

*Eastern Ranges, Central Peru.* This tract of country is especially ill-famed for grass and bush fires during the dry season. Visibility is so much reduced by the incessant smoke that I visited these mountains at another time of the year whenever possible. In the Condorvasha range, west of Hacienda Punto, I climbed the southern projection and P 4992 of Pre-Carta 1:100,000, sheet 24-n (Andamarca), on May 24 from Aychana and P 5190 (Putac) and its northern neighbour (c. 5050 meters, 16,568 feet) on November 13 and 14, 1967 from Mina Sinaicocha by the ice-free east side. Another occasion was Nevado de Shaihua (Lasopata, c. 5160 meters, 16,929 feet) near Andamarca, or south of Shaihua (written Saihua on the Pre-Carta) on September 29, 1969. Coming from Huancas, I climbed first the two northern peaks via Soirococha, then descended a cliff to the Lasopata névé for the final ascent. On September 25, 1968 I climbed Nevado Petita (c. 5120 meters, 16,798 feet) by the south side and southeast ridge. This northern and highest of the Runatullo granite peaks is about 10 miles north of Toctuga. I left the road to Satipo at Untaipaccha, crossed the western ridge to Huascacocha and Jajarma and continued to Laguna Petita and the southern glacier. In the northwestern prolongation of the Cordillera de Huaytapallana I climbed Nevado Tranca (c. 5100 meters, 16,732 feet), a pronounced peak north-northeast of the long lake Tranca Grande, and south of the more extensive but lower Mairazo massif, on August 11, 1965. Also Pico Tamiali (same height) with Bernard Frey on August 30, 1964. The latter is south of Pomamanta and Comas, but separated from the Huaytapallana range by the Malpaso depression. Near the other end of the range is Nevado Yuracyacu (16,460 feet, peak A on F. L. Dunn's map in *Harvard Mountaineering* 12, 1955), which I climbed by the short south ridge, descending to Quebrada Chuoc on April 28, 1968 and again in June, 1969. *Corrections:* In *A.A.J.* 1969, 16:2, p.441 the name Lasocuchuna was an error. It belongs to a place 1½ miles further south where ice is cut for Huancayo stores. No better name for Lasontay Sur has been found so far. On the same page, the height of Raushjanca should be 5008 meters or 16,431 feet according to new maps. Also in the same issue, p.436, replace Yararico by Yanarico, and the height of Cerro Chimboya by 18,009 feet (P 5489 on Carta Nacional).

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## Peru — Cordilleras Vilcabamba and Urubamba

*Salcantay, Cordillera Vilcabamba, and Huascarán Norte, Cordillera Blanca.* The objectives of the Jubilee Expedition of the Sektion Bayerland of the German Alpine Club (DAV) were changed by the earthquake of

May 31, which prevented our climbing on Pucahirca, Alpamayo and Santa Cruz. We arrived in Lima exactly at the time of the earthquake. To our regret, offers to help had to be refused by the Peruvian government for lack of facilities. We then decided to head into the Cordillera Vilcabamba. From June 13 to July 5 we climbed a number of peaks of about 5000 meters from our Base Camp southeast of Salcantay. This lay at 15,600 feet. The southeast ridge of Salcantay descends to P 5100 (16,733 feet), which we climbed five times. This main ridge continues south over P 5000 (16,404 feet; seven ascents), Pass 4950, P 5170 (16,962 feet; four ascents), P 5130 (16,831 feet; three ascents), and P 5350 (17,553 feet; climbed by three expedition members). Just north of the last peak a spur swings west (towards Humantay) from which rises P 5075 (16,650 feet), which five of us climbed. P 5185 (17,011 feet) lies on the ridge that extends northwest from Salcantay; it was climbed by five of us. There was no sign on the summits that any of these peaks had been climbed before and we find no record of ascents in the literature. From June 27 to July 1 Jürgen Vogt, Heinz Höbrich, Michael Olzowy, Heinz Hauer and I made the first ascent of the 4000-foot-high south buttress. The buttress, which starts at 15,250 feet, presents an approach to the upper part of the west ridge, the crest of which we reached on June 30 on the 19,500-foot peak. The buttress is south-facing, extremely difficult and objectively dangerous. We continued a way along the west ridge towards the main summit but quit at 19,750 feet because we did not have adequate equipment, such as 6-foot snow pickets. There were still very difficult and even perpendicular steps of 125 feet, connected by flatter icefields, which measured up to 60°. From June 25 to July 7 Dr. Fritz Weidmann, Manfred Rogge and Herbert Karasek made the second ascent of the northeast ridge, climbed for the first time by the Japanese in 1968. (See *A.A.J.*, 1969, 16:2, pp. 533-4.) Since Base Camp was on the south side of Salcantay, they had to take a day to reach the base of the ridge. They got to the highest (the northeast) summit (20,574 feet)<sup>1</sup> on June 30 to complete the seventh ascent of the peak.

The Corporación del Santa, a government agency in charge of developing the valley of the Río Santa, then requested our help in the earthquake region. They wanted me, as a geodesist, to make a photogrammetric survey of the disaster area of the avalanche which destroyed Yungay and Ranahirca. Meanwhile other members of our group climbed Huascarán Norte (21,834 feet) to check ice conditions and the possibilities of other

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<sup>1</sup> Various altitudes have been given for Salcantay. Dr. Welsch feels that the figure now given by the Peruvian Instituto Geográfico Militar of 6271 meters or 20,574 feet to be accurate and better than the height arrived at by Dr. Egeler's triangulation of 6081 meters 19,951 feet, made in 1956. On Dr. Welsch's recommendation we shall use 20,574 feet.—*Editor*.

avalanches. Dr. Weidmann and Vogt reached the top on July 21; Hauer and the Peruvian porters Justiniano Huamán and Marcelino Morales on July 22 and Köbrich, Karasek and Rogge on July 27. Each group took two to four days from our 13,450-foot Base Camp, climbing the normal route through the Garganta. On August 3 and 4 Olzowy and the porters Morales and Huamán were turned back at about 18,850 feet on Ranrapalca by an 80-foot gap in the summit icefield; doubtless this had been caused by the earthquake. On September 17 Olzowy and Köbrich climbed the main (19,935 feet) and the northeast (19,708 feet) summits of Chachani near Arequipa, both frequently climbed.

WALTER WELSCH, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

*Chuyunco and Salcantay, Cordillera Vilcambamba.* On July 12, starting from Sisaypampa, Bernard Cabane, Bertrand Gaudet, Benoit Finet, Denis Bourgeois, Jean-Jacques Rochon and Francis Bourgogne of the Maison des Jeunes and de la Culture, Romans, climbed Chuyunco I (17,127 feet) by its southwest ridge on a second attempt after a heavy snowfall. They descended, threatened by avalanches, by the southeast ridge. This peak, which lies just east of Salcantay, is the southernmost of a chain which runs north and south, also called Ulluncuy. On July 17, from Yahuarmaqui Pass, Paul Picard and I attempted Acobamba Oeste (16,733 feet) climbing the southeast couloir under the summit. Once past the difficulties, we were swept down 500 feet by a powder-snow avalanche. It took one of us 35 minutes to uncover the other and it was only just possible to reanimate him. This peak is east of Salcantay and southeast of Chuyunco. On July 19 Bernard Cabane and Benoit Finet climbed Salcantay (20,574 feet). They left from Base Camp at Sisaypampa and climbed to a col at 16,400 feet on the northeast ridge. They then followed the Lionel Terray diagonal route across the north face, on which they established two camps.

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*Terijuay, Plateriyayoq and Palanganayoq Groups, Cordillera Urubamba.* The following made up our party: Bob Gunn, John Wild, Cathie Harding, Bruce Webb, Pat Webb and I, all from New Zealand and John Petheram from Rhodesia. We visited the most northerly extension of the Cordillera Urubamba. The Terijuay had been visited by an Italian party in 1963. (See *A.A.J.*, 1964, 14:1, pp. 217-8 and *Revista Mensile*, 1964, p. 413.) A party