

base camp was approximately 12 hours. Most parties use a high camp on this climb which is nice but with adequate acclimation not necessary. The summit pyramid is four or five pitches of very exposed knife ridge at 30 to 45 degrees. On May 16, Mike and Steve Marolt and Jim Gile arrived at base camp for Huayna Potosí. The next day the team climbed to approximately 18,000 feet and established a high camp. On May 18 they ascended to the summit at 20,800 feet in perfect conditions. On the descent, scud clouds developed—the only clouds in a three-week period. The team continued on to base camp the same day.

On May 10 the party drove to the base camp for Illimani. The next day the team climbed to a high camp at approximately 18,100 feet. On May 21, the team attempted the summit in perfect conditions; however, due to illness and fatigue from previous climbs, the summit was aborted at about 20,000 feet. Note that this base camp and high camp are among the most spectacular this team has ever experienced in over 14 expeditions throughout the world. All altitudes are based on our GPS readings and are slightly higher than most published accountings.

MIKE MAROLT

*Cordillera Real, Various Ascents.* Bolivia, and especially the Cordillera Real, is being visited by many Argentines. In early July, 1995, a large group made various ascents. The most remarkable was a new route on Pirámide Blanca (5230 m) which Mariano Merani and Emilio González Turu called Via Argentina. The route climbs a serac cascade; a bivouac in ice was needed to complete it. Meanwhile, Pico Austria (5290 m) was climbed. Manuel Alfaro ascended solo Pico Cuchillar (5175 m), and Pablo Tetilla, also solo, made an ascent of Pico Tarija (5240 m). In bad weather, Merani and González Turu climbed a variation of the south face of Condoriri (5656 m). Some days later, the same pair ascended the South Summit of Huayna Potosi (5715 m) by the French Route (45-50 degrees, with a 65-degree exit).

MARCELO SCANU, Buenos Aires, Argentina

*Nevado Beato Josemaria, First Ascent.* This unclimbed mountain was “discovered” by the Club Huayna Potosi of La Paz, Bolivia. They needed four expeditions over one and a half years to reach their goal. Finally they scouted the south face with great crevasses and 70-degree ice. On April 8, 1995, Liam O'Brien and Andres Eichmann went to the top. At the end of July, 1995, a large group ascended to the summit where a little monument with a cemented base, a bronze plaque and a cross was erected. The name Nevado Beato Josemaría (5290 m) was approved by the Instituto Geográfico Militar de Bolivia.

MARCELO SCANU, Buenos Aires, Argentina

*Ancohuma, Various Ascents.* The Joint Services Expedition to the Andes (JSE Andes '95) took place in Bolivia from April 25 to June 14, 1995. The expedition combined mountaineering in the Cordillera Real with physiological research and hang-gliding. Twenty tri-service personnel attended, led by Lt AJ Dinmore RM and W02 JM Mitchell RM. JSE Andes had three exercise aims: 1. to ascend Ancohuma (6427 m); 2. to conduct research studies into weight loss and nutrition at altitude; 3. to launch two hanggliders from the summit of Ancohuma. All the exercise aims were achieved, with every climbing member of the expedition reaching the summit of Ancohuma, research studies completed in full, and the hanggliders being launched on May 31, 1995.

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