

During this descent Bowers made an airborne variation near the summit and survived a serious fall that took him over a 50' cliff, before he miraculously stopped, unhurt, on a steep ribbon of powder. After regrouping, we used traction kites to fly downwind to the Circo de los Altares, where we established Camp 2.

Basing out of a camp located in the middle of the cirque, we spent the next week making day trips to nearby couloirs. We warmed up with a descent of what we called *Effecto Venturi*, a short, south-facing corner/couloir on the western flank of Cerro Rincon, then moved on to ski the steeper and more committing *Col de Bloque Empotrado Couloir* on Torre Egger. After enduring another storm, we skied two more couloirs, which we called *The Shark's Fin* and *Sacrificial Virgin*. The former was a prominent south-facing arête on the western flank of Cerro Rincon, the latter a north-northwest-facing couloir on the ridgeline leading west from Cerro Adela Norte. The final and most spectacular descent in this area was from the *Col de la Esperanza* on Cerro Torre, which was first reached by Bonatti and Mauri during their 1958 attempt on the peak.

We then kited over to the Mariano Mereno mountain range at speeds up to 30 mph, while towing our heavy sleds. This area had less skiing potential and more bad weather, but we accomplished two more ski descents of remote peaks (shorter, likely unnamed subpeaks near *Dos Cumbres*), before running out of time.

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HIELO CONTINENTAL

Cerro Murallón, Gone with the Wind. On the north pillar of Cerro Murallón (2,831m), Stefan Glowacz and Robert Jasper made the first ascent of *Gone with the Wind* (1,200m to summit plateau, 27 pitches, 7c+ A2 M4), in November. See Glowacz's feature article earlier in this *Journal*.

Cerro Lliboutry, first ascent, winter ascent. On July 20 Abdo Fernández and I, both Chilean, flew to Punta Arenas and from there traveled overland to Chalten. We intended to accomplish the first ascent of Cerro Lliboutry (1,980m), located 10km northwest of Paso Marconi in the Cordon Gaea. We had attempted the mountain during the 2004 winter, with four other partners, but were driven back by bad rock and lack of adequate protection, a mere 60m from the summit. After carrying our gear to the vicinity of Paso Marconi, we moved into the Eduardo García Soto hut, located north of the pass, on the Chilean side of the border. Bad weather pinned us down for five days, with 5°F temperatures inside the hut. Finally the weather improved and, using sleds and skis, we crossed *Glaciar Chico* to reach the base of the mountain, where another storm pinned us down for a further five days. On our last available day before we had to start our journey back, the weather improved. We woke at 5 a.m. and started up, climbing the southwest face while it was still dark. Deep snow slowed our progress, and we did not reach the technical part of the climb until well past midday. The upper portion consisted of several pitches of ice and mixed terrain, with difficulties up to WI3 (70°) and M3. We reached the summit at 4 p.m. on August 6. Ours was the first ascent of the mountain and the first winter ascent.

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