

*Ama Dablam Attempt.* A British-American expedition led by Englishman William O'Connor had hoped to climb Ama Dablam's normal route, the south ridge. They were defeated by the heavy snowfall of October 18 to 20. All five members reached the high point of 5700 meters on October 17 and then retreated in the face of the storm. When two members and a Sherpa went back up to this point, where they had placed Camp I, they found not only a destroyed tent but also extremely dangerous snow conditions. It was getting colder too and so they abandoned the climb.

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

*Bulgarian Ama Dablam Attempt.* This Bulgarian expedition led by Venelin Petrov had hoped to climb a new route, the northwest ridge to the west face. They were badly delayed because cargo by truck from Bulgaria failed to arrive on time and they had been on the mountain only for four days when the big October blizzard struck. Valeri Gueorguiev Peltekov and Nicolai Apostolov Proev reached 5600 meters on October 23 and then the climb was abandoned because of dangerous snow conditions.

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*Ama Dablam.* An American team led by Annie Whitehouse had planned to attempt Tawoche first and then Ama Dablam, but when they reached Tawoche, they decided against trying it. Deep unconsolidated snow lay at its base and the couloir they had thought to climb was bare rock rather than the ice they had expected. They went immediately to Ama Dablam, made Base Camp there on November 18 and climbed to the summit by the normal south ridge in three waves, all before the official beginning of the winter season, which starts on December 1; they informed the Nepalese authorities that they climbed earlier than their permission had been granted for because of threatening weather. Sandy Stewart and Eric Reynolds went to the summit on November 23, Annie Whitehouse and Clay Waldman on the 26th. Todd Bibler made a fast solo ascent and was on top later on the 26th. They had three camps above Base Camp. Because they climbed before the official beginning of the winter season, the Nepalese authorities on February 22, 1988 announced that all five summits are banned from climbing any Nepalese mountain for the next five years.

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*Correction on Ama Dablam Ascent.* On page 238 of *A.A.J.*, 1987, the climb made by the Yugoslavs was on the south face of Ama Dablam and not on Pumori.

*Tawoche Attempt.* Ten Britons and Americans were led by Scott Mal Duff on a guided climb on the southwest face to the southeast ridge of Tawoche. None of the clients got higher than 6100 meters, but after they left, on October

2 Duff and the other guide, Andy Black, ascended to 6350 meters, about 150 vertical meters below the summit. They did not climb to the top because of dangerous snow slabs. They descended and moved Advance Base for an attempt on the unclimbed east face, but they were forced to give up because of Duff's ill health.

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*Lhotse Shar Attempt.* The members of our expedition were Filip Bence, Janez Benkovič, Vincenc Berčič, Tomo Česen, Milan Gladek, Silvo Karo, Radivoj Nadvešnik, Janez Plevel, Marko Prezelj, Andrej Štremfelj, Janez Šušteršič, Dr. Peter Panjtar and I as leader. Hoping to climb the Austrian route, which ascends the southwest ridge from the col with Island Peak to 7200 meters and continues up the southeast ridge, we established Base Camp on March 14. Despite alternating high winds and heavy snowfalls, we fixed the route to 7200 meters and established three camps on the route. We were very surprised when on April 11 the leader of the French expedition and one other came to our Base Camp, proposing to climb the same route. Later it proved that they had permission for the east ridge. They established their Base Camp on the other side of Island Peak. We met them a few days later on our route, fixing ropes to 6600 meters and from there on proceeding only on our ropes. We found this behavior most extraordinary. After having been on the mountain for 60 days in miserable weather, food supplies were running low and the climbers were exhausted. The attempt was abandoned on May 12 although the weather was improving. The high point, which was to have been the site for Camp IV, was reached on April 20 by Bence.

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*Lhotse Shar.* Our expedition was composed of Guy Donzey, Dr. Xavier Bigard, Pierre Royer, Lionel Mailly, Yves Tedeschi, Eric Gramond, Philippe Renard, Robert Flematti, Daniel Semblanet, French, Nima Norbu, Nepalese, and Rajeev Sharma, Indian. We climbed the southwest ridge to 7200 meters and then the southeast ridge to the summit. Base Camp was established at the foot of the south face on April 12. On April 15 Camp I was placed at 5800 meters on the little col between the southwest ridge and Island Peak. Camps II and III were set up on April 27 and May 1 at 6200 and 7000 meters. We had planned for a Camp IV at 7600 meters, but weather conditions prevented this. On May 20 Tedeschi, Sherpa Senge, Royer and I set out from Camp III. Royer and I turned back at 7600 meters because we began to suffer from frostbite. Senge stopped at 8250 meters. Tedeschi reached the summit of Lhotse Shar at ten A.M., having been climbing for ten hours. He did not continue on the traverse to Lhotse as had been the original hope. The climbing was mainly on ice. On May 8 Gramond and I flew with a two-place *parapente* from Camp III at 7000 meters to the Lhotse Shar Glacier at 5300 meters.

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