

8000 meters on October 14 in a solo bid for the summit of Kangchenjunga South. He was forced to bivouac there by strong winds and a heavy pack. On the second summit bid, Hubert went alone on October 22 to the site of Camp II at 7200 meters on the Great Shelf and could find no trace of the camp. A huge storm had intervened on October 19 and 20. The camp was either buried under very deep snow or it had blown away. All his down clothing for the climb and all the food were lost and so the climb was finished. He had intended to descend from above the Great Shelf by paraglider, but that too had been lost at Camp II.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*, and ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Kangchenjunga Winter Ascent, 1988.* A South Korean expedition led by Jung Sang-Moo made a winter ascent of the southwest face of Kangchenjunga. Lee Jeong-Chel made the 24th ascent of the mountain on January 2, 1988. On the way to Base Camp, a member and a porter died of illness. Further details are still not available.

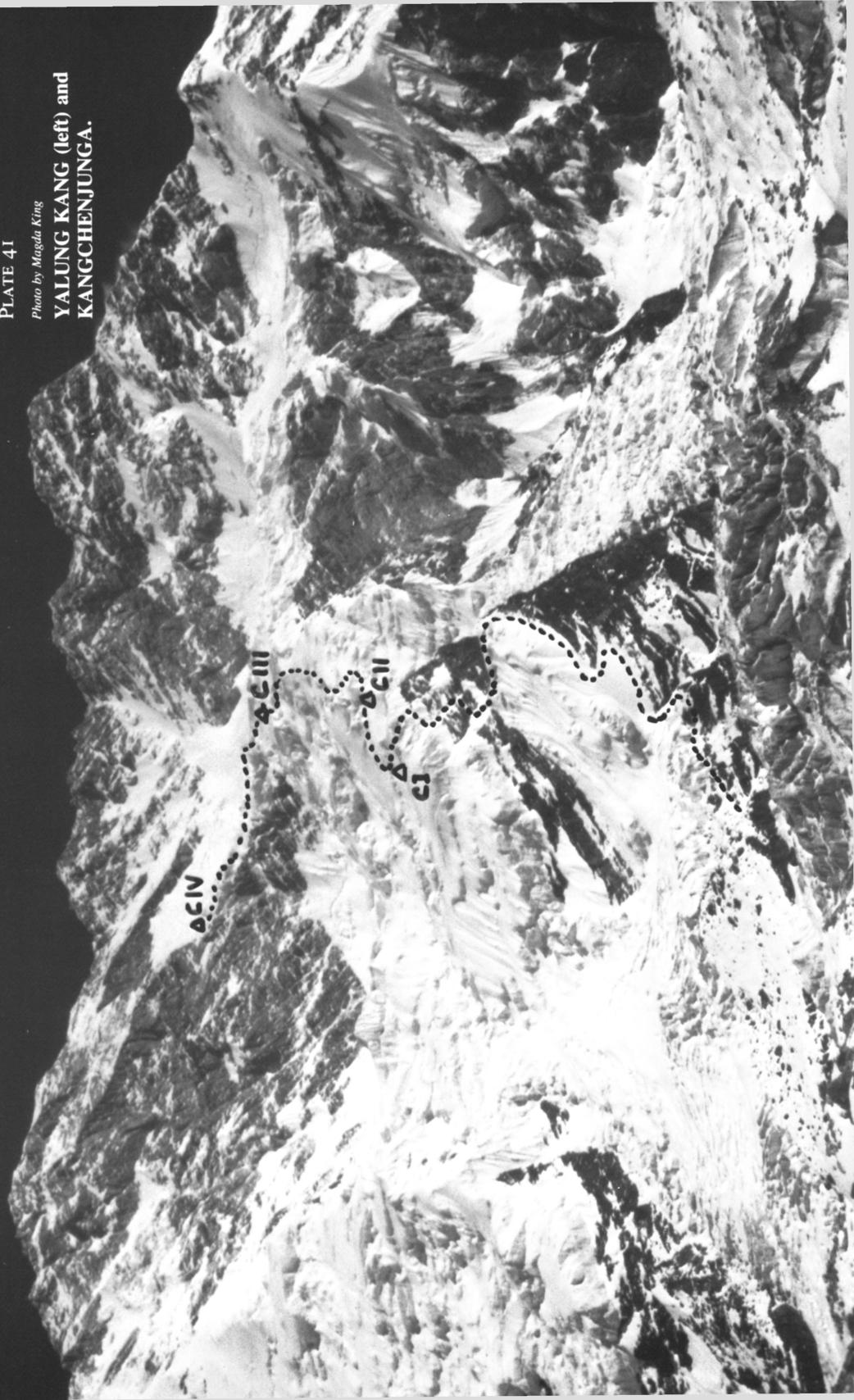
ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Yalung Kang Attempt.* I had originally hoped to climb Yalung Kang by the normal southeast-face route with a small alpine-style team. When the members of my original team could not come and I could find no others, I decided to attempt it alone with a support team of John and Charlie Smith and Dana Welch. In the end, one of the original members, Jim Farkas, could come. Because of my commitment to climb alone, we agreed to hire a high-altitude porter to go with Jim. We would still climb alpine-style and without oxygen. We left Kathmandu on August 10, but severe flooding in eastern Nepal complicated the approach. We finally arrived at Base Camp at 5400 meters up the Yalung Glacier on August 30. There we realized that we were missing three weeks of food. That meant we had to work together and climb fast. By September 15, Camp I was established at the top of the lower icefield at 6200 meters. On September 20, Camp II was placed at 6400 meters so that it could be reached in a day from Base Camp. It was a third of the way up the second icefield. On October 3, the support group left for Kathmandu. Camp I was eliminated and Camp II was the only permanent camp. After a couple of days of snow, the weather cleared and on the 7th we left Base Camp for the first summit attempt. We made Camp III at 7000 meters near the top of the second icefield. On the way to Camp IV, I was putting my down jacket into my pack when a gust of wind blew it into a crevasse. I went down to try to retrieve it, but since I was alone and without rope, there was nothing I could do. I spent the night at Camp IV, hoping to borrow a jacket later, but that did not work out. Jim tried for the summit from Camp IV on two consecutive days. On October 11, with porter Ong Chu and sirdar Narayan, they found the snow too soft. Ong Chu went down, complaining of a headache. The following day, Jim

PLATE 41

*Photo by Magda King*

**YALUNG KANG (left) and  
KANGCHENJUNGA.**



and Narayan tried again, but just over 8000 meters, Jim fell several hundred feet. Narayan lost his ice axe and they abandoned the climb. Jim was shaken by his fall and I stayed with him and Narayan on the way down. Near Camp II, I went ahead to melt snow. Narayan arrived shortly, saying that Jim was on the last part of the fixed rope and would soon be with us. As time passed, we grew concerned and at nine P.M. we went out to look for him. Our batteries were weak and by 11:30 we realized we could not find him until daytime. The following morning we found him nearby. He had fallen but spent the night in his sleeping bag. We helped him to Camp II. The next day, Ong Chu came up with the news that there were only two days of food in Base Camp. He and Narayan descended to get porters for the walk out. I would go down with Jim the next day. However, we got caught by a snowstorm at the site of the Belgian Camp I at 6200 meters. The first night we stayed in the Belgian tent but by morning it was completely destroyed. I put up my tent. It snowed constantly for three nights and two days with a total accumulation of five feet. It was not until the sixth day that we could move. At some time, Jim had frostbitten his toes and several fingers. From Base Camp it was another eight days of painful walking for Jim to reach Yamphuding, where we were met by a helicopter that took us to Kathmandu.

MAGDA KING, *Colorado Mountain Club*

*Kumbhakarna (Jannu) Attempt.* Beverly Boynton\*, Randal Harrington, Evan Kaplan, Chuck Schaap, James Springer, Callum MacKay (our only Briton) and I as leader left Kathmandu on March 23, hoping to climb the French route on the south ridge of Kumbhakarna. We established Base Camp at 15,000 feet on April 6. Numerous load carries mixed with periods of bad weather finally led to placing Camp I at 17,500 feet. An easy snow gully, a corniced ridge and a small icefall put us in a spectacular cirque at Camp II at 19,500 feet. Springer and Schaap had to return to Base Camp to recover from flu. Daily snowstorms covered our tracks and we had to break trail in new snow every day. Because of delays and shortage of time and fuel, we decided to make an alpine-style attempt from Camp II. Bev Boynton dropped out to allow the formation of two 2-man teams. Kaplan, Harrington, MacKay and I set out on April 26 as the bad weather continued. After climbing 700 feet of fixed ropes, we kept on along the difficult corniced ridge in a mild blizzard. Five pitches of thin climbing ended on easier snow slopes below the first tower on the south ridge (Tête du Butoir). Though the bad weather continued, the night at the first bivouac at 20,400 feet was starry. On April 27 a short pitch of névé ice and steep snow led to a plateau below the Tête du Butoir. In a blizzard with no visibility, we tried to traverse to the second tower (Tête de Dentelle) above a 4000-foot drop to the Yamatari Glacier. Moving in sometimes hip-deep snow

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