

*Angmagssalik Region, East Greenland.* Cormac Higgs, Colin Wootton and I arrived in Angmagssalik on July 20 where we met our sea freight. Our plan was to travel in our inflatable boat to the head of Kangertitvatsiaq Fjord, about 140 miles to the north and from there to sledge north for 70 miles to reach the range containing P 3060. This is an area of fine, big peaks almost totally unvisited due to its inaccessibility. Our coastal journey was hampered by the heaviest sea ice for many years. Kangertitvatsiaq was, in mid-July, still under winter ice! Our early attempts to complete the boat journey failed east of Sermiligaq and we altered our plan. We established a Base Camp at the head of Sermiligaq Fjord and set off to attempt to reach P 3060 with 40 days' supplies. We were stopped on the Haabets Glacier after 15 days of hard work. We then lost two days to a severe blizzard during which our tent was badly damaged. We made a protracted retreat to Base Camp and on by boat to Angmagssalik, during which we took opportunities to climb. Apart from several minor peaks, mainly around the head of the Knud Rasmussen Glacier (notable for their loose rock and stunning scenery) and north of Angmagssalik, we climbed the apparently virgin "Turtle's Beak" on August 18. This peak, west of the Knut Rasmussen Glacier (66°11'N) is approximately 2000 feet high and the summit is a frightful prow of rock, overhanging a vertical drop of 1000 feet. We climbed the northwest ridge and the west face of the summit tower. On September 1 and 2, in a 32-hour epic, we made the apparent first ascent of Nanerersarpik, a fine mountain rising from sea level to 1080 meters (3543 feet), northwest of Kingmiut. With a dawn start, we climbed the southeast buttress and then a superb sharp ridge to gain the summit (loose and serious; Grade 4). We had to sit out eight hours of darkness on the summit. It is worth noting that our flight to Søndre Strømfjord was delayed for five days due to bad weather. The record delay is 25 days!

GEOFFREY MONAGHAN, *England*

*Alfred Wegener Peninsula.* Our expedition was made up of Emil Galehr, Heinz Grasbon, Berhard Grimm, Gerhard and Waltraut Huber, Helmut Koch and me as leader. We were carried by fishing boat from Umanak to Base Camp at Tuperssuatsiait on the western part of the south coast of Alfred Wegener Peninsula on July 14. P 1922 (6308 feet), P 1900 (6234 feet) and P 1850 (6070 feet), north of Base Camp, were climbed on July 16 by Galehr, Grasbon, Koch and me and on July 19 by Grimm and both Hubers. The latter two peaks lie west of P 1922. On July 19 P 1900 (6234 feet), which lies east of P 1922, was climbed via its south and west ridges by Galehr and Koch and via its southeast ridge (UIAA III or IV) by Grasbon and me. On July 21 and 22 Galehr, Grasbon and I traveled east and then traversed the ridge (UIAA IV) that tends northeast over P 1420 (4823 feet), P 1580 (5184 feet) and P 1833 (6014 feet). On July 24 Grimm, Koch and I climbed P 1100 (3609 feet; UIAA V), just north of Base Camp. On July 27 the Hubers and Koch climbed P 1600 (5250 feet; UIAA V),

which lies near the northern coast on the western tip of the peninsula, while Galehr, Grasbon and I climbed the 1450-meter (4758-foot) tower just west of it (UIAA V). On July 9 Grasbon and I climbed P 1400 (4593 feet) northwest of Base Camp. We believe that ten of these were first ascents.

KARL MALIN, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

## SOUTH AMERICA

### Venezuela

*Pico Vértigo, East Face and Other Climbs.* Venezuelan mountaineering has now entered a new phase, in which new routes on rock walls are sought. Local walls, granitic, are steep and at times vertical, albeit short, averaging 300 to 700 feet high. Artificial aid is often used. On June 22, 1981, together with four other climbers I made the ascent of the east wall of Pico Antón Goering (4550 meters, 14,928 feet), located between El León and El Toro. This name was given after a German artist who visited the Venezuelan Andes in 1868. On March 6, 1982, G. Gómez and I opened the east-face route on Pico Vértigo (c. 4900 meters, 16,076 feet), the "Dru" of Venezuela; in the upper part we changed around to the south face. Both peaks belong to the Sierra Nevada de Mérida. In the Sierra del Norte, situated north of the Andean city of Mérida, there are many unclimbed rock walls of interest. Quality of the rock varies. On March 14, G. Gomez and I climbed the east face of La Vieja III (c. 4300 meters, 14,108 feet). On November 14, the east face of La Vieja I (also c. 4300 meters) was also climbed, two girls, Rosa Pabón and Xiomara Rojas participating, plus A. Rángel and I. Finally, late in October, G. Reinosa and I climbed the east face of Pico La Torre (4311 meters, 14,144 feet). All these routes listed are new.

JOSÉ BETANCOURT, *Mérida, Venezuela*

### Ecuador

*Obispo and Fraile Grande, Altar Group, 1981.* The Altar group consists of many peaks and pinnacles, which create the rim of a volcanic crater. Dave Jones and I climbed Obispo by its standard route, the south face. We bivouacked on the summit and then descended the long and difficult east ridge to the Obispo-Monja Grande col. From there we could descend to the glacier on the south side. This traverse took four days in late November 1981. In late December 1981 I returned with a Scot, Mike Orr and climbed the east ridge of the Fraile Grande, not a new route, and traversed the peak, descending the west ridge to a col from which we descended the glacier to the north.

CARLOS BUHLER