

Sixth, the knife-edged snow ridge was followed to the east summit (6356 meters, 20,854 feet).

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*Cho Oyu.* Reinhold Messner, Michl Dacher and Hans Kammerlander reached the summit of Cho Oyu (8201 meters, 26,906 feet) on May 5. This was one of the fastest ascents of an 8000er ever and surely the fastest from the capital city to the summit. They left Lukla on April 15 and made Base Camp on the 26th. From Advance Base at 18,375 feet on the Nepalese side of the top of the Nangpa La, they began an alpine-style ascent on May 2. The new route was up the southwest ridge to the southwest face. After three bivouacs they reached the summit at 12:30 P.M. on May 5. They were back in Base Camp on May 7. This was Messner's tenth 8000er and Dacher's fifth.

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

*Ngojumba Kang Attempt.* An 11-man Japanese-Nepalese expedition led by Kazumi Shigeto had hoped to climb Ngojumba Kang by its south or southeast face and then traverse to Cho Oyu by the east ridge of that mountain. Five of the members were Sherpas. They established four camps above Base Camp. On October 17 Mamoru Kituchi and Tatsuhisa Mitoma very nearly reached the summit of 7743-meter (25,403 feet) when they got to 7730 meters. It was late in the afternoon, they had run out of climbing hardware and there was deep snow and strong wind and so they gave up. That same day it was decided to abandon the entire climb.

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*Cho Oyu, South Face Attempt.* Six Italians led by Toni Klingendrath failed to climb the south face of Cho Oyu. Two members reached 21,325 feet on October 6 and another two the same point on October 12. They gave up the climb on October 20 after constant heavy snowfall when the liaison officer said that their permitted time had expired.

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*Cholatse and Taweche Attempts.* A five-man British expedition led by William Dark failed to climb the southeast ridge of Cholatse and the northeast ridge of Taweche in the pre-monsoon period. They established a high camp in the col between their two objectives. They could not reach either summit because of lack of manpower and skills, plus avalanching. They attempted Taweche first and got to 19,000 feet; they got to 20,400 feet on Cholatse.

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