forested hills and reaches a height of 3660 meters (12,008 feet). On July 30, our small party of the Club Andino Mercedario, made up of Teresa Bracco, Alberto Graffigna and me, reached the small hamlet of Alto Calilegua, within the boundaries of the Parque Nacional Calilegua. The peak was ascended by us in bad weather and a heavy snow fall forced us to cut short our stay on the summit, but we were able to examine the antigal (ancient ruins) built there by the Incas about half a millenium ago. The ruins are about 78 × 12 feet and reach in some constructions a height of 8 feet. Some staircases, very well built, can be used to ascend the lower parts of the mountain. Local farmers also climb the peak in modern times for semi-pagan ritual purposes. An antigal in the Zenta range had been vaguely reported 55 years ago by the great Argentinian archaeologist Eduardo Casanova and it was our fortune to verify its existence.

ANTONIO BEORCHIA, Club Andino Mercedario, San Juan, Argentina

Nevado de Pissis and Other Peaks. After exploring Llullaillaco in December 1984 (see below), Louis Glauser and I, driving a jeep, entered the Argentinian side of the Puna. We ascended Cerro Salín (6033 meters, 19,793 feet) on December 27, where, contrary to what had been previously reported we did not find ruins on the top. We then drove to Salta to meet Swiss climbers Martin Erb and Alexander von Bergen. We all ascended Nevado del Acay (5730 meters, 18,799 feet), January 7, 1985, and surveyed its summit ruins. We then headed for the Nevados de Cachi. We climbed to the top of the main peak (6380 meters, 20,932 feet) as well as the second (6120 meters 20,079 feet), the same day (January 13) and to my disgust no ruins were sighted on them. Glauser and I did next Nevado de Pissis (6780 meters, 22,244 feet), on January 25. This is the third highest peak on the American continent. After three days of hiking and climbing we reached one of its main tops but did not locate ruins. A 100-mph wind hindered our search but meanwhile our two companions, who were climbing Ojos del Salado, reported that they did not encounter winds. Our last ascent in the Puna before returning to Chile was that of Cerro Pabellón de la Laguna Verde (5815 meters, 19,077 feet), March 17, on whose summit we again failed to locate traces of pre-Columbian ascents.

JOHN REINHARD

Argentina—Central Andes

Aconcagua and Tupungato as Mountain Parks. Both Aconcagua and Tupungato have been declared by the legislature of the state of Mendoza as parts of two recently created provincial (state) parks. Aconcagua became part of the Parque Provincial Aconcagua by virtue of decree 4807, April 23, 1983. Limits of this mountain park are: south-east to north, from the summit of Cerro Juan Pobre to the summit of Cerro Guanaco; west to summit of Cerro La Mano, then southwest along the summits that separate Las Cuevas Este-Relinchos valleys from the Penitentes River; from the summit of Cerro Catedral, a familiar summit
The south face of Aconcagua.
to visitors and climbers, south and south-east along the line of summits that separate the Cuevas Oeste valley from the well known Horcones river basin, then from the summit of Cerro Agua Salada east to meet again the summit of Cerro Juan Pobre. The famous cemetery at Puente del Inca, although outside limits, is also a part of the park itself.

The Parque Provincial Tupungato came into being by decree 5026, September 8, 1985. Its limits are: north, from Cerro Penitentes to Navarro Pass, on the Chilean border, then southwards along the border until reaching the summit of Tupungato itself; then, east to El Fraile Pass and then north to meet again the summit of Cerro Penitentes. Thus, the great rock-and-ice peaks of Tupungato (6550 meters, 21,490 feet), Nevado Juncal (6110 meters, 20,046 feet), Nevado del Plomo (6050 meters, 19,849 feet) and Cerro Riso Patrón (5750 meters, 18,865 feet) are within the park.

The Aconcagua park has at present three huts, usable in spite of the 1984 avalanches and storms that destroyed three others and left a fourth partly ruined. As for Tupungato, there is only one military hut halfway along the Tupungato valley. New facilities are being contemplated and being created for both parks. A rescue service with helicopters is available, weather conditions permitting.

**Luis Alberto Parra, Club Andinista Mendoza**

*Aconcagua, South Face Solo, Yugoslav Route*. In the 1984-5 season, Swiss Ueli Bühler first climbed the classic French route with the Messner finish before returning to ascend solo the 1982 Yugoslav route. He took only three days to complete this very difficult route.

*Aconcagua, South Face, a new route on the Southeast Buttress to 6000 Meters*. To acclimatize Jean-Luc Bedouet, Jean-Marcel Dufour, Pierre Raveneau, Dr. Bernard Vallet, Jean-Pierre Chassagne and his wife Francine from January 16 to 22 climbed to 5900 meters on the north face of Aconcagua by the normal route but were turned back by very bad weather. Then they turned to their main objective, a new route on the south face by the southeast buttress. They reached Base Camp at 4000 meters on January 29, but bad weather hampered reconnaissance. On February 4 they left gear from a camp at the foot of the southeast buttress at 4700 meters but had to wait for three days for the new snow to clear off the face. On February 8 Raveneau and Chassagne climbed two pitches in a couloir to reach the buttress crest, which they followed for two more rope-lengths. On the 9th they ascended their fixed rope, then traversed right to a snow couloir which they climbed for one pitch. On February 10 these two, joined by Dufour and Vallet, climbed three more pitches in the couloir to the top of the first buttress, past the junction of three couloirs; they went up the left one. On February 11 they again climbed their fixed ropes from the 4700-meter camp, climbed to the top of the main buttress at 5100 meters and continued up the lower east snowfield to join the 1966 Argentine route and then the 1954 French route.