

difficult as we proceeded along the ridge. Much rope was fixed. On May 27, Brice, Vallance and Hoyland fixed most of the route above Camp III, a long, winding route between steep ice cliffs and gaping crevasses. The next day, they established Camp III at 6400 meters below a huge ice cliff. On May 29, Brice made a superb 300-foot lead up the cliff. The three were joined by Bayne and Gangdal from Camp II. The first three returned to Camp III from 7000 meters, but Bayne and Gangdal found a crevasse and sat in it without sleeping bags for the first part of the night. At 1:30 A.M. on May 30, they left for the summit, which they reached eight hours later. Brice and Mercer left Camp III shortly after midnight on May 31, jumared up the ropes and plodded briskly to the summit, getting to it in a biting wind at 7:30.

STEPHEN BELL, *Himalayan Kingdoms Limited, England*

*Himalchuli Attempt.* A nine-man Korean expedition attempted to climb Himalchuli by the southwest ridge but got only to 6250 meters, which was reached on September 9. The leader Chung Chai-Hong died of illness and his place was taken by Han Seung-Kwon.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Chulu East, South Buttress, 1988.* On November 25, 1988, Sara Ballantyne, Nuru Wangchu and I stood on the summit of Chulu East. We believe we had made the first ascent of the triangular-shaped south buttress, 2000 feet of 60° ice. Approach camps were at 13,000 feet, where a yak was killed by a snow leopard one evening, Base Camp at 15,000 feet and High Camp at 17,200 feet at the col between Chulu Far East and Chulu East. This appears to be the most direct and classic line on the mountain.

CHRIS HAALAND

*Tilitso.* Our expedition consisted of Max Jeanpierre, Michel Laurent, Roger Laot, Denis Jeanvoine, Dominique Moutel and me as leader. I give a word on our approach and return. We followed the classic route to Manang in seven days. It takes a couple of difficult days from Manang to the eastern end of Tilitso Lake at 4800 meters. On the second day it was dangerous for the porters for whom we had to cut steps in the "rock pudding." We finally needed another day to Base Camp at 4900 meters at the northern end of the lake, but we wasted a week in that section, first trying to skirt the lake on the western side, which is subject to avalanches. At last we went around the lake on the northeastern side and over a rock barrier. We also had to send to Manang for new porters with good footgear because of the snow. We finally got to Base Camp on April 15. On the return, we crossed the Mesokanto, a 5100-meter-high col in two days, which gave access to the Kali Gandaki. We did fix rope on a 40° snow slope for the porters, but this was much easier, safer and not longer. We placed Camp I dug into a 50° slope at

5850 meters on the east spur on April 18. On April 20, we set up Camp II at 6250 meters where the spur meets the slopes north of the summit. There was a 50-meter-high section of 80° ice below Camp II. On the 21st, Jeanpierre, Jeanvoine, Laurent and one of two Sherpas were driven back by the wind at 6300 meters. That same night, Laot left Camp I and got to 6800 meters, where he bivouacked before returning to Camp II. On April 23, Laot, our other Sherpa and I set out from Camp II. Ongel and I turned back in the summit rocks at 6920 meters in bad weather, but Laot reached the summit (7134 meters, 23,405 feet) at ten A.M. The storm made the descent for us three to Base Camp difficult and we were glad for the fixed ropes.

CHRISTIAN BAILLET, *Club Alpin Français*

*Tilitso, Winter Attempt.* J.C. Laverne, Don Adamson, Chris Macknie, Martin Lurtz and I as leader started our trek from Dumre on November 15. From Manang we cut across in four days to the Tilitso Base Camp on the shore of the lake at 5000 meters. Continuing cold and bad weather forced us to wait out even another storm. On December 1, four climbers and the Sherpas reached the foot of the northeast ridge. Laverne, one Sherpa and I kept on to Camp I at 5500 meters, which we hacked out of ice on the ridge. The Sherpa was forced back the next morning by the cold. We two kept on to 6100 meters at which point we decided to abort the climb. Because of the cold, the new snow was so dry that it provided no secure base for footing. Under the snow was loose rock.

STEVE ADAMSON, *Alpine Club of Canada*

*Lamjung Attempt.* Eight Japanese climbers led by Yoshiaki Sugiyama failed to climb 6983-meter (22,910-foot) Lamjung via the southeast ridge. On April 22, they reached their high point of 5950 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Annapurna, Bulgarian Attempt on South Face, Winter 1988-9.* A Bulgarian expedition was led by Metodi Savov and composed of Ivan Vlchev, Arso Arsov, Dino Tomov, Dimitr Nachev, Kostas Kandidis and Liubomir Ilyev. After a difficult approach complicated by snowfalls, Base Camp was established from November 6 to 10, 1988. They acclimatized on lower summits. Advance Base was at 5100 meters. Between December 1 and 12, three camps were placed along the 1981 Polish route on Annapurna's south face, the highest at 6500 meters. The leading team reached a high point of 6800 meters. Ang Kami Sherpa was injured in a crevasse fall between Camps II and III. Heavy snowfalls between December 16 and 27 interrupted climbing. On December 30, a new attempt was made. However, it began to snow heavily again and on January 6, they decided to abandon the climb. This was the second unsuccessful Bulgarian winter attempt. In 1985-6, they got to 7000 meters.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*