

Makalu, Winter Attempt. Alan Deakin, David Heap, Binn Ryan, Eric Penman, my wife Linda and I as leader arrived at our Makalu Base Camp at 14,500 feet on November 30. We walked in from Tumlingtar with 26 porters in 12 days with excellent weather, although snow and ice did make the route difficult in places. Base Camp was lower than intended since the porters could not go higher because of the extreme cold. We proposed to climb the original French route up the northwest face. By December 8 we had established Advance Base at 17,500 feet. We adopted a "Super Alpine System" of using only two camps at a time and leap-frogging these to make progress. By December 16 we had a camp at 23,000 feet. The weather stayed good except for extremes of temperature of -50° C and winds up to 100 mph. The extreme conditions, altitude and our fast ascent had taken their toll and on December 20 only my wife and I were physically capable of continuing. After we had reached a high point of 24,000 feet (7315 meters), the expedition was abandoned.

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Kangchungtse (Makalu II) Attempt. A West German expedition led by Bernhard Günther failed to climb Kangchungtse by the Japanese route on the northwest ridge in the pre-monsoon period. The high point was 23,000 feet (c. 7000 meters). They had two Base Camps, Camp I and a series of bivouacs. Strong winds, snowfall and insufficient food supplies caused abandonment. Probably they had a lack of manpower, having only four members, one of whom did not acclimatize well.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club* and ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Chamlang's P 7010. Reinhold Messner obtained permission from the Nepalese government to climb the southeast ridge of Makalu. He asked me to accompany him, knowing I had attempted the route in the autumn of 1980 (*A.A.J.*, 1981, pages 244-6). I secured permission for Chamlang from the north, reasoning that only by acclimatizing fully would there be any chance to climb a peak of over 27,000 feet, from flowers to the top, alpine-style. Chamlang would provide suitable terrain on which to acclimatize and also be of considerable mountaineering interest. No one had ever approached the north side and the only ascent of the mountain had been by the Japanese and Sherpas from the southwest in 1962. The walk to Base Camp began on September 1 from Tumlingtar airstrip. Apart from us two, Reinhold's girl friend, Nena, accompanied us for three days only, being seven months pregnant. I had with me my wife Jan and daughters Martha (8) and Rosie (3) and two lady climbers, Arianne Giobellina and Elaine Brook, who were trekking to Base Camp. Because Chamlang is open only for joint expeditions, we had to include three Nepalese members for that climb.