

P.M. and Rüedi much later. The next morning Wielicki descended, having waited all night in Camp III for Rüedi. In Camp II he met Messner, Kammerlander and Mutschlechner, who were climbing directly from Camp I to Camp III. They saw Rüedi descending very slowly. When they got to Camp III, they saw him 100 meters from camp, dead, seated in the snow. He had left Zürich only two weeks before. Messner and his companions left Camp III at six A.M. and following the tracks of Rüedi and Wielicki, reached the summit of Makalu at 11:30, going up the ridge that divides the west from the north face. This much more direct variant is more difficult and has a very steep section around 8000 meters. They found the place where Rüedi had bivouacked at 8100 meters. They returned to Base Camp the next day. A snowstorm on September 28 prevented any further ascents. We returned on foot to Sedoa and were helicoptered to Lukla. On October 10 we were at Everest Base Camp. We had an agreement with Eiselin's expedition for access through the Khumbu Icefall. The bad weather kept them from success on their Everest attempts. On October 14 Messner, Kammerlander, Mutschlechner and Thomas left Base Camp with Sherpas for Camp II at 6400 meters. The next day the climbers were kept out-bound by wind until noon. Mutschlechner had to descend with a toothache. The other three and the Sherpas climbed to Camp III at 7450 meters. Despite a strong wind on October 16, Messner and Kammerlander set out and climbed the final couloir not without difficulty, but there the wind actually helped them, shoving them upwards; in an hour they ascended 250 meters. They were on the summit of Lhotse at 1:45. Thus, Messner completed his ascents of all 8000ers. The pair descended that night to Camp II and the next day to Base Camp.

RENATO MORO, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Makalu Attempt.* An expedition led by Cesare Cesa Bianchi and composed of Cristina Moneta and Stefano De Benedetti established Base Camp at 4700 meters on September 14. They used the camps we left set up for them from our expedition. Because of bad weather, they placed a camp at 6200 meters and got to the 6800-meter camp on October 1. On October 10 the three reached camp at 7400 meters. Only Cesa Bianchi continued on to Camp III but without hope of the summit because of the terrible snow conditions.

RENATO MORO, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Makalu Winter Attempt.* The two-man team of Noboru Yamada and Yasuhira Saito took one look at the south face of Makalu and decided it was impossible for only two to scale such a steep route in winter when there is little snow cover. They turned to the southeast ridge. Their alpine-style ascent came to a halt at 7500 meters when they twice reached that point from a bivouac at 7400 meters. The wind and low clouds prevented their seeing where they were going. They reached their high point on December 9 and 11. They waited a week in Base Camp for the weather to improve. It did not and with their food running out, they quit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY