
ANTONIO 'SEVI' GÓMEZ BOHÓRQUEZ

Peru 2017



The Gocta waterfalls, variously described as the third and fifth-highest in the world. (*Jorge Yamamoto*)

AMAZONIA

Catarata de Gocta (Gocta Falls)

The brothers Iker and Eneko Pou spent a month in Peru with climbing companions Pedro Galán and Manu Ponce, joined by Luis Rizo and Lina Schütze as camera operators. From the town of San Pablo de Varela they walked two or three hours to the Gocta Falls. (There are two waterfalls,



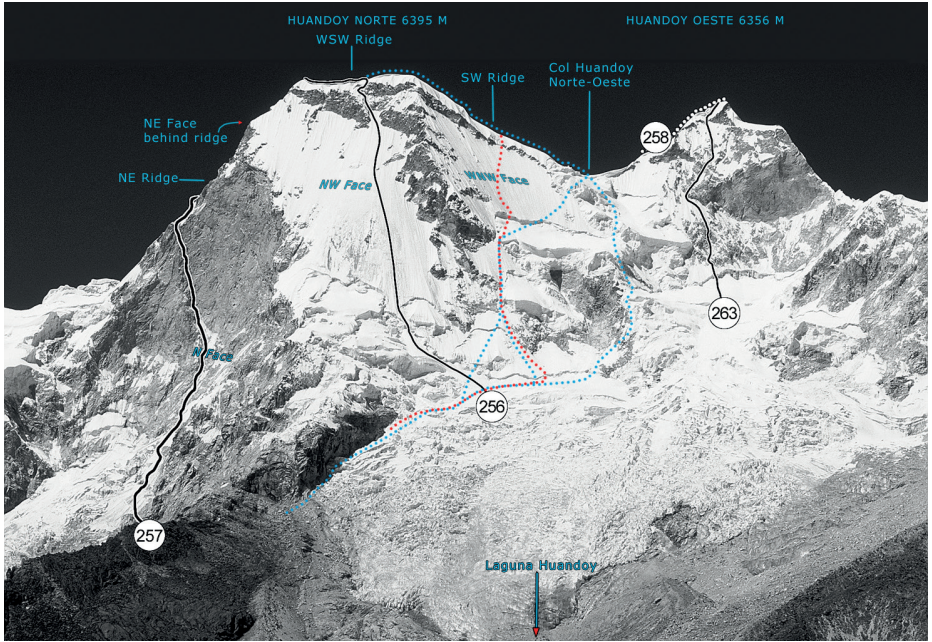
The line taken by Simón, Crave and Baró on the south face of Pucarashta Central, Cordillera Blanca. (*Simón, Crave, Baró*)

the smaller 540m high, the taller 771m, although these figures have been disputed they are generally regarded as the world's fifth-highest. They are near the villages of Cocachimba and San Pablo, in the district of Valera 700km north-east of Lima. The airport at Chachapoyas (2235m) is inactive. Tarpoto airport is about 334km from Cocachimba by paved road, then 6km of unpaved road to the falls). They had planned to start with a route near the lower waterfall, but the rock was broken and so they opted to climb just to the left side of the upper waterfall, a total of six rope lengths up sandstone cracks of variable quality. On 3 July 2017 they completed *Yaku Mama*, which means 'mother water' in Quechua (7a+, 185m). For future ascents they recommend a machete, two sets of cams and two ropes for rappelling down the line of the route. They later went to the Rúrec canyon of the Cordillera Blanca; please see Quebrada Rúrec later. (Source: Desnivel.es, 8 September 2017; *AAJ* 2018.)

CORDILLERA BLANCA

Pucarashta Central

The Equipo Femenino de Alpinismo (EFA) of the Spanish climbing federation (FEDME) to the Cordillera Blanca comprised Rith Craven, Vicky Vega, Diana Calabuig, Ester Simón and Fátima Gil, led by Marc Subirana and accompanied by the guide Oriol Baró and the doctor August Cavaro, lasted from 5 June to 12 July 2017. After acclimatising in the Quebrada Santa Cruz, Simón, Craven and Baró climbed the south face of Pucarashta's central summit (c5450m), a snowy peak situated to the north-east of Alpayayo and to the south-west of Pucahirca Oeste, for a mixed climb *Para*



Nevado Huandoy North and West from the base camp of Cerro Parón. 257: Slovenian route of 1987; 256: North American 1971 route; 258: North American 1954 route; 263: North American-British 1985 route. The blue dotted lines indicate the likely options for the Swiss 1959 route. The line of red dots indicates the line taken by Nathan Heald in 2017. It's approximate because this photo is from the 1988 book *Cordillera Blanca*.

Casa de Zarela (MD+, 600m) that coincided for half of the face with the route first climbed by Phil Moores, Mick Davie and Steve Di Ponio with a bivouac on 16 June 1991. The line of this route published in 1995 in the David Sharman guide is not so accurate, meaning that it was difficult to determine exactly which sections were shared with the 2017 route. The author names the peak Pucarashta Central to distinguish it from the two adjacent peaks east and west and gives the altitude 5,650m. Four days later Moores fell rappelling down the south face (*AAJ* 1992) of Pucarashta Este (c5500) and he died the next day while he was being evacuated. (Sources: personal communication Oriol Baró; www.fedme.es; *AAJ* 1992, p152; D Sharman, *Climbs of the Cordillera Blanca de Peru*, Scotland, Whizzo Climbs, 1995.

Huandoy

The North American Nathan Heald, a guide resident in Peru, and the Peruvian Yjegual Camasa travelled on 17 October from Huaraz to the Parón gorge, approaching via the north-west to Lake Huandoy (c4750m) and cached some gear, then descended to Lake Parón (c4150m) for the night. Next day they again climbed with their remaining gear picking up their



Top left: The *Berg-Roberts* route on the east of Chacaraju Este. (*Quentin Roberts*)

Above left: Roberts leading the crux pitch on the main rock wall of their new line on Chacaraju Este. (*Roberts, Berg*)

Above right: Berg in the exit ice gully. (*Roberts, Berg*)

cache and continuing to the north-west up lateral moraine to the left of the lake. They arrived at the moraine field (c5200m) close to the base of the rocky buttress on the left side of the north-west face. Camasa would wait here. On the same day, at 10.15pm, Heald crossed the glacier to the right below the buttress and the seracs at the base of the north-west face to reach the foot of the rocky rib that separates the north-western and west face. Once under the west-north-west face he crossed the bergschrund, climbed an ice slope (60°-70°) to cross the left side of the barrier of seracs located between Huandoy North and West. Overcome this barrier, Heald climbed slightly diagonally to the right. The last 300m were climbed on hard ice to reach the south-west edge, which reached about 6,100m. He climbed this ridge (*Schatz-Reiss*, 1959) at an angle of about 50° to the foresummit. He continued to the north-east (*Hein-Schneider*, 1932) reaching the summit (6395m) at 8.30am on 19 October under a clear, calm sky, with low temperatures. Heald calculated he climbed 1,200 m, with an overall difficulty of TD. On the descent, by the same route, he used 22 abalakovs and abandoned three snow pickets. He carried a 60m 7.5mm rope and three ice-screws. It took nine hours to regain the moraine field, arriving at 5pm. (Sources: Nathan Heald; *AJ* 1933-4; *AAJ* 1941 et al; *Annales*, Groupe de

Haute Montagne, 1959; A Gómez Bohórquez, Cordillera Blanca, Escalada, Parte Norte. Murcia, Andes Info, 2004. J Ricker *Yurac Janka: A Guide to the Peruvian Andes, Part I Cordilleras*, Blanca and Rosko, Banff, Canadian Alpine Club, New York, American Alpine Club, 1977; R Schatz, 'Anden-Expedition 1959 des Schweizer Alpen-Clubs', *Berge der Welt*, Zürich, Schweizerische Stiftung für alpine Forschungen, vol 13 1960-1.)

Chacaraju Este

The Canadian climbers Alik Berg and Quentin Lindfield Roberts approached via the Yanapaccha gorge to Lake 69, then crossed the east col between Chacaraju and Yanapaccha, camped under the east face of Chacaraju Este (6001m), which they watched the following day while they rested. Next day, the two Canadians opened a route they called *The Devil's Reach Around* (M6 5.10, 90°), the first without aid on the east face of the peak. They waited out the warmer hours of the day to climb a rocky section, then waited until the ice and snow areas had shade. The face seemed to fall apart when the sun was hot, but they found shelter where they waited a few hours for the cold to bite. Roberts published the following text on alpineinsight.com: 'We went for it and we charged. We climbed to the base of the headwall overnight in 12 hours. I lead the first block negotiating the first cliff band in the dark, and Alik lead the next, finding a long Rockies style traverse to negotiate the central cliff band at sunrise. This traverse soon became dubbed the 'reach around traverse' and was the key that we needed to unlock access to the headwall. Both blocks proved easier than anticipated, and we were handling the thin air well. We motored and felt good. But then the sun came out and baked us to the face. Like lazy flies we sat there as the face started to fall apart. Ice was delaminating and falling from the summit mushrooms above. The falling ice and rock would clear the steep headwall and explode on our tracks below. We couldn't climb in this. Eventually we chopped a platform for the tent in a fin of snow. We planned to fix the first headwall pitch once the face cooled off, and fire the rest of the route the next day.' They descended with 20 abseils down the south face. For more details please see: <https://www.alpineinsight.com/single-post/2017/07/19/To-burro-ornot-to-burro-Chacaraju-Este>. (Sources: www.alpineinsight.com; Alik Berg.)

Nevado Hualcán

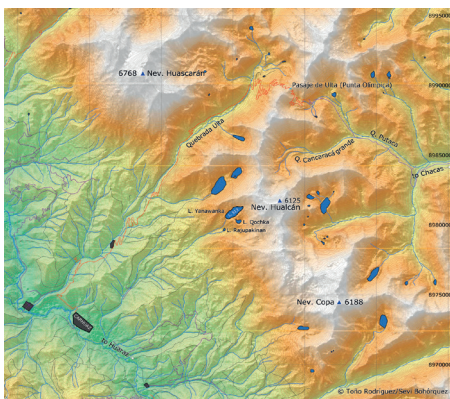
On 28 and 29 July 2017, the Basque-Peruvian guide Aritza Monasterio and the Canadian Alik Berg, who had never climbed together, opened possibly the first route on the north face of Nevado Hualcán (6125m), one of the last virgin walls of the Cordillera Blanca in the Andes of Peru. They named their route *Nadie Sabe Nada* (ED1, M6, 85°, VI, 1000m). In descending the south face, they completed a 'an integrale traverse in the best Andean style', which, according to Monasterio, means 'no support personnel, muleteers, donkeys, porters, camp security or communications equipment such as satellite phones or simple cellphones for external contact, etc. It was a light-weight effort for two people for six days, with everything on their back from



The new *Monasterio-Berg* route on the north side of Nevado Hualcán (6125m east), at the head of the Cancarcacá Grande river. The blue circles mark each bivouac. (*Aritza Monasterio*)



Aritza Monasterio on the mixed climbing of the upper wall of the north face of Nevado Hualcán, on the second day of climbing. (*Alik Berg*)



The red line shows the approach of Monasterio and Berg from Carhuaz. The Cancarcacá Grande creek is shown below the east summit (6125m) of Nevado Hualcán. (*Toño Rodríguez, Sevi Bohórquez, IGN*)

beginning to end. The day before leaving they bought public bus tickets and organised equipment and food in the backyard of Monasterio's home. On day one, 25 July 2017, they travelled from Huaraz by bus, through Carhuaz to the Ulta pass and then got off at the bend where the Cancarcacá canyon begins. That same day they climbed through this gorge to camp at 4,200m on one side of the lateral north moraine. The second day they camped on the glacier at about 5,000m, at some distance from the wall to avoid being hit by avalanches and rockfalls. They spent the third day watching the north face to choose the definitive line, oriented slightly north-northwest. On the fourth day they climbed to camp on the wall (c5900m) at the foot



Berg on the crux mixed section of the upper wall, during day two. (*Aritza Monasterio*)



Monasterio climbs towards the east summit (6125m) of Nevado Hualcán at dusk on the second day of climbing. (*Alik Berg*)

of the rocky, mixed upper face. The fifth day they exited the wall, reached the summit and descended to bivouac (c6075m). On the sixth and final day they completed the traverse of the mountain, descending the southern slope to Lake 513, reaching the city of Hualcán from where they returned to Huaraz. (Source: Aritza Monasterio.)

Huantsán

Between 4 and 8 June, from the Alhuina gorge, Oriol Baró and Marc Torralles climbed the north-east arête of Huantsán (6395m) via the international route of 1974. It is the fifth ascent to the summit via the ridge and the first in alpine style. The two Catalan guides climbed mostly snow and ice, with sections of rock; the route was ED+, 1,700m. Baró explained on Desnivel.com: 'The weather was typical and for the last bivouac we had to endure heavy snow, but we were inside a cave and it was quite good. Every day we were able to pitch the tent, even digging a platform on the crest of the ridge. All the different types of terrain were difficult: vertical ice, poor rock and a lot of bad snow that was almost vertical. We had to overcome sections of A0 with snow stakes, something that is very scary. There were long stretches without protection. We only had four stakes, which we abandoned on the rappels, in addition to about 18 abalakovs and some rock rappels.'

On a brief historical note, the first ascent of the complete north-east ridge to the summit of Huantsán needed the collaboration of two expeditions: one of 13 French (nine men and four women) and another of three French, two Americans an Australian and a Peruvian porter. The first of them to reach the summit were the French Batard, Parmentier, Maire and Missilier on 18 August 1974. The second were Normand, Neff (both from USA) and Johns (Australia) on 19 August. The third were Fournier, Minisini and Penin (France) on 20 August. The last were Muisant, from Naurois (France) and Seibel (USA) on 20 August. A month earlier, a team expedition of North Americans Rick Ridgeway and Chris Chandler, who had prospected the ridge a year earlier, Bill Lahr, Craig McKibben, Malcolm Moore and Patrick Padden had climbed almost the entirety of the same ridge in semi-

alpine style. From camp three, Lahr and Ridgeway continued to the rocky band at about 6,250m. They only needed to climb 145m in altitude to reach the top and were in good physical condition, but the lack of equipment to secure the rock, ice and deep snow forced them to give up. A French expedition the previous year fixed ropes to 6,000m but abandoned in bad weather. (Sources: Desnivel.com; *Annales*, Groupe de Haute Montagne, 1975; *AAJ*, 1972-5; *La Montagne*, 111, 1978; Rick Ridgeway.

Huantsán Oeste

On 17 June 2017, Nathan Heald published the following on his Facebook page, but this information needs elaboration and confirmation: 'We made it to the west summit of Nevado Huantsán at 6,250m after two ice cave bivouacs. There was a 60m rappel to the col [north-west with the south-west ridge of the main summit] and then the final 150m [of the east ridge] and a wicked summit block, which we realized the team did not have the energy or margin of error to finish. Nonetheless, it was only the sixth time in history the west summit of Huantsan has been reached. I am very proud of my partner Duncan McDaniel, and our bro Devin Corboy for enduring the suffer-fest. It was Devin's first 6,000m peak and a great intro to extreme alpinism.' A French expedition in 1989 reached the west summit, descended to the north-west, continued towards the main peak and had to retreat only 50m short of it on ice of 60° to 70° because of unstable seracs.

Itsogwanka (Itsochuanca)

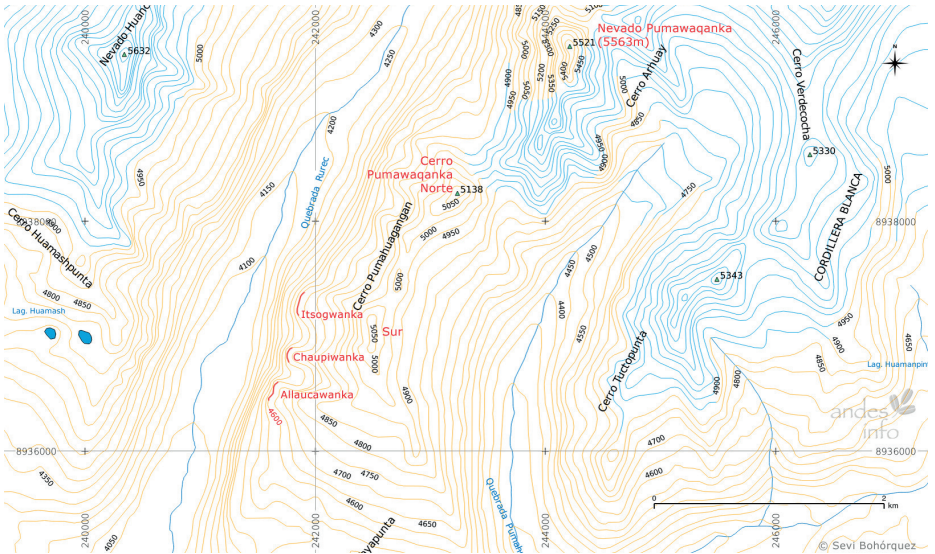
An expedition led by Italian climber Pietro Rago went to Quebrada Rúrec with two disabled professional athletes, Silvia Parenti, who is blind, and Kevin Ferrari, whose right leg was amputated above the knee, and expert climbers Roberto Conti, Enrico Piccinelli and Gabriele Tonoli, as well as Peruvian mountain guides. They equipped a pair of routes with bolts for sport climbing in the low walls of the ravine and tried to open a route that reached the middle of the west face of Itsochuanca. Its Quechua name comes from itsog 'left' and wanka ('large, long or tall stone'), meaning 'the tall stone on the left'. It is on the north side of Chaupihuanca or Chaupiwanka. See *AJ* 2003 pp287-8 and 2006 pp321-2. (Source: www.arrampicande.it.)

Chaupiwanka (Chaupihuanca)

The brothers Pou, Galán, Ponce, Rizo and Schütze travelled 24 hours by bus from Gocta (see above Gocta Falls, Amazonia) to Huaraz, then by car beyond the town of Olleros to walk to a base camp (c3850m) on the pampa under the towers of the Rúrec gorge. Attempting Chaupihuanca (c4750m), 'the tall stone in the middle', in Quechua, the Spanish spent 11 and 12 June on the wall trying to repeat the Italian route *Qui Io Vado Ancora* free (see *AJ* 2008, pp329-30; *AAJ* 2007 pp216-7). This route of 585m had an original grade of 7c with two pitches of A1: these went free at 7c+/8a. When it began to snow, they abandoned the climb. Then they went down to Huaraz, rested for two days and returned to Rúrec. Here they stayed five days, in-



From left to right the western faces of Itsogwanka (Itsogwanka), Chaupiwanka (Chaupiwanka) and Allachuanca (Allaucawanka) from the Rúrec valley.



The IGN map illustrating the location of cliffs in the Rúrec valley.

cluding three nights on the wall of Allachuanca or Allaqwanka (see below), located to the right of south-west side of Chaupiwanka. *Qui Io Vado Ancora* terminates at about 4,600m according to the Italians, joining the Spanish route *García-Sandoval* (VI, 5.11, A4, 850m) completed on 23 August 2003 with fixed ropes, sometimes with capsule style, after 16 nights on the wall. (*AJ* 2003 p287-8 and 2006 p122, *AAJ* 2006 p241 and 2007 p216.) The peak was termed Pt c4800m in *AJ* 2003 and as Punta Numa (NPUGI: name proposed, unacceptable to a geographical institution) in *Desnivel* 134

(November 1997) and in other publications later. (Sources: *AAJ* 2018; www.hermanospou.com.)

Allaucawanka (Allachuanca)

The Pou brothers' team climbed a route they called *Zerain* (7a+, A1, 860m), dedicated to the Himalayan climber Alberto Zerain, who was buried by an avalanche next to the Argentinian Mariano Galván on the Mazeno Ridge of Nanga Parbat. From 17 to 22 July 2017, spending three nights on the wall, the Pou team did not have time to free three pitches, (from nine to 11) of the 20 climbed in total. Many media have reported that this climb is one of the most significant of the Pous' career, due to its height, the size of the wall, its quality and difficulty: estimated at 8a when freed. The team suggested that pitch nine could be 7c+, pitch 10, in a crack in a dirty corner, could be 8a, and pitch 11 that continues up the corner was roughly 7b.

The highest point of this rocky wall, whose name means 'the long stone on the right', ends at about 4750m or 4800m on the western slope of Puma-huagangán South (Cerro Pumahuacanca Chico, c4950m) of sheet 20-i Recuay published by the Peruvian National Geographic Institute (IGN). This hill should not be confused with the snow peak of the same name: see photo in *AJ* 2013 p306. The first route on this wall, the north-west face of Allaucawanka, was put after almost two and a half months of siege, by Spaniards José L García and José Pardo in 2004, with Antonio Noguera in charge of support, logistics and communication with the media. This expedition reported it had climbed 'Chopiwanka', an incorrect transliteration of Chaupiwanka. Both words refer to the same thing, 'the great long stone of the centre', although about different wankas. (Sources: Desnivel.com; *AAJ* 2018; www.hermanospou.com.)

CORDILLERA HUAYHUASH

Jirishanca

With 12 days until their return flight to Spain, guides Roger Cararach, Marc Toralles and Iker Madoz travelled eight hours by taxi on 17 July from Huaraz to Queropalca. With their equipment on donkeys they walked about a day to the foot of the east face of Jirishanca (6094m). The next day, with two rucksacks and a haul-bag, they walked three hours to its base. Their goal was the route put up on the north-east spur in 2003 by French alpinists Didier Jourdain and Aymeric Clouet called *Tambo, Churros y Amigos* (ED+, VI, 7a, A2, 95°, 1200m). Iker Madoz described the attempt:

'This isn't the simplest way to climb the rocky east face of Jirishanca, since on its right-hand margin is the Italian route, full of bolts and therefore less dangerous and with lower grades [...] Our main goal was to try to repeat the French route, achieved without the use of bolts, only natural gear; this added great integrity for those who did the first ascent, as to their commitment, since they had only that protection that already existed on the wall. The first two days were the trickiest, and we only managed to climb



The east face and north-east spur of Jirishanca (6126m) with the route climbed in September 2003 by Aymeric Clouet and Didier Jourdain, *Tambo, Churros y Amigos* (ED3/4, 7a, A2, 95°, M4, 1100m) marked in September 2003. This was repeated to the north-east ridge by Iker Madoz, Roger Cararach and Marc Toralles blue line. (*Koky Castañeda*)



Iker Madoz on pitch 15 *Tambo, Churros y Amigos*. (See page 329) (Marc Toralles)

the first three pitches. The cracks were full of earth, mud and plants, preventing us from climbing free, so we had to clean them on aid. Because of that, we decided to return to base camp for more food. After a day of rest in camp, we got up early [on 22 July] and at first light had reached our high point. Our progress accelerated and we were able to climb free. So, to cut a long story short, we reached a bivouac at the end of the ninth pitch.' They reported this pitch as being the best on the route: 60m and 7a.

'The second day on the wall we climbed nine pitches, the most intense section of the route. All three of us climbed all the pitches, without using jumars. From 6.20am to 12pm we climbed in the sun, which then disappeared behind the ridge and in the afternoon we climbed in temperatures close to 0°C.' This middle day had the highest concentration of hard climbing, again with rock up to the seventh grade and aid of A2, as well as snow and ice. They bivouacked at 5,650m.

'The third day on the wall we managed to finish the French route and reach the north-east ridge, the route of the first ascent. After passing the first ice roof we found a snow ramp on which to bivouac. Roger was left to chop out a good ledge while Marc and I climbed the next ice roof to leave it fixed so we could climb light next day to the top. In the morning we woke to cloud and strong winds. Thanks to our satellite phone we contacted Huaraz, and discovered a few unstable days of windy weather had arrived. We didn't think it prudent to be on a ridge at 5,900m so we made the decision to collect our gear and retreat. After many rappels down the face we reached the foot of the route and a few hours later, still with light, our base camp. No top, but happy to have reached that point and have repeated a route done in the best style.' (Sources: Iker Madoz; www.andesinfo.blogspot.com.)



From left to right, Nevados Siulá (6344m), Jurau B (5727m), Jurau A (5617m) and Yerupaja (6634m). The red line on the right is the first attempt of the Italian-Swiss rope on the east side of Jurau B and the line on the left is the attempt on the east pillar of Siulá. (*Koky Castañeda*)

Jurau B and Siulá Grande

The Italians Matteo della Bordella and Matteo Bernasconi and the Swiss climber Titio Arosio arrived in Peru in July planning to spend a month at base camp to climb the middle of the east face of Siulá Grande (6344m). This rocky limestone wall is to the right and above the Espolón Este – the eastern spur – the beginning of the route taken by the French Bonniot and Jourdain in 2016. With their cook, Pio Pollo, the two Italians and Swiss travelled by minibus to Queropalca (3831m). A day later, with their gear carried by mules, they walked six hours to base camp (c4300m) next to Lake Siulá. They spent the following days transporting material to the base of the wall and equipping what they called ‘the plinth’ of Siulá. This ‘plinth’ is in fact the east face of Jurau B (5740m, DAV 1936, or 5727m, ÖAV 2008), which climbs up to where the rock is covered by the southern glacier. They overcame the seracs on the front of this glacier and ascended diagonally to the left (to the north-west) to a point at c5400 m where it meets the south-east ridge that falls from the top of Jurau B. Because of glacial conditions they decided to descend; from this point it was too dangerous to reach the rocky east wall of Siulá. Days later they tried to reach the base of the wall on the south side of the east pillar of Siulá Grande (6356m or 6344m), starting to the left of the 2016 Bonniot-Jourdain route. The trio climbed diagonally right, crossing the east pillar to its northern side, reaching an altitude of 5,200m, where the weather forced them to abandon. Sources:



Pariacacca Sur (5758m) left and Norte (5699m) with the line of Jurado, Huamán and Mendoza marked. (Marco A Jurado)



On the south summit of Pariacacca. (Marco A Jurado)



On the south-east ridge heading for the south peak. (Marco A Jurado)

www.ragnilecco.com; *AAJ* 2017-8; Cordillera Huayhas (Perú) Alpenvereinskarte 0/3c, DAV 1936 and ÖAV 2008.

CORDILLERA HUAROCHIRÍ

Nevado Pariacacca Sur

In the Cordillera Huarochirí or Pariacacca, the central Andes of Peru, the Peruvian guide Marco Jurado, Frank Huamán, and Misael Mendoza travelled from Huancallo to the Nor Yauyos Cochas nature reserve. They camped (c5070m) next to a lake, either Trajíncocha, west of Cerro Trajín or Tullujutucocha, the lake below the north-east face of Nevado Pariacacca Sur (5758m): exact details are awaited. The three started their ascent on 8 August at 6.30am. They crossed the glacier up to the rocky spur of the north-east ridge. Then they traversed snow and across rock to the south side, which continued to a shoulder where Mendoza waited while his two companions climbed the final 100m of the arête, which twists towards the north, with a serac and a short rocky section, up to the summit. They named the route *Waka Ñan* (AD+, UIAA, V+, M3, 650m), descended on the east side, and arrived at base camp around 6pm. *Waka Ñan* means in Quechua 'way of men'. The upper part of this route seems to coincide with that of several previous ascents.

Pariacaca (Pariacacca, Pariakaka, Paryaqaqa, Tulluqutu or Tuyucoto) is a snowy mountain with two well differentiated peaks: the north (5699m,

W F Jenks) and the south with 5758m (5752m, Jenks) in the official cartography. This does not attribute the name to this mountain located south-east of Nevado Collquepucro. Tullujuto means in Quechua 'lots of bones'. T A Dodge reached both summits, the north with his carrier D Dionisio in 1936 and the south in 1938 when Dionisio waited for him. Sources: Marco Antonio Jurado; *AAJ* 1948, p174; *AJ* 2001, pp83-8.

Nevado Tunsho Suroeste

The Peruvian guide Victor Rimac Trejo, with Greg Meyering and Susie Young (USA), travelled to the nature reserve Nor Yauyos Cochas, to the east of Lima, walked from the town of Pachacayo to Azulcocha (lake c4400m) and camped for five days to acclimate. The three of them then went to the base of the south-west peak of Nevado Tunshu (5420m) and camped (c4600m) for two days. On 17 July, at 5am, they climbed 200m on the south-east side via a snow ramp (40°-50°) diagonally to the left, followed by mixed terrain (70°) to a shoulder (c5300m) on the south ridge about 300m from the top. The route, about 400m in length, was graded D+, 70°. They abeiled the west-south-west face.

Sheet 24-1 La Oroya of the National Geographic Institute (Peru) marks the main Tunshu peak as 5,730m but does not indicate specific height or name to the central summit located to the west-south-west. The topographical sketch Cordillera Central Yarumario-Gruppe (1:60,000) published in 1969 by the Munich Academic Section of the DAV indicates the north-eastern peak as 5,650m, the central at 5,560m and the south-western 5,420m. See *AJ* 2013, p304. See also First Climbs in Tunshu at <http://andesinfo.blogspot.com>, 27 January 2012, where it says 'Cordillera Central', it should in fact read 'Cordillera Huarochirí or Pariacacca'. (Sources: *AAJ* 2018; www.facebook.com/VictorRimacPeru.)

Nevado Paca

Marcelo Scanu adds this information: Argentines Nehuen Conterno and Pablo Maximiliano Laumann spent three weeks in the Cordillera Blanca and then visited the Cordillera Central [Editor's note: see above for nomenclature] near Lima. The pair had many objectives in mind in this poorly explored region. They firstly ascended Tatajayco (5342m) to see the south face of Nevado Paca (5500m). On 5 August they began their ascent of Paca, climbing a line below the summits seracs. They did 250m unroped before the difficulties began. They found only one belay because of bad snow conditions using a snow stake. only a stake as a kind of security. After seven and a half hours of tricky snow they switched to the ridge 20m below the summit. Only Nehuen, carrying 15kg less than Pablo, went to the summit. Descent was via the north face and some little creeks reaching their base camp at Lake Rinconada after 16 hours. They called the route *Una Realidad Diferente* (MD, M5, 800m). Because of conditions they didn't attempt other mountains in the region.

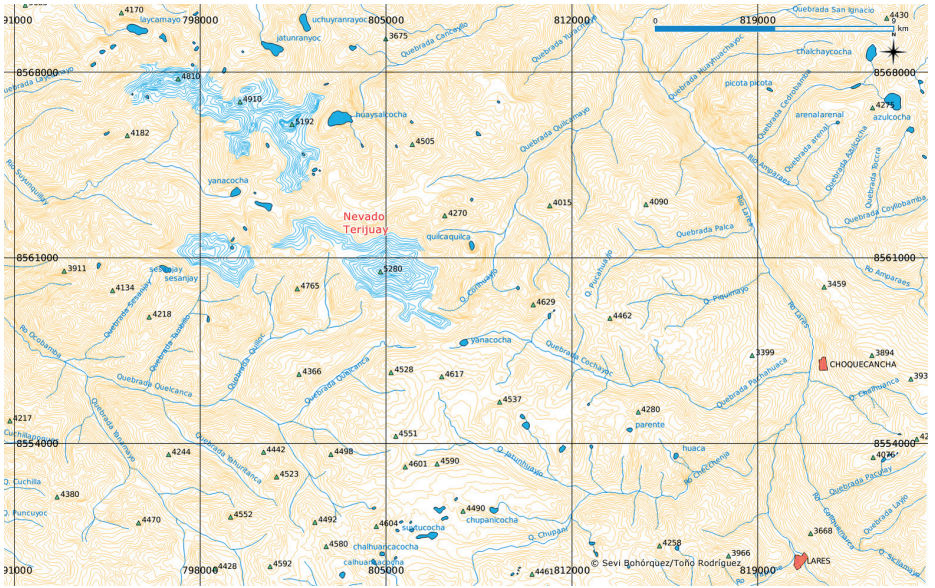


Line of the route climbed by Heald, Urquizo, Gálvez and Putallaz on Nevado Terijuay (5380m), with the central and east peaks to the right, in the Urubamba range. (Nathan Heald)

CORDILLERA URUBAMBA

Nevado Terijuay

In mid August 2017 Nathan Heald, Jorge (Coqui) Gálvez Aramburu, Andrés Putallaz and Manuel Urquizo Cereceda met in Calca, sacred valley of the Incas, and traveled 98km in a truck to Lares, a town north-east of the Urubamba mountains. An SUV took them 18km to Cachín, where the locals, surprised and distrustful because few tourists come to this village, asked them what they were doing, while also asking them to write it up in their community newspaper. The three backpacked west through the Quecha de Cochayoc. After a couple of hours they crossed the Yanacocha pass (4268m), descended towards the Yuracocha lake and rested. From here they climbed up a slope almost directly towards a ridge behind which was Terijuay (5330m) but they camped before reaching it because night began to fall and with it drizzle. Heald writes: 'We heard then the strange song of a girl who was taking care of her alpacas below; she sang with all the strength of her lungs to ward off the evil spirits that she believed we were. Next morning we reached the ridge and went to the small Tambillo lakes, located at the base of the south side of Terijuay. A few dozen or so villagers, a couple with machetes, were waiting a few hundred metres away. They had climbed a path from Quelcanca (Quelcanca) and wanted us to go down to this village, located a couple of hours away, where they would decide if



Above: Portions of IGN sheets 26-r Quebrada Honda and 27-r Urubamba showing Nevada Terijuay. (Toño Rodríguez / Sevi Bohórquez)



Left: The Urubamba range. The position of the secondary tops, marked in blue, is approximate. The Italian expedition of 1963 reached the peaks marked with red. The line of green points indicates the route of Heald, Urquiza, Gálvez and Putallaz to the summit of Nevado Terijuay, the orange dotted line is their descent to Quelcanca. Where it says 'Quebrada Nuesta', read 'Quebrada Ñusta'.

they would allow us to ascend. After an intense discussion they allowed us to follow our path. We reached a moraine crossing between the lakes and camped in a safe location at the foot of the southern glacial basin, formed by the three highest peaks of the Terijuay massif. We left the camp late at 5.30am on 17 August in unusual weather: it had snowed and the fog slowed our progress between serac barriers. We reached about 150m below the two western peaks without being able to distinguish which one was higher. We chose the west peak, covered in ice, which we reached just before noon.

Our ascent was 400m, with difficulty AD and we estimate that the peak we climbed was about 5,330m. This same summit was reached from the east and called Terijuay Grande (5380m) by the Italian expedition of 1963 [see *AAJ* 1964] thinking that it was the summit of the snow-capped mountains. However, from its other two peaks to the east, we could see the central rocky peak was higher. As we descended the clouds thickened and we arrived at our camp with only an hour of light. It snowed all night. It continued to snow in the morning, so before getting caught we started our difficult descent between precipices and clouds towards Quelcanca.'

Anyone planning plans to visit the Terijuay massif should know that it covers two cartographic sheets, the 26-r Quebrada Honda and the 27-r Urubamba, from the National Geographic Institute (IGN) of Peru, with scale 1:100,000 that limits the graphic representation of the terrain. In addition, as noted on other occasions, some heights on official Peruvian maps barely coincide with those of other cartographers and many place names bear little correlation to those in common usage or with those contributed by some expeditions, especially Spanish and Italian. The Terijuay massif (T'iriqway) has three prominent peaks, which could be named Terijuay Oeste, Terijuay Central and Terijuay Este or, as in similar cases, Terijuay I, II and III. The Italian expedition that reached these summits, in August of 1963, kept the name Nevado Terijuay that is marked as the main summit next to elevation 5,330m on sheet 27-r Urubamba, but the expedition leader calculated it was 50m higher. To the central summit, which lacked name or elevation on the map, the same expedition gave the name of the nearby town, Nevado Quelccanca (5330m), thus baptising with Italian names that were acceptable to the Peruvian geographic authorities the rest of the 'conquered' eastern peaks. (Sources: Nathan Heald, *Servei General d'Informació de Muntanya* (SGIM) de Sabadell; *AJ* 1969, pp262-70; *AAJ* 1964, pp217-8; 1971, pp408-9; F Ratto, 'La spedizione 'Città di Biella' 1963 alle Ande del Sud Perú', *Estratto dalla Rivista Mensile del Club Alpino Italiano*, No 9, September 1964. pp413-32.)

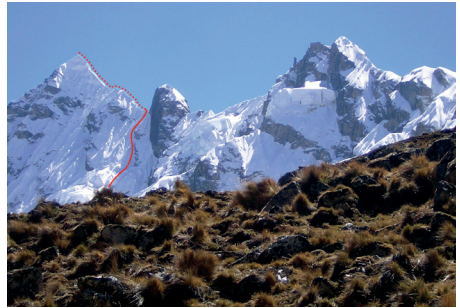
CORDILLERA VILCABAMBA

Humantay South?

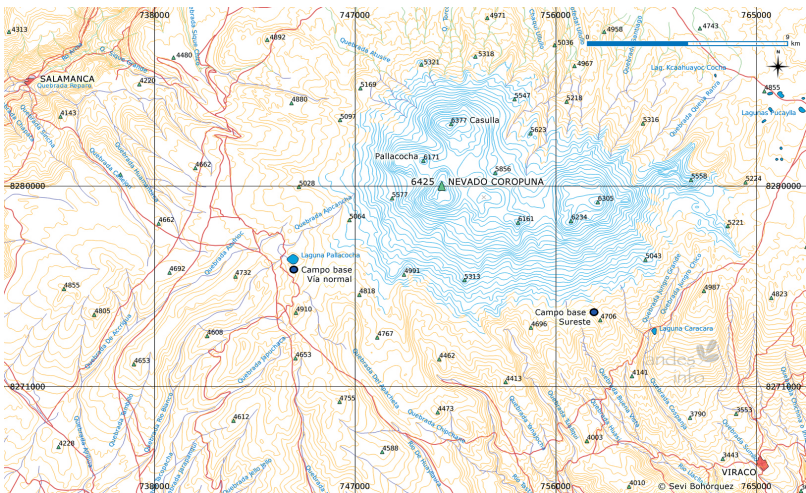
At the end of October, Nathan Heald (USA-Peru), Jack Barker and Emil Tjonneland, both 18 years old and from Maryland, left Soraypampa to trek the Salcantay-Machu Picchu route, with their loads on a couple of horses, heading for Nevado Humantay South (5459m), a peak marked on the 27-q sheet Machupicchu of the Peruvian IGN. These three, now carrying loads, climbed steeper terrain to camp on a rock tower at about 4,900m below the south face. They left this camp at 2am on 31 October and climbed the south face, crossed the top of the south-east ridge, continued to the east side and reached the summit at 9.30am having followed a new route (AD, 500m). The altimeter on Tjonneland's watch measured 5,455m. They descended on the opposite side, the north-east, 'making the final rappel with one core-



Nevado Humantay in 2008. (*Consuelo Amorós*)



The line of Heald, Barker and Tjonneland on Humantay (Sur?). (*Sevi Bohórquez*)



The IGN map of the Coropuna region. The normal route of ascent is from the south-west and base camp is marked.

shot rope just after dark.’ Having camped in moraine they spent two days descending the Rayancancha gorge to the Ahobamba valley. The precise details of the summit the three reached aren’t confirmed.

The peaks of the Humantay mountain – North-east (5217m), North (5473m) and South (5459m) – are on the ridge that extends from the western slope of Salcantay Nevado (6264m IGN and 6279m Heald) and branches to the north and northwest. Heald led a group that may have achieved, unless proven otherwise, the first ascent of the Humantay North in July 2014: see *AJ* 2016 pp309-10. (Sources: *AJ* 2015 p205; *AAJ* 2018; Nathan Heald.)



Entrance to the north-east glacier. (Julieta Ferrari)



Coropuna Casulla and Nevado Pallacocha. (Julieta Ferrari)



Coropuna Casulla. (Julieta Ferrari)

CORDILLERA OCCIDENTAL

Marcelo Scanu adds the following: The **Nevado Coropuna** (6425m) is the highest volcano in Peru, located in Arequipa. For years it was regarded as the highest mountain in the American continent. Hiram Bingham explored it before the discovery of Machu Picchu and disproved that theory. It has three principal summits: the main summit (6425m), Coropuna Casulla (6377m) and Coropuna Este (6305m); and four secondary summits: Coropuna Este II (6234m), Pallacocha (6171m), Coropuna Central I (6150m) and Coropuna Central II (6161m). Argentine Julieta Ferreri and Brazilian Marcelo Motta Delvaux were active here during June and July climbing new routes. From 13 to 19 June the pair climbed Coropuna Oeste and Coropuna Norte. They started up the north-east glacier placing camp one at 5,057m, camp two at 5,357 masl, camp three at 5,823m and camp four



Nearing the top of the south face of Pallacocha. (*Julieta Ferrari*)

at 6,020m. This was new ground until 6,020m where they switched to established routes: Coropuna Oeste by its south face and Coropuna Norte by its south ridge and east ridge.

Between 2 and 8 July the same pair ascended Coropuna Este via its north-east glacier with camps at 4,875m, 4,951m, 5,055m and camp four at 5,537m. On 6 July they finished this new approach reaching the summit by its north-west face. The standard route is from the south, from the village of Viraco. Coropuna has the largest tropical ice cap in the world.