

sent Kazuo Asai as leader, Takashi Kawakami, climbing leader, Hiroshi Osuga, Mitsuaki Murata, Kazumi Taziri, Seijun Kimura, Chitoshi Ando and Shinichi Tamura to the central Andes. From Tupungato village they climbed to the military hut on the Río Tunuyán at 9400 feet, which they used for their base. Camps I (13,450 feet), II (13,800 feet) and III (16,750 feet) were established on December 25, 27 and 31, 1968. On January 2 two Japanese and Argentine Corporal Lucero ascended Cerro Negro (20,182 feet). An attempt on the east peak of Marmolejo failed. On January 30 Osuga, Tajiri, Kimura, Ando and Tamura climbed the Volcán Maipo (17,356 feet) via the north glacier. On February 4 Kimura and Ando made the second ascent of Cerro Amarillo del Maipo (14,961 feet). On February 5 Murata, Tajiri, Kimura and Ando made the first ascent of the west peak (16,273 feet) of El Gorro, while Kawakami, Osuga and Tamura made the first ascent of the east peak (16,221 feet) from the south glacier and east ridge. On February 9 Kawakami, Murata, Kimura and Ando made the first ascent of the north peak (16,733 feet) of Cerro de la Laguna, while Osuga, Tajiri and Tamura climbed the south peak (16,516 feet).

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Central Andes. Four members of the mountain club of the Universidad de Chile placed a camp on the border pass of Piuquenes in early February. They made several ascents along the border ridge: Cerro Puente Alto (13,878 feet) February 8 by Carlos Rodríguez and Gustavo Freixas and Mirador del Piuquenes (15,191 feet) February 9 by José Troncoso and Freixas, both apparently third ascents. The latter two pushed on north to make the first ascent of Cerro Chocolate (13,314 feet) the same day. Meanwhile, Rodríguez and the fourth climber, Juan Escobar, crossed the border into Argentina and made the first ascents of Cerro Palomares (13,977 feet; not to be confused with the great Nevado Palomares, to the south), Cerro El Peñón (11,811 feet) and Cerro Gran Abanico (12,053 feet), all traversed on February 10. The party returned to Santiago two days later.

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Chilean and Argentine Patagonia

Paine Group. A Czechoslovakian expedition from the city of Ostrava, composed of Zdeněk Vlc, leader, Peter Baudis, Leos Korka, Pavel Klimza,