

Volcán San José, First Ski Ascent and Descent, 1984. In October 1984 Miguel Sepúlveda, Alejandro Manfredini, Ludwig Wulf and I made the first ski ascent and descent of the Volcán San José (5850 meters, 19,193 feet) in four days.

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Cerro Arenas, East Face of East Summit. On November 30 Eric Soulié and I made the first ascent of the east face of the east summit of Cerro Arenas above the Cajón del Maipo. We lacked technical equipment to do the directissima.

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Argentina—Chilean Patagonia

Fitz Roy, Argentine Route on Southeast Buttress. Austrians Rudi Mayr and Robert Purtscheller repeated the Argentine route on Fitz Roy a few days after Galen Rowell, from November 5 to 18. They noted, "We had good weather, much ice in the cracks. Finally when we were heading for the summit, a strong wind came up. It took us only 12 hours from the Brecha de los Italianos to the summit."

Fitz Roy. In a letter to Tonček Arko, Solvenes Bogdan Biščak, Rado Fabjan and Matevž Lenarčič told of an ascent they made when they first arrived in the region. It would seem that they had not joined the rest of the Slovene expedition to Cerro Torre in the first days in the region. The letter reads, "We got to Base Camp at Río Blanco on December 15. We fixed 300 meters of rope on the south face of Fitz Roy on two lovely days. After some storm days, on December 21, we left Base Camp at seven P.M. to get to the Brecha de los Italianos at five A.M. We began our new route [Just how it differed from previous routes is not yet clear.—Editor.] at seven o'clock. Although the weather went bad at two P.M., we kept on and reached the summit at five P.M. It was windy and snowing. We were lucky to get down safe and sound before night and bivouacked in the Brecha de los Italianos. The next day we descended to Base between avalanches of fresh snow. We had been 44 hours almost without food or drink."

Fitz Roy, North Face, 1986. A report has been received that Italians completed a new route on the north face of Fitz Roy on January 17, 1986. Details are missing.

Cerro Torre, The First Ten Ascents. Despite the doubts about whether the Cerro Torre was actually ascended in 1959, here in Argentina, we accept this as the first ascent. There have by January, 1985 been ten ascents of the peak: 1. Cesare Maestri (Italy) and Toni Egger (Austria), January 31, 1959, by north and northeast faces; (On December 2, 1970 Maestri, Carlo Claus and Ezio Alimonte (Italy) climbed the southeast buttress but did not climb the summit mushroom.)