Llongote and Virgen de la Merced.); the two peaks south of Cotoni and northeast of Base Camp, from north to south, Joaquín Folch (5412 meters or 17,756 feet) and Tuctuni (5327 meters or 17,477 feet); the peaks which lie north of Base Camp in a semicircle around Ticllacocha, counterclockwise from the southwestern end, Pichahuacra (5490 meters or 18,012 feet), Punta Margalida (5250 meters or 17,225 feet), Cotoni (5817 meters or 19,085 feet), Atahualpa (5400 meters or 17,717 feet), Pedro Acuña (5360 meters or 17,586 feet), Sant Jordi (5460 meters of 17,914 feet), Rosa de Lima (5460 meters or 17,914 feet), Verdaguer (5390 meters or 17,684 feet) and Manuel Falla (5380 meters or 17,651 feet). (The last two summits of the chain were not climbed.) In the northernmost of three outliers from the main chains to the east we climbed Pica d'Estats (5200 meters or 17,061 feet) and in the southernmost Quepala Norte (5350 meters or 17,553 feet) and Quepala Sur (5360 meters or 17,586 feet). On Llongote we had to bivouac at 18,700 feet.

During the second phase of our expedition we left the town of Chiquián and after three days' march reached the Caruacocha at the foot of the Cordillera Huayhuash, where we established Base Camp. There followed several days of exploration on the heavily crevassed Yerupajá Glacier. Finally in two days of climbing we placed our high camp at 17,700 feet near the col between Yerupajá and Siulá Grande. It took Pons, Muñoz and me four days and three bivouacs at 19,700 feet to reach the summit of the Nevado Siulá Grande (20,863 feet) on July 23 (first ascent by A. Awerzger and E. Schneider, July 28, 1936). It was a new route of extreme difficulty on the east face, which involved a snow and ice couloir of some 3000 feet rise and angles which reached 85°. Almost all the rope-lengths had to be belayed with ice screws and pitons. The descent was made down the dangerous northwest ridge, the first-ascent route.

The scientific group excavated archeological sites near Assoguine-Cata on Lake Titicaca and in the necropolis of Tablada de Lurin near Lima, made ethnological studies between the different ethnic and racial groups of the coast, the highlands and the jungles. Sr. Eudaldo Serra made eight anthropological sculptures.

JOSÉ-MANUEL ANGLADA, *Club Montañés Barcelonés*

*Attempt on Yerupajá, Cordillera Huayhuash.* Geoffrey S. Wood, Christopher J. Smith and I established Base Camp at 16,400 feet on the glacier, hoping to attack Jirishanca Norte from the west. Prior to this we had had a few very windy days with some snow, but the weather stayed superbly fine for a month afterwards. It took us a long time, about two weeks, to reach Base Camp from Soltero Kocha partly because we carried our own

loads without porters and partly because of reconnaissance and difficulty of finding a suitable route. On June 28 we pitched Camp II at "Ghost Col" (17,635 feet) at the foot of the northwest wall of Yerupajá Chico. Getting there up the icefall with supplies was not entirely easy, as is known by previous Peruvian groups which tried to reach the airplane that crashed from the west into the wall just south of Jirishanca. Camp II put us into a good climbing position. We first walked down (north) to inspect the flutings on the northwest side of Jirishanca Norte. Not only were they as steep and long as we had expected, but they were also everywhere overhung by cornices. Moreover much rock showed in the lower and middle parts. It was vertical with few or no piton cracks, or slanted with a cover of *verglas.* Though equipped with expansion bolts, we decided against trying to force a route here on account of the danger of falling ice. (Later we observed avalanches here.) After our disappointing discovery, we sought other routes, but there are few if any safe ones from the west. We finally decided to approach the main peak of Jirishanca from the west-southwest. This would involve climbing the fluted wall near the crashed plane before ascending the high angle rock of Jirishanca, clearly a very difficult enterprise. In two days we worked our way up one-third of the fluted wall, establishing a fixed-rope route. The average angle of the ice was 60°, though in places it was vertical and required artificial aid. The highest point reached here, on June 30, was a big crevasse suitable for a camp at about 18,000 feet. However when we started to move up supplies, a small ice and snow avalanche nearly swept the lead man off. He was hit hard, but thanks to fixed rope, helmet and rucksack, avoided serious injury. Convinced that the route was unsafe, we rappelled off.

Though time was short, we turned to Yerupajá (21,759 feet). On the evening of July 3 we were bivouacked on the Yerupajá Glacier, equipped with food for eight days, a minimum of climbing gear, no tents, no fixed ropes. We had decided to try the northwest flank, on the edge between the big western snow and ice face and the nearly vertical triangular northern rock face. A sharp snow ridge leads into the face at about a third of the way from the glacier to the summit. Then 45°+ ice leads for over 1000 feet to gentler but irregular areas of broken ice and snow. About two-thirds of the way up, a large bergschrund cuts horizontally across the whole west face. Above are flutings, some overhung by gigantic cornices. We hoped to climb between two of these to gain the northern part of the summit ridge. Actually, the climb was harder and longer than we expected. The snow ridge alone took an extra day. We built two snow caves in it. During the night in the first one, we were shaken by an earthquake, which caused avalanches all over Yerupajá. After the snow ridge, we climbed at

least 1000 feet of hard water-ice, exposed to falling debris, but without incident. Our highest camp, in an enormous cave under hanging ice, was at about 19,500 feet. On July 9 we reached our highest point at about 20,500 feet in the big schrund under the flutings. Out of both time and supplies, we were committed to return. It was clear that we could not have reached the summit without an additional camp or bivouac in the schrund. We were higher than all surrounding peaks, including Jirishanca. Before setting foot again on the Yerupajá Glacier on July 11, we observed an enormous avalanche which swept the south side of Yerupajá's western face and covered all of the big glacier below with ice blocks up to 6½ feet high. Future expeditions must beware of the inviting big, flat glacier west of the peak. Wood and I reconnoitered the area north of Pico México and ascended the rock ridge (16,400 feet) north of Rondoy on July 16. We saw two lakes not on Kinzl's Huayhuash map and were practically forced to retreat by seven hostile condors.

LEIF NORMAN PATTERSON, *Harvard Mountaineering Club*

*Rondoy, Cordillera Huayhuash.* Tragedy struck the London School of Economics Expedition during the descent of six of its members from the first ascent of Rondoy (19,303 feet) when Peter C. Bebbington, leader, and Graham Sadler fell to their deaths. This extremely difficult peak had been attempted by an Italian expedition in 1961. Walter Bonatti and Andrea Oggioni had reached the north summit but declined to follow the ridge to the main peak. (*A.A.J.*, 1962, 13:1, pp. 258-9.) The British group was plagued by bad weather. On their first attempt, Bebbington, Sadler, and the New Zealanders Victor M. Walsh and Peter Farrell from near Mitukocha (lake) climbed through an icefall to 16,500 feet, where they pitched Camp I, but further progress was barred by a storm. On the next attempt these four climbed a snow and ice slope above Camp I. Farrell describes the climb in the *Peruvian Times* of August 23. "The 2000-foot face gave us little trouble, but we struck very severe climbing while trying to gain the ridge just below the North peak. Our climbing aids, pitons and nylon slings, got us over a lot of difficulty on the vertical, sometimes overhanging ice. Just as the sun was about to desert us, Walsh, who was leading at the time, found us accommodation for the night. This was an ice cave, below the North summit, at about 18,500 feet. The following day called for more technical climbing. The last 100 feet to the North summit was made up of more near-vertical ice — to make things worse, it was rotten and crumbling in parts. From the North summit, we were aghast to find the high peak so distant, more than half a mile away, along a dangerously narrow corniced ridge. By late afternoon