

Koreans Kim Bo-Youl and Um Hong-Gil got to two days later. This was to be the site of Camp V, but no camp was actually pitched there.

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

Everest West Ridge Winter Attempt. A third Korean winter expedition, led by Kim Ki-Heyg, tried the west ridge of Everest. The highest point was 7100 meters, the site for Camp III, to which Lee Jae-Ha, Lim Sam-Gyun and Park Gye-Hyun with Sherpas Ang Phurba and Ang Lhakpa Norbu climbed on December 8 and the two Sherpas again on the 10th. They decided to give up on December 12. One member had serious stomach trouble, twelve tents had been destroyed by the wind at Camps I and II and the Koreans were exhausted from winching loads to Camp I and carrying above that, for their only two Sherpas worked at route-making and not load-carrying.

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Lhotse Shar Attempt. South Korean Heo Young-Ho and Sherpas Ang Dorje and Ongchu attempted the normal route, the southeast ridge, of Lhotse Shar after leaving Kathmandu very late, on May 5. They reached 8100 meters on May 29 and then gave up. They needed at least four or five more days, including some rest days, to complete the climb, but the season ended on May 31.

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

Thamserku and Lhotse Attempts and Imjatse. Our expedition consisted of Michel Fauquet, Nathalie LeCable, Marie-Odile Martine, Frédéric Potie and me. We climbed from the beginning of September to November. Our first objective was the north face of Thamserku. From September 29 to October 1, Martine, Potie, Fauquet and I attempted the north face from the east col but got only to 5500 meters. On October 3, Fauquet and I made a second attempt, the north face direct. We were stopped 60 meters from the summit by a sérac. We had climbed 1500 meters of ice not unlike the north face of the Droites with pitches up to 85°. We were 16 hours on the face. We then turned to the west face of Imjatse (Island Peak). On October 9, Potie and I got to 5900 meters. On the 14th, Fauquet and I reached the summit (6183 meters, 20,285 feet) by the west face direct in eight hours. The slope averaged 45° with three 70° pitches. Martine, Fauquet and I got to 6100 meters on the same slope on October 18. Fauquet and I then turned, alpine-style, to the direct south face of Lhotse from October 23 to 26. On the first day we climbed 800 meters of ice and snow, mostly 55° with 80° pitches. On the second day we did 1200 meters of similar slopes with some rockfall. On the third day we got to 7200 meters up 50° snow and a rock pitch. Fauquet decided to quit after seeing one of the Poles, who were climbing across the huge couloir to the right of us, fall to his death. We descended on the fourth day. From October 30 to November 2, I joined the Poles Kukuczka, Majer and Falco-Sasal. We climbed the Czech route on Lhotse Shar to Camp V



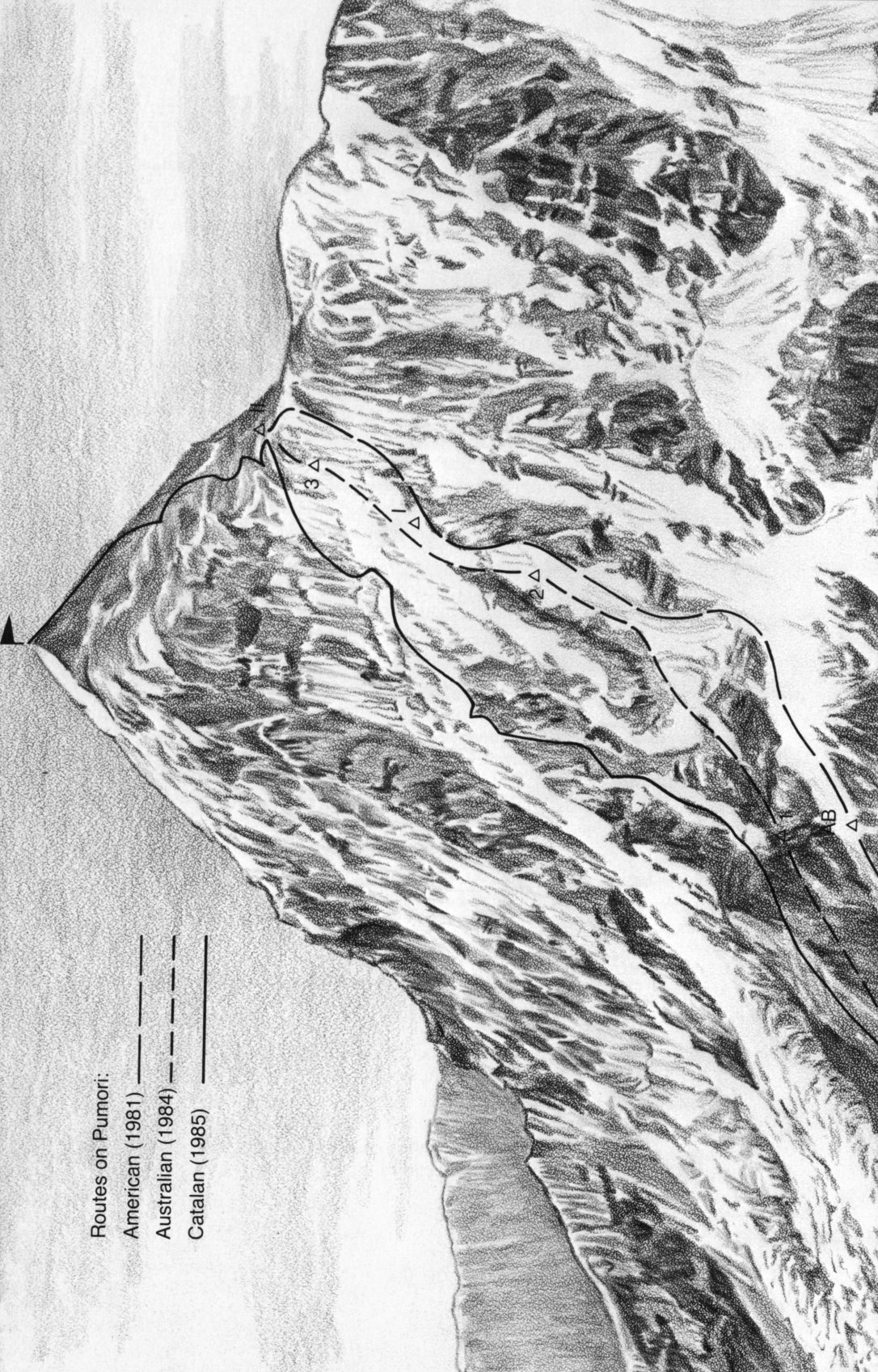
PLATE 63

Photo by Janusz Majer

South Face of LHOTSE. The French attempt is shown on the left and the Polish on the right. The center line shows where Rafal Cholda fell to his death.

Routes on Pumori:

- American (1981) ———
- Australian (1984) - - - - -
- Catalan (1985) _____



and then traversed left towards Lhotse, establishing Camp VI. We stopped at 8000 meters because of health problems.

VINCENT FINE, *Club Alpin Français*

Lhotse Attempt and Tragedy. A very strong Polish expedition, which included Krzysztof Wielicki and Jerzy Kukuczka was led by Janusz Majer. They established six camps and fixed much rope on the right side of the south face. Up to about 7600 meters their route was largely the same as that of the Czechoslovaks on Lhotse Shar in the spring of 1984. From there they traversed upward to the left. On October 22 Mirosław Dasal, Walenty Fiut and Artur Hajzer climbed to 8200 meters and retreated. On the 25th Rafał Chołda retreated with Kukuczka on an attempt to get higher and fell to his death while descending to Camp VI. Another try was made by three Poles and Frenchman Vincent Fine from the neighboring expedition who got to 8050 meters on November 1. Extremely difficult rock climbing on a very steep face at high altitudes, strong winds and exhaustion from two months of climbing defeated this strong party.

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

Pumori. We climbed the normal southwest ridge route on Pumori. Climbing began on April 10 and on the 11th we set up Camp I at 5700 meters. There were no climbing problems in getting to Camp I but the route was threatened from the left (Kala Patar) side by ice- and rockfall. We fixed rope above Camp I. Camp II was set up on April 15 at 6100 meters at the foot of the towers on the southwest ridge. Our female member, Margret Gabl, reached Camp II. Between Camps II and III we had rock of UIAA Grade III and IV and ice up to 60°. We fixed 1000 meters of rope up to Camp III, which we established at 6550 meters on April 18. We found there the damaged tent of the ill-fated American 1984-5 winter expedition but saw no signs of their bodies. On April 21 Markus Fringer, Adreas Praxmarer and Josef Kathrein climbed steep ice and then easier slopes to reach the summit (7161 meters, 23,494 feet) in five hours. On April 23 Alfred Rainer, Wolfgang Wippler and Dr. Gerhard Kienpointer got to the top. On April 26 I reached the summit with Sherpa Ang Lhakpa. We removed most of our fixed rope.

ARTHUR HAID, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

Pumori. Pere Rodés, Joan Alarcón and I reached the summit of Pumori on May 5, having left Base Camp two days before. Base Camp was at 5260 meters and we made only one camp at 6250 meters on the climb. During the descent we had to bivouac in an ice cave at 6600 meters. We followed a route on the southeast face to reach the col at 6500 meters. From there we went along the northeast ridge to the top. It took us 12 hours to reach the summit from Camp I. Rodés' wife, Marcè Solans, also accompanied the expedition.

JAUME MATAS, *Spain*