

250 meters. All went well until nine A.M. as we ascended vertical rock. The temperature had risen considerably and blocks of ice were falling from the summit. On the next to last pitch, Plaza was about five meters above the belay when a huge ice block struck him. He continued to lead up an overhanging crack past ice blocks and through water running down the rock to within 45 meters of the summit. There remained only 35 meters of 30° slope and 10 meters of summit mushroom. However, Plaza's injuries were getting much worse. He had torn ligaments in his right knee, severe bruises on his right thigh, contusions on his right shoulder, numbness and early indications of frostbite. We had no choice but to go down. We descended all night, keeping 20 meters to the right of our ascent route in the top wall to avoid the cascade of ice blocks. Despite many problems, we got to the ice cave in the morning. The next day, we reached the glacier. A helicopter flew Plaza to the Calafate hospital from there. I returned to Base Camp to team up with Italian Ermanno Salvaterra to try a new route on Torre Egger's east face. We began up the face at four P.M. on January 12, 1994. By nine o'clock, we had climbed 500 meters when I was struck by a granite block, which injured my left shoulder and right arm. We kept on to a bivouac. At five A.M., we started out, hoping my injuries would improve. However, after three painful pitches, it was obvious I could not continue and we descended.

JOSÉ CHAVERRI, *Montañeros de Aragón de Barbastro, Spain*

*Cerro Torre, Maestri-Egger Route Attempt, Domo Blanco and Cerro Doblado.* From April 2 to June 17, Gerold Dünser, Toni Ponholzer and I were based at the Bridwell Camp, hoping to climb the Maestri-Egger route on Cerro Torre. We stocked supplies at the foot of the face and prepared our hanging bivouac tent. After two failed attempts, on May 10 we felt that the weather looked promising. We set out with ten day's supplies and on the third day reached the Collado de la Conquista. That night, the weather shifted with wind and snow squalls. The bivouac tent was really tested for the first time. The next day, the weather seemed to improve and we hurried upward from the col. The afternoon brought more wind and great cold. We were 150 or 200 meters above the col, still 350 meters from the summit and had moved from the more sheltered east side to the west. Damp air from the Pacific was accompanied by -15°C temperatures. We waited for better weather. On the morning of the eighth day, the fourth at the bivouac, a bit of sun cheered us, but the weather was still threatening. As we retreated, the cold was less when we regained the eastern side. We still had to bivouac 500 meters above the foot of the wall. We descended on the ninth day in a heavy snow storm with many powder-snow avalanches. We reached the foot of the wall in the early evening. The weather for the next 2½ weeks showed its worst side. We finally were able to use short breaks for two climbs. On June 6, we made the second ascent of the Domo Blanco (2507 meters, 8250 feet) by a new route, from the col between it and

COLOR PLATE 13

*Photo by Lorenzo Ortiz*

**Third Pitch on CERRO STANHARDT.**





COLOR PLATE 14

Photo by Lorenzo Ortiz

**Seventh pitch on CERRO  
STANHARDT.**



the Aguja CAT. This involved 60° to 65° ice on the south flank. On June 8, we climbed Cerro Doblado (2665 meters, 8743 feet), a rarely visited mountain.

TOMMY BONAPACE, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

*Guillaumet and Mermoz.* Briton Andy Parkin and American Stephen Koch completed a new route on the Aguja Guillaumet's southeast face on February 2. The difficult route lies to the left of the Piola route. It begins up a large central couloir and finally joins the northeast ridge a little below the summit. They had a hard bergschrund crossing and thereafter followed the couloir. Thin ice and 5.9 rock pitches gave way to steep ice. After Koch left to climb Fitz Roy, on February 21 Parkin soloed a difficult new ice route on the southeast face of the Aguja Mermoz. He started up an icy ramp to the right of the Slovene route which slants up to the left to gain a snowfield at three-quarters height. There was much 80° to 85° ice and some 90° ice before he gained the snowfield. From the right corner of the snowfield, he took a steep couloir to the summit ridge. Diagrams of both routes appear in *High* of August, 1993. Parkin then soloed the Whillans route on Poincenot.

*El Mocho and Torre de la Media Luna, 1993-4.* In late December, Italians Ermanno Salvaterra and Adriano Cavallaro climbed a new route on the north face of El Mocho. At this time further details are not available. The same pair repeated the east buttress route on El Mocho first climbed in 1989 by Daniel Anker and Michel Piola. The Torre de la Media Luna is located near El Mocho. On that peak, Salvaterra soloed a nine-pitch route in early January, 1994.

OMAR MOSCOSO, *Editor, Escalando, Argentina*

*Fitz Roy Climbed by Koreans.* Fitz Roy was climbed for the first time by Koreans on February 21 when Choi J.H and Kwon S.J. reached the summit after a month of effort and three days in the final climb. It is not clear which route they took but it appears that they followed the Californian route.

*Fitz Roy, Guided Ascent. Possibly for the first time, a client was guided on a major Patagonian route.* In the 1992-3 season, Italian guide Marcello Cominetti first hoped to lead Cesare Sartori up the Maestri Compressor Route on Cerro Torre, but they were driven back by bad conditions. Later they climbed Fitz Roy in 14 hours from the Brecha de los Italianos on the Argentine Route.

*Fitz Roy Climbed by a Woman in Winter.* On June 17, Erica Beuzenberg and Gottlieb Braun-Elwert from New Zealand completed the fourth winter ascent of Fitz Roy. They followed the Supercanaleta. Because of unusually good weather—clear sky and no wind—they took only two days to reach the summit.