

*Vallecito-Rincón Traverse and Other Mendoza Climbs.* A Randis and M. Sánchez, of the Club Mendoza de Regatas, traversed the almost two-mile ridge connecting Vallecitos and Rincón peaks, both over 17,000 feet. It took them 14 hours to traverse all obstacles, which included the first ascent of five lesser points or peaklets (December 1985). The south-face wall of Pico Franke (5000 meters, 16,404 feet) was climbed for the first time on December 6, 1986 by J. Giaquinta, M. Sánchez and J. Santamaría, a route very exposed to rockfall.

LUIS A. PARRA, *Club Andinista Mendoza*

### Argentine—Chilean Patagonia

*Crossing of the Northern Patagonian Icecap and Cerro Largo, 1985.* In November and December of 1985 American Bonnie Schwahn and Chileans Gino Casassa and I were on the Northern Patagonian Icecap (Hielo Continental Norte). We made the crossing of the icecap in 17 hours round-trip. It was the first east-to-west traverse, the first on cross-country skis and the first crossing in one day. We started on November 29, 1985 from our small tent on the eastern side of the Soler and Nef Glaciers. We arrived at midday at the snow line below the San Quintin Glacier on the Pacific side. After a short rest, we began the return and after 17 hours and a 58-kilometer trip were back at our tent that night. Two days after the crossing, on December 1, 1985, we climbed "Pico Naranja" (2700 meters, 8858 feet), one of the summits of Cerro Largo. We climbed on skis and made a telemark descent.

RODRIGO MÚJICA, *Chilean Section of the Club Alpino Italiano*

*Volcán Lautaro, West Face.* An official expedition of the Federación de Andinismo de Chile reached the Continental Icecap by way of Fiordo Exmouth and headed for Volcán Lautaro (3380 meters, 11,089 feet), previously ascended by Argentinians and British parties. On February 10, the five members of this expedition reached the summit, having ascended the west side, a new route (G. Chauriye, C. Gálvez, P. Jara, R. Labbé and M. Munjín).

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*Cerro "Aguilera" Attempt.* A Chilean-British expedition jointly led by F. Medina and M. Hickman and comprising nine other climbers and scientists entered the Patagonian Icecap through the Fiordo Andrew and marched toward Cerro "Aguilera" (unofficial name, 2400 meters, 7874 feet). Attempts could get no higher than 4000 feet, but in the course of this expedition it was verified that the mountain was a volcano (November 1985 through January 1986).

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

*San Lorenzo Sur and Cerro Hermosa Este.* My husband Gino Buscaini and I approached the San Lorenzo group from the Estancia El Rincón and went in three days with loads via Lago del Volcán, Río San Lorenzo and Río "Paso