

oxygen bottles left by a previous expedition. During the last two hours of the climb the weather worsened, keeping us from enjoying the view during our half hour on top. We were back in Base Camp on May 20.

MARI ABREGO, *Orhi Mendi, Federación Vasca de Montaña, Spain*

*Makalu, West Face.* After leaving Kathmandu on August 28, Sergio Petrini, Claudio Regheschi and I reached the Hillary Base Camp on September 10. We had to leave our desperately ill liaison officer with an Italian expedition there, where he died of edema on the 13th. Most of our expedition had continued to North Base Camp under the west face at 5350 meters on September 11. Formalities and then bad weather held things up until September 20. We planned to climb the route we had started in 1982 on the left edge of the west face, to the left of the Polish route. On September 22 we occupied Camp I at 6100 meters. We prepared the route on September 23 and 24, fixing 250 meters of rope up to 6850 meters on the most difficult parts of the buttress. Camp II was placed at 6400 meters. After a rest at Base Camp, on September 27 Regheschi and I went to Camp II. He kept on with my pack to 6850 meters before we both spent the night at Camp II. On September 28, I left at three A.M., was at 6850 meters at dawn and reached 7800 meters under the final rock band at five P.M. Wind kept me from starting before 10:30 on September 29. I reached the summit ridge at 2:30, the last step at 6:30 and was on the summit at seven P.M. I descended with a headlamp and moonlight to bivouac at 7500 meters at midnight. On September 30, I continued the descent. I was met by Regheschi on the central glacier below the west face at 6000 meters and got to Base Camp at nine P.M.

ROMOLO NOTTARIS, *Club Alpino Svizzero*

*Makalu Attempt.* Three Spaniards and a Canadian were led by Antonio Luna in an attempt on the normal route on Makalu. All four reached 7500 meters on the north ridge on October 10. Strong winds drove them down the mountain. Three went straight to Base Camp while the Canadian, Mario Blasevich, stopped in Camp III at 7400 meters for the night. While descending from Camp III, he caught his crampon in his trouser leg and fell 300 meters, landing about 20 meters away from Camp II. The other members were unaware of his fall, but on October 14 they went up and found him in Camp II with a knee injury and serious frostbite. This put an end to the expedition for it took all the team's strength to evacuate Blasevich.

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

*Makalu Attempt.* An Italian expedition of 11 was led by Almo Giambisi. They first wanted to repeat the Czechoslovakian route up the southeast buttress and reached 6800 meters on September 19. Strong winds forced them down the mountain and they waited two weeks for better weather. Then, when they resumed their climb in early October, they went up the normal route to the Makalu