

threat of falling séracs sweeping the upper part of the face. Twice we were nearly overwhelmed. The snow and ice conditions were very good. The wind was strong and it was cold, but the sérac danger was too great. There is a very grave matter to report. There was a Korean expedition with which we never succeeded in communicating which despite a permission only for the southwest ridge came to the southeast face. When we removed our fixed ropes, they attacked us with extreme violence. The liaison officers were four days' march below us. Except for the intervention of the Koreans' Sherpas, we would not have escaped with our lives, as attested to by our open wounds.

ALAIN HUBERT, *Club Alpin Belge*

*Cho Oyu Attempt, Tragedy and Assault.* An expedition of seven Koreans apparently had permission for the southwest ridge of Cho Oyu but turned instead to the southeast face. They reached 7800 meters before abandoning their effort. Ang Lhakpa (also known as Lhakpa Nuru) had scaled Everest twice as well as two other 8000ers. He fell and was killed on this expedition. Tragically, he was one of five Sherpas who died as they accompanied climbers on winter expeditions this year. The Sherpa climber's death rate was three times that of the foreigners who perished this winter. Since the Koreans were on the same route as the Belgians, there happened what possibly was bound to happen sooner or later when more than one team is on the same route on the same mountain at the same time. They came to blows. Alain Hubert and Régis Maincent were attacked with fists and sticks, according to them, by three of the Korean party and six Sherpas. The Korean leader Lee Ho-Sang denies that any Koreans took part in the fracas, but he does agree that in the hour-long fight Maincent received a head wound that bled badly and that a rope was tied around Maincent's neck and his arms were pinned behind his back. The Europeans fled into the night, hobbling away with the aid of their ski poles.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Dorje Lhakpa Attempt.* Our expedition consisted of M. Paolucci, D. Morandotti, F. Cella, L. Zarpellon, L. Lehner, Dr. M. Dell'Oca and me as leader. We approached from the south. We hoped to climb the ridge system used by the Germans for their descent in 1986. On October 5, we set up Base Camp at 4300 meters near the moraine of the glacier that comes down the south face of Dorje Lhakpa. We placed Camp I at 5300 meters on the lower part of the west ridge on October 8. On the 10th and 11th, Zarpellon, Morandotti, Cella and a Sherpa tried to climb to the site of Camp II but because of avalanche danger they gave up at 5650 meters.

EZIO GOGGI, *Amici del Contrin, Italy*

*Langsisa Ri.* Koreans Oh In-Hwan and Park Young-Seok and Nima Tamang composed this small expedition. They approached via the Langtang Khola and