

*Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta Western peaks.* Ours was the third University of Vermont climbing and spider-collecting expedition to this range. Since Arhuaco Indians had apparently sealed off the sierra to all outsiders, we chose this time the western approach. Entering from San Pedro, we reached the highland after five days of ridge crossing and reconnaissances. Tom Buechner, John Kochalka and I climbed Mission Peak (14,300 feet), highest of the Donan Chucua ridge on March 7. Kochalka also ascended several other peaks around 14,000 feet, some for the first time. On March 14, all three climbers mentioned plus Dave Vreeland climbed Nevado Tesoro (5250 meters, 17,225 feet) and on the 15th, Pico Simmons (5660 meters, 18,570 feet) via the west glacier. We returned in five days to San Pedro, in which area Kochalka then did spider-collecting.

PIETER CROW, *Green Mountain Club*

*Huila, Tolima and Cocuy peaks.* "Andes-75," a Polish expedition from Gdansk composed of seven speleologists and climbers led by Walenty Fiut, explored the main caves of central Colombia and also did some mountaineering in the Cordillera Central and in the Sierra Nevada del Cocuy in the eastern part of the country. In the former, the Poles made the first ascent of the unnamed (southern) peak of the Huila massif (c. 5150 meters, 16,897 feet) in late December; they have asked the Colombian government to name this peak "Pico Polonia." With the German H. Frank and the Colombians H. González and J. Curzio they also made the third ascent of Pico Mayor del Huila (c. 5350 meters, 17,553 feet). On January 3, 1976, two expedition members ascended Nevado del Tolima (5215 meters, 17,112 feet). In the Cocuy range, W. Fiut, H. Frank, G. Goeggel, S. Gaviria and D. Otero climbed on January 19 and 20 Nevado Pan de Azúcar (Nevado del Pulpito, 5210 meters, 17,093 feet) and "Toti," locally known as Nevado Paloblanco (5074 meters, 16,646 feet). Fiut alone also climbed Pulpito del Diablo ("Devil's Pulpit"), a rock block about 16,000 feet, rising in the middle of the west glacier of Nevado Pan de Azúcar, probably a third ascent.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*Nevado de Cocuy.* Six Colombian students, Santiago Pérez, Pancho and Sergio Gaviria, Juan Manuel Díaz, Andrés Uribe and Pepe Luis Moreno, climbed Ritacuba Blanco (17,926 feet) on March 25. Moreno and S. Gaviria also made the first Colombian ascent of Ritacuba Negro (17,681 feet) the next day. A crevasse on the latter, where some equipment was found, appears to be the spot where Ian Harverson and Peter Jennings were lost in December 1973 (*A.A.J.*, 1974, p. 123).