

to the summit facing the south (*A.A.J.*, 1962, P. 503). We followed the prominent pillar that rises directly to the summit and splits the south face. The climb took 8 hours.

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Colombia

Pulpito Negro and Other Peaks, Cordillera Oriental. J. Chávez, H. Frank and S. Gaviria of the Club Campo Abierto, Bogotá, on October 31 1977 made the second ascent of Pulpito Negro (4930 meters, 16,175 feet), a prominent rock tower capped with ice, located west of Puntia-gudo. The first ascent was accomplished in 1957 by two Cambridge students (*A.A.J.*, 1959, p. 319). The last two climbers, plus J. Bachmann, H. Goeggel, J. Moreno, M. Noguera and V. Stumbaum on December 10, 1977 made the first ascent of the unnamed three-peaked mountain (c. 4900 meters; 16,076 feet) located northeast of the Laguna (lake) de la Sierra. Frank and Gaviria detached from the main group to traverse also the two lower peaks. Both mountains are situated in the Cocuy (Güicán) district, of this range.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

Alto Ritacuba and Other Peaks, Cordillera Oriental. Two expeditions from our club were active in the northern portion of the Cocuy or Güicán district. On December 23, 1977, Rosa Pabón and I ascended Alto Ritacuba, highest in the entire range (5464 meters, 17,928 feet) by its standard route. E Gómez, R. Hansen, E. Paparoni and S. Pérez repeated the ascent the following day. Two days later, Rosa Pabón and I ascended Puntia-gudo (5019 meters, 16,466 feet) and Pulpito Negro (4930 meters, 16,175 feet), both third ascents. At Easter 1978 we returned to the range. Elio Zambrano and I climbed for the first time the very fine south face of Alto Ritacuba in five hours of ascent from our high camp up steep slopes alternating with deep crevasses.

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Pico La Cresta, Nevado del Huila, Cordillera Central. Sergio Gaviria and two Basque climbers (both members of the Spanish expedition to Everest in 1980) made the first ascent of Pico La Cresta (c. 5200 meters, or 17,061 feet) in December. It had been the highest unclimbed peak in Colombia.

PIETER CROW