CHILE

NORTHERN ANDES

Cerro Pajonales. Our aim was to ascend Cerro Pajonales (5958 m), highest in the Pajonales chain north-northeast of the railroad station of Socompa. We reached the end of the motorable road at the Llano (plains) de Pajonales and then marched southwest to the base of the mountain. From a camp at around 15,100 feet we reached the summit on February 10 over talus and varying ground, but no snow or ice. Although it was believed that the peak was unclimbed, we found a short metal rod encrusted into the summit ground, possibly the work of surveyors. Climbers were Ricardo Artalejo, Luis Durand, Eduardo Ruiz and I.

JOSÉ MARTÍNEZ H., *Madrid, Spain*

Cerro Zorrita, Sierra Almeida. On March 2, Edward T. Hobaugh and I departed Antofagasta with Chilean Gaston Oyarzun providing logistics and transportation. We established a base camp near the Llullaillaco massif in Quebrada de las Zorritas at an estimated 13,500 feet on March 3 under perfect weather conditions. On March 4 and 5, Hobaugh and I dodged threatening weather, including severe lightning, and ascended two remote points some distance from our base camp in order to acclimate. On the 6th we made an alpine start and ascended the quebrada to the east and climbed Cerro Zorrita (17,780'). The route of ascent was from the south col, thence the east ridge. The summit held a roughly constructed stone windbreak. On the descent we climbed over the 16,800 foot point separating Cerro Zorrita and Cerro Inca. On the summit we found a maze of beautifully wind-sculpted rocks. Plans to attempt Llullaillaco were thwarted by continued severe weather. Research conducted at the Club library upon arriving home, and by Dr. Evelio Echevarría, failed to reveal a modern ascent of Cerro Zorrita.

JOHN EDWARD LONGNECKER

Agua Negra Region, Central Andes. In January, Horacio Sánchez went to this important zone with many virgin peaks. He ascended solo a peak (ca. 5100-5200 m) between the Paso de Agua Negra (4779 m) and the Glaciar de Agua Negra, a little north of the summits ascended by our party some years ago (see *AAJ* 1993, p.174, and *AAJ* 1994, pp. 203-204). It was the second ascent of the mountain, named Cerro Raquel by the first party in 1986. Cerro Raquel lies on the border between Argentina and Chile.

MARCELO SCANU, *Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Famatina Ridge, La Rioja. This range is the highest of the Sierras Pampeanas, a Precambrian ridge. The major summit is Famatina or Cerro General Manuel Belgrano (6096 m).There are many minor summits around the principal. One of these, of 5800 meters, was ascended solo in May by Horacio Sánchez. He departed from Los Bayitos (4300 m) and took a snow tongue of 40 degrees and 400 meters up to the rounded top.

MARCELO SCANU, *Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Cerro Bonete Chico, New Route, Central Andes. This mountain, with a revised height of 6759 meters, has been misidentified many times. Only with the new maps of a few years ago has the confusion ended. Bonete Chico ("Little Cone," this because of the cone summit)—is really much higher than Bonete Grande, a modest summit of 5943 meters ascended some years ago by a party