

to very bad weather and huge avalanche danger, we did not reach the south ridge. Base Camp was in the Annapurna Sanctuary. Camp I was on a moraine beside the east glacier. The route on the glacier to Camp II was treacherous because of hidden crevasses and unstable séracs, rendered worse by warm weather. We placed Camp III at the foot of the east slope of the south ridge at 20,850 feet. We got to a high point of 22,300 feet on May 6 on the very steep snow slope, which was about 70° near the top and was very dangerous after heavy snowfall. We realized that if we kept on, we would be carried away by avalanches. The members were Sylvain Sarthou, leader, Patrice de Belfon, Pierre Viorrain, Pierre Ravier and I.

HENRI SIGAYRET, *Club Alpin Français*

*Annapurna South Attempt.* A French expedition led by Patrick Jacquenet failed to climb Annapurna South by the east ridge. Despite eleven members and two Sherpas above Base Camp, they reached only 21,325 feet on October 21 and abandoned the climb because of heavy snowfall which brought avalanche danger. They had no time to wait for better weather.

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

*Tilicho, Sherpa Winter Ascent.* On January 24 the first all-Sherpa expedition climbed Tilicho. We were only three climbers: Dawa Gyalzen Sherpa, leader; Gyalzen Sherpa and I. This expedition we arranged as an individual test and to change the Sherpa attitude toward mountaineering, which we approached more as sport. We left Kathmandu on January 4, accompanied by a liaison officer, B.B. Rana. We walked up the Kali Gandaki valley until we reached Jomosom on the 14th. There we met our advance party of nine porters, a Base Camp cook and a mail runner. Base Camp was established on January 17 above Lamphu Dome at 14,450 feet. On the 18th we three carried two days' food and climbing gear to Camp I on the flat above Tilicho Lake at 16,825 feet and returned to Base Camp for one day's rest. We departed from Camp I on January 22 at 7:30 A.M. We carried only five days' food and five coils of rope. We fixed about 1000 feet on the rocky ridge which we climbed most of the day. We spent the night at 18,475 feet. Leaving some food at the rocks, we set off for another day's climbing at 7:45 on the 23rd and had some difficulties on the rocky ridge. We also had snowfall during the afternoon but managed to reach 21,175 feet for the night. The wind was so strong that we felt we were in a helicopter about to take off. We overcame our nervousness by teasing each other. The next morning we faced a steep 1000-foot slope which we climbed, arriving at the summit at 1:45. Visibility was poor. We could stay for a mere ten minutes after placing a picture of our King and Queen in the snow, pitching a Nepalese flag and taking photographs. Hampered by snowfall, we reached

Camp III at six P.M. We descended on January 25 to near Camp I but could not find it. Due to heavy snowfall, it seemed as if our camp had moved to somewhere else. We spent the night without food or tent. That night Dawa joked while Gyalzen complained of dying from hunger and myself of cold. Three feet of fresh snow fell. We established communication with our party when we found Base Camp at 9:30 on the morning of January 26. The weather did not permit us to fly from Jomosom and so we walked, arriving at Pokhara on February 3.

SARKEY TSHERING SHERPA, *Sherpa Cooperative*

*Tilicho.* A Nepalese Royal Army expedition led by Lieutenant Colonel Gopal Singh Bhora climbed Tilicho (7132 meters, 23,400 feet) via the north-east ridge. They pitched Camp I at 17,975 feet on April 21. Seven members reached the summit on April 30 from Camp II. Six others reached the top on May 2. Details are not yet available.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

*Tilicho.* A 14-person expedition sponsored by the German Alpine Club's Mountain and Ski School was led by Günther Härter. They approached in 14 days from Dumre up the Marsyandi valley to Base Camp on the west shore of Tilicho Lake at 16,050 feet, reaching there on October 11. Camps I and II were established at 19,000 and 20,675 feet on October 13 and 15 respectively. The summit (7132 meters, 23,400 feet) was reached on October 17 by Härter, Josef Hirtreiter, Adi Welsch and Sherpas Ang Dorje and Ang Pasang. Two later summit teams were driven back by strong winds and snowfall. The route was the northeast spur and north slope, the same as the Swiss route of 1980. The summit slope was in part threatened by windslabs. They fixed 4250 feet of rope.

GÜNTER STURM, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

*Nilgiri North.* A six-man and one-woman Japanese expedition led by Kenji Sugishita climbed Nilgiri North by a new route from the Miristi Khola: the southeast ridge of P 6706 and the east ridge of the mountain itself. Base Camp was at 13,300 feet. Camps II, III and IV at 18,050, 18,700 and 20,670 feet were established on April 8 and 17 and May 2 respectively. The summit (7061 meters, 23,166 feet) was gained on May 4 by Sugishita, Keiji Yamaguchi, Miss Kayo Ikeuchi and Sherpas Dawa Norbu and Pangma.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*