

*Fitz Roy, Solo and In Winter.* Three Japanese, Yasushi Yamanoi, Mitsuhiro Iwata and Kenji Iwata, had hoped to climb Fitz Roy in winter. The Iwata brothers wanted to climb the 1968 American route on the southwest buttress and Yamanoi hoped to do the Argentine route solo. However after they had ferried gear to the Brecha de los Italianos, Kenji Iwata abandoned the climb and left the mountain. Yamanoi joined Mitsuhiro Iwata on the southwest buttress, but the latter got frostbitten hands in deteriorating weather and he too had to quit. On July 26, Yamanoi reached their previous high point. The next day, he made good progress but spent a miserable night hanging from ice axes in a fierce wind. He reached the summit on July 28. A full article with photographs appears in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 143 on pages 8 to 15.

*Fitz Roy, Super Couloir.* On October 19, Jim Quirk and I arrived at the Piedra del Fraile on the Río Eléctrico, north of Fitz Roy. After stormy weather, on October 23 we hiked up steep slopes and moraine above the Piedra del Fraile, crossed the Paso del Cuadrado and descended to the upper North Fitz Roy Glacier to the base of the Super Couloir in about six hours. The weather again turned bad, aborting several more tries. At eight P.M. on October 28, we set out again and were at the foot of the Super Couloir at two A.M. The route began with 3000 feet of moderate 40° to 60° névé with occasional steep, narrow spots of mixed rock and ice. That entire section can be simul-climbed on a short rope. In the dark, we mistakenly followed the prominent left fork and had to tangle with four pitches of difficult rock and a long tension traverse and aid pitch before regaining the route. From the terraced section in the middle of the couloir, we climbed several fifth-class pitches up and right to join the sunlit ridge at two P.M. The ridge is mostly fourth-class with a few short technical sections up to 5.8. At four P.M., we began the first of several striking towers that were the technical crux of the route and had many steep, wide crack pitches up to 5.9. At seven P.M., we rappelled off the final tower onto the summit slope. We reached the top at eight P.M. We descended by rappelling the Franco-Argentine route and were on the glacier by dawn. The hike down to the Río Blanco camp and back around to the north side of Fitz Roy took the balance of the day. We reached Base Camp at six P.M., 46 hours after leaving.

DAVID NETTLE, *Unaffiliated*

*Agujas Poincenot and Guillaumet, 1989-90.* Much bad weather curtailed climbing during that season. Aguja Poincenot was climbed on January 4 via the Whillans route by Spaniards Rolando Luis Fernández, Ramón Portilla, Antonio Trabado and Czech Miroslav Smid despite a coating of verglas. On January 8, New Zealanders and a Swiss and an Italian repeated the climb. Guillaumet was climbed by the normal route on December 26, 1989 by Angel Vedo and Andrés Fernández and on January 7 by Juan José Hervás and Alberto del Castillo. See *Desnivel* of March 1990, page 21.