

*Numbur Attempt.* Seven Spaniards led by Andrés Fernández attempted the southwest ridge of Numbur. Three reached 19,350 feet on October 16 and the next day the team decided to give up the climb. Daily snowfall meant difficult, dangerous snow conditions which in turn required much fixed rope, more than they had taken with them. Time was running out and several members were no longer in good shape.

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*Numbur, Winter Ascent.* Seven Japanese, led by Kensuke Kikuchi, climbed Numbur by its southwest ridge. On December 11 Naoki Yamada, Tomio Mashimo and Ang Tshering Sherpa reached the summit (6957 meters, 22,824 feet), followed the next day by Tamio Hitachi and Nima Wangdu Sherpa. They had three camps above Base Camp.

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*Chobutse Tragedy.* On October 10 Austrians Ernst Gritzner, leader, his brother Karl, Karl Pfeifer and Udo Ertl climbed from Camp I at 16,650 feet to establish Camp II at 19,200 feet. The Gritzner brothers descended to Base Camp. When Manfred Ehrenguber, Oswald Pletschko and Siegfried Varch ascended, they found that Camp II had been buried by a powder-snow avalanche apparently on the night of October 11, killing Pfeifer and Ertl as they slept. They were attempting the unclimbed northeast face and ridge of Chobutse (less properly Chobuje, 6685 meters, 21,932 feet).

*Gaurishankar Attempt.* A nine-man Japanese expedition led by Masaaki Tomita attempted to repeat the American 1979 route on the southwest face of Gaurishankar (7134 meters, 23,906 feet). Base Camp at 12,800 feet was much lower than planned and was difficult to approach because of deep snow. Two Sherpas ferried loads to Camp II at 17,050 feet. They had two more high camps. Satoru Hashimoto, Takashi Iihama, Akira Kiuchi and Hiroyuki Kuraoka reached almost 23,000 feet on May 22 but gave up the climb because of a 150-foot vertical rock wall above them; the expedition had no strength left to surmount this final obstacle. They had constantly heavy snowfall, which required them to remake the route constantly. One member was injured by falling rock and two others escorted him to Kathmandu.

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*Gaurishankar Attempt.* Six Poles led by Tadeusz Preysner made an unsuccessful attempt on the south face of Gaurishankar but were driven back by avalanche danger. Four climbers reached 19,700 feet on April 22.

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