

at 18,300 feet on the side of the south gully between the southeast and southwest ridges. We carved the single tentsite out of the solid ice. Two days later Camp III was established in the gully at 18,600 feet in a hazardous position but there was no alternative site. Jim MacDonald failed to acclimatize and returned to Australia. A fierce 48-hour snow-storm made the gully a death trap, burying Richards and Shambu Tamang for 24 hours at Camp III. The storm forced everyone off the mountain. We were running out of time. The gully was in a continual state of avalanche. On April 3 Barry Young, after detaching himself from the fixed line, caught one of his front points in the strap of his other crampon and fell 1200 feet down the gully, injuring both legs and suffering a mild concussion. Only the quick thinking of Anu Sherpa and the heavy snow-falls of the previous day saved his life. Anu saw a pack fly past, moved further into the gully and grabbed Barry as he came past. The pack travelled another 3500 feet over an ice cliff. He did not climb for the rest of the expedition. Camp IV was established at 19,800 feet on April 4. Richards, Shambu Tamang and Brammer on April 11, after some excellent technical work and vertical climbing, reached the high point called Tseringma by the locals. Looking along the ridge, they saw that we had neither the time nor the equipment to reach even the south summit. On April 13 Hardless, Remynse, Carroll and I ascended to the high point in fine weather. The point we reached, the culmination of the southeast and southwest ridges, is the highest point visible to the villagers of Gyabrug and is referred to by them as Tseringma. The whole Gaurishankar complex is called by them Jomo Tseringma or Kangri Tseringma.

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*Cho Oyu, 1979.* Mischa Saleki from Iran illegally soloed Cho Oyu. After crossing the border into Tibet over the Nangpa La (18,750 feet), he made his Base Camp on September 20. His high camp was at 23,300 feet on the Austrian 1954 route on the west ridge. He climbed to the top (26,750 feet) on October 10, 1979. After his descent he was taken into custody by the Chinese. (Noted in *Iwa To Yuki* N° 74.)

*Numbur Attempt.* A Japanese expedition, led by Senkichi Kitaoka, attempted in the pre-monsoon season to climb the northwest ridge of Numbur (6959 meters, 22,832 feet). They got to Camp III at 21,650 feet but found the ridge beyond too knife-edged to continue. This would have been a new route. The team doubts the claims of the 1963 Japanese expedition (as other Numbur climbers have before them); if their doubts are correct, Numbur has never been successfully climbed.

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