

# View from the Summit

by Sir Edmund Hillary (1999)

Above 24,000' the simplest tasks take a long time as oxygen starved brain & muscles struggle to cooperate, and unfortunately some make fatal decisions. They were encouraged to drink lots of liquids to avoid dehydration. They carried over 50 lbs each. They need long ladders to get across the deep crevasses. He felt Switzerland was the most beautiful country.

1865 Mt Everest was named after Welch surveyor George Everest  
WWI he served in the Royal New Zealand Air Force  
1948 he was 1<sup>st</sup> to climb south ridge to Mt. Cook, New Zealand [12,349']  
1949 China took control of Tibet & closed the borders  
1951 he climbed in the Himalayas [22,180']  
4jan58 his team was the 1<sup>st</sup> to reach south pole by land since 1912 [using snow-cats]  
29may53 he & Sherpa Tenzing Norgay were the first to reach the top of Mt. Everest [29,029']  
1959 the Dalai Lama & 80,000 Tibetan refugees left Tibet  
1960 he led an expedition in a failed search of the Yeti [Abominable Snowman]  
1960's he became a camping equipment advisor to Sears [they sent his family around the US]  
1975 his wife & child were killed in a plane crash  
1977 he led a jet boat expedition 1500 miles up the Ganges River  
1985 he became the 1<sup>st</sup> man to be on north [by plane] & south poles & Mt Everest  
1989 the Tengboche Monastery burned to the ground & was rebuilt  
1990 his son made it to the top of Mt Everest  
He helped build schools & clinics to give back to the people of Nepal.  
Twice his life was saved when he missed his flight & the plane crashed.

Note: some dates above were found on the internet [not the book]

Today it is a 39-mile hike from Lukla to south base camp. Today base camp = 17,600'; camp 1 = 20,000'; camp 2 = 21,000'; camp 3 = 24,000' & camp 4 = 26,000'  
Edmund Hillary was born 20jul 1919 & died 11jan 2008

Books: The Worst Journey in the World (Apsley Cherry-Garrard)