

Dhaulagiri I, Southeast Ridge. The extraordinarily difficult southeast ridge of Dhaulagiri, attempted unsuccessfully by the American party in 1973, was climbed by Japanese but at a high cost in lives. The 18-man party was led by Seiko Tanaka. On September 23 Yujiro Fukasawa, Hiroshi Akuzawa and Kiyoshi Kobayashi were killed by an avalanche between Camps IV and V. Six members succeeded in getting to the summit on October 19 and 20, but on October 20 the climbing leader, Katsuyoshi Kogure, who was ferrying loads from Camp IV to Camp V fell on a fixed rope and hung there until he died. (Information from *Iwa To Yuki*, December 1978 and February 1979.)

Dhaulagiri II, East Ridge from the South. A 10-man Japanese expedition from Nagoya was led by Yoshio Ogawa. Following the route attempted by other Japanese in 1975, they successfully made the second ascent of the mountain (25,430 feet) by this new route from the Tsaurabong Glacier. The summit was reached on May 8 from Camp V with a bivouac by the leader Ogawa and Shoji Koiko.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Dhaulagiri II, Postmonsoon Attempt. A second Japanese expedition, this one from Kyoto and led by Yasuo Onishi, attempted the same route climbed by the Nagoya expedition but failed. The highest point reached on a summit attempt was some 800 feet from the top.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

Api, South Face and East Ridge. The Italian expedition to Api was composed of Alberto Bianchi, Rolando Canuti, Claudio Cavenago, Cesare Cesa Bianchi, Luigi Leccardi, Maurizio Maggi, Ivano Meschini, Marco Polo, Angelo Rocca, Giampiero Rodari, Vittorio Tamagni, Marco Tedeschi, Franco Villa, and me as leader. This was the first Italian expedition to Api since the one led by P. Ghiglione in 1954 when three out of four members died. After this first attempt, two Japanese teams tried to reach the top from the south face. This is one of the less known areas of Nepal and it is very difficult to approach. The living conditions of the people are extremely poor. For an expedition it is very difficult both to collect porters and to supply food. After a ten-day approach route along the Chamlia valley, we reached Base Camp (13,000 feet) on September 29. We set then three higher camps: I at 16,350 feet; II at 18,450 feet; III at 20,675 feet at the Api-Nampa I col. Between Camps II and III there were UIAA difficulties of IV to V and 55° to 65° ice. We fixed rope along the whole section. From Camp III the route followed the east ridge, first sharp and corniced, then with great rock pillars. Only for the first 1300 feet of this part did we fix rope. The top (23,399 feet) was reached on October 16 by a four-member team: Cesare Cesa Bianchi,



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Photo by Renato Moro

API, Western Nepal. The route was up the buttresses at the right and the right ridge.

Maurizio Maggi, Angelo Rocca and Vittorio Tamagni. The summit climb was made in frightful weather: heavy snowfall and fog nearly stopped the climbers on the way back. One of them actually slipped and fell 200 feet, but was immediately rescued by the others. The team reached Camp III only very late at night. On October 20 we left Base Camp.

RENATO MORO, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Jetiboburani, Nampa Group. A seven-man Japanese expedition from Shinshu University made the first ascent of Jetiboburani (22,470 feet), which lies south of Nampa. The leader was Kazuhiko Yamada. They climbed the east ridge. The summit was reached on April 27 by Kazuo Mitsui, Hideaki Yoshida and Nobuo Morota.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

India-Garhwal

Nanda Devi, South Ridge. On June 21 David Hambly, David McClung, William Fryberger, Bruce Byers, Steve Casebold and Glenn Brindeiro of the 1978 Seattle-Garhwal Himalaya Expedition made the seventh recorded ascent of Nanda Devi (25,645 feet) by the normal route. The above, Jan Balut, Dr. Gerald Casebold, David Seman and I left the bridge at Reni on May 13 with 48 porters and over 100 goats and came up the lower gorge which made an interesting and practical variation from the usual Dharansi Pass route since it avoided the winter snow on the latter. On the second day we had to spend about seven hours rebuilding a bridge across the Rishi Ganga. We had trouble with our porters in spite of the best efforts of our excellent liaison officer, Captain S. S. Dhillon. However, Base Camp (16,200 feet) was reached in about 11 days of trekking in superb weather. Soon after reaching Base Camp a storm hit with snow and high winds. Great banners of snow were blown off the peak. Apart from this storm, and a two day storm while at Camp I, we had good weather. Since we had no porters above Base Camp, we spent an arduous eight or nine days carrying loads to Camp I which was established at 19,000 feet. Camp II was at 20,200 feet and the fixed rope from previous expeditions proved useful. Unfortunately, a tragedy hit us when Captain Dhillon fell to his death while descending from Camp II after taking up a load. It was found that the fixed rope was nearly continuous from Camp I all the way to Camp V at 24,100 feet, although, in several areas, it was buried in the snow and had to be refixed or replaced. Camp III was established on June 12 at 21,600 feet on the snow slope above the snow arête. The remains of the 1977 British-American camp and equipment was found buried in the snow. Camp IV was placed just at the top of the steep rock face above the snow slope. Some harder climbing above this camp led to a 40-foot vertical rock wall, which had