

were reasonable yet sustained (V to VI) on excellent granite. The crux pitch entailed VII climbing and A3 hooking. No bolts were placed on the route. (*High Mountain Sports* 188)

COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

Khan Tengri, Attempt, Tragedy, and New Route. It was reported that Yuri Krasnoukhov was attempting the standard route on Khan Tengri in mid-August, 1997, and while climbing from the CIII ice cave to the summit fell down the south flank and died. D. Komarov and V. Shamalo climbed up on August 17 to locate the body via the Southwest Face. They found Krasnoukhov's body, then continued on to the summit via a new route. The crux proved to be steep slabs on the upper part of the route, which was graded 5B. The climb placed third in the Russian championships. (*High Mountain Sports* 188)

TIBET

CHOLA SHAN

Chola Shan Range, Various Ascents. In July and August, 1997, Joanne Jeske and I traveled widely throughout Kham, the old eastern province of Tibet. With the exception of Minya Konka and vicinity, this region has largely been neglected by climbers, despite the fact that it is one of the most mountainous areas of Asia.

Traveling by local buses, we arrived in the town of Dege in early August. Here we stocked



The northwest face of Chola Shan I. Solid line indicates ascent route. Dotted line indicates hidden finish to summit and descent. CHARLIE FOWLER