

first Pokhara and then Dorpathan. We left the latter on September 29 with 70 porters. In four days, after crossing the 15,425-foot "Italian Col", which had a difficult snowy couloir requiring fixed ropes, we got to the "Japanese Base Camp" at the foot of Churen Himal, high in the Kaphe (or Gustung) Khola at about 13,000 feet. The next day we placed our Base Camp 1000 feet and an hour higher towards the Dhaulagiri VI glacial basin. From October 3 to 17 we established three camps, helped in the early part by ropes fixed by the Japanese expedition to Dhaulagiri IV. Camp I was at 16,400 feet at the foot of a rock band which gave access to the glacial plateau between Gurja Himal and Gustang; Camp II at 18,700 feet on the plateau at the foot of the north-west spur; and Camp III at 21,325 feet on the spur. On October 21 Sarthou and Mathieu left Camp III at seven A.M., climbed to the top of the spur, gained the north ridge, crossed the "Lyonnais Col" at 23,000 feet and reached the summit (23,600 feet) at three P.M. Meanwhile the Buttins, Soubis and the two Sherpas placed Camp III bis on the normal (west face) route at about 21,650 feet, ready to receive Sarthou and Mathieu. The latter came through Camp III bis to Camp II, thanks to the track. On October 22 all those in Camp III bis reached the summit by the Japanese route. High winds and the lack of acclimatization among some prevented the other four from reaching the summit on October 23. Camps were evacuated on the 24th.

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*Manaslu, East Face.* Fifteen members of a South Korean expedition were killed when on April 10 avalanches overwhelmed their Camp III at 21,300 feet. The dead were four Koreans including the leader, Kim Ho Sup, one Japanese and ten Sherpas. There survived two Sherpas and a brother of the leader, Kim Yae Sup, who had lost another brother on the same mountain in 1971. These three were swept down some 2500 feet but were not buried. As they lay there, another avalanche descended and carried them another 1000 feet, but they were able to extricate themselves. Previously, the climbers had reached a height of 23,800 feet. Seven other members of the expedition were not in the camp when it was struck by the avalanche.

*Manaslu, South Face.* A Tyrolean expedition led by Wolfgang Nairz made the third ascent of 26,760-foot Manaslu by a third new route, the 10,000-foot south face, a face route of sustained difficulty. Yet success was immediately marred by the death of two members. It was a strong team: Nairz, Reinhold Messner, Dr. Oswald Ölz, Andi Schlick, Franz Jäger, Hansjorg Hochfilzer, Horst Fankhauser, Hans Hofer, and Josl Knoll. After a 10-day march up the Marsyandi valley and the Dona Khola, they got to Base Camp at 14,100 feet on March 29. The first problem was a 2000-foot-high, difficult rock buttress. Then followed the "Ice

"Labyrinth", which led to Camp II at 19,200 feet and Camp III on the southwest shoulder at 21,650 feet. The ice ramp between Camps III and IV on the edge of the summit plateau at 24,275 feet was of extreme difficulty. On April 25 all was in readiness. Messner and Jäger moved up the comparatively easy summit plateau in good weather while Fankhauser and Schlick came up to Camp IV in support. At ten A.M. Jäger felt he might hold Messner back and started to return to Camp IV. Messner continued alone up two steep snow pitches and along the final rock ridge to reach the top at two P.M. He started down almost immediately since the weather was threatening. Soon it was a howling blizzard; after wandering confusedly in the wild storm, he finally made it back to Camp IV at about dark. Jäger had not returned! Fankhauser and Schlick set off into the raging night in the direction of Jäger's shouts, but they could find no trace of him. After vain searching, they were forced to dig a snow cave to save their own lives. During the night Schlick headed out, never to be seen again. In the morning Fankhauser and Messner searched for the two in vain. Finally they had to abandon the search and beat a retreat down the ice slope, now covered by four feet of new snow. Conditions precluded any further search.

*Kande Hiunchuli, Patrasi Himal.* The expedition of the Tokyo Yama-tabi Club was led by Hiroshi Nishida and had five other members. They were flown to Jumla on September 20. Base Camp (12,500 feet) was on the west side of the Patrasi Himal. Their route up the southwest ridge was the same taken by the Kobe Commercial University previously. From Camp II on October 18 Shigeru Kuwahata and Toyukazu Hirota reached the summit (21,742 feet). However they claim the altitude to be 6580 meters or 21,588 feet and they may have climbed some other peak in the range.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

*Central Peak of Annapurna South or Moditse.* Uzo Tada led four other members of the Doryu Alpine Club. They attacked the east ridge. On October 21 Yoshio Yamamoto and Kozu Yoshida reached the central peak (23,458 feet) of Annapurna South from the north. Owing to lack of time, they gave up climbing on to the highest peak of Annapurna South. (This summit is northeast of the main peak. See the map in Craig Anderson's article in this *Journal*.)

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

*Tukche Peak.* The Tokyo Yakka University expedition was led by Kiichi Sakaguchi. On October 17 Naotami Yatsuyama and Sherpa Lakpa Norbu climbed to the top (22,730 feet) from Camp III at 22,650 feet.

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