

Chile and Argentine

Capurata, 1967 Near the northern tip of Chile, this snow and ice volcano (19,653 ft) had its first ascent, on 7 October, by Ignacio Morlans and Police Captain Pedro Rosende; it is located in the Chilean province of Arica, in which, at present, due to the activity of the several groups that Rosende has been leading there in the last three years, only some ten peaks of importance remain unclimbed.

New Indian discoveries Repeatedly it had been reported in Chile that the high peak of Cerro Tortolas (20,744 ft) had Indian rock cairns on its top, but no investigation had been undertaken. On 21 February 1968, three climbers of the Santiago section of the Club Andino de Chile placed a camp at over 20,000 ft and ascended the peak, in which after two days of digging, and at a depth of 4 ft, were found statuettes decorated with feathers and silver pins, as well as some finely decorated ceramics. In April, a much larger party of Chileans and Germans from the towns of Santiago and Le Serena (C. Canut, L. Krahl, S. Kunstmann, H. Koch, F. Norra, R. Parada, J. Quinteros, E. Vicens, C. Wernli, M. Zwahlen) again visited the mountain, establishing a high camp and organising shifts in order to perform more digging. After a week of work, the following material was collected, all of Inca extraction: knitting bags, a tambourine, ceramics, wood sticks, wool clothing and herbs (see *A.ŷ.* 73. 85 for a general survey).

Central boundary areas, 1968 Cerro Tupungato (21,495 ft) was climbed by the Vines route on 17 January 1968, by Ignacio Morlans and Pedro Rosende, both from Santiago. On the Argentinian side, two members of the Club Andinista Mendoza made the first ascent of the fine peak of Gemelo Grande (c. 18,000 ft) and the second of its northern neighbour, Gemelo Norte (c. 17,000 ft). In the Ramada range, farther north, Cesarino Fava and Hector de la Vega made the first ascent of the South face (ice) of Mercedario (21,884 ft), previously attempted a number of times.

Patagonia

FITZROY GROUP

Italian expedition, 1968 This five-man party from Trieste made the first ascent of the difficult rock spire Aguja Saint-Exupéry (9711 ft) on 23 February; they also made the second known ascent of Mojon Rojo (7330 ft).