

few reasonable pitches soon led to what constituted the bulk of the route: sustained steep climbing on good ice where it was rarely possible to stand on balance even after cutting a step. Darkness came before we could finish one of the hardest pitches of the day, a crest of nearly vertical, collapsing snow with marginal aid moves on featureless rock. We looked for a bivouac on some of the easiest angled ice of the day: 60° to 65°. After an uncomfortable night, the main problem that day was the icicle barrier. After trying one blind alley, we climbed vertical and overhanging ice to reasonable terrain. Darkness fell during two short pitches above the barrier and we resigned ourselves to chopping another ledge from the 65° slope. Technical difficulties continued on the third day but the way ahead seemed certain. After a blind alley in the flutings, we arrived at a flat patch below a huge but easily avoidable cornice. Although it was only mid afternoon, we bivouacked early. In the cool of the morning of June 14, we easily reached the summit. Looking for the normal east-face route for the descent, we mistakenly went down in the wrong direction, heading for what had appeared to be old tracks. Nonetheless, we made a safe descent of the unappealing and dangerous icefall which descends northeast from the summit and in doing so completed a traverse of the mountain by two previously unclimbed routes.

ROGER PAYNE, *Alpine Club*

Sarapo Southwest Face. Our expedition consisted of Peruvian Alberto Callupe, Swiss Louis Deuber, Austrian Richard Franzl, German Hans Zebrowski and me. After trekking in the region, we established our Base Camp below Sarapo Qocha. Our objective was Sarapo's southwest face. We placed a camp in the glacial basin below the face at 5100 meters. The approach from Base Camp was on the right side of the icefall where we were least endangered by falling ice. We placed 100 meters of rope. We set out on the face on July 20 and got to the summit on the morning of July 22 after two bivouacs and 20 hours of climbing. The face averaged between 55° and 60° with the steepest pitch at 80°. We believe this to be the second ascent of the face, which was first climbed by Casimiro Ferrari and other Italians in 1979.

ČESTIMÍR LUKEŠ, *Czech living in Switzerland*

Southern Peru

Salcantay, Southwest Face to the East Peak. The southwest face of Salcantay is some 5000 feet high and had before this year not been climbed, despite several previous attempts. Our team climbed a line on the right side of the face. It was of mixed nature in the first half and all snow and ice in the upper half. The whole face is subject to avalanche danger from unstable séracs and cornices. This is particularly true in the first half. The second half became difficult due to snowfall during the ascent which produced spindrift slides. If a heavy fall of snow had occurred, this would have become a dangerous place indeed. The overall grading is of alpine ED. The route includes rock pitches of alpine IV and

PLATE 58

Photo by H. Adams Carter

The West face of RASAC. The Netherlander route is marked.



V (all short), some tricky mixed climbing and ice up to Scottish grade V, although most of the ice climbing is of grade III. We climbed in two separate parties, staying relatively close together. Peter Leeming, Duncan Francis and I were the first group and Paul Harris and Keith Milne the second. The ascent took place between August 4 and 7. We bivouacked three times on the ascent, once below the central hanging glacier, once on it and once above. We reached the east peak, which is about 6140 meters (20,145 feet) but did not traverse to the main summit, which lay a half mile to the west. The descent took two days down the east ridge.

MARK LOWE, *North London Mountaineering Club*

Huayna Ausangate, Kiru II and Payachata, Colque Cruz Group, 1985. Our expedition consisting of Bruno Anselmi, Italo Bazzani, Graziano Lampa, Livio Lanari, Dr. Giulio Zagaglia and me as leader climbed on the northern side of the Colque Cruz group. We left Mallma on July 30, 1985 with pack animals, passed through Yanacancha and established Base Camp the next day at 4900 meters on the north side of the Colque Cruz group on a plateau locally called Oquecocha. On August 2 we were forced back off Kiru by bad weather. On August 3 Bazzani and Lanari made a new route on Huayna Ausangate or Vizcachani as it is known locally (5720 meters, 18,767 feet), climbing on extremely steep ice via the north face. They had started from a camp at 5200 meters in the valley known locally as Muyuc-Ccocha. On August 5 the whole expedition made the first ascent of Kiru II (5500 meters, 18,209 feet) by its north face. [Kiru II lay south of Base Camp and east of Huayna Ausangate, apparently just north of the main chain.] We carried a camp to 5000 meters in a valley locally known as Jarihuanaco east of Base Camp and north of Colque Cruz I. On August 10 we all climbed Payachata, locally called Cadarache (5420 meters, 17,782 feet) by the west slope. We were the first Italians to make the ascent.

MARIO COTICELLI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Bolivia

North and South of Pelechuco, Cordillera Apolobamba, 1985 and 1986. The tortuous road from Ulla Ulla to Pelechuco roughly divides the Cordillera Apolobamba into a northern half that extends from Bolivia into Peru and a southern half that lies entirely within Bolivian borders. In June of 1985, my son Bill and I finally arrived at Pelechuco. Our objective was to climb the peaks rimming the valley between Kantantica and Soral Este. (See the map opposite p. 38 of *A.A.J.*, 1960.) During the following days we struggled for 20 kilometers with huge loads up an old Aymaran trail paralleling the Río Sanches-Cucho and finally set up Base Camp five kilometers from the west end of the valley. The next day we climbed north up steep scree around the south side of the third peak east-southeast of Soral Este. We continued north along the east side of the north ridge for one kilometer, climbed onto the lower section of the ridge and