

forested hills and reaches a height of 3660 meters (12,008 feet). On July 30, our small party of the Club Andino Mercedario, made up of Teresa Bracco, Alberto Graffigna and me, reached the small hamlet of Alto Calilegua, within the boundaries of the Parque Nacional Calilegua. The peak was ascended by us in bad weather and a heavy snow fall forced us to cut short our stay on the summit, but we were able to examine the *antigal* (ancient ruins) built there by the Incas about half a millenium ago. The ruins are about  $78 \times 12$  feet and reach in some constructions a height of 8 feet. Some staircases, very well built, can be used to ascend the lower parts of the mountain. Local farmers also climb the peak in modern times for semi-pagan ritual purposes. An *antigal* in the Zenta range had been vaguely reported 55 years ago by the great Argentinian archaeologist Eduardo Casanova and it was our fortune to verify its existence.

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*Nevado de Pissis and Other Peaks.* After exploring Llullaillaco in December 1984 (see below), Louis Glauser and I, driving a jeep, entered the Argentinian side of the Puna. We ascended Cerro Salín (6033 meters, 19,793 feet) on December 27, where, contrary to what had been previously reported we did not find ruins on the top. We then drove to Salta to meet Swiss climbers Martin Erb and Alexander von Bergen. We all ascended Nevado del Acay (5730 meters, 18,799 feet), January 7, 1985, and surveyed its summit ruins. We then headed for the Nevados de Cachi. We climbed to the top of the main peak (6380 meters, 20,932 feet) as well as the second (6120 meters 20,079 feet), the same day (January 13) and to my disgust no ruins were sighted on them. Glauser and I did next Nevado de Pissis (6780 meters, 22,244 feet), on January 25. This is the third highest peak on the American continent. After three days of hiking and climbing we reached one of its main tops but did not locate ruins. A 100-mph wind hindered our search but meanwhile our two companions, who were climbing Ojos del Salado, reported that they did not encounter winds. Our last ascent in the Puna before returning to Chile was that of Cerro Pabellón de la Laguna Verde (5815 meters, 19,077 feet), March 17, on whose summit we again failed to locate traces of pre-Columbian ascents.

JOHN REINHARD

### Argentina—Central Andes

*Aconcagua and Tupungato as Mountain Parks.* Both Aconcagua and Tupungato have been declared by the legislature of the state of Mendoza as parts of two recently created provincial (state) parks. Aconcagua became part of the Parque Provincial Aconcagua by virtue of decree 4807, April 23, 1983. Limits of this mountain park are: south-east to north, from the summit of Cerro Juan Pobre to the summit of Cerro Guanaco; west to summit of Cerro La Mano, then southwest along the summits that separate Las Cuevas Este-Relinchos valleys from the Penitentes River; from the summit of Cerro Catedral, a familiar summit