

to the big col between Wampa and Coco Rico and down to Base Camp.

On July 21, they made the second ascent of the West Face (AD+, 400m) of Wampa (ca. 5550m). On July 23-24, they climbed a new route on the southeast ridge of Chachacomani (6074m), starting from the col on the normal route up to Chachacomani's distinctive south face. They climbed three rock and ice pinnacles at up to 60°, crossed what looks like a snow dome from below, and then descended to a col at ca. 5750 meters, where they camped. This section of the route is believed to be a first ascent. The next day they continued by climbing Chachacomani's Southeast Buttress (D). This route was described in the 1990 *AAJ* (p. 194) as rock at 5.7; the Brits found it to be 5.6. It took them seven hours to climb the 250 meters to reach the summit of Chachacomani. They then traversed Chachacomani's summit ridge and descended a ridge off the west end of the ridge, rapping five times en route.

The two mention that the Achapampa area is not depicted on the 1962 Reading map as it appears on the ground. Negruni as marked is Warawarani; Rumca as marked is Chajowara. (Amos and Thomas plan to produce an updated map of the area.)

YOSSI BRAIN, *United Kingdom*

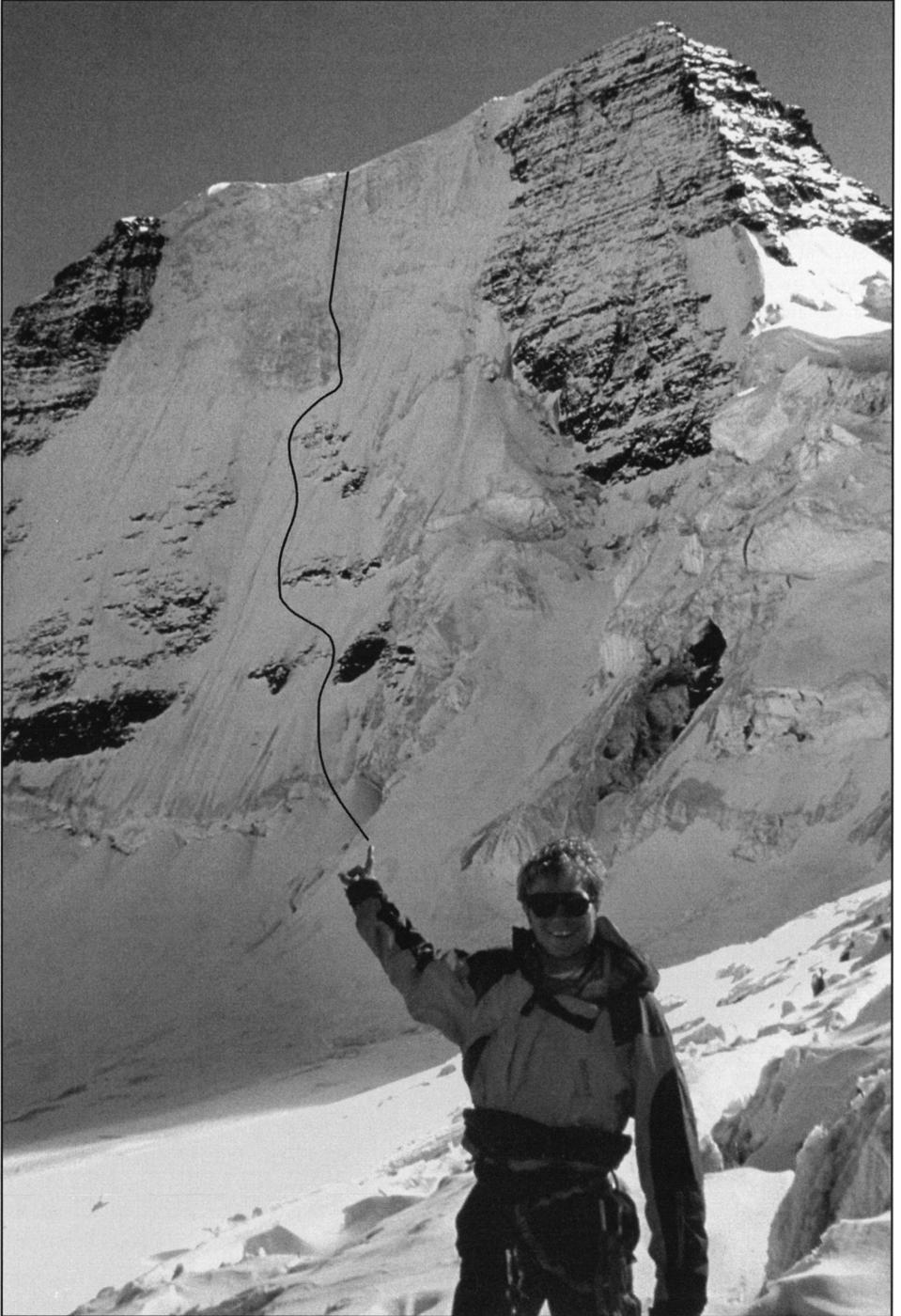
Chearoco, Southeast Face. Our expedition consisted of Mary Stigge, Jean Aschenbrenner, Wesley Berg and Jack Zuzack as members and Doug Solfermoser and myself as co-leaders. The objective was to climb Chearoco (6127m), the large peak to the southeast of Ancohuma. We approached from the west following the Kellihuani River. Despite many past reports of problems in this area, we found the locals to be very friendly and helpful. We chose the South Face route on Chearoco. This route turned out to be a grade more difficult than we were expecting due to glacial recession, the same problem seen in Peru. We made two attempts, the first coming within 100 feet of the summit and the second succeeding, putting Doug, Wes, Jack and myself on the summit on July 20. Research from past *AAJ* reports and other sources indicate that this may have been the second ascent of this route.

MARK SCOTT-NASH

Cordillera Real and the Cordillera de la Quimsa Cruz, Various Ascents. On June 1, the Salt Lake-based team of Ben Folsom, Steven Su, and Andy Gresh arrived in La Paz, Bolivia, intending to do lightweight ascents in the Cordillera Real and the Cordillera de la Quimsa Cruz. After several days in La Paz, the entire team, along with several friends from Salt Lake City, departed on June 7 for the town of Sorata, hoping to make an ascent of Ancohuma via the normal route (Laguna Glaciar) for acclimatization purposes. The attempt over June 9 to 13 was unsuccessful due to sickness, heinous penitentes, and underestimation of the route's length.

On June 18, I arrived in La Paz and joined up with Ben and Steve. After two days of organization/acclimatization in La Paz, Steve and I departed for the 6080-meter Huayna Potosí, which we climbed on June 23 in three hours via the normal route. This year the summit ridge was rather exposed. On June 27, Ben, Steve, Andy, and I left La Paz for the Condoriri group. After a day of rest, Ben, Steve, and I departed Base Camp at 5 a.m. and headed for Ala Oeste (the "left wing" of Condoriri). Andy remained in camp due to a twisted knee and a persistent head-cold.

We were at the 'schrund at 11 a.m. and after a short bit of shenanigans were established on the face. We simul-climbed the entire 650 meters, which was a variation of the Mesili route



Ben Folsom pointing out Red Storm Rising on Ala Oeste. BART PAULL

on the face. The line follows ice runnels in the central part of the wall up to a large serac about half-way up the face, then cuts slightly left. The conditions varied and we passed sections of styrofoam, brittle ice, plate ice, crappy ice, etc.—the full Andean experience.

We topped out at 3 p.m. in a rather intense hail storm and immediately began the descent via ten 60-meter rappels. The majority of our anchors were good V-threads drilled in runnels of ice. We were back to Base Camp and coca tea at 10:30 p.m. The day's catch: *Red Storm Rising* (D 70°, 650m).

Other routes climbed by the team were: Illampu, via the direct normal route, July 6, Ben, Steve, Andy, and me; Pico Norte, via its 900-meter east face couloir, on July 18, Pat, Eric, Steve (it should be noted that the normal route on Pico Norte has basically ceased to exist; it is an unsavory rappel descent at best due to glacial recession); the technically easy 5540-meter Viluyo, on July 17, Ben and me; the French route on Huayna Potosí, July 25-27, Danika Gilbert and Steve; Illimani (6640m), on July 26, Ben.

It is sad to see how much recession has taken place in Bolivia over the past couple of years. Routes on Illampu, Condoriri, Tiquimani, and other peaks are now very dangerous or impossible due to lack of adequate snow/ice coverage.

I thank the American Alpine Club for the support given to me. Without your help this trip would not have been possible. ¡Gracias por los recuerdos! Uastata sita!

BART PAULL*

*Recipient of a 1998 AAC Mountaineering Fellowship Fund Grant

Cordillera de Quimza Cruz, Los Cuernos del Diablo. On April 11, Pete Grosset (UK) and I climbed a new route on Los Cuernos del Diablo (5271m). The route consisted of six pitches (250 meters) on solid granite and followed a straight line directly up to below the northeast horn. It finished on the upper two pitches of the original "Classic" route of the 1987 Bolivian-German expedition. The overall grade of the route was 5.10b, with excellent protection following connecting cracks.

DAKIN COOK

CORDILLERA APOLOBAMBA

Cordillera Apolobamba, Overview. After an unprecedented amount of activity in the area in 1997, 1998 saw three commercial expeditions and perhaps only four significant climbing trips to the Apolobamba. Conditions were good early in the season, but nieve penitentes developed in June, presenting familiar time-consuming problems.

YOSSI BRAIN, *United Kingdom*

Chaupi Orco Norte to Chaupi Orco, Traverse. On May 26, British La Paz residents Yossi Brain and Pete Grosset, together with visiting Brits Glen Wilks and John Mudway, climbed Chaupi Orco Norte (6000m) in the northern Apolobamba, believing it to be Chaupi Orco (6044m), the highest mountain in the range. However, when they stood on the summit it was obvious that there was a higher mountain lying to the south on the other side of four peaks. After climbing the first two intervening peaks (Pts. 5960 and 5920m), Mudway and Wilks decided to return via the ascent route, while Brain and Grosset continued with the remains of