by Vijay Kothari, Lakhpa Tsering and me: From Camp III we climbed to a col on the north of the peak and followed a steep gully to the top. It was heavily corniced on the Kalabaland-Milam watershed; *P 19,450* (5928 meters; second ascent) on June 9 by Kali R. Bordiwala and Rajendra A. Desai: From Camp II they traversed to its eastern approaches and had an easy climb to this dome, situated on the watershed south of Kalabaland Dhura; *Chiring We* (21,520 feet or 6559 meters; first ascent) on June 10 by Boga, Lakhpa Tsering, Nayankumar Katira and Kami Tsering: From Camp III they climbed to the col between this peak and Bamba Dhura, ascended the north face to the west ridge, which they followed to the top. They fixed about 1500 feet of rope. This was the highest unclimbed peak in Kumaon.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Himalayan Club*