

cleanup and used yaks to carry out all trash. However, the mountain itself is strewn with debris, especially above 7500 meters, especially in the spring due to the lack of snow. Oxygen bottles dating back to who knows when are everywhere with every imaginable article including dead bodies. Injuries were common: frostbite, edemas, death. If it weren't for the full field hospital of the Swedes, casualties would have been higher than the two I know about. The Swedes were very gracious and helped every expedition on the north side.

STEVEN UNTCH

Everest Solo Attempt. We established Base Camp and Advance Base on April 1 and 7. I had support from Margaret-Anne Seddon and Pasang Norbu and Kassang Tsering as far as Advance Base at 5500 meters on the Central Rongbuk Glacier. I ascended the glacier to 6100 meters at the base of the Japanese Couloir route. I then cut back to below the south face of Changtse, traversing below it into a basin at 6550 meters below the North Col. On April 11, I placed Camp I at the base of the extreme eastern side of the north face at 6700 meters. From there I angled up and left into a couloir on the extreme left of the north face and well to the west of the North Col. I reached the north ridge at 7470 meters. I made my first attempt on May 1, reaching 8100 meters, where I bivouacked before descending the next day with frostbitten feet. This was the same time that an Austrian soloist east of the north ridge remained high and froze to death during the second night. A second attempt on May 11 got to 7800 meters, but I descended the same day because of high winds. The third attempt from a high camp at 8200 meters reached 8300 meters on May 20, but I had to turn back because of cold and frostbite.

ROBERT ANDERSON, *Explorers Club*

Everest Ascent and Tragedy. Junichi Futagami and I were supported by six Sherpas. We climbed the normal North Col route of Everest. We established Base Camp, Camps I, II, III, IV, V and VI at 5154, 5500, 6000, 6500, 7028, 7790 and 8200 meters on April 29, May 1, 2, 3, 13, 14 and 26. On May 27, we two Japanese and Sherpas Nima Dorje and Finjo reached the summit at one P.M. Futagami was behind me on the descent. After we had descended some 150 meters, we noticed he was not following us. When we climbed back up, we saw scratches from his crampons as he fell to his death down the east-face side of the summit ridge.

MUNEO NUKITA, *Alpine Tour Service, Japan*

Everest Attempt. A Belgian expedition consisted of Alain Hubert, leader, Eugène Berger, Bertrand Borrey, Guido Cadoen, Jacques Collaer, Vincent Dewaele, Jean Philippe Perikel and Pierre Soeté. They had hoped to climb Everest's northwest face by the Japanese and Hornbein Couloirs. The climbers

reached Advance Base at 5500 meters on August 2 and Camp I at 6000 meters on August 12. It was still two hours from Camp I to the base of the face. They were never able to establish Camp II at 7400 meters but did make a supply dump at 7200 meters. The monsoon hung on later than usual and prevented progress. They called off the attempt on September 7.

Everest Attempt. An Indian expedition led by Pranesh Chakraborty unsuccessfully attempted to climb Mount Everest via the Great Couloir. On September 22, they got to 7500 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Everest Attempt. Our "Climb for Hope Expedition" was organized to get charity money to combat the Rett Syndrome. Our members, mostly from Canada, were Ernie Sniedzins, Dr. Mario Bilodeau, Dr. Dennis Brown, Jamie Clarke, Ross Cloutier, Jim Everard, Alan Hobson, Mike Kurth, John McIssac, James Nelson, Al Norquay, Hilda Reimer, Tim Rippel, Timo Saukko, I as leader and American Dr. Michael Sullivan. We fixed ropes up the North Col in early September. Monsoon snows buried them twice and so we had to dig them out. A huge sérac fall buried them a third time. It snowed continuously for the first three weeks of September. Then, after a week of fine weather, the jet-stream winds began. We established Camp V at 26,000 feet in late September. The whole camp was blown away in early October, a fact discovered by Brown, McIssac and Bilodeau. They encountered 60-mph winds and -30°C temperatures and were lucky to make it back alive. We performed a spectacular rescue from 25,000 feet when Rippel damaged leg ligaments and had to be lowered down the North Col. A summit attempt had been set for October 8, but jet-stream winds prevented any movement. Future expeditions may be well advised to camp above the North Col and at 24,500 and 26,500-27,000 feet and avoid a camp at 26,000 feet, where the winds funnel badly.

PETER AUSTEN, M.D., *Alpine Club of Canada*

Everest Attempt. We were Alfredo Bonini, Roberto Linsker, Kenvy Chung Ng, Ramis Tetu, Paulo and Helena Coelho, Dr. Eduardo Vinhaes, Sherpas Ang Rita, Ang Nima, Phuba and I as leader. We attempted the East Rongbuk-North Col route. We arrived at Base Camp on October 3 and with the help of yaks set up Camps I, II and III at 5600, 6000 and 6500 meters. On October 18, Ang Rita and I fixed rope to 6750 meters on the way to the North Col. This was the only day without hurricane winds; it took us then ten days to fix the route to the North Col. On October 28, Bonini, Ang Rita, Ang Nima and I established Camp IV at 7050 meters on the col. On the 30th, Ang Rita and I tried to advance to set up Camp V but had to retreat after gaining only 50 vertical meters. On November 11, we began another attempt but on the 16th, I made a last solo try but had to