

and Chopicalqui by the normal routes and a first ascent on the west face of Toqllaraju. The new route takes a line up the right (south) part of the face and connects with the ridge 100 meters south of the summit. In June Blatherwick soloed the north face of Ranrapallka following the 1975 route from Ishinca. He also soloed a route on the east face of Huascarán, a variant of the 1971 ANZUS route. Starting at the high point on the glacier, he moved up and left following ice gullies in the center of the face and then back to the right into large snowfields below the summit ridge. He started slightly right (north) of the ANZUS route and joined it above the ice gullies. He took 2½ days with two bivouacs in the face. He reached the summit on July 4 and descended the normal route. On July 10 Blatherwick and I climbed the Nevado Parón by its long west ridge. The approach was from the Quebrada Santa Cruz. We made the climb in a long day from a camp just below the Parón-Artesonraju col. In late July and early August I made two solo ascents: San Juan by its south ridge in six hours from the Tumarinaraju-San Juan col and Maparaju by the east face. The route on Maparaju follows the obvious north-south diagonal snow-and-ice ramps to the south ridge 200 meters below the summit. It took seven hours to climb and descend Maparaju. Both climbs were approached from the Quebrada Carhuas-cancha.

MARK RICHEY

Pucaranra, West Face Attempt. We were a month in the Quebrada Cojup, but for the first three weeks the weather was bad. We were Esther Martín, Chiqui González-Betes, Carlos Gallego and I. On August 17 Gallego and I opened a new route to the right of the ridge climbed in 1977 by Nicolas Jaeger. After a bivouac and when we had still 350 feet to go to the summit, we had to give up because of respiratory problems. The 2500-foot-high face was very difficult. Only three rope-lengths were less than 60° and some approached 75°.

JAVIER DONÉS PASTOR, *Club Alpino Maliciosa Spain*

Huascarán Norte, Northeast Face and Oqshapallka, South Face, and Other Peaks, 1979. After acclimatizing on Yanapaqtsa, Pisco and Toqllaraju, all by their normal routes, Bruce Blatherwick and I climbed the north face of Ranrapallka by the 1975 route in ten hours from the highest lake in the Quebrada Ishinca in late July, 1979, descending on the second day. One week later Robert Blatherwick and I made an alpine ascent of the magnificent 5250-foot-high northeast face of Huascarán Norte by the 1973 route in two days to the summit. Climbers should note that the fixed ropes left by an earlier ascent party on the 500-foot vertical rock band are extremely rotten and cannot be trusted. With a

PLATE 67

Photo by Robert Blatherwick

**Mark Richey on the vertical rock band
on the Northeast Face of
HUASCARÁN NORTE.**



medium-sized aid rack, this is a superb climb. On August 9, 1979 Robert Blatherwick and I made the first ascent of the south face of Oqshapallka (5881 meters, 19,295 feet). From the glacier above Laguna Llaca the route takes a direct line up the center of the face to the summit. Eighteen hours of difficult mixed climbing on the first day led to a bivouac in an ice cave just below the summit cornices. The following day it took us four hours to climb the remaining 150 feet of nearly vertical snow to the summit. The descent took five hours via the north face to the glacier above Ishinca.

MARK RICHEY

Huascarán, the Garganta from the East. Catalans Jordi Agulló, J. Angles, Toni Bros, Joaquín Prunes, R. Biosco and Spaniard Rodolfo Pajares in September climbed a new route to the Garganta up the icefall from the east and from there continued on to the summit up the left center of the north slope. An avalanche swept their route the day before they climbed it.

CÉSAR MORALES ARNAO, *Club Andino Peruano*

Huascarán, Southeast Ridge Attempt. Our group consisted of Hubert Stampfer, Horst Kahl, Kurt Kirchner and me. After acclimatization climbs on Yanapactsa Noroeste and Pisco Oeste on June 3 and 6, we set off up the Quebradas Uta and Mátara to Base Camp on a lake at 15,550 feet. On June 11 we climbed to the glacier at 17,000 feet and up the southeast ridge to camp at 18,375 feet; there were short, steep steps with easier terrain between. On the 12th we climbed first snow and ice and then a rotten ridge. At 19,000 feet one of our comrades fell with a large block some 50 feet into a gully, but was held. He had head wounds, a concussion and nausea. We bivouacked there. The next day we had to help the injured climber back to 18,375 feet. The evacuation on the 14th was aided by two of our porters. He recovered in the hospital in Huaraz. The ridge is rather more dangerous because of rotten rock than difficult. It was first climbed in 1971 by New Zealanders.

HANNES ZECHEL, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

Huandoy Norte and Cayesh. Geoff Creighton's and my first objective was Huandoy Norte by a new route* that ascends the steep, broad apron

* This may actually have been the second ascent of this route since the description sounds like the one given by the Swiss R. Schatz and E. Reiss in 1959.