

our admiration for the redoubtable Sherpas. We also feel that the people of the West have been brought a little closer to the people of the East by the joint victory won by you and by your companion from New Zealand. Please accept my sincere congratulations."

Specially made Canadian sleeping bags, which had been used by Mr. Eric Shipton on his reconnaissance of Mount Everest in 1951 and in his assault on a neighbouring Himalayan mountain in 1952, were purchased by the Royal Geographical Society for the twelve climbing members of the expedition which conquered Everest last month. The bags, on which the expedition has reported favourably, are similar to those which form part of the R.C.A.F.'s arctic equipment but are designed to give greater warmth because of the difficulty of conserving body heat at very high altitudes.

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