

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 Civis, 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 Civis and I climbed Rasac (19,817 feet), followed the next day by Vila, Ponce and Buenaventura. On the 18th Civis and I reconnoitered a direct route (first done by B. Muller'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.

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*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

had spent four days making an alpine-style ascent of the west face of Rasac, a difficult route threatened the whole way by séracs. They rappelled down the same route. From Base Camp on Jahuacocha at 13,300 feet, on August 11 they all climbed Patarcocha (Cerro México, 16,610 feet). Their final climb, made on August 14, was what was probably the second ascent of the south face of Tsacra Chico (18,255 feet), where they found difficulties they compared to those on the great north faces in the Alps. To reach the face they crossed the Rasac col to the Seria valley. They descended the easy north ridge.

*Rasac, East Face.* Michèle Besinge, Yves Astier and James Mérel climbed the east face of Rasac in July, 1976. The climb was repeated twice in 1977 by French and Germans (*A.A.J.*, 1978 pp. 571-2.) This route was repeated in 1978 by several French climbers, including Mérel, who did it solo.

*Rasac, East Face.* A light Chilean expedition composed of G. Cassasa, A. Izquierdo, M. Riesco and E. Saavedra, placed a base camp near Jahuacocha lake and on July 18, attempted the S.W. ridge of Yerupajá Sur, reaching almost 20,000 ft., and were forced to retreat because of the impossibility of finding a suitable bivouac place. On July 22, Cassasa, Riesco and an Australian named Jimmy (no last name given) ascended Rasac (6040 m., 19,817 ft.) by its steep east face. (Information from leader A. Izquierdo).

E. ECHEVARRÍA

*Siulá, East Face.* Our team consisted of Dr. Kurt Schoisswohl, Mario Blumenthaler, Michl Grüner and me. Our objective was a direct ascent of the east face of Siulá Grande. (Apparently this was different from the Catalanian route of 1963.—*Editor.*) Five days after our departure from Zürich on July 18, we reached Base Camp on Laguna Carhuacocha. Three days later we pitched camp just below the col between Siulá and Yerupajá at about 18,200 feet. We waited until August 2 for reliable weather and on August 3 dropped 650 feet to start the east face. Above the bergschrund we climbed three pitches in steep névé and then continued on the summit fall-line for 12 pitches on solid limestone, where we were threatened by frequent rockfall. We then did seven pitches on the adjoining ice face to the right (50° to 70°) to reach a 70° couloir. In the evening, after 15 hours of climbing, we got to the summit cornice. We bivouacked in a crevasse at the foot of the cornice. The following morning, in stormy weather, we started to descend the many cornices of the north ridge, by which Erwin Schneider had made the first ascent many years ago. Shortly before us, a group from Graz, Austria, and two climbers from Colorado had had to give up on this north ridge. The descent was difficult and dangerous and took us 12 hours. Some days