

<i>Year</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Climbers</i>
1983	10/9	Kangshung Face	American	Jay Cassell George Lowe Daniel Reid
1984	10/3	Great Couloir Direct from Rongbuk Glacier	Australian	Tim McCartney-Snape Greg Mortimer Andy Henderson (to 150 ft below top)
1984	10/20	Central North Face, Great Couloir	American	Phil Ershler

India—Sikkim

Kabru Dome, Forked Peak and Rathong. An Indian Army expedition led by Major K.V. Cherian climbed these three peaks in western Sikkim. After establishing two high camps, they climbed Kabru Dome (6600 meters, 21,655 feet) on May 15 and Forked Peak (6108 meters, 20,040 feet) on May 16. They then crossed the Rathong La to the Yalung Glacier and on May 24 climbed Rathong (6679 meters, 21,911 feet).

HARISH KAPADIA, *Himalayan Club*

Chomoyummo, 1986. As preparation for the 1987 Kangchenjunga expedition, the Indian Army Assam Rifles climbed Chomoyummo (6823 meters, 22,368 feet) in northern Sikkim. (The first ascent was made by Dr. Kellas in 1911. It was again climbed in 1945 by T.H. Tilly, but recently this region has not been open to foreign expeditions.) They put two officers, two women, Dikila Gyatso and Pempa Bhutia, and 35 soldiers onto the summit on October 29, 1986.

Kangchenjunga Ascent and Tragedy. A 62-member team from the Indian Army Assam Rifles, including three women, was led by Major General Prem Lal Kukrety. They left Gangtok on March 8, heading for the northeast face of Kangchenjunga, the route previously climbed by Colonel Narinder Kumar's expedition in 1977. Base Camp was established at Green Lake at 4690 meters on March 15 and Advance Base at 5000 meters on March 24. Camps I, II, III, IV and V were established at 5600, 6000, 6300, 6650 and 7250 meters on March 31, April 2, 20, 30 and May 16. Finally on May 22, loads were dumped at the site of Camp VI at 7750 meters, but during the return to Camp V the climbers were caught in a blizzard. They suffered frostbite, and eventually Havildar Phurba had to be evacuated by helicopter. Despite this setback, Phu Dorje, who had soloed Everest without oxygen, Naik Chorten Tsering and Phu Pu Bhutia occupied Camp VI on May 23. They headed for the summit on May 24. They lost radio contact with Base Camp in -40° weather when their batteries went dead. It is presumed they reached the summit; Phu Dorje's prayer flag was found eight meters below the summit. They did not return and, despite an extensive search, their bodies were not found. Naik Chander Singh, Lance Naik Bhawan Singh, Rifleman Subhas Limboo, Havildar R.B. Ghale and Norden Lepcha set up Camp VII at 8180 meters and made a summit



Map and Views of Mount Everest, Nepal-China

attempt on May 30, which failed 100 feet from the summit in a severe snowstorm. Norden Lepcha fell and was injured; Ghale had to escort him off the mountain. The first three mentioned above made a second try on May 31 and gained the summit at two P.M. after a grueling 12-hour climb. On the way down, not far from the top, Chander Singh slipped and plunged down the Sikkim side of the mountain to his death.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Editor, Himavanta, India*

Nepal

Himalayan Fatalities, 1986. I have read with considerable interest the pages devoted to the Himalaya. On the basis of these reports, there seem to have been 44 deaths in 1986. That in itself may not seem noteworthy related to the overall number of climbers involved. What has changed over the past decade is the leading cause. Falls account for 13 deaths (36.6%). Avalanches are the second most important cause with 13 deaths (31.7%). High-altitude oedema comes next, accounting for 12.25% of all deaths. Exhaustion and "other" causes make up the rest. Germans (6) and Japanese (5) top the list of fatalities, followed by Poland and Switzerland with 4 each.

TREVOR BRAHAM, *Alpine Club*

Corrections of "Classification of the Himalaya" in A.A.J., 1985. Thanks to a very thorough study by Michael Westmacott while he was working on the indexing project of the Alpine Club, we must report further corrections, mostly typographic errors or errors in converting meters and feet.

- page 113 Gimmigela: 24,114 feet (not 24,144)
- 114 Taple Shikar: 20,804 feet (not 21,000)
Simvo East: 6771 meters (not 6671)
- 115 P 6754: 22,160 feet (not 22,170)
Sharpu: 20,788 feet (not 20,460)
- 121 Lang Dak: 20,788 feet (not 20,460)
- 123 Changbu: 22,247 feet (not 21,919)
- 124 Salasungu: Latitude 28° (not 25°)
- 126 P 6933: 22,747 feet (not 22,727)
P 6932: 22,743 feet (not 22,723)
- 127 Bhrikuti Shail: 20,880 feet (not 20,870)
- 129 P 7010: 23,000 feet (not 23,300)
- 130 P 6998 (incorrectly listed as P 6698)
- 134 Changla: 21,533 feet (not 21,523)
The *Yoka Pahar Subsection* lies west (not east) of the Seti.
- 137 Mrigthuni: 22,490 feet (not 22,940)
- 138 P 6651: 21,821 feet (not 21,815)
- 139 P 6805: 22,326 feet (not 22,330)