



PR Newswire

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Global Rescue evacuates climber in the Himalayas; search for Argentine alpinist unsuccessful

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Search and rescue parties have stopped looking for climber Dario Bracali, ten days after the Argentine made a solo attempt to summit Mt. Dhaulagiri, the world's seventh-tallest peak. Bracali's climbing partners last saw him on May 3, departing from camp 3, located at 7,400 meters above sea level.

Teams from Global Rescue LLC, in coordination with the Himalaya Rescue Association Nepal (HRAN), successfully evacuated Bracali's Argentine climbing partner who suffered severe frostbite and exposure after spending the night in an open bivouac. In addition to using helicopters and a Sherpa-led team who searched the mountain for Bracali, Global Rescue sent two mountain rescue specialists to Nepal to coordinate logistics and aid in the effort. Bad weather and an airspace closure for the Olympic torch's ascent up Mt. Everest resulted in repeated delays. The teams ultimately found no trace of Bracali.

The climbers were part of an expedition filming a documentary on Dhaulagiri, widely considered to be more technically challenging than Everest. It is the site of one of Nepal's worst mountaineering disasters in which seven climbers died after an ice-bridge collapsed into a crevasse in 1969. Dhaulagiri has claimed the lives of two other Argentines: Francisco Ibañez in 1954 and Mario Serrano in 1981. A Spanish climber, Rafael Carrion, also perished on May 9 when he slid into a crevasse.

Global Rescue is a Boston-based crisis-response company that performs medical and security evacuations worldwide. The company has a partnership with Johns Hopkins Medicine, the #1 ranked hospital in the U.S. for the past 17 consecutive years. In addition to the Himalayan operation, Global Rescue has recently performed evacuation missions from Lebanon, Qatar, Mexico, Ghana, Togo and Argentina.