

very steep, technical route was unusual for Ecuador and much more reminiscent of Peru or Bolivia.

MATT CULBERSON, *American Alpine Institute*

Monja Chica, El Altar Group, New Route. On December 24, we arrived at the south side of the Altar massif. After three days of bad weather, fog and deep snow, on the 27th we reached the col between Monja Chica and El Tabernáculo. The next day, Carlo Guillén, José Sulbarau and I ascended steep Monja Chica (5045 meters, 16,521 feet) up its east side, a new route and the seventh ascent of the peak. We descended belayed by aluminum pegs 70 centimeters long. Meanwhile, Nelson Rojas, a Venezuelan like ourselves, and Ecuadorian Silvio Pesantes made the sixth ascent of El Tabernáculo (5180 meters, 16,995 feet). Afterwards, we ascended Cotopaxi, whose summit we found occupied by 40 Germans, guided by Marco Cruz.

JOSÉ BETANCOURT, *Mérida, Venezuela*

Peru

Chacaraju Este and Artesonraju, Cordillera Blanca. Yugoslav Pavle Kozjek had a fine season in the Cordillera Blanca. On June 14, he completed the probably first solo ascent of the American route on the 900-meter-high south face of Chacaraju Este. Despite the steepness (55° to 65°), the bottom part of the face was covered with heavy snow. The crux was the 150-meter-high summit wall of 80° to 85°, which is cut by a rock barrier. The route was first climbed by Mark Richey and Steve Brewer. Kozjek then climbed Artesonraju by a 1000-meter-high face of 50° to 60°, where he had to fight deep snow. He gave up on the north face of Huascarán Sur as the central part was continuously being swept by falling ice and rock.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

Siulá Chico, Ski Descent, Cordillera Huayhuash. Italian extreme skier Toni Valeruz climbed the south face of Siulá Chico on May 30 and bivouacked on the summit in poor weather. The next morning he skied the 60°, 6000-foot-high slope.

Cordillera de la Viuda, 1989. Five members of our club in twelve days traversed over several passes, starting from the railroad station of Chicla and heading northwest towards the town of Canta. Along the way they made several first ascents: Cerro Nevería (5050 meters, 16,568 feet; northwest of Chicla) on August 19, 1989 and Cerro Azul (5100 meters, 16,733 feet) on August 24. The latter is in what the official map calls the Cordillera de Corte. The climbers were José Carbone, Samuel Gutiérrez, Pedro Noguchi, Oscar Paredes and Orlando Perales.

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