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ANTONIO GÓMEZ BOHÓRQUEZ

# Cordilleras Blanca and Huayhuash

## 2006-2007

Translated by Erik Monasterio

This review summarises first ascents, significant attempts and other pertinent information about climbing in the Huayhuash and Blanca mountain ranges of Peru. In preparing this report I have utilised information from the archives of AndesInfo, the book of first ascents from the Casa de Guías in Huaraz and from the Casa de Zarela, *Alpinist, Desnivel, The Alpine Journal (AJ), The American Alpine Journal (AAJ)*. I have also referred to the past and present versions of Alpenvereinskarte (*Cordillera Blanca 0/3a, 0/3b, Huayhuash 0/3c*), maps from the Instituto Geográfico Nacional Peruano (National Geographic Institute of Peru). I have spoken with local people from Ancash and Alcides Ames, Anthony Barton, Aritza Monasterio, Brad Johnson, Carlos Buhler, Dave Turner, Evelio Echevarría, Hermann Huber, Hugo Sifuentes, Irene Beardsley, Klaus Auer, Manfred Sturm, Matt Meinzer, Oriol Baró, Pavle Kozjek, Tamotsu Nakamura, Tsunemichi Ikeda and Werner Lindauer.

### **Cordillera Blanca 2006**

#### **Cerro Parón (5325m)**

This peak is also known as La Esfinge. In mid July 2006 USA's Dave Turner and Matt Meinzer, set off on a new route on the E face and to the right of *Papas Rellenas*, previously climbed by Cruaud, Devernay, Peyronnard and Plaze in 1999. Due to altitude problems, Meinzer pulled out after the second pitch and Turner continued on his own. Halfway up the wall, he joined the *Papas Rellenas* route and followed this to the summit. He named the route *Inferno* (650m VI 5.10b A3-). It took six days to complete. Turner enjoyed sunny days although most nights there was wind and snow.

#### **Chaupihuanca (c 4700m)**

This peak in the Rúrec valley was mistakenly named Punta Numa by the first climbers, who were unaware of its native name. Its native name is Chaupihuanca, which in the Quechua language means 'the long stone centre';

it lies just to the right of Itsoc Huanca (see *AJ* 2006, pp321-322). Chaupihuanca forms part of the SE Pumahuacanca Suroeste (5179m); please refer to Pt c4800m in *AJ* 2003 pp287-288. The NW face has three routes to the summit. On 1 July 2006 climbers Simone Pedefferri, Andrea Pavan and Fabio Palma, members of Ragni di Lecco (The Lecho Spiders, Italy), camped at c4050m in the quebrada Rúrec. They set off to the right of the 1997 *Callado-Pedrocchi* route (750m, ED 6c/A4). By the 15th, and after climbing 15 pitches and reaching c4600m, the Italians decided to turn back before the summit. They named the route *Qui io Vado Ancora* (540m, 7c, obligatory 7a, two pitches of A1). The trio free-climbed all the pitches except the 10th, which was too dirty, and the 14th (too cold). Palma estimates that the 10th pitch, once cleaned, would be F6c and the 14th F7c. In *AAJ* 2007, p216 he recommends: 'one set of Friends, from the small yellow, and doubles in sizes 1, 2, 3. The Friends are mainly useful/necessary from pitch 10 onward. Some micronuts could be used on the slab pitches. Ratings of the 15 pitches are V, V+, 6b, 7a, 7a+, 7a, 6b+, 7b, 7a+, 6b A1, 6c, V, 6c+, 7a A1, 7a. The last pitch ends, at 4600m, with a fantastic crack that needs Friends #4 and #5 (minimum #3).'

### **Nevado Caraz I (6025m)**

On 13 July 2006, Rok Stubelj and Arcon Jernej (Slovenia) climbed the south face, to the right of the left (west) ridge, directly beneath the summit. In nine hours they reached the summit cornices, which prevented them reaching the west ridge. They took six hours to descend in 15 rappels. They named the route *Dos gringos* (800m, TD 90° 55°-65°).

### **Nevado Cashan (5123m)**

Between 23 and 25 June 2006 a commercial expedition organised by Martin Akhurst set up camp in quebrada Rúrec, and then high camps at c4700m and c5000m. From the higher camp, Peruvian guide Damián Aurelio, Ray Tennant and David Galloway climbed the SSW ridge that climbs to the col between Nevado Cashan and Nevado Shacsha (5703m). They reached the summit on the 25th after some steep climbing and via a possible new route (AD in *AAJ* 2007 p217).

### **Nevado Huandoy Sur (6160m)**

Almost a month after his ascent of Cerro Parón, Dave Turner climbed the SE spur, left of the south face, in 'fast and light style'. He left Huaraz one afternoon and travelled to the Llanganuco Lakes from where he went straight to base camp. After a brief afternoon nap he climbed the SE spur (to the left of the vertical south face). He climbed steep mixed ground with unconsolidated snow. After 700m he met the 'final crux', an overhanging cornice directly beneath the SW summit ridge. He overcame this by 'using every technique possible'. He climbed the ridge at dawn, six and a half hours after crossing the bergshroud and just in time to catch sight of the

final stages to the summit, before being struck by a storm. He carried on as far as he could, estimating he was 100 vertical metres from the summit. In order to avoid an exposed bivouac, he then down climbed the route of ascent. He arrived back in Huaraz 28 hours after setting off. Turner's description is insufficient to distinguish whether he climbed via the Japanese route.

**Correction.** The route on the NE face, climbed by Canadians A Sole and G Spohr (June 1979), repeated by Spaniards M Ábrego, J Muru, and G Plaza (May 1980), and by Slovene P Kozjek (August 1995), was climbed in 1978 by the French expedition of F Tomas, D Julien, R Mizrahi, R Müsneh, G Vionnet-Fuasset, and H Lüdi. See *AAJ* 2007, p215 or guidebook *Cordillera Blanca, Escaladas*, p218.

### **Nevado Huantsán Norte (6113m)**

From 11-15 July, Peruvian climbers Beto Pinto Toledo, Christian Andreas Stoll Dávila, Michel Quito Bernuy and Rolando Morales Flores climbed the north summit of Huantsán. They followed the Rajucolta gorge and camped on the Huantsán glacier (c5175m). The following day they climbed the west face toward the NW (left) col of Huantsán Norte. Over the first 240m of previously unclimbed ground they encountered thin unprotectable ice on the first pitch, then two pitches of steep snow and ice to 90° and a further pitch of vertical ice and mixed climbing to the end of the face. They then made a snow cave where they sat out bad weather for one day. The following day at 2am, they left camp to climb the NW ridge. Stoll Dávila later provided the following account, entitled 'First Peruvians on Huantsan Norte' and published in *www.alpinist.com*: 'We climbed ten runout pitches, using only deadmen as anchors. The most difficult part required crossing from the W face of the ridge to the E face, over cornices and mushrooms. At 6.34am, in perfect conditions, we became the first Peruvian rope team to reach the summit of Huantsan Norte.' They descended by abseiling 14 x 60m down the NW face: '... we reached the glacier and our bivy at 5.30pm. Our supplies exhausted, we kept going, and at approximately 11.30pm, after 21 hours on the move, we feasted on the remaining food in base camp tent and drank from a nearby water-hole, having finished our almost-epic ascent of *The Wayqui Way* (850m, TD+ WI4 M4 90°; in Quechua, *wayqui* means 'brothers').' Note that the Peruvian Eliseo Vargas reached the summit of Huantsán Norte with Leigh N Ortenburger during the ascent of Huantsán (6395m) in 1958.

### **Nevado Huantsán Sur (5915m)**

In June 2006 British climbers Matt Helliker and Nick Bullock walked from Chavin up the Alhuina river to the Huantsan gorge. They then climbed in a NE direction to the south summit. They left base camp (c4400m) on 25th and reached the moraine under the NE face at 10am. After debating the

proposed route for two hours they decided to climb the NE buttress, which started at 5000m. They solo climbed over the first 200m of loose rock (V-). They then roped up, and crossed under, over and between large numbers of groaning séracs. Then, as described by Bullock in the *AAJ* 2007: 'Massive umbrellas of wind-blown, icicle-encrusted overhangs loomed atop the runnels in the afternoon sun. Speed and luck were our friends. At 5.30pm, we made a bivouac on rock to the left of a gully, near a massive umbrella at 5500m. A sérac high on the face calved in the night, debris hit us, and we covered.' The next day they left their bivouac at 7am and after committed climbing reached the summit at 3pm. They rappelled back down to the snowfields and bivouacked (c5600m) under an ice umbrella. They then down climbed the rock section and were back in camp at 3pm. They christened their route *Death or Glory*.

### **Nevado Huascarán Sur (6768m)**

Giuseppe Ghedina's account, published in [www.planetmountain.com](http://www.planetmountain.com) and dated 28 July 2006, claims a new route: 'In June, as part of a course, Davide Alberti, Marco Da Pozzo, Mario Lacedelli, Alessandro Menardi, members of Gruppo degli Scoiattoli di Cortina, together with Fabio Pavanello, Samuele Majoni, Andrea De Gasperi, Giorgio Costantini, Giuseppe Ghedina and Alpine guides Olindo De Biasio and Marco Garbin climbed a new route on the south face of Huascarán.' Towards the end of the report Ghedina states that: 'after a brief discussion the local guide confirmed that it was a new route.' However, the route indicated over the photo that accompanies the text shows the route to be a variant of the normal route, along the western slopes, on the left hand side of the Huascarán Shield. The first part of the route is the same as the original approach route taken by Broda, Merler and Segger in 1969. The final stage of the climb is the same as that taken by other climbers in previous years. The only differences are attributable to changes in the conditions of the glacier.

### **Nevado Shacsha (Shaqsha 5703m)**

A brief note in the first ascents book of the Casa de Guías de Huaraz, p622 reveals what may be a possible new direct route on the west face. It was climbed on 14 June 2006 by a climber who did not leave his name: 'We chose a direct line towards the summit [...] the key passage is ~ 80° ice climbing for about 10 metres. Snow conditions: up to 5200m frozen, between 5200-5400m deep sugar snow [...], summit face perfect snow. Very recommendable climb, grade about AD+.'

### **Taulliraju (5830m)**

On the 28 May 2006 Slovenian climbers Grega Lacen, Tadej Golob and Matej Flis climbed the SSW buttress by a route they christened *GMHM route* (400m, TD+ WI4+ M4). This route was climbed by Prom, Gryska and Gleizes, members of the French GMHM, ending July 4 1988 above

the SSW buttress of Taulliraju. The Slovenians bivouacked on the top of the buttress. The next day they followed the *Guides' route* (800m, TD+, Balmat-Fabre-Monaci-Thivierge, 1978) to the east face, where they climbed 25m right of the route attempted by Richey and Monasterio in 2002. So far it remains unclear whether the *Guides' route* is a variation of the 1976 route by the Japanese Mizobuchi, Nagashino and Yoda. This area of Taulliraju was also climbed by Jaeger (solo, 1978), Miller and Richardson (1983), Fowler and Arnow (1988), Tamayo and Fernandez (1989), and others. Lacen wrote in *Alpinist* issue 18: 'I started up the first two pitches wearing my crampons, but after taking two falls, I changed to climbing shoes. The granite was first class, only briefly disturbed by some huge, loose flakes. On the last pitch, powder again covered the rock, and it was nearly impossible to set up belays. The sun had already set behind Alpamayo as we stood on the summit (5830m) on May 29, having completed *El Centelleo* (700m, VI 6b M6+).' They rappelled down the east face. After the first rappel line, they found an ice cave: 'After we spent an uncomfortable night, the next rappel led to an established anchor. All the following rappels were set in a similar manner to the base of the mountain. Looking over the photos back in base camp, we found we had descended directly over the Monasterio-Richey attempt.'

## **Cordillera Huayhuash 2006**

### **Nevado Carnicero (5980m)**

After a few rest days (see below Nevado Quesillo) USA climbers Buhler and Johnson attempted a new route on the steep 660m east face. They followed their previous steps along the glacier of the Quesillo peak. They then followed to the right and after a long approach camped next to the ridge at the foot of Jurau (5674m). With light packs and no bivouac equipment they set out at midnight, hoping for a 24-hour return trip. They crossed the glacier to the foot of the east side of the east face. They free-climbed the first 70m of the central gully before deciding to rope up. They then climbed a 70m pitch (80° AI4) to the right, then another of similar length and grade, followed by two pitches of bulletproof ice (60°-70°). On the top section of the gully system they climbed to the right, on mixed ground up to 70°-80° (AI4/4+). Thus they reached the apparently easy snow slopes on the east face, but still only halfway up (9.30am). They found rockfall and snow softened by the effect of the sun, which improved by 3.30pm. But by this stage it was too late to reach the summit, and without bivouac equipment they decided to rappel down and return to Huaraz.

### **Nevado Quesillo (5600m)**

This peak is listed as Jurau F (5600m) in *Cordillera Huayhuash*, Alpine Mapping Guild 2004. On 9 July 2006, Carlos Buhler and Brad Johnson

reached the village of Queropalca. From there they trekked for two days to establish a base camp on the shores of the Carnicero lake. After two rest days they walked beyond Suerococha, across the glacier and camped beneath the NE face of Nevado Quesillo. The next day, 14 July, they left late, at 7am. They climbed up the glacier to reach the bottom section of the rock face and traversed to the left. They then climbed a dihedral system and followed up a 30m chimney (V- UIAA). The second pitch (70m) consisted of very loose rock and finished just below the upper snow slopes. After three further rope lengths of snow and ice (70m, 50°-75°) they reached the summit ridge, and in a further exposed pitch (70m) they reached the summit. They descended with 5 x 70m rappels on the right side of the face, including a 'treacherous' rap into the wet chimney at night. They were back in camp at 9.30am with an overall feeling that they had taken too long to climb a relatively easy route (350m, D+ V- AI3 55°-75°).

### **P 5740m**

In the first week of August 2006 Silvano Arrigoni, Lorenzo Fistorazzi, Eugenio Galbani and Franco Melesi trekked past Carhuacocha (4138m) to the Gangrahanca valley to reach Siulacocha (4290m). They climbed to the summit of a peak without any registered past ascents situated in front of the NE face of Siulá Grande (6356m). They sent the following message, published 11.8.06 on [www.ragnilecco.com](http://www.ragnilecco.com): 'My friends a new route has been born, 800m after 32 pitches along a previously unclimbed pillar on Siulá Grande. Overall grade up to VII (with horrendous protection due to the extremely compact nature of the granite) and AI1 and total grade ED+. The climb took place on the 3/4/5/6/7 of August 2006 with one bivouac on the face at 5200m and a nighttime descent. Our highest point was 5550m.' Lindsey Griffin provided more information in the *AAJ* 2007, pp220-221, where the peak is referred to with the name given by the Italians 'Siula Antecima'. However, Fistorazzi's photo with the ascent line, printed on page 221, clearly shows that they are referring to Pt 5740m (Alpenvereinskarte *Cordillera Huayhuash* 0/3c), Jurau B (5727m) in Alpine Mapping Guild 2004 and in other previous guides.

### **Rondoy (5883m)**

On 26 July 2006 Aritza Monasterio and Mikel S Urabain climbed the west face to a point near the col of the ridge that joins the south summit of Rondoy (5883m on the Alpenvereinskarte or 5870m in *Cordillera Huayhuash* in Alpine Mapping Guild 2004) with that of Mituraju (5684m or 5750m). The final approach to the ridge was blocked by an enormous unstable cornice. After weighing up the risks, they decided to finish the ascent there and rappel down the line, which they named *Bagabiltza* (900m, VII/5 MD+).

## Cordillera Blanca 2007

### Cerro Huaytapallana (c 5000m)

At the end of August 2007 British climber Anthony Barton and Jim Sykes from the USA walked up the Rajururi valley, aka Huaytapallana valley, and camped at c4500m. They then climbed 300m up the NE face to the highest summit of the Huaytapallana peaks. They believe that this may be the first ascent of these peaks.

### Chacaraju (6112m)

On 21 July 2007 Felipe González Donoso, Armando Moraga and Juan Henríquez reached the Llanganuco valley and camped at Cebollapampa. On the 23rd they camped on the Chacaraju glacier and checked out their route. They left camp at 2am the following day and started climbing after 1.5 hours. They overcame difficult and committed sections of mixed climbing with soft unconsolidated snow and few security points. At 8pm they hacked out a bivouac site and three hours later they melted ice and got some rest. They set off again at 2am and after 23 pitches they reached the summit ridge (c6000m). They then attempted to climb over the ridge cornices, but retreated after three falls. After 20 rappels, to the right of their route of ascent, and 50 hours on the route, they were back at their campsite. They published together with a photo on [www.alpinist.com](http://www.alpinist.com) (1-11-2007) Moraga: 'We believe our ascent line, the *Chilean route* (ED+ 95 degrees 850m), climbs new terrain between the 1977 *Bouchard-Meunier route* and the 1983 *French Direct route*.' However, the line on the photo shows they climbed part of the *Bouchard-Meunier route*.

### Hatun Ulloc (Ulloc Grande c4500m)

Between 3 and 7 July 2007 Marc Wolff and Hans-Martin Tröbs climbed the east face to the height of the first prow, to the reach the summit c4500m via a new route (200m 7b 6b+ oblig. Expo. 6SL) christened *Compañía Vertical*. They rappled down the line of ascent.

### Ichic Ulloc (Ulloc Chico c 4450m)

Between 3 and 6 July 2007, German climbers Alexander Schmalz-Friedberger and Michael Zettelmeyer climbed the east face via a new route *Con ojeras debajo de ojos vidriosos* (180m 5.10+ C2 6SL). This route shares the final pitch with the Mexican route *Lawak*. They called the peak they climbed Ichic Ulloc (Ulloc Chico) with an altitude of 4450m. This rock summit is the lowest peak of a mountain on the Ishinka valley, to the right of another peak called Hatun Ulloc by Crill and Gallagher; see *AJ* 2006 pp320-321. The new name of Ichic Ulloc is likely to create confusion.

### **Nevado Alpamayo (5947m)**

In [www.alpinist.com](http://www.alpinist.com) (1-11-2007) Moraga describes the following: 'To acclimatize, on 19 July Felipe Gonzalez Donoso, Felipe Gonzalez Diaz and I made a Chilean variation (MD 90 degrees 400m) to the *Escruela-Tain route* – aka *Sensations of History* (ED 95 degrees Escruela-Tain, 2002) – on Alpamayo's SW face.' It is worthwhile to bear in mind that Escruela and Tain repeated the route (although with markedly different ice conditions) previously climbed by the Canadian S Parent and Peruvian P Cacha (on 9 August 1988) and before the glacier avalanche of the right side on the south-west face. I mistakenly granted the first ascent to Escruela and Tain in my book *Cordillera Blanca, Escaladas ...*, pp138-139, because at the time I was unaware of the Parent and Cacha route.

### **Nevado Cajavilca III (5419m)**

On 14 July 2007 Anthony Barton and John Pearson, helped by four porters, climbed the trail to the Cajavilca Mine and camped at c4700m on the moraine at the edge of the eastern glacier of Nevado Cajavilca III (5419m). The porters returned to Yanama. The British climbers then easily reached the east glacier of Cajavilca II and I (5675m and 5775m and camped at c4850m. On the 18th at 4.30am they climbed the snow slopes (40°–45°) of the south-east face of Cajavilca III to reach the gully on the right of the first rock band. They climbed the gully in two pitches (55°–60°) and reached the ice ridge. After a further three long snow pitches (50°–55°) they reached the second rock band. They climbed along another gully, with a pitch that varied between 55° to 70°, and a further pitch (55°–60°) took them to the west ridge and the summit by 11am. They believe this may be a new route (550m AD+). They rappelled four times and down climbed the route of ascent.

### **Nevado Chinchey Central (6222m)**

A Peruvian expedition made up of Quique Roel Apolinario, Elías Flores, Michel Araya, Miguel Martínez and porters David Flores, Moisés del Río and Jonathan camped in the Rurichinchay valley. They had a rest day at camp (c4950m) on the moraine of the north-east glacier. On 23 May 2007 they moved onto the glacier beneath the summits of Puntancuerno and Chinchey and established camp I (c5200m), where (due to bad weather) they remained until the 26th when they set off at 2am. After two hours they reached the NE face, which they climbed (60°–65°) as two separate teams (Araya-Martínez and Apolinario-Flores). They reached the NNE ridge of the main Chinchey peak and after two rope lengths made the summit by 1.30pm. They then rappelled back to the glacier by 8pm and descended to the camp on the edge of the moraine by midnight.

#### *Right*

184. Huascarán Sur (6768m), north-east face. *Corominas-Baró-Muñoz route*.  
(Antonio Gómez Bohórquez 1988)

### **Nevado Contrahierbas (6036m)**

Between 12 and 16 August, 2007 Anthony Barton visited the eastern side of the Cordillera Blanca. He was accompanied by Xabier Arbulo from Spain. They set off during the night to climb an unclimbed crack. One and a half hours after sunrise, rockfall began in earnest and two-thirds of the way to the summit (c5650m) Arbulo was hit by rockfall as he was setting up a belay. He lost his pack and therefore they had to give up their summit attempt and abseil down.

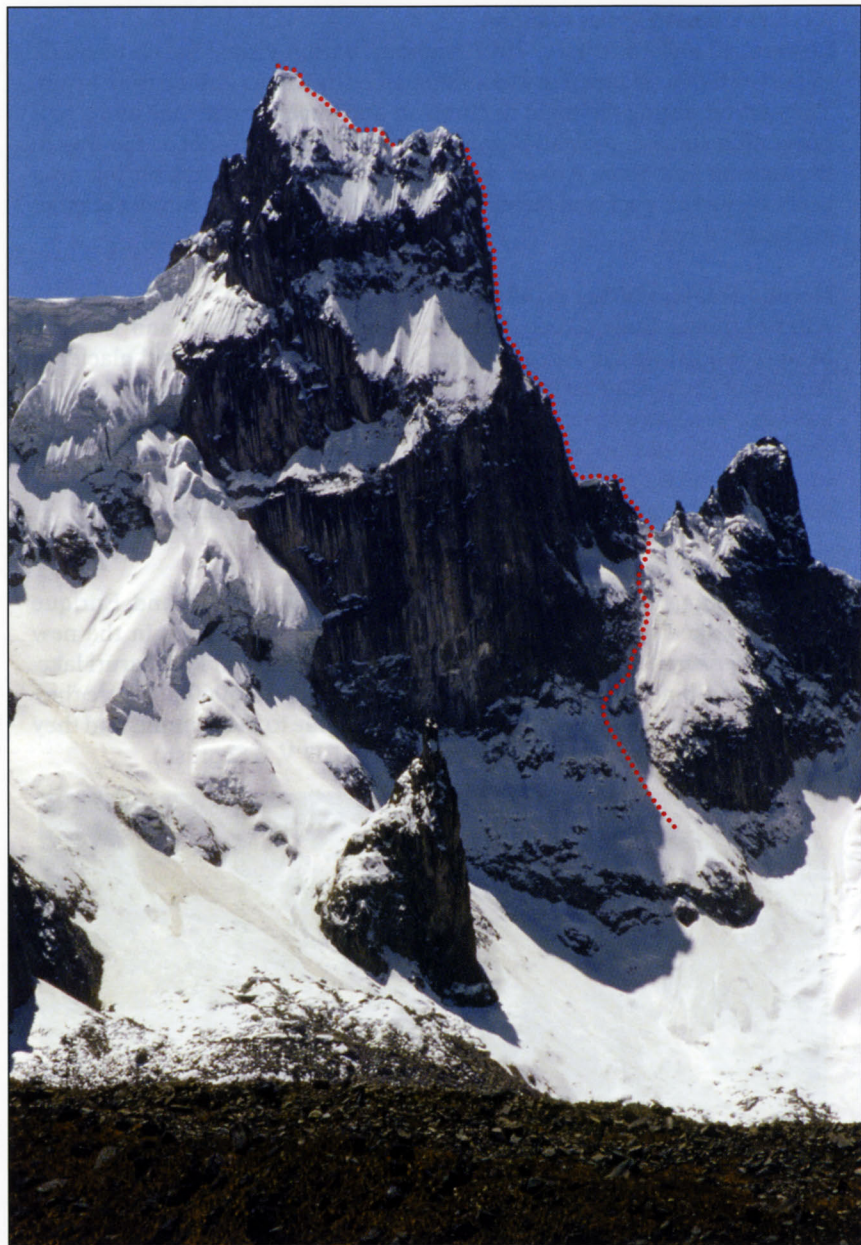
### **Nevado Huascarán Sur (6768m)**

After climbing Siulá Chico Jordi Corominas, Oriol Baró and Enrique Muñoz walked up the Ancosh valley and camped on the small glacier at the foot of the north-east face of Huascarán. In two days, they climbed the face via a new route *Turbera* (1200m MD+ M5/A1). This route crosses small rock steps. On the third day, they reached the summit. They bivouacked on a small ledge on the wall, then in a tent (near the north-east ridge) and finally near camp I, after descending the normal route of La Garganta.

### **Nevado Copa Sur (6188m)**

After climbing Huascarán, Jordi Corominas, Oriol Baró and Enrique Muñoz walked up the Paccharuri valley (Ruripaccha valley in the new *Alpenvereinskarte*) to camp by a small lake before the main Paccharuri lake. In a single alpine push they climbed the south face to c5060m, where they set up their tent for the night. They didn't continue to the summit, and they christened their route *Mostro africano* (1000m ED V, 6 Scottish).





185. Puscanturpa East (5410m), seen from the Caliente valley. *Kozjek-Kresal* route. (Antonio Gómez Bohórquez 1999)

### **Taulliraju (5830m)**

David Turner and Micah Retz, from the head of the Santa Cruz valley crossed the Rinrihirca-Taulliraju pass and camped (c5000m) on the Taulliraju-Pucahirca glacier, 10 minutes from the north face of Taulliraju. The next day they climbed well to the right of the *Bajan-Buch* 1979 route. The route (650m, 5.10 WI5 M6) crossed a 60m section of excellent vertical granite and a 400m perfect water-ice runnel. The runnel started halfway up the face on the right-hand side. Turner and Retz set off at 7am. They initially climbed over mixed ground before reaching the granite rock band (5.10) and then with virtually no security climbed the ice runnel (70°-85°). 'Overhanging bulges of water ice' contributed to the risk and challenge of the climb. Once they reached the summit ridge they decided against climbing this to the summit. Turner wrote in [www.alpinist.com](http://www.alpinist.com): 'At the top neither of us was willing to surf out onto the last few metres of the unstable cornice.' They abseiled down the ascent route. The climb took eight hours and the descent four hours.

## **Cordillera Huayhuash 2007**

### **Puscanturpa East (5410m)**

Pavle Kozjek and Grega Kresal climbed a new route on the east face of this peak. The ascent took 14 hours. The peak lies 1km ENE of the main Puscanturpa Peak (5652m). From Cajatambo they walked for two days up the valley of the Pumarinri river, to reach the head of the valley. They established base camp at (c4400m) beyond the 'Caserío de Pushca'. They set off at 4am. Within one hour they reached the start of their route. The initial 200m was over easy ice and led to the rock step on the east ridge. They then climbed two 60m pitches of slab (V, VI UIAA) to reach an obvious ledge, followed by a series of crack and dihedral systems. On the fifth pitch (VII) there were few security points and the sixth pitch (VII+) consisted of an exposed offwidth of loose rock. They then traversed to the right along a dihedral system and after a further two pitches (VI, V), on the north side reached the summit ridge. They reached the summit at 2pm on 6 July 2007. They rappelled down the ascent route and named the climb *Stonehenge* (600m, 10 pitches, VII+/VI UIAA 50°-70°). The Slovenian route seems to be route 328 on the drawings 157, 159 and 160 from the magnificent Jan Kielkowski guide *Cordillera Huayhuash* vol 6, pp32-33. This description may be a mistake, as route 328 on the Puscanturpa refers to the climb of Julius Hensler and Pedro Baltazar, on Central Puscanturpa (5442m) on 20 June 1963. This guide also records that Puscanturpa East was climbed by an undescribed and unnamed British team on 12 Aug 1985. The approach to the British route appears to be identical to that followed by the Slovenian team.

### **Siulá Chico (6265m)**

During May 2007, Catalan climbers Jordi Corominas and Oriol Baró set up a base camp on the foot of Cutatambo (c4260m) at the start of the Sarapococha valley. On the 21st they crossed the complex and crevassed west glacier and headed toward the SW face of Siula (6356m). They left equipment at (c4900m) and a tent at (c5300m) on a plateau, under the west face of Siulá Chico. They climbed this face via a new alpine route, with a portaledge and haul bag (900m, ED+ VI/A1 5+R. M/A2 Scottish grade). After six nights on the wall, they reached the summit on 27 or 28 May. They took 16 rappels to get down the route of ascent. This was probably only the second ascent of this summit, after the German ascent by Reinhold Obster, Peter Scholz and Manfred Sturm on 21 June 1966. Anze and Tine Marence attempted to reach the summit on 1 August 2004, but turned back as they found the north ridge too dangerous and difficult. The Slovenian team considered their effort a new route, which they called *A Scream of Silence*.

Interestingly, in June 1964 Lindäuer, Rudl Fürst (Germany) and José Forouge (Argentina) climbed more than 900m of the NE face to within 100m of the summit, before bad weather turned them back. As they did not reach the summit, they only considered their efforts an attempt and did not claim a new route.

### **Yanamarey Sur (5220m)**

The Chilean-North American Evelio Echevarría and the Peruvian Alberto Murguía on 8 July 2007 climbed the west ridge, which they approached from the Queracocha valley. This may be a new route and the second ascent of the summit. It was first climbed from the south by Hartmann and Reiss in 1965. The summit height is given as 5197m on page 20 of the Peru ING.

### **Trapecio (5653m)**

On 2 August 2006 José Manuel Fernández and Miguel Ángel Pita climbed the SE face of Trapecio by following the couloir systems to the right of the July 2005 route climbed by the Slovenian team of Kozjek, Lamprecht, Ivanek and the Basque climber Aritz Monasterio (refer to *AJ* 2006, pp324-325). The Spanish pair climbed nine initial pitches, with 60m ropes, even though between the fifth and sixth pitch there was a distance of 150m, and between the eighth and ninth a distance of 70m. They overcame a frozen waterfall (70°, 80°-85°) on the ninth pitch and then decided to descend after naming the route *Los viejos roqueros nunca mueren* ('old rockclimbers never die', c750m V/4+); please refer to *Desnivel*, No 51, 2007, p104. They rappelled three times: twice from rock pitons and one from a single camming device. The snow stake for the fourth rappel unfortunately pulled out of the sugary snow and Fernandez died in the fall. Pita bivouacked for 12 hours by sitting on a small ice ledge, before climbing without ropes to the summit and descending via the NW face.