

destroyed. On October 11, climbers went up to Camp II but there was too much avalanche danger. On the 15th, it was decided to abandon the expedition.

ALAIN ESTÈVE, *Captain, Groupe Militaire de Haute Montagne*

*Dhaulagiri Tragedy.* Two Catalans, Andorran Francesc Dalmases and Spaniard Jordi Cañameras, hoped to climb the west face of Dhaulagiri in the post-monsoon season. This route is technically difficult and was particularly so in the bad weather. In late September, at about 7000 meters, Cañameras decided to descend and returned to Base Camp with badly frozen feet. Dalmases insisted on keeping on and since he did not return from the mountain, it must be assumed that he has perished.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Dhaulagiri Attempt.* On September 16, Oscar Cardiaich and I arrived at Base Camp at 4700 meters below the northeast ridge of Dhaulagiri after crossing Dhampus and French Passes. There we met two French expeditions, one civilian and one military, and a Basque one. We also talked with ill-fated Quicu Dalmases and Jordi Cañameras, who were to attempt the west face. On September 19, Cardiaich and I set out for Camp I at 5650 meters on the northeast col. The first part is easy but exposed to avalanches and rockfall from the Eiger. The second part took us through a very broken sérac barrier, where we fixed some rope. We spent two nights there before returning to Base Camp. We were back on the 23rd with worsening weather. Finally on the 26th, we set up Camp II at 6750 meters. This stretch should have been easy but snow and windslabs made it dangerous and we descended to Base Camp. The French military lost two Sherpas in an avalanche on the 27th. Much more snow fell. On October 2, we reascended to Camp I but were forced back the next day. After much snowfall, we plowed our way back up to Camp I on the 9th. We tried unsuccessfully to get back to Camp II on the 10th. We left Base Camp on October 13.

JORDI MAGRIÑÁ, *AAEET de Valls, Spain*

*Dhaulagiri Attempt.* Our expedition was composed of Olivier Besson, Philippe Michaud, Guy Cousleix, Michel Beulné and me. We tried to climb the normal northeast ridge of Dhaulagiri. After an approach via the Mayagdi Khola we got to Base Camp on November 24. Six days of bad weather followed by sun still did not let us get to the north col despite four tries. The snow was belly-deep. We quit at 5200 meters. Then, Besson, Beulné and I climbed Tukuche Peak by the northeast ridge. When we returned to Base Camp, we learned that one of our approach porters, a lad of 17, had died in an avalanche. We called the attempt off on December 17.

LAURENT LUKIE, *CLUB ALPIN FRANÇAIS*