Kokthang. A 12-member team from Calcutta climbed Kokthang (6147 meters, 20,167 feet) via the northeast face from Camp II at 5425 meters. On May 12, Dipak Kumar Bose, Parijat Chowdhury and Sherpas Kami, Lhakpa Tsering and Tharchen Tsering reached the summit. The leader was Amulya Sen.

KAMAL K. GUHA, Editor, Himavanta, India

Nepal

Nepalese Peak Fees. Climbers are concerned with a sizeable increase in the fees that the Nepalese government charges for permission to climb its peaks. On September 20, the Ministry of Tourism announced that fees were being raised for the start of the spring 1992 season "in consideration of environmental conservation." A ministry official said that this means the government wants fewer climbers and their rubbish on Everest and the other popular 8000-meter peaks. He cited the view of Sir Edmund Hillary that Everest should be closed to all mountaineers for several years to give the mountain time to cleanse itself. The Nepalese authorities said they did not want to take such drastic action, but they would like to encourage climbers to go to peaks below 8000 meters, for which the fee increase is less extreme. He also pointed out that Nepal had devalued its currency by about 20% in July and the new rates were partly designed to make up for this. (The old rates had been fixed in Nepalese rupees.) A member of a Spanish team returning from Pumori and Lhotse observed that the new fee of \$8000 for Lhotse alone is equal to half of their total budget for this autumn's climb. The leader of the Russian Cho Oyu east-ridge team said that he had previously applied for a permit for Dhaulagiri in the spring of 1993. This permit would now cost \$8000 for a team up to nine members with an added charge of \$800 per additional member and "I am afraid this is too much money. I will not be able to come." (The old fee was less than \$2000 with no fixed limit on a team's size.) When Sergio Martini came back from his attempt on Kangchenjunga, he went to the Tourism Ministry to ask permission to return for a try next year. When he learned that he would have to pay four times as much as he had this autumn, he did not put in the application. Whether the drastic increase in fees for 8000ers will actually decrease the number of climbers is open to question. The obvious way to achieve this goal is to stop giving so many permits. Obviously, it is likely that there will be a drop in the number of self-financed teams, but there could be an increase in the commercial expeditions, which are organized for profit by adventure-travel agencies, mountaineering clubs and climbing schools. The commercial expeditions are joined by people who are strangers and so have never climbed together before and sometimes do not even speak the same language. They are led by professional guides who are hired to take them climbing by standard routes. By contrast, the self-financed teams tend to be small groups of friends-or a single individual like Svetičič-who try difficult and unclimbed routes, often on little-known peaks that do not attract commercial organizers. A third source of financing is

finding sponsors. Potential sponsors are often not interested in unknown peaks. especially small ones. There can be a drawback to sponsorships. A French team received help from a television organization which reasonably required photographic coverage. Two members on a summit try did not arrive on top, having spent so much time photographing that when the wind rose, they had to turn back to be in camp before nightfall. None of the other members ever got so high again. The results of the higher fees could be 1) The Ministry's desired result, namely climbers turning to Nepal's lower, less costly peaks and to more difficult routes on them. Instead of having to find \$8000 or \$10,000, they would need only \$1,000 to \$3,000 depending on the mountain's altitude. (The old rate for "lesser" peaks ranged from \$500 to \$1400.); 2) Mountaineers say they will go where the cost is lower. An American who was on Lhotse this autumn with just one teammate said, "For a small two-man climb, I'll look instead at Pakistan." Of course Pakistan may follow Nepal's example and raise its fees: 3) There could be a rise in the number of people who climb in Nepal without getting permission. When discovered, they are subject to fines and banishment from entering and/or climbing in Nepal for some years, as happened to Martínez this autumn, but often the Nepalese authorities do not know of such cases. Only time will tell what the effects of the increase in fees will be.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kangchenjunga. The Slovene expedition, which made a remarkable new route on the southwest ridge of Kangchenjunga South, ascended others of Kangchenjunga's summits, made a new route on Talung and attempted the difficult east face of Kumbhakarna East, is described in a complete article earlier in this *Journal*.

Kangchenjunga Attempt. A Spanish expedition led by Mari Abrego attempted to climb the north face of Kangchenjunga. They reached a highpoint of 8400 meters on September 23.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kangchenjunga Attempt. The highly experienced Italian climber, Sergio Martini, managed to reach 8200 meters on the southwest face of Kangchenjunga on October 11. He and two Nepalese helpers became too exhausted to continue after a month's effort.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Yalung Kang, Southwest Face Attempt. Our international expedition was composed of Czechoslovaks Leopold Sulovský, Miss Zdeňka Pleskotová and me as leader and Italians Marco Berti, Gianluigi Visentin and Miss Dr. Monica Zambon. We had no high-altitude porters and used no supplementary oxygen. PLATE 46 Photo by Jiff Novák Southeast Face of YALUNG KANG from Camp I.

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We left Kathmandu on September 2 and got to Base Camp at 5300 meters on the 16th. We established Camps I, II and III at 6100, 6700 and 7400 meters on September 23, 27 and 29. After a rest, Sulovský and Visentin got to Camp III on October 8. The next day Sulovský alone climbed a steep couloir and pitched Camp IV at 7950 meters. During the night, the tent was destroyed by a strong wind. On October 10, he climbed to 8200 meters, which he reached at eleven A.M. He decided not to climb further. Climbing slowly because of the conditions, he figured that he could not climb to the summit and descend to Camp III past wrecked Camp IV and survive without bivouac gear. He was back in Base Camp on the 11th.

JIŘÍ NOVÁK, Czechoslovakia

Makalu Attempt. Todd Burleson was accompanied on the northwest ridge of Makalu by Lhakpa Rita and Gopal Tamang. They established Base Camp, Camps I and II at April 1, 4 and 5 at 5300, 6000 and 6900 meters. The plan was to climb the rest of the mountain alpine-style. Three summit attempts were made from Camp II in the next 20 days, all aborted because of high winds. On April 26, Camp III was placed at 7600 meters. After waiting out a day in strong wind on April 27, on the 28th the three left for a final summit attempt at six A.M. At 10:30 A.M., they reached a high point of 8200 meters when violent winds returned and ended the climb.

WILLI PRITTIE, Alpine Ascents International

Makalu Attempt and Kangchungtse Ascent. Our expedition was made up of Maurice and Marc van der Berge, Wim Willekens, Michel Schuitemaker, Dr. Frank Hoppenbrouwer and me as leader. We hoped to climb the northwest ridge of Makalu by the standard route. We got to Base Camp at 5350 meters on April 5 and established Camps I and II at 6000 and 6700 meters on April 7 and 10. More serious climbing started there as we ascended the Makalu couloir; we fixed rope on 90% of this part and so did not make a supply dump at Camp III until April 18. We occupied Camp III at 7400 meters on April 27. Because it was obvious due to snow conditions that Makalu would be a dangerous objective, we decided to climb Kangchungtse. On April 29, Willekens and I set out late, at 10:15 A.M., because of bad weather and a faulty stove, and reached the summit (7678 meters, 25,190 feet) at one P.M. By May 1, all members were safely back at Base Camp.

RENÉ DE BOS, KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE ALPEN VERENIGING

Makalu, West Face Attempt. Makalu has never been successfully scaled by the vast central portion of its west face. A team of Italians attempted a line halfway between the one followed in the autumn of 1981 to 7900 meters by Poles Jerzy Kukuczka and Wojciech Kurtyka and Briton Alex MacIntyre and another

which Kukuczka soloed after his two teammates had left the mountain. The Italians were Casimiro Ferrari, leader, Lorenzo Mazzoleni, Dario Spreafico, Marco Negri, Salvatore Panzeri, Mario Panzeri and Umberto Valentinotti. On May 7, Salvatore Panzeri and Spreafico managed to reach a high point of 7300 meters at the top of a small ridge and at the bottom of a very steep section. A fierce wind was blowing a lot of snow onto their route and their feet were beginning to freeze in the extreme cold. They retreated and the climb was over.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Makalu, Post-Monsoon. There were two successful Spanish expeditions on the Kukuczka ridge of Makalu in the post-monsoon season. An expedition led by Jordi Bosch placed Josep Permane on the summit on September 24 and Xavier Robiro and Carles Figueras on September 30. This group made two unauthorized ascents of Kangchungtse by its south ridge: Ramón Estiu on September 15 and Joan Cardona on September 30. (There has been an increase of illegal ascents of late. A Spaniard, Antonio Martínez, not a member of either of these expeditions, was stopped before he had climbed very high on Dhaulagiri by a government-appointed liaison officer with an authorized expedition. He was taken to Kathmandu, where he was fined about \$1750.) The second Spanish expedition was led by Alberto Iñurrategi. On September 30, Alberto and Félix Iñurrategi and Felipe Uriarte reached the summit of Makalu.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Makalu, West Face Attempt and Rapid West Buttress Ascent. The west face of Makalu was first attempted in 1977 and first climbed solo by Jerzy Kukuczka in October 1981. The route followed the left edge of the face and finished via the northwest ridge. In October 1982, a new route was opened up the center of the face by a Polish team, and Andrzej Czok reached the top from the northwest side. In September 1984, Swiss Romolo Nottaris achieved an ascent along a route slightly to the right of the 1981 route. It was his second attempt from this side, having been accompanied by Swiss Jean Troillet on his first attempt in 1982. Troillet returned in 1988 with Swiss Erhard Loretan, but their plans for a completely new route up the west face were frustrated when Troillet fell ill at Base Camp. Three years were to elapse before this pair was able to put their plan into action. The Loretan-Troillet route follows the untried right section of the west face, starting with steep snow and ice and continuing above 7000 meters with difficult, in some places overhanging, rock directly to the steep summit headwall. The lower part is avalanche-prone, but the main difficulties are in the upper section. They set up Base Camp at 5300 meters at the foot of the west face on August 28. They were committed to alpine-style. During the next four weeks, between intervals of bad weather, they established a bivouac tent at 6500 meters and climbed in the upper rock section to 7800 meters. On September 19, they discovered that their bivouac tent had been wiped out by an avalanche with the

loss of nearly all their equipment. At Base Camp, they were able to purchase essential items from a Japanese expedition. On September 26, they climbed to 7800 meters, but had to return when Troillet broke a crampon. With time running out, they fixed a rendez-vous at around 7900 meters near the top of the west pillar with Spaniards who had spent 50 days setting up camps along the ridge. Fully acclimatized by now, Loretan and Troillet left Base Camp at one A.M. on October 1, carrying light rucksacks with a minimum of food and equipment and a 50-meter rope. The weather was perfect. Starting up the lower part of the west face, they traversed out onto the west pillar and continued up it, reaching 7400 meters by ten A.M. After a rest, they left at five P.M. and reached the top Spanish Camp at 8000 meters, from which they set out at midnight, joined by two Spaniards Carles Vallès and Manu Badiola. At 8200 meters, beyond where the west pillar merges into the southwest face, they encountered a difficult rock section. By now they had moved well ahead of the Spanish pair and reached the summit at ten A.M. on October 2. They spent two hours on top until the arrival of the Spaniards. Returning the way they had come, Loretan and Troillet completed the descent to Base Camp in the amazing time of nine hours. This was the fifth ascent of the difficult west pillar and establishes a record as the fastest ascent of the mountain. It was Loretan's twelfth 8000er and Troillet's sixth. As noted below, the two Spaniards who made the sixth ascent of the west pillar met disaster on the descent when Badiola tragically fell to his death on the difficult rock section at about 8300 meters. (This information was kindly given by Erhard Loretan.)

TREVOR BRAHAM, Alpine Club

Makalu, Ascent of the West Pillar and Tragedy. A Spanish expedition led by Carles Vallès was further composed of Manu Badiola, Joan Jover, Gerardo Blásquez and Dr. Rafael Martínez. During a period of 50 days, the group worked its way up the very difficult west pillar. They established Camp III at 7350 meters and fixed rope up to 7700 meters, where Vallès and Badiola bivouacked on September 30. On October 1, they again bivouacked at 8000 meters. They had agreed to join forces with the Swiss pair, Loretan and Troillet. After the arrival of the latter at one A.M. on the 2nd, all four set forth. Around 8200 meters, they encountered a difficult rock section. The Swiss pair moved ahead of the Spaniards. Some time after the Swiss, the Spaniards completed the sixth ascent of the route; for Vallès, this was his fifth 8000er. On the descent on the difficult rock section at about 8300 meters, Badiola tragically fell to his death.

TREVOR BRAHAM, Alpine Club

Makalu, Ascent and Tragedy. Miss Taeko Nagao, Yuji Futamata, Yuko Okada, Takumi Ishizaka, Ayumi Nozawai and I were on Makalu's normal northwest route. We placed Camp III on the Makalu Col at 7400 meters on September 26 and Camp IV at 7800 meters on the 29th. On October 5, Futamata,

PLATE 47

Photo by Carles Vallès

Steep ice on the West Buttress of Makalu.

Okada, Ang Dorje Sherpa and I climbed to the summit. On October 7, Miss Nagao, Ishizaka, Nozawai and Furgerjen Sherpa headed towards the summit, but at 8100 meters Nozawai was forced to quit; he and the Sherpa descended. Miss Nagao and Ishizaka continued and reached the summit around four P.M. They descended to bivouac at 8200 meters. The next day, exhausted Ishizaka could not descend below 8000 meters. There, Miss Nagao dug a snow cave. She urged Ishizaka to enter; he responded but did not come in. She found him dead on the fixed rope in the morning. Though badly frostbitten, on October 9 she descended to 7600 meters where she was met by Futamata and me; she continued with us to Base Camp, which we reached on the 10th. She was helicoptered to Kathmandu for medical treatment.

HIROTAKA IMAMURA, Bernina Alpine Club, Japan

Baruntse. Our expedition was a commercial one. The members had a wide variety of experience in the mountains. The climbing team of nine was accompanied to Base Camp by ten trekkers. We flew to Lukla on April 19 and headed up the Hinku valley. After a night on the Mera La at 5400 meters, ten people on April 28 climbed Mera Peak (6654 meters, 21,830 feet), the high point for the trekkers and good acclimatization for the climbers. We arrived at Base Camp on May 1 by following the Honku valley. On May 4, the trekkers crossed the Amphu Labsta Pass (5780 meters) and dropped into the Imja valley. Craig Seasholes and I helped them and their porters over this technical pass. Some of them had never rappelled before! Meanwhile, the climbing team ferried gear to the base of the west col and fixed ropes up steep ice (40° to 50° with a stretch of 70°) to establish Camp I on the col at 6100 meters. On a commercial expedition, the issues of climbing teams and climbing styles can be rather complex. This was not a guided climb. People paid to be part of the expedition, not to be guided. I chose to take the strongest client, David Mondeau, and we put in the route to the summit. The rest then had steps kicked and ropes fixed for their attempt. We two bivouacked at the foot of the fixed ropes and on May 6 climbed to the col, picked up supplies and established Camp II at 6500 meters. On May 7, we left Camp II at 2:30 A.M. and were on the summit (7129 meters, 23,737 feet) at eleven A.M. The climbing above Camp II on the southeast ridge was straightforward, most done on the west side of the cornice, all snow and ice and no rock. There were stretches of 70° and great exposure. We fixed some 500 feet of rope for the subsequent climbers. A second team of Wesley Krause, Craig Seasholes and Dale Kruse followed. They spent a night at Camp I, two at Camp II and on May 9 climbed to the top. On May 10, they cleaned all the ropes and camps from the mountain and returned to Base Camp.

SCOTT FISCHER

Baruntse, Post-Monsoon Southeast Ridge Attempts. Two expeditions unsuccessfully attempted to climb the southeast ridge of Baruntse. Three Frenchmen

and two Belgians led by Jean René Minelli got to 6135 meters on November 4, and three Swiss and a German led by Fridolin Hauser reached 6740 meters on November 13.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Chamlang. Our team consisted of Andrew Knight and me as joint leaders, Neil Howells, Angus Andrew, Annette Carmichael, David Gwynne-Jones, Peter Pollard, Dr. Carolyn Knight, and scientists David Collier and Richard Hancock. We set up Base Camp on October 2 by the Hongu Khola at 4700 meters. The route was a variation on the original 1962 Japanese ascent; the Japanese started further north, avoiding what was the crux of the climb for us: two rock towers at the start of the ridge. Advance Base was established on the 8th at 5170 meters on the moraine of a glacier flowing from the south end of the south ridge. Camp I was placed at the top of the glacier at 5740 meters on October 9. Six days were spent climbing the two rock towers and rope was fixed. Camp II was made on the 15th at 6280 meters on the crest of the south ridge. From there, we climbed alpine-style. Howells, Andrew, Ngatemba Sherpa and I bivouacked at 6840 meters and reached the summit (7319 meters, 24,012 feet) on October 20. Above Camp II there was much unconsolidated snow on knife-edged ridges. A rock band at 6500 meters slowed progress.

ANDREW POLLARD, Alpine Club

Kusum Kanguru. On October 16, Japanese Koji Asano, Hiroyoshi Manome and Atsushi Sakudo completed the ascent of Kusum Kanguru (6367 meters, 20,889 feet) via the north ridge alpine-style. They made three bivouacs on the way to the top.

Kusum Kanguru from the Southwest. Brian Davidson, Dick Renshaw and I hoped to climb Kusum Kanguru (6369 meters, 20,896 feet) from the southwest. The approach from the Dudh Khosi was difficult and we may well be the first to reach the head of the Kusum Khola; it took three days to cover four horizontal miles through dense forest. Base Camp was just above the trees at 4000 meters and Advance Base at 4800 meters, just below the unclimbed southwest face. Our intended direct line up the face was regularly bombarded by rockfall and so we opted for a safer line further right. On the first attempt, we climbed this southwest buttress, 26 pitches of mixed climbing, to the crest of the unclimbed south ridge, where Davidson developed symptoms of altitude sickness. We sadly abseiled down the buttress but after two days of rest at Base Camp, Renshaw and I returned for a second attempt. This time we took a more direct line up the buttress and by the second afternoon had started to climb the magnificent rock pillar of the south ridge. On the fourth day, November 20, we climbed the final ridge of ice towers and reached the summit, completing a

Snow bollard rappel on South Ridge of KUSUM KANGURU. Photo by Stephen Venables PLATE 48

PLATE 49

Photo by Stephen Venables

Renshaw nearing summit of KUSUM KANGURU on the South Ridge.

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marvelous route, 1250 meters high, alpine grade TD sup. By the evening of the fifth day, we were back in Base Camp.

STEPHEN VENABLES, Alpine Climbing Group

Mera. A group of fourteen French youths between the ages of 13 and 17 made the ascent of the trekking peak Mera (6414 meters, 21,043 feet). On the descent they skied from 6300 to 5300 meters at the tongue of the glacier. They were from the Collège Saint Exupéry of Bourg Saint Maurice and led by Michel Folliet and Philippe Bonano.

Lhotse Attempt. A Spanish expedition led by Juan Fernando Azcona attempted to climb Lhotse via the west face. They reached 7650 meters on October 4 before having to retreat.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Lhotse Attempt. American Peter Athans and a companion reached 7600 meters on the west face of Lhotse on October 11 but could not continue higher.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Mount Everest, Illegal Attempt. Frenchman Marc Batard has become so enmeshed in controversy with the Nepalese authorities that there is doubt that he will ever return to Nepal to climb again. He gained fame in September, 1988 by achieving what is still the fastest ascent of Everest, 22 hours and 29 minutes, from Base Camp at 5350 meters to the summit at 8848 meters via the normal South Col route. This was not a solo climb, for there were a number of other climbers at various points, and indeed several of them went to the top before him on his own summit day. He went to Everest's summit a second time in October. 1990 in an unsuccessful attempt to become the first person to climb Everest and Lhotse in the same day. Unfortunately, Batard manages to quarrel with other climbers. In that expedition there was a dispute between him and a Nepalese woman, Mrs. Pasang Lhamu Sherpa, whose ambition was to become the first Nepalese woman, and the twelfth woman from any nation, to surmount Everest. In late September, she left the mountain in great anger, claiming that Batard had stopped her from going to the summit from their highest camp. He has statedand so have climbers from another expedition who were also at the high camp-that she was not strong enough at that time to reach the top. However, according to Batard, he invited her to join him in a second attempt soon afterwards, but she refused to continue climbing. Her husband, the head of a trekking agency in Kathmandu, lodged with the Nepalese Ministry of Tourism a protest against a foreigner's forcibly preventing a Nepalese woman from climbing a Nepalese mountain. Stories went around Kathmandu that Batard had manhandled her, even beaten her-all charges he has consistently denied.

Batard came to Nepal again this spring to try once more to try for a double Everest-Lhotse success, to reach Everest's summit late on an afternoon, spend the night there, descend the next day to the South Col and climb Lhotse. In Kathmandu he understood from a Tourism Ministry official that permission was again promised, and he went to the mountain. He climbed to 8200 meters on May 1, but strong winds stopped him and he retreated for a rest at Base Camp. There, he learned that he had not in fact been granted a climbing permit, and therefore he abandoned his climb. It is not clear why he had not received permission. However, for having climbed without an official permit, Batard is liable to be banned from entering Nepal for five years or from mountaineering activities in the country for as much as ten years. Whether the authorities will actually take action against him is not yet known, but the matter has become irrelevant. On his return from Everest, he stated, "I have been very badly victimized in Nepal this time by those making charges and withholding my permit. So, with my heartfelt salutation to those brave and powerful people in Nepal. I have decided to cancel all my future climbing activities in Nepal." He had planned to return to Everest in the autumn, but to those who were scheduled to climb Everest with him later this year, he would offer to go with them to a high mountain of their choice in South America or Pakistan.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest Attempt. A six-man Australian expedition was led by Michael Groom. They first attempted to climb the west ridge of Everest from the Western Cwm, getting to 7400 meters on April 24. They then turned to the South Col route, where they reached a high point of 7900 meters on May 1.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest, Southwest Face Attempt. Our expedition was composed of Chung Woo-Sub, Nam Sun-Woo, Heo Jeong-Sik, Jung Gwang-Sig, Choi Tae-Sik, Cho Kwang-Je, Lee Sang-Lock, Park Young-Seok, Kim Jin-Sung, Koo Kyeong-Mo, Kim Seok-Jun and me as leader. We attempted Bonington's route on the southwest face. We established Base Camp, Camps I, II, III and IV at 5400, 6050, 6450, 6920 and 7600 meters on March 31, April 5, 7, 17 and 23. Camp IV had two box tents. On April 28, we fixed rope to 8300 meters where we hoped to pitch Camp V with one small bivouac tent. On May 1, Nam Sun-Woo, Kim Jin-Sung and sirdar Ang Tshering pushed up to the Camp V site, where they could see the south summit across the rock band and the refuse from previous expeditions around the site. There was not enough snow on which to pitch the tent. After the sirdar descended, the two Koreans bivouacked sitting up in the fortunately not too cold night. On May 2, Nam tried to climb the rock band, but after only 50 meters he found it impossible. Three centimeters (11/4 inches) of new snow made it impossible to ascend the rock and the snow was too thin for crampons. On May 3, I gave up the expedition because the snow would not

easily have blown away or melted at that altitude. We had an accident. On April 14, Park slipped and fell 100 meters at 7000 meters. Fortunately, his injuries could be treated by American Dr. Michael Sinclair before he was carried to Base Camp in a stretcher we borrowed from his American team, for which we were very grateful.

LEE KANG-OH, Seoul, South Korea

Everest Attempt. Our members were German Michel Dacher, Frenchwoman Chantal Mauduit, Swiss Pierino Giuliani, Louis Deuber, Hans Kessler and I as leader. We joined a number of other expeditions at Base Camp on April 8. On April 11, we climbed the Khumbu Icefall to leave a depot at the site of Camp I at 6500 meters. On the 14th, we occupied Camp I but high winds and cold drove us back. On April 18, Kessler and I established Camp II at 7200 meters, while the others went to Camp I. We were aided by the ropes fixed by the Sherpa expedition on the steep, icy Lhotse Face. Again wind and cold drove us back to Base Camp. Again on April 24, Kessler and I spent the night at Camp II, but wind, cold and stomach troubles forced us back. On May 5, Kessler and I set out again and reached the South Col the next afternoon. Our companions climbed to Camp II. With extreme temperatures and wind, we saw that we had no chance and luckily were able to descend to Base Camp. We are convinced that the only way to climb Everest is by "fair means," namely without supplementary oxygen, which essentially degrades the peak to a 6000er. The 250 or 300 discarded oxygen bottles litter the South Col. After five more fruitless days at Base Camp, we wanted to climb back up the icefall to retrieve our gear, but conditions were too unfavorable. After our departure on May 15, the Sherpas with an American expedition evacuated our material.

NORBERT JOOS, Schweizer Alpen Club

Everest. Ours was the first Everest expedition to consist solely of climbers from the Northeast of North America. We were Mark Richey, climbing leader, Marc Chavin, Barry Rugo, Gary Scott, Dr. Michael Sinclair, Dr. Richard St. Onge, Québecois Yves La Forest and I as expedition leader. We arrived at Base Camp on March 20. During April and the early part of May, working with the All Sherpa Expedition, we established four camps on the mountain, the highest on the South Col. On May 2, Rugo, Richey, Chauvin and I arrived at the South Col for a summit bid. After two nights of waiting for the jet stream to move into northern China, we returned to Base Camp, thoroughly exhausted and beaten by high winds and bitter cold. After a much needed rest, Rugo, Richey, La Forest, Sinclair, Scott and I returned to Camp II for a final attempt. On May 13, Rugo, Richey, La Forest and I climbed to the South Col. Scott arrived there early on the morning of the 14th. We rested that day and Scott decided to return to Camp III. Just after midnight on May 15, we four left Camp IV for the summit. At 8:30 A.M., Richey and La Forest reached the summit, where they spent 45 minutes.

At 9:45 I got there, followed by Rugo. We spent an hour on the summit in excellent weather. Rugo ran out of oxygen during the descent and, after being caught in a storm, had to fight his way back to Camp IV. On the afternoon of the 15th, Dr. Sinclair arrived on the South Col to help us down. On May 16, we had all returned safely to Camp II. All camps were removed by May 20. We left no trash on the mountain or at Base Camp.

RICK WILCOX

Everest. There is a full article on the successful Sherpa Everest expedition in the pre-monsoon period earlier in this *Journal*.

Everest. Our expedition consisted of Robert Link and me as co-leaders, Steve Gall, Dave Carter, Darrin Goff, Hall and Amy Wendel, Dr. Kurt Pappenfus, five high-altitude Sherpas and three cooks. We established Base Camp on March 20. Once Sherpas had established the route through the Khumbu Icefall, we were able to place Camp I at 20,000 feet on April 1. All expeditions on the South Col route paid a fee to Sherpas to fix and maintain the icefall and Lhotse Face. Camps II and III were set up at 21,500 and 24,500 feet on April 7 and 17. High winds plagued us and made carries on the face difficult. The 1991 pre-monsoon weather was very unsettled and we never experienced the typical 7- to 14-day calm which usually occurs in May. Our first summit attempt began at Base Camp on May 6 but was cancelled on May 11 after two windy nights at Camp III. On May 13, we made our second attempt from Camp II. After a night at Camp III, Amy Wendel and Carter descended while Hall Wendell, Goff, Wongchu Sherpa and I climbed to occupy Camp IV on the South Col. At 2:30 A.M. on May 15, only Goff and I left the col for the summit in calm, clear weather, using oxygen. We followed in the Wilcox team's footsteps. After an hour, Goff turned back due to fatigue and cold feet. I continued up snow gullies to the south ridge where I abandoned my malfunctioning oxygen system. The snow conditions were horrible - inconsistent, loose, dry powder snow. The weather began to deteriorate. I met the Wilcox team on their descent just below the South Summit. I finally reached the summit at 2:30 P.M. in a howling blizzard. There I met Andy Politz, who had climbed via the north ridge. After five minutes I descended to the South Col, which I reached at 6:30. I was back in Base Camp on May 17 and we left the mountain on the 18th. This was my second ascent of Everest. On May 8, 1990, I climbed the north ridge without oxygen.

ED VIESTURS

Everest Attempt by a Nepalese Woman. A group of ten Nepalese, four Frenchmen and a Belgian was led by Mrs. Pasang Lhamu Sherpa, the first Nepalese woman to lead a mountaineering venture. (Many of her leadership duties were performed by her husband, who runs a trekking agency and has been an active mountaineer; he was one of the Sherpa climbers.) Last year, she was a member of an expedition led by Marc Batard, but at that time she failed to climb to the summit and claims that Batard had prevented her from trying it. Despite two summit bids, on both of which she used artificial oxygen, Mrs. Sherpa was unable to reach the summit. On her first attempt, she got to the south summit on September 30 in the company of several of her group. They decided the wind was too strong to continue. On the second attempt, she got only to the last camp on the South Col. Some of the foreigners in her party were not enthusiastic about their experience. One French member said that he had to sleep in the tent of another expedition at the last camp on the night of September 29. Mrs. Sherpa's husband explains that the Frenchman was supposed to be in the second summit party, not the first.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Fees Collected for Preparation of the Route through the Khumbu Icefall. Much of the work of making the route through the Khumbu Icefall was performed by the Sherpas employed by Mrs. Pasang Lhamu Sherpa and a Spanish expedition. For their work in the icefall and for the ladders and other equipment they supplied to do it, these Sherpas demanded from other expeditions to Everest and Lhotse some payment in cash or in kind, preferably \$300 per foreign climber using the route. This was not the first time that those who had established the route had asked for contributions from others, and as long as permits are granted to a number of teams to climb this route at the same time, it is likely not to be the last. According to German Hans Eitel, four or five Sherpas were posted at the beginning of the route to stop those from using it if they had not paid. "This situation is not good for climbing," he commented angrily later; he said that he gave \$1,700 and 1000 meters of climbing rope. He was not the only person to object. The Russians, who were on a very tight budget, refused to pay and made their own Icefall route, which was dangerously close to avalanche-prone slopes. According to a Sherpa involved in making the general route, the Russians went their own way several times and then switched to the normal, safer route, wrapping their faces so that no one could tell whether they were people who had paid or not.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest. Our expedition was composed of former Soviets Vladimir Balyberdin, leader, Anatoli Bukreev, Gennady Kopieka, Roman Giutashvili, Vladimir Gorbunov, Aleksei Klimin, Yelena Kunshova and Americans Kevin Cooney, Greg Smith and me. I belatedly joined the group in Base Camp on September 21 after negotiations in Kathmandu as a late addition. By September 23, we established a new Khumbu Icefall route because we were unwilling to pay \$300 per person to the Nepalese-French expedition for use of fixed lines and ladders. The "Russian route" was wiped out by a massive avalanche from the Lho La at 6:15 A.M. on the 30th. Balyberdin and Bukreev attained the summit without supplementary oxygen on October 7, while Cooney turned back at the Hillary Step. Giutashvili, 54-years-old, and I summited with oxygen on October 10 at 5:20 P.M. On the descent, Giutashvili collapsed in blowing snow and darkness at 8:05 P.M. I dug a snow hole for him, left the remaining oxygen and stumbled to the South Col, where I had seen a light. After four hours and several forays. Kopieka and Klimin, who had been waiting out the storm, managed to locate Giutashvili and carry him back to the col uninjured. Upon return to Kathmandu, Giutashvili announced that he had had the use of only one lung since the age of 10. Bukreev and Balvberdin had as their goal the establishment of a new Everest record by ascending the 3500 vertical meters to the summit from Base Camp and returning in less than 24 hours. They wanted to break the French climber Marc Batard's record of 22 hours and 29 minutes. After their summit climb, Bukreev set out on October 12 at five P.M., climbed through the night and managed to reach 8300 meters at eight A.M. before terrible winds forced him to retreat. He was safely back in Base Camp 24 hours after he had left it. Balyberdin took 17 hours on October 17 to cover the same distance. When he left Base Camp alone at six A.M., he actually intended only to go part way up and bring down a tent and other gear, but when he saw how fine the weather was, he kept on going. He was climbing without crampons which he thought he would not need when he set out. When he reached 8300 meters at eleven P.M., he found it impossible to go higher on the very hard snow and in gusting winds without crampons. He stopped and spent the night in a thin sleeping bag and a thin down jacket. At daylight, he descended, safe and well-with no frostbite!

DANIEL MAZUR

Everest and Examples of Self-Sacrifice. A Spanish expedition led by Juan Carlos Gómez sucessfully completed the ascent of Everest on October 6 when José Antonio Garcés, Francisco José Pérez and Rafael Vidaurre reached the summit from the South Col. Gómez stated that he was clearly bemused by the French group led by Denis Pivot, which he described as not really a team but a collection of individuals, each doing his own thing. Although he did not explicitly say so, he clearly has a different philosophy and his party closely supported each other. An Australian climber commented with some amazement how one Spaniard, Lorenzo Ortas, carried two oxygen bottles to 8500 meters where he deposited them, not for his own use but for that of his teammates to enable them and not him to reach the summit. The leader Gómez did not quite reach the top because when he was on the Hillary Step, he met Vidaurre, who was beginning his descent but was now nearly blind because of sun and wind blowing into his eyes. Vidaurre was weeping in his distress and begged Gómez to help him down. Gómez did not tell him to wait for a bit while he went to the nearby summit but immediately abandoned his summit bid and helped his friend descend without any accident.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

CLIMBS AND EXPEDITIONS, 1991

Everest Attempt. Briton Jonathan Pratt attempted Everest without teammates or Sherpas, but he could hardly have been said to have been climbing solo since eight other expeditions were on the same route. Indeed, he made use of other people's tents, ate their food and used their fixed ropes. He brought such meager resources with him that, according to a Sherpa, he tried to borrow the equivalent of \$3.50 to buy food in the nearest village. He twice tried to reach the summit in the company of other climbers. His high point was gained on October 9 with another Briton.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest, South-Col Post-Monsoon Attempts. Aside from the attempts noted separately, there were a number of expeditions on the route via the South Col that did not succeed in reaching the main summit. A primarily French expedition led by Denis Pivot also had two Britons and a Brazilian. Frenchman Jean Michel Asselin did reach the south summit along with Mrs. Sherpa and her companions. An eight-man expedition of Spanish Basques was led by Josu Bereziatua. The leader, Benanxio Irureta and Gurutz Larrañaga reached the south summit on October 3, but could not continue on to the main summit. On October 3, eight Japanese under the leadership of Yasuo Iwazoe also reached the south summit. Australian Michael Groom's expedition got to 8200 meters on October 6. Groom took a 900-meter fall, luckily without fatal results. German Hans Eitel led three Germans, two Swiss and an Italian, who got to a high point of 7900 meters on October 16.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest, West Ridge and South Col Attempt. An international expedition led by Pole Aleksander Lwow was composed of two Poles, a German, an Australian and three Americans. They first attempted the west ridge, where on October 2 they got to 7600 meters. They then shifted their efforts to the South Col route, where they reached their high point of 6700 meters on October 15.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest, Korean Winter Attempts. Two Korean expeditions unsuccessfully attempted to climb Everest in the winter of 1991-2. Led by Kim Kwang-Jin, seventeen climbers tried to climb the south pillar, getting to 8700 meters on December 14. Four other climbers under the leadership of Kim Teuk-Hee attempted the South Col route and had to turn back at 8600 meters on December 20.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest, Southwest Face, Winter Attempt, 1991-2. Sixteen Japanese climbers with 25 Sherpas to help them were led by Kuniaki Yagihara. Their goal was to

make the first winter ascent of the formidable southwest face, which had previously been ascended only three times but never in winter. They spent three long months on the mountain, but in the end the wind defeated them. When deputy leader Yoshio Ogata and Fumiaki Goto made the first attempt to set up Camp V at 8350 meters on December 21, the wind broke their tent poles, forcing them to descend without establishing the camp. They had managed to climb a small distance above the camp site which turned out to be the team's high point. Camp V was occupied on January 8, 15 and 29, 1992, but none of the climbers was able to venture higher. A total of seven tents, including two at Base Camp, were torn apart. They decided on February 9 to abandon their effort, which had started on November 16.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest Photograph Corrections. The captions on the photographs appearing on pages 53 and 55 of *AAJ 1991* were not correct. Plate 14 was taken by Mike Browning. In the photo are Ang Jambu, Nima Tashi, Dana Coffield and Brent Manning. Plate 15 was taken by Dana Coffield.

Everest Correction. On page 227 of *AAJ 1991*, the names of Ang Phurba and Nima Dorje were unfortunately omitted from those of Jean-Noël Roche's party who reached the top.

Nuptse, Southwest Ridge Attempt. Swede Magnus Lekman and three Sherpas tried a new approach to an unclimbed ridge on Nuptse, a southwest ridge to a south rib. They gave up on October 24 after only a week when they found strong winds and route difficulties prevented progress above 6500 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

P 5886. On April 29, Canadian Barry Blanchard and I ascended the unclimbed west face of P 5886 (19,312 feet), which lies on the southwest ridge of Nuptse, northeast of Kongma Tse. We placed Base Camp at 4940 meters just west of the Kongma La and Camp I at 5200 meters. The climbing on the face began with two 45° icefields separated by a short rock-and-ice step. We then encountered three ice ribs which offered ice climbing up to 80°. Next we climbed a snow ramp leading left and completed three pitches on loose rock and snow. To gain the glaciated summit ridge, we ascended the last 250 feet of 75° ice. We were greeted with big smiles and cups of tea by two of our Sherpas, Tenzing and Dawa, who had climbed the glaciated ridge. We hiked along the summit ridge for 200 yards and were within 75 feet of the summit when darkness fell. A large crevasse at the base of the pinnacle and a short ice pitch separated us from the summit. Since it would have been less than prudent to continue in the

dark, we regretfully descended the glaciated north ridge and an endless boulder field. We took 28 hours round-trip from Camp I.

JAMES SCOTT

Pumori. A Spanish expedition led by Josu Feijoo climbed Pumori (7161 meters, 23,494 feet) by the southeast face to the east ridge. On April 25, Jesús María Díaz and Luis Angel Rojo completed the 61st ascent of the peak.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Pumori, Post-Monsoon Ascents, Tragedies and Attempt via the Southeast Face to the East Ridge. Jean-Noël Roche led six Frenchmen on the normal route on the southeast face to the east ridge of Pumori (7161 meters, 23,494 feet). On September 15, the leader Roche, Laurent Feruglio, Stéphane Laurenceau and Dawa Rinje Sherpa got to the top. The expedition was marred that same day by the deaths in an avalanche of French teenager Saidi Brahim and Gyalzen Sherpa as they were moving towards the summit. On September 18, Spaniards Juan Fernando Azcona, leader, Juan Carlos Arrieta, Juan Lasarte and Josu Ulazia completed the 63th ascent of the peak. Eight Germans, an Austrian and a Swiss were led by Michael Roepke. On October 6, the leader and Teja Finkbeiner reached the summit, followed on the 8th by Hans Brüggler, Josef Daxlberger, Rainer Faulstich and Fräulein Helga Hoess. On October 9, Michael Breuer teamed up with Icelander Ari Gunnarsson from Malcolm Duff's party to reach the top. Tragically Gunnarsson fell to his death on the descent. Britons Malcolm Duff, his wife Elizabeth and Mark Warham climbed the peak on October 7. German Bruno Walmann's Austro-German-Swiss party placed Austrian Wolfgang Köblinger on the summit on October 11. Six Venezuelans were led by Armando Michelangeli. On October 12, Marcos Antonio Tobia, Alfredo Autiero and Kazi Sherpa climbed to the top, followed the next day by Raúl Castillejo, Martín Echevarría and Nima Rita Sherpa. On October 16, Japanese leader Hiroshi Nakamura and Kami Tshering Sherpa climbed the mountain. French leader Pierre Taule, Serge Mauran, Chowang Nuru Sherpa and Pemba Gyalzen Sherpa on October 25 completed the list of successful climbers on Pumori for the year. Less fortunate were French led by Philippe Djoharikian, who reached 6950 meters on November 8.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Pumori Winter Attempt. Glenn Rowley led a group of 14 English climbers on the normal southeast face of Pumori. They were unsuccessful, reaching 6250 meters on December 2.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Lobuje East, West Buttress. A full article on this climb appears earlier in this Journal.

Lobuje East. A Japanese expedition from Touhoku University led by Kazumasa Yamada climbed Lobuje East (6119 meters, 20,075 feet). On March 18, A. Koyama and M. Yamagata reached the summit.

Ama Dablam Attempt, 1990. I originally intended to try the Lugunak (southeast) Ridge, but since my companions had backed out in the United States, I switched to a solo effort on the standard southwest ridge. I was added to the permit of a South Tirolean team. After a bout with pneumonia, I went back to Base Camp after the departure of the South Tiroleans and started up alone on November 1, 1990. The route had been mostly fixed by two strong Italian and English teams, though by the time I arrived, quite a number of the ropes were cut or worn through. I tried to free everything but stayed clipped in as much as possible. I went for the summit from a second bivouac, but at the end of the Mushroom Ridge at 21,000 feet, the violent cough and high fever came back, this time with pulmonary edema. I descended to Camp II and stayed awake all night, drinking and taking Diamox and Decadron against cerebral impairment. I was very ill, and so at first light I started the tricky down-climbing, rappelling and traversing. I descended to Pangboche, where French friends gave me antibiotics.

RUSSELL GORDON

Ama Dablam, Southwest Ridge, Pre-Monsoon. The southwest ridge of Ama Dablam continues to be the objective of numerous expeditions. In the premonsoon season only one group made the climb successfully to the summit. On April 4, Michael Murphy of the Irish expedition led by Cornelius Moriarty reached the top. The following made attempts: Italians led by Angelo Giovanetti to 6400 meters on March 25; six Americans, three Mexicans and a Canadian led by Paul Thorndike to 6040 meters on March 29; Americans led by Evan Smith to 6400 meters on April 12; and Americans led by Thomas Bol to 6475 meters on April 13.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Ama Dablam. In March and April, Irish climbers comprising Cornelius Moriarty, Ciaran Corrigan, Pat Falvey, Tony Farrell, Mick Murphy and Mike O'Shea were on the southwest ridge of Ama Dablam. They had bad weather and several of the party were incapacitated by food poisoning. Mick Murphy reached the summit alone on April 4 after Corrigan had turned back with respiratory problems. This was the only pre-monsoon ascent of Ama Dablam.

JOSS LYNAM, Federation of Mountaineering Clubs of Ireland

Ama Dablam, Northeast Face and Southwest Ridge Attempts. Our team was made up of Swiss Marie Hiroz, French Laurence Gouault and Americans Steve Shea and me. We arrived at the rarely visited Base Camp northeast of Ama Dablam in mid-April after an acclimatization trek to Everest Base Camp, where we viewed piles and piles of rubbish. After fixing several hundred feet of rope and observing the face for several days, because of objective danger from séracs overhanging the route we got permission to change our objective to the frequently climbed southwest ridge. On April 30, we four set out from our new 14,000-foot Base Camp for a rapid ascent of the southwest ridge. The next afternoon, after a long, hard day of climbing on the ridge in unusually dry and icy conditions, we turned back 600 feet from the summit in the face of an oncoming storm and darkness. The following day, May 2, we returned to Base Camp.

DAVID BREASHEARS

Ama Dablam, Post-Monsoon Southwest Ridge Ascents. Swiss Norbert Joos led an international group of six Swiss, a German and a Briton. They ascended the normal southwest ridge as follows: Swiss Diego Wellig, Hans Jörg Bumann and Martin Fischer on October 12; Briton Adrian Ball and Joos on October 13; German Wolfgang Vollbrecht and Swiss Urs Braschler on October 14 and Swiss Peter Marugg and Joos again on October 17. On October 25, French Michel Pelle, leader, Raymond Bousquet, Renaud Gardelle, Jean François Grand and Swiss Claude Stucki made it to the top. On November 3, French leader Gilles Buisson and Jean-François Males were joined by Roger Lecompte from Michel Richard's expedition and climbed to the summit. French Michel Richard led 9 French and a Swiss climber. On November 4, French Robert Collard, Swiss Pierre Alain Rickli and Ang Dawa Sherpa reached the summit, followed on November 9 by Mlle Véronique Parein, Dominique Gombert, leader Richard, Dawa Sherpa and again Ang Dawa Sherpa.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Ama Dablam Winter Ascents. There were two expeditions on the normal southwest ridge of Ama Dablam during the winter climbing season. Warwick Baird, one of two Australians, paired up with members of the South Koreans in a climb to the summit on December 15. The members of the Korean expedition that reached the top that day were Yoo Byoung-Cheul and Ang Dawa Sherpa. On December 19, Korean leader Park Kyung-Lee, Dawa Sherpa and again Ang Dawa Sherpa climbed to the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu from the South, Pre-Monsoon. Cho Oyu (8201 meters, 26,906 feet) continues to be a popular objective, the west side often being reached from Nepal. Alain Hantz, leader of a group of six Frenchmen, climbed to the summit of Cho Oyu with Nepalese Man Bahadur Gurung and Iman Singh Gurung on

April 22. A Brazilian, Sergio Beck, got to the summit in an unathorized climb that same day. Four Americans, led by David Houchin, failed in their attempt, reaching 6100 meters on April 8.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu, East Ridge Ascent and Tragedy. A team of 14 Russians, a Ukrainian and a Bashkir was led by Sergei Yefimov. They succeeded in climbing Cho Oyu (8201 meters, 26,906 feet) by the formidable east ridge, which has a 70-meter-deep gap with 80° rock on its sides at a very high altitude. They overcame this great obstacle partly by making an extremely difficult traverse on a rock ledge on the Tibetan side. This ridge had previously been unsuccessfully attempted by Japanese, British, Polish, American and Japanese climbers. Their highest fixed camp was at 6950 meters. At eight A.M. on October 20, six members set out from a bivouac at 7900 meters on the western side of this obstacle. Climbing without artificial oxygen, Ivan Plotnikov, Eugeny Vinogradsky and Alexsander Yakovenko gained the summit three hours later. Two more, Valeri Pershin and Sergei Bogomolov reached the top nearly two hours after that. Yuri Grebeniuk turned back at 8000 meters because his fingers were beginning to freeze and as a surgeon he wanted to keep them from being damaged. Tragically, the next day during the party's descent from the bivouac, Grebeniuk was hit on the forehead by a falling stone while he was climbing out of the gap. Like the summitters, he was not wearing a helmet. He received a deep wound and lived only a minute longer. His body had to be left in a sleeping bag on a shelf in the gully.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu, West Side from the South, Ascents and Attempt, Post-Monsoon. On September 29, Russians Vyatcheslav Skripko, leader, Mikhail Mozhayev and Yevgeny Prilepa reached the summit of Cho Oyu, having climbed in one day from 7200 meters. On October 1, the two Bulgarian members of the same expedition, Borislav Dimitrov and Miss Iordanka Dimitrova also got to the top. Miss Dimitrova is the first Bulgarian woman to have climbed an 8000er. She has climbed all 7000ers in what was the USSR, becoming the first foreign female "Snow Leopard." A French expedition was also successful from Nepal on the western side of the peak: Max Imbert and Dawa Sherpa on October 4 and leader Michel Zalio and Kilu Temba Sherpa on October 5. These were the 95th to 98th ascents of the mountain. Three Austrians led by Rudi Mayr were unsuccessful, reaching 6500 meters on October 28 and November 4.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Numbur. Helmut Müller and I traveled to Jiri by bus and then made a sevenday approach via Junbesi, Basa Drangka, over a 4352-meter pass to the

PLATE 50

Photo by Mathias Rau

Southwest Ridge and South Face of NUMBUR.

Dudhkunda Khola. We set up Base Camp on October 10 at 4600 meters at Yüligolcha, a little lake on the west side of the Dudh Kund Glacier. From Base Camp we climbed grass slopes and scree to a col to rejoin the glacier at 5200 meters. We followed the glacier to its western top and placed Camp I at 5450 meters on October 28. We ascended a snow-covered rock spur which climbed westward to join the southwest ridge, the normal route on the mountain, at 5800 meters. On November 6, we climbed this spur and placed Camp II at 6000 meters just below a steep step on the ridge. On November 7, Müller and I climbed a 45° ice slope to easier terrain and the summit (6957 meters, 22,824 feet).

MATHIAS RAU, Deutscher Alpenverein

Dorje Lhakpa Winter Ascent. A South Korean expedition succeeded in making the seventh ascent of Dorje Lhakpa (6966 meters, 22,854 feet) and did it in the winter. They climbed the west ridge. On December 16, leader Song Ki-Bo, Jung Woo-Chang and Ang Kami Sherpa reached the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Langtang Lirung, Post-Monsoon Southeast Ridge Attempts. Two expeditions attempted Langtang Lirung (7225 meters, 23,705 feet) by the southeast ridge in the post-monsoon period. British led by James Grey got to 6100 meters on October 31. Japanese under the leadership of Mitsuo Nomura reached a high point of 7150 meters on November 3.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Manaslu Attempt. Five Swiss led by Franco Dellatorre tried to climb Manaslu by the northeast face. They reached a high point of 6415 meters on April 6.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Manaslu Attempt. Our expedition was made up of Frank Nugent, co-leader, Calvin Torrens, Martin Daly, Harry O'Brien, Donie O'Sullivan, Philip Holmes, Dermot Somers, Mike Barry, Robbie Fenlon, Garry Murray, John Murray, William Forde, Leslie Lawrence, Nick Stevenson and me as co-leader. We attempted the normal route, the northeast flank. We got to Base Camp at 3850 meters on March 25. We established Advance Base and Camps I and II at 4200, 5050 and 5600 meters on March 29, April 2 and 14. Heavy snowfalls delayed progress. We made three attempts to get to Camp III on April 22, 25 and 27, the last one reaching 6000 meters. On April 29, we returned to Base Camp and left the mountain on May 1. The weather was continually bad from April 4 until we left. Though the camps were in safe positions, the route was threatened by avalanches.

DAWSON STELFOX, Irish Manaslu Expedition

Manaslu Traverse. A strong Soviet expedition from the Ukraine with 20 members, 16 of them climbers, was led by Dr. Vladimir Shumikhin and Sergei Bershov. They had hoped to ascend the still unclimbed east face of Manaslu (8163 meters, 26,780 feet). In 1987 a Polish pair climbed to 6800 meters on it and in 1990 a Soviet party got to 7200 meters but was stopped when three of them fell to their deaths. This year's expedition established Base Camp at 4200 meters on March 21. "There was surprisingly much snow," says Bershov, "and it snowed day in, day out." Depite bad conditions, three camps were placed at 5200, 6200 and 7000 meters, the last on April 8. A group led by V. Khitrikov made three attempts to finish the route but was driven back by bad weather. A late April snowstorm damaged camps and covered much equipment. They decided to try the Polish route from the south, climbed in 1984 by Lwow and Wielicki. On May 1, Alexei Makarov, Viktor Pastukh and Igor Svergun started alpine-style toward the Pungen La (6700 meters), the south ridge and southeast face to the summit, which they reached on May 6. They descended the normal northeast route, which took two more bivouacs.

JÓZEF NYKA, Editor, Taternik, Poland

Manaslu Attempt and Tragedy. Our expedition attempted to climb Manaslu by the northeast face, the first-ascent route. We were Albert Brugger, Gregor Demetz, Karl Grossrubatscher, Friedl and Hans Mutschlechner, Stephan Plangger, Christian Rier, Erich Seeber, Werner Tinkhauser, Roland Losso, Dr. Pavel Dolecek and I as leader. We set up Base Camp and Camp I at 4000 and 5600 meters on April 18 and 21. At Camp I, we found a thin film of oil on the water we had melted from snow. This may well have been carried eastward from the burning oil fields of Kuwait. Bad weather prevented progress for the next two weeks. On May 7, Friedl Mutschlechner, Grossrubatscher and I climbed to Camp I. On May 8 and 9, we set up Camps II and III at 6250 and 7000 meters. After a stormy night, we three started for the summit. Mutschlechner turned back an hour later, fearing frostbite. Shortly after that Grossrubatscher also began the descent. I kept on to 7600 meters, where stormy weather made me retreat to Camp III, where I found only Mutschlechner. I learned that Grossrubatscher was dead. While photographing, he had lost a crampon and fallen a few meters, breaking his neck. After placing his body in a crevasse, Mutschlechner and I climbed down to Camp II and then began to ski down to Camp I. It began to snow. At 3:30 P.M., when still only a few meters from camp, Mutschlechner was struck by lightning and instantly killed. I spent a sad night in Camp I and skied down to Base Camp the next day. Grossrubatscher was one of Italy's best rock climbers. He had been on numerous expeditions and had climbed the Uli Biaho Tower and Cerro Torre. Mutschlechner was also one of the most successful alpinists, having climbed three 8000ers with Reinhold Messner.

HANS KAMMERLANDER, South Tirol, Italy

Manaslu, Post-Monsoon Northeast Face Ascent and Attempts. An international party of 15 Swiss, an Austrian, an Italian and an American was headed by Bruno Jelk. On October 25, Swiss Mauro Ferrari and Horst Brantschen reached the summit, having climbed the normal northeast-face route. Less successful were Italians led by Oreste Forno who got to 7100 meters on September 28 and again on October 8 and Catalan Spaniards under the leadership of Antoni Llasera who reached 7900 meters on October 6.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Manaslu, South Face Attempt. An American expedition led by Austin Weiss was composed of John Owen, Craig Dobkin, Clyde Soles, Jim Graham, Mark Kightlinger, Deborah Eads and Mark Selland. Their high point on the south face was 7800 meters, reached on October 22.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cheo Himal. The previously untrodden summit of Cheo Himal (6820 meters, 22,375 feet), which is north-northwest of Manaslu, was reached on October 13 by Japanese Shigeki Imoto and Nepalese Tshering Sherpa, Ful Bahadur Rai and Dambar Bahadur Gurung, members of a joint Japanese and Nepalese Police Force expedition, led by Japanese Masanobu Okazaki and Nepalese Gupta Bahadur Rana. Their route above Advance Base began on the south face of Himlung Himal on the lower part of the route which the Japanese had used when they made the first ascent of Himlung Himal in 1983. Camps I and II were established at 4800 and 5580 meters on September 22 and 30 on that face, despite serious rockfall. They then traversed a snowfield to the east to place Camps III and IV at 5800 and 6400 meters on the southeast ridge of Cheo Himal. The summit was reached by four of the nine who set out on a long summit day.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Himlung Himal Winter Attempt. British climbers led by Richard Emerson attempted to climb Himlung Himal (7126 meters, 23,379 feet) by a western spur to gain the south ridge. They were able to get to 6050 meters on December 19.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kang Guru. Our expedition was composed of Domenico Bidese, Imerio Dal Santo, Paolo Ghitti, Fiorenzo Pagiusco and me as leader. On October 4, we established Base Camp at Meta, a deserted village at 3600 meters at the foot of the mountain. We placed Camp I on the 7th at 4900 meters below a rock wall which seals off the valley. On October 12, we climbed the wall up a steep couloir to place Camp II at 5600 meters. Camp III was set up at 6100 meters at the foot of the northwest ridge on October 20. On October 21, Bidese, Ghitti, Pagiusco,

Ang Dawa Tamang, Lhakpa Tamang and I climbed a steep ice spur for 400 meters to join the sharp, corniced northwest ridge and reached the summit (6981 meters, 22,904 feet). This was the German first-ascent route.

GIANCARLO CONTALBRIGO, Club Alpino Italiano

Bhrikuti, First (?) and Second (?) Ascents. There had been some question as to whether Bhrikuti (6364 meters, 20,879 feet) in northern Mustang had been successfully climbed before a joint British-Nepalese expedition, led by Elaine Brook and Lhakpa Sherpa, set out for it this autumn. Japanese claimed the first success in 1982 by three separate summit parties, but the leader of an unsuccessful French team four years later said that he had seen their photos and was certain that they had not reached the highest summit. In any case, it was not the British members who went to the top via the southeast ridge on October 22 but three Sherpas, Lhakpa, Ang Zangbu and Ang Kitar. The Britons, who were feeling the effects of altitude remained in Base Camp except for the doctor, who went to Advance Base. On November 3, a French expedition led by Bertrand Doligez also followed the southeast ridge to the summit. Those who got to the top were Doligez, Jean-Pierre Bourgeois, Patrick Blanfune, Jean-Marc Pillot, Frédéric Simond and Sherpas Ang Tendi and Mingma Tenzing.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Bhrikuti Winter Attempt. Romolo Nottaris and three other Swiss attempted to make a winter ascent of Bhrikuti by the southwest ridge, but they were able to reach only 5500 meters on November 30.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Manang Mountaineering School. The 11th course began on August 13. This year there were three Nepalese instructors: Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa, Ang Tsering Sherpa and Musul Kazi Tamang. We Slovene instructors were Alenka Jamnik (f), Darja Jenko (f), Tomaz Azman, Bojan Pograjc and I. The course was attended by 26 Nepalis, two Chinese and one Syrian. The first part, given in six days in Kathmandu, included theory and rock-climbing practice. The practical course in Manang took 20 days. One day was spent practicing on the Gangapurna Glacier, three days were for the ascent of Naur Peak and four days for ascent of Chulu Far East.

MARCO ŠTREMFELJ, Planinska zveza Slovenije

Annapurna IV Attempt. Our members were John McMenamin, Heather McComb, Ruth Gemperlein, Jim Tweedie, Base Camp Manager Pat Ballard and I as leader. Bad weather and deep snow severely hampered our efforts. Upon arriving on March 30 at Yak Kharak in the Sabje Khola valley on the northwest

side of Annapurna IV, we encountered deep snow that extended down to 3800 meters which prevented our mule caravan from carrying loads higher. From a low Base Camp there, with a small porter contingent we were forced to ferry loads for five days to Advance Base at 4650 meters. On April 4, this was occupied on the south side of a high rock ridge on the Sabje Glacier. Crows were a problem to food and everything had to be securely covered. The campsite had obviously been used by other expeditions judging from the debris in the area. From Advance Base, it was an hour's hike to the foot of the icefall leading to the dome on the northwest ridge. It took several days to fix the route to Camp I. We had to rebreak trail each morning in new or drifted snow. Two caches were set up along the way. Again crows were a problem. Camp I was set up on April 17 on a small ledge in the icefall. Above Camp I, the route became steeper and a long section of hard 50° ice had to be crossed. We got only to the site of Camp II because on the night of April 20 our tent at Camp I was destroyed by an avalanche. One member was in the tent at the time, but he was not injured. We then abandoned the expedition because of dangerous conditions and lack of time.

RICHARD SALISBURY

Annapurna IV Attempts. A student from Osaka, Japan, Koichi Sugiyama, with Kami Tshering Sherpa, climbed to 6480 meters via the northwest ridge. They gave up on September 7 due to adverse weather. A South Korean Buddhist monk, Rim Jong-Bum, with five Sherpas, also was unsuccessful, reaching 7000 meters on October 9 on the same route before strong winds forced a retreat. Serbs led by Milenko Savić got to 6500 meters also on the northeast ridge before having to abandon the attempt.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna III, Post-Monsoon Attempts. There were two unsuccessful expeditions to Annapurna III (7555 meters, 24,787 feet) after the monsoon. American William Bancroft and a companion got to 4730 meters on the southeast buttress in September 30. Japanese led by Morimasa Ohtani attempted to get to the south ridge from the south and reached 6800 meters on October 13.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Gangapurna Attempts. There were two unsuccessful expeditions to Gangapurna (7455 meters, 24,457 feet) in the post-monsoon period. Eight Spaniards were led by Francisco José Palacios. After getting to 5900 meters on the north face on October 17, they turned to the north spur in order to reach the north ridge, where they got as high as 6400 meters on October 24. Three Swiss led by Hans Rauner climbed the north spur to the north ridge but could not get above 7200 meters, which they reached on October 23.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

CLIMBS AND EXPEDITIONS, 1991

Gangapurna Winter Attempt. Timothy Brill led a group of six Americans, who attempted to climb Gangapurna (7455 meters, 24,457 feet) via the south ridge from the south. They were able to get to only 5800 meters on December 8.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Tarke Kang (Glacier Dome) Attempt. Four English climbers led by Keith Foster attempted to climb Tarke Kang (7193 meters, 23,600 feet) by its south ridge. They got to a high point of 5800 meters on October 24.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Khangsar Kang (Roc Noir) Winter Attempt. Seven Koreans led by Lee Dong-Myung were unable to complete the ascent of Khangsar Kang (7485 meters, 24,557 feet), which they attempted by the south face. They got to 6600 meters on December 12.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna, Solo Autumn Ascent, 1990. I approached Annapurna in May of 1989 but did not make a real attempt to climb the mountain because of bad weather. In the autumn of 1990, I returned. I flew to Jomosom and continued on with seven porters to the Annapurna Base Camp at 5200 meters on the north side of the mountain, which I reached on October 5. Two Sherpas helped me to establish Camp I at 5600 meters. From there on, I climbed solo, moving up a few hundred meters during the comparative lulls early each morning. I was plagued by wind, stomach problems and high-altitude sickness, but persisted. Finally on October 25, 1990, I got to the summit, having taken four hours to complete the last 100 meters. It took me another five days to descend to Base Camp, where my Sherpas awaited me. [Gazzola did not get permission to climb the mountain and so this was an illegal ascent. There is also actually a considerable amount of doubt in Italy that Gazzola accomplished this ascent.—*Editor*.]

GIANCARLO GAZZOLA, Club Alpino Italiano

Annapurna, Pre-Monsoon Attempts. There were two unsuccessful expeditions that attempted the Dutch route on the north face of Annapurna. Austrian Arthur Haid led five Austrians and a German, who reached 5900 meters on April 21. Ralf Dujmovits guided a group of 14 Germans who got to 5750 meters on April 26.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna Tragedy. A 14-man South Korean team led by Ko Yong-Chul abandoned its attempt after two members and four Sherpa porters were killed by

an avalanche on September 19. The Korean victims were Lee Sang-Gu and Lee Seok-Jee; the Sherpas were Dawa Sange, Norbu Jangbu, Lhakpa Tendi and Tenzing. Their Camp IV at 7500 meters was swept down the mountain. Two other Sherpas were carried down by the avalanche but managed to survive. One of them broke a leg and the other escaped with bruises. As they fell, Jin Ang-Sung was observing them with binoculars from Camp I at 5050 meters. Others in Camp III at 6900 meters knew nothing about it until a surviving Sherpa came down to report the accident. Yul Bae-Sung, who was at Camp III, rushed to the site but found only five bodies. The body of one Sherpa could not be traced. They were given a snow burial. The victims had hoped to make a summit bid the next day.

KAMAL K. GUHA, Editor, Himavanta, India

Annapurna Attempt. Our group of ten Americans, mostly professional mountain guides, attempted to climb the north face of Annapurna by the Dutch Rib. We arrived at Base Camp on August 28, finding a large Korean expedition already at Camp I. We caught up with the Koreans' Sherpas along the rib and shared the work of trail breaking and rope fixing with them up to 7300 meters. Large avalanches poured down the mountain throughout our climb, destroying Korean Camps I, II and III at various times. Bill Crouse and we two occupied our Camp IV at 7325 meters on September 18. The next was to be a rest day prior to a summit attempt on September 20. All the technical climbing was below and our camp was at the final sérac barrier. At midday, six Sherpas and two Koreans passed our camp. The Sherpas were worried because the Koreans were forcing them to camp at 7500 meters, where there was no avalanche protection. Two hours later, a large avalanche roared over Camp IV, partially burying our tents. It also carried four Sherpas and two Koreans down. Five of them flushed out at 6275-meter Camp III, all to die within 20 minutes of internal injuries. One Sherpa was never found. We descended, helping the two survivors down and burying the dead. Five days later, Paul Valiulis, Ron Johnson and we two reascended to Camp III to find more new, unstable snow and constant winds. We retreated.

JULIE AND MATT CULBERSON

Annapurna, Northwest Buttress Attempt. An expedition of six Austrians was led by Hubert Fritzenwallner. On October 13, they reached a high point of 6120 meters on the northwest buttress.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna North Face, Ascent and Attempts, Post-Monsoon. A Russian expedition was led by Alexander Glushkovski. They climbed the Dutch Rib on the north face. On October 24, Sergei Arsentiev and Nikolai Cherny reached the

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summit. Two other groups were unable to get to the top. Spaniards led by Albino Quinteiro reached 6300 meters on September 19. Japanese under the leadership of Masaru Otani got to 6450 meters on October 1.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna, West Face Solo Attempt. From October 28 to 31, I climbed a new route on the west face of Annapurna solo alpine-style but did not ascend to the summit. I got to Base Camp at 4300 meters on October 19 and bivouacked at the foot of the west face at 5150 meters on October 27. I followed the 1985 Messner route to 6000 meters and after that climbed a new route to the left of his. After a bivouac at 6200 meters on the upper plateau, I climbed 70° ice and experienced some rockfall. I bivouacked again at 6900 meters after reaching a snow ridge. On the 30th, I worked left onto a safer part of the face. I climbed to 7300 meters, where I had to halt for two hours because of the wind. I then continued up snow-covered rock to 7800 meters where I bivouacked in what was left of my tent. On October 31, I got to 7900 meters near to the normal route but was forced back by the wind to bivouac again at 7800 meters. On November 1, I traversed the north face and descended the normal route and bivouacked at the site of Camp I. I was back in Base Camp on November 2. This had been packed up by my Base-Camp staff, who thought I had not survived, but I managed to walk down to a village on two frost-bitten toes.

SLAVC SVETIČIČ, Planinska zveza Slovenije

Annapurna, South Face Ascent and Tragedy. The 13th ill-fated climber in Nepal in the post-monsoon season was a Belgian, who died in the season's most dramatic death, having disappeared with no final trace. Gabriel Denamur was a member of one of two international expeditions led by Poles on the Bonington route on the south face of Annapurna. His team was led by Mieczysław Jarosz. Denamur and a Polish teammate, Kazimierz Stępień who climbed without Sherpas or artificial oxygen, planned to go to the summit together from the last camp, Camp III at 7300 meters and made an abortive attempt on October 19. The next morning, Denamur started up alone, and he was never seen again. Stepień began his own ascent at noon on the 20th and did not see Denamur at any time. He lost the trail, darkness fell and he bivouacked at 7700 meters in the hope of climbing the rest of the way on the 21st. However, he had to descend because he was beginning to suffer from high-altitude sickness. He was met that morning by the leader of the other expedition, Krzysztof Wielicki, who was on his way to the summit. Wielicki found a line of fresh footprints on the snow ahead of him leading all the way to the top-and down the other side, the north face. He saw no other trace of Denamur, nor did members of his team who followed him to the summit on October 22 and 23. Jarosz hoped that other climbers on the north face would help Denamur and did not send out a search team. His expedition's food supplies were running low and they mounted no further summit attempts. Some

PLATE 51

Photo by Andrej Stremfelj

ANNAPURNA's West Face.....= Swiss Attemp!, Autumn 1984; ____= Svetičič, 1991; ----= Messner, 1985; -..-.= French Attempt, 1986; _..-.= French Attempt, Spring 1984.

of the members had already left Base Camp on the 20th. They hoped Denamur would make his way to Kathmandu. But he did not. A Russian expedition was still on the north face when Denamur disappeared on the 20th, and two of their number went to the summit on the 24th. They saw absolutely no signs that anyone had descended their route. He might have plunged into some area where the Russians did not go. This possibility is perhaps supported by some footprints raised above the surface of the snow by wind scouring the snow around them. These were found by Svetičič west of the normal north-face route during his traverse from the west face on November 2. Without bivouac gear, Denamur could not have long survived.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna, South Face. Our international party was composed of Poles Mrs. Jolanta Patynoska, Mrs. Wanda Rutkiewicz. Ryszard Pawłowski, Bogdan Stefko, Mariusz Sprutta and me as leader, German Rüdiger Schlevpen, Belgian Miss Ingrid Baeyens, Briton John Keska and Portuguese Gonçalo Velez. We hoped to climb the 1970 British route. We set up Base Camp at 4150 meters on September 11 and Advance Base at 4850 meters at the foot of the face. We cooperated with another Polish expedition led by Mieczysłav Jarosz. Camps I, II and III were established at 6100, 6800 and 7350 meters on September 20 and October 4 and 11. We fixed 2500 meters of rope on the exceedingly difficult route with numerous technical obstacles. To prepare and fix 700 vertical meters between Camps I and II, with ice gullies of 55° to 60°, took two weeks. The first summit attempt was thwarted by strong winds. Stefko and I reached the summit on October 21 at 11:30 A.M. In the top area, we found tracks made some hours earlier by the Belgian Gabi Denamur, a member of the other Polish party. He reached the summit by the British route and decided to descend the normal route. Unfortunately, he was never seen again. On October 22, Pawłowski, Rüdiger and Wanda Rutkiewicz got to the top, climbing separately. On the 23rd, Miss Baevens, Sprutta and Velez were the third summit team. Base Camp was evacuated on October 26. Ours was the fourth expedition to climb the route. Velez was the first Portuguese to climb an 8000er. This was Ingrid's third 8000er and for both Wanda and me the eighth.

KRZYSZTOF WIELICKI, Klub Wysokogórski, Katowice, Poland

Annapurna South Face. Our expedition hoped to climb a direct route in the center of Annapurna's south face alpine-style. The team was made up of Valentin Ivanov, Dr. Valeri Karpenko, Vassili Elagin, Vladimir Bashirov, Vladimir Obichod, Sergei Isaev, Nikolai Petrov, Alexander Sheinov, Vladimir Yanochkin, Dmitri Egorov, radio operator Maria Klochko and me as leader. The first attempt of nine climbers reached 6500 meters. On September 30, rockfall

broke Karpenko's leg and hit Egorov's back. The rescue operation took 60 hours. The pair was evacuated to Base Camp at 4100 meters and helicoptered to Kathmandu. The second attempt of seven climbers got to 7350 meters in a 12-day effort. They climbed extremely difficult ice and rock and never found a bivouac site except for artificial snow platforms. On October 17, Sheinov fell ill from high-altitude sickness and the team brought him down. We had almost no more food and all were fatigued. Andy Lapkass of the American Annapurna Dakshin expedition provided us with some food. After meeting with Krzysztof Wielicki of one of the Polish expeditions on the 1970 British (Bonington) route, Bashkirov, Obichod, Isaev and Petrov left Base Camp on October 22 and climbed that route, reaching the summit on October 26 from Camp III at 7350 meters.

VASSILI SENATOROV, Periodicals Trading Service, Russia

Varah Shikhar (Fang) Winter Attempt. South Koreans led by Yu Jae-Hyoung tried to climb the east face to the southeast ridge of Varah Shikhar, also called the Fang (7647 meters, 25,089 feet). They got to 6350 meters on January 1, 1992.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna Dakshin Attempt. New Zealander John Madgwick and a companion failed to climb Annapurna Dakshin by its south face. Their high point of 5500 meters was reached on March 28.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna Dakshin, Southeast Ridge Attempt. On October 14, only four days out from Kathmandu, Susan Diprima, Jim Jennings, John Lapkass, Geoff Radford, Dave Sullivan and I as leader reached Base Camp at 13,500 feet in the Annapurna Sanctuary. The next day we established Advance Base at 15,000 feet, partially up the Annapurna South Glacier. From October 16 to 19, we worked at finding a safe route through the icefall and into a snowy basin below the col on the southeast ridge of Annapurna Dakshin (South). Unfortunately, the icefall was either impassable or severely threatened by hanging séracs off Hiunchuli and the Fang. On the 21st, we called the climb off and spent until November 4 on one- to three-day climbs in the sanctuary. We burned and buried all garbage and carried out cans and bottles.

ANDREW LAPKASS, Alpine Guides International

Annapurna Dakshin. Six Japanese led by Yoshio Matsunaga climbed Annapurna Dakshin (South) by the southwest ridge. They established Base Camp and Camps I, II and III, at 4800, 5450, 5700 and 6400 meters on

PLATE 5

Photo by B. Encland ANNAPURNA's South Face. Part of British 1970 (Bonington) noute on left. Russian 1991 attempt in center of face.

September 27, October 2, 9 and 19. On October 22, the leader Matsunaga, Yoshiyuki Shinji, Masayuki Yamamoto and Ngati Sherpa completed the 18th ascent of the peak (7219 meters, 23,684 feet).

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Tilitso, Post-Monsoon. There were two successful expeditions to Tilitso (7134 meters, 23,406 feet) in the post-monsoon season. Fourteen Swiss and a Pole from the University of Bern, led by Karl Kobler, climbed the northeast spur to the north ridge. They set up Base Camp and Camps I and II at 4950, 5800 and 6200 meters. Rope was fixed between 5400 and 6200 meters. The summit was reached by the following: Kobler and Christoph Krell on September 29; Kobler (again), Henry Bartu, Fräulein Brigitte Huber, Christoph Pappa, Hanspeter Demund on September 30; Josef Faller, Alex Suter, Fräulein Marianne Jau, Stephan Aebersold, Pole Mirosław Matyja on October 1; and Manuel Gossauer, Martin Mast, Fräulein Mathilde Waser and Pasang Sherpa on October 2. A French expedition led by Christian Sounier was also successful on the same route. On October 8, Michel Feuillarade, Mlle Anne Rosa and Nima Kancha Sherpa reached the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Tukuche and Dhampus Ascents. A French expedition led by Jean Moatti made the 16th authorized ascent of Tukuche (6920 meters, 22,703 feet). On September 28, Frédéric Buet and Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa reached the summit via the northwest ridge. This same group also made the 10th and 11th authorized ascents of Dhampus (6012 meters, 19,723 feet) via the southwest ridge. On September 21, Henri Coffy, Michel Huglin and Nawang Sherpa got to the top, followed on September 30 by Buet and Mrs. Nima Sange Sherpani. Japanese led by Takashi Ito also climbed the northwest ridge of Tukuche and on October 4, Ichita Ono and Yukito Ueno reached the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Dhaulagiri, West Face. Our team from Kazakhstan sent ten members to the summit of Dhaulagiri by a difficult new route on the west face. They were climbing leader Yervand Ilinsky, Yuri Moiseev, Andrei Tselishchev, Anatoli Bukreev, Vladimir Sugiva, Renat Khaibullin, Valeri Khrishchaty, Artur Shegai, Alexandr Savin, Vladimir Prisyazhny, Zaurbek Mizambekov, Viktor Dedi and Dr. Valentin Makarov. They started up a rock spur of variable steepness. A rock wall of 75° between 5500 and 6000 meters was the most difficult part of the route. Difficulty up to UIAA VI+ and poor weather complicated efforts. Between 6000 and 6800 meters there was an ice slope followed by mixed ice and

PLATE 53 Photo by Jiří Novák

DHAULAGIRI's West Face. From left to right: Czechoslovak route, 1984; Kazakh route, 1990; Czechoslovak Attempt, 1985; Kazakh route, alpine-style 1991.

rock of 55°. Rope was fixed up to 7350 meters. Base Camp and Camps I, II, III, IV, V and VI were established at 3600, 4670, 5200, 5500, 6000, 6400 and 7400 on April 2, 6, 19, 15, 26, May 6 and 9. On May 10, Moiseev, Suviga, Bukreev, Tselishchev and Khaibullin reached the summit. On May 13, Khrishchaty, Shegai, Savin, Prisyazhny and Mizambekov climbed to the top. The eleventh member of the assault team, Dedi, broke a bone in his hand while moving a rock to set up Camp I and so could not climb higher.

KAZBEK VALIEV, Kazakhstan

Dhaulagiri. On May 14, a nine-member Danish team managed to place their leader Søren Smid on the summit of Dhaulagiri by the standard northeast ridge route. He became the first Dane to climb an 8000er. He climbed solo from their Camp II at 7200 meters, spent two nights alone at Camp II at 7700 meters and made his way to the top on a cold but clear and windless morning. He used no bottled oxygen.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Dhaulagiri, Post-Monsoon Northeast Ridge Ascents and Attempts. A party of five Spaniards to the normal northeast ridge was led by Xavier González. On October 2, Jordi Corominas completed the 51st ascent of the peak. Japanese under the leadership of Hitoshi Onodera were also successful when on October 11 Toshihiya Nakajima, Koji Yokoyama and Keepa Sherpa reached the top. Haruyuki Endo and his wife Yuka Endo had hoped to lead their group of five Japanese up the east face of Dhaulagiri, but they had to give up the attempt at 5750 meters on October 3. They then turned to the northeast ridge, getting as high as 8000 meters on October 15. Two French expeditions failed; the group led by Roger Laot at 7800 meters on October 2 and those with Philippe Le Balch at 8130 meters on October 6. Six Poles and an Austrian were to have climbed under the leadership of Wanda Rutkiewicz, but she arrived too late and they had as deputy leader Piotr Malinowski. The climbers reached 7100 meters on October 15 and 28. A Spaniard, Antonio Martínez, headed for Dhaulagiri without permission from the Nepalese authorities. He was stopped before he had climbed very high by the government-appointed liaison officer with an authorized expedition and was taken to Kathmandu, where he was fined about \$1,750.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Putha Hiunchuli Attempt. German Heinrich Buhr and two Sherpas made an attempt on Putha Hiunchuli (7246 meters, 23,773 feet), hoping to climb the west ridge. They had serious problems on the approach. Their high point was 5300 meters, which they reached on October 20, after they had exhausted their supply of rope for fixing the route.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

KANJERALWA's Northwest Photo by Jordi Pons

PLATE 54

Kanjeralwa Attempt. Our expedition was composed of Frenchmen Olivier Besson, leader, Guy Cousteix, Lukie Laurent and me from Spain. We were able to fly to the airstrip at Juphal, near Dunai. This lies only three or four days from Ringmo, the capital of Dolpo, situated on the most beautiful lake I have ever seen in the Himalaya. Kanjeralwa (6612 meters, 21,692 feet) lies in Phoksumdo National Park, east of the lake. We tried to reconnoiter the east face but found it inaccessible. We ascended the northwest face alpine-style on May 5. We set out at two A.M. with headlamps on a 40° slope. The slope is cut by a gigantic sérac barrier which obliged us to make a spectacular ascending traverse of some 200 meters. At five A.M. we made the exposed traverse on very hard ice. Once above the sérac, we could for a time follow a snow rib, which was the only place we could rest our feet. The rib then merged into the face. From there on, the slope steepened to 60° and 70° with pitches on transparent ice. There was not a single platform and changing leads was very uncomfortable. We continued up the face until we reached the ridge crest at 6400 meters. It was two P.M. Without going on to the summit, we descended the south face, bivouacking at 5100 meters. It was by the west face that Japanese led by Fumihito Watanable made the first and only other ascent of the mountain on April 23 and 24, 1973 after establishing five high camps.

JORDI PONS, Centre Excursionista de Catalunya, Spain

Tripura Hiunchuli IV (Hanging Glacier Peak IV), Kanjiroba Himal. After flying to Baglung, an international group led by Doug Scott began a long approach on September 30. They trekked via Beni, the Myagdi Khola, Darbanh, Dhorpatan, the Ghustang Khola, Tarakot on the Barbung Khola, Ringmo, over the Kagmara La, the Garpung Khola to the Jagdula Khola East, arriving at their Base Camp on October 25. They established Advance Base at 5200 meters below the start of the rocky ridge. On October 27, Britons Doug Scott, Nigel Porter and John Cullen and Indian Sharu Prabhu (f) made an abortive attempt on Tripura Hiunchuli IV (6294 meters, 20,650 feet), the southernmost of the Hanging Glacier Peaks, climbing from the west. On October 27, Scott, Porter and Prabhu completed the first ascent of the mountain. They had loose rock for 500 meters and then good ice and snow. They made an unplanned bivouac at 5500 meters on the descent. They returned to Jumla for a flight to Kathmandu on November 4. (Doug Scott has kindly provided this information.)

Api, Northwest Ridge. An expedition of five South Koreans was led by Lee Thea-Yeon. On May 27, Son Dong-Su, Pemba Tshering Sherpa and Pasang Gyalbo Sherpa completed the fifth ascent of Api (7132 meters, 23,399 feet), climbing the northwest ridge.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY