

This turned out to be a classic, if somewhat exposed and delicate, route. The same party climbed Chopiraju Oeste via the west face and ridge on August 9. On August 10 our camp guardian L. Catalino and I scrambled up Choco via the southeast ridge. Our final visit was to the Quebrada Llanganuco where on August 16 Bussey and I climbed Yanaraju via the southwest face and ridge. On August 18 Bussey, Heslop and I climbed Pisco Oeste via the standard route. Prior to our departure from Huaraz, we donated our medical supplies to the local hospital. A detailed account of the expedition appears in the *Canadian Alpine Journal*, 1979.

KEVIN O'CONNELL, *Alpine Club of Canada*

Pucamataraju. The Quebrada Rurec opened to our admiration, dominated by imposing Huantsán. Night closed in as Giorgio Pettigiani and I camped on the shore of Lake Tararhua at 14,450 feet. The next night we were camped at 16,000 feet, east of Cashan Este. Away at dawn on May 18, we climbed north to the col east of Pucamataraju, the summit which lies just east of Cashan Este. The ridge was heavily corniced to the north. We continued on and on along the delicate ridge and finally surmounted the sharp summit of Pucamataraju (18,111 feet).

GIUSEPPE AGNOLOTTI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Huantsán, North Ridge. Our team was composed of Rémy Auda, Pascal Bonnier, Genviève and Jean Paul Bouquier, Laurent Coursol, Pierre Ferry and me. On August 8 we made the third ascent of the north ridge of Huantsán, but our approach to the ridge differed from the two previous ascents. We ascended from the Quebrada Rajucolta, where we placed our Base Camp. We set out for the summit alpine-style from Camp II at 18,375 feet and did the climb from there at the foot of the ridge in three days, up and back. The ridge was not particularly difficult but very rewarding.

GÉRARD MARTIN, *Club Alpin Français*

Ski Descents in the Cordillera Blanca. Patrick Vallençant made a number of ski descents, some of which have been noted elsewhere in this *Journal*. He skied down the normal route on Huascarán Norte on June 2. On June 23 with Dominique André, Jean-Marc Boivin and Michel Poencet he skied from the summit of Huascarán Sur. Boivin and Poencet skied the north face of Quitaraju on June 14 and Pisco Oeste by the normal route on June 30.

Peru—Cordillera Huayhuash

Yerupajá, West Face Direct. The Germans Ulrich Eberhard and Hans Martin Götz completed the first direct ascent of the west face of Yerupajá on June 28, 1977, some two weeks before the French ascent. (The face

had been climbed before by less direct routes.) It took them half a day to climb the 30-foot-high overhanging bergschrund, on which they left a short fixed rope. The pair spent two days on the wall and climbed some 2500 vertical feet before being driven down by a storm which lasted four days. Finally they made the climb in a single ten-hour push. The other members of the expedition were B. Gumpert, F. Scheidhacker, C. Wildemann, Hanne Fauler and Gerdi Strobel.

Ninashanca, Northeast Ridge and Southeast Buttress. In June Arnold Larcher, Dieter Blümel, Adolf Praxmair and I climbed the northeast ridge of Ninashanca, more or less without problems. In August in a single day Egon Wurm and Hannes Condin made alpine-style a new route, the southeast buttress, a mixed climb of some 5000 feet. The rock was very good. After overcoming some very difficult ice they reached the upper part of the northeast ridge, which they followed to the top. Wurm soloed the east ridge of Jirishanca Chico.

ERICH GRAU, Club Montana, Austria

Yerupajá Chico. Yves Astier made the second ascent of the north face solo on June 1. This was previously reported as Yerupajá Sur.

Rasac and Yerupajá Sur, West Face Direct, Cordillera Huayhuash. Our expedition was composed of Emili Cavis, Lluís Belvis, Jaume Bonaventura, Ricard Vila, Josep Ponce, Enric Ribot and me. We installed Base Camp on the shore of Jahuacocha and Camp II was in the col between Yerupajá and Rasac. On July 16 Cavis and I climbed Rasac (19,817 feet), followed the next day by Vila, Ponce and Buenaventura. On the 18th Cavis and I reconnoitered a direct route (first done by B. Müller's party in 1977) on the west face of Yerupajá Sur to 18,875 feet, reaching an ice cave and fixing ropes among the séracs. We returned to Camp II. On July 19 Ponce and I left Camp II at ten P.M. and got to the ice cave of a bivouac at midnight. On the 20th we climbed an ice couloir of 55° and bivouacked in a tiny hole in the ice. On the 21st we attacked the steepest portion 65° and reached the col between the main and south peaks for a third cold (-25° C), windy bivouac. On July 22 we reached the summit of Yerupajá Sur at 9:30 A.M. The ridge up to the main summit was too dangerous. We returned to the col and made nine rappels to reach the normal ascent route. We were back in Camp II at 9:30 P.M. The route has a vertical rise of over 1000 meters.

JORDI PONS, Centre Excursionista de Catalunya

Rasac, West Face and Tsacra Chico, South Face. On August 7 Giorgio Brianzi, Lino Tagliabue, Sante Armuzzi, Giampietro Volpi, Giulio Beggio and Massimo Leoni reached the summit of Rasac (19,817 feet). They