

*Sita Chuchura Attempt.* It was reported that a three-man Japanese expedition led by Kuniharu Okawa attempted the north ridge of Sita Chuchura (6611 meters) in April. They approached the unclimbed ridge from the east flank, but gave up on April 4 at 5550 meters. (*High Mountain Sports* 155)

*Pisang Peak Ascent and Tragedy.* In autumn a 20-strong Slovenian trekking group made the Annapurna circuit. Four members, all experienced mountaineers, decided to climb the Pisang Peak (6091 meters). The climb went smoothly and they reached the summit at 1 p.m. on October 30. The weather was fine and they spent some time on the top. They descended unroped using the same route. At around 6000 meters the 55-year-old Drago Zlof slipped and fell 700 meters down the steep snowslope. On November 4 his body was recovered and cremated near the Marsyandi River. Drago Zlof was killed on his birthday. On Pisang Peak his climbing companions were Jernej Klinc, Mira Pintar and Igor Varjadic.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

*Mount Everest, Dhaulagiri, and Manaslu Ascents.* Kazakhstan climber Anatoli Boukreev made three ascents of 8000-meter peaks in 1995. His story appears earlier in this journal.

*Lhotse.* Five Spanish Basques and one South Korean sent the first Spanish citizens to the top of Lhotse (8516 meters). Two members of the party, Felix and Alberto Inurrategi, who often climb together and never use bottled oxygen, had successfully (though without a Chinese/Tibetan permit) climbed Cho Oyo just before. They had crossed the Nepalese-Tibetan border and reached its summit in only three days. They did not meet any Tibetan officials and had no trouble with their border crossing. On Lhotse, they managed a rapid climb of only eight days from basecamp to summit accompanied by a Sherpa. The other three members took 12 days to reach the summit.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Baruntse, West Pillar.* A team of eleven Russians led by Sergei Efimov crossed an icefall southwest of the summit and climbed the previously unattempted 850-meter West Pillar to the summit (7129 meters), encountering 65° to 75° mixed rock and ice. They descended the normal route on the southeast ridge, which they had earlier climbed to 6500 meters.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY