

heavier snow than usual. We followed the Nepalese route, climbing a southwest spur to the west ridge, placing Camps I and II at 4900 and 5500 meters on April 16 and 19. We climbed over the 6100-meter west peak and tried in vain to climb the knife-edged west ridge. We descended to the glacial basin on the south of the peak and placed Camp III at 6000 meters there on April 25. After crossing the basin, Sugita, Mrs. Kasho, Itai and Nepalese Nima Temba Sherpa, Phurba Gyalzen Sherpa and Damber Bahadur Gurung climbed on April 28 to the east ridge and the summit (7455 meters, 24,459 feet).

DAIZO YAMAMOTO, *Japan*

*Langtang Lirung Winter Attempt.* Eight Japanese led by Kouich Ezaki attempted to climb Langtang Lirung (7234 meters, 27,324 feet) by its southeast ridge. They were able to get only to 6250 meters on December 11.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Manaslu North Attempt.* Five Frenchmen led by Michel Richard attempted to climb Manaslu North (7157 meters, 23,481 feet) by the northeast face to reach the south ridge. On October 23, they reached their high point of 6400 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Manaslu.* Our expedition was the best and the most successful I have ever been on, not just because we reached the summit, but because of the warm relationship between the members. There was never a single quarrel among the eight of us. Arthur Haid is an outstanding leader who managed everything perfectly. We began our 12-day approach from Gorkha on March 24. There was much more snow than usual, beginning at 2900 meters. We had planned to have Base Camp at 4800 meters but had to set up an improvised Base Camp at 3700 meters just above the village of Samagaon. We ferried loads higher on skis with skins. Without skis we would never have had a chance for the summit. On April 5, we occupied our previously planned Base Camp at 4800 meters. The weather for the next three weeks remained unsettled, but we set up Camps I and II at 5700 and 6650 meters, breaking trail on skis. We made a first summit attempt on April 24. At 7000 meters, the Sherpas hesitated. One of them had slipped and fallen 25 meters without injury. We persuaded them to continue, but 100 meters higher, we came upon a climber's corpse hanging on a fixed rope from a sérac. That ended the attempt. Stormy weather drove us back to Base Camp. On April 28, when it improved, we climbed back to Camp II. Bad weather forced a rest day on us. From there on, we climbed alpine-style. Josef Brunner, Gerhard Flossmann, Josef Hinding and I spent the night of April 30 at 7000 meters in a cramped two-man tent. We had to leave our skis there and plow belly-deep from there on to spend the next night at 7520 meters. On May 2, in gloriously

clear but frigid weather, we climbed to the summit to complete the 39th ascent of Manaslu. We were back in Base Camp by mid-morning on May 3. Rather than to return by the approach route in the Buri Gandaki, we crossed the Larkya La to join the Annapurna trekking route to Pokhara, thus completing the circuit of Manaslu.

MICHAEL LEUPRECHT, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

*Manaslu Ascents, Tragedy and Attempts.* An expedition of 11 Italians led by Paolo Paglino managed to put Silvio Modinelli on the summit via the south face on October 13. Austrian Josef Inhöger, leader of eight Austrians and two Germans, succeeded in getting to the summit solo on October 15 via the northeast face. A Russian party of eight led by Valeri Karpenko was also on the northeast face. On October 19, Vladimir Lopatnikov climbed to the summit, followed on the 21st by Igor Khmiliar and Mrs Ekaterina Ivanova. Tragically, two members of the group died: Khmiliar, who was blown off his feet on his summit day and fell, and Sergei Jadrchnikov, who was smothered in an avalanche on October 22. An expedition of five Germans and an Austrian led by Heinz Schauer was not able to get higher than 7300 meters on the northeast face, which they reached on October 6.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Kang Guru.* A Japanese expedition led by Kiyoshi Washizu made the 14th ascent of Kang Guru (6981 meters, 22,904 feet) by the normal west ridge. They placed Base Camp, Advance Base, Camps I and II at 3800, 4600, 5600 and 6020 meters on March 25 and 30 and April 2 and 6. They fixed 13 pitches with rope above Camp II to reach the west ridge. On April 14, Masake Koike, Koichi Nagamori, Sarki Nurbu Lama Sherpa climbed to the summit, followed on the 16th by leader Washizu, Kazuhiko Ogawa, Eiichi Hitomi and Pasang Sherpa.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Annapurna IV Attempt.* A 13-member British team hoped to climb Annapurna IV (7525 meters, 24,688 feet) by the northwest ridge. They had to turn back at 7400 meters on November 20. The leader was Robin Roy Hamer.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Annapurna and Dhaulagiri Climbed by Tibetans.* On standard routes were the first Tibetans and first of any Chinese, on a climbing venture outside China. Their team, called the "China Tibetan Expedition to the 14 Mountains above 8000 Meters in the World," commenced its program to put Tibetans on the summits of all the 8000ers by the year 2002 by going first to Annapurna and then to nearby Dhaulagiri. Led from Base Camp by a 1975 Everest summitter,