

*Hidden Peak (Gasherbrum I) Attempt.* Our team on Hidden Peak included Georgie Powers, Carlos Buhler, Mark Newcomb, Marc Appling, Greg Collins and me. The trek to Base Camp started in Dassu and went smoothly. We reached Base Camp on August 4. After two weeks of climbing and acclimatizing we had installed Camps 1 and 2 at 19,600 feet and 22,000 feet below the Japanese Couloir. Our plans were to climb this route to warm up and then try a new route on the south side of the mountain. The evening of August 13th a big wind blew from China. (This storm killed 7 climbers on K2.) Our next foray was thwarted by storm; we never again saw clear skies for more than a day. When one of the bigger storms finally cleared on September 6th, deep snow and avalanche hazard reduced our summit hopes to retrieving our equipment from Camps 1 and 2. At midnight on September 7th we headed up the mountain one last time in deep snow. Camp 1 was almost totally buried and Camp 2 was cemented in place by extremely hard windpack. We cleaned the bulk of our gear off the mountain while Carlos and Mark Newcomb made one final attempt on the summit on September 7 and 8. It turned out that our porters and porters for a German team tried to climb over Gondogoro La to reach us the day after the big storm. Six of the men slated to work for the Germans were avalanched; one was killed in the accident.

PHIL POWERS

*Gasherbrum I Attempts.* Eight Tibetan climbers under the leadership of Samdruk (who had climbed Everest in 1975), having succeeded on Gasherbrum II, reached only the Gasherbrum La (6500 meters) on Hidden Peak. Berbeka, Carlos Carsolio, Ed Viesturs and Kryzysztow Wielicki, all of whom were attached to the Tibetan permit, successfully reached the summit. Five Czechs led by Zdenek Lukes failed at about 7000 meters, due to bad weather. Eight South Koreans led by Jang Bong-Wan failed at 7300 meters.

XAVIER EGUSKITZA, *Pyrenaica, Bilbao, Spain*

*Gasherbrum II.* It was reported that seven teams attempted Gasherbrum II this year, all by the Austrian Route. Three were successful. A group of non-Tibetans attached to the permits of the Samdruk-led expedition (see above), including Kryzysztow Wielicki from Poland, Ed Viesturs from the U.S., and Carlos Carsolio from Mexico, reached the summit of Gasherbrum I and II. Carsolio deviated from the Normal Route on Gasherbrum II to ascend via the unclimbed west-southwest face to the west ridge on July 4. (*High Mountain Sports* 157)