
ANTONIO GÓ MEZ BOHÓRQUEZ

Cordillera Blanca 2004

Translated by Erik Monasterio

The report is ordered alphabetically by mountain.

Alpamayo (5947m) – correction of route information

(from book *Cordillera Blanca, Escaladas, Parte Norte* ISBN 84-607-7937-8). Most mountaineering publications and climbers refer to the popular central couloir on the SW face as the 1975 *Ferrari Route* and consider the *French Couloir* a separate route. In fact both the *Ferrari Route* and the *French Couloir* take a line two couloirs right of the central couloir. This route is longer and more difficult than the central couloir and experienced major changes in 1995 following an avalanche on the lower aspects. Its first ascent has wrongly been attributed to the N American climbers, W A Barker and S Connolly, who climbed it in June 1980. The route is also mistakenly known as the *French Direct* because it was climbed in May 1977 by N Jaeger and the following day by his climbing partners R Ghilini and B Prud'Homme. There are others who mistakenly believe it is named in memory of French climbers S Beriol and B Lay, who died on the route in July 1980 from a summit cornice avalanche. On the same day, the N American climbers P Millar and J O'Neill were on the lower sections of the same route and were unaffected by the avalanche. The first recorded ascent of the *Central Couloir* is attributed to R Renaud, his client Susana (France), J Gálvez and A G Bohórquez (Spain) in 1983.

Cerro Parón (La Esfinge, 5325m)

On 29 July Diego Fernández and Maribel Elías climbed the original 1985 *Bohórquez-García Route* on the E face. They bivouacked three pitches from the summit. Elías is the first Peruvian female to climb 'La Esfinge' (the Sphinx).

From 24 to 31 July, Spanish climbers Ángel Olmos, Antonio L Liria and José M Cancho climbed a new route on the E face (*Killa Quillay*, 700m, VI, A2, 6b+ UIAA). The route took 17 pitches and lies between *Cruz del Sur* (Bole-Karo, 2000) and the original *Bohórquez-García* 1985 line. The route was repeated several weeks later by Basque climber Aritz Labiano and Belgian Michael le Comte. This route had a variation on the upper face and veered toward the Polanco-Olivera-Madrid de la Cal, (*Volverás a mí*, 1987) route, and later rejoined *Killa Quillay*.



115. SW face of Alpamayo (5947m) showing *Central Couloir* (left) and *Ferrari Route / French Couloir* (right). (Ignacio Ruiz /file Antonio Gómez-Bohórquez)

Chacaraju, West (6112m)

On 8 July, Slovenian climbers Majan Kovak, Pavle Kozjek and Basque climber Aritza Monasterio climbed the N face to join the E ridge in 18 hours. The route lies between the original 1956 *French Route* and the 1986 *Hapala-Husicka Route*. The route is 800m long and has a technical grade of 6a, A1, AI6, 90°/55°-70°.

Chacaraju, East (6001m)

Following an attempt to climb the SE ridge (with Al Powell), Nick Bullock teamed with Adam M Kovacs to climb a new variant on the top section of the *Jaeger Route* on the S face. On 29 July they set off from the foot of the face at 3.40 am and solo climbed 275m (IV with short Scottish V ice) to within 150m of the summit. They then left the *Jaeger Route* and roped up for the three final mixed pitches (VI, VI and V– Scottish) to the right of the 1984 Hispanic-Peruvian *García-Escolar-Silverio Route*. They did not follow the ridge to the summit and rappelled straight down the route, reaching camp 20 hours after setting off.

Caraz II (6020m)

From 21 to 22 July Damien Astoul, Mathieu Detrie, Gaspard Petiot and Basile Petiot climbed *Couloir Superduper* on the E face. They managed to climb beyond the high point reached by Kendrick, Coull and Morton in 1997 and added a more direct finish by climbing a rock section direct to the summit. They bivouacked at c5800m. They describe poor quality on the rock section and estimate their route to be 700m ED, 90°-95°, 6a, A2.

On 25 July Australian climbers Anthony Morgan and Matthew Scholes climbed a new route on the E face (720m, TD+, V+, W3, A2) to reach the summit via the NE ridge. The route went between the *Mlinar-Jost* 2001 and the *Huber-Koch* 1955 routes.

Hualcán pt 5350m

On 10 July Anthony Barton and Dave Sykes climbed pt 5350m on the NE ridge of Hualcán (6125m). From the 'Quebrada Huichganga' they reached the E ridge (AD+) then climbed 5 pitches of Scottish IV to reach the summit. They abseiled down the S face.

Huandoy-Sur (6160m)

On 27 June 2003, Mexican climbers Jorge Colín, Emiliano Villanueva and Emiliano Fernández attempted the S face. They gave up after a one week effort, describing poor conditions on the glacier, rockfall and severe cold. Two climbers, thought to be N Americans, climbed the N face via a route to the right of the *Sole-Sphor* line. They left the Pisco base camp on 26 July at 00.30 and reached the summit at 11.30.

Yanawaca (Peña Negra c4900m)

From 1 to 7 June, Mexican climbers Carlos Bazua, Emiliano Villanueva and Luis Carlos García Ayala climbed 735m of the N face (VI, 5.10, A2) before retreating. They planned to finish the route in 2005.

'Ulloc Grande'

On 29 August N Americans Wayne Crill and Kevin Gallagher climbed nine pitches (c350m, A3, 5.12) on the northern aspect of the Ishinca valley. They named the route *Ulloc Grande*. They intended to continue the route in 2005 and left a fixed line on the sixth pitch.