

Neal Beidleman, Steve Bain and I reached the Makalu La. On April 28, we all established Camp III at 7700 meters, leaving Bukreev and Guarachi there for a summit bid. On the 29th, they climbed to within 30 meters of the summit, but stopped at the base of twin ice towers because of technical difficulties. Guarachi then left Base Camp for home. Between April 30 and May 7, George Fuller, Mark Nash, Martin Adams, Stu Ritchie, Alan McPherson and Charlie Mace all reached Makalu La. On May 8, McPherson turned back at 8200 meters on a solo summit bid. On May 9, Beidleman, Bain and I set off for the summit from Camp III but Beidleman and I turned back at 8370 meters, 90 meters short of the top. Bain continued on to the Bukreev-Guarachi high point but was turned back there by technical difficulties. The next day, May 10, Bain made the third ascent solo of Chomo Lönzo (7790 meters, 25,558 feet) in Tibet by its southwest ridge, following the first ascent-route. He had previously on May 2 made the 19th ascent of Kangchungtse (7678 meters, 25,190 feet) by its south ridge. At 6:30 P.M. on May 13, Bukreev and Beidleman set out from Base Camp to make a speed ascent of Makalu in one continuous push. They managed to overcome the final difficulties and stood on the true summit (8463 meters, 27,766 feet) at 4:30 P.M. on May 15, claiming the first Russian and the seventh American ascent.

THOR KIESER, *Condor Adventures*

*Baruntse Pre-Monsoon Ascent and Attempt.* An expedition of 4 Swiss climbed Baruntse by the normal southeast ridge from the west. On May 4, leader Thomas Pfenninger, Hans Landolt, Fräulein Claudia Müller and Christoph Rothlisberger climbed to the summit (7129 meters, 23,389 feet). Led by Martin Otta, 7 Czechs attempted the north ridge from the west, getting to the north summit (7014 meters, 23,012 feet) on May 6. From the bergschrund, they climbed straight up through a rock band, to the right up an ice ramp before continuing left onto the north ridge and the usual route.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Baruntse in the Post-Monsoon.* Baruntse (7129 meters, 23,389 feet) continues to be one of the most popular peaks in Nepal. In the autumn seven expeditions climbed or attempted the peak, all but one on the normal southeast ridge. The expeditions, leaders, dates and summiters follow: 4 Finns led by Sami Laitinen, summit on October 23 by Laitinen, Jukka Tarkkala; 10 French led by Yves Detry on October 25 by Philippe Genin, Pierre Chambon, Marc Bouissou, Nepalese Laxman Rai and on October 26 by Detry, Mlle Reine Mouhat, Gérard Vincent, Marc Dreyer; 1 South Tirolean (the leader) and 7 Germans led by Josef Holzer on October 26 by Stefan Markert; and 10 Austrians led by Karl Gabl on October 28 by Gabl, Herbert Alber, Reinhold Brunhumer, Günther Hafele, Frau Gertrud Hörschläger, Gilbert Hörschläger, Franz Kleinhans, Thomas Klimmer, Peter Schuler, Ulrich Walser. 5 American women, Georgie Powers, leader, Lynne Wolfe, Christine Lichtenfels Aileen

Brew and Sue Miller first attempted the east ridge, where they were stopped on September 26 at 5800 meters, and then the southeast ridge, where their highpoint of 6800 meters was reached on October 3. Powers was a recipient of an American Alpine Club Climbing Fellowship (Vera Watson-Alison Chadwick Onyszkiewicz Fund) Grant. Also unsuccessful were 9 *French climbers* led by Daniel Zanarol, who got to 6800 meters on October 6 and 3 *Greeks* led by Nikolaos Nagitsis, who reached 6400 meters on October 3. Kami Tenzi Sherpa died of a heart attack on the trek to Base Camp on October 10, but he will not be included in statistics since he did no climbing.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Lhotse.* An international expedition was highly successful on the west face of Lhotse. Leader Oskar Kihlborg and Mikael Reuterswärd of Sweden were the first Scandinavians on the summit, arriving on May 9. Mexican Carlos Carsolio was back in Kathmandu after his rapid ascent of Cho Oyu and flew by helicopter to the Everest-Lhotse area, getting to Base Camp on May 6. On May 13, he made a fast ascent of Lhotse in just under 24 hours, including rests totaling three hours in two camps on the way up. The Swedes and Carsolio contributed a footnote to the Tomo Česen-Lhotse South Face saga of 1990. They noted that despite Russian claims to the contrary, it is possible to see part of the Western Cwm from Lhotse's summit, and they have photographs to show it. Russian climbers have cited what they said was an erroneous claim by Česen to have looked down into the Cwm as one of the reasons to doubt his having made the solo ascent. Carsolio has succeeded by the age of 31 in scaling eight of the fourteen 8000ers and is only the fourth person to have climbed the five highest. The first three climbers were Reinhold Messner, Pole Jerzy Kukuczka and Slovene Viktor Grošelj. After their ascent of Everest, New Zealander Rob Hall and American Ed Viesturs joined this expedition on Lhotse. Well acclimatized, they made a rapid three-day ascent, getting to the top on May 16. [See Viestur's report below.] They are the fourth and fifth persons to climb both Everest and Lhotse in the same season.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Lhotse.* After guiding on Everest, Rob Hall and I made a three-day ascent of Lhotse via the normal west-face route. We rested for two days at Base Camp and then on May 14 climbed to Camp II at 21,000 feet in the Western Cwm. On May 15, we ascended to a high bivouac at 26,000 feet on the Lhotse Face, below the prominent couloir that leads directly to Lhotse's summit. We left our camp at 3:30 A.M. on the 16th, Rob climbing with bottled oxygen and I without. We chose not to belay in the 45° to 50° couloir and so climbed unroped. The snow had a perfect styrofoam consistency and we gained altitude rapidly. On the smooth 50-foot step halfway up the gully we climbed carefully, not relying on the old frayed fixed rope. We front-pointed up the steep summit snow cone, which stood atop a short terraced rock band, to reach the top at 9:30 A.M. The