

*Gangapurna Attempt.* The Tourism Ministry says that a lone Korean, Lee Suk-Woo, and his sirdar climbed to 7100 meters on January 31 and then gave up when they couldn't find a route above that point.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Tarke Kang (Glacier Dome).* Josef Oberauer led three Austrians, two Germans and an American on a successful climb of Tarke Kang's normal southwest route. They had four camps above Base Camp. On October 22 Oberauer, Klaus Solbach, Miss Herta Kantner, Werner Masik and Sherpas Ang Nima and Gyalgen reached the summit (7193 meters, 23,600 feet), only ten days after reaching Base Camp. Solbach is German and the others Austrians. Two members became ill at Machhapuchhre Base Camp and left the expedition even before they reached their own Base Camp. So really all the team members reached the summit.

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

*Tarke Kang (Glacier Dome), North Face.* Um Gae-Sung and two other Koreans established three camps on the north face of Tarke Kang. Um and two Sherpas, Pasang Norbu and Lhakpa Tshering, went to the summit on October 27.

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

*Annapurna's West-Northwest Spur, Attempt and Tragedy.* Between Annapurna I and Varah Shikhar (Fang) lies a summit of over 7700 meters from which a prominent spur descends to the valley of the Miristi Khola. Our expedition, consisting of Michel Drapier, Philippe Dumas, Roger Fillon, my son Pierre Sigayret, Patrick Taglianut and me, *French*, Pemba Norbu, *Nepali*, Louis Craig and André Laperrière, *Canadians*, hoped to climb this spur, to reach the nameless peak and then to climb the west ridge to get to the summit of Annapurna. Our Base Camp, reached on March 19, was 4000 meters on the moraines of the Miristi Khola about 2½ hours' walk below the usual Annapurna Base Camp. From Base Camp we followed the moraine of Annapurna's northwest glacier up easy terrain, which was exposed to sérac falls. Camp I was placed on March 22 at 5000 meters in an ice cave as protection from avalanches. From Camp I to Camp II the route followed the secondary glacier and turned left over the séracs. A 45° ice slope, on which we fixed rope, let us reach a glacier shelf, where we established Camp II at 5600 meters on March 25. From Camp II we climbed the western side of the main northwest spur to gain its crest. We followed this snow-and-ice crest to place Camp III at 6100 meters on April 6. There were continuous fixed ropes from Camp II to III. From Camp III we crossed almost horizontally left in the direction of a secondary spur on hard ice partially exposed to avalanches. We then ascended the icy spur until it turned to