

*Gaurishankar, South Summit.* A ten-man Yugoslav expedition was led by Slavko Cankar. They climbed the south face to the southwest ridge, where at 21,325 feet they joined Peter Boardman's route, which they followed to the south summit (7010 meters, 23,000 feet). They made no attempt to go to the main summit. They had three high camps plus a snow cave on the ridge. On November 1 Cankar, Smiljan Smodie and Bojan Sret reached the summit, followed on November 4 by Franc Papevnik and Joze Zupan.

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

*Langtang Ri.* An expedition of three Japanese and three Nepalese was led by Ryohei Nishioku. They climbed the previously ascended southwest ridge of Langtang Ri, establishing three high camps. On October 9, Japanese Yasunori Tsuchiya, Nepalese Sudeep Gurung and Sherpas Pema and Pemba Lama reached the summit (7205 meters, 23,638 feet).

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

*Langtang Lirung Attempt.* Steve Tenney, Chris Wood, Chris Reveley and I were unsuccessful in an alpine-style attempt on the south ridge of Langtang Lirung (7234 meters, 23,734 feet). Advanced Base Camp at 16,000 feet was abandoned in late April after twelve days on the mountain due to extremely heavy snow and avalanche potential.

ROBERT M. HARWOOD

*Ganesh II Tragedy.* A nine-man Polish expedition led by Janusz Majer attempted the dangerous southwest face of Ganesh II. After a nine-day approach, on October 7 they got to Base Camp at 14,100 feet. Because of objective dangers, they decided to climb rapidly, alpine-style. On October 18, Andrzej Hartman, Ryszard Pawłowski and Krzysztof Wielicki set out up the right side of the face. After six days of difficult climbing up to UIAA V and 55° slopes, on October 23 they got to a big tower on the southeast ridge at 22,300 feet, 1000 feet below the summit. Having used up their technical gear, they regretfully started to descend. On the third rappel, Hartman's dead-man anchor pulled out and he plunged with both ropes, 6500 feet to his death. Pawłowski waited there, without food while Wielicki made a daring solo descent. He melted a liter of water each day in his sleeping bag. On October 24 his companions set out on his rescue. It took three days to reach him. They descended in 16 hours.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Taternik, Poland*

*Ganesh Himal IV (Pabil).* Our members were Stanley Kent, Dr. Lawrence Dunn, Gordon Seibel and me. Our approach took eight days through an area new to Americans. We had planned to take twelve days on the approach, as had the Koreans and Japanese before us, but managed to cover significant ground on

the first four days. The weather was terrible. It rained every day on the approach and snowed on all but three or four days on the climb. We established Base Camp below the southeast ridge at 14,300 feet on October 6 and Camp I at 17,500 feet on October 8. We started to stock that camp but had to abandon it on the 10th because of heavy snowfall. When we returned on October 17, we found it buried by two avalanches. We placed Camp IA 500 feet higher. Camp II was made on the 19th on an ice formation, the "Ship's Prow." On October 21 Kent, Seibel, Ganesh Gurung and Nawang Sherpa planned to climb the ice and rock rib above the prow, ascend the icefall above the rib, bivouac at 22,000 feet and go for the summit. It took them six hours to climb the rib because of the snow and ice conditions. At 21,000 feet at the top of the rib, where the Koreans had exited last year over a large sérac, they found that the sérac had pitched over at least 45° and stopped any exit from the rib. All exits were barred by overhanging ice, crevasses or required climbing avalanche chutes. Because of the obvious danger and continued bad weather, we gave up the attempt.

RICHARD RANSON, *Unaffiliated*

*Chamar Attempt and Tragedy, Sringeri Himal.* A joint expedition of seven Japanese and three Nepalese led by Yoshiharu Miyashiro attempted the east or northeast ridge of Chamar (7177 meters, 23,580 feet), the route successfully climbed by New Zealanders in 1953. They established three high camps. The site for Camp IV at 22,300 feet had been reached before the summit attempt and although loads had been dumped there, the camp was never made. The summit assault party, Koichi Akao, Mitsuzu Harada, Mingma Tshering Sherpa and Dorje Sherpa, reached a high point of about 23,000 feet on May 23 and then turned back because the route to the top was too long and the snow too deep. The leader called off the expedition. The next day, May 24, it was discovered that the two tents of Camp II and one of the members had disappeared. The tents were dug out of the deep snow and Koichi Ikari was found dead, apparently the victim of an avalanche.

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

*Himal Chuli Attempt.* A six-man Polish expedition led by Tadeusz Piotrowski attempted Himal Chuli (7893 meters, 25,895 feet) by its unclimbed south ridge. The porters quit on April 12 and so the march-in took three weeks. Base Camp was established at 13,375 feet on April 30. The route started up a 6500-foot-high ice wall, which faces the west. On May 3 and 6 the team placed Camps I and II at 17,225 and 20,350 feet. Above Camp II the face became difficult; the crux pitches were over 60° and some 1000 meters of rope were fixed. On May 13 Camp III was set up at 23,450 feet near the crest of the south ridge. From May 18 to 21 Piotrowski and Andrzej Bieluń made a summit attempt. They reached 25,100 feet but were turned back by the difficulty and bad