



AAC Publications

Los Cuernos del Diablo, Northwest Face, Loro Paceño

Bolivia, Cordillera Quimsa Cruz

On May 13, during a UIAGM aspirant course, Pacifico Machaca, Sebastian Rojas, and I climbed a new route on the Cuernos del Diablo, right of the established route Inti Wiracocha. We believe our first four pitches were previously unclimbed, given that none of the protection points we used seemed to have been cleaned or used before. The natural line led us into the Condori Variant for a final two pitches.

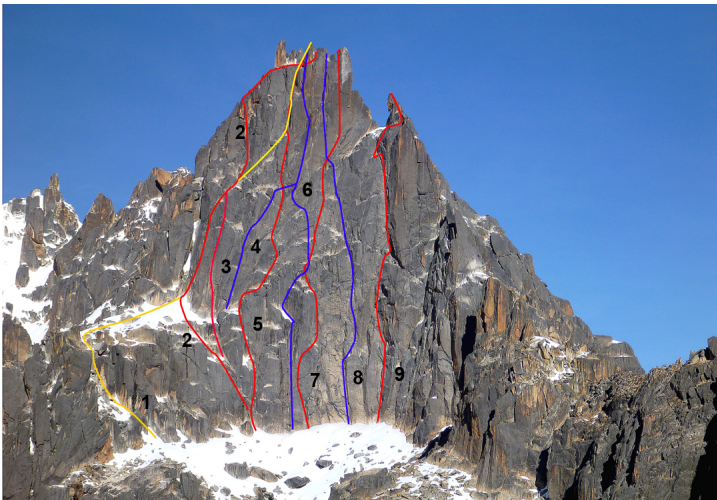
Sebastian led the first and most difficult 50m pitch (6c+), following a dihedral that was overhanging for short sections. The second pitch was still sustained (6b). I led the third pitch, which was relatively easy (5c+), except for a little roof just above the belay anchor, and then one more strenuous and exposed pitch (6b+), before Sebastian led the two last pitches of the Condori Variant (6b and 6c). The granite was excellent throughout, the only downside being that some cracks were filled with moss.

Once on top we used the rappel stations on the line of Taypi K'ala, left again from where we climbed. We called our route Loro Paceño (six pitches, 6c+), which means "Parrot from La Paz." Pacifico, who remained silent during the entire ascent (and generally is a rather silent person), earned this nickname while working in the lowlands of Bolivia, because he talks less than jungle parrots.

We found the grades of established routes in the area a little overrated, and have graded this route to make it comparable to what one would find on a sport crag. It was probably the most difficult and sustained climb I did during the year, although simul-climbing 900m of hard ice on the west face of Huayna Potosi with Sebastian Rojas was also a bit of a sufferfest.

Alexander von Ungern, *Andean Ascents, Bolivia*

Images



The northwest face of Los Cuernos del Diablo. (1) La Clasica (5, Bulter-Rebitizer, 1987). (2) Condori-Daza (230m, six pitches, 5c+, Sergio Condori and Cecilio Daza, April 2011). (3) Monasterio Variation Start (6b, Erik and Grigota Monasterio, 1998). (4) Loken-Hendricks-Selters (five pitches, 5.10a, Brent Loken, Bruce Hendricks, and Andy Selters, May 2001). (5) Tyapi K'ala (240m, seven pitches, 6a+, Sergio Condori and Cecilio Daza, April 2011). (6) Loken-Hendricks-Selters (IV 5.10a, Brent Loken, Bruce Hendricks, and Andy Selters, May 2001). This team was probably the first to climb the ca 10m monolith that makes up the highest of the summit horns. Their route uses the lower section of the 1987 Lentrodt-Magerer Route (5+ A2). (7) Inti Wiracocha (270m, seven pitches, 6b+, Sergio Condori and Cecilio Daza, April 2011). (8) Loro Paceño (six pitches, 6c+, Pacifico Machaca, Sebastian Rojas, and Alex von Ungern, May 2016. After joining Inti Wiracocha, this climb finishes up the Condori Variant). (9) Waxcha Wawita (200m, six pitches, 6b, Sergio Condori, Juliana Garcia, and Roberto Morales, May 2013). All lines approximate. Other parties have claimed lines on this face in the past, generally toward the left side, and these may coincide in part with those drawn on this topo. Bolivian guides have bolted the belays on most of the established routes.



Pacifico Machaca following pitch one of Loro Paceño on Los Cuernos del Diablo.



Sebastian Rojas leading the first pitch (6c+) of Loro Paceño on Los Cuernos del Diablo.

Article Details

Author	Alexander von Ungern
Publication	AAJ
Volume	59
Issue	91
Page	0
Copyright Date	2017
Article Type	Climbs and expeditions