

Glacier began. In the unsettled weather, climbing up the glacier to the foot of the north face would have been dangerous because of avalanches. After an acclimatization hike to the East Rongbuk, on September 13 I climbed with Tamding to 21,500 feet where I set up Camp II as a starting point for my alpine-style push up the face. I was roped with Tamding for this first trip to check out crevasses but made subsequent trips alone. I decided that the Japanese Couloir would be too dangerous because of the unsettled weather and the tremendous amount of new snow and opted for the Great Couloir. On September 14, I climbed to 23,500 feet for acclimatization, where I met Robert Anderson, who had attempted to solo too. He had given up because of deep snow and the approach of night. We both descended to my camp at 21,500 feet. A storm forced me to Base Camp for three days. During the rest of September and in early October, I made six more attempts up to 23,000 feet but was forced off the mountain each time by storms. My last try on the north face was on October 9. I decided to make a final attempt on the north ridge. With Tamding, we trekked to the base of the North Col on the East Rongbuk on October 11. On October 12, I climbed to the North Col and the next day to 25,600 feet on the north ridge. It was so windy that I could not set up my tent and so descended to the North Col. I spent the 14th on the col waiting for the wind to die. On the 15th, I climbed to 24,500 feet but again was forced down by gale winds. I descended to Advance Base for the final time.

ED VIESTURS

*Everest Ascent and Attempts in the Post-Monsoon.* Aside from the Out There Trekking Expedition described below, there was only one other successful expedition on the Tibetan side of Everest in the autumn. Eleven Koreans led by Lim Hyung-Chil sent Park Huyn-Jae and Pa Nuru Sherpa to the summit on October 6. Three expeditions failed to reach their objective: 7 Greeks led by Konstaninos Tsivelekas at 7000 meters on September 11; 7 Indians led by Amulya Sen at 8200 meters on September 30; and 9 Spaniards led by Eloy Sánchez at 8000 meters on September 18.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Everest Ascent and Tragedy.* There is no restriction on the numbers of members an expedition may have on the Tibetan side of Everest. A commercial British party organized by Out There Trekking led by Jonathan Tinker consisted of 19 climbing members, four Sherpas and a research team of four Americans. It sent to the top Polish guide Maciej Berbeka and Lhakpa Nuru Sherpa on October 9 and Tinker and Babu Tshering Sherpa on October 10, but not one of its clients got to the summit. The successful climbers used a variant, climbing farther to the right and avoiding the First Step. One client was a Briton with two artificial legs, Norman Croucher, who took several spare sets of limbs with him and got to 7600 meters. A well known British actor, Brian Blessed, who has