

attempt for the summit because of bad weather. Finally, on December 22, Rudy Van Snick and Sherpas Ang Rita and Ang Lhakpa Dorje were near the South Summit when the weather turned bad. Ang Lhakpa Dorje was very tired. He made a false move, slipped and fell some 60 meters, stopping just before a 500-meter precipice. Though close to the top, Rudy Van Snick and Ang Rita did not hesitate to do all they could for their friend. The efforts to bring the injured man to lower levels took all their energy. Tragically, they could not save him and he died the next morning. The Belgian members ended their expedition. On December 31, Krzysztof Wielicki climbed without artificial oxygen to the summit of Lhotse by the west face. He and Cichy spent the previous night at Camp III at 7400 meters, but only Wielicki reached the top.

HERMAN DETIENNE, *Belgian Himalayan Club*

*Everest Attempts, 1989.* South Koreans led by Park Young-Bae tried to make a winter ascent of the southwest face of Everest but only reached a high point of 7800 meters on January 10, 1989.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Pumori Ascent and Tragedy.* On April 18, Chris Leibundgut and I reached the summit of Pumori after an eight-day alpine-style ascent via the south ridge. Our expedition consisted of us two plus Doug White and Randy Kopal. We established Base Camp on April 3 at 17,400 feet near a small frozen lake at the base of Pumori's south face. We spent a week waiting for all of us to be simultaneously healthy. On April 11, we made our first camp at 18,700 feet on a rocky platform behind Kala Patar. The next day, we camped early at 19,700 feet, and after a difficult discussion, White and Kopal elected to return to Base Camp, doubtful that they could reach the summit and return with the six days of food and fuel we had started with. Leibundgut and I continued the next morning, crossing the long, rotten, horizontal ridge to the rocky south face of Pumori. We climbed easy but loose rock and occasional ice runnels to a ledge where we bivouacked. On the fourth day, we reached the snowy south ridge proper, which we followed to the summit. The climbing was straightforward except for some bottomless granular snow. Late on the afternoon of the eighth day, we reached the summit. Though we were out of food, fuel and water, we were not concerned since we felt we could descend the easier east ridge in a matter of hours. As soon as we began the descent, Leibundgut told me he wasn't feeling well. His mental condition degenerated quickly. Confused and disoriented, he soon became incapable of helping himself. As the sun set, the wind picked up and soon a storm was raging. I decided to dig in where we were on a snow shelf a few hundred feet below the summit. I worked on the cave alone. A half hour after starting, I popped up for a breather only to find myself alone. With no sign of

him anywhere, I assume that Leibundgut had walked off the mountain. The next day, I descended alone to Base Camp.

JOHN TUCKEY

*Pumori.* The leader of our Indonesian expedition was Gunawan and the members were Eddy Djuandi, Sukmoyo, Nandang Syamsudin, Trivoni Sugiarto Senapi, Djodjo Sunardjo and me, the only woman. We reached Base Camp at 5340 meters on April 6 after a seven-day march. We took the normal east-ridge route. Camps I and II were pitched at 6000 and 6500 meters on April 12 and 18. The first summit attempt, made by Djodjo and Trivoni, failed because of bad weather. On the second, I was accompanied by four Sherpas and reached 7000 meters, the first Indonesian female to get to that altitude. We were forced back by a shortage of rope and time. The third and successful attempt was made on April 26 by Gunawan, Djuandi, Syamsudin and Sherpas Pemba and Lhakpa Sona. They reached the summit at six P.M.

VERONICA MOELIONO, *Wanadri, Indonesia*

*Pumori.* Several expeditions successfully climbed Pumori in the post-monsoon season. Spaniards led by José Javier Quiñones placed Miguel Angel Serrano and Pedro Pablo González on the summit on October 7. Japanese leader Mitsuo Nomura and Takehiko Yangihara reached the summit on October 9. Both expeditions climbed the east face to the northeast ridge. These were the 35th and 36th ascents of Pumori.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Pumori.* Our party consisted of American Scott Woolums, Australians Richard Howes, Armando Corvini, Matt Godbold, Ray Vran, Andrew Lock and me as leader. We climbed Pumori directly up the south ridge from Kala Pattar. We placed Advance Base, Camp I and II and a bivouac at 18,500, 20,300, 21,800 and 22,500 feet on September 27, 30, October 8 and 10. (The bivouac was made by the second summit group.) On October 10, Woolums and Vran got to the summit and on the 11th, Howes and Corvini.

JEFFERY WILLIAMS, *Australia*

*Pumori Tragedy.* Jon Giersson, Thorsteinn Gudjonsson, Kristinn Runarsson from Iceland and I from Scotland established Base Camp on October 2 at 5300 meters west of Kala Pattar. Our permit was for the south ridge of Pumori, but as an Australian team was already gaining the ridge from the southeast side, we decided to try a new route gaining the ridge via steep mixed ground on the west face, to the right of Rick Allen's and Sandy Allan's descent route of 1986. We placed a camp at 5800 meters on the upper Changri Shar Glacier and fixed 400