

in the pitches). While freeing the route, we used small Friends and small nuts with shock absorbers on quickdraws. We had great meteorological conditions. Due to our very special diet (!), the route is called *Pasta Religion*.

LIONEL DAUDET, *France*

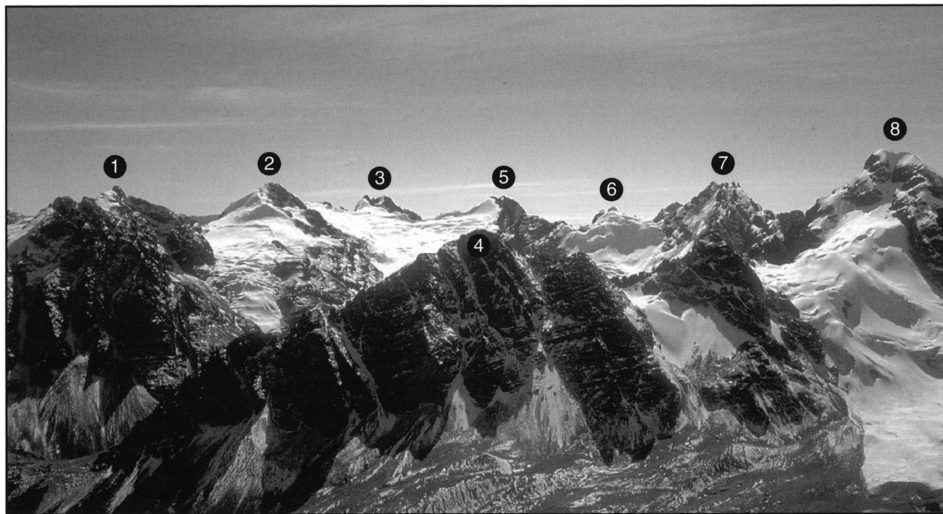
## CORDILLERA VILCANOTA

*Cordillera Vilcanota, Various Ascents, Previously Unreported.* In July, 1999, a seven-member British team led by Andy Owen made several ascents, some perhaps new, from a base camp near Laguna Saranaro in the seldom-visited southeastern Vilcanota. Ascents included the Southeast Ridge of Nevado Jatunano Punta (5812m) via Cerro Soranano Snowpeak (5540m), the southern slopes to Southeast Ridge of Nevado Apucucho (5560m), and the Southwest Ridge of Nevado Japu Punta (5852m). (*High Mountain Sports* 215)

## BOLIVIA

### CORDILLERA REAL

*Cerro Ventanani, Ruta de Los Amigos, New Route and Cerro Sancayuni, West Face Hanging Glacier Route, First Solo Ascent.* On July 8 and 9, I established one new route and made a first solo ascent in the Linco Valley of the Cordillera Real. The Linco Valley is located just



Peaks of the Linco Valley, Cordillera Real, Bolivia, as seen from the southwest. 1. Point 5440. 2. Cerro Chekapa (ca. 5460m). 3. Unnamed (ca. 5360m). 4. Nevado Chekapa Sarama (ca. 5220m); 5. Cerro Ventanani (ca. 5398m); 6. Point 5320m. 7. Cerro Sancayuni (ca. 5400m). 8. Cerro Kallhuani (ca. 5492m). Ruta de los Amigos ascends the obvious glacier headwall on Cerro Ventanani. The West Face Hanging Glacier ascends the thin strip of glacier on the otherwise rocky west face of Cerro Sancayuni. MATT WADE

north of the Condoriri Valley and requires three hours of desperate off-road driving to reach. Another two hours of hiking is required to reach the base of the glaciers.

On July 8, I left my camp at the base of the glaciers and climbed the west face of Cerro Ventanani (5400m) for the first ascent. A two-hour approach on the moderately crevassed glacier led to the 500-foot west face. I climbed the smooth 50-degree headwall to the summit, enjoying perfect névé conditions and blue Bolivian skies. I descended via the gentle south ridge, the only route previously climbed on this peak. I called the new route *Ruta de Los Amigos* after a friendship I developed with my camp guard, Felix, a local Aymara Indian.

On July 9, armed with technical tools, a rope, and a few ice screws, I climbed the West Face Hanging Glacier route on Cerro Sancayuni (5400m) for the first solo ascent. This route was first climbed in 1983 by Stanley Shepard, Dave Bishop, and Frank Zaftan. A short glacial approach led to the beginning of the real climbing. A ribbon of 80-degree water ice led elegantly through a daunting serac band, providing access to 1,000 vertical feet of steep névé on the upper face. I climbed a pitch of brittle ice through the narrow passage and gained the long, smooth slope above. Once on the face proper, I found the 50- to 60-degree angle and styrofoam conditions ideal for pied troisième technique with two tools, and the consistent steepness lent awesome exposure. One and a half hours after leaving the talus, I crossed the bergschrund and pulled onto the summit ridge. A short walk along the knife-edge crest put me at the north summit. I descended via the ascent route, down climbing the upper face and rappelling the water ice pitch.

I spent July 10-11 exploring adjacent valleys. I discovered a plethora of new route potential on neighboring 5000-meter-plus peaks.

MATT WADE

*Condoriri Area, Various Ascents and Map Correction.* The 2000 Cordillera Real Expedition from the Colorado State University Outdoor Adventure Program climbed a number of peaks in the Condoriri area, and made an ascent of a rarely climbed, but spectacular, glaciated peak. Our eight-person team was comprised of Rodney Ley (co-leader), Jim Davidson (co-leader), Roger Boyd, Aaron McEntire, Lawrence Pollack, Darrin Sharp, Rachel Steeves, and Shawn Zeigler. We first spent five days in the Condoriri getting acclimated by climbing several standard routes from a base camp at Laguna Chiar Khota (Black Lake). We climbed Austria (5000m), Tarija (5060m), and Pequeño Alpamayo (5370m) and made an unsuccessful attempt of Illusioncita (5150m). We then moved east over an unnamed 5000-meter pass just south of Aguja Negra and made camp at 4700 meters just south of Cerro Zongo Jisthaña (ca. 5140m). Our mule driver and base camp guard, both local Aymarans, said they had never seen any alpinistas climb Cerro Zongo Jisthaña, even though it is just two kilometers from an established trail between the popular Condoriri and Huyana Potosi climbing areas.

On May 25, we approached Cerro Zongo Jisthaña over moraine, and crossed the lightly crevassed glacier on its southern flank. At an elevation of about 5000 meters, we ascended the left-hand (western) edge of the glacial headwall on a long, narrow prow of consolidated snow (protected with pickets). After 120 meters of snow up to 60 degrees, we emerged onto a flat plateau. From here, a low-angle ridge of firm snow rose northward to the summit (5140m). We descended via the southeastern ridge of the glacier. Though we have found no published accounts of previous ascents, we did find a cairn on top.

Several peaks on the popular 1:50,000 topographic sheet of the Condoriri by Walter Guzmán Córdova are mislabeled. Cerro Zongo Jisthaña appears to be mislocated on the map and mislabeled as a non-glaciated peak four kilometers due east of Laguna Chiar Khota. It is