

*Cordilleras Quimsa Cruz and Santa Vera Cruz.* During a six-week stay in the area of La Paz, I made three solo trips into these seldom visited ranges. From the Mina Bajaderías, above Pongo, I reached the Coricampana Glacier and the northeast side of the Huayna Cunocollo massif, camping at 5100 meters. On May 22, I climbed the northeast side of Nevado San Luis (5620 meters, 18,439 feet). The summit ridge is long and narrow, all ice and corniced. Its main point was reached from the northwest by the 1982 Regensburg expedition when descending from Huayna Cunocollo. I climbed a new route. On May 25, I placed another camp at the head of the San José valley and on the following day climbed the north ridge of Nevado San Juan or Altarani (5540 meters, 18,176 feet). The peak was first climbed from the west in September of 1938 by Germans Josef Prem and Wilfried Kühm. In my second campaign, I first attempted Cerro Chatamarca (5180 meters, 16,995 feet) and then made another second ascent, that of Cerro Chamac Collo (c. 5350 meters, 17,553 feet), climbed from the northeast in 1990 by two Britons (see above); I ascended instead the steep western gully. In my last campaign, I reached the Monte Blanco mine, crossed the Huallatani Pass (5100 meters) and dropped west into the Chocñacota mine basin. On July 5, from a 5000-meter camp, I traversed the west arm of the flat Chocñacota Glacier and climbed the easy but unstable northeast side of Cerro Santa Rosa (5520 meters, 18,111 feet), located north of the mine, a first ascent. I then returned to the Huañayacota hamlet and transferred activities to the Cordillera Santa Vera Cruz, which is a cluster of some ten peaks from 15,000 to 18,000 feet, south of the Quimsa Cruz. From a camp on the Huariananta lake, I attempted 5100-meter Cerro Chupica, whose sharp summit pinnacle I could not climb. Judging from photographs dating back to 1903, I feel that the Cordillera Vera Cruz has lost more ice and snow than any other Bolivian range.

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*Araca Group, Northern Quimsa Cruz.* From June 16 to 27, our party of six climbed in the Araca group, a forest of granite towers of exceptional beauty that I had first visited in 1967. Gregory Johnson, Virginia Louise Porter and Scott Titteringham flew down from the United States and joined Juan Pablo Ando, Douglas Daken Cook and me, residents of Bolivia. In various combinations, we did a half dozen climbs, generally short and hard. The most spectacular was the Cristal, a needle hardly 40 meters high and perhaps six wide. On aid, Titteringham and Johnson placed six solid bolts on the first short pitch. Then Ginger Porter, our best rock climber, finished it, accumulating air time trying to redpoint it. She expects it all to go at 5.11; I think it may prove harder. The climb was repeated by Swiss later in the year. (See below.) Before we turned to the Cristal, Cook and Ando climbed the west ridge of a big rock peak while Porter and Johnson did its north face via a chimney system which ended in a difficult slot as night fell and a windstorm flattened our Base Camp. The "big rock peak" is the southernmost of the granite summits forming the cirque enclosing the