

Peru—Cordillera Blanca

Puntancuerno. Our expedition was composed of Bernardo Davila, leader, Augusto Ortega, Jorge Pinatte, Ricardo Colonia, Alfonso Estremadoyro, Juan Miguel Alba and me. We placed Base Camp at 13,775 feet on the shores of Yuracocha on August 14. We made a high camp at 18,375 feet on August 18. To reach this camp we had to climb the very crevassed, dangerous glacier. There were six vertical walls from 35 to 65 feet high. On August 19 we made a summit attempt that failed some 500 feet from the summit in bad weather, which we experienced 80% of the time we were there. On August 20 Ortega and I made rapid progress halfway up the summit ridge, thanks to the ropes we had fixed the day before. From there on, the ridge was even more difficult. The cornices were highly unstable. One particularly difficult rope-length was a vertical traverse where we climbed between the rock and ice. At four P.M. we surmounted the last great cornice, which was the summit.

AMÉRICO TORDOYA, *Club Andino Peruano*

Uruashraju, Northwest Face, Kashan Este, Northeast Face, and Other Peaks. Our expedition was composed of Pete du Preez, Tim and Janet Hughes, Jonathan Levy, Michael Scott, Dr. Robin Sandell, Antonio da Cruz, Des Watkins, Mrs. Felicity Eggleston, my 15-year-old son Alistair Schoon and me. We drove to the Pitec roadhead at the entrance to the Quebrada Qelkaywanka, joined by our Peruvian porter, Emilio Angeles. An easy two-day walk up the valley with equipment and food on 18 donkeys brought us to our first Base Camp at 14,100 feet below Laguna Tullparaju. For acclimatization we made the following climbs: Jatunmontepuncu (5415 meters, 17,766 feet) from a subcamp at 15,575 feet via southwest ridge on June 16 by du Preez, Sandell, A.F. and W.A. Schoon, Scott; Chopiraju (5475 meters, 17,962 feet) from a 16,400-foot subcamp via west shoulder on June 18 by T. Hughes, Levy; and Wamanripa (5243 meters, 17,530 feet) from a 15,425-foot subcamp via east slope and ridge on June 21 by Eggleston, J. Hughes, Sandell, Watkins. Then bad weather severely affected climbing done from the first Base Camp. Our attempt on Chinchey was stopped by high winds and snow. Unsettled weather persisted until we completed the traverse from Laguna Tullparaju to our second Base Camp in the Quebrada Rajuqolta. The traverse involved climbing over the high pass between San Juan and Kimarumi onto the Quebrada Shallap icefall, crossing the Wamashraju ridge west of P 5406 and into the Quebrada Rajuqolta. From a subcamp on the San Juan-Kimarumi col at 17,225 feet on June 28 Levy and T. Hughes climbed San Juan (5843 meters, 19,170 feet) via the northwest ridge while du Preez and Sandell climbed the east ridge of Kimarumi (5459 meters, 17,910 feet). On June 30 du Preez, Sandell, Scott and I climbed P 5406 (17,737 feet) from the 16,000-foot col via the north glacier and northeast ridge. On July 2 Levy soloed from the 14,100-foot Rajuqolta Base Camp the east ridge of P 5377 (17,641 feet) on the Kashan Ridge. On July 3

PLATE 66

Photo by H. Adams Carter

**PUNTANCUERNO is higher sharp
peak in center. Chinchey at right.**



du Preez and Scott climbed via the east ridge P 5200 (17,061 feet) on the Wamashraju ridge from a 16,075-foot subcamp while J. Hughes, Sandell, my son and I climbed Yawarraju (5675 meters, 18,619 feet) from a subcamp at 17,400 feet via the northwest ridge and then traversed to Rurec (5700 meters, 18,701 feet). T. Hughes and Levy climbed Huantsán (6395 meters, 20,981 feet) via the 1952 route with four bivouacs, reaching the summit on July 7. Scott, my son and I made a new route on Uruashraju (5735 meters, 18,815 feet) from a 16,750-foot subcamp north of Uruashraju Norte. We climbed over Uruashraju Norte's northwest spur and by the northwest face to the summit. On July 10 Levy made a new route on Kashan Este (5723 meters, 18,777 feet) from the Rajuqolta Base Camp via the northeast face.

ANDRÉ SCHOON, *South Africa*

Ocshapalca, South Face. Bernard Francou, Jean Michael Cambon and I reconnoitered a safe route on the east face of Cayesh but we could reach only 17,000 feet because of very bad weather. We moved across the range to Huaraz and then made a new route on the south face of Ocshapalca. It took us ten hours on June 20 to ascend. We rappelled down the same route in five. The 2000-foot-high wall varied from 55° to perpendicular. This extremely difficult ice route is comparable to the south face of Chacaraju in difficulty. We attacked the face a little to the right of the summit just on the right of a rocky spur that rises diagonally to the left. Above the spur we climbed six ice pitches on an ice slope to a series of gullies. We then ascended one nearly vertical pitch and another of 75° to reach ice flutes. We climbed seven more rope-lengths of 60° to 65° to gain the nearly vertical exit to the summit. I also soloed the less difficult east face of Vallunaraju, a beautiful granite wall.

GIAN CARLO GRASSI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Ocshapalca, South Face, Carás I, South Face and Other Peaks. Our group of Swiss were Vincent Banderet, Rafaël Rabout, André Duffey, Paula Scherer and I. In Huaraz we were joined by three Canadians, Jocelyn Ouellet and Isabelle and Thierry Legouis. Aside from classic climbs like Pisco, Huascarán, Huantsán Norte and Artesonraju, Banderet, Ouellet and I put up a new route on the south face of Ocshapalca on June 12. Our route was of technical ice with two vertical sections on the far left of the face. We tried Chacaraju Este but were turned back 350 feet from the summit by a storm. On July 28 Banderet and I made a route on the south face of Carás I, a 20-hour mixed climb which ended on the right summit. We had to descend the east ridge by moonlight and got back to camp at midnight. Thierry Legouis fell 125 feet down a sérac on Huascarán and was evacuated in a rescue that lasted three days. He has fully recovered.

BERNARD BALMAT, *Club Alpin Suisse*