

the East Rongbuk Glacier and on May 20 climbed to the North Col some 300 meters to the left of the usual route among seracs, where we found fixed ropes. From a bivouac at 6990 meters just below the col, we followed the north ridge to 7500 meters to a point 100 meters below the usual Camp V on May 21. From there we traversed diagonally on a strip of snow to the Great Couloir at 8100 meters. Despite theoretical protection we should have had from the sides of the couloir, the violent wind raked us for two nights and a day as we waited in vain for an improvement in the weather. On May 24, we gave up the attempt because of the wind and descended.

MARI ABREGO, *Orhi Mendi, Federación Vasca de Montaña, Spain*

*Everest Tragedy.* On June 19 Roger Marshall set out with the hope of making a solo ascent of Mount Everest via the Japanese and Hornbein Couloirs. He made good progress and, at the end of the second day, he was at the foot of the Hornbein Couloir. However something must have been amiss since he was observed by his friend Ruth DeCew to begin on the morning of June 21 to descend. On very hard ice in the Japanese Couloir he slipped and fell to his death. Marshall was born in 1942 in England and moved to Canada in 1967. During the past few years he had lived in Boulder, Colorado. In 1984 he soloed Kangchenjunga. It had been his ambition to solo the five highest mountains of the world.

*Everest, Hornbein Couloir from the North Face Attempt.* Our expedition was composed of Luis Fraga, Luis Bárcenas, Juan Agustín Casillas, Iñigo Mauleon, Pedro Holst, Bicen Itxaso, Cristóbal Salas, Fernando Garrido and me, all from different regions of Spain. We were also joined in part by Frenchman Pierre Beghin. We crossed from Nepal to Tibet by way of Kodari on June 20. We established Base Camp on July 5 at 5150 meters, somewhat higher than usual. On July 8, we put Advance Base at 5500 meters in the splendid place the Australians had used. On July 14, Camp I was set up at the foot of the north face on a great plateau at 6050 meters. The weather turned bad for a long time and left the face in bad condition, but on August 6, we placed Camp II at 6900 meters. We used a route this far which was to the right of the Japanese route and to the left of the one used by Loretan and Troillet; we feel that this was safer from avalanches than the Japanese. Camp III was established on August 9 at 7350 meters on a rocky spur. Beyond Camp II we were also on new ground until we reached the Hornbein Couloir to the left of the route used by the Japanese and by the Swiss Loretan and Troillet. On August 25 Fraga and I made the first summit attempt from Camp IV at 7900 meters, but we were driven back by the weather from 8000 meters in the Hornbein Couloir. Our retreat was problematical in the deep snow that fell. On August 27, a second summit try failed due to Sherpa misunderstanding and bad weather. On September 2, Bárcenas, Fraga, Garrido and Beghin set up two