

which they hoped to climb to the col between Paine Norte (9055 feet) and Paine Grande (10,007 feet). The wall is 2500 feet high; the key is a 1000-foot perpendicular rock wall. They fixed ropes to the top of the wall. Miyashita fell 100 feet and had to be evacuated. He had only light bruises and was soon back. On January 17 route making was begun again on the west wall. On the 19th Miyashita, Matsuzawa and Shirokura attacked virgin Cerro Olgúin (7546 feet) and climbed it. (This is hard to identify. There is a Cordón Olgúin on the map. — *Editor*.) Two pairs made unsuccessful attempts of several days on the wall but were driven back by bad weather. On January 29 Matsuzawa and Kohata set out in weak wind and no snowfall. Though the weather began to change, they climbed the wall to the fourth snowfield, where they bivouacked. On the 30th they traversed the fourth snowfield and in three pitches gained the fifth. The storm grew more furious. The ice under the crest was very hard. At two P.M. they reached the crest and easier climbing. Then the crest changed into a steep ice wall. The summit was a 65-foot mushroom of snow. At 6:30 they completed the first ascent of Paine Norte. They bivouacked on the descent and got to Camp I after the first day of fine weather on the mountain. They made 50 rappels. On February 1 Adachi and Shirokura set out for Paine Central, inspecting the fixed ropes. Finally on February 3 the two made the third ascent of Paine Central. The Dickson Glacier party meanwhile had reconnoitered that glacier. There were colossal seracs and rains and strong winds. At times they could see Cerro Cubo (9596 feet) at the end of the glacier through stormy clouds. Cerro Cubo appears like an inversed bucket with steep walls all around it. As they climbed higher the glacier grew worse with big crevasses and building-sized ice pinnacles. Camp V was established on a rock island. Two attacks were beaten back. A last attempt on January 29 was forced back 1000 feet from the top. At any rate, they were satisfied with the first reconnaissance and brief surveying with a transit and photographs.

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*Crossing the Northern Continental Icecap.* The expedition of Rokko Jesuit High School in Kobe consisted of Isao Ikawa, Mimio Matsunaga, Shuji Iwata, Hiroyuki Maekawa and myself as leader. On December 22, 1968 we all gathered in Puerto Eden and waited there for the boat to take us to Fiordo Exmouth. On January 5 Father Baeremaecker, S.J., arrived with his boat. On the 6th and 7th he carried us and our baggage to the fjord, past the Glacier Pío XI, which we had hoped to ascend but which was too cut up. It was three miles from Fiordo Exmouth to the Icecap at 4600 feet through bushes and forest and ending with a 1600-foot rock

face. Though it rained every day, by January 26 we had established Camp IV on the Icecap, having carried up 1325 lbs. of supplies. Having put together the sledge, we started the crossing on January 28. There was snow, sleet and mist every day, but still no wind to speak of. We had to carry half the baggage on the sledge at one time. After marching by compass for half a day, we made a depot and returned to our tents. The next day we packed up camp and took the rest of the supplies despite the bad weather. From February 1 to 3 we had the only clear days of our 61 days of travel. To our north and east were Lautaro and Mariano Moreno, 3 miles away. To the south, where we were heading, was the Cordón Riso Patrón. On the 8th we pitched Camp VIII at the foot of the pass to the Argentine. After one storm on February 15 we were camped on the pass at 6500 feet. We hoped for a chance to climb Riso Patrón. On February 16 Matsunaga and Maekawa headed southwest on skis across the plateau towards six peaks. They climbed the farthest one, which they had thought was the highest, but on top they saw another higher one, for which they had neither time or weather. On February 18 a Patagonian storm hit. We moved a little on the 19th with our baggage, now 650 lbs. After that we could not move for ten days. Ten feet of snow fell in three days with 65 mph winds. Although we saved food, on February 28 we were reduced to seven days' food, and we would need seven days to get to Estancia Cristina. Though it was still snowing, we set out on the morning of March 1 by compass. In the afternoon we could see blue sky and Fitz Roy in the north. We were saved. We descended south down the Upsala Glacier on March 2 through 5. We left the glacier, sure it was the valley of Cristina. On the 6th we abandoned the tent, believing we would be at Estancia Cristina that same day. We reached the crest of a ridge and looked down into the valley of Cristina. There we saw Lago Anita. It took about half a day to reach the valley by getting down a 1000-foot rock wall. We got to the *estancia* only the next day at three P.M., where we were kindly received by Mr. Masters and his family.

HIDETARO SAKAGAMI, *Rokko Gakuin Alpine Club*

*Southern Patagonian Icecap.* The ninth Argentine-Slovene Expedition was made up of A. Nikolic, E. Curioni, M. Serrano, Pedro Skvarca and me. Our activity was in two phases. In the first we explored and climbed peaks to the west of the Glacier Upsala. On January 9, 1970 we made the first ascent of three mountains: Cerro Bertachi (c. 8530 feet), Cerro 29 de Octubre (c. 8530 feet) and Cerro Santa Cruz. Serrano and I made the climbs, all on ice and snow, technically easy but far into the icecap and so