

in the continuing bad weather. Expedition members were Erich Hammerl, Franz Huber, Werner Kopacka, Hans Mikosch, Egon Obojes, Dr. Gerhard Rupar, Erwin Weilguny, Adolf Weissensteiner and I as leader.

ADOLF HUBER, *Österreichische Himalayagesellschaft*

*Annapurna I Attempt.* An expedition of the Japanese Alpine Club's Shinano section was led by Shaigeki Tsukamoto and Yukahisa Asawa. The 11-man group was attempting a new northeast-buttress route and then switched to the British Army route of 1970. The first summit bid by a Japanese and a Sherpa failed some 150 feet below the top because of high winds and exhaustion. A second attempt likewise failed. On May 18 while descending after the expedition had been given up, Masonori Hama, Suwa Weikasha, Kazumi Katagiri, another Japanese and Sherpa Rinzi were swept to their deaths by an avalanche below Camp III (21,325 feet).

MICHAEL CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

*Annapurna II.* The members of the Sangaku Doshikai expedition were Yukio Takafu, Nobuyuki Ogawa, Katsuyuki Kondo, Nase Sakashita, Dr. Tashitaka Sakano and I as leader. We repeated the route done from the north in 1971 by Shinshu University. We ascended a tributary of the Marsyandi from Pisan. Base Camp was at 11,500 feet, Camps I to V at 14,500, 17,400, 20,675, 22,650 and 23,950 feet. The latter was between Annapurna II and IV. On May 6 a summit team of three set out. At midday, still nearly 2000 feet below the top, two stopped to prepare a bivouac while Kondo kept on. At five P.M. I ordered them to return but Kondo did not get the radio message. He reached the summit (26,041 feet) at 8:30 P.M. in bright moonlight, came back to the bivouac and returned the next day.

YUKIO SHIMAMURA, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Annapurna South or Moditse Attempt.* A Japanese expedition from the Sagamino Alpine Club was led by Kuniaki Yamada. They attempted a new route from the northeast but failed at 22,175 feet, where a Japanese and a Sherpa turned back on April 28 because of bad weather and dangerous conditions.

MICHAEL CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

*Api, West Ridge Attempt.* The Japanese Chuo University Expedition failed to climb Api in western Nepal. The leader was Kuniharu Ichikawa and the deputy was Yasunori Hirota. They attempted the unclimbed west ridge. From Camp IV at 19,600 feet they tried to force their way up the ridge but on May 1 climbing difficulties and extremely bad weather forced them back from 20,175 feet.