

that with the prevailing weather pattern it would not be possible to complete the route with our food, fuel and time limitations. On April 20 we vacated Camp II and cleaned as much as possible of our route. The high point was about 350 feet above Camp II. Bad weather continued. By the time we reached Lukla on April 24, a steady, gray pre-monsoon rain had settled in.

JAMES EISENHARD *Unaffiliated*

*Ama Dablam Attempt.* A five-man French team led by Michel Pelle reached 19,000 feet on April 5, four days after having reached Base Camp and having placed Camp II at that height. They learned that an American expedition had arrived with a permit for the south ridge, which they were climbing. Upon return to Base Camp, they found that the Americans had the permit for the ridge and that the French permit was for the south face. The French had not come prepared for the much more difficult face climb, did not have the equipment for it and so they had to quit.

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

*Ama Dablam Solo.* After the Tawoche climb with Roskelley and Bridwell was given up, our Japanese American Alpine Club member, Naoe Sakashita, headed alone for Ama Dablam's south ridge. After reconnaissance, on April 30 he bivouacked at 5700 meters. Making use of the American expedition's fixed ropes and fixing some of his own and with a minimum of bivouac gear, he continued. On May 2 he made a cold bivouac at 6100 meters, having climbed that day as high as 6300 meters. On May 3 he found steep, rotten ice near the top of the ice wall at 6400 meters but reached the summit at 2:20 P.M. After another bivouac at 6100 meters, he descended safely to complete the second solo ascent of Ama Dablam.

*Ama Dablam Attempt.* The British twins, Alan and Adrian Burgess, and American Craig Ballenger attempted to climb the south ridge, the normal route, on Ama Dablam in winter. They reached a high point of 6400 meters on December 16 and then gave up in the face of high winds, which were so strong that they were blowing about chunks of rock, and dwindling food and funds. They had one high camp and a bivouac.

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

*Ama Dablam, Winter Attempt.* Japanese led by Tsutomu Dobashi on the north ridge of Ama Dablam in the winter of 1984-5 got to 6600 meters before being forced to quit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY