

be confused with the lower false summit, which is closer to the second rock band. On the false summit is a pole with odd bits of prayer flags. Comparison of summit photos seems to indicate that it was there that Jan Smith got. No other summit attempts were made. Supplementary oxygen and high-altitude porters were not used.

JAMES FRUSH

*Cho Oyu.* Our team consisted of Etsuro Hino, Tateo Yamashita, Miss Taeko Noda, Takayushi Kawada, Mrs. Mutsuko Okuma, Tsuyoshi Murakai, Miss Masae Okamoto and me as leader. We pitched three camps on the south face of Ngozumba Kang, hoping to climb Cho Oyu by the east ridge. On September 29 Hino, Miss Noda and Miss Okamoto were at Camp III at 7500 meters, but we gave up the route because of deep snow. From October 5 to 9 we moved over the Nangpa La to Base Camp on the normal route. We set up Camps I, II, III, and IV at 5600, 6300, 6750 and 7200 meters on October 10, 11, 12, and 13. Because of strong wind we stayed at Camp IV on October 14 and 15. On October 16 Hino climbed to the summit.

NOBUO SHIRAISHI, *Kitakyushi Alpine Club, Japan*

*Cho Oyu Tragedy.* The expedition to Cho Oyu which I led was composed of three Swiss: Pierre-Alain Steiner, Christian Dupré and me. After having arrived on October 8 at Base Camp at 5300 meters near the Nangpa La, we climbed to 6300 meters for acclimatization. We left on October 19 for an Advance Base at the foot of the west face at 6000 meters. That same day we started up a new route on the face and joined the Polish route at 7300 meters. The wind was so strong that we stopped for several hours. On the morning of the 20th the wind was the same and we decided to descend to wait for several days. Unfortunately, while descending, Steiner fell some 600 meters, which put an end to his life and the expedition.

ERHARD LORETAN, *Club Alpin Suisse*

*Gaurishankar Attempt.* After two weeks of bureaucracy in Kathmandu, Iñaki Alvarez, Koldo Tapia, Txema Cámara and I were finally able to take the bus to Charikot, arriving there on September 11. The approach was very difficult because of the monsoon rains, the stream crossings, the bamboo forests and the leeches. [Other reports say they also had difficulties with the local police. — *Editor.*] We got to Base Camp at 4800 meters on September 16, the 5400-meter col on the 17th and Advance Base at 4300 meters on the glacier on the 18th. The route to be attempted was on the southwest face left of the Roskelley route. On September 20 and 21 we bivouacked at 5500 and 6000 meters and climbed to 6100 meters on the 22nd. The weather was continuously bad with avalanches sweeping the face. We descended to Base Camp. Despite the weather we did climb two virgin peaks: Tsirigma Ikuspegi (5430 meters, 17,815