

first-ascent line except on pitches 12, 13 and 14. Here we climbed a giant right-facing corner that involved squeeze chimneys and a poorly protected off-width crack (5.10b). Like the first ascent-party, we underestimated the amount of climbing on the diminutive tower and spent a cold night rubbing each other's feet and hoping the wind would die down. Shortly after sunrise, Sue led the first of seven pitches to the summit on the southwest ridge. Varying slightly from the first-ascent line, we climbed strenuous cracks mostly free with some aid and made the top at two P.M., completing the second ascent of the mountain. The descent required 19 rappels. Without water, it was a long, dry day. We reached our high camp in the lee of a huge boulder at midnight. After a short rest in Base Camp, we hiked back up gullies and talus to a boulder bivouac below Saint Exupéry's north face. Earlier in the season an Italian party had picked off the unclimbed west face and an Austrian pair the untouched south pillar. Naturally I was miffed to find old pitons and slings half-way up the north face. The line Sue and I chose had excellent climbing in good cracks, corners and ramps. Our first night on the wall was reasonably comfortable with the aid of one stove and a single bivy sack for both of us. In the morning of January 30, we climbed past the last piton. (We later found that an Argentine party had tried the climb around 1978.) Triumphantly we gained the corner of the east ridge. As the rain started falling, I screamed at Sue to lead her pitch faster. I hogged the remaining leads to the summit. (Grade V, 5.10b, 19 pitches.)

ALAN KEARNEY

*Torre de la Media Luna.* This tower rises between El Mocho and Cerro Torre. It was first climbed on February 4 by Mark Houston and Kathy Cosley in seven pitches (5.10c, A1).

SILVIA METZELTIN BUSCAINI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Cerro Riso Patrón.* This elegant rock-and-ice pinnacle (c. 3000 meters, 9843 feet) was climbed for the first time on August 15 in the Southern Hemisphere winter by Casimiro Ferrari, Bruno Lombardi and Egidio Spreafico. They ascended the very difficult east-southeast ice face from a camp at 1300 meters. They approached from the Fiordo Falcón and returned via the Upsala Glacier to the Estancia Cristina, crossing the Patagonian Icecap. There were eight people in the expedition.

SILVIA METZELTIN BUSCAINI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Monte Balmaceda Attempt.* I accompanied a nine-member expedition of the Federación de Andinismo de Chile to the east-northeastern side of Monte Balmaceda (2050 meters, 6726 feet) in Chilean Patagonia in February. The members were Claudio Gálvez, leader, Carlos Fuentes, Rodrigo Arancibia, Alfredo Mancini, Cecilia Castillo, Dr. Claudio Daza, Victoria Morales, Leon-