

little snow and were not able to use their skis, as expected, most of the way down.

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### Chile and Argentina—Patagonia

*Climbs in Patagonia.* We update the account given in *A.A.J.*, 1974 on pages 201-2. There are excellent reports on the Italian ascent of Cerro Torre on pages 26 to 29 and on the Swiss attempt on the east buttress of Fitz Roy on pages 32 and 33 of *Mountain* of September, 1974. The British expedition to the east buttress of Fitz Roy led by Peter Minks failed, as did the Polish expedition on the American route. An Argentine expedition on February 10 made the first ascent of Aguja Mermoz, which is north of and attached to Fitz Roy. Guillermo Vieiro, Héctor Cuiña and Fermín Olaechea climbed the 2500-foot north face to reach the top. Cerro Moyano, which had been unsuccessfully attempted by Jorge Skvarca's expedition in 1973, again repulsed Cesare Fava, Boris Kambic and Fausto Barozzi. Before his death on Cerro Adela, Rafael Juárez unsuccessfully attempted with José Luis Fonrouge the east face of Cerro Murallón.

*Peaks above the Northern Patagonia Icecap.* The British Joint Services Expedition (11 members, plus two Chilean army lieutenants), led by C. H. Agnew and C. S. Gobey, spent five months (October 1972-March 1973) on the Chilean Northern Continental Ice. From the base, set up at Kelly Inlet, the group made inland trips to pursue research in hydrology, geology, glaciology, natural history and surveying. During the survey trips, a party attempted Patagonia's highest peak, San Valentín, reaching no higher than 2000 meters because of bad weather and avalanche danger. Cerro La Torre (the "Torre Tobler", of the New Zealanders) was likewise attempted and the attempt abandoned because of avalanche risk. One of the leaders and two climbers tackled Cerro Arenales (11,253 feet), reaching a pass of 2000 meters on the Colonia glacier, but were forced to abandon the attempt on the peak because of crevasses. The last four weeks of the expedition were spent exploring and partially surveying the Benito, San Quintín, San Rafael, Colonia and Andrée glaciers. On March 21, 1973, the party was evacuated by ship.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*Torre Egger and Innominata.* Our expedition consisted of Dr. Daniel Reid, Rick Sylvester, *Americans*, Rafael Juárez, *Argentine*, Eric Jones, Tut Braithwaite, Martin Boysen, Mick Coffey, Keith Lewis, Don Whillans and me, *British*. For more than two months, from the first days of December into February, we threw everything we had at a vertical pillar