



Chacaraju Oeste's south face, with the 1977 Bouchard-Meunier route (solid line) shown here as per original expedition routeline photo—some sources have mis-drawn this line. Dots represent the 2007 Chilean variations. Not shown is the 1983 French route (Desmaison-Arizzi-Chappaz-Fourque), which takes a runnel to the right and finishes via the ridge. The '77 and '83 routes are likely the only complete (to summit) routes on this face. *Armando Moraga*

plastered on the rock, inconsistent snow more than 80° steep, and sparse protection. At 8:00 p.m. we dug a small snow ledge, melted water, and ate before continuing at 2:00 a.m.

After 23 pitches (850m, ED+ 95°), by afternoon we reached the summit ridge at about 6,000m. Enormous ice mushrooms greeted us and proved impossible to overcome. We tried our best and even took three whippers in the process, but we could not find a way to the summit. Hopeless, we started the descent, which proved more difficult than the climb. We made 20 long, insecure rappels, eventually following the French Direct route.

We returned safely to the ground after a 50-hour round trip. At some point we all had thoughts that we may well have not made it, but indeed we were hiking back to camp, day-dreaming, or rather, dreaming asleep as we hiked.

*Editor's note: Though the Chileans thought they climbed new terrain between the '77 Bouchard-Meunier route and the '83 French Direct route, and Internet reports reported such, further research and comparisons of route lines reveals that they mostly climbed the 1977 route, with minor variations.*

ARMANDO MORAGA, *Chile*

*Nevado Yanapaccha Noroeste, Hay Que Ser Humildes.* In mid-August Carlos Pineda and I climbed a direct line on the southwest face of Nevado Yanapaccha Noroeste (Noroeste I; 5,290m). This Nevado is situated southeast of well-known Nevado Chacaraju. Our base camp was at the abandoned Refugio Glaciar Broggi, next to Laguna Broggi. On August 14 we left our cozy camp early, reaching the base of the wall just after sunrise. Due to the chossy condition of this face, the route involves loose rock with poor protection. Rockfall is common, especially in the afternoon when the wall receives sun. The route starts to the left of a noticeable ice-water



Hay Que Ser Humildes, the only known route on the southwest face of Nevado Yanapaccha Noroeste (a.k.a. Noroeste I; 5,290m). *Maikey Lopera*

runoff in the middle of the amphitheater that leads to the face. The first pitch was a spicy, verglas-covered 5.8. From there the route continued on a relatively easy slab to 150m of class 4. Nine more pitches of moderate climbing, with short sections up to 5.9+, put us on the summit ridge. Another 200m of loose class 4 and a short section on snow led to the summit. We descended the west ridge to the Laguna Glaciar Broggi and were back to camp 14 hours after leaving. We dubbed our route Hay Que Ser Humildes (550m, V 5.9+R), and I dedicate it to our fallen friends in the mountains. We have to keep in mind that, after all, the mountains always have the final say.

MAIKEY LOPERA, *Venezuela*

*Huascarán Sur, Turbera, and Nevado Copa, Mostro Africano to southwest ridge.* Upon returning to Huaraz in June, after climbing Siulá Chico, Oriol Baró and I decided to

attempt something more. Having spent six days on our previous route, we wanted something on which we could move fast, similar to what we might climb in the Alps.

In 2005 I climbed a line on Huascarán Norte that snaked around the French Route on the northeast face. The French Route follows the most vertical and safest part of the wall, but as I was climbing alone and as rapidly as possible, I sought out easier, though at times more exposed, passages. From this route I had the opportunity to see the north face of Huascarán Sur (6,768m), upon which I mentally traced a potential line of ascent.

Oriol and I needed to make this line a reality. We climbed the 1,200m-high north face in two days, with a bivouac spent sitting in the middle of the wall á la Mick Fowler. The route links huge snowfields on the right side of the rocky portion of the north-northeast face (just left of the hanging glaciated face) via short sections of rock. We bivouacked again near the northeast ridge, which completed our route, and then continued to the summit, which Oriol did not like because it required such a great deal of “walking.” We bivied again while descending the normal route (La Garganta), which we were neither familiar with nor did we enjoy, due to its exposure to serac fall. Turbera (1,200m, MD+ M5 A1).

In 2003, at the end of a course for young alpinists held by the Spanish Federation of Mountain Sports and Climbing, three of the participants—Elena de Castro, Roger Ximenis, and Oriol—headed to the south face of Nevado Copa (6,188m) intending to climb a new route. However, the *apus*, or mountain spirits, hurled the mountain down upon them as they were preparing for bed. They escaped from the avalanche of rock and ice mostly unharmed but plenty shaken. They fled in the middle of the night, wearing boot liners and with a single headlamp between them. Finally, a potato truck carried them back to Huaraz.