

mushrooms. There, they discovered two natural tunnels through the ice. Climbing through them, they arrived on the summit, making the fifth overall ascent of Torre Egger. Later in the season, Anker and Gerberding made the first ascent of *Tomahawk* (5.8, A2, 90°), an 8-pitch direct start to *Exocet*. On the west side of Cerro Torre, Maurizio Giarolli, Elio Orlandi and Odoardo Ravizza climbed a 25-pitch route, *Crystals in the Wind*. [See below.] Frenchmen David Autheman, Fred Valet and Patrick Pessi traversed Cerro Torre in December. Hoping to descend the Compressor route, they were soon appalled to find that they had accidentally rappelled onto the Slovene east-face route. Pitifully equipped to descend or reascend such an enormous wall, they fortunately discovered a cache left during the original ascent. Using that equipment, they eventually arrived on the glacier with only their harnesses and figure eights remaining. [See below.]

CHRIS BREEMER

*Cerro Torre, West Face Attempt, "Crystals in the Wind."* On October 23, 1994, despite doubtful weather, Elio Orlandi, Odoardo Ravizza and I headed for the Southern Patagonian Icecap to wait out the weather in a snow cave. On October 27, a surprisingly serene morning spurred us on. After crossing the menacing crevasses below the imposing west faces of Cerro Stanhardt, Torre Egger and Cerro Torre, we began to climb the central spur that dominates the bottom of the wall. That line, though difficult, seems relatively safe, being somewhat sheltered from ice mushrooms and snow that might fall from southwest side where the 1974 Italian route rose. During the second night of the climb, the weather turned characteristically cold, windy and snowy, but fortunately not so bad that we couldn't continue. We climbed on through snow squalls and up verglas; occasionally the sun broke through the frozen curtain of clouds. After four bivouacs and having climbed higher than the Col de la Conquista, on November 1 we ascended difficult cracks and dihedrals to the summit wall. We had climbed two-thirds of the face and had joined the 1959 Egger-Maestri route at a point just below the grandiose summit mushrooms, possibly one or two pitches below them. Impetuous winds upset our balance and made us give up hope of surmounting the mushrooms to reach the actual summit. We were back at the foot of the wall on November 3. Almost all the climbing could be protected by Friends, stoppers and wires. Because of overhanging snow patches and unstable ice, we were forced to the left to the north spur on the final section and could not continue up the central dihedral.

MAURIZIO GIAROLLI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Cerro Torre, West-East Traverse.* Frenchmen David Autheman, Fred Valet and Patrick Pessi became the first climbers to complete the traverse of Cerro Torre. From December 2 to 5, 1994, they repeated the difficult Ferrari route. Large sections of very steep rock were covered with ice and the trio had to climb



using piolet-traction. Near the top, they were trapped for 48 hours by a snowstorm. They spent the fourth night on the summit. They started down the Maestri bolt route but by mistake switched to the Slovene east-face route. After twelve hours of hard struggle, they reached the eastern foot of the mountain. At Base Camp, they were surprised to meet Casimiro Ferrari, who had arrived to celebrate the 20th anniversary of his great success on Cerro Torre.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Taternik, Poland*

*Aguja Guillaumet, West Face and Northeast Buttress, 1993.* My father Erich Gatt and I arrived in Patagonia in mid February, 1993 and were greeted by friends who had been there for two months and had been unable to reach a single summit because of bad weather. We had only ten days to climb. On our first day, we carried our whole equipment to the foot of the west face of the Aguja Guillaumet. On the next, we climbed the first nine pitches on the west face directly upward toward the main summit. It was more difficult than we had foreseen. We had originally thought we could do the climb in a day and our bivouac gear was scanty. On the next morning, February 22, the climbing was a bit easier and the Patagonian weather gods were kind. We followed giant cracks, slabs and edges to right under the final nose. An ice-coated, overhanging chimney drove us back and to the right. We reached the summit at three P.M. under gathering cirrus clouds. We started down the French route and then rappelled the Argentine route on the northwest buttress. In pale moonlight, we staggered back to the Los Troncos Camp before the rain started. Typical Patagonian weather continued until the weather seemed to break. At four A.M. on February 27, we set out and three hours later stood below the northeast buttress of Guillaumet. Our route ascended between the 1981 Argentine Brenner-Moschioni and the 1968 French Amy-Vidailhet routes. The cracks were filled with ice, which added to the sport. After a vertical ascent of 240 meters, we stood on the north summit of Guillaumet. Our attempt to climb Fitz Roy over the Punta Goretta (via Casarotto) failed because of lack of time.

STEFAN GATT, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

*Guillaumet.* Shawn Tierney and I climbed the Fonrouge route on the northwest buttress of Guillaumet on January 1 and 2, 1994. We rate the 15-pitch climb as Grade IV or V, 5.9, A2.

PERRY NORRIS, *Pacific Crest Outward Bound School*

*Aguja Guillaumet, All-Woman Ascent.* In 1994, Argentines Marcela Antonicucci and Patricia Malatesta made the first all-woman ascent of the Argentine route on the northwest spur of the Aguja Guillaumet, which was first climbed in 1965 by José Luis Fonrouge and Carlos Comesaña. It is rated at UIAA V+,