
JÓZEF NYKA

Tibet and China 1993

There was a long period of fine weather in late September. A Polish-Italian-Portuguese expedition led by Krzysztof Wielicki climbed a new route on **Cho Oyu**. They started up the 1986 *Zakopane route* on the W Pillar and, from 7100m, continued direct. Wielicki and Marco Bianchi summited on 18 September and Piotr Pustelnik and Joao Garcia six days later.

The expedition members then climbed **Shisha Pangma**. Pustelnik and Bianchi climbed the 1982 British descent route (summiting on 6 October), while Wielicki soloed a fully independent new route on the 2000m S face, right of the 'Scott Gully'. He summited on 7 October after a 16hr climb. A 300m rock wall in the upper part was particularly difficult. Wielicki has now climbed ten 8000ers, including four by new routes and three first winter ascents.

One of the worst accidents of the year occurred in China's **Province Sechuan**. An eight-member Japanese team attempting the virgin **Pt 4900m** were avalanched near 4700m. Four members, including leader Shinichi Tsushima (41) were killed.

Ascents of **Everest** from Tibet are reported in the Nepal Area Notes.

Bhutan 1993

Masa Gang (7194m) Julian Freeman-Attwood and Sean Smith (UK), Steven Sustad and Ed Webster (USA) and John Lecky (Canada) hoped to attempt the unknown SW face but miserable weather made this impossible. On the E side of the mountain they reached 6100m on the *Japanese route* but turned back owing to a combination of serious objective danger higher up and persistent bad weather.

The Royal Government of Bhutan has decided to open three new peaks for expeditions: **Masa Gang (7194m)**, **Jichu Drake (6794m)** and **Khang Bum (6494m)**. In addition, royalties for virgin peaks will differ from those for peaks already climbed, as follows:

Height	Virgin US\$	Already climbed US\$
7001m+	25,000	20,000
6501m - 7000m	20,000	15,000
6100m - 6500m	15,000	10,000

Other peaks will be considered on an individual basis.