

Ishibashi and Toyoda to complete the route, which they did in five days. They got to the top on May 3. During the descent, for unknown reasons, Ishibashi fell and was killed. They gave up the idea of continuing on to Cho Oyu.

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

Tawoche Winter Ascent and Tragedy, 1986. This joint expedition was led by Korean Oh In-Hwan. They climbed the southeast face to the southeast ridge, the same route as that of the Japanese in the spring of 1985. They were really two separate teams. The Japanese arrived in Nepal first and began climbing while the leader awaited his members in Kathmandu. The Koreans had hardly arrived at Base Camp, on January 3, 1986, when Japanese Atsuyoshi Kakomoto was killed in a fall. The Japanese withdrew, having got no higher than 5800 meters. The Koreans persevered. Heo Young-Ho and Ang Phurba Sherpa went to the summit (6501 meters, 21,327 feet) on January 12, 1986. Heo had previously also climbed Makalu and Manaslu.

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

Ama Dablam, Southwest Ridge. An international expedition was led by Renato Moro with the help of two guides Franco Girodo and me, who fixed rope on the route. In October the first climbers could not succeed because of very bad weather. Fortunately a second group, in late October and November, was successful, the summit being reached by 14 climbers: on October 30, the Italian guides Mauro Bernardi, Stefan Kehrer and Franz Stuflesser; on October 31, a group of five climbers led by Austrian Wolfgang Nairz; on May 2 Erik Decamp, André Levêque and American Peter Athens; on November 3, Italian guides Hermann Comploy and Vinzenz Runggaldier; and on November 4 Canadian Roger Marshall.

ERIK DECAMP, *Club Alpin Français*

Ama Dablam, Winter Attempt. A five-man team from New Zealand led by Geoffrey Gabites, set up Base Camp and Camp I at 4575 and 5430 meters on November 27 and December 1. They climbed up to 6100 meters via the southwest ridge, but on December 14 called off the attempt due to strong winds and bad health of the members.

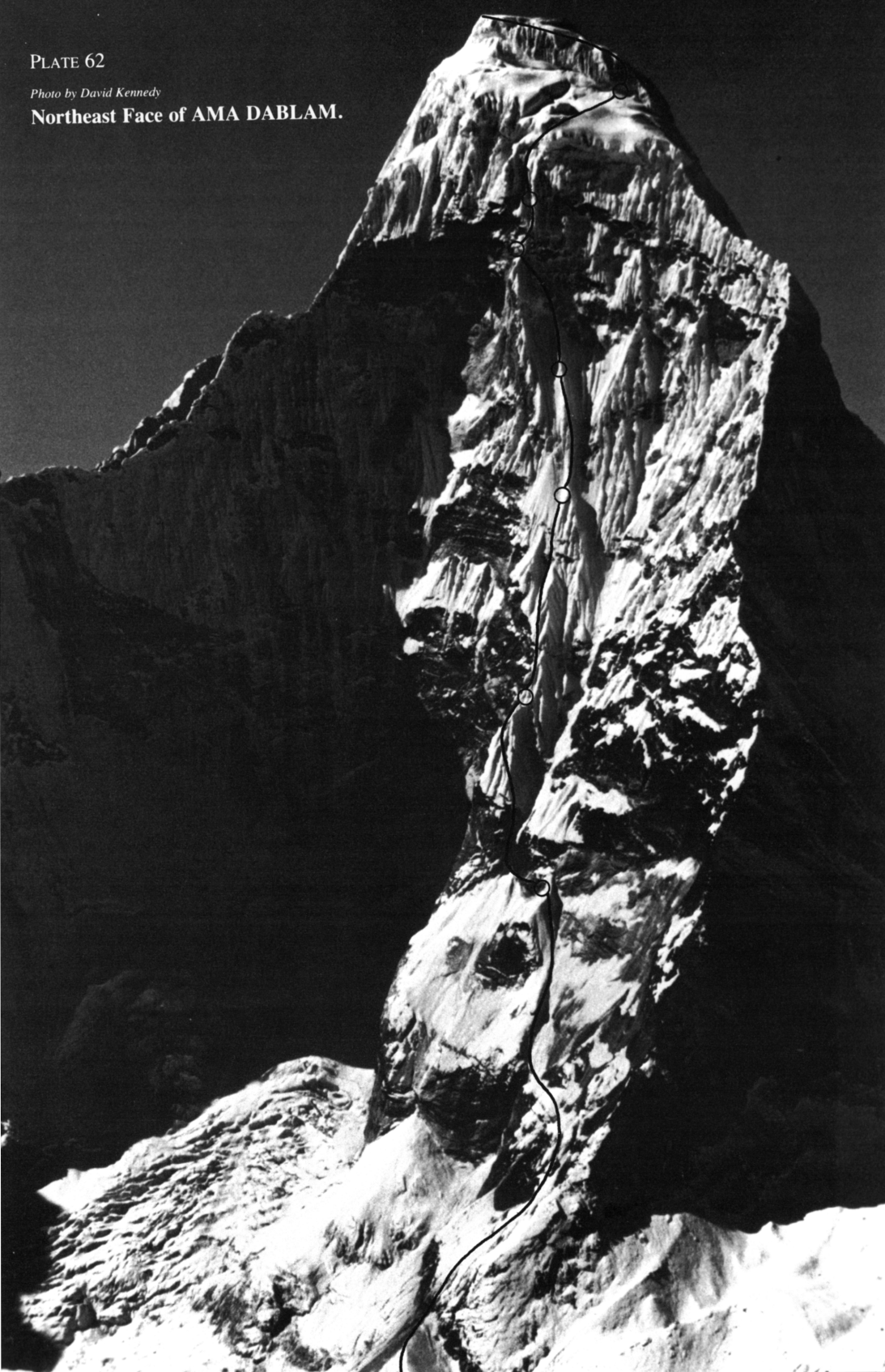
KAMAL K. GUHA, *Editor, Himavanta*

Ama Dablam Northeast Face. In early December Carlos Buhler and I made the first ascent of the northeast face of Ama Dablam. Flanked by the east and north ridges, this face is hidden from view until one walks beyond the village of Chukung, and is best seen from the upper slopes of Island Peak. After walking in from Jiri, accompanied by Carlos' mother Julie and brother Roman, and my wife Julie, we made a side trip to Kala Pattar (5500 meters) to acclimatize.

PLATE 62

Photo by David Kennedy

Northeast Face of AMA DABLAM.



Heavy snowfall in the area in October rendered the normal Base Camp site for the north side of the mountain inaccessible to yaks, so we established our Base Camp at the small pasture ground of Shango on November 20. With the help of our sirdar, Ang Jangbu, and two other Sherpas, we made a small advanced camp the following day, in the deep snow of the normal Base Camp site at about 5000 meters. To acclimatize further, Carlos, my wife Julie and I made an ascent of the normal route on Island Peak (6189 meters), reaching the summit on November 25 and returning to Base Camp that day. After two days of rest, Carlos and I moved to the advanced camp. We reconnoitered the lower gullies, breaking trail through often-deep snow, and left a cache of food and equipment at the start of the route proper at 5400 meters. After a bivouac there on November 30, we climbed the face in a single push, reaching the summit at 10:02 on the morning of December 7. We descended the normal southwest ridge to 5200 meters that day, utilizing fixed ropes left in place from the fall season, as well as those of a New Zealand team attempting a winter ascent of that route. Our route followed a prominent, steep ice rib in the center of the northeast face. The climbing was predominantly on snow and ice, with some difficult pitches of thin ice over rock; several waterfall pitches were encountered, as well as much steep, unconsolidated snow. Due to the soft snow conditions, the bivouacs were all good, and only one required extensive chopping. Despite perfect weather, the face proved to be a cold one, getting 4 to 6 hours of sun each morning; combined with the short winter days, this resulted in daytime temperatures as low as -10° F.

MICHAEL KENNEDY

Kangtega in Winter. Kangtega (6779 meters, 22,241 feet) was climbed in the winter for the first time. Ten South Koreans led by Kyong Soo-Jeon climbed it from the south, establishing three camps, the highest at 5800 meters. On December 31 Lee Dae-Seok and Ang Dorjee Ang Sherpa reached the summit in 12 hours from Camp III. Although Kangtega is not high, it is very difficult.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

Thamserku, West Ridge. Our expedition made a new route on Thamserku's west ridge. We had Camps I and II at 5500 and 6000 meters. We fixed 2000 meters of rope. On October 25 Sonam, Pemba Sherpa and I reached for the first time the 6300-meter foresummit. François Poissonnier and I left Base Camp on October 29 and bivouacked at 6200 meters. On October 30 we climbed the narrow, delicate ridge to the summit (6623 meters, 21,730 feet) and returned to the bivouac. We descended to Base Camp on the 31st.

MARC BATARD, *Club Alpin Français*

Kusum Kanguru, 1982. In the *A.A.J.*, 1984 on pages 242-3, an ascent of the northeast ridge of Kusum Kanguru was described. Antxon Zamarbide, Eduardo Emanuel and I climbed that ridge in October 1982 before the other group did in