

Cerro Torre. The furor goes on unabated over the 1971 ascent of Cerro Torre by Cesare Maestri, in which the Italian climbers placed an enormous number of bolts with the help of a pneumatic drill. It will be remembered that in 1959 Maestri claimed the first ascent by the east face, north col and north ridge. In this climb he was accompanied by Toni Egger, who on the descent was swept off to his death by an avalanche. Over the years, more and more doubts have been expressed as to whether they had actually got to the top. Maestri's 1971 ascent apparently did not end at the summit but on the shoulder below the final mushroom of ice, possibly 200 feet from the top. *Mountain*, 23, of September 1972 has devoted much of the issue to the Cerro Torre. Included is an article on Maestri's climbs, one on the Anglo-Swiss attempt of 1972, and an interview with Maestri.

Cerro Solo. After the Anglo-Swiss expedition to Cerro Torre, Eric Jones made in February a solo ascent of Cerro Solo in five hours.

Monte Sarmiento, Western Summit, Tierra del Fuego. The third Italian expedition led by Giuseppe Agnolotti to attempt the western summit of Monte Sarmiento from October 27 to November 20 got to within 125 feet of the summit but could not climb a final overhang covered with cauliflower snow. Accompanying Agnolotti were Rinaldo Bonino, Ezio La Boria, Antonio Perino, Alberto Re, Franco Girodi and Padre Giuseppe Ferrari.

EUROPE

Grandes Jorasses and Aiguille de Leschaux, Mont Blanc Group. On August 11 Guido Machetto and I made the first ascent of the south face of the Grandes Jorasses. We climbed the 5000-foot-high face in three days, starting from the Ferret Valley. Our first bivouac was 500 feet above the base and the second 1300 feet below the summit. The new route is the longest face climb in the Mont Blanc group. On August 23 Miller Rava and I made the first ascent of the *direttissima* of the north-east face of the Aiguille de Leschaux. Our route is left of Cassin's. We climbed the face in two days, starting from the Dalmazzi hut. The face is 2600 feet high and we bivouacked 350 feet below the top. It was very difficult free and artificial climbing.

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ASIA

Nepal

European Everest Expedition. The pre-monsoon European Everest expedition's attempt to climb the southwest face ended in abject failure