

for the rest of the day. Setting out at three A.M. on May 30, they evacuated Camp II and descended to Camp I at seven A.M. and to Base Camp at ten A.M. Camp I was evacuated on May 31 and Base Camp on June 1. We got to Lachen on June 2. We used no fixed ropes. We had four 8mm ropes only (two for each party) and so the ascent was semi-alpine-style. Our route was the same as that of the previous parties.

TONE ŠKARJA, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

Siniolchu Attempt. Our expedition was composed of Sen Hiraizumi, Atsushi Koyama, Ryosuke Wakusawa and I as leader. On May 8, we reached only 4800 meters and had to turn back because of bad weather and a tight schedule. We established Base Camp at Yabuk at 3978 meters on May 3, Advance Base at 4570 meters on May 5 and after crossing the Zemu Glacier, Camp I at 4600 meters on the Siniolchu Glacier on May 7. This was really a reconnaissance for 1995.

MASATO NOSE, M.D., *Tohoku University School of Medicine, Japan*

Kabru South. An Indian Army expedition led by Colonel H.S. Chauhan, former head of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Manali claims to have climbed Kabru South (7317 meters, 24,096 feet) for the first time. It is reported that 13 members reached the top led by Captain S.P. Mallick on May 12, followed the next day by 14 more under the leadership of Major A.B. Goth. No details are available at this time.

Gemmigela I (Twin I) Ascent and Tragedy. A Japanese expedition of eight was led by Kenshiro Otaki. On October 29, Shigeru Yokokawa and Sherpas Pasang Tensing, Dawang and Pasang completed the first ascent of the peak (7350 meters, 24,144 feet), but all returned with serious frostbite and had to be evacuated. On October 31, Kazunori Chikui and Ishimori Takashima also reached the summit. They retreated to their high camp at 6700 meters but were trapped there by heavy storms. They were last heard from on November 3. Finally, on November 21, Sherpas found their bodies in the final camp. In 1993, a Japanese expedition attempted this peak. They reached the summit of Gemmigela II and were attempting to continue to the main peak when Masanori Sato was killed in a crevasse fall and the expedition abandoned. [See *AAJ*, 1994, pages 203-4.]

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, Himalayan Journal*

Nepal

Kangchenjunga Attempt. An expedition of 12 South Koreans led by Yoo Jae-II attempted the southwest face of Kangchenjunga but only got to 6800 meters on September 18.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kangchenjunga Ascent and Tragedy. An expedition of 6 Belorussians, 4 Russians and two Bulgarians was led by Belorussian Sergei Novikov. Russia's best known woman climber, Yekaterina Ivanova, and the best known female alpinist of Bulgaria, Yordanka Dimitrova died on this expedition to the southwest face of Kangchenjunga. Ivanova was killed by an avalanche that struck a bivouac at 6700 meters on the night of October 9/10 while she and Belorussian Sergei Jvirbiva were sleeping. When a search party went to their bivouac site, they found only a crampon on the snow. Dimitrova disappeared on October 23 after she was last seen by teammates at 8300 meters in her bid for the summit without the use of bottled oxygen. She was never seen again. Belorussian Viktor Kulbachenko, who left their highest camp five hours after her for his own summit attempt, did reach the summit with artificial oxygen. He reported that he saw her ski pole and ice axe at different places along the route and that her tracks ended at 8300 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kumbhakarna (Jannu) Attempt. Pierre Rizzardo, leader, Robin Molinatti, Xavier Cret and I attempted a climb on the north side of Kumbhakarna (7710 meters, 25,295 feet). We planned to climb a new route leading to the virgin pass between Sobithongie (6670 meters) and Kumbhakarna and then to ascend the northwest buttress of Kumbhakarna. On September 20, we set up Base Camp at 4600 meters on the right side of the Kumbhakarna Glacier. We acclimatized by fixing ropes on the 700-meter-high rock buttress which leads to the foot of the north face. We established Camp I at 5400 meters on October 1. It took three days to climb with fixed ropes the first 500 meters of the steep face below the pass. On the fourth day, we completed the climb to bivouac in the pass at 6350 meters. To there we had found impressive ice walls with sustained 80° sections and then 150 meters of strenuous mixed climbing. We rested at the pass on October 11. We then climbed on the northwest buttress, finding ice climbing up to 70°, harder than we had expected. We spent the night at 6900 meters in a tiny snow cave carved in an ice flute. Because of obvious difficulties in the traverse to the southwest ridge and because of wind and cold, we renounced the effort the next morning and rappelled off.

PAUL ROBACH, *Club Alpin Français*

Makalu, Kangchungtse and Chomo Lönzo. The twelve climbers of our Condor Adventures expedition established Base Camp at 5300 meters on the Barun Glacier on April 2. Just eleven days later, supported by the rest of the team, Russian staff member Anatoli Bukreev and Bolivian Bernardo Guarachi finished fixing rope to the Makalu La at 7400 meters, the site of Camp II. A mountain guide in Bolivia, Guarachi says he is the first American Indian to climb in the Himalaya. He is an Aymará. Bad weather stalled us for a week until April 20 when Bukreev and Guarachi slept at Camp II. On April 27, this pair,

PLATE 58

Photo by Paul Roboch

KUMBHAKARNA's North face. 1) French attempt, 1994; 2) Attempts by Beghin, 1982-87; 3) Cesen's solo ascent, 1989; 4) Japanese ascent, 1976.



Neal Beidleman, Steve Bain and I reached the Makalu La. On April 28, we all established Camp III at 7700 meters, leaving Bukreev and Guarachi there for a summit bid. On the 29th, they climbed to within 30 meters of the summit, but stopped at the base of twin ice towers because of technical difficulties. Guarachi then left Base Camp for home. Between April 30 and May 7, George Fuller, Mark Nash, Martin Adams, Stu Ritchie, Alan McPherson and Charlie Mace all reached Makalu La. On May 8, McPherson turned back at 8200 meters on a solo summit bid. On May 9, Beidleman, Bain and I set off for the summit from Camp III but Beidleman and I turned back at 8370 meters, 90 meters short of the top. Bain continued on to the Bukreev-Guarachi high point but was turned back there by technical difficulties. The next day, May 10, Bain made the third ascent solo of Chomo Lönzo (7790 meters, 25,558 feet) in Tibet by its southwest ridge, following the first ascent-route. He had previously on May 2 made the 19th ascent of Kangchungtse (7678 meters, 25,190 feet) by its south ridge. At 6:30 P.M. on May 13, Bukreev and Beidleman set out from Base Camp to make a speed ascent of Makalu in one continuous push. They managed to overcome the final difficulties and stood on the true summit (8463 meters, 27,766 feet) at 4:30 P.M. on May 15, claiming the first Russian and the seventh American ascent.

THOR KIESER, *Condor Adventures*

Baruntse Pre-Monsoon Ascent and Attempt. An expedition of 4 Swiss climbed Baruntse by the normal southeast ridge from the west. On May 4, leader Thomas Pfenninger, Hans Landolt, Fräulein Claudia Müller and Christoph Rothlisberger climbed to the summit (7129 meters, 23,389 feet). Led by Martin Otta, 7 Czechs attempted the north ridge from the west, getting to the north summit (7014 meters, 23,012 feet) on May 6. From the bergschrund, they climbed straight up through a rock band, to the right up an ice ramp before continuing left onto the north ridge and the usual route.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Baruntse in the Post-Monsoon. Baruntse (7129 meters, 23,389 feet) continues to be one of the most popular peaks in Nepal. In the autumn seven expeditions climbed or attempted the peak, all but one on the normal southeast ridge. The expeditions, leaders, dates and summiters follow: 4 Finns led by Sami Laitinen, summit on October 23 by Laitinen, Jukka Tarkkala; 10 French led by Yves Detry on October 25 by Philippe Genin, Pierre Chambon, Marc Bouissou, Nepalese Laxman Rai and on October 26 by Detry, Mlle Reine Mouhat, Gérard Vincent, Marc Dreyer; 1 South Tirolean (the leader) and 7 Germans led by Josef Holzer on October 26 by Stefan Markert; and 10 Austrians led by Karl Gabl on October 28 by Gabl, Herbert Alber, Reinhold Brunhumer, Günther Hafele, Frau Gertrud Hörschläger, Gilbert Hörschläger, Franz Kleinhans, Thomas Klimmer, Peter Schuler, Ulrich Walser. 5 American women, Georgie Powers, leader, Lynne Wolfe, Christine Lichtenfels Aileen

Brew and Sue Miller first attempted the east ridge, where they were stopped on September 26 at 5800 meters, and then the southeast ridge, where their highpoint of 6800 meters was reached on October 3. Powers was a recipient of an American Alpine Club Climbing Fellowship (Vera Watson-Alison Chadwick Onyszkiewicz Fund) Grant. Also unsuccessful were 9 *French climbers* led by Daniel Zanarol, who got to 6800 meters on October 6 and 3 *Greeks* led by Nikolaos Nagitsis, who reached 6400 meters on October 3. Kami Tenzi Sherpa died of a heart attack on the trek to Base Camp on October 10, but he will not be included in statistics since he did no climbing.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Lhotse. An international expedition was highly successful on the west face of Lhotse. Leader Oskar Kihlberg and Mikael Reuterswärd of Sweden were the first Scandinavians on the summit, arriving on May 9. Mexican Carlos Carsolio was back in Kathmandu after his rapid ascent of Cho Oyu and flew by helicopter to the Everest-Lhotse area, getting to Base Camp on May 6. On May 13, he made a fast ascent of Lhotse in just under 24 hours, including rests totaling three hours in two camps on the way up. The Swedes and Carsolio contributed a footnote to the Tomo Česen-Lhotse South Face saga of 1990. They noted that despite Russian claims to the contrary, it is possible to see part of the Western Cwm from Lhotse's summit, and they have photographs to show it. Russian climbers have cited what they said was an erroneous claim by Česen to have looked down into the Cwm as one of the reasons to doubt his having made the solo ascent. Carsolio has succeeded by the age of 31 in scaling eight of the fourteen 8000ers and is only the fourth person to have climbed the five highest. The first three climbers were Reinhold Messner, Pole Jerzy Kukuczka and Slovene Viktor Grošelj. After their ascent of Everest, New Zealander Rob Hall and American Ed Viesturs joined this expedition on Lhotse. Well acclimatized, they made a rapid three-day ascent, getting to the top on May 16. [See Viestur's report below.] They are the fourth and fifth persons to climb both Everest and Lhotse in the same season.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Lhotse. After guiding on Everest, Rob Hall and I made a three-day ascent of Lhotse via the normal west-face route. We rested for two days at Base Camp and then on May 14 climbed to Camp II at 21,000 feet in the Western Cwm. On May 15, we ascended to a high bivouac at 26,000 feet on the Lhotse Face, below the prominent couloir that leads directly to Lhotse's summit. We left our camp at 3:30 A.M. on the 16th, Rob climbing with bottled oxygen and I without. We chose not to belay in the 45° to 50° couloir and so climbed unroped. The snow had a perfect styrofoam consistency and we gained altitude rapidly. On the smooth 50-foot step halfway up the gully we climbed carefully, not relying on the old frayed fixed rope. We front-pointed up the steep summit snow cone, which stood atop a short terraced rock band, to reach the top at 9:30 A.M. The

view of Everest was amazing and we could easily see the Western Cwm. We were back at our bivouac at 11:30 and Camp II by three P.M.

ED VIESTURS

Attempt of Lhotse-Lhotse Shar Traverse. Jean Troillet and I established ourselves in Everest Base Camp on August 26. It was not until September 20 that our third member, Ruedi Homberger could join us at Base Camp and that kept him from doing more than getting to Camp II twice. On September 17, we made a first carry to Camp II. On the 24th, we climbed at night and spent the day there. At six P.M., we continued on up to the "Turtle" at 8000 meters to leave technical gear there. We passed over the South Col and returned to Base Camp. On September 29, Troillet and I set out to try to traverse from Lhotse's summit to Lhotse Shar by the east ridge. We left Base Camp at 5:15 P.M. and were at Camp II at 8:30. We slept for a few hours and started at four A.M. on the 30th to get above the "Turtle" at noon. We picked up our gear and were joined by Canadian Jeff Lakes and Scot Alec McNab of the international expedition led by Ryszard Pawłowski, who were trying for Lhotse. We spent several hours in a snow hole at 8000 meters. The snow was rather bad and we estimated it would take us 15 hours to get to the top of Lhotse. We four set out at ten P.M. The wind had picked up during the day. Climbing was arduous, but we climbed faster than we had foreseen and stopped in another snow hole to prevent our getting to the summit during the night. Troillet and I started again at six A.M., but Jeff and Alex quit. In the couloir the wind was turbulent and the visibility poor. We got to the summit at 9:10 A.M. in clear, frigid weather with violent wind. The ridge looked impracticable because of powder snow and cold. We decided to give up the traverse and to descend the normal route. During the descent, we gave a hand to Alex and Jeff, who were seriously exhausted. We got back to Camp II that day and to Base Camp on the next.

ERHARD LORETAN, *Club Alpin Suisse*

Lhotse in the Post-Monsoon. All ascents of Lhotse in the autumn were by the normal west-face route from the Western Cwm. The first to reach the summit were Loretan and Troillet, reported above. Three other expeditions were successful, placing climbers on the summit on the same day, October 11. These were 3 Frenchmen and 3 Italians led by Frenchman Benoît Chamoux, 8 Italians led by Agostino Da Polenza and 2 Britons, 2 Canadians, 1 Pole and 1 German led by Pole Ryszard Pawłowski. The climbers who reached the summit were Chamoux and Italian Simone Moro; Silvio Mondinelli; and Pawłowski. Chamoux completed his ascent in only 30 hours from the Base Camp to the summit. He has now climbed twelve of the 8000ers.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Lhotse. Our international group of six was led by Pole Ryszard Pawłowski. We established Base Camp on September 5. From September 7 to 22, we

acclimatized, stocking Camps I, II and III. Bad weather then held us up. On the 29th, Alec McNab from Scotland and I placed Camp IV at 8050 meters and the next day climbed to 8300 meters before being forced down by high winds and spindrift avalanches. McNab was flown out from Base Camp on October 4 with moderate frostbite. On October 11, Pawlowki climbed to the summit, before heading for Ama Dablam. I remained on Lhotse for a final summit attempt. From Camp II I watched approaching winter scour the Lhotse Face for four days before descending to Base Camp on October 15.

JEFF LAKES, *Alpine Club of Canada*

Everest in the Pre-Monsoon. Thirty-seven men (no women) climbed Everest this spring from Nepal in a rather straightforward fashion. No one suffered serious frostbite, altitude-measuring devices were installed at the summit, several hundred empty oxygen cylinders were retrieved to clear the South Col of some of its debris and all four expeditions sent members and Sherpas to the top of the world. *Seven Japanese* under the leadership of Mitsuyoshi Hongo climbed the mountain by the south buttress. On May 8, Kiyohiko Suzuki, Wataru Atsuta and Sherpas Nima Dorje, Dawa Tshering, Na Temba and Lhakpa Nuru, and on May 13, Tomiyasu Ishikawa and Sherpas Nima Temba, Dawa Tashi and Pasang Tshering reached the summit. At 57 years, Ishikawa is the second oldest Everest summitter. The other three expeditions all climbed the South Col route. *New Zealander* Rob Hall and *American* Ed Viesturs led a group that included another 3 *Americans*, 2 *Germans* and 1 *Norwegian*. On May 9, New Zealander Hall, Americans Viesturs, Hall Wendel, David Keaton, David Taylor, Germans Hellmut Seitzl, Ekkert Gundelach, Norwegian Erling Kagge, and Sherpas Ang Dorje, Nima Norbu and Norbu climbed to the summit. This was the fourth time that Hall has climbed to the top and the third for Viesturs. Kagge asserts that he is the first person to have gone from the base of all three of the world's poles to the poles themselves: the North Pole, the South Pole and the "Third Pole," the highest point on earth. A South Korean, Heo Young-Ho, claimed in January, 1983 to have been the first, but Kagge's rebuttal is that Heo began his ski trip to the South Pole three weeks closer to the pole than a setting-off point on the coast, where Kagge began his travels and which, he says, is the proper place to start. Steven Goryl led 5 *Americans*, who put Rob Hess, Scott Fischer, Brent Bishop and Sherpas Lobsang Sangbu and Sonam Dindu on the top on May 9 and Goryl on May 13. Todd Burleson led a group of 6 *Americans*, 1 *Canadian*, 3 *Britons*, 1 *Pole* and 1 *South African*. On May 13, Americans Burleson, Robert Cedergreen, Paul Morrow, Peter Athans, Pole Ryszard Pawlowski, Tamang Man Bahadur and Sherpas Lhakpa Rita, Chuwang Nima, Kami Rita and Dorje climbed to the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest Ascent and Clean-up. In the spring of 1994, The Sagarmatha Environmental Expedition embarked on a unique mission on the world's highest mountain with two goals. First, we wanted to reach the summit via the South Col mostly without the use of supplementary oxygen. Second, and equally important, we hoped to remove 2000 pounds of garbage from Base Camp and the higher camps. We showed that we could reach the top and also have a positive impact in reclaiming Everest's environmental integrity. Scott Fischer and Rob Hess summited on May 9 without supplementary oxygen and I with it. Lopsang Sangbu Sherpa and Sonam Dindu Sherpa completed our summit team. I followed in my father's footsteps, Dr. Barry Bishop, to become the first American father-son legacy. Steve Goryl summited on May 13 after waiting four nights at Camp IV for favorable weather. Steve Gipe chose not to make a summit attempt. By implementing an incentive program, the team removed an unprecedented 5000 pounds of garbage, including over 200 oxygen bottles. Base Camp Manager Chris Naumann coordinated the clean-up effort at Base Camp by segregating, weighing and cataloguing all the garbage collected. We paid staff Sherpas above and beyond their salaries to collect and transport garbage to Base Camp. Trash and oxygen bottles were brought down from higher camps only after loads had been ferried up the mountain. Two other teams joined in funding the incentive. For Base Camp garbage the Sherpas were paid 100 rupees for every 10 kilograms they collected. Higher on the mountain, climbing Sherpas were paid an incentive for carrying oxygen bottles from Camp IV to Camp II and from Camp II to Base Camp. We paid approximately \$6.00 for each bottle brought from Camp IV to Base Camp. The garbage was segregated into three categories: burnables, tin and glass. All garbage was transported down-valley to Namche Bazar by yaks under the guidance of Bob McConnell. The burnables were incinerated in Namche by the Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee. The tin and glass were flown to Kathmandu, where the glass was recycled and the tin disposed of in a landfill. All the oxygen bottles were shipped back to the United States. We demonstrated that climbing teams can successfully reach the summit and act in an environmentally sound manner. If Everest is to regain her environmental integrity, each and every expedition must be responsible for its own garbage and accept the responsibility for past climbers that lacked foresight. While we did not leave the South Col pristine, we did make a substantial start on bringing back what we now estimate is more than 2000 oxygen bottles from the South Col. Members of our expedition will return in the spring of 1995 to coordinate the buyback program in hope of establishing a trend and building momentum for the program. Interest, comments or donations should be addressed to the Sagarmatha Environmental Expedition, 2216 38th Place East, Seattle, Washington 98112, USA.

BRENT BISHOP

Glacial Movement in the Khumbu Icefall. There appears earlier in this *Journal* an article written by Jack Starmer on the rate of movement of the ice in the Khumbu Icefall.

PLATE 59

Photo by Scott Fischer

**The South Col on MOUNT
EVEREST.**



Everest in the Post-Monsoon Season. On the standard South Col route on Everest, climbers are somewhat better protected from the terrible winds that sweep the Tibetan side and on October 10, *Japanese* Muneo Nukita reached the summit with Sherpas Apa, Chuwang Nima and Dawa. His teammate, Takashi Miyahara, aged 60, was forced to turn back only 100 vertical meters below the summit when he lost the sight in his right eye. His eyesight improved as he descended and by the time he was down in Base Camp, it was fully restored. If he had gained the top, he would have been the oldest person ever to climb that high. The record-holder, Ramón Blanco, a Spaniard living in Venezuela, was 60 years, 5 months and 1 day old when he went to the top on October 7, 1993. Miyahara was 60 years, 6 months and 25 days old when he nearly summited. The next day, October 11, two Britons, Charlie Hornsby and Roddy Kirkwood and Sherpas Dorje and Dawa Temba reached the summit. Mrs. Alison Hargreaves, who climbed without artificial oxygen, climbed alone from her last camp on the South Col on October 12. She got to 8400 meters but turned back when her feet were threatened by frostbite. They were members of an expedition of *7 Britons and 1 American*, led by Dr. Simon Currin. This expedition also carried out medical research. Unsuccessful were *6 French, 2 Belgians and 1 Portuguese* led by Bernard Muller who got to 7900 meters on October 11, *6 Indonesians* led by Anton Patandung, who climbed to 7900 meters on October 6 and *3 Sherpas* led by Kaji Sherpa, who reached 7060 meters on October 11.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

British Mount Everest Medical Expedition. Some 75 people in all were members of our expedition, but only eight were allowed to climb in the Western Cwm. Dr. Charlie Hornsby and Dr. Roddy Kirkwood reached the summit of Everest on October 11, accompanied by Sherpas Dorje and Dawa Temba. Alison Hargreaves (f) reached around 8400 meters without supplementary oxygen before being forced back due to high winds and the risk of cold injury. All 16 of our medical research projects were successfully completed. In all, 100,000 points of data were collected over the three-month period from all 75 members. Some data were collected from just 200 meters below the summit. Much of the data is unique and, when processed, should yield valuable information. Scores of academic publications are anticipated in due course. Our environmental team collected a microbiological survey of water quality in the Khumbu valley. They demonstrated a safe and effective method for the disposal of human waste at altitude which involved freeze drying followed by incineration. All the expedition's waste was dealt with in this manner.

SIMON CURRIN, M.D., *United Kingdom*

Nuptse East, South Buttress Attempt. Christophe Moulin, Gérard Vionnet, Patrick Berhault and I hoped to climb Nuptse East in the post-monsoon. The

south (central) buttress is imposing with 1000 meters of rock at the foot of the 2600-meter face. Berhault fell ill with a virus and had to withdraw after two days in our 5200-meter Base Camp. We other three began our effort in good weather. Rock steps and arêtes covered with snow mushrooms came one after another. After eight days in four sorties, we had fixed 1000 meters of rope with 6b difficulty in rock and 85° ice. On the fourth sortie, Vionnet suffered a fall and had to withdraw. Moulin and I continued our attempt after a rest. In one day, we got to the top of the fixed ropes and climbed 200 meters more, where we bivouacked at 6400 meters under the cornice at the top of the buttress. Above its top, we climbed the ridge leading to the foot of the final face, subjected to savage winds. Despite this, we continued on to bivouac in a crevasse at 7000 meters. The next morning, October 16, we hoped to be able to climb to the summit from there. After some 60° snow, we ran up against a rock band at 7300 meters. We climbed on and at five P.M. got to a foresummit at 7500 meters, but the redoubled wind was so fierce that we had to turn back. We returned to our bivouac, hoping for calmer weather the next day, but that did not happen and we descended.

MICHEL FAUQUET, *Club Alpin Français*

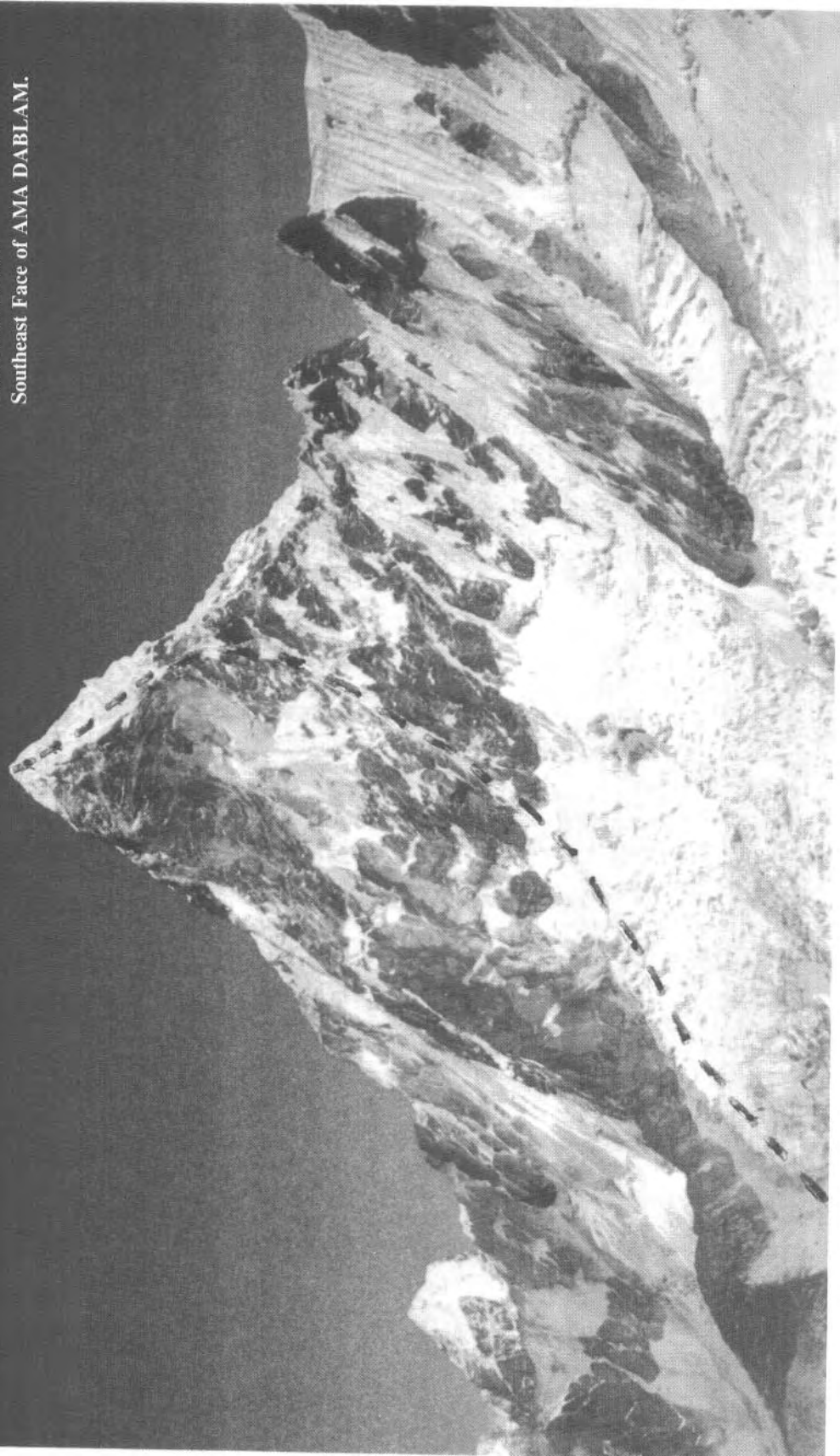
Ama Dablam, Southeast Face. Sergei Bogomolov, Dmitri Botov, Sergei Golubtsov and I climbed a new route on Ama Dablam in pure alpine-style with no fixed camps, no fixed rope and no Sherpa porters. We placed Base Camp on the Nare Glacier at 5300 meters. The route lay through steep ice couloirs on the right side of the southeast face. At 6300 meters, these couloirs led onto the east ridge, which we followed to the summit. Because of the steepness of the route, we had to use ice screws the whole time. The east ridge presented great problems because of unstable cornices. Our first bivouac on April 21 was in a couloir at 5600 meters on a narrow ice ledge where we could barely set up a tent. The next was on a steep ice rise at 6100 meters, also under poor conditions. Bivouac 3 was on a narrow ice ridge at 6300 meters. From there on, one of our members began suffering from hepatitis, but he did not quit. Bivouac 4 was on a very steep ice slope at 6400 meters and Bivouac 5 in a snow cave at 6600 meters. We were held up at Bivouac 6 at 6700 meters near the summit rise for two days because of bad weather. On April 28, all four of us reached the summit. The weather was bad during the whole ascent and we could move effectively only for two or three hours each morning before it began to snow. Under more favorable weather conditions, the climb could be done faster. By the time we reached the top, our food and fuel had run out and the weather became worse. The descent down our ascent route took two days. Avalanches of fresh snow come down along the entire face and we were struck several times. Once, it was solely an ice screw that prevented our being swept away.

VLADIMIR BASHKIROV, *Russia*

PLATE 60

Photo by Vladimir Baskin

Southeast Face of AMA DABLAM.



Ama Dablam Attempt. An expedition of four Austrians and two Germans was under the leadership of Günther Kerber. They reached a highpoint of 6100 meters on the normal southwest ridge on April 19.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Ama Dablam in the Post-Monsoon. A total of 50 men and women summited Ama Dablam this season. Two expeditions each put 11 of their members on the top, bringing to 388 the grand total of foreigners to the summit of this 6812-meter (22,349-foot) peak. Two teams had 14 and 18 members, a size that one of the leaders said "was much too large." All climbed the normal southwest ridge except where specially noted. An expedition of 11 *South Koreans* led by Son Moon-Kyu completed the 136th ascent of the peak on September 10 when Kim Young-Jeoung and Park Byoung-Sun got to the summit. Members of this expedition also simultaneously climbed Tawoche and Cholatse. [See below.] Swiss Bruno Jelk led 13 *Swiss and 1 Austrian*, who placed the following on the summit: Richard Lehner, Thomas Zumtaugwald, Manfred Graven, Jean-Louis Mazzone on October 5; Rudolf Steindl (Austrian), Klaus Tsherrig, Bernhard Imboden, Prem Lhakpa Sherpa on October 6; and Kurt Lauber, Willi Taugwalder, Urs Lerjen, Bruno Marchetto on October 7. Climbing the north ridge, 9 *Japanese* led by Hidehiko Tajiri all completed the ascent: Kanji Saito, Yasuo Matsumoto, Tomayasu Sano, Hiroshi Doke on October 19 and leader Tajiri, Jiro Kurisima, Mizuho Tamaru, Tsutomu Yanagisawa and Kumihiko Kumagai on October 21. Scot Rob Fairley led 12 *Britons, 2 Americans, 1 Canadian, 1 Irishman, 1 German, 1 Pole*. The following made it to the top: Pole Ryszard Pawlowski, Americans Keith Boskoff and Mrs. Chris Boskoff, Briton Simon Yates on October 25; Britons Andy Collins, Peter Williams on October 26; Britons Ken Balfour, Ian Pomeroy, Miss Peta Watts on October 27 and Britons Nigel Porter, John Walmsley on October 30. On October 26, all 6 *Frenchmen* led by René Tomio climbed the mountain: Pierre Blanc, Bernard Favre, Gérard Girod, Thierry Lombard, Cédrik Tomio and leader Tomio. Led by Takao Miyashita, 5 *Japanese* put onto the summit on October 27 leader Miyashita, Hisao Onami, Shiro Niwa and Tuyoshi Oizumi. An international expedition consisting of 4 *Australians, 1 American and 1 Briton*, led by Australian Armando Corvini, climbed up the south ridge and descended the southwest ridge. On November 8, Australians Andrew McAuley, Miss Vera Wong, American Rod Willard completed the climb, followed on November 10 by Australians Corvini, Andrew Burns, Briton David Smith. Two expeditions were unsuccessful. *American* Ed Webster and *Canadian* Paul Teare first tried the northwest ridge, getting to 5790 meters on October 23 and then the north face of the west col, where their high point was 5750 meters on November 7. Jean-Jacques Couton led 6 *Frenchmen*, who got to 6400 meters on the southwest ridge on November 7.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Ama Dablam, Tawoche and Cholatse. An expedition of 11 South Koreans led by Son Moon-Kyu had three objectives. On September 10, Kim Young-Jeoung and Park Byoung-Sun climbed to the top of Ama Dablam by the normal southwest ridge. On September 9, Lim Sam-Gyun, Gang Hee-Chang and Lee Seung-Bok reached the summit of Tawoche by the southwest face. On September 15, Lee Seung-Bok and Nepalese Sharki Norbu Lama completed the ascent of Cholatse by the south ridge.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Ama Dablam, Winter Ascent, 1995. A Japanese expedition of three climbed Ama Dablam by the standard southwest ridge. On January 14, 1995, the leader Yasuhiro Takaguchi and Mitsuru Kimura completed the 150th ascent of the peak.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Kangtega, 1993, Correction. The route taken by the German Alpine Club Training Expedition was not the northeast buttress as stated on page 217 of *AAJ*, 1994. It was on the southeast flank of the peak, more or less the same as that of the first ascent with the variant of the Spanish women. What was new was the crossing of the spur from the Hinku Nup Glacier to the Kangtega Glacier on the approach to the high camp.

Kangtega Attempt. Four Swiss led by Hans Rauner attempted the southeast face of Kangtega (6779 meters, 22,241 feet). They reached a high point of 6600 meters on December 1.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Pumori Pre-Monsoon Ascent and Attempt. An 11-member Italian expedition was led by Ruggero Zanaini. On April 14, Armando Antola, Franco Brunello and Antonello Martines reached the summit via the southeast face to the east ridge. Less successful were four Germans led by Dirk Jensen, who reached a highpoint of 6200 meters on the southeast face on May 8.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Pumori Post-Monsoon Ascents and Attempts. There were ten expeditions in the autumn to Pumori (7161 meters, 23,494 feet). All climbed or attempted the southeast ridge to the east ridge except where noted. The following expeditions were successful: 7 British led by Chris Comerie, summit on October 4 by Paul Cleary, Mark Bryan and on October 5 by leader Comerie; 7 Czechs led by Radek Kubik, on October 4 by leader Kubik, Jiří Penkava, Miroslav Kotouček, Jiří Poloch; 3 Germans led by Gerhard Schmatz, on October 7 by Hans Engl

and October 7 by Heinz Zembsch; 9 *Germans*, 2 *Swiss*, 1 *Italian*, 1 *Mexican* led by German Hans Eitel and Mexican Andrés Delgado, on October 7 by co-leader Delgado, Siegfried Wanninger, Wolfgang Raiser and October 10 by Peter Storch, Ludwig Thurner (all Germans except Delgado); 5 *Japanese* led by Ayumi Nozawi, on October 21 by leader Nozawi, Naoyuki Yamaguchi; and 3 *Australians*, 2 *Britons*, 1 *New Zealander* led by Grant Dixon, on October 21 by Scot Stuart Finlay and New Zealander John Barnes. This last party climbed the south ridge from the southeast. The following did not reach the summit: 6 *Austrians* led by Josef Redolfi, who got to 6650 meters on October 19; 7 *South Koreans* led by Kim Ki-Hwan who reached 6550 meters on the east ridge from the south; 3 *Swiss* led by Rudolf Berni, who were turned back at 6400 meters on October 20; and 1 *Swiss*, Aldo Verzaroli, who got to 6200 meters solo on the west ridge from the southwest on November 17.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cholatse Attempt. Seven Germans led by Hans-Jörg Gutzler failed on their attempt to climb Cholatse by the southwest ridge at 5750 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu, Southwest Face. The only people to climb Cho Oyu from Nepal in the post-monsoon accomplished a remarkable achievement. They were just two Japanese women and a man: Miss Taeko Nagao, leader and Miss Yuka Endo, both already with three 8000ers to their credit, and Yasushi Yamanoi with two. They climbed in pure alpine-style on Cho Oyu's southwest face, which had been scaled only once before, by Swiss Loretan and Troillet and Pole Kurtyka in 1990. The women were the first to repeat the 1990 route while Yamanoi ascended solo a totally new route to the left of it. The trio left their only fixed camp at the normal Advance Base at 5600 meters on September 21 and stayed together to the bottom of the face at 6000 meters, where they separated for their two different routes. At 8:30 P.M. that evening, Yamanoi began his solo ascent. He climbed until four A.M. 1200 vertical meters on a 60° hard snow face with some ice. Then he stopped for three hours to rest and wait for daylight. He decided to follow a couloir of rock and snow to the right and made his first bivouac at 7600 meters at the top of the couloir at four P.M. He slept there in his tiny tent and at six A.M. on the 23rd resumed his climb, which was now through very deep snow, then up a 40-meter rock band at 8000 meters. Finally, more deep snow to the summit, and a two-or three-hour search for the highest point, which he reached at four P.M. He descended the normal route on Cho Oyu's west side and bivouacked a second time at 7000 meters. He reached the team's camp at 5600 meters at six P.M. on the 24th. Meanwhile, Miss Nagao and Mrs. Endo set out an hour and a half after Yamanoi. They had had no previous experience of climbing at night, and the moonlight helped little. They climbed through the night of September 21/22, went to the end of a wrong gully

that led left at 6700 meters and bivouacked there. They descended several hundred meters the next morning and traversing right, found the correct line. They bivouacked the night of the 23rd at 7700 meters. On the 24th, they made a deep-snow traverse which had to be packed by kneeling on it. This made progress slow and they had to bivouac again at 8000 meters. On September 25, they gained the summit at 1:30 P.M. through even deeper snow that came up to the chests of these two short women—only 156 and 163 centimeters or 5 feet 1 inch and five feet four inches tall. They also went down the normal route, made a final bivouac at 7000 meters and were back in camp on the 26th. [Miss Nagao has graciously given a few more details, which we have added, and she has checked out this report.]

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu, Illegal Crossing into Tibet. A member of an expedition on the Tibetan side of Cho Oyu reports on another illegal attempt made from Nepal. Two Serbians crossed the Nangpa La about October 20 and camped below the west ridge of Cho Oyu. The next day Chinese officials came up to look for them, but the Serbs evaded detection and headed up Cho Oyu. They did not reach the summit. When they came down, the Chinese were waiting and arrested them. They took all their equipment, but not any money, and escorted them back over the pass.

Cho Oyu Ascent and Attempt from the South in the Pre-Monsoon. Malcolm Duff from Scotland led an international group consisting of 6 Britons, 1 New Zealander, 2 Americans and 1 Venezuelan to Cho Oyu. On May 8, Britons Duff, Dave Horrex and Neil Lindsey, New Zealander Clive Jones, Venezuelan José Delgado and Pasang Gombu Sherpa reached the summit. An Austrian expedition of four led by Herbert Mayerhofer attempted the western side of Cho Oyu from Nepal. They reached a highpoint of 8000 meters on April 27.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu from Nepal, Pre-Monsoon. We established Base Camp south of the Nangpa La at 5200 meters on April 21. We crossed the Nangpa La and followed the Tichy route with camps at 5800, 6160 and 6850 meters on April 25, 28 and May 3. Camp III suffered wind damage on May 5. This, and apparent theft of food from Camp II on May 1 or 2, put a strain on resources. Camp III was reestablished on May 6 and a bare bivouac placed at 7300 meters on May 7. On May 8, leader Mal Duff (Scotland), Dave Horrex (England), José Delgado (Venezuela), Clive Jones (New Zealand) and Pasang Gombu Sherpa reached the summit. Further summit attempts were not carried out. Other members were Neil Lindsey, Geoff Pierce, David Holl, Joe Simpson from England and Rick Nowack and I from the USA.

ROBERT J. SECOR

Khatang Attempt. Our 6-man, 3-woman expedition, which I led, attempted to ascend Khatang's (6782 meters, 22,250 feet) northeast ridge, by which Japanese in 1982 and Swiss in 1987 had climbed the peak. We established Base Camp in the Lumding Kharka and Advance Base (Camp I) below the glacier lake at 4050 and 4800 meters on October 1 and 3. The ascent to Camp II at 5600 meters, which we reached on October 6, was up the side of the icefall that descended from the northeast ridge, where we fixed four ropes. In the next days, we fixed rope on the steep rock step nearly to the col. The sharp ridge offered mixed climbing, where we fixed rope to 6350 meters. On October 18, Rudolf Laier, Alfred Leitenstorfer and Frau Marion Emmert set up Camp III in a crevasse at 6350 meters. On October 19, Leitenstorfer climbed to 6400 meters. There were still several steep steps on the ice ridge covered with snow mushrooms to overcome. Although the ridge from 6600 meters appeared to be broader, we decided with such snow conditions that we did not have enough time to complete the climb and gave up.

PETER RIPPLINGER, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Dorje Lhakpa. A 3-man Japanese expedition to Dorje Lhakpa (6966 meters, 22,854 feet) completed the 9th ascent of the peak on October 13 when leader Sachi Takano, Masayuki Harada and Pasang Sherpa reached the top via the west ridge.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Dorje Lhakpa, Winter Attempt and Tragedy. Before this season, all climbs on Dorje Lhakpa (6966 meters, 22,854 feet) had been made on its west ridge, and seven of the ten previous ascents had been successful. Greg Collum and I planned to make an attempt alpine-style by its northwest face to the northwest ridge. In Kathmandu, Kurt Schmierer and German Marcus Breitfeld joined us. By November 30, we had made our way around the icefall to camp at 20,000 feet at the base of the ridge. The season seemed unusually cold, and the other three all got some minor frostbite that day. On December 1, we gained the ridge and camped near 21,000 feet. That night, high wind blew Greg's pack away. We decided that Marcus and Greg would retreat while Kurt and I would continue up. Schmierer and I reached a high point of 21,800 feet (6645 meters) on the 3rd, but because of the cold and difficult rock, we decided to retreat also. On the 5th, Kurt had just finished the last rappel off the ridge when I looked down and saw him sliding backwards down the low-angle but icy slope and into a large crevasse. He must have fallen either from a crampon popping off or from losing consciousness on the easy slope. I immediately went down to him, but I could find no pulse or breathing. The next day, I descended without incident.

ANDREW SELTERS

Urkinmang, Jugal Himal. An expedition of five Japanese and three Sherpas made a new route and fifth ascent of Urkinmang (6151 meters, 20,180 feet)

Langshisa Ri - WNW Face



climbing the north face to the north ridge. They pitched one high camp at 5400 meters and fixed 2000 meters of rope. Rocky in the lower half, they found some icy difficult sections up to 75° near the top. On May 1, leader Tamotsu Onishi, Toshisugi Irisawa, Satoshi Kimoto, Miss Keiko Nishihira, Shozoh Kai and Sherpas Ang Phurba, Mingma Nuru and Dawa Nuru reached the summit. Later, two members of the party unsuccessfully attempted to climb Ama Dablam by its normal route.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Langshisha Ri. I made a solo, alpine-style, first ascent of the west-northwest face of Langshisha Ri (6427 meters, 21,086 feet) and the first traverse of the peak. I was accompanied to Base Camp by Dr. Matjaž Vrtovec, Chindi Phurba Sherpa and liaison officer Kesar Bahadur Saud. After acclimatization climbs, which included an ascent to a plateau at 5700 meters below the standard south-face route to become familiar with the descent, I set out up the previously unattempted west-northwest face from 4700 meters late on the morning of October 7. I found two large, dangerous séracs overhanging the route and so I climbed a rock ridge between them, which was in direct sunlight and therefore warm, though a bit complicated with some difficult pitches. I stayed on it to its top at 5360 meters. I then ascended a snow ramp (50° to 60°) leading left to a sérac at 5820 meters, where I bivouacked at 8:30 P.M. without a sleeping bag to save weight and to allow me to take two ropes for rappels on the descent of the south face. After a cold night, I resumed the ascent at 6:30 A.M., now on the steepest part of the route, which was never less than 60°. The crux was fifteen meters of 80° ice below a delicate 65° traverse to the right and another ten meters of 80° ice. Following a 65° to 70° couloir, I joined the southwest ridge about 100 meters from the top, where I arrived at eleven A.M. on the 8th, four hours after I had completed the "delicate traverse" and had begun the straightforward ascent of the couloir, which was "beautiful climbing." I descended the ridge for 100 meters to where I had left my rucksack and traversed 100 meters to the south face and the normal route. I climbed down the upper 200 meters and then rappelled the next 500 meters. Due to bad conditions on the south face, the descent took all afternoon and I reached the foot at 5:20 P.M. As it was getting dark and I was tired, I bivouacked there at 5700 meters and reached Base Camp the next day.

VANJA FURLAN, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

Langtang Lirung. An expedition of four Spanish Catalans climbed Langtang Lirung (7234, 23,734 feet) by the southwest face. On October 7, the leader Carles González de Agustín, Manuel Miranda and Eduardo Sánchez got to the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

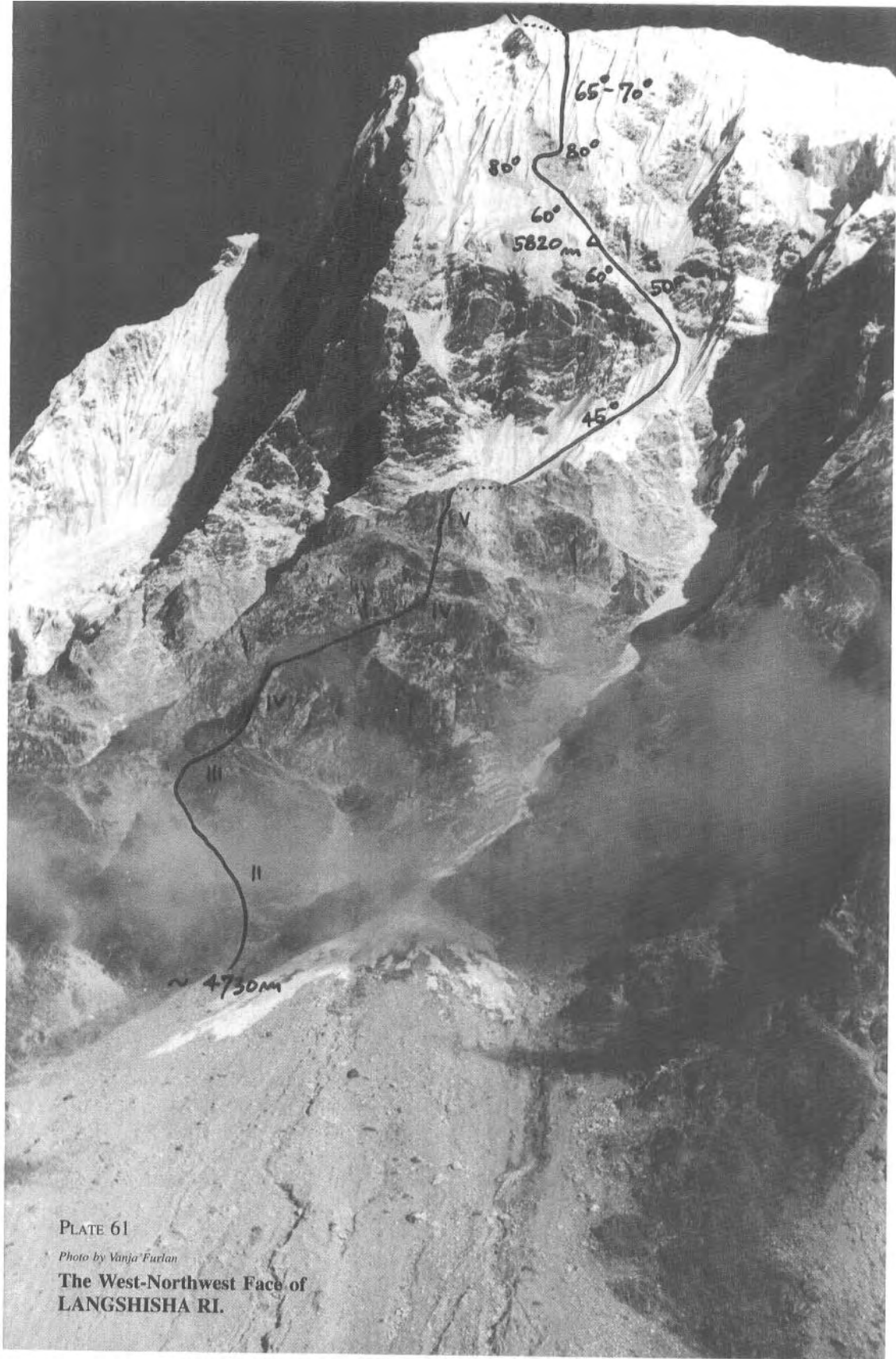


PLATE 61

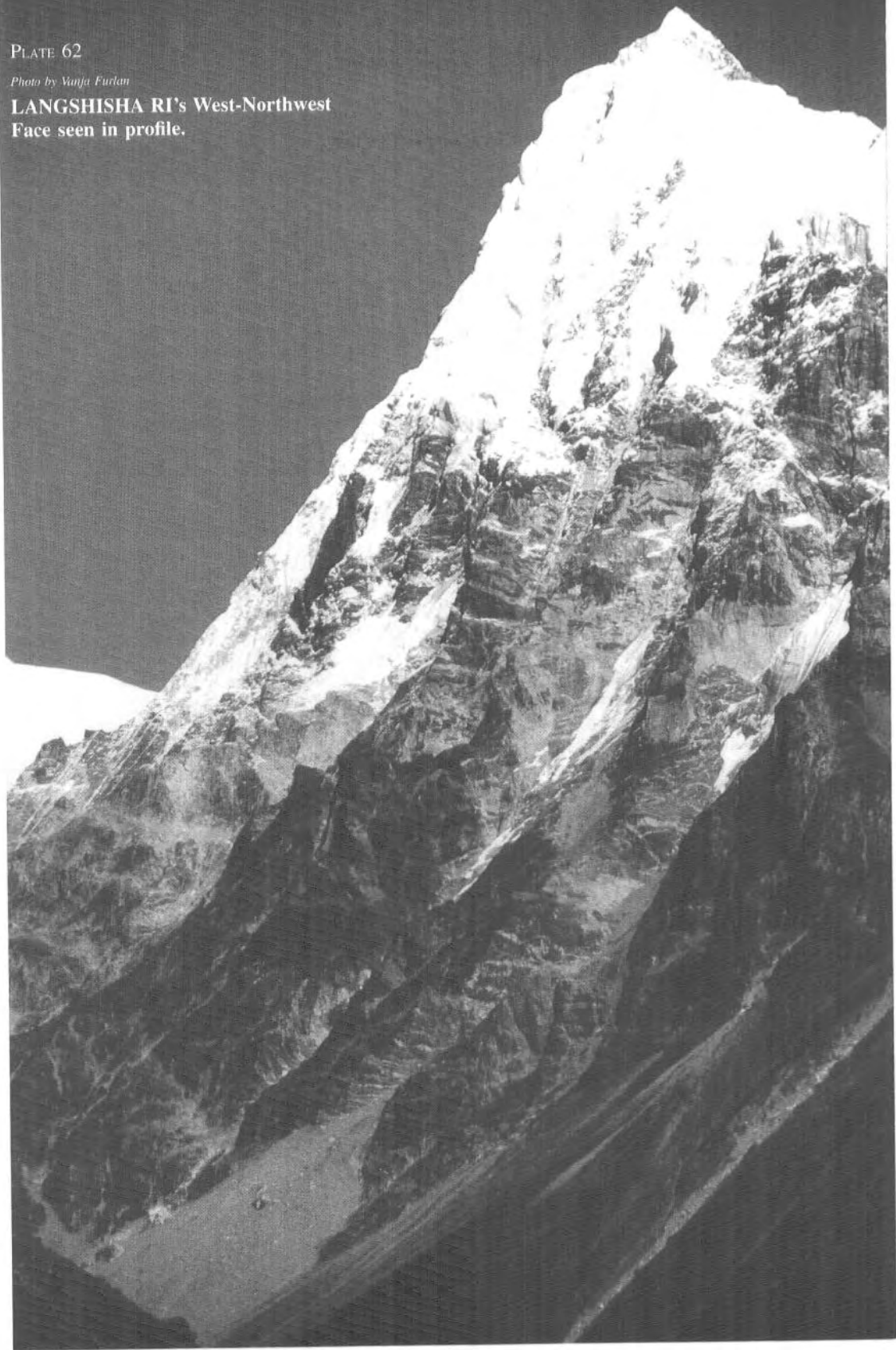
Photo by Yanja Furlan

**The West-Northwest Face of
LANGSHISHA RI.**

PLATE 62

Photo by Yanfa Furlan

**LANGSHISHA RI's West-Northwest
Face seen in profile.**



Langtang Lirung, Winter Ascent. Two Japanese teams went to the normal southeast ridge of Langtang Lirung (7234 meters, 23,734 feet). Our group led by Koichi Ezaki consisted of Masayuki Sano, Manabu Kuboki, Kimihiro Moriya, Chie Takeuchi (f), Hiroshi Kudo, Yukifumi Ito and me. Ezaki, Kuboki and Sano had been to the mountain the previous winter, but they had been unable to get higher than 6200 meters because of the need to fix more than the 1400 meters they already had. Now we came better supplied and fixed a total of 2250 meters. We established Base Camp at 4800 meters on the Lirung Glacier on November 28. We climbed a gully to place Camp I at 5600 meters on December 1. We put Camps II and III up the snow-and-ice ridge and above the rock band at 6200 and 6600 meters on December 4 and 8. A strong wind then prevailed, destroying Camp III and half ruining Camp II. All returned to Base Camp. We then attacked the mountain from Camp II. Kuboki, Sano and Lopsang Jangbu Sherpa stood on the summit on December 14 twelve hours after leaving Camp II.

(Ms.) CHIE TERAYAMA, *Sapporo Alpine Association*

Langtang Lirung, Winter Attempt. Another team of three Japanese and one Nepalese, led by Ichiro Hosoda, arrived at their 4200-meter Base Camp on December 11, 16 days after the others. They used their compatriots' ropes. They pitched Advance Base next to Ezaki's Base Camp. They had to wait for heavy snowfall and avalanching to stop before making Camp I where Ezaki's had been. On December 24, in the face of very strong winds, they reached their high point of 6200 meters, where Hosoda and a Nepalese placed Camp II. Hosoda waited there alone for two more days hoping the wind would drop, but it did not abate and he gave up.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Ganesh V. An expedition of 7 Slovenes led by Stane Belak established Base Camp and Camps I and II at 4150, 5150 and 6000 meters. They followed the 1989 Nepalese-Japanese route on Ganesh V as far as Camp II. On November 13, Belak and Tomaž Humar climbed the rest of the way to the summit (6986 meters, 22,919 feet) by a variant of the previous route. They reported the final 100 meters were difficult (IV+, 75°).

FRANCI SAVENC, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

Chamar Attempt. An expedition of ten Englishmen and an American led by Robert Brown hoped to climb Chamar, Shringi Himal (7187 meters, 23,579 feet) by its northeast ridge, but they were not able to get higher than 5400 meters, which they reached on November 6.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Manaslu. An expedition of four Swiss, two Netherlands and a Frenchwoman was led by Swiss André Georges. On October 19, Georges and Swiss Armand Salamin reached the summit of Manaslu (8163 meters, 26,781 feet) via the northeast face. The Frenchwoman, Chantal Mauduit, tried to climb to the top with the two Swiss and got to 7600 meters, but had to turn back in the face of fierce winds. One of the Swiss explained: "She just didn't have enough kilos."

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Gyajikang. Gyajikang (7038 meters, 23,091 feet) lies northwest of Manaslu. Our expedition of ten Japanese and five Nepalese policemen, plus Nepali high-altitude porters sent a total of 17 men to the summit via the northwest ridge to the west ridge. I was the team leader. The climbing leaders were Nepalese Dinesh Chandra Pokhrel and Japanese Osamu Tanabe. Base Camp was at 4800 meters. We first climbed the right side of the glacier on the west of the peak and then crossed it to climb a rock face to place Camp I at 5350 meters on the lower part of the plateau. Camp II was on the upper part of the plateau at 6100 meters. Camp III was at the junction of the twin northwest ridges and the west ridge at 6600 meters. The summit was so broad that we could have played a game of football on the top. The route was a little difficult for the inexperienced younger members, who needed 1550 meters of fixed rope. The summit was reached on October 7 by Japanese Osamu Tanabe, Yusuke Kokubo, Toshisada Hasegawa, Nepalese Ram Kaji Sivakoti, Pasang Tshering Sherpa, Dambar Bahadur Gurung, on October 10 by Japanese Yutaro Ito, Takashi Nakamura, Yukinori Nakamura, Nepalese Geeta Bahadur Joshi, Padam Bahadur Khatri, Nuru Sherpa, and on October 14 by Japanese Taichi Fujimatsu, Kazuya Mino, Toshisada Hasegawa, Nepalese Sher Bahadur Karki, Motilal Gurung, Pasang Tshering Sherpa (again).

TAICHI FUJIMATSU, *Japan*

Singuchuli Attempt. Slovenes Tadej Golob and Žiga Petrič wanted to make an attempt on Hiunchuli, but because there was nearly no snow on the east face of Hiunchuli, they attempted the south face of Singuchuli (6501 meters, 21,329 feet). After a first attempt thwarted by food poisoning, they attempted the southwest ridge to 6100 meters, where they were stopped by bad conditions.

FRANCI SAVENC, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

Himal Chuli Attempt. An expedition of five South Koreans led by Jeong Deuk-Chai failed on October 4 at 7450 meters to complete the ascent of Himal Chuli (7893 meters, 25,896 feet) by its south ridge to the southwest face.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Nemjung Attempt. Brian Ottewell, Dave McCarthy, Ray Harris and I attempted Nemjung (7140 meters, 23,425 feet) by its south face and west ridge.

We established Base Camp, Camps I, II, III and IV on October 10, 15, 22, November 1 and 2 at 14,500, 15,700, 17,300, 19,750 and 20,350 feet, the latter on the col below the west ridge. The climbing between Camps I and III was mostly of a technical nature, mainly on rock, but also involving ice and snow. The route was often prone to avalanche and sérac danger made worse by almost daily snowfall. Our highpoint of 21,000 feet (6400 meters) on the west ridge was made on November 7. After three attempts at forcing the route along the ridge, we decided to retreat because of ferocious winds and unstable cornices and séracs. We believe we were the first to have reached so high a point on this side of the mountain.

PETER HUDD, *England*

Kang Guru. Led by Jean-Pierre Frachon, four Frenchmen completed the 16th ascent of Kang Guru (6981 meters, 22,904 feet). They climbed the west face to the northwest ridge. On November 4, Frachon, Roger Lecompte, Michel Leroux, Christian Reynaud, Ang Nima Sherpa and Pemba Sherpa reached the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Pisang Tragedy, Annapurna Himal. Nepal's second-worst climbing disaster occurred on Pisang (6091 meters, 19,904 feet), a trekking peak. On November 13, nine Germans including one woman, a Swiss woman and a Nepalese died in an avalanche. There were no survivors, but searchers who found the bodies a few days later concluded that in their descent from the summit several of the highest climbers started a windslab avalanche, slid down on top of the next rope of climbers who in turn slid onto the lowest climbers. All of them fell some 600 vertical meters first down a snow slope then over rocks and down an ice couloir. The German Alpine Club (DAV) group was led by a 25-year-old guide, Stefan Hasenkopf. The worst disaster happened in successive days in the spring of 1972 on Manaslu, resulting in the death of ten Nepalese, four South Koreans and one Japanese when a Korean high camp was completely destroyed. Two or three searchers went up the next day to find out what had happened and were themselves killed.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna IV Attempts. There were two unsuccessful attempts on Annapurna IV this autumn, both on the northwest ridge. An expedition of 7 Slovenes and an Italian led by Žare Guzej reached 6800 meters on October 11. Jasna Bratanič (f) and Matevž Lenarčič had reached Camp III at 6700 meters on October 10 but found it nearly destroyed by ravens. Seven French climbers under the leadership of Bruno Douillet got to the same height on October 25.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna III Attempt and Tragedy. A Slovene expedition led by Boris Sirmšek attempted a new route on the southwest face of Annapurna III (7555 meters, 24,787 feet). They placed Base Camp, Camps I, II and III at 4050, 5100, 5750 and 6600 meters. On October 14, Beno Dolinšek set out for the summit solo. Bad weather forced him to turn back at 7000 meters. He disappeared during the descent and the expedition was abandoned.

FRANCI SAVENC, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

Annapurna III Attempt. Four Spaniards led by César Gregorio attempted to climb Annapurna III by its southwest face. They had to turn back at 5400 meters on October 6.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Tharpu Chuli (Tent Peak) Ascent and Tragedy. Japanese Kentaro Yamao and partner climbed Tharpu Chuli (5663 meters, 18,580 feet) on May 2, but on the descent, when they had reached 4700 meters, the former fell to his death.

TSUNEMICHI IKEDA, *Editor, Iwa To Yuki, Japan*

Tarke Kang. On October 15, Sepp Hirtreiter, Rolf Thorenz, Andi Kern, Bernhard Hron, Alban Griesmair, Christoph Markowski and I got to the Gangapurna Base Camp at 4800 meters. On the 17th, we began carrying loads to establish two camps on the north face of Tarke Kang (Glacier Dome) without the help of high-altitude porters. Unfortunately, Markowski fell ill and had to descend to the valley. We other five established Camps I and II at 5600 and 6300 meters. Then, Griesmair became sick and had to retire to Base Camp. On October 22, four set out for the summit from Camp II. Germans Hirtreiter and Thorenz reached the summit (7193 meters, 23,600 feet) but Austrians Kern and Hron had to turn back an hour below the top because they were suffering from the altitude. Having regained his health, Markowski came back and with a Sherpa made two unsuccessful summit tries.

ADI WELSCH, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Annapurna Summer Attempt. A Japanese expedition of five led by Ichiro Hosoda attempted to climb Annapurna's north face by the Dutch Rib but had to give up at 5840 meters on August 10 after two camps were destroyed by avalanches during the three weeks they were on the mountain. No one was injured.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Annapurna South Face. Bae Hyun-Chul, Kang Duk-Moon, Im Jong-Bum, Hwang Dong-Jin, Hong Jea-Ki, Lee Soo-Ho, Kim In-Ki, Kim Jae-Suck, Jung Hyun-Gu, Park Jung-Hun, Lee Won-Hee and I as leader climbed on the south face of Annapurna. We established Base Camp, Camps I, II, III, IV and V at 4800, 5300, 6200, 6800, 7100 and 7400 meters on September 16, 17, 21, 26, October 3 and 9. We started up the Bonington route but between Camps II and IV we climbed to the left of that route. On October 10, Park Jung-Hun with Nepalese Dawa Sherpa, Dawa Tamang and Mingma Tamang reached the summit (8091 meters, 26,545 feet).

PARK JU-HWAN, *South Korea*

Annapurna, South Face Attempt. Catherine Destivelle and I were accompanied by photographer Pascal Tournaire. We hoped to climb a new route on the buttress to the right of the Bonington route. We hired two Sherpas to help carry loads to the bottom of the buttress at 7000 meters. Since the mountain was very dry and the séracs on the hanging glacier dangerous, we changed our plans. Instead of snow, we had to climb rock up to the buttress, which was difficult enough to require fixed ropes for carrying heavy loads with the Sherpas. We got to Base Camp on October 10, just as the Koreans finished their variant of the Bonington route. We used their ropes up to 6800 meters. We placed Camps I and II at 6000 and 6800 meters on October 13 and 17. Between October 21 and 24, we made a serious attempt, up to 7800 meters. After that date, we had bad weather every day, although the nights were clear. The snow conditions were dangerous. We could not make any further serious attempt, even though we tried twice.

ERIC DECAMP, *Club Alpin Français*

Annapurna Winter Attempt and Tragedy. Eight South Koreans with nine Nepalese were led by Kim Teuk-Hee on the north face of Annapurna. Ice avalanches injured several members and Sherpas. At midday on December 2 during route preparation at 5800 meters, at the beginning of the steep section, a big avalanche started from 200 meters higher and struck three members and three Sherpas, leaving them with injuries to legs, fingers, shoulder and head. They were not wearing helmets. With this accident and the expectation of more to come, and the fact that three other members were suffering from the high altitude, the climb was abandoned. Avalanching is common on the north face of Annapurna. On the retreat from Base Camp, Jun Suk-Byun fell 50 meters down hard-crusting snow on the second day of the trek back and died 6½ hours later.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Hiunchuli Attempt, Annapurna Group. Slovenes Bojan Počkar, leader, Tadej Golob and Štefan Mlinarič visited Hiunchuli (6441 meters, 21,133 feet), hoping

to climb the virgin 2000-meter southwest face. Not finding an easy approach, they moved over to the also unclimbed northeast face. After a period of unstable weather, a spell of sunshine on April 28 encouraged them to start the climb. The face proved very difficult. The first 300 vertical meters took them 14 hours (UIAA VI+, AI, 85°). On May 1, they made a second attempt, but the difficulties only increased and they quit, knowing the whole face would demand more very hard climbing.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

Annapurna South, Winter Ascent. Nikolai Cherny, Valeri Lobankov, Akhamadulla Minibaev, Vladimir Shataev and I ascended the south face of Annapurna South (7219 meters, 23,685 feet) alpine-style in eleven days of continuous climbing to reach the summit on December 17. This climb was technically not so difficult as our Ama Dablam ascent [See above] but it was harder work because of the greater altitude. It was hard to move in very cold weather with less than ten hours of daylight each day. Each man had to carry a very heavy load with enough supplies for two weeks. We could take only one tent, so we had to climb together or descend together. There was no possibility of some members dropping back during the ascent while others continued to the top. The climb began in the village of Chomrong at 1900 meters and took a line along the ridge which is the prolongation of the central spur of the south face. It rises 5300 meters in only ten kilometers. We had to surmount a number of small peaks since there was no way to avoid them because below were steep gorges covered with impassable jungle. Technical difficulties began at 4300 meters. From 5300 meters the glacier led up to a sharp ice ridge at 5800 meters. A rock gendarme interrupted the ice ridge at 6100 meters. The ice ridge ended at 6500 meters. This part between 5800 and 6500 meters is the most difficult. From there we ascended a steep snow slope with patches of ice to the beginning of the summit ridge at 7000 meters. An hour of easy ground took us to the top. Low temperatures and high winds caused problems. Once, Cherny was blown off the sharp ridge and was saved only because he was belayed. We were back in Chomrong on December 22. We found frozen ropes at 5400 meters and a rappel sling with three carabiners at 6100 meters. These were signs of the American expedition that had reached 6100 meters in 1988. [AAJ, 1989, page 221] There were two other unsuccessful attempts: French in 1970 and Japanese in 1984.

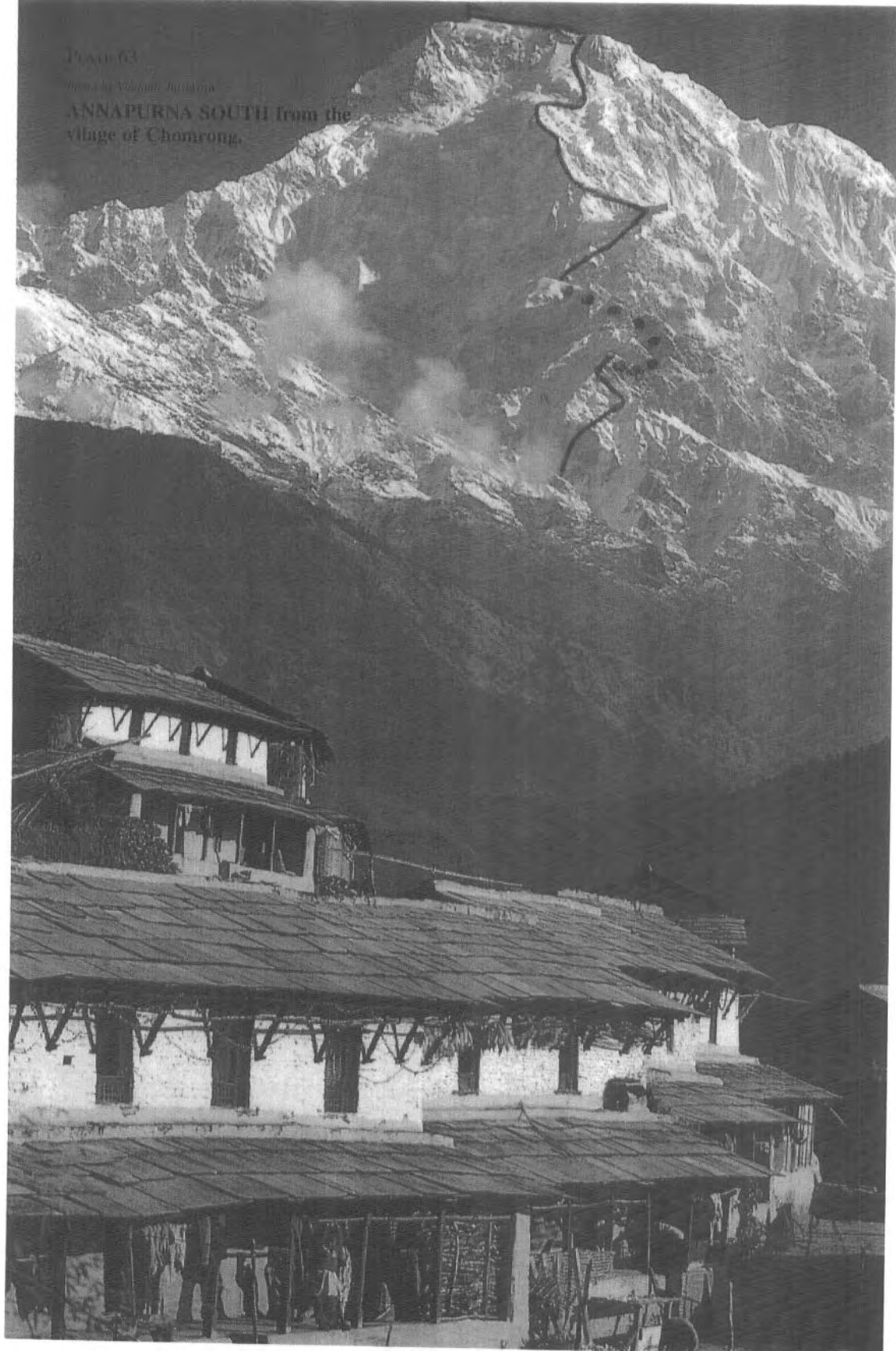
VLADIMIR BASHKIROV, *Russia*

Tilitso Post-Monsoon Ascents and Attempt. Tilitso (7134 meters, 23,405 feet) was successfully climbed by three expeditions in the fall. All were by the northeast spur to the north ridge. Led by Hubert Fritzenwallner, a group of 9 Austrians completed the 19th ascent of the mountain on October 10 when Fräulein Barbara Brunner, Siegfried Scherer and Franz Schratl reached the top;

PLATE 63

View of Annapurna South

ANNAPURNA SOUTH from the
village of Chomrong.



they were followed the next day by leader Fritzenwallner. Canadian Stephen Adamson led 6 *Canadians and 2 Americans*. On October 10, Canadians Don Belliveau, Norman Watts and American Mark Miller summited. An expedition of 5 *Spaniards* under the leadership of Miguel Angel Martín put the leader Martín, Pedro Redondo and Jorge Sánchez on the summit also on October 10. Under the leadership of Scot Colin Scott, 11 *Britons* failed to climb the south ridge, getting to 6600 meters on October 18.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Tukuche. A Japanese expedition of four climbed Tukuche (6920 meters, 22,703 feet) by the northwest ridge. On October 7, leader Shingoro Tamai, Miss Mariko Arimoto and Danu Sherpa reached the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Dhaulagiri Attempt. An experienced climber from the Netherlands, Bart Vos, came to Nepal with a different sort of ambitious project, to solo Dhaulagiri via its standard northeast ridge without teammates, without climbing Sherpas and without any other expedition on the mountain. After three weeks, on April 30, he had reached 7100 meters, and two weeks later he abandoned the attempt because of constant heavy snowfall and serious avalanching. He had had to spend 22 nights in Base Camp and only 14 nights above it.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Dhaulagiri, Ascents, Attempts and Tragedies in the Post-Monsoon. There were eight expeditions in the fall to Dhaulagiri (8167 meters, 26,795 feet), all of them on the standard northeast ridge. An *International* party led by Italian Marco Berti until he was called home and then by Marco Bianchi was successful. This is described below. Led by Olivier Roduit, 7 *Swiss* climbed the mountain but suffered the loss of Robert Baehler, which is described in the report on the International expedition. The summit was reached on September 5 by Paul-Victor Amaudruz, on the 26th by Stéphane Albasini and on the 27th by Roduit, Nicolas Gex and Pierre Boven. The following also reached the summit: of 3 *Japanese* led by Ichita Ono, on September 27 Yukito Ueno, Pa Nima Sherpa, Man Bahadur Gurung; of 10 *Japanese* (all over 50 years) led by Tomiyasu Ishikawa, on October 1 leader Ishikawa, Kaneshige Ikeda, Masatsugu Konishi, Kiyokazu Netsu, Miss Tamae Watanabe, Sherpas Nima Dorje, Nima Temba, Wangchu; of 7 *Americans and 1 Briton* led by Richard Henke, on October 3 Americans leader Henke, Rick Taylor and on October 4 Robert Green, Brian Johnson; of 12 *Ukrainians* led by Ivan Valenia, on October 11 Igor Svergun, on October 13 Vladimir Gorbach, Igor Chaplinsky, Vladimir Lanko and on October 18 leader Valenia, Mrs. Galina Tchekanova, Miss Tamara Ena, Gennady Vasilenko. "Expedition" may not be the right word; in contrast to

Soviet-era teams, this group was not highly disciplined nor tightly structured. Those who wanted to climb the mountain and could pay came, and they climbed independently of each other, nominally led by Valenia, an engineer, diplomat, politician and former member of parliament. The leadership was reluctant to talk about the death of Mrs. Galina Tchekanova. Her name had not been included in the team's membership list (presumably to save money on the permit fee). It seems that she disappeared probably in a fall on October 18 after reaching the summit. Unsuccessful were 8 *Belgians* led by Bernard Mousny, who got to 6700 meters on October 16 and 7 *Frenchmen and 1 Swiss* led by Michel Richard who turned back at 7400 meters also on October 16.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Dhaulagiri Ascents and Tragedy. Our international team consisted of Italian Marco Berti, leader, Italian Marco Bianchi, Italian (South Tirolean) Christian Kuntner, Poles Piotr Pustelnik and Józef Goździk, Portuguese João García and me from the United States. We left the trailhead at Baglung on August 29. On September 5, after trekking up the Kali Gandaki and over the French Pass, we were the third expedition to arrive in Base Camp. A Japanese team had already worked a route through the upper and lower icefalls. Unfortunately, Berti received an emergency note from Italy on the 7th and left to fly home. We regrouped, essentially dividing into two teams: Bianchi, Kuntner and García, and the two Poles and me. On September 9, we together established Camp I at 5800 meters. On the 16th, with some skepticism because of the weather, we made Camp II at 6850 meters. The next day, the weather worsened and the Italians headed down. Swiss Olivier Roduit and Pierrot Boven also arrived at Camp II that day. On the 18th, the storm got worse and we fought our way down in full storm conditions, surviving avalanche danger below Camp II, in the upper icefall below Camp I and on the Eiger traverse. After a few days in Base Camp, Bianchi and Kuntner left a day ahead of us others and kept a day ahead of us throughout. On September 23, our group arrived at Camp I in an easy five hours. This shows the effect of acclimatization, for it had taken me a miserable twelve hours on the first trip up. On September 24 and 25, we went to Camp II and III. At four P.M. on the 25th, Bianchi and Kuntner, along with Swiss François Perraudin and Paul-Victor Amaudruz returned from the summit. We four left on the 26th at four A.M. with Swiss Stéphane Albasini and Robert Baehler. Baehler turned back, but Albasini summited ahead of us. At 12:30, Pustelnik, Goździk, García and I reached the top. Our euphoria ended 600 meters lower down. As Goździk and I crossed a steep snow bowl which connects the summit traverse to the northeast ridge proper, to our horror we watched Baehler, who had stayed below, slip and fall over a steep rock cliff 1500 meters to his death. Roduit and Boven later went up and found his ice axe where he had fallen. It was a grim reminder of the effect of oxygen lack. Baehler

had been a guide for 24 years and knew how to use his axe. At a lower altitude, he would doubtless have self-arrested. We were all back in Base Camp on September 28 and left on the 30th.

R.D. CAUGHRON

Dhaulagiri Winter Attempt. Swiss Franco Dellatorre proposed to make a solo winter attempt on Dhaulagiri's normal northeast ridge. He assumed he would be able to make use of the fixed ropes of the teams that had summited in October, but scanning the ridge from Base Camp, he determined that he would need to fix about 400 meters of new rope because most of the autumn ropes were either not visible or now hopelessly off the route. He sent a message to his trekking agent in Kathmandu to provide him quickly with rope. In the meantime, he climbed alone to 6500 meters to acclimatize. On the descent to base, he found no rope had arrived. He waited another day and still no rope arrived and so he abandoned his climb, presuming the message had not reached Kathmandu. However, when he got to the nearest village, Marpha, he found there his liaison officer—and his rope. A very angry Dellatorre claims that the liaison officer told the man who had brought the rope from Kathmandu that the rope would not be needed since the Swiss climber would be back in Marpha en route to Kathmandu on December 10, which happened to be the very day that Dellatorre actually reached his highest point before descending to Base Camp to pick up his rope.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

India—Garhwal

Nanda Devi East. Because of the closure of the Nanda Devi Sanctuary, the only access to Nanda Devi East is from outside the sanctuary. There were four expeditions to the mountain. *Britons* Julie-Ann Clyma and her husband Roger Payne hoped to climb a new, difficult route on the northeast ridge. After a long time in the area and much bad weather, they climbed the south ridge alpine-style, reaching the top (7434 meters, 24,390 feet) on October 6. They gave a disturbing report on rubbish at Base Camp which had been left there since 1993. The route on the mountain is littered with rope. [See below.] *Spanish Catalans* led by Ferràn García on June 27 completed the seventh ascent of the first-ascent route via Longstaff's Col. [See below.] *Spanish Basques* led by Montxo López de Ipiña got to 6900 meters on the same route, finding the weather too cold and windy. Their high point was reached on October 4. *Indo-Americans* led by Krishnan Kutty and Tom Ball failed to climb the mountain, withdrawing in mid September.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, Himalayan Journal*