

Anye Maqin IX. On September 5, Martin Hampar, Michael and Catherine Pettipher, Ben Williams and I established Base Camp at 4200 meters in the main valley about a quarter mile beyond the large stream descending from the east face of Anye Maqin I. On the 7th, we placed Camp I at 4800 meters on the highest end of the north moraine of the Harlon II Glacier. Our attempt to find a route up the right bay, recommended by the Chinese, was halted by a series of complex icefalls. A reconnaissance of the Japanese route of 1981 via a spur between the two bays revealed why they had fixed 1000 feet of rope. Having neither the resources nor the time for this, we switched our attention to the relatively straightforward unclimbed summit of Anye Maqin III (6090 meters). Williams and I reached 5200 meters on the east ridge before running out of steam. On September 18, Williams and Mike Pettipher established a camp at 4700 meters on the east side of the northern glacier of Anye Maqin IX, the prominent southern outlier of the range clearly seen from Snow Mountain Commune. On September 20, after having been turned back the previous day by snow squalls, they made the first ascent of this peak (5690 meters, 18,668 feet) by the northern glacier and the col on its west side. Like the Australians in 1981, we deplore the environmental damage left by the 1981 Japanese Joetsu expedition.

JOHN TOWER, *Alpine Club*

Tibet

Everest, Hornbein Couloir, Winter Attempt, 1985-6. An expedition to Mount Everest in the winter of 1985-6 was not reported in the *A.A.J.* Under the leadership of Mrs. Michiko Takahashi, Japanese attempted to climb the mountain via the Hornbein Couloir. Despite a good team of Sherpas led by Sirdar Lhakpa Tenzing, fierce wind and cold drove them back. On December 15, 1985, two members got to the head of the couloir at 8450 meters before having to retreat.

XAVIER EGUSKITZA, *Pyrenaica, Bilbao, Spain*

Everest Attempt via the Great Couloir. Our expedition was composed of Jack Allsup, leader, Ann Smith, Bob East, Bob Allison, George Dunn, Greg Wilson, Craig Van Hoy, Ed Viesturs, Bonnie Nobori, Dr. John Baumeister, Travis Cannon and me as climbing leader. Four went via Beijing and Lhasa. The rest traveled via Kathmandu, where we were joined by five Nepalese Sherpas and a cook. We met at Xigare, Tibet, and reached the Rongbuk Base Camp at 16,800 feet on March 17. Very good weather prevailed for the next few weeks. Advance Base was established on the Central Rongbuk Glacier at 18,300 feet on March 23. Yaks carried 90 loads there in nine days. At this point Allison and Dr. Baumeister became ill and returned to the United States. The remaining Americans and the Sherpas made rapid progress, establishing Camp I at 20,400 feet at the base of the north face on March 26 and Camp II