

encrusted the towers with ice and prevented climbing for a long time. On January 7, they started up the Bonington-Whillans route on the Torre Central and reached the Brecha Bich in five hours. They bivouacked above the Gray Dihedral and climbed the next day to above the Red Dihedral, but bad weather forced them to retreat. Further details and photographs are in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 141.

*Central Paine Tower Correction.* On Page 211 of AAJ 1990, it should have stated that Gallego attempted the route previously in 1986 and not in 1966.

*Torre Norte del Paine, 1989.* The first days of January, 1989 were stormy and windy and so Enrico Marazzi and I set up our tent on the moraine at the foot of the gully that leads to the Brecha Bich between the North and Central Towers. We waited for five days before the weather was good enough to climb the Italian route of 1958. On January 11, 1989, there were no clouds and wind and we set out at six A.M. The first part was bare rock, but halfway up to the col it turned dangerous because of verglas. The wind began to blow again at the Brecha Bich as we continued up the Bich route. The first 100 meters were nearly vertical rock up to UIAA difficulty of VI. The rest of the climb to the summit was easier. We were back in camp at the end of 18 hours.

GIACOMO BARONI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Torre Norte del Paine, 1989.* In October and November of 1989, John Catto and I traveled to Chilean Patagonia to attempt the Central and North Paine Towers. On October 26, we established our Base Camp at the traditional Campo Italiano in perfect weather. After stocking a high camp under a boulder near the west-side approach gully, we planned to climb free the regular south-ridge route on the Torre Norte. In perfect weather on October 28, succeeded. A few pitches of easy mixed climbing to the Brecha Bich were followed by two very difficult, cold, rock pitches, each about 5.10. The rest was nine moderate 5.7 or 5.8 pitches to the summit. We climbed in wool-lined Fires and thin polypropylene gloves. The weather then deteriorated. We made two abortive tries to do a new line on the Torre Central.

PETER GALLAGHER

*Torre Norte del Paine, 1989.* We arrived at Base Camp at 650 meters at the Italian Camp on December 8, 1989. On December 15, Ricardo Salsi and I left Base Camp shortly after midnight and in 12 hours reached the summit of the Torre Norte in the Paine Towers by the south ridge, which was first ascended by Italians in 1958. Violent winds bothered us on the last four pitches and all of the descent. Our attempt on the Torre Central on December 25 failed in bad weather.

CLAUDIO RATTI, *Club Alpino Italiano*