

The back-of-the-book compilations of Everest events will delight the left brain-sided. Sherpa Ang Rita's *seven* ascents are described, achieved from 1983 to 1992. The 485 known ascents are tabulated by the 428 climbers making them (through 1992), along with their nationality, date, expedition, and leader. The 115 deaths are noted by date, location and likely cause; fifty-one ascents without oxygen are listed, and 16 women summiters: The seven progressively older men are ranked (now 55 years old) and the youngest (17 years old). Statisticians will have a field day.

Mount Everest—70 Years has spent many months on our coffee table. Each time I pick it up to place it in the bookshelf, I find myself dipping in to reread a selection. Soon I am engrossed once again. At this rate, it will be many months before it finds its place on the top shelf of my most cherished mountaineering books.

THOMAS HOLZEL

Mount Everest Massif. Jan Kielkowski. Explo Publishers, 1 Maja 40/6, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland. 1992. *Climbing Guide*, 201 pages, 9 maps, 97 illustrations, \$18.50. *Mountaineering Atlas*, 21 pages, maps and indexes, \$6.50 plus \$2.50 postage for each.

If you need a thumb-nail mountaineering résumé of Mount Everest and its immediate vicinity, these little books, written in English, are it. The *Climbing Guide* contains brief descriptions up to the middle of 1992 of all climbing routes on Everest and its immediate neighbors, Lhotse, Nuptse, Changtse, Shartse and lower trekking peaks such as Imja, Pokalde, Kongma Tse (*not* including Pumori, Makalu and their neighbors, which are included in others of Kielkowski's booklets). Every side of each peak is illustrated by overall and close-up sketches, showing the climbing routes, often in remarkable detail. In the *Mountaineering Atlas*, "orographic" maps show ridge configurations and there is a detailed bibliography and index of names and maps to complete this remarkable little publication.

BRADFORD WASHBURN

Climbing Mount Everest, The Bibliography: The Literature and History of Climbing the World's Highest Mountain. Compiled by Audrey Salkeld and John Boyle. Sixways Publishing, Clevedon BS21 7SL, England, 1993. 120 pages, soft cover. \$20.

As a leading historian of Himalayan mountaineering, Audrey Salkeld needs little introduction. Over many years, hundreds of authors, journalists and film makers have relied on her expert knowledge to research or verify climbing episodes, dates, the backgrounds of climbers, both celebrities and unsung, along with hard-to-find expedition minutiae.

In this pocket-sized volume, she and John Boyle, with his enormous Everest library, have put together an exhaustive compendium of all known Everest attempts. It includes flights over or off the mountain, walks around it, as well as the illicit climbs of which few records exist.

The book is divided into three parts: a bibliography of Everest books, a chronology of expeditions and a listing by author of articles in the major climbing journals. It is unique in that it supplies an invaluable connection of expedition chronology to its extensive bibliography. Where would you go to learn more about, say, the Polish winter ascent of 1980? Here it is fully referenced with six books and eight journal articles.

Climbing Mount Everest will quickly become the invaluable guide to anyone interested in finding the primary sources within the vast Everest literature.

THOMAS M. HOLZEL

Vascos al Himalaya: 1974-1992, crónica de una aventura. Antonio Ortega, editor. Pyrenaica. Bilbao, Spain, 1992. 264 pages, 364 color illustrations. Hardbound.

Everest: el desafío de un sueño. Rodrigo Jordán. Editora Ograma, Santiago, Chile, 1992. 122 pages, 84 color and 8 black-and-white illustrations, 2 line drawings. Hardbound.

Everest: la ruta lógica. Mauricio Purto. El Mercurio, Santiago, Chile, 1992. 132 pages, 124 color and 2 black-and-white illustrations. Hardbound.

Mountaineering books in Spanish are fairly common, but little known outside the Hispanic nations themselves. These three have in common their topic (the higher mountains of Asia), their size (large album format) and all three aim at portraying the endeavor of a people, Basque or Chilean.

The Basque work is a magnificent one. The quality of its printing is enviable. It narrates by means of a rich text and an abundance of excellent color pictures the achievements (and failures) of the Basques in the mountains of high Asia. The chronicle covers from 1974 (an attempt on Everest and an ascent of Shakhaur, 7084 meters) to 1992, when no less than eighteen Basque parties were active in Asia, among other things, to ascend Everest four times and Cho Oyu thrice. A total of 136 expeditions, most of them successful, are reviewed. The book closes with statistics of many kinds. And while it is true, as editor Ortega recognizes, that the Basques have preferred to head for the greater mountains only, disregarding exploratory work, it is also true that their activity in Asia has been remarkable.

The two other books aim at describing the twin 1992 Chilean expeditions to Everest. They reached their goal by different ways and routes. Jordán led his seven-man team up the Kangshung side of Everest, this being the third ascent of that face. It was the work of a dedicated team. It reached the summit on May