

and Joshi tried a mixed free-and-aid route on the main 2000-foot face, but were defeated by the extremely wet conditions, while Marek Danielek and I were successful on an easier (F9, AO) route on a shorter flanking wall. Several routes on Kazalnica have been done all free and obviously offer climbs of sustained difficulty. We also climbed on several limestone practice crags around Zakopane and outside of Kraków, finding climbs of very great technical difficulty. While many Polish climbers are still oriented to alpine-style techniques, increasing numbers are devoted to pure free-climbing and climbs of at least F12 have been made.

During the rainy spells we did some sightseeing, finding Kraków, which survived destruction during World War II, to be an especially intriguing old city while the reconstruction of Warsaw was fascinating. We left with warm feelings for the wonderful and brave Polish people, memories of beautiful climbs in spectacular scenery, and hopes to return again in the future. We both feel the Exchange to be a great success and hope that the AAC continues and expands the program in the future. We urge all climbers to participate, either as hosts to visiting climbers or as visitors themselves. Either way, you will have a highly rewarding experience.

ALAN RUBIN

SOUTH AMERICA

Colombia

Unnamed Peak, North Face, Ritacuba Group, Cordillera Oriental. Venezuelans Ricardo Hansen and I climbed on December 26, 1980 for the first time the steep north face of the sharp ice peak immediately south of Alto Ritacuba. Probable height is 5200 meters (c. 17,000 feet). We followed the same approach as for Alto Ritacuba itself. So far as it is known, this peak has no name and it may be P 17,460 ascended in July 1957 by the Cambridge expedition (A.A.J., 1958, page 106).

JOSÉ BETANCOURT, *Centro de Andinismo-Universidad de los Andes, Mérida, Venezuela*

Alto Ritacuba and Other Peaks, Cordillera Oriental. In late December 1980, I made alone the following ascents: from a camp near Laguna (lake) de Cardenillo, Nevado Alto Ritacuba (5464 meters, 17,926 feet) on December 24, Ritacuba Norte (Nevado de Güicán 5257 meters, 17,250 feet) on December 25 and Puntiaquito (5019 meters, 16,466 feet), the following day. I paid the Sierra Nevada de Cocuy a second visit in February 1981. With a Frenchman named Thierry, I ascended on February 17 Nevado Concovito (also called Pan de Azúcar, 5174 meters, 16,974 feet) and then traversed to the summit of Nevado del

Cóncavo (5268 meters, 17,285 feet). The next day I climbed alone Los Portales (4860 meters, 15,945 feet), a second ascent. An attempt on Nevado del Pulpito (5210 meters, 17,093 feet) was thwarted by thick mist.

CRISPIN HEATH, *Pereira, Colombia*

La Cresta, Central Andes. Luis Fernando Toro, from Manizales, and I did on December 29, 1980 the second ascent of La Cresta, 5100 meters (16,733 feet) by my altimeter. This peak in the Huila group, was first climbed by Sergio Gaviria and two Spaniards in 1979. We entered from Verdún (there is now a road allowing access from the Cauca valley, via Corinto and Tacayo) and hired two men to help hack a route up through dense rain forest.

CRISPIN HEATH, *Pereira, Colombia*

Ecuador

Chimborazo Traverse and Other Ecuadorian Ascents. Six members of Cumbres Andinas, Quito, made between November 1 and 4, 1979, the first complete traverse of Chimborazo. The group, led by M. Jácome, placed a camp on a rocky platform between the Reiss and Spruce glaciers (north side of Chimborazo) and took a southwest direction to traverse toward the Whymper Hut. A bivouac some 1000 feet below the main summit was necessary. Between late December 1980 and early January 1981, Ecuadorians made the fourth ascent of Canónigo (5260 meters, 17,257 feet) and the second and third of Fraile Grande (5200 meters, 17,061 feet), in the Altar massif. Leader of the group of six was M. Reinoso. On March 14 a new hut was inaugurated at the base of Cayambe's southwest Hermoso Glacier. It was located at 4600 meters (15,092 feet) and has a capacity for 42 visitors. At 5789 meters (18,993 feet), Cayambe is the third highest mountain in Ecuador (Information from both *Montaña* and *Andinismo*, Quito).

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

Quilindaña, North Face. Quilindaña (4877 meters, 16,002 feet) located in the Cordillera Oriental of Ecuador, is usually referred to as the Matterhorn of this country because of its appearance as a rock tower. In October 1975, a French-Ecuadorian group made with difficulty the first ascent of the north face and west ridge of the mountain. On October 8, 1980 solo I climbed the north face and the upper east ridge. The same day, also alone, the Ecuadorian E. Mesa repeated this route.

AMÉRICO TORDOYA, *Club Andino Peruano*