

Cerro San Enrique, Quimsa Cruz, 1980. Elaine Brooke had climbed in the Quimsa Cruz before and knew her way there. I remember little of the approach since most of the travel was at night in trucks. Somewhere, about 100 kilometers south of La Paz, we turned off the main highway and headed east. On the morning of May 28, 1980 we caught another truck to our destination, the mining village of Malla Chuma, which lies desolate at the head of a steep, barren valley just below the snout of a glacier at 15,750 feet. The inhabitants, Aymara Indians, treated us well. The only other climbers they remember were Japanese in 1979, who climbed a peak just above the village. We bivouacked at the base of the glacier. On May 29 we walked across the glacier to the foot of the south face of our peak. Because of the sun on the face and laziness, we bivouacked again. On May 30, 1980 we were off early. The face was a straightforward 55° or steeper. About 75 feet below the summit we traversed west along the lip of a bergschrund and followed a steep ramp to the summit. From the top we could look directly north to Illimani. We descended the steeper northwest face because it was in the shade. We estimate the height to be 19,000 feet (5791 meters).

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Argentina

Aconcagua, South Face. Wayne Goss and Chris Reveley made an alpine-style ascent of the Messner Direct route on the south face of Aconcagua in eight days early in 1981.

Aconcagua South Face, Winter Ascent. A small Japanese group of the Tokyo club, U-Tan, managed to accomplish the first ascent of the famous south face on August 16 at the peak of the Southern Hemisphere winter. Participants were Tsuneo Hasegawa, leader, Yoshihumi Miyazi, Shigeto Ogura, Hiroshi Uchiyama and the woman Masami Shinomiya. The expedition used skis to transport equipment to the base of the face (which the leader Hasegawa had ascended the previous summer). Three camps were placed on the face and from the third, with two additional bivouacs, Hasegawa climbed alone, combining the French 1954 route and the Messner 1974 variant. He aimed at the ridge between the two summits of Aconcagua and then reached the main one. The face was descended on August 17 by the whole group, which again used skis to return to Puente del Inca.

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Aconcagua, Solo Ascent of South Face and Hang-Glider Descent. Two separate French expeditions were active on Aconcagua in February. Ivan Ghirardini soloed the south face, reaching the summit on February