

December 27, Rojas and I climbed Monja Grande (5160 meters, 16,929 feet) by its exceedingly steep *canal de hielo* (ice gully), on the south face. Before leaving Ecuador, Ocampo, Rojas and Troconis climbed Chimborazo by its normal route.

JOSÉ BETANCOURT, *Club Universitario de Andinismo y Excursionismo*,
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Chimborazo. Italian A. Campanile made what he feels was a new route to the right of the Direttissima to the summit of Cima Ventimilla. There were considerable difficulties in the ice of the upper part, especially below the final séracs, where the slope was of 75°.

Peru—Cordillera Blanca

Climbs in the Cordillera Blanca. Each year there is more climbing in the Cordillera Blanca. The first expedition in 1987 was composed of Colombians Fernando Pizzaro and Daniel Herrera, who climbed Tocllaraju on April 26. A few new routes were made. Italians Marco Schenone, Guido Ghigo and Enrico Tessera made the first ascent of the delicate mixed southeast face of Vallunaraju Sur on August 8. Slovenes (Yugoslavs) Marjan Freser, Milan Romih and Danilo Tič, climbed a difficult new route on the north face of Huandoy Norte; it ascends for 1445 meters up the great dihedral to the left of the big rock wall. Spaniards Chema Polanco, Manolo Oliviera, Eduardo de la Cal and Alejandro Madrid climbed a new route on the Torre de Parón (Sphinx), the south face (860 meters). Notable ascents included a repeat of the Australian 1985 route on the south face direct of Chacaraju Este. On July 25 Englishman Mick Dovie and Belgian Lars Vanhaelewyer and on July 30 New Zealander Brian Alder solo all were able to exit from the face directly over the cornice onto the summit; the Australians had had to traverse toward the east face and then climb to the summit from there. On July 26, Spanish Basques Pedro Sánchez, Francisco José Ruiz and Joan Cortejo repeated the Barrard route on the east face of Huascarán Norte. Caraz I was climbed by Yugoslavs Franc Čanžek and Ivanič Iztok on June 5, by Drago Praprotnik and Miha Uršič on June 6, and by Anton Pavlič, Andrej Grudnik, Erjavec Bošjan, Zdenko Cigljar, Miha Šorgelj and Victor Hribar on June 10. The west ridge of Huascarán Sur was climbed by members of the same group: Milan Jolič and Dušan Habolin on June 21, and by Praprotnik, Hribar, Uršič and Zdenko Zorič on June 23. Some of the expeditions climbed with incredible speed. On May 15, Swiss Jean-Claude Tondre and Pierre Dafflon climbed Pisco in 2½ hours and descended in an hour, Base Camp to summit and back. On May 22, they climbed the north face of Quitaraju in three hours and descended in 1½ hours. On May 23, they ascended the southwest-face (Ferrari) route of Alpamayo round trip in 3¾ hours. On May 30, it was Artesonraju's south face in three hours up and down. On June 7, joined by German Manfred Mehl, they took

PLATE 34

Photo by Milan Romih

**North Face of HUASCARÁN
NORTE, showing Slovene Route.
Bivouacs are marked.**



seven hours to climb Chopicalqui from the moraine camp and back again. The same three climbed Huascarán Sur in three hours from the Garganta and descended to there in 1½ hours. Italian Fabrizio Manoni on the southwest-face (French direct) route of Alpamayo in three hours and on July 15 the south face of Ocshapalca in 4½ hours. On June 3, Gladiz Diaz and I climbed Vallunaraju Norte in a single day from Huaraz. There were innumerable other ascents in the Cordillera Blanca, at least the number noted on the following: Alpamayo (15, mostly on the southwest face routes), Artesonraju (11), Tocllaraju (8), Huascarán Sur (6), Chopicalqui (6), Quitaraju (5), Pisco (4), Ranrapalca (4).

WALTER SILVERIO, *Asociación de Guías de Montaña del Perú*

Huascarán Norte, North Face. Danilo Tič, Marjan Freser and I first made four acclimatization climbs. We wanted to climb Huascarán's south face, but alternate snow and rain forced us to change our plans. We started for an unclimbed route on the north face of Huascarán Norte on June 29 and reached the steep part of the wall (UIAA difficulty V, 50° to 60° ice). The greatest threat there was rockfall and falling ice. We lost one rope. The next day we climbed five vertical pitches on brittle ice-covered rock (VI to VII-). We reached the ridge on the left of the face on the third day. The route was up a steep couloir at the top of which a sérac provided a bivouac site (VI+, 55° to 70° ice). The weather turned bad in the afternoon and it snowed all night. We got to the summit at ten A.M. on July 2 in falling snow and thick fog. Soaked and shivering with cold, we made a complicated descent starting down the standard route, which luckily Tič and I had climbed last year. We finally got back to the Llanganuco valley the next day.

MILAN ROMIH, *Alpinistični Odsek Impol, Yugoslavia*

Caraz III, South Face. On June 28, Haroon Khesghi and I climbed the south face of Caraz III (5720 meters, 18,767 feet). We started in a couloir that runs up just to the right of the summit. The climb was similar in length and difficulty to the southwest-face direct route on Alpamayo, involving eight pitches of snow and ice at about 55°. Then there were the final two pitches to the ridge with sections of ice up to 90°. The ridge was a knife-edged horror complete with several large holes; therefore we did not climb the last traversing pitch to the actual summit. After eight scary rappels in the dark, we reached the glacier.

GEORGE BELL, JR.

Pucaranra West Face. Several days of perfect weather were not enough to stabilize the snow at the base of Palcaraju and so Thor Kieser and I decided to try a line of the west face of Pucaranra across the Quebrada Cojup. There were several interesting lines that seemed as if they could avoid the overhanging ice