



*Eduard Sánchez sucking wind on the first ascent of Nyong Mong. ELOI CALLADO*

We gave our route a Tibetan name: *Nyong Mong* (60-80°, 2100m) which means “something that afflicts your soul.” We called it this because we think that when you climb new routes in alpine style, you have a big responsibility, and you feel an absolute solitude, a doubt inside and sometimes a deep feeling of suffering.

ELOI CALLADO, *Spain*

*Cho Oyu and Shishapangma, Ascents.* In August, I traveled to Tibet with three other friends from Telluride, Colorado: Andrew Sawyer, Laura Bakos and Jim Miller. Our intention was to acclimate on Cho Oyu, then climb the south face of Shishapangma. Andrew, Laura and Jim also planned to ski both peaks. On Cho Oyu we climbed without Sherpa support or supplemental oxygen, establishing three camps on the regular route up the west side. On September 24, I topped out with Laura, who dragged her skis to the summit. Laura became the first American\* and possibly the first woman to descend from the top of an 8000-meter peak on skis.

Christine Boskoff of Seattle guided a group on Cho Oyu at the same time we were there; afterward, she joined our expedition as we headed for Shishapangma. From the town of Nyalam, we hiked for two days to base camp on the south side of the peak—a nearly pristine spot, in contrast to the squalor of Cho Oyu. Christine and I rested only one day at camp before heading toward the face. After a further day of rest and recon at the base, we climbed the British route in alpine style to the main summit, arriving on top the morning of October 10. We descended the same route and were back in Nyalam 12 days after we left. Andrew, Jim and Laura made a brief attempt on the face, but decided to return next fall instead.

\*A ski descent of Shishapangma's central summit by Americans Steve and Mike Marolt was made in 2000. The team, however, did not ski from the main summit of the peak.

A Korean expedition climbed the route just before us this year. It's the quickest way to the top, it seems.

CHARLIE FOWLER, *unaffiliated*

*Exploration of Unclimbed Peaks in Tibet, and Mt. Zhemazhenyon, First Ascent.* From summer to autumn of the last year of the 20th century, we explored unclimbed peaks in an unknown area of Tibet.

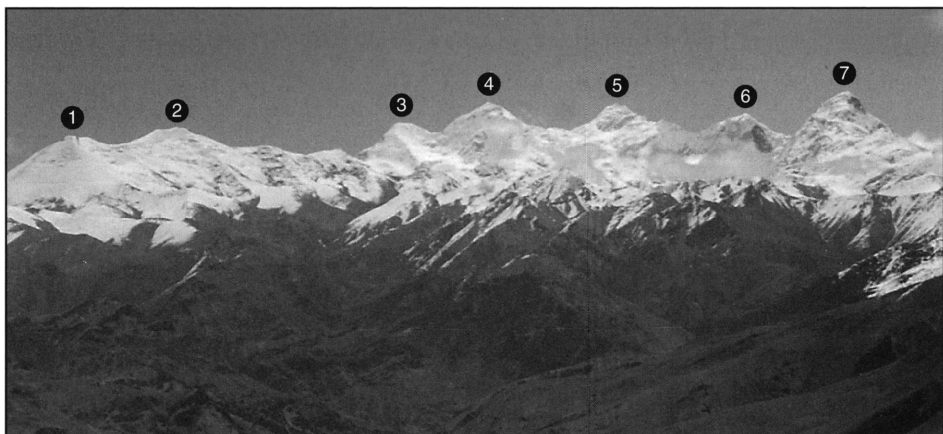
In my first plan, our target was Mt. Ruoni (6610m), the main peak of the Kangri Garpo Mountains, east of Mt. Namcha Barwa (7782m). I've been interested in this mountain since I saw a photograph in *The Glaciers of Xizang* (Tibet), which was published in the autumn of 1986 in China. We applied to the Chinese Mountaineering Association for permission to climb this mountain the very next year. After an interval of 13 years, I at last got permission.

In the summer of 2000, we had a heavy rainy season in Tibet. We could not go near Mt. Ruoni because a road to it was broken in many places, forcing us to give up. We changed our aim to Mt. Tarlha Ri (6777m), which is located near Bhutan to the east of Mt. Kula Kangri (7538m) and has no climbing records. Its height is given as 6614 meters in *The Mountains of Central Asia* and it lies almost due south of Lhasa in a big north-south mountain range of six 6000-meter peaks.

Losa (3850m), the main base, is a one-day journey from Lhasa by car. We established Base Camp at Yau Co (River) on August 8. However, we could not advance, because the condition of the glacier was very bad. We gave up this route and changed our objective to Mt. Zhemazhenyon (6480m), the northernmost peak of the range. On August 14, we made a new BC at 4800 meters on the Cu Chu. We ascended up the Cu Chu and made camps at 5400 and 5800 meters. On August 25, A. Nozawai and Y. Ota succeeded in making the first ascent of this peak. Moreover, the next day, they made the first ascent of Mt. Maisha Kangri (5993m) to the north of Mt. Zhemazhenyon.

We returned to Lhasa via Mendan, because a bridge across Cu Chu was washed away by heavy rain.

In Lhasa, N. Ozawai and I joined H. Iwazaki and M. Suzuki, who had just finished an ascent of Spantik (7027m) in Pakistan, and went to the north foot of Kula Kangri again, estab-



Peaks of the Tarlha Ri group, showing 1. Mt. Zhemazhenyon (6480m). 2. Peak 6578m. 3. Peak 6542m. 4. Tarlha Ri (6777m) 5. Xialala Kang (6682m). 6. Peak 6241m. 7. Peak 6410m. Y. Ota