

Notes 1972 South America

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Colombia

THE SIERRA NEVADA DE SANTA MARTA

An expedition from the Royal Military College of Science climbed Pico Santander, Pico El Guardian and Pico Tairona during July/August 1972. (See p 78, above.)

Peru

CORDILLERA BLANCA

Members of a Barcelona expedition ascended two high points, over 5700 m, located on the ridge between Alpamayo and Quitaraju, in early July; they also attempted the N face of the latter peak. Two weeks later, on 19 July, this route was successfully completed by a French expedition. Also in July, an American party led by H. Adams Carter made the first ascent of Tumarinaraju, 5670 m, as well as of other lesser peaks. In May, a Japanese party was active in the Huaitapallana and recorded the first ascent of Jaya (5250 m).

Bolivia

CORDILLERA REAL EXPEDITION

This party from Imperial College climbed numerous peaks during July/August 1972. (See p 201, above.)

Chile-Argentina

NORTHERN ANDES

Besides drawing climbers from Tokyo, Buenos Aires and Santiago in 1971, Ojos del Salado (6885 m) also attracted a Polish-Chilean expedition, which ascended several summits of this, the second highest mountain in the Andes, on 18 March 1972. Poles and Chileans also made the first ascent of Cerro El Solo ('The Lonely One'), 6189 m, and of several lesser peaks, and the second of Cerro El Ermitaño ('The Hermit'), 6140 m.

S. Kunstmann and P. Rosende, of Santiago, ascended the volcanic peak of Pili or Acaramachi, 6044 m, located E of Antofagasta. As expected, they located on the top Inca traces. They also ascended Aguas Calientes, 5937 m, and then returned to Santiago to organise an archaeological expedition. They returned with 12 climbers and set up camps on the top of Pili, and after several days of

digging they uncovered rich remains of Inca manufacture (feathers, silver and gold statuettes, locks of hair, lumber).

In October 1972, Rosende and the porter Albino Plaza of Socaire, ascended Miñique, 5910 m, south of Pili, and also found on the summit Indian constructions.

The Argentinians were also active in the Northern Andes, making several expeditions to locate Inca remains on high peaks. The main ascent by these expeditions was made on El Potro ('The Stallion'), 5830 m, on which were found traces of previous occupancy and a walking stick, similar to those used by the *chasquis* of the Incas, or messengers (December 1971–Jan 1972).

CENTRAL ANDES

The w summit of Nevado Juncal, a high ice peak located astride the Chilean-Argentinian border, was climbed by a Spanish expedition led by Miguel Gómez. There exists confusion as to which is the highest summit of the peak. The hitherto unclimbed w summit is currently held to be 5960 m high, but Chilean climbers believe it to be higher than the highest summit of the massif (6110 m).

PATAGONIA

Peter Barry and Bill Stephenson, New Zealanders (?), were active in the Cochran district of Northern Patagonia. They made, in mist and fog, the possible third ascent of Cerro San Lorenzo, 3660 m high, the first of 4 peaks in the Valle Tranquilo, and a prominent rock and ice peak which they believed was Cerro Hermoso was finally ascended in late December 1971. The New Zealanders Robert Gunn, David Clark, David Launder, Ray Molineaux and Newell Palmer, together with the Chilean Rómulo Tasseti, entered the N Patagonian ice-cap by the Soler river and Nef glacier and spent 70 days in the area, but were able to ascend only 3 peaks, due to very bad weather. Peaks ascended w of Cerro Cachet; Cerro Cachet itself, 2800 m, and Pt 2700 II, sw of Cerro Largo. An attempt on Cerro Largo, 2744 m failed (December 1971–February 1972).