

Japanese route and the huge rock wall. The first buttress was fixed by the Dutch with their ropes and ours. We placed Camp I at 5400 meters on the glacier below the big wall. From October 6 to 11 we climbed on the ramp, although threatening séracs at 6700 meters made us hesitate. At last, after two days searching for a passage, we climbed it and went on. After so much time we were short on food, gas and equipment. Cold was exhausting as the sun hit our route only one hour before dusk. We backed off, deciding to return to the face via the Japanese ramp. The Netherlanders were better off there. After the accident to them, Marsigny and Tomás left the expedition. On October 19 a terrible storm destroyed Base Camp, Deposit Camp and Camp I, and we lost much equipment. Then the weather turned clear, but windy and cold. From October 21 to 25, we climbed the face, using the Dutch ropes for the first 100 meters. Above that we went alpine-style. Bivouacs were at 6000, 6600 and 7200 meters. Luckily the wind stopped for the summit climb. The last ridge took us only four hours with incredible views. We were on the summit at 12:30 P.M. In two days we were in the valley and in five in Kathmandu.

PIERRE BEGHIN, *Groupe de Haute Montagne*

*Kumbhakarna (Jannu)*. Our team was made up of Elizabeth Julliard, Marion Gaillard, Gérard Auger, Jean-Robert Grasso, Mario Paffumi, Frédéric Vallet, Michel Vincent and me. We trekked for eleven days from Shidua to Ghunsa. After the storm, which left much snow up high, we went with yaks and porters from Ghunsa to Base Camp I at 4500 meters, the same site as that used by the French expedition in 1962. We set up Base Camp II in the middle of the Yamatari Glacier on October 23. On October 23 and 24, we established Camp I up the glacier at 5300 meters below the Eperon des Jeunes (Youngsters' Spur). A south-facing ice couloir rose above Camp I to the middle of the spur. It was some 45°, but in places up to 60°. On the 25th and 26th, Julliard, Vallet, Vincent and I climbed the couloir and went along the ridge on mixed terrain for several rope-lengths. The ridge above was so snow-covered and corniced that it would have taken many days to fix. On October 27, we continued up the glacier to place Camp II at 6000 meters. There was some danger in séracs and one vertical passage. We occupied Camp II on October 29. We climbed to the crest of the Eperon des Jeunes to a col above our previous high point and along the ridge to under the Tête du Butoir. After some rope was fixed, Camp III was installed there at 6400 meters. On November 3, Julliard, Vallet, Vincent and I left Camp II on our summit attempt. We slept at Camp III. On the 4th, we quickly crossed the Tête du Butoir and continued to the foot of the Arête de la Dentelle (Lace Ridge), where we bivouacked. On November 5, we climbed the Lace Ridge and crossed the Throne Glacier to 7000 meters, where we set up Camp IV. On November 6, we started directly for the summit, possibly a little late in the morning. We climbed the ice slope to where the 1962 French Camp VI had been. Above this, at 7400 meters on the very narrow ridge Julliard and I turned

back. It was two P.M. and we were beginning to get frostbitten. Vallet and Vincent continued on to the summit. They came back at night and reached Camp IV at eleven P.M. We were all back in Base Camp II on November 8.

HENRI SIGAYRET, *Groupe de Haute Montagne*

*Makalu Attempt.* This five-man expedition from the Netherlands hoped to climb the Yugoslavian route on the south face of Makalu. After establishing three high camps, leader Edewin van Nieuwkerk and Joost Ubbink reached 7600 meters on May 4. Exhaustion from combatting fierce winds and lack of manpower defeated this team.

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

*Swiss Makalu Attempt.* Two of the three team members, Daniel Anker and Martin Fischer, reached their high point of 7600 meters on the southeast ridge of Makalu on October 13. After they went back to Base Camp for a rest, they were struck by the blizzard of October 18 to 20. They tried to resume their climb on the 22nd, but the winds were too strong and gave no signs of abating. They abandoned the climb.

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

*Austrian Makalu Attempt.* This five-man Austrian expedition led by Wilfried Studer ended with a permit for the west-pillar route on Makalu. They began climbing the normal northwest route for acclimatization before tackling the pillar. A French-American team, which had permission for the normal route, arrived and demanded that the Austrians leave the route. Soon afterwards, a big snowstorm came. The Austrians did not want to try the pillar with so much snow and they abandoned the climb. Four members had gone to 6500 meters on October 13 and 17 on the normal route.

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

*Makalu Attempt.* The 1987 Franco-American Makalu Expedition consisted of Michel Fauquet, leader; Americans Michael Crosset, Fred Phinney, Barry Rosenbaum, Jay Sieger and me; Canadian Bill Clifford; and French Denis Pivot, Annie Pivot and Christian Fournier, ably supported by Patrick Sance, Kathleen Pope, and Sherpas Kikeme, Pemba and Lhakpa. The attempt was by the normal route. After a 14-day trek, Base Camp and Camp I were established on September 17 and 21 at 5200 and 6100 meters. In continuing good post-monsoon weather, Camp II was fully established on October 1 at 6700 meters at the foot of the pitch to the Makalu La. Fixed ropes were placed to the right of the usual couloir to the col because of avalanche danger and Camp III, the high point, was established on the summit ridge on October 16. Sance and