

*Dhaulagiri VI, Southwest Buttress.* On October 9 Dan Griffith, Peter Carter, Albi Sole and I reached the summit of Dhaulagiri VI (7268 meters, 23,846 feet), via a new route on the southwest buttress. The ascent was made alpine-style in six days from Base Camp at 4100 meters. The fifth member, Mike Down, had performed strongly during the acclimatization phase, but he opted out of the final push because of an old injury. The route, reached after a lengthy glacier approach, followed an elegant and objectively safe ice buttress. The climbing was exclusively in deep snow or on alpine ice. The weather was quite unsettled this fall with heavy snowfall, and we were fortunate to sneak the climb in between storms. A more complete report will appear in the *Canadian Alpine Journal* 1984.

ROBERT ROHN, *Alpine Club of Canada*

*Churen Himal Tragedy.* On September 14, a 15-man German Alpine Club (DAV) expedition led by Gustav Harder began its approach. The purpose was to train experienced climbers from the Alps to climb in the great mountains of the world. The south ridge of Churen Himal seemed objectively so dangerous that they hoped to reach the upper part at 7000 meters via the southwest face. Three camps were set up. On October 9 the lead climbers fixed rope to 6800 meters. They returned to Camp III at 5800 meters where they were pinned for several days by a severe storm. On October 12 a three-foot-thick windslab broke loose just above them. Herbert Jans, who happened to be out of the tent, was dragged 200 meters down the slope. He freed himself and climbed back up to release Dieter Elsner, Christoph Kruis, Thomas Höss, Walter Fichter and Uwe Schmidt. However, Hans-Peter Hamm and Christoph Hawlitschek were dug out dead. The survivors could not find boots or clothing but managed to descend despite the deep snow and avalanche danger. All suffered frostbite.

*Changla Attempt.* A joint Japanese-Nepalese women's expedition led by Mrs. Kyoko Endo failed to make the first ascent of Changla (6721 meters, 22,051 feet). There were seven Japanese and three Nepalese members. The women were supported by two high-altitude porters. After establishing four camps above Base Camp on the southwest ridge, four members and two Sherpas reached a high point of 20,675 feet on May 28 but the climb was abandoned because the sharp snow ridge above them was very difficult, had hidden crevasses and occasional ice sections. The Sherpas would not climb without fixed rope and the rope supply was exhausted. Fuel ran out and they had little time left. The peak lies in western Nepal in the Gorakh Himal. They approached from Simikot.

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

*Api, Winter Ascent and Tragedy.* Api (7132 meters, 23,399 feet) is difficult to approach and the climbing route is long and dangerous. It was first climbed