

bad weather after a bivouac of 40 hours some seven pitches from the top. We were pinned there all the next day. The second night went by but now we want to get out of this prison . . . indecision . . . shall we go up or down? During the whole next day we went up only three pitches but by now we were high and trustful of the weather. There was a cheerfulness that night in the tent. Early in the morning of July 7, still in the dark, we started to climb in fine weather and after a hard day we reached the base of the final wall. On July 8 the weather was still good but it was cold. It was hard work to dig through thick ice to find the bolts! The wind was still very strong but at that point it was not important. It was almost dark when at 6:15 P.M. we were on the summit. We descended 200 meters to find a place to sleep. In the morning we realized that the wind had swept away one rope. We continued to descend, accompanied by the wind, and with two threadbare ropes we reached the col. The next morning, in awful weather, we reached Base Camp. Only now could we say that we had reached the top!

ERMANNO SALVATERRA, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Cerro Torre, East Face, 1986.* A nine-man Slovene expedition led by Stane Klemenc has completed what must be one of the most difficult climbs anywhere. Janez Jeglič, Silvo Karo, Franc Knez, Pavle Kozjek, Peter Podgornik and Matjaž Fištrovec completed the new route, the east face of Cerro Torre on January 16, 1986. They established Base Camp on Laguna Torre at 660 meters on December 11, bivouacked at the foot of the face at 1990 meters on the 12th and began the climb on December 13. In the 35 days they were in the area, the weather was good enough for climbing on only 14 days. (UIAA VII to VIII + , A3 and A4.) On January 15, 1986 another Slovene team reached the summit, climbing the Maestri route. The climbers were Bogdan Biščak, Rado Fabjan and Matevž Lenarčič.

FRANCI SAVENC, *Planinska Zveza Slovenije, Yugoslavia*

*Cerro Torre, Fitz Roy and Other Patagonian Ascents.* Swiss Marco Pedrini climbed the Cerro Torre *solo* in one day on November 26. He repeated the climb twice more with Italian Fulvio G. Mariani, who filmed the ascent. Swiss Martin Moosberger and Kurt Lochner reached the summit on November 11, French Jacques Janel, Bruno Thery, Pierre Faivre and Jean Lemoine on December 6 and Spaniards Claudio Sánchez and Fernando Cobo on December 29. All these were by the Maestri bolt route. Swiss Kurt Lochner and Marco Pedrini made a variation on the Casarotto buttress on Fitz Roy, reaching the summit on December 29. Two young Argentines, Sebastián de la Cruz and Gabriel Ruiz, the former only 16 years old, repeated the Argentine route on the southeast buttress, getting to the summit on January 15, 1986. They hope also to climb the Aguja Mermoz, but at this date, we have no news about it. Casimiro Ferrari climbed the Cerro Norte *solo* in early 1986. This was the second ascent, the first having been done in 1970 by the Skvarča brothers. Argentine Marcelo Aguilar and

Swiss Lilien Aguilar climbed the normal route on the Aguja Guillaumet. Italians Alessandro Mariani, Humberto Villotta, Francesco D'Alessio and Guiseppe Motti climbed the Cerro Poincenot on November 13 by a new route, but we are not sure which it was. Other climbers are still in the field.

VOJSLAV ARKO, *Club Andino Bariloche*

*Cerro Astillado.* Armando Aste, Mariano Marisa, Fabrizio Defrancesco and I moved into the mountains of the Hielo Continental from Lago San Martín. On January 17 we began to reconnoiter the north side of Cerro Astillado, but the rock was rotten. On the 20th we headed for the southwest face, which appeared more difficult but more direct. Leaving bivouac gear at the foot of the face on January 21, we climbed and fixed the lower third and descended to bivouac. The next day we ascended the fixed ropes and found the climbing even more difficult above, but we reached the summit at four P.M. Before leaving that part of Patagonia, we climbed two more rock towers. We then moved to Cerro Torre, which we attempted by the Maestri bolt route. Bad weather turned us back 300 meters from the top.

MARIO MANICA, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Pier Giorgio, West Face.* Italians Renzo Vettori and Mario Manica made an attempt to climb the west face of Pier Giorgio in the southern summer of 1983-4. They returned in 1985 and on October 23 they got to the summit by this same face (5.10, A2). They were eight days on the wall. The first 600 meters were easy but the last 1000 meters of rock were very difficult. Swiss Daniel Sierra and Vincent Bardeot repeated the same route, reaching the summit on November 2.

*Cerro Cubo and Cerro Sonntag, Southern Continental Icecap.* An expedition to the Continental Icecap was headed by Luciano Pera and made up of Argentines Mario González, my son Tonček Arko, Juan Pablo Nicola, Pedro Tolon, Alejandro Alvarez and Australians John Marshall and Desmond Davis. They had comparatively little time, a disadvantage when the weather is so uncertain. They left Río Gallegos on November 15, crossed by boat the south arm of Lago Argentino and Lago Frías and established Base Camp near the river which drains the glacier. They placed a high camp on the edge of the ice in an ice cave. Five days of storm drove them back to Base. When the weather cleared Mario González and Tonček Arko went back to the high camp on November 25. On the 26th they climbed both Cerro Cubo and Cerro Sonntag, which lie in the Adriana chain at the edge of the icecap. They photographed the Paine group to the south and Fiordo Peel to the west. Cerro Cubo is north of Cerro Stokes, which New Zealanders climbed on November 6 and 7, 1976. Cerro Cubo had been climbed by Japanese in 1978. Tonček reported that the climb was not difficult.

VOJSLAV ARKO, *Club Andino Bariloche*