

(up to 50°) in a few hours. The upper part was enclosed by a 300-meter-high rock and mixed wall, which was more difficult than I had expected. After a hard struggle, I reached the ridge at 1:30 P.M. and the distant highest summit of Shisha Pangma (8027 meters, 26,336 feet). We climbed in each case to the *highest* points, which nowadays is proving a problem on both mountains. On Shisha Pangma, many parties arriving from the north finish their climbs on the central summit (8008 meters, 26,274 feet), about 45 minutes short of the true top. On Cho Oyu, teams often content themselves with reaching the edge of the summit plateau. What is more, they claim these as completed successful ascents! [Wielicki has now ascended ten 8000ers, four of them by new routes, one (Broad Peak) in a one-day push up and down, and three first winter ascents (Everest, 1980; Kangchenjunga, 1986; and Lhotse, 1988.—*Editor*.]

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*Cho Oyu from the North in the Post-Monsoon.* Although all the climbers of Cho Oyu, with the exception of Krzysztof Wielicki's expedition (see above), used the standard route on Cho Oyu on its western side, there were seven expeditions that approached from Nepal without permission from the Tibetan authorities. Those who came from the north with Tibetan permission are given with the summiters and the date of ascent: *10 Koreans* led by Kang Tae-Sun: Um Hong-Gil, Choi Byung-Soo, Min Kyoung-Tae on September 10; *9 French* led by Jean-Pierre Frachon: Jean-Christophe Lafaille, Dominique Caillat, Frédéric Faure on September 30; *14 Japanese* led by Kuniaki Yagihara: Yoshio Ogata, Hideji Nazuka, Mitsuyoshi Sato, Fumiaki Goto, Ryushi Hoshino, Tsuyoshi Akiyama on October 8; Osamu Tanabe, Shinsuke Ezuka, Pasang Tshering Sherpa, Lobsang Sangbu Sherpa on October 11; Kuniaki Yagihara, Tsutomu Miyazaki, Mrs. Fumie Yoshida, Tsutomu Terada and Sherpas Nawang Sakya, Dawa Tashi and Nima Dorje on October 12. Other expeditions were not successful. Led by Arturo Squinobal, *7 Italians* reached 7700 meters on September 24, and led by Marino Giacometti, *6 Italians and a German* got to 7900 meters on October 18. *Three Japanese*, led by Masami Abe, probably got no higher than a foresummit on September 23. *Seven Spaniards* under the leadership of Josep María Maixe claimed an ascent on September 20, when Iñake Ochoa joined *Americans* led by Keith Brown, but all four stopped on a foresummit just below the top on the eastern edge of the plateau (see below).

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Cho Oyu, Foresummit, and Shisha Pangma, Central Summit.* On August 30, Jan Harris, Jim Jennings, Dan Langmade and I arrived at the 5400-meter roadhead Base Camp for Cho Oyu. We established Advance Base at the junction of the Gyabrak and Nangpala Glaciers, Camp I and II at 5700, 6400 and 7050 meters on September 5, 8 and 13. Because heavy monsoon and post-monsoon snowfall created avalanche potential, we decided against the

long northwest traverses of the normal route and chose to climb directly from Camp II to the west ridge. Jennings, fearing avalanche danger, did not go higher. After departing from Advance Base on September 17, we bivouacked on the 19th at 7400 meters. At 12:20 A.M. on September 20, we climbed toward the summit, reaching the west ridge at 7600 meters at three A.M. We crossed the ridge and continued up narrow gullies below the ridge. At sunrise we were joined by Spaniard Iñake Ochoa, who had been following in our tracks. We four climbed a 50° avalanche-prone slope to the summit plateau and on to its southeast edge. On October 1, we four Americans arrived at the roadhead for Shisha Pangma at 5000 meters. We got to Advance Base, Camps I, II III and IV at 5500, 5800, 6300, 6800 and 6930 meters on October 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. We set out from Camp IV at one A.M. on the 8th. On reaching the north ridge at three A.M. in bitter cold and wind, Langmade stopped, fearing frostbite. Near the summit, we three found the pack of a Korean who had disappeared a week earlier. At 12:15 P.M., we reached a spot marked by Korean flags, 100 meters from and 10 meters lower than the central summit, which was double corniced and could not be reached. On the descent we met four Spanish climbers, who had followed our trail from Advanced Base to the summit. After spending the night at Camp IV, we returned to Advance Base on October 9, Base Camp on the 10th and Kathmandu on the 11th.

KEITH BROWN

### Chinese Karakoram

*K2 Attempt from the North.* Spaniard Basques Felix Iñurrategi and Alberto Iñurrategi, Joseba Urkia, Fernando Uribesalgo, Jon Ander Loido and Xabier Zúñiga attempted to climb K2 from the north but they were unable to get higher than 8000 meters. After a difficult approach with camels, they established Base Camp, Advance Base, and Camps I, II, III and IV at 4600, 4900, 5500, 6700, 7200 and 7900 meters on June 17, 22, 28, July 20, 30 and 31. They fixed 500 meters of rope between Advance Base and Camp I and 800 meters between Camps I and II. On August 1, they made a summit attempt, but dangerous deep snow made them quit at 8000 meters.

*K2 Attempt from the North.* Russians Alexei Klimin, Ms. Elena Glushko, Nikolai Yurakovski and I as leader, Mexican Ricardo Torres and Germans Wolfgang Knoenhauer and Hans Stegmair sought to climb the North Ridge of K2 but we were unsuccessful. Originally, we wanted to make a new route up the wall to the left of the north ridge. We started out with 23 camels from Mazar Dara on July 12 and set up Base Camp at 3800 meters on the 17th. On July 20, we left Advance Base, following the 1982 Japanese route on the north ridge. We established Camps I and II at 5500 and 6000 meters on July 24 and 29. Bad