

Calderón, Oscar Orizzi, Guillermo Zampieri, Alex Scheuer, Jorge Rivera and Mario Gutiérrez Burzaco set out. Gutiérrez, who is 60 years old, waited on the foresummit while the rest continued along the summit ridge to the top. I don't have news of the other expeditions today (February 3, 1983). There are Japanese and two Slovenes on Fitz Roy and climbers from the Centro Andino Buenos Aires on the steep ice east face of San Lorenzo. [We hope to complete the accounts of climbs in the 1982-3 season in *A.A.J.*, 1984.—*Editor.*]

VOJSLAV ARKO, *Club Andino Bariloche, Argentina*

Fitz Roy, West Face Attempt, 1981-2. From December 27 to February 17, 1982 we operated in the Fitz Roy area. We were Michal Orolin, leader, Daniel Bakoš, Zdeno Brabec, Vlado Petrik, Dušan Kovač and me. A month later Ivan Fiala, Juraj Weincziller and Vinco Dubeč, who had been on Aconcagua, joined us and assisted us in one of our attempts. On December 30, 1981 we erected Base Camp on the lake, Laguna Torre. We hoped to make a new route on the western face of Fitz Roy, continuing the unsuccessful attempt of English climbers in 1977. On January 1, five of us set off for the face. We climbed the lower 2300-feet in a day, despite carrying overloaded packs and hauling two more. We bivouacked on a large shelf under the prominent tower in the face. The rock sections had been very rotten and threatened with falling rocks. At night strong winds and rain rushed in. The next morning we descended in this appalling weather. It was dangerous to abseil down the western side amid the rockfall and so we rappelled down to the east, beneath the Super Couloir. We had to go for 40 kilometers around Fitz Roy from there, losing much strength on such a descent; during the time we were in the region, we repeated it three times. The bad weather we spent in Base Camp, relaxing. On January 9 it cleared. We set out immediately up the face but strong winds forced us to descend to Base Camp the next day. On January 21 the weather was better again. In one day we reached the high point of our last attempt and climbed higher. We bivouacked on a large ledge under the top of the prominent tower in the ridge leading to the face. The next day I climbed brittle flakes with Bakoš. We bivouacked under the huge rock corner, but already in the evening saw the storm over Cerro Torre, driven by a strong wind. While we arranged the bivouac, the wind grew stronger and we were not even able to draw out our sleeping bags. We slept in our clothes, covered only by thin bivouac sacks. In the morning the face was covered with a glaze of ice. We abseiled on frozen ropes down under the Super Couloir. In our next attempt from February 2 to 4 Orolin and Petrik climbed a rotten, overhanging corner, taking all day to make it. We hauled up packs. The last one was hauled up in the dark at two A.M. The next morning dawned windy and snowy. Angry and desperate, we abseiled off again. It was February 6 and we knew that we had time for only one more attempt. On February 12 it cleared suddenly. The next day we were above the corner. I climbed two pitches in the overhanging chimney. Its top was covered with ice. Then followed an icy groove and we were on shelves on the rim of huge flakes. I alternated leads with Brabec. He climbed five pitches in a long rising traverse. The last pitch was under the huge overhang.

It was late and so we rappelled to our companions, who had already prepared the bivouac. In the evening we saw heavy clouds over Cerro Torre. The wind did not calm down all night. Snow started to fall. In the morning strong winds and new snow forced us to descend. Billows of powdery snow were pouring over us while we abseiled. After many unpleasant incidents we were on the glacier under the west face. We found the tent on the pinnacle on the ridge completely destroyed; only the poles remained. We continued the descent from the ridge. On February 17 we left for home. The west face remains unclimbed.

ROBERT GÁLFY, *James, Slovak Mountaineering Association, Czechoslovakia*

Aguja Guillaumet, East Face, Cerro Eléctrico Principal, Cerro 30° Aniversario Traverse and Attempt on Fitz Roy. My husband Gino Buscaini and I had our Base Camp at the Piedra del Fraile on the Río Eléctrico from December 13, 1981 to February 9. The weather in December was unsettled with a few good days, but from January to February 9 it was nearly constantly bad. On December 27, 1981, in good weather, we made a difficult (UIAA V, A2) route, 1500 feet in height, on the east face of the Aguja Guillaumet (2593 meters, 8507 feet). The route* ascended the middle of the face and ended up the edge of the snow summit triangle. On January 2 we were driven back from Fitz Roy's Supercanaleta (Super Couloir), first climbed in 1965 by Fonrouge and Comesaña. In rather poor weather we then on January 8 climbed the long, easy west ridge of Cerro Eléctrico Principal (2182 meters, 7269 feet). In cloudy weather on January 25 we again set out up the Supercanaleta and reached the first 1965 bivouac. On the 26th we climbed the couloir to about 650 feet from the summit of Fitz Roy but were stopped by hurricane-strength winds. On January 27 the continued violence of the wind forced us to descend the couloir under dangerous conditions. From February 2 to 4 we made the following trip: from the Piedra del Fraile up the Marconi Glacier to el Morro, across the Gorra Blanca Glacier up the south ridge of Cerro Neumayer, down to a tributary glacier of the Laguna del Diablo, traverse of the Cerro del 30° Aniversario from west to east to a col before the east foresummit, down the south face and back through the forest to the Piedra del Fraile.

SILVIA METZELTIN BUSCAINI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Aguja Guillaumet. In checking ascents on the Aguja Guillaumet, we find several ascents which have not been mentioned in the *A.A.J.* Two routes near the Italian one were made by French climbers in 1968 which were reported in the *Annales du Groupe de Haute Montagne, 1969*. J. Coqueigniot and F. Guillot ascended the left-hand couloir on the right part of the east face which led to the north ridge, while Bernard Amy and P. Vidailhet climbed the right-hand couloir and also finished via the north ridge. In 1978 Argentines G.

* It seems likely that this was the route taken in 1979 by Jim Jennings and Robert Beager. See *A.A.J.*, 1980, page 598.—*Editor.*