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# British Masherbrum

MEF/91/23 Expedition 1991

4/12/91

c/o High Adventure 91 Telford Avenue London SW2 4XN Tel 081 674 8997

Dear Mr Rutherford,

I am very sorry that a combination of circumstances have delayed my report on the above expedition. This shall be produced as soon as possible. Meanwhile I submit the following brief account for your records.

Dates :

Dept UK	-12	Aug
Establish BC	-18	Aug
Camp 1	-21	Aug
Camp 2	-26	Aug
Camp 3	-27	Aug
Camp 4	-8	Sept
Camp 4a	-10	Sept
High Point (7300m)	-	14 Sept
Dept BC	-	21 Sept
Arrive UK	-	27 Sept

- 4 person team

- weather breakdown - (15 Aug - 24 Sept)
  - Good weather - 21 days
  - Fair weather - 7 days
  - Bad weather - 11 days

## Conclusion:

The decision to go to the mountains very late in the season was fully justified by the amount of good weather encountered. Temperatures on the mountain were not found to be greatly different from those previously encountered during July/Aug. However above 6,500m, temperatures were colder than expected.

The expedition leader's 5 years experience working in this area meant that none of the usual food/gear/porter/L.O. problems were encountered & all admin matters went very smoothly. Similarly tactics on the mountain would not be changed if another attempt were to be contemplated.

The expedition would have had a very good chance of success if the individual team members had been stronger. Of the 9 climbers only 4 acclimatised properly and quickly. The other 5 suffered from illness & altitude to such an extent that their contribution to the ascent was limited.

Despite this a two man summit push from Camp 4a (6,500m) was made with a good chance of success - until a storm blew in and forced the very extended lead team to turn back - largely because of lack of back up & exhaustion.