

*Chamlang, West Ridge.* We got to Base Camp on September 22 with 13 Japanese and three Sherpa members. The approach was difficult in the unpopulated area and because of rain. The unclimbed west ridge looked deceptively easy. On September 26 we established Camp I at 5600 meters despite rockfall danger. On October 3 we placed Camp II at 6100 meters on a ridge covered with sugar snow. Above Camp II the route was particularly difficult on the knife-edged ridge because of unconsolidated granular snow. We fixed 4000 meters of rope. On October 11 we established Camp III at 6500 meters as our final camp. On October 16 Osamu Kushimi and Wangar Sherpa started out at five A.M. and climbed a steep snow corner. After seven hours they reached the summit (7319 meters, 24,012 feet). Four members supported them to 7000 meters.

AKIO SHINYA, *Japan Dairy College*

*Mera, Southwest Buttress.* Our expedition, consisting of George Davidson, Mal Duff, Lesley Shipway, Ian Tattersall and me as leader, reached Base Camp on March 20, having trekked to Lukla and crossed the Hinku valley via the Zatre Wala Pass. Over the next three days we moved equipment up to Advance Base on the banks of the Dudh Kund. Duff and Tattersall remained at this camp to reconnoiter the final approach and were joined by Shipway and me for the attempt on March 26. However, we two descended the next day because Shipway, who was suffering from bronchitis, was going very slowly and the approach was seriously threatened by séracs from the eastern and western icefalls. Duff and Tattersall made good progress through the western icefall before making a rising traverse to reach the crest of the southwest buttress. They followed the buttress crest except for occasional excursions onto the flanks to avoid overhangs. They reached the summit (6654 meters, 21,830 feet) on March 30. The route was graded E.D. inf. because of the seriousness of the approach, hard ice and bad rock with poor protection.

RAY DELANEY, *England*

*Ama Dablam Attempt.* Iain Allen, and Ian Howell of Kenya, Alastair Stevenson of Australia, Americans Bruce Kleppinger and I attempted Ama Dablam's south ridge in April. Stevenson and I established Base Camp at 15,000 feet on March 31 and Advanced Base at 16,500 feet on April 4. The others arrived on April 7. On April 8 Stevenson and I occupied Camp I at 19,000 feet, to be joined there by Allen and Howell on April 10 and Kleppinger on April 11. The latter was suffering from an unspecified Patagonian parasite and never went above Camp I. The rest of us occupied Camp II on April 15, which is only 500 feet higher than Camp I, but to reach it requires more than a dozen pitches of tricky and exposed traversing. Altitude is gained more quickly above Camp II, and the four of us occupied Camp III at 20,500 feet on April 19. This was the first camp that showed no sign of previous expeditions. Up until now each camp had sported pre-carved tent-sites with the inevitable bits of trash, and the route had been made painfully obvious by residual fixed ropes rendered untrustworthy