

**India—Garhwal**

*Nanda Kot.* An Indian expedition led by Miss Chandra Prabha Aitwal climbed Nanda Kot (6861 meters, 22,510 feet). Details are missing.

*Nanda Devi East Attempt.* After a lapse of seven years, our joint Indo-Polish expedition was the first to climb on the Nanda Devi massif since the Nanda Devi Sanctuary was declared a Bio-Sphere Reserve and closed for all expeditions. We were permitted to attempt Nanda Devi East from outside the sanctuary via the Munshiyari and Lawan valleys to the east. The Polish Alpine Federation wanted to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first ascent of Nanda Devi East by Jakub Bujak and Janusz Klarner in 1939. We were Poles Jan Kwaiton, co-leader, Ryszard Kowalewski, Jerzy Tillak, Wojciech Jedliński and Indians Thandup Sherpa, Fateh Singh, Attar Singh, Magan Bissa, Dr. Ling Raj, Bhoop Singh, Ratan Singh Bisht and I as co-leader. We established Base Camp at Shiama Kharak at 14,170 feet on September 4 despite blocked roads and heavy rains in the area. In a short spell of good weather, we placed Camps I and II on September 9 and 12 at 17,000 and 19,500 feet, the latter on Longstaff Col. Suddenly the weather turned bad. The team members still attempted to prepare the route up the south ridge, fixing rope over difficult gendarmes and knife edges, completely devoid of snow. The rock was rotten and dangerous. The winds were furious. Due to bad weather, the team was forced to withdraw three times to Base Camp. We prepared the route to Camp III at 21,000 feet. The weather did not improve and there was continuous snowfall. We were compelled to call off the attempt on September 30. The Poles joined with us in a real spirit of cooperation and international understanding.

S.P. CHAMOLI, *Indo-Tibetan Border Police*

*Nanda Ghunti.* A British expedition led by Dr. Ian Teasdale climbed Nanda Ghunti (6309 meters, 20,700 feet) in September. Details are missing.

*Kamet and Abi Gamin.* The climbers of our expedition were Miss Bachendri Pal, leader, Pritam Bhowmik, Robindra Kumar Bhuyan, Miss Manika Biswas, Mala Honati, Nabender Singh, Madan Singh Gosain, Parvaz Kapadia, Rajendra Singh Pal, Nirmal Pandey, A.K. Mehta, Utpal Sorkar, Miss Sumita Roy, Anil Thakur and I. Base Camp was set up at Vasundhara Tal near the Raikana Glacier at 15,500 feet on August 29. Five more camps were established, the highest in Meade's Col at 23,500 feet. The entire route on the East Kamet Glacier was hazardous and the last stages took a heavy toll of climbers. Rajendra Singh Pal contracted high fever, while Nabender Singh had to return because of altitude sickness. Anil Thakur sacrificed his chances for the summit in order to escort them down. Seven climbers were caught by an avalanche while ferrying loads to Camp III but were able to escape. A first summit attempt on Kamet on September 17 failed 500 feet short of the summit. On September 19, Madan Singh, Rabindra Kumar Bhuyan, Utpal Sorkar, Pasang Namgyal and Wangchu

Sherpa climbed to the summit of Kamet (7756 meters, 25,447 feet). On September 20, Nirmal Pandey and I climbed Abi Gamin (7355 meters, 24,130 feet).

AVINASH DEOSKAR, *Jamshedpur, India*

*Kamet Attempts.* Kamet continues to be the target for many Indian expeditions. In 1989, expeditions led by Manzoor Ahmed and V.G. Kelkar failed to reach the summit. We still have had no news of a joint Indo-Netherlands party led by N. Sherpa.

*Abi Gamin, 1988.* An Indian expedition led by Bilwanath Ghosh climbed Abi Gamin. Camp V was established at 22,400 feet on September 15, 1988. After a day confined to their tents by the weather, on the 17th, Miss Anita Sarkar and Sherpas Kami and Phurba climbed to the summit of Abi Gamin (7355 meters, 24,130 feet). They were accompanied as far as Meade's Col (23,600 feet) by Gopal Chandra Pal and Sherpas Lhakpa, Mingma and Pasang, who pitched Camp VI on the col. Their attempts on Kamet on the two successive days failed in bad weather.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Editor, Himavanta, India*

*Abi Gamin.* A 20-member team from the Indian Army Armored Corps was led by Lieutenant Colonel B.S. Varma. Base Camp was set up at Vasudharatal on May 30. On July 1, Captains M.S. Dhama, R.A. Khan, V.K. Vaid, Lieutenants Parminder Singh, Sriram, M.B. Thapa and Swr Yellappa reached the summit of Abi Gamin (7355 meters, 24,130 feet). Another group had to turn back from Kamet because of a biting blizzard and exhaustion.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Editor, Himavanta, India*

*Mukut Parbat Attempt.* I led a Paratroopers expedition to Mukut Parbat (7242 meters, 23,760 feet) on the Indo-Tibetan border. The mountain had been climbed only once before, by New Zealanders in 1951. They climbed the northwest ridge from the Dakhni Chamrao Glacier. We were 20 climbers, mostly youngsters. Among them were Rupinder Singh Dhillon, M.K. Sorab, Adapa, Umed Singh, Dharam Singh, Arvind Sharma, Ravi Misra, Dr. J.S. Cheema, Sorab Gandhi, Jagdish Sharma and Jai Singh. From the roadhead at Mana village, we walked up the Saraswati Gad to beyond Ghastoli and then up the Pachmi Kamet Glacier. One porter died due to natural causes during the approach. This and rough going up the boulders of the moraine made many problems before we got to Base Camp at 5100 meters on the glacier on August 28. This was two kilometers higher than the Indo-French Kamet Base Camp of 1985. Camp II was placed at 5500 meters on September 3. We fixed 1200 meters of rope in a very steep, narrow gully, where we were exposed to rockfall, to