

25,600 feet. I count the friendship and cooperation between our small American expedition and the much larger British expedition as one of the major successes of our trip. One last addendum: it should be stressed how important it is to change porters in Tashigaon on the approach. Lowland porters are definitely not up to the challenges of the relentlessly poor weather on the Shipton Col.

JAMES McEACHEN

*Makalu Post-Monsoon Attempts.* None of the post-monsoon attempts on Makalu, all on the normal northwest side, was successful. French climbers Annie Beghin, Dr. Bruno Senechal and Dr. François Estève climbed to 7400 meters on September 20. Four Japanese led by Sadao Okada got to 8300 meters on October 2. Four Spaniards under the leadership of Juan José Rodríguez ascended to 7400 meters on October 7. An expedition led by Swiss Karl Kobler was composed of 11 Swiss and a Liechtensteiner. They reached 8100 meters on September 29.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Kangchungtse Post-Monsoon Ascents.* An expedition of six Spanish Basques successfully climbed Kangchungtse (Makalu II; 7678 meters, 25,190 feet) by its south ridge. The summit was reached by the leader José Ramón Aquirare, Ramón Baztarrika and Mikel Saez on September 24. Japanese Shuichi Kaneko and Mrs. Tamani Kaneko climbed the same route to the top on September 25.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Kangchungtse or Makalu II Attempt.* Our commercial expedition started on a really bad note. Britons Mark Miller, the original leader, Victor Radvills, who was going to be the third guide, were both killed in the Pakistani International Airlines crash outside Kathmandu in September. They had just unsuccessfully tried a new route on Nanga Parbat via Rakhiot Peak. The final expedition list included Scot Alexander Allen as leader, Englishmen Sean Smith, Fraser Andrew, David Soutar, Andrew Mayers, John Mitchell, Jonathan Vanderkar, and Americans Warren, Gabriel and Jonathan Kaplan. Unfortunately the Nepalese government did not accept my American Alpine Club endorsement because I am an Argentine citizen despite having lived in the United States for ten years. Since my name was not on the permit, I was not allowed to climb. Nine of us left Hile on October 11. Sandy Allen and Sean Smith flew from England and caught up with us. During the walk in, two members had to be evacuated: John Mitchell because of an allergic reaction to malaria pills and Warren Kaplan because of a lung infection caused by a fall which injured his ribs. We arrived at Advance Base at 5200 meters above the Barun Glacier on October 23. The bad weather during the walk in cleared but winter conditions set in: cold and high winds. The team ferried loads to Camp I at 5700 meters. The

route got worse since the wind had blown all the snow off, leaving hard, grey ice. We benefited from fixed ropes left by the Japanese. Most members reached Camp II at 6400 meters. On November 7, Jonathan Kaplan, Allen, Nga Temba Sherpa and Dawa Tenzing set up Camp III at 7200 meters, just below the Makalu La. The next day extreme winds forced them down. We left Base Camp on November 11.

MIGUEL HELFT, *Out There Trekking*

*Baruntse.* Two expeditions climbed Baruntse (7129 meters, 23,389 feet) by the normal southeast ridge. On October 11, French climbers Michel Zalio, Guy l'Hermite, Mme Mariette Desplan, Mlle Christine Roux and Sherpa Kilo Temba reached the summit. On October 15, Germans Roland Brand, Helmut Chlastak, Peter Diesner, Eduard Kottmair, Andreas Kraus, Wolfgang Raiser, Frau Hildgard Reinwald, Austrians Hannes Neuwirt, leader, Frau Hannelore Neuwirt and Sherpas Pasang and Dorje got to the top.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Chamlang Attempt.* Three Frenchmen under the leadership of Laurent Hallier attempted to climb Chamlang (7319 meters, 24,014 feet) by its north face but had to quit at 6400 meters on October 22.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Ama Dablam, Pre-Monsoon Ascents, Tragedy, Attempt.* All four pre-monsoon expeditions to Ama Dablam were on the normal route, the southwest ridge. A pair of Americans, David Nettle and James Quirk, reached the summit on April 10. Seven Spaniards were led by José Joaquín Goñi. On April 19, the leader, his brother Carlos Goñi, Mikel Iraizoz and Iñaki Villanueva reached the summit. Carlos Goñi then rappelled some sixty meters. He was followed by his brother, who plunged to his death when the rappel anchor pulled out. The other two spent the night on the summit and then descended the next morning without a rope. The body of the dead leader was sighted at the foot of the mountain but could not be reached. An expedition of nine Britons was led by Ross Ashe-Cregan. Paul Higgins and Kami Tenzing Sherpa completed the 99th ascent of the peak on May 4. A group of nine Englishmen, an American and a New Zealander led by Robin Beadle made an unsuccessful attempt, reaching 6550 meters on April 24.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Ama Dablam.* On March 31, Jim Quirk and I arrived at the beautiful Mingbo Valley Base Camp. After an abortive attempt that ended in storm at 21,500 feet on April 4, we regained the southwest ridge on April 8 and bivouacked at 19,000 feet. On the 9th, we climbed the long rock ridge to spend the night at the Red Tower at 20,000 feet. This lovely ridge has solid rock, fantastic exposure and a