

mixed with loose rock and snow. A lack of equipment and time prevented our continuing up the remaining difficulties, which appeared to ease after another 200 to 300 meters. The north ridge from the east suffers from a long approach but offers a relatively straightforward route in classic surroundings.

JAMES BRUG, *Unaffiliated*

*Baruntse Attempt.* An international expedition failed to climb Baruntse by its southeast ridge. On May 10 and 13 Australians Kenneth Baldwin, leader John Finnigan, Theodore Hooy, Peter Land and Will Steffen, American Peter Hodge, and Nepalese Ongchu Lama and Bir Bahadur Tamang reached 7070 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Baruntse Attempt.* Four West Germans under the leadership of Ulrich Weber were unable to climb Baruntse via the south ridge from the east col. They reached 6200 meters on October 17.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Baruntse Attempt.* Our expedition hoped to climb Baruntse by the normal southeast ridge. We established Base Camp, Camps I and II at 5400, 6100 (on the west col) and 6500 meters. On October 25, Xavier Pignède, Françoise Bouchut, Françoise Goudet, Jean Duffort and I made a summit attempt which stopped at 6950 meters because of bad conditions on the final ridge. Also taking part were Isabelle Cazottes, Philippe Bouchut and Ariane Châtelet.

GILLES BUISSON, *Club Alpin Français*

*Chamlang East.* Our Netherlands women's expedition was composed of Dr. Annet Boom, Myra de Rooy, Janka van Leeuwen, Gerda de Groene, Marjolein Meere and me as leader. Two Sherpas helped us to carry loads to Camp I. Base Camp at 4850 meters was established on April 17. There being no water, the Sherpas carried it from the glacier some 100 meters below. We set up Advance Base on April 20 at 5465 meters at the foot of the Lower Barun Glacier. This was mainly a depot. Camp I was placed at 5750 meters on April 23. One tent in this windy camp was destroyed by rockfall. Camp II was set up at 6130 meters on April 29 on the north face just below the hardest pitch of the face. Camp III at 6720 meters had only one two-person tent; we all five slept in it on May 10. Doug Scott, who had made the first ascent in 1982, had told us about rockfall and ice avalanches between Base and Advance Base. Below the north face, there were no technical difficulties but many crevasses. On the face there was hard, steep ice up to 80° with little or no snow on it. We used 26 ice screws and left four of them with the fixed ropes. Apparently we had more difficulty on the face than Scott, but less on the southeast ridge. It took five or six hours to climb to the east

summit (7235 meters, 23,737 feet) and three to descend. We used one of Scott's slings and fixed two ropes on the steep, crumbly, icy snow on the ridge. On May 10, de Groene, Meere and van Leeuwen reached the summit and on May 11, de Rooy and I. Both days were fine but windy. After May 12, the weather turned so bad we could not have made it.

FREDERIKE BLOEMERS, *Koninklijke Nederlandse Alpen Vereniging*

*Kangtega Attempt.* Akemi Maeda, Hiroyuki Aoki and I left Lukla on April 1 for Base Camp at 4800 meters on the east side of Kangtega, where we arrived on the 4th. Maeda lost consciousness from mountain sickness and so we carried her down to Tangnag. Aoki and I were back in Base Camp on April 9. On the 10th, we headed for an ice wall on the south face alpine-style with five days of food. On April 11, we bivouacked at 5200 meters on the lower part of the Kangtega Glacier and on the 12th in the center of the ice wall at 5800 meters. When we reached 6100 meters on April 13, we were confronted with a 10-meter-wide crevasse and were distressed by falling ice blocks. We returned to our 5200-meter bivouac, where it stormed all day. Snowslides down the ice wall were frequent. When by April 18 the weather was still bad, we gave up the attempt.

KOJI MURAKAMI, *Orio Alpine Club, Japan*

*Kusum Kanguru.* A British expedition climbed Kusum Kanguru (6367 meters, 20,889 feet) via the east face, a new route. On October 23, Nicholas Mason, leader, John Diplock, Julian Holmes, and Sherpas Lhakpa Dorje, Dawa Nuru, Ang Jangbu and Kami Tshering reached the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Mera Northeast Ridge.* Our six-member expedition hoped to climb the north face of Mera. Base Camp was established on September 24 beside the Dig Glacier at 4580 meters. We were to climb alpine-style on whatever routes we saw fit. Briton Dave Hudson and I climbed the north face to the northeast ridge where we placed camps at 5700 meters on September 26 and at 6000 meters on the 30th before returning to Base Camp for a rest and to restock with food. We returned to our high camp via the north face and reached the summit (6654 meters, 21,830 feet) the following day. We descended to Base Camp via paraglider.

IAN STEVENS, *New Zealand Alpine Club*

*Ama Dablam Attempt and Tragedy.* Until April 8, everything was going perfectly. All six members, American Tom Dickey and Canadians Geoff Powter, Peter Roxburgh, Charlie Eckenfelder, Rory McIntosh and I, were fit and well in Camp II atop the Red Towers. We had enjoyed two weeks of perfect weather