

*Everest Summer Attempt.* Nick Banks and then Iain Peter from the UK led five Britons, a New Zealander, an Australian and a Dane on the North Col route of Everest. The leader, one member and three Sherpas reached a high point of 8200 meters on July 23 but snowfall in July made it difficult to break trail in loose snow and campsites were too dangerous. On the team's arrival in mid June, the weather had been perfect but July brought typical monsoon weather with daily snowfall. In addition, this expedition had the normal problems of commercial teams: it was completely unrealistic for most of the members even to be on Everest because of their lack of skill or strength for a very long route up a very large mountain.

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*Everest Attempts and Tragedy in the Post-Monsoon.* In September, the monsoon continued till late in the month and brought large amounts of snow and great avalanche danger. At the beginning of October, it was as if someone had turned on the wind machine. No ascents were completed. Mingma Norbu Sherpa, who was with the Norwegians, was killed by an avalanche on September 12. All climbed the North Col route except where noted. The unsuccessful expeditions with numbers, leaders and altitude reached follow: 6 Americans led by Tony Lewis reached 8300 meters on the north face to the Great Couloir on October 19; 9 Czechs and 2 Italians led by Josef Rakoncaj, 7300 meters also on the north face on September 10 and 26; 8 Frenchmen led by Daniel Petraud, 7500 meters on September 4 and 20; 22 Norwegians led by Jon Gangdal, 7060 meters on the north rib to the west ridge on September 7; 11 Russians led by Sergei Yefimov, 8300 meters on October 11; 5 Spaniards led by Rogelio Recio, 8100 meters on September 25; and 6 Swiss, 2 Austrians, 1 German, 1 American, 1 Bolivian and 1 Indonesian led by German Peter Kowalzik, 8200 meters on September 28.

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*Cho Oyu from the North in the Pre-Monsoon.* As in other seasons, there were numerous ascents of Cho Oyu by the west side from the north. The well-known Mexican climber, Carlos Carsolio, made a whirlwind tour in the pre-monsoon season and did two fast, oxygenless ascents of 8000ers, summiting alone in both cases. After acclimatizing on a minor peak in the Everest region, Lobuje East, he traveled quickly to Tibet to join Swiss Erhard Loretan's commercial expedition. He made the fastest ascent ever of Cho Oyu in just 19 hours. He went to the summit from Base Camp at 5650 meters, which he left at three P.M. on April 25 with Loretan. They rested for an hour at Camp I at 6400 meters. Loretan was not interested in climbing the standard route, which Carsolio had decided on, and he turned back at 6600 meters at 7:30 P.M. The Mexican carried on up alone in full moonlight which was so bright that he had no need for his headlamp. He was on the summit at 9:57 A.M. on April 26. He