

*Aconcagua, South Face.* The Polish woman, Wanda Rutkiewicz, along with the Swiss Stéphane Schaffter succeeded in making the ascent of the south face of Aconcagua by the 1954 French route from January 16 to 19, 1985. They were trapped for a day 1000 meters below the top by the weather. The climb was difficult both from a technical and a psychological standpoint. They had rock of UIAA V difficulty and much steep ice with vertical or overhanging sections. There was rockfall and avalanche danger. On the first day Wanda was caught in a powder-snow avalanche but not dragged off her holds. The bivouac sites were very bad. They reached the summit at five P.M. and descended the normal route, reaching Base Camp, 10,000 feet lower that same day! Rutkiewicz is the third woman to have made the climb and the first European. She was preceded by Titoune Bouchard and Sharon Wood.

JOZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

*Cerro Bonete.* Seven mountaineers from Mendoza and Buenos Aires explored and climbed in the area forming the provincial boundaries between Mendoza and San Juan in January. From the railroad station of Punta de Vacas they went into de Matienzo valley where they used as a base a hut intended for glaciologists. In two groups they ascended four peaks, three of which were christened after Argentinian climbers that have perished in climbing accidents: Cerro Ulens (4920 meters, 16,142 feet), Cerro Castro (5150 meters, 16,897 feet) and Cerro Frías (4875 meters, 15,993 feet). The fourth peak was known as La Flaca (4900 meters, 16,076 feet). The entire group then entered the valley called Cajón del Rubio and climbed Cerro Alma Blanca (5170 meters, 16,962 feet). On its lower peak they found a tin box left by a Brazilian party that had climbed it in 1957. In the second part of their program they crossed a pass located in the north rim of Cajón del Rubio and descended to the Volcán River. It took them two days to place camps on the flanks of the fine square ice peak of Cerro Bonete (5281 meters, 17,327 feet), which was subsequently climbed in two groups: by the south face and by the southwest gully and ridge. Except for the lower summit of Alma Blanca, all these were first ascents. Members were Marcelo and Liliana Aguilar, Alberto Bendinger, Guillermo and Daniel Burrieza, Osvaldo Brandi and Pedro Friedrich.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*Maipo, First Ski Ascent.* The route for this, one of the very few ski ascents accomplished in the Andes, started at the military Refugio Cruz de Piedra, continued through Vegas del Yaucha, los Paramillos and on to a second hut called El Cilindro, built near the big lake of Diamante for scientific purposes. The two participants of this expedition, Daniel Alto and Rodolfo Grispo (Club Andinista Mendoza), reached the summit of Volcán Maipo (5290 meters, 17,356 feet) at seven P.M. on September 27. Due to the late hour, they had to bivouac at the base of the mountain.

LUIS A. PARRA, *Club Andinista Mendoza*