

On October 28 a severe storm and heavy snow necessitated a retreat to our 17,000-foot Base Camp. The following day an immense rock slide wiped out our Advanced Base at 18,000 feet at the foot of the buttress, resulting in the loss of equipment and food, but fortunately no loss of life. The camp was covered by a 30-foot layer of loose rock! The expedition was then abandoned after we had retrieved from the mountain as much of the gear as possible.

WILLIAM MARCH

*Numbur.* A French expedition climbed Numbur by the standard southwest ridge and also carried out physiological research. They established a supply dump between Base Camp and Camp I and two high camps. A total of five of the ten French and a Sherpa reached the summit (6954 meters, 22,815 feet): Jean-Pierre Henry, Christian Rathat and Mingma Sherpa on October 14 and leader Eric Laroche, Jean-François Le Quang and Philippe Veyrac on the 17th.

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

*Numbur Attempt.* Five Swiss led by Guido Bumann got to only 18,700 feet on October 23. When they found their proposed north-ridge to northwest-ridge route too dangerously exposed to avalanches, they found the alternative northwest ridge would take too much time and climbing equipment and so gave up the attempt.

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

*Cho Oyu Attempt.* A joint expedition of 29 Japanese and 12 Nepalese was led by Takeshi Komatsu. They first attempted the east face but soon abandoned it because of daily big avalanches and switched to the south ridge. They occupied five camps on the ridge and established Camp VI at 23,360 feet (7120 meters) but never occupied it. This was their high point.

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

*Gaurishankar Attempt.* A seven-man Austrian expedition led by Franz Huber attempted the southwest ridge of Gaurishankar but reached only 19,000 feet. Very strong winds on the night of April 19 to 20 destroyed so many tents and ruined so much equipment that the expedition could no longer proceed.

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

*Gaurishankar Attempt.* Rosa Fernández, Javier Alonso, Juan José San Sebastián, Ignacio Miró and I established Base Camp on September