

BRITISH WINTER



TABOCHE  
EXPEDITION

THE BRITISH WINTER TABOCHE EXPEDITION

1989 /1990

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## SUMMARY

A British and West German team comprising of Roger Chippendale, Richard Emerson, Dave Etherington and Jorg Schneider. All members climbed Taboche Peak [6501m.] in Alpine style in December 1989. The mountain is situated in the Solu Khumbu region of Nepal. The summit was reached on the 11th. December by Dave Etherington & Jorg Schneider after a 2½ day ascent and a 1 day walk in from base camp. Descent was by the S.E. face and took 1½ days to base camp. The summit was also reached on the 17th. December by Roger Chippendale & Richard Emerson after a 2½ day ascent of the S.E. face and a 1 day walk in from base camp. Descent was also by the S.E. face taking 1½ days from the summit to base camp. The difficulties encountered on both routes were very similar, rock up to Alpine V, and ice up to Scottish IV+. It was the first ascent of the S.E. Ridge; and the first British and West German ascents of the Taboche.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To the following individual and bodies, we express our sincere thanks. My apologies to anybody that I have omitted.

For their financial support:

The British Mountaineering council  
The Mount Everest Foundation  
David Johnson  
Roger's School

For supplying their products free of charge:

Time Out:- Rucksacks/Fleece wear/Windsuits  
Holgates:- Chocolate bars/Welsh fudge  
Epigas:- Stoves  
Fishermans Friends

For supplying at a discount:

Summitreks Ltd. :- Coniston  
Fell & Mountain:- Accrington  
Cotswold Camping:- Manchester  
Aiguille Alpine Equipment:- Burton  
Rab Down Equipment:- Sleeping bags & duvet jackets  
Pakistan International:- Excess baggage

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## INTRODUCTION

David Etherington

In the winter of 1988 the idea of an expedition to the Himalaya was hatched between Karl Farkas and myself. Soon afterwards we found ourselves confused in the Alpine Club library in London, with thousands of mountains to choose from. A short list was drawn up. From this two mountains were chosen; Thalay Sagar in India and Thamserku in Nepal. Both mountains had attractive unclimbed big walls.

In the Autumn of 1988 I was working in Nepal on the Everest base camp trek. When I walked around the corner to Pheriche and looked up, I saw a route that made me go 'WOW!' This route was the East Face of Taboche. The route would have involved about 1200m. of very steep mixed climbing. On my return to Kathmandu I submitted an application for this route. At this stage it was unclimbed and unattempted. I was later to find that many people had looked at this line. Only three months after my application was made the line was climbed by Geoff Lowe and John Rosskelly USA.

Meanwhile Karl had received a letter back from the Indian Mountaineering Federation saying that Thalay Sagar was unavailable for Autumn 1989. On my return to the UK. Christmas 88, I quickly filled in an application to the MEF for a grant, this was sent special delivery arriving on the 30th. December 1988; the final day applications would be accepted for this particular season. We decided on Taboche, and started to look for other members. We thought that six would be a good number for this type of objective. Within two months of the permit application being submitted Roger Chippendale, Richard Emerson and Jorg Schneider had joined the expedition, all we had to do was find one more member. It was at this time that Karl was caught in an avalanche in the Alps, and having damaged his shoulder he decided to drop out of the expedition. Roger, Richard, Jorg and myself decided that we would stay as a four man team.

In February I attended one of the famous MEF interviews. This resulted in a substantial grant for the expedition and also a similar one from the BMC.

At this point we all committed our money and sent off \$500 to our agent in Nepal, Atlas Trekking, and \$584 for the peak fee. Throughout the year many attempts were made at fundraising. Information about the mountain was limited to that obtained from a previous British expedition to Taboche in the Spring of 1988.

### Insurance:

The expedition was insured through the BMC for a premium of £655.

### Visas:

The visas for Nepal were obtained through the Nepalese Embassy in London.

### Travel, Arrangements and Local Transport

The expedition started on the 26th. October 1989 for Jorg and myself . We flew PIA. to Kathmandu, via Karachi. We had arranged a baggage allowance of 30Kg. per person. Somehow we managed to arrive in Kathmandu with 140Kg. between us. Jorg and myself chose to go out a week early to sort things out but what we found is that if you have a good agent there is very little to do. A week later on 2nd. November Roger and Richard arrived with a similar amount of baggage.

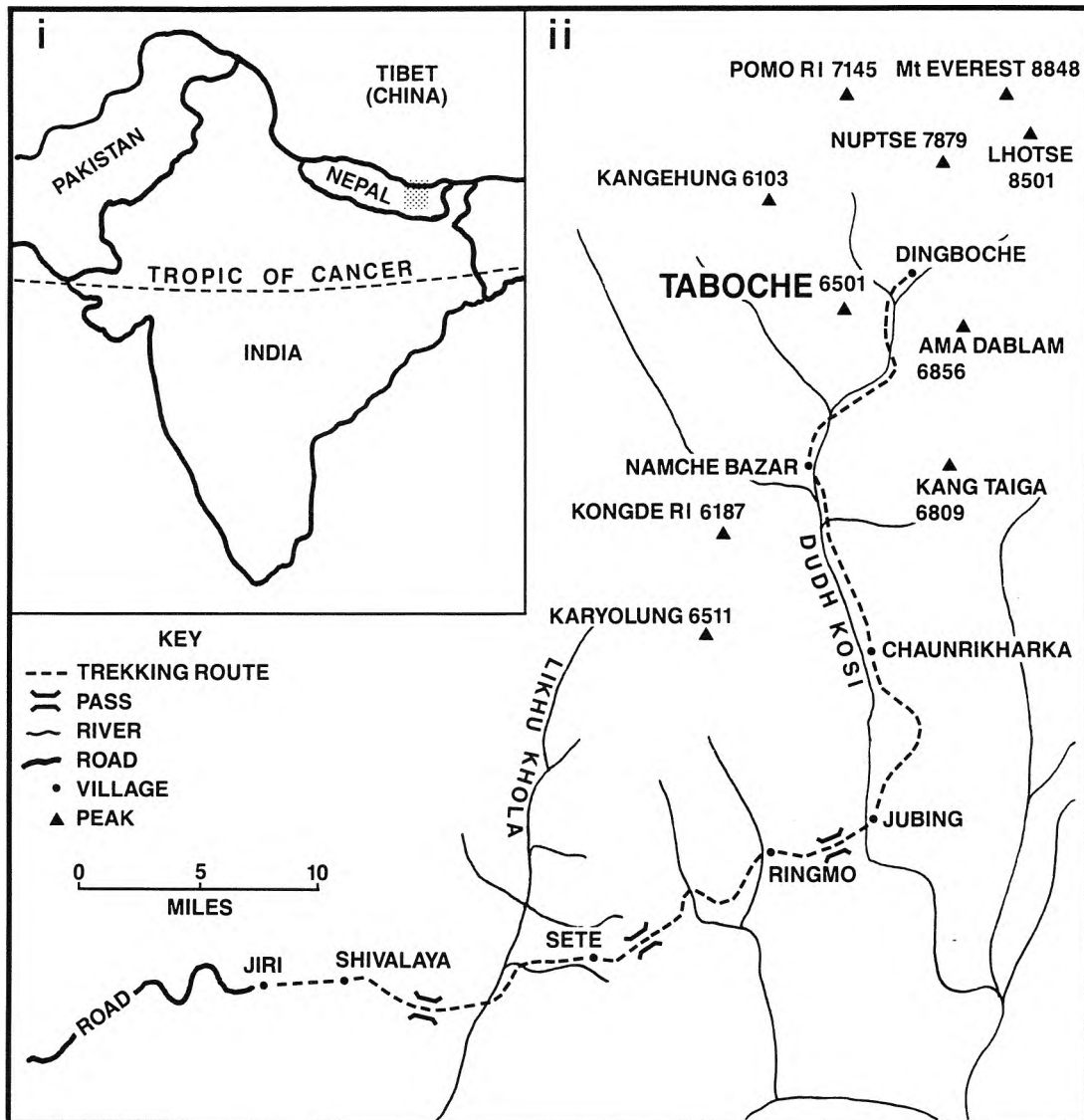
A few days after Roger and Richard had arrived we left for Jiri on the roof of the bus. The walk to our base camp follows the standard Everest Base Camp walk-in, I feel there is no need to describe that. The porters we employed in Jiri for the walk-in to Namchi carry 30kg. loads; some choose to carry 45kg. and some 60kg loads! We paid accordingly, approximately \$3 a day/load.

We arrived in Namchi on the 15th. November and continued the journey using yaks to carry the gear on to base camp, arriving on the 20th. November.

# BRITISH WINTER



# TABOCHE EXPEDITION



THE MAPS ABOVE SHOW :

- i/. The relationship of Nepal to the Indian sub-continent.
- ii/. The trekking route of the expedition into the mountains.  
The relationship of Taboche to other major Himalayan peaks.

## ROUTE CHOICE

Dave Etherington

Having arrived at Pheriche on the 18th. November we, Roger, Richard and Dave had a general look around the mountain, the East & North faces. The following day we walked up to the lakes at 5060m. below the East face, this is where we had planned to site our base camp. The position we had chosen for base camp was on the recommendation of a previous British expedition to Taboche. On our return from the lakes to Pheriche we found out that it was impossible to get the loads carried up to that site. This meant that we had to establish our base camp in the valley. A site across the river from Pheriche was chosen. Although this was not what we wanted at the start of the trip we all felt by the end of the trip that the position was perfect as a high base camp in winter, ie. 5060m., would have been too wearing from the altitude and cold.

The only line on the East face was climbed by Geoff Lowe, John Rosskelly in 8 days in mid February 1989, this was after our application to the BMC & MEF and also the Ministry of tourism in Nepal. It should be noted that our BMC & MEF grants were for the East face route, to make the first British ascent. The team felt that to come out to the Himalaya and to repeat a route was not where our interest lay.

After we found that our chosen line had been climbed we looked for other new lines on the mountain. The East Buttress was our first choice and the North Face our second. Many expeditions find that their chosen mountains look very different when standing beneath them, and we were no exception. All of us felt that the East Buttress was a two man route. At this point we decided to attempt two new routes Dave & Jorg were to take the East Buttress and Roger & Richard the North Face. Both teams failed on their original objectives for different reasons. At this point in trip we all felt that the summit was very important to us so we chose "easier" lines, one of which was a new route - These were subsequently climbed to the summit.



## ATTEMPT ON THE EAST BUTTRESS

Dave Etherington

After the decision on the 21st. November that Jorg and I were going to attempt the East buttress, we had to come to some logistical decisions about how we were going to attempt the route. In view of the fact that we had 9 days before we could start climbing we decided to establish a high camp at the lakes below the East Face @ 5060m.. Over the following four days we each made two trips with equipment up to the lakes.

The approach we had decided to take was to fix the first 227m. of the route [we bought a 227m. reel of Polish fixed rope in Kathmandu]. On the 26th. November we camped at the lakes, hoping to spend the following three days fixing the rope out on the route and returning to base each night. On the 27th. November we set off with the best intentions but as soon as we hit the snow on the glacier we were slowed down by deep soft windslab. Jorg took a short slide in a small windslab avalanche. We finally reached the col after 3½ hours [pt. 5350m.] which marked the start of the route. Needless to say we were too tired to climb and it was too late in the day, so we returned to camp. On the 28th. November we set off earlier and made better time to the col, but on arrival there it was like a storm in Scotland, we tried to climb but when we decided it wasn't Scotland we descended back to base camp.

With the 1st. December almost upon us and with no rope fixed we decided to try the route Alpine style, starting the route on the 2nd. December. At 11am. we were at the start of the route, geared up with 4 full days' food and 2 half days' food. We had opted to bivi on the route and shiver. We climbed three pitches and found a good bivi spot, dumped our rucksacks and climbed two more pitches [one Scottish V]. We then abseiled down to the bivi and left the ropes in place so we could jummar up them in the morning.

On 3rd. December we jumared the ropes, and climbed one pitch [Scott IV]. We then climbed two 25m. pitches of Scott V, these two took about four hours to climb in all. We found another good bivi here. I climbed another 45m. on very poor snow [Scott V], which took another two hours to lead. Being late in the day I abseiled back down the pitch and we bivied at 5450m.

On the morning of the 4th. December we jumared the rope and climbed another 10m.. At this point we reached the top of a tower [5500m. approx] and could see our lack of progress and an almost unclimbable knife edged ridge just in front. In all it had taken us two days of actual climbing to climb 10 pitches with 150m. of height gain. With no discussion we turned around and abseiled off; collecting the extra gear we had left at the col on the way down. We arrived back at base camp mid afternoon on the 4th. Dec.

Summary; There is some fantastic climbing on the East buttress.



## TABOCHE- SOUTH EAST RIDGE

Dave Etherington

With the realisation that we were unable to climb the East Buttress because of poor snow and slow progress, we looked around the mountain for an 'easier' line. After some lengthy discussions we decided to attempt another new route, which was attempted by the British expedition of Spring 1988. We reached base camp on the afternoon of the 4th. December, after our attempt on the East Buttress. It was not until the 7th. December that we decided that we were fit enough for another attempt; on that day we walked up to our high camp @ 5060m..

### 8th. December

Before our next attempt on the mountain we felt it was necessary to understand its layout a little bit more. I went up to the start of our proposed route to have a look around. Jorg climbed over a ridge and descended down to a lake to the South of our high camp, in order to view the SE. Face, for our descent off the mountain. This reconnaissance took most of the day. On our return to high camp we sorted out the gear we were going to need on the route. We ended up taking three and a half days' food, allowed ourselves one 250 Epigas cylinder per day, a small climbing protection rack and a small amount of personal gear.

### 9th. December

We set the alarm for 03:30 and brewed for two and a half hours and then woke up, leaving the tent at 06:00 @ 5060m.. The first hour to the start of the route was up an easy moraine ridge, then onto a small snow patch which marked the start of the route at 5300m. The first 200m. of the route is along an easy angled ridge [Alpine II/III] until a small tower is reached which is passed on the left. This brought us onto a snow shelf which we followed rightwards for 150m. until we reached a snow gully. We climbed this for 50m. taking the right hand fork for 30m. until we reached a rib on the right. We climbed the rib on its crest then on its right hand side [North] for 250m.. At this point the ridge was once again crested, this was then followed for another 100m., taking the easiest line and climbing mainly on the North side [poor snow]. At this point a small rock tower/band was reached. We climbed this on the left side at Alpine V and followed it up by a 20m. traverse to the left which brought us out onto a shoulder. We made one more traverse pitch to the left [45m.]. From here onwards we were climbing just on the left side of the ridge over very interesting mixed ground for approximately 200m.. At 16:30 and 5800m. we decided to bivi. A small but comfortable ledge was cut from the ice.

### 10th. December

We both managed to get quite a good nights sleep even though it was very cold during the night. Brewing started at about 05:00 we were finding that it was taking 30 minutes to boil  $\frac{3}{4}$  pint of water, even with our state-of-the-art stoves.

The route was now more on the SE.Face than the ridge. We continued taking the easiest line over the mixed ground. We climbed three pitches [150m.] straight up, then two pitches almost horizontal to the left. This brought us into a gully. We climbed this for 100m.. Here a difficult rock/ice step was surmounted Scottish grade IV+. The gully continued for another 100m. Where we took the left fork. This brought us out onto a open snow field which was climbed in two pitches [100m.]. We were now at the top of the SE.Face. Here there was a small glacier. We bivied next to a crevasse at 6140m., building a wall to protect us from the slight wind that was blowing.

### 11th. December

Due to favourable conditions we managed to get a good night's rest, although at times we were on the verge of uncontrollable shivering. We estimated that the night time temperature was around -30C.

We set off for the summit at 08:30 with a few sweets in our pockets, a camera, one snow stake and one 50m. rope [one rope was a mistake]. The summit pyramid is approximately 330m. high with no safe route up it. All routes have objective dangers. Our line took one of the central couliors [60'approx]. We reached the summit at 12:45 after encountering very bad wind slab on the summit ridge. We spent only ten minutes on the top before descending. We down climbed the summit pyramid, pitching it as we went. It took  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours from the summit to the bivi. A second night was spent here. This night felt a lot colder than the previous night.

### 12th. December

We woke at 05:30, Jorg and I had one brew each and then packed, leaving the bivi at 07:30. The descent route took the line of ascent until the bottom of the gully @ 5950m.. From here we took a direct line down the SE.Face. we found fixed ropes in the lower part of the Japanese coulior [these are totally unnecessary]. We reached the bottom of the face at 13:30. We descended directly to base camp reaching it at 14:45, very happy!

## ROGER AND RICHARDS CLIMBING

Richard Emerson

After the decision to split into two independent teams Roger and I concentrated our thoughts and efforts on to the North Face of the mountain, a steep broad mixed face of around 1500m. in vertical height. The first close inspection revealed runnels of glistening neve threading between rock bands and large snowfields, all very encouraging. Food and equipment were moved up to the bottom on the face ready to make an attempt and then it snowed! Three days of afternoon and evening snow from the South dumped a huge quantity of dry snow across the face, but confident that it could not stay for too long we took off for a few days and went trekking.

On our return to the North Face thing no longer looked quite so encouraging, the new snow having been blown around was windslabby on the approach to the gear dump and there was no sign of the neve that we had been so pleased to see earlier. We hoped that conditions would be better higher up the face where it was steeper and in theory should have held less snow. After a comfortable bivouac we decided that due to not feeling well we would retrace the bottom of the face and return to the B.C. that evening. Having made no more than 150m. of progress the decision was made to turn around, both of us were ill with some sort of a cold and had no energy. The walk back to B.C. took longer than usual and both of us falling asleep regularly and experiencing some very strange dreams!

Two days rest saw us feeling much stronger and we set off to the face for one final attempt. On returning to the gear we had both been thinking of an alternative line. Further right a long couloir lead to the North ridge and though we did not know the state of the ridge it seemed a reasonable way of getting high on the mountain with a good chance of following it to the summit. The gear was moved up to the base of the couloir and after I soloed up to the bergschrund to check conditions [finding neve most of the way] we settled down for the night confident that the next day would give us some good climbing. The next morning Roger had not managed to get his feet warm by the time we reached the bergschrund. The lack of sun even as a psychological boost was being felt. A short rocky step took us around the 'schrund and into the couloir where the snow was of variable and dubious quality. A further pitch of dangerous windslab with cold feet prompted the "down" decision with the compensation that we could move onto the S.E. side of the mountain where the snow would be in better condition and we could at least have some sunshine. We descended, packed our equipment and rubbish and descended to B.C. Nothing at all was left on the face or the approach to it.

Our conclusion to Himalayan N.Face climbing in winter is don't! the cold would be bearable if on expected to get even one hour of sunshine sometime in the day; The knowledge that you will be in the shade and the cold for several days is

certainly not appealing or conducive to making major commitment. alongside the cold factor is the is the snow conditions. The lack of sun means that fresh snow does not consolidate, it became both dangerous and unpleasant as soon as we had a substantial fall of snow at the end of November. The conditions showed little improvement over the two weeks of our involvement with the face.

The decision having been made to abandon the N.face, we returned to B.C. and began preparations for a route somewhere on the S.E. face. Dave and Jorg were high up on their route and we left B.C. intending to take a line to left of them. On reaching the lake beneath the S.E. face we decided to repeat the existing Japanese route and settled down for a bivi on a small beach at an altitude of around 5100m. That night snow fell and as the weather did not look promising in the morning we left our gear again and returned to B.C.to wait for a clear spell. The weather looked better two days later and along with time running out prompted our return to the face.

The route started above and to the left of the lake up a narrow mixed groove which gave access to a large boulder/scree slope. This was followed to a large 60m. icefall, the top of which was level with a prominent snow field. At the apex of the snowfield we followed a mixed and very broken ramp leftwards for three ropelengths to the base of a broad couloir. That day three more pitches up ever steepening and improving ice brought us into the early evening and beneath a rock buttress, less than satisfactory ledges were hacked out.

Day three began and continued with excellent mixed and pure ice pitches between Scottish 3 and 4, long runouts, good belays and near perfect ice ensured a great day. By 2:00pm. we arrived tired but pleased on the ridge. A further hour up the broad glacial ridge took us to D and J's bivi below the summit pyramid which we utilised that night and the next. The following day with no sacks we left the bivi and soloed up to the bottom of the fluted headwall. Again the ice and snow were perfect and we took a couloir to the right of the one D and J climbed, exiting on the summit ridge at about midday. Snow conditions on the summit ridge were very dangerous so we descended from our exit point after the obligatory photo session.

Returning to the bivi at 2:30pm. we decided it was to late to descend further and spent the afternoon drinking and resting. the final day was spent abseiling down the face and walking down to B.C. we arrived late afternoon tired but happy with our efforts and results.

The route had turned out to be much more steep and technical than had been anticipated. Many lessoned were learnt but the most important fact of all was the safe success of the entire team.



LOBUCHE PEAK    EAST SUMMIT    Jorg Schneider

ascent by: Dave Etherington  
          Jorg Schneider

After having reached the summit of Taboche Peak and having obtained permission to climb Lobuche Peak - East, we left Taboche Peak base camp near Pheriche village on 16th. December. We stayed one night in Lobuche village.

17th. December:-

Due to our lack of information and miss directions we went onto the lower part of the Lobuche glacier, expecting to see the route from there. After we realised that we had gone wrong we climbed up to a small col [pt.5365m.] to the North of the couloir. From here we could see the route. After five hours walking we finally bivied at 5200m. at the base of the route.

18th. December:-

We left the bivi at 07:30 hours and climbed the couloir [7 pitches, Dave leading all except one], reaching the top on the SSE. ridge at 14:00 hours [5650m.] We soloed to the East summit, which was reached at 16:00 hours [6120m.]. Descent via SSE. ridge [normal way] to "high camp" below the glacier [17:30 hours - 5300m.].

19th. December:-

Descent to Taboche base camp via Lobuche village. Dave returned to base camp at 11:40am.. Jorg reached base camp at 13:30 after attending to an altitude sick Australian trekker.

WEATHER: Generally good, with some confusing but ignored high clouds.

Temp: Cold.

## FUND RAISING

RICHARD EMERSON

As with any expedition one of the major headaches is cost. With personal funds limited some form of sponsorship seemed essential and so we set about trying to develop interest within businesses in the North West. We are very grateful for the production of a professional expedition brochure designed by David Clunas and printed by Tim Mills. With this brochure and a well composed introductory letter we chose around 35 local [or National companies with a large involvement in the N.W.] companies and using named contacts where possible started our first mailshot. Predictably the results were disappointing, we received around a 50% reply rate all of which were negative.

The investment of time, money and energy in this kind of approach seems out of proportion to the likelihood of a positive result and so a different tack was called for. Through a company three of us do freelance work for, we were offered the use of their public agents. Whitefriars of Chester produced a press release, organised a team photograph and circulated this to North West newspapers. The press release concluded with a request for financial sponsorship but again we received no positive responses. It was rapidly becoming obvious that without the advantage of a "Big name" [peak or team member], putting in much more time, money and energy or a very lucky break we were going to be funding the project largely from our own pockets.

Financial support was however given by the British Mountaineering Council, the Mount Everest Foundation, Roger's school and a kind personal donation from David Johnson. This support helped greatly offset the financial burden on the team members. Furthermore our help with free equipment from Time Out and Epigas along with substantial discounts from Summitreks of Coniston, Fell and Mountain of Accrington and Cotswold Camping of Manchester helped stretch an already tight budget.

In conclusion it seems that many factors influence the results of fundraising efforts but the most important ones appear to be luck, contacts and a "big name".



MEDICAL REPORT      Jorg Schneider

1. MEMBERS.

1a. pre-expedition checks, immunisation.

Before departure all members were advised to get their teeth checked, to update their tetanus prophylaxis and to get any current diseases cleared.

Immunisation programme:

- Typhoid
- meningitis
- gamma globulin

1b. KATHMANDU AND THE WALK-IN:

diarrhoea - flu-like illness requiring antibiotic treatment on several occasions.

1c. BASE CAMP AND THE MOUNTAIN:

- headache            ? lack of fluid, ? altitude.
- diarrhoea            not requiring treatment.
- severe cold/bronchitis/chest infections treated with antibiotics and throat lozenges.
- superficial frostbite on two fingers after the ascent of Taboche.
- loss of sensation in big toes ?cold ?pressure of plastic boots.
- photodermatis triggered by the local plants -one case no treatment.
- one member was on maintenance treatment with Thyroxine this caused no problems.

Overall the biggest problem was the cold wind combined with the dry air leading to long standing sore throats. Treatment was throat lozenges like Fishermans Friends and Tunes.

2. OTHER TREKKERS/CLIMBERS.

During the days of the Everest marathon I was working for two days in the "hospital" of the Himalayan Rescue association in Pheriche.

The number of trekkers with symptoms of altitude sickness was alarmingly high. This was due to lack of knowledge of symptoms and fast ascents, tight time schedules for groups etc. Three Japanese trekkers died in the Gokyo valley during our

stay in the area. After developing symptoms of altitude sickness the three trekkers were carried onwards with their group to higher altitude. Two of them died before the helicopter arrived and the third one died in the helicopter on the journey to Kathmandu.

In Pheriche I saw High Altitude Pulmonary and Cerebral Oedema. The available Gamov Pressure bag was very efficient in treating the disease and improving the the state of the patients. After achieving a stable condition the patients could walk to a lower altitude without assistance and they were advised to stay there for some days and then to either reascend carefully or to abandon the trek.

Minor problems were diarrhoea and vomiting, infected blisters, another case of photodermatitis and a sprained/broken ankle with one of the marathon runners.

#### MEDICAL KITS:

1. EXPEDITION KITS.
2. WALK-IN KITS: for each climber, containing wound dressings bandages, painkillers, fishermans friends and loperamide [imodium].
3. HILL KITS: for each party. similar to the walk-in kits but with stronger painkillers and without loperamide.
4. THE HOSPITAL: Pheriche was well stocked with drugs from rich expeditions to the big mountains. Bottled oxygen to supplement the treatment of high altitude sickness seemed to be short.

## EXPEDITION FOOD

Roger Chippendale

### Introduction:

Food is such an emotive issue even in the comfortable, familiar home environment, once away from that environment it takes on an importance central to ones entire existence. It is therefore with the greatest consideration to the team members usually peculiar tastes that the food for an extended trip away from the U.K. should be planned. However due to the limitations of modern air travel, it is only a percentage of the Hillfood that can be obtained in Britain and carried out to the mountains. It is with this limitation that the trips food can be sub divided into three separate distinct units.

1. The Walk-in Food.
2. The Basecamp Food.
3. The Hill Food.

### FOOD: The Walk-in

During the walk-in the expedition members eat and slept in the profusion of lodges and tea houses along the trail, therefore no special food considerations need to be given to this part of the trip. However the usual precautions should be taken as when travelling in any third world country.

### FOOD: Basecamp

Since Nepalese mountaineering regulations dictate that you should employ a certain number of local staff, starting with the Sirdar and Cookboy in Kathmandu, it makes sense to use there expertise in the purchase of the basecamp food. In reality the hired staff are much more experienced in buying basecamp foodstuffs for expeditions and their knowledge should be tapped.

It is at the buying stage in Kathmandu that the importance of luxury foods should not be underestimated for boosting or maintaining moral at basecamp, if you think that you might crave something no matter how trivial, it is worth carrying it into basecamp.

Your kitchen staff at basecamp will cook a selection of dishes that will inevitably become routine, it is important to communicate with them to lessen this effect.

### FOOD: Hillfood

It is in this area that a mountaineering trip to the "Big hills" can be jeopardised, much thought and advise is needed before any foods can be obtained. A great amount of research needs to be undertaken into high altitude nutrition before any

menus can be prepared, the members need to be aware of the amounts and types of nutrients needed to maintain the high altitude body, coupled with this the need to prevent dehydration, which is of equal importance. Below are listed three sample menus for the meals of the day.

Breakfast:

1 litre of hot jelly [Rowntrees]  
1 litre of hot chocolate [Cadburys]  
1 Yorkie bar [warmed in sleeping bag]  
1 packet of Tunes.  
2 Holgates bars.

Lunch:

1 packets of Tunes.  
3 Holgates bars.  
1 Yorkie bar.  
1 packet of Holgates Welsh fudge.

Dinner:

2 Raven meals, plus 1 meal supplement  
2 packet soups [Bachelors]  
2 litres of hot chocolate [Cadburys]  
1 Yorkie bar.  
2 Holgates bars.  
1 pudding [Backpackers pantry] American product  
obtained in Nepal.

Of the above mentioned products some deserve a special consideration:

The Tunes were a great help in keeping the throat moist thus reducing the throat drying out, and a subsequent sore throat and racking altitude cough.

The Holgates bars were amazing in their ability to be eaten at any temperature without breaking your teeth also the wide variety of flavours and types reduce the monotony factor.

Raven have improved their products which are now viable and tasty proposition, they do however take up to 5 minutes to rehydrate at altitude, which obviously uses up more valuable gas. The salt content in these meals and in the packet soups is however extremely important to counter the inevitable dehydration.

Holgates.  
Tywyn.  
Gwynedd.  
Wales.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

David Etherington

### Expedition Accounts

#### Expenditure

##### In England

peak fee & agents fee	£ 650
transport	£ 60
air fares 4x£460	£1840
mountain food exported	£ 153
camera film	£ 243
insurance	£ 655
windsuit patterns	£ 70
team equipment	£1015
administration	£ 55
Total	<u>£4741</u>

##### In Nepal

BC food	£ 340
BC. kitchen stores & tent	£ 152
BC. fuel	£ 110
gas for mountain	£ 145
fixed rope	£ 87
money for staff equipment [3 staff]	£ 743
portage	£ 668
food & accommodation in lodges	£ 476
food & accommodation for staff	£ 127
wages for the staff	£ 254
telephone	£ 15
transport to the Jiri	£ 67
flight Lukla to Kathmandu	£ 191
Total	<u>£3375</u>

Total expenditure £8116

#### Income

Mount Everest Foundation	£ 500
The British Mountaineering Council	£ 600
David Johnson	£ 50
Roger's school	£ 25
Total	<u>£1175</u>

Members contributions 4x£1735 £6940

Total income £8115

The following is a potted history of climbs and attempts on Taboche.

	<u>DATE</u> <u>SEASON</u>	<u>NATIONALITY</u> <u>OF CLIMBERS</u>	<u>ROUTE</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
<u>Names:</u> Taboche Tawoche Tawache	1963 spr.	New Zealand U.S.	SE Face	unsuccessful
<u>Location:</u> Kumbu	1974 spr	French	SE Face	1st-2nd-3rd ascents
<u>N.of Thyang</u> <u>-boche</u>	1982 aut	Swiss	N.Ridge	unsuccessful
	1983 spr	British	N.E Ridge	unsuccessful
	1984 spr	U.S. Japanese	E.Face	unsuccessful
	1985 spr	Japanese	S.E.Face/ S.E.Ridge	4th.ascent
	1985 win	S.Korean- Japanese	S.E.Face/ S.E.Ridge	5th.ascent 1 DEAD
	1987 aut	British-US.	S.E.Face/ S.E.Ridge	unsuccessful
	1987 win	U.S.	Had permission but made no attempt to climb	
	1988 spr	British	E.Ridge/ E.Face	unsuccessful
	1988 win	U.S.	E.Face up SE.Face dwn.	6th.ascent
	1989 win	British W.German	NE.Buttress N. Face E.Ridge up SE.Face dwn SE.Face	unsuccessful unsuccessful 7th. ascent 8th. ascent