

meters. Aside from short scientific and geographic notes, this range had received to date no other detailed mention except one that appeared in the article "Climbing in the Bolivian Andes" by Josef Prem (1945 *AAJ*, pp. 322-332).

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

## CHILE

*Monte Trinidad, Northeast Face.* Pablo Pontoriero and Diego Cannestraci put up a new route on the northeast face of Monte Trinidad (ca. 1700m) on February 10-11. The route, *Vamos con Peto* (6b+, 450m), follows a crack system in the center of the face. Due to the prevailing humidity in the area, one encounters moss and lichen on new routes. Despite this characteristic, the rock is an excellent granite. They set up Base Camp on the bank of the Cochamó River, a five- or six-hour walk from the village. From there, they made the approach to the base of the route in four hours. This final part was made easier because of the trail opened by Simon Nadin (U.K.) the previous season.

On February 10, they climbed the first seven pitches and bivouacked on a ledge. The next day, they climbed the last two pitches and descended to the base of the route. They left only two bolts at the end of the seventh pitch. At the moment of writing this account, there was a group of Brazilian and Italian climbers in the valley working on new routes. The place holds an enormous potential, with granite walls of 700-800 meters.

FACUNDO JOSÉ, *Club Andino Bariloche*

## CHILEAN PATAGONIA

*"Dos Hermanos," First Ascents.* The team (six Chileans and two Argentines), met at Puerto Natales, Chile, in early February, 1999, and after receiving the necessary permits from the national authorities, sailed north toward Puerto Eden in Isla Wellington. The ferry, which had Puerto Montt as its final destination, took two days to reach the small Alacaluf village. Some days later, we continued through the channels in a small fishing boat. We spent three more days in heavy seas to reach the bottom of Fiord Falcon, where we established Base Camp at 49° 34' 35.8" S, 73° 50' 26.2" W. The boat left immediately to avoid the icebergs; the plan was for it to return in March. The camp was well above sea level so as to be protected from the big waves that would come from time to time from a large nearby icefall. Two other camps were established, allowing us to reach four virgin summits with mixed difficulties in rock and ice in a range we called "Dos Hermanos" at 49° 33' S, 73° 47' W. (Dos Hermanos lies to the west of Risopatron, right over Fiordo Falcon.) Peaks climbed are as follows:

- Primera (1250m) (49° 33' 36.1" S, 73° 47' 25.8" W), February 28.
- San Jorge (1560m) (49° 34' 01.3" S, 73° 45' 05.0" W), March 1.
- Escondida (1750m) (49° 34' 04.3" S, 73° 44' 58.2" W), March 2.
- Punta Chilena (2100m) (49° 34' 01.0" S, 73° 45' 03.0" W), March 9.

Weather conditions were poor and only Punta Chilena was climbed on a sunny day. There are other interesting summits like Punta Argentina in Dos Hermanos, Risopatron Sur and P. 3018 (unnamed and the last unclimbed 3000-meter peak in Patagonia) awaiting future expeditions. Also in Isla Wellington, well above Puerto Eden, there are several virgin mountains.



*An unclimbed mountain of the Dos Hermanos Range. CARLOS COMESAÑA*

Our small fishing boat had problems picking us up in March due to the icy seas; we had to wait until wind conditions settled down enough before we could leave the area. By mid-March, we finally returned to Puerto Eden, from where a coast guard of the Chilean Navy took us to Puerto Natales.

The region is still an adventure paradise for traditional exploratory mountaineering and probably will continue to be so due to the extremely harsh weather conditions (mainly winds and heavy snow fall) together with the absence of any human presence.

CARLOS E. COMESAÑA, *Centro Andino Buenos Aires*

*Hornopiren National Park, Exploratory Mountaineering.* In January, 2000, I led an exploratory mountaineering expedition to climb a group of unnamed, unvisited peaks located within the boundaries of Chile's Hornopiren National Park (latitude 42° S; topo map H-73: Rio Traidor). The peaks surround an extensive glacier area in the northeast quadrant of the Park, ten kilometers southeast of Lago Pinto Concha. The team of five North Americans included Randy Earlywine, Daniel Collins, Susan Detweiler, Rich Henke and myself. We spent 25 days in the area and made the first known ascents of several peaks and numerous minor summits ranging in elevation from 1859 to 2342 meters. The long complicated approach, thick temperate rain forest, and, more than anything, stormy weather have discouraged most