

Rasmussen Glaciers and on July 26 climbed P 1780 (5840 feet) by a new route, the south face. An extensive program of petrographical, geological and geomorphological work was carried out by the University of Genoa as well as zoological and botanical studies.

GIANGI FASCILOLO, *Club Alpino Italiano*

## SOUTH AMERICA

### Venezuela

*Pico Micarí, Southeast Face, Sierra de la Culata.* With sisters Clara and Consuelo Torre, I set out to climb the interesting southeast rock face of Pico Micarí or Bartolo (4441 meters, 14,570 feet), located in the central district of the Sierra de la Culata, north of the city of Mérida. Consuelo stayed in the high camp, while Clara and I engineered the route and overcame the last part, which we called El Diedro (August 4); descent was made by rappel. All previous routes had taken the west side.

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

### Colombia—Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta

*Picos Oriental and Ojeda, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta.* Todd Swain, Thomas ("Tad") Welch and I visited the northern side of the range in January 1984. Contrary to the experiences reported by several climbing parties in recent years, we found no obstacles to access to these mountains. It appears, moreover, that the Indians' attitude will remain favorable to climbers, now that they have fixed outrageous prices for mules and muleteers. We found the range lacking in snow, abundant in execrable-looking granite. Tad Welch and I did the first ascent of the north face of Oriental—climbing on tricky snow, but with good rock belays—and on another day the first ascent of the unnamed peak immediately to the west of Oriental. Meanwhile Todd Swain, who'd been laid out with a strong dose of *la turista*, recovered sufficiently for a tour de force on Ojeda. Over three days he soloed unroped the long rocky northeast ridge, which included several technical moves in the 5.5 to 5.6 range.

JOHN THACKRAY

### Colombia—Sierra Nevada de Cocuy

*Ritacuba Negro, Northwest Face, 1980-1.* Sergio Gaviria, Colombian, A. Antoine, Swiss and Ecuadorians R. Navarrete and M. Suárez climbed directly