

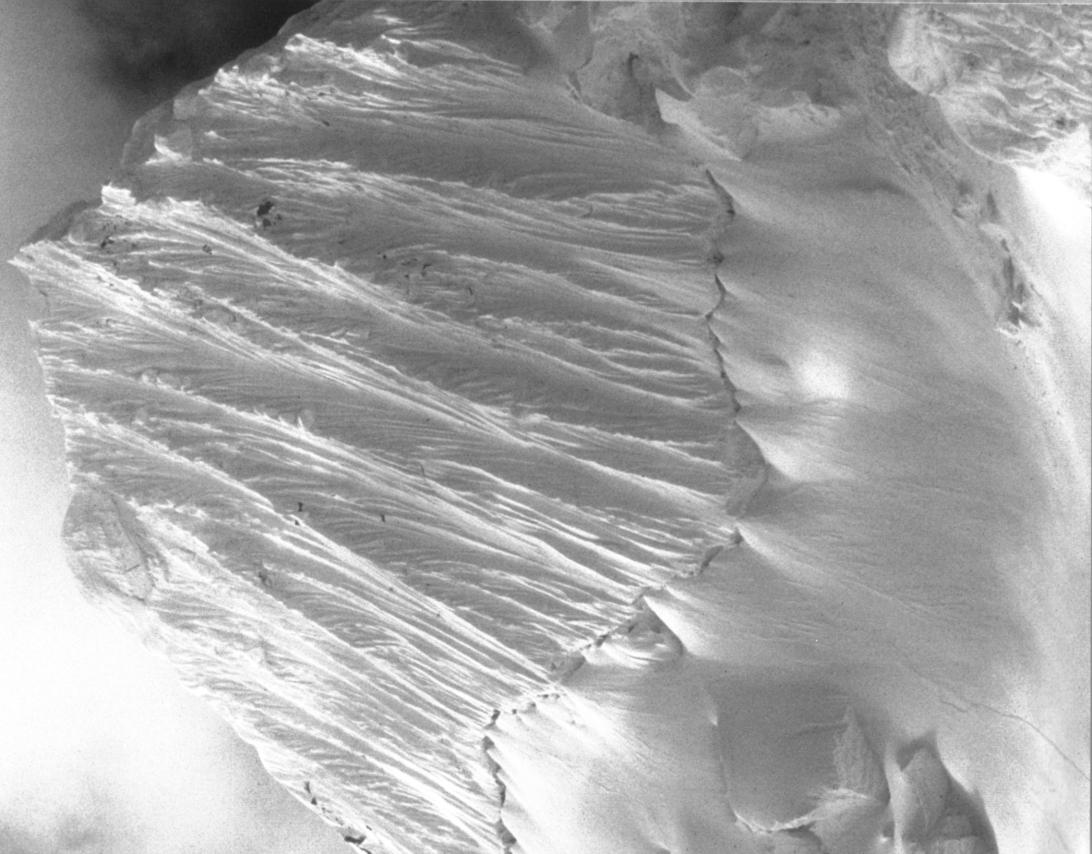
after soloing the main summit on September 1, I expected the several hundred feet of vertical rock above an initial chimney to be well beyond my ability. I also expected to find rappel slings or other signs of prior ascents. To my pleasant surprise, the black rock turned out to be exceptionally firm, water-stained quartzite with sharp edges. On the way up I found no evidence of prior climbs, although the summit had plenty of loose rocks that could be easily arranged into a cairn. The crux proved to be down-climbing a 5.8 arête just below the top.

GALEN ROWELL

*Nevado Churup, Southwest Side.* On July 23, 1994, after 20 hours of constant climbing, Spaniards Enrique Ortuno and Rolando Gine inaugurated a new route on the southwest face of Churup (5493 meters). This face had the Fear-Lahr-Malatoux-Ridgeway route (August 18, 1972), which starts directly below the summit. The Spanish 1994 route is situated to the left of the former (see photo and data in Extrem 70, 1995, page 73).

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*Alpamayo Attempt, P 5600, Artesonraju Attempt, Millishraju.* Supy Bullard and I made an early season trip to the Cordillera Blanca April 22 - June 6. On May 3 we started climbing up from the lowest point of the bergschrund on Alpamayo's southwest face, a route I had soloed in 1988. We found the going a bit creepy alongside a 35-meter-thick chunk of ice the size of a city block that occupied the normal start of the French Route and appeared unstable. We dubbed it the "Big Ugly." We retreated in deteriorating weather after two 60-meter pitches when it became evident that the ice gully we were in would not suitably join up with that of the upper French Route. We then attempted P 5600, the bump on Kitoraju's northeast ridge closest to the col, by the northwest face. By May 11 we were comfortably established at about 5150 meters. On May 12 we awoke and crunched out of camp by headlamp at 4:40 a.m. We simul-climbed over 180 meters before we started belayed climbing. I led along the right edge on good ice for 120 meters onto steeper 75° to 80° ice, where we reached the junction of our route which led up over mixed rock and ice angling to the right. Including the 180 meters below the rock corner, we had climbed 860 meters in 13 hours and were on the west ridge at about 5875 meters, probably about 150 meters shy of the summit. The next day we decided that completing the climb of the northwest face had been enough. We descended our line of ascent in seven hours. From our high camp and bivy on Artesonraju, we were able to see that the "Big Ugly" had cut loose and detached itself from the face, further altering the French route. On May 26 and 27, we ascended



the gentle East Ridge of Millishraju Norte. We arrived back in Huaráz at the end of the month, spent a few days there, a day in Lima, and left Peru on June 6.

PETER CARSE

*Various Ascents in the Cordillera Blanca.* Our group's objective was to visit two valleys: Quebrada Ishinca and Laguna Paron, the latter for a possible wall route on the Sphinx and the former for its numerous alpine faces. In Quebrada Ishinca, our team attempted and succeeded on two variations of Ishinca (5530 meters) and Urus Este (5420 meters). Many mixed variations are still possible on the latter. In Laguna Paron, one peak, Artesonraju (6025 meters) was attempted via the southwest ridge/face. The team was stopped high above our last bivouac by an avalanche and a sick team member (an intestinal infection). However, a recon of the Sphinx face and of Huandoy Oeste revealed probable lines. Paron holds acres of virgin granite to be explored. Some of these cliffs are only a half-hour walk/hike from the Electro-Peru Station. Be kind to the two Peruvian station workers and they will be hospitable back! Logistically, climbing in the Cordillera Blanca was simple. There were no fees for climbing or entering Huascan National Park. The Casa de Guidas was professional and extremely helpful. The people of Peru were friendly and always willing to help.

JOHN GALLAGHER

*Huandoy Sur, Oro del Inca.* On August 9, Pavle Kozjek (Slovenia) climbed a new route on the northeast face of Huandoy Sur (6166 meters). He started early at 4:30 a.m. from the moraine camp, crossed the bergschrund and started to climb a very steep face in a direct line. After 300 meters he was forced to go right due to an overhanging rock belt, which crosses the face from left to the right side. He climbed it on the extreme right side (6) and continued for the next 150 meters on the rock (4-5). Good conditions on the upper icefield were followed by black ice in the narrow and steep gully (75° to 85°) that leads directly to the top. He reached the top after five hours of climbing and descended the French route in four and one-half hours. The new route, *Oro del Inca*, is 1000 meters and graded ED 6- (85°).

FRANCI SAVENC, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

*Huandoy Group, Attempted Traverse.* It was reported that Brad Johnson and Bruce Normand attempted a traverse of all four Huandoy summits, suc-