

was far more broken up than photographs taken prior to the earthquake would indicate. Several days were spent attempting to overcome or circumvent the lower ice mushroom (18,700 feet), the base of which was a bergschrund leading to direct aid ice climbing. Meanwhile, Janney and I climbed to within a few yards of the summit of P 5369 (17,615 feet), east of the col. The excellent view we had of the ridge confirmed our suspicion that similar technical difficulties could be found below each mushroom. We had hoped to climb it alpine-style and were not prepared for a siege. The attempt was abandoned on July 30 and we returned to Huaraz via Chavín in one long day from Base Camp.

JAMES MORRISSEY

*Purísima.* Our expedition to the Ruri Chinchey was plagued by bad weather. We failed to climb objectives at the head of the valley. Finally on July 13, the first day of really good weather in several weeks, Hugh Thompson, Harry Eldridge, Eric White and Glicerio Henostroza made the second ascent of Purísima, of which Glicerio and Eustaquio Henostroza, Rómulo Aranda and I had made the first ascent in 1968.

H. ADAMS CARTER

*Pongos Group and Chopicalqui.* The German Naturfreunde (Friends of Nature) was led by Rolf Röcker and composed W. Weber, F. Wibmer, H. Güner, W. Hummel, Dr. Schwenkglenks, P. Schiml and me. We first climbed nearly all the peaks in the Pongos group from a high camp at 14,750 feet in the Quebrada Queshque. All members climbed Pongos Sur (18,737 feet) on June 3, a third ascent by a new route, the north ridge. On May 27 Wibmer and Hummel made the second ascent of Queshque (17,924 feet) by the south face. All other climbs were first ascents.\* These were every peak on the ridge starting southwest from Pongos Sur: Karacuta (17,750 feet) via north face and P 5320 (17,454 feet) both on May 17 by Hummel, Fritz; Acoraju (17,149 feet) via north face, P 5190 (17,028 feet), P 5180 (16,995 feet) and P 5200 (17,061 feet) all three by southwest ridges on May 18 by Röcker, Weber; P 5100 (16,733 feet) via north face on June 7 by Fritz, Schiml; Acorumi Norte (16,697 via north face on May 14 by Röcker, Weber; P 5040 (16,536 feet) via west ridge on May 14 by Güner, Schiml; Acorumi Central (16,611 feet) via southwest ridge on May 14 by Schwenkglenks; Acorumi Sur (16,601 feet) via west ridge on May 15 by Hummel, Fritz; every peak south to north on the ridge north of Pongos Sur: P 5280 (17,323 feet), Cayacpunta (17,536 feet) and P 5315 (17,438 feet) by south ridges on May 25 by Hummel, Fritz, Wibmer, Röcker, Schiml; P 5250 (17,225 feet) via west face on May 22 by Wibmer, Schiml; P 5320 (17,454

\*Several of these had already been ascended. Giobbi climbed Jatunllacsha in the mid-1960s. Loyacpani, the first snow-capped peak north of Pongos Sur, was climbed by Terborgh, Diamond, Jamanca on July 9, 1963 — *Evelio Echevarría*.

feet), P 5350 (17,553 feet) and P 5400 (17,717 feet) all by east ridges on May 21 by Hummel, Fritz; Jatunllacsha (18,520 feet) via southeast face on May 23 by Schiml, Hummel, Fritz, Wibmer and on May 26 by Schwenkglens; Weber, Röcker, Güner; each peak except the southernmost on the ridge starting southwest from Qeshque: P 5415 (17,766 feet) via east ridge on May 27 by Wibmer, Hummel, Röcker; P 5380 (17,651 feet), P 5420 (17,782 feet) and P 5335 (17,503 feet) by southeast faces on May 27 by Weber, Schiml; Mareteca (17,602 feet) via west ridge on May 17 by Wibmer, Schiml; P 5250 (17,225 feet) via west ridge on May 17 by Schwenkglens; P 5360 (17,586 feet) and P 5380 (17,651 feet) via southwest faces on June 2 by whole party; and the peak that lies on a spur southeast of Qeshque: P 5360 (17,586 feet) via west ridge on May 27 by Wibmer, Hummel, Röcker. Then we went to the central Cordillera Blanca, entering the Quebrada Ulta from Shilla. Base Camp was in the Quebrada Cancahua, a tributary of Ulta. Our attempt on Chopicalqui's east ridge failed at a corniced ridge at 18,900 feet. We then made a second ascent of Chopicalqui's southeast ridge, first climbed by the New Zealanders in 1969. We had four camps and bad snow conditions. The climb was made from July 1 to 5 by Weber, Röcker and me and from July 2 to 6 by Wibmer, Hummel and Schiml.

#### DIETRICH FRITZ, *Deutsche Naturfreunde*

*Chacaraju Este, South Face Accident.* Up the south face we went, first climbing a hanging glacier, up and around ice bulges, across a schrund and onto the nearly vertical main upper wall. The southern exposure and continual stormy weather meant intense cold. Rob Coppock was our cinematographer assisted by Dr. Dan Garnett and Barbara Roach. One climbing team was composed of Gerry Roach, Randy Berg and Mike Hane. The second included Garry Palmer, Bill Hackett and me. Roach had just taken over the lead from Berg and was going for the top of the face, 20 vertical feet above him. Although the wall was vertical here, they were both in a little gully. Moving on aid, Gerry Roach found a hole through an ice rib to his right and decided to enlarge it for a stance. The ice rib Gerry was chopping was apparently holding part of the wall under tension. Suddenly the rib gave way, taking part of the wall with it. Gerry somehow managed to hang on by grabbing the nearest ice screw. The avalanche swept straight down at Randy Berg, who was hit, bent double and knocked out of the way. A rope-length lower, Mike Hane was directly in the path belaying, tied to several ice screws. The force of the avalanche smashed some of his carabiners and one ice screw. Gerry and Randy found Mike hanging from his ropes below the belay station, unconscious, breathing irregularly and in critical shape. After Palmer and I arrived with necessary equipment from below, the evacuation began. A litter was constructed from pack frames. Inside a sleeping bag, Mike was lashed to the litter, which then was lowered, pitch by pitch, a thousand feet down the wall. We got down to an ice cave at 18,500 feet that night. Our doctor examined him there. Despite his hard hat, the main problem was head