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BRITISH

:

AGUILERA

<u>2003</u>

EXPEDITION

<u>TO</u>

CHILEAN PATAGONIA

SPONSORS

MOUNT EVEREST FOUNDATION BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL SPORTS COUNCIL OF WALES

Key Words for Filing:

Cerro Aguilera Patagonia Chile Southern Patagonian Icecap Wilcox Peninsula Fiordo Peel Mountaineering

Mef Ref: 03/03.

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AREA & MOUNTAINEERING HISTORY

The area around Cerro Aguilera came to the attention of British mountaineers in 1957 with the publication of H.W. Tilman's book "Mischief in Patagonia". He describes the grounding of his boat "Mischief" in the narrows where Fiordo Asia leads into Fiordo Andrew, and later goes on to make a crossing of the Southern Patagonian Ice Cap from Fiordo Calvo.

In 1985 Matthew Hickman led the Cambridge based joint Anglo/Chilean Expedition "Patagonia 85" to attempt Cerro Aguilera and further explore this part of the Ice Cap. They had an extensive scientific programme and approached this complex peak from the northeast, but never became established on the peak. On leaving in good weather they saw a possible ridge approach from the south. They produced a well researched expedition report, which is still available through the BMC office and at the Alpine Club and Royal Geographic Society libraries.

Hickman's research suggested that Cerro Aguilera may well be of volcanic origin which would explain its isolation from peaks of similar height (estimated to be 2438m) and very complex topography. It is guarded by steep glaciers to the north and south. Hickman's team's fieldwork was unable to confirm this geology but some rock samples suggested that it might be correct.

Skip Novak visited the area in his boat "Pelagic" in the 1990's and used an untitled photograph of Cerro Aguilera on his website (<u>www.pelagic.co.uk</u>). He mentioned this to me and it whetted my appetite to find out more about this relatively unexplored area.

The Wilcox Peninsular is located on the west side of the Southern Patagonian Ice Cap about 200 nautical miles sailing through the complex fiords from Puerto Natales. The approach passes the western side of the Cordillera Sarmiento to Fiordo Peel, into Fiordo Asia and passes the entrance to Fiordo Calvo to the east. Base camp (S 500 30.233m W 730 44.948m) was established at the northern end of Fiordo Asia before it joins Fiordo Andrew.

Base Camp was just above the beach, due south of Cerro Aguilera, with a ridge to its north, across bogs and through forest. It was three quarters of an hours walk along the beach from the mouth of Moore River.

All names in this report are taken from the Helio Patagonia Sur map produced by Prof Louis Lliboutry in 1961 at the Laboratory of Glaciology in Grenoble.

THE 2003 EXPEDITION

Between us the expedition members have undertaken twenty expeditions to Patagonia. I suspect we have made the first ascent of less than ten peaks and must have clocked up over seven months stuck in small damp tents in ferocious Patagonian storms, either on exposed ridges, heavily crevassed glaciers or dense boggy forest. I calculate that we must have read over 150 books and played incalculable games of Patience, Five Hundred or Scrabble.

Why?

Anybody joining us for the first week of this expedition would understand:

We stayed at our normal £5 per night residencia in Punta Arenas and experienced the now expected welcome hug from Maria. The shop staff in our normal Ferrateria went out of their way to get us all the equipment and fuel that we needed within a few hours. The British Consul chatted to us with a real understanding of the enjoyment of the mountains. Our regular driver took us and all our equipment to Puerto Natales with good humour. Accommodation in Puerto Natales was comfortable and the manager went out of his way to help us arrange our boat charter. The Captain of the Port carried out the required inspection of our kit, but with a smile and sensible attitude to the realities of climbing in a very remote area.

We made the 200 mile journey into the mountains in the Penguin, a 50 foot, hundred year old British ketch that had worked in the Falkland Islands. Our captain knows the fiords like the back of his hand. The weather was perfect as we sailed past the still active volcano, Mt Burney. We saw the western side of the Cordillera Sarmiento and lost track of the number of unclimbed peaks of all standards, from snow plods to rock spires, that we passed en route. The sea was calm, the sunset over islands to the west crisp and clear and dawn revealed dolphins playing in the bow wave to escort us into Fiord Peel past small ice flows that had tumbled into the sea from the glaciers of the Icecap. Base camp was five meters above sea level in a clearing in the woods, sheltered from any possible wind and had views up to two ice encrusted unclimbed peaks west of Aguilera.

Initial exploration revealed an easy route through woods and bogs of fascinating luxurious moss and rotting timber to a ridge where our ascent to the snow line was watched by circling condors. We thought we had discovered the elusive Patagonian rain shadow.

What stopped a straightforward ascent of these virgin peaks?

Patagonian reality struck!

Over the next three weeks the wind blew, it rained, the wind blew, it sleeted, the wind blew, it snowed to sea level, the wind blew, the snow was soft and unconsolidated during a few good days, the wind blew, base camp became a quagmire, the wind blew, a plague of rats started to eat our base camp tent, the wind blew and then finally, when the

weather did improve, it was time to leave but the boat was delayed by high winds further south but we could not leave the pick-up spot for long enough for us to go high.

Oh the frustrations of one of the most beautiful and unspoilt areas of the world! A love hate relationship at its most intense.

Did we achieve anything? Yes. We had many laughs, we came back good friends and have been out in the hills of Snowdonia since. We read a lot of books! We did manage to explore the ridge above base camp. It revealed a tortuous connection to the upper southern snowfield of Cerro Aguilera. It may provide a potential route but would be exposed to bad weather for its whole distance. We did make a first ascent of a minor peak that gave a view into the valley immediately south of Cerro Aguilera and showed the to key to two other worthwhile but unnamed objectives.

Despite wet weather we were able to operate at sea level. We explored another possible approach to Cerro Aguilera from the south via dense forest and soft bog giving Chris and myself one of our hardest mountain days with a near benightment. We never went above 60m, but did end up climbing overhanging moss above a drop into a deep and very cold looking lake as dusk approached. This potential route needs more exploration since, even if not suitable for an ascent, it may give an escape route in the event of bad weather high on Aguilera. On this route we found a bothy-like Naval hut near the mouth of the river Moore dating back to a border dispute with Argentina.

Despite the uncomfortable aspects of life in Patagonia the lure of the area means that two of us plan to return next year hoping to use the hut as a rat proof Base Camp. We will explore the approach via the Moore River and its western tributary and take snowshoes for use on the ridge. We will allow more time to sit out bad weather low down. We will take more books.

DIARY

Sat 4th October: Fly from Heathrow by Lan Chile.

Sun 5th October: Arrive Punta Arenas.

Mon 6th Oct: Shopping.

Tues 7th Oct: Drive to Puerto Natales.

Wed 8th Oct: Leave Puerto Natales on the Penguin.

Thur 9th Oct: Arrive at Base Camp midday. Establish Camp (S 50o 30.233m W 73o 44.948m altitude 5m).

Fri 10th Oct: Establish route up ridge carrying tents and ropes. Hot and sunny.

Sat 11th Oct: Carry week's food & fuel up ridge. Overcast.

Sun 12th Oct: Base Camp. Rain.

Mon 13th Oct: Base Camp. Walk in rain to mouth of Moore River & discover bothy (\$ 500 29.628m 700 43.681m).

Tues 14th Oct: Base Camp. Rain ++.

Wed 15th Oct: Base Camp. Rain +.

Thurs 16th Oct: All up to establish Ridge Camp (S 50o 28.712m W 73o 45.264m aprox alt 900m). Showers clearing to blue sky. Afternoon first ascent of Minor Peak (S 50o 27.959m W73o 46.259m altitude by GPS 1190m). Technically a snow plod.

Friday 17th Oct: Push route out along ridge contouring round peak on way out to col beyond and up towards two unclimbed peaks on very soft snow with blue sky. Return to Ridge Camp.

Sat 18th Oct: Overcast and high winds. Nick and Allan down to Base and up with more food and fuel. Chris and Dave attempt to push route out further but turned back by wind and breaking weather.

Sun 19th Oct: Poorish weather with wind and soft snow. Stuck in Ridge Camp.

Mon 20th Oct: Rain +++. Ridge Camp. Stuck.

Tues 21st Oct: Ridge Camp. Storm & fresh snow ++.

Wed 22nd Oct: Snow & increasing blizzard ++. Afternoon Retreat to Base Camp.

Thur 23rd Oct: Base Camp. Wet morning, drier pm with wind. Chris & Dave explore entrance to Moore Valley.

Fri 24th Oct: Base Camp. Rain ++++.

Sat 25th Oct: Base Camp. Intermittent rain. Overcast. Wind. Snow to sea level. Whole team start to explore entrance to Moore Valley. Chris and Dave push on in increasing rain to moraine gap. Late and "interesting" return by different route.

Sun 26th Oct: Rain +++. Base Camp.

Mon 27th Oct: Some sun. Wind. Base Camp.

Tues 28th Oct: Up to Ridge Camp in rain which clears later. Camp located with collapsed tents under 2.5m of fresh snow. Dug out and recovered. All equipment carried down to Base Camp to recover.

Wed 29th Oct: Base Camp. Rain ++.

Thurs 30th Oct: Base Camp. Rain +.

Fri 31st Oct: Base Camp. Pack wet gear and repair tent poles.

Sat 1st Nov: Drizzle. Boat may arrive late evening at earliest.

Sun 2nd Nov: Overcast and rain. Boat due. Base Camp.

Mon 3rd Nov: Rain. No boat. Phone Consul late afternoon who confirms bad weather further south. Base Camp.

Tues 4th Nov: Base Camp. Wet and miserable.

Wed 5th Nov: Fishing Boat arrives soon after dawn!!! Wet and windy. Overcast.

Thurs 6th Nov: Arrive Puerto Natales 0430. Shower! Breakfast and drive direct to Punta Arenas Airport. Make flight with two hours to spare to dry some equipment. 70kg excess luggage.

Fri 7th Nov: Arrive Heathrow. Knackered. Luxury Hotel with showers, beer, champagne & partners.

TRAVEL

As on many previous trips we booked our airline tickets via Journey Latin America who understand the needs of mountaineering expeditions. They booked us with Lan Chile from Heathrow to Santiago with a change in Madrid. We had a three hour wait in the new airport in Santiago before flying onto Punta Arenas with the same airline which extended the Trans-Atlantic baggage allowance to our destination. Their check in and administrative staff were very helpful on both the outward and return journeys and we were not charged any excess baggage.

Our normal driver (Manuel Nelra) met us at the airport, which is a real luxury after such a long flight, and took us to our residencia. Two days later he drove us to Puerto Natales for a very reasonable price. If we had not been in such a rush on the return journey we would have used him then as well.

We arranged charter of the Penguin from the UK by E mail and Capitan Conrado Alvarez D and his son were as helpful and reliable as ever. When bad weather closed the port of Puerto Natales at the end of our stay he spent a difficult few days sorting out our collection which he eventually had to sub contract to a fishing boat that was already at sea. When we arrived at the port he was already prepared to drive us direct to Punta Arenas airport knowing the time of our flight and the short time available.

ACCOMMODATION

Experience has taught us that some luxury before, and after, a long flight is a real bonus to the team. We met at The Crown Plaza Hotel near Heathrow where the manager offered expedition support by extending our room availability for last minute packing. One member also used it on return. The staff are helpful and understanding and the swimming pool and long relaxed English Breakfasts really welcome.

In Punta Arenas we stayed at the Hospedaje Nena. This has always been popular with British mountaineering expeditions and the hospitality is exceptional.

In Puerto Natales we used the Concepto Indigo on the sea front. It is slightly up market but has an amazing view to the hills, excellent food and is run by a local climber and his staff who again understand the needs of expeditions. They speak English and acted as local contacts when we were in the hills.

PERMISSION

The area we were visiting was outside the boundary of the Paine National Park and expeditions should register with the Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores in Santiago. This may sound daunting but in reality is very easy and the staff seem very keen to help. We did this about a month prior to departure but I would suggest allowing two or even three months once ones full team and dates of travel are known. The whole process can be done by E mail and the form is available on their website. Prior to final departure the team has to log in with the local official who was the Captain of the Port of Puerto Natales. The ministry had informed him of our expected arrival. We had met the captain on a previous trip and he has always been very helpful.

It is refreshing in a time of increasing international bureaucracy to find a system that works quickly and efficiently, and is designed primarily for expedition safety but without unnecessary regulations. Our satellite phone was checked and we were given a set of potentially useful phone numbers to use in case of emergency. We agreed not to have any system of regular calls to minimise battery use and also guard against false worries if we were high on the mountain sitting out bad weather.

When passing through Punta Arenas we always book in with Mr John Rees, the local British Consul. He has become a friend to many climbing expeditions and although one always hopes not to need his services we give him a full list of expedition members with passport, next of kin, insurance and communication details. On this trip he was exceptionally helpful with communications when our boat was delayed on our return trip to Puerto Natales.

COMMUNICATIONS

Having done several trips over the years with no communications system this now seems silly when efficient and relatively cheap satellite phones are available. I think the Chilean authorities would be reluctant to let an expedition proceed without a phone and if I were lying a base camp with a fractured femur and a fortnight to wait until pick up I would agree with their attitude.

The expedition purchased a fairly compact Motorola satellite phone with one normal and one long life rechargeable battery. It works via the Iridium Satellite system. It accepts text messages.

Our policy was not to use it for outgoing calls except in an emergency. We did switch it on for a few minutes every three days when at base camp to see if there were any urgent text messages for us to phone home. When we did use it at the end of the trip to check on boat arrival it worked well from sea level and the battery power was almost full after a month in the hills.

It is now available for hire on a monthly basis by other expeditions (E mail for details)!

We also took four very compact line of sight Motorola hand held radios that do not require licences and are available through many outdoor shops in the UK. We were surprised how well they worked on the few occasions when we wanted to coordinate two groups operating independently. If they are to be used it is worth ensuring that all members are familiar with basic radio procedure.

MAPS

One of the attractions of this area is that no detailed maps are yet available. Most of southern Chile is well mapped at a scale of 1:100,000 and the majority of these maps are available to the general public through the Instituto Geografico Militair in Santiago. It is interesting that the sheets which should cover this area are not listed or available, even on specific request when visiting the Institute.

For this reason we relied totally on sketch maps in Matthew Hickman's report, sea charts and old copies of Prof Lliboutry's ice cap maps. We carried a small GPS but minimised use to preserve battery power in case needed in really bad weather. When the weather was bad it was too bad to operate at all.

Matthew Hickman's 1985 report makes no mention of the small Naval hut that we visited. This has obviously been built since his visit. It has not been used for several years but must have had a small garrison at some stage. Rumour has it that there has been some dispute with Argentina over the exact position of the international border on the ice cap and this may explain the lack of publicly available maps and the evidence of Chilean Navy activity.

EQUIPMENT

We have borrowed Terra Nova Expedition tents on almost all my Patagonian trips and I would not consider using anything else in this type of wet windy climate. On this years application for help we threatened them that "if you do not support us with loans we will use your products anyway". As before their support is greatly appreciated and I hope that we have been able to thank them to some extent by providing reports, photographs and some suggestions regarding minor design changes. At base camp we pitched the Terra Firma tent under three joined tarpaulins which gave us the luxury of an equipment storage area and covered kitchen where we could stand up and use Nick's magnificent boy scout, lashed wooden kitchen unit complete with cutlery holder and spice rack.

Our two double-poled Heavy Duty Hyperspaces were secure, dry and comfortable at the high camp but when left unattended and buried under seven feet of snow they did collapse and some poles tore the fabric. Impressively after being dug out they were reusable after some care and attention.

On the last two trips we have been really impressed with Paramo jackets and trousers/salopettes which seem more comfortable and effective than Gore Tex in the extreme wet conditions. They dry well and feel more comfortable when damp. They also make soft pillows. On this trip they were unable to support us with equipment so we washed and reconditioned our shell clothing from the last trip. It continued to work well but is now very battered and sewn where it has been through the dense forest.

At a simple but essential level Wellies remain the best footwear for use around base camp and in the forest. We might consider a pair of waders for river crossings. Snowshoes would have been more use than crampons and on our next trip (next trip....are they mad?) we will try the new light Yowie snowshoes from Australia (yes they are mad). On the hill we all use Scarpa double plastic boots with Extremeties or Yeti gaiters.

Water and rat proof blue plastic chemical barrels are essential for the journey and for base camp storage, as are heavy Ortieb dry bags or the lighter and cheaper but not as robust Exped versions. Rats can change an Ortlieb bag into a colander overnight if it is not hung up well out of reach.

For comfort in tents in bad weather thick full length Thermarests are a lovely luxury. A piss pot is essential and a plywood board essential for using the stove inside the tent.

We all used synthetic filled sleeping bags and I found the new light Rab bivvy bag really good for use in the tent to protect my bag from the damp. Half the weight of a Gore-Tex bag.

The Garmin Geko GPS was light, adequate, weatherproof and reliable.

Very little climbing hard wear is needed. We used single 9mm everdry ropes. We all had personal harnesses but a helmet is not essential unless one is blown over on the rocky ridge by a gust of wind as happened on one of our previous trips. Personal ice axes and hammers are sensible and most belays are off bollards, stakes or deadmen. Rock gear is not needed. Each member carried two ice screws and appropriate prussic loops for glacier work. Snow shovels are essential.

We used a variety of cameras with slide film but up high the waterproof Canon Sure Shot A1 enabled us to take photos when other cameras remained in their bags.

Next time? More blue barrels and rat traps.

MEDICAL

As my climbing companions and I get older I find the medical kit gets bigger with the addition of things such as a urinary catheter in case of prostate problems! Having said that the kit, which weighed 1.5 kg was virtually unused. One course of antibiotics was used for an attack of orchitis which was diagnosed early due to sensible early presentation with a past medical history.

On the hill each member carried his own small personal first aid kit and these remained unopened.

On booking out of Puerto Natales we were sensibly warned of the risk from potentially fatal neurotoxins concentrated in filter feeding shellfish such as muscles from the intermittent red algae tides in the area. Needless to say we avoided shellfish.

One expedition member is a doctor with specific interest in mountain and expedition medicine and the three other members are all trainers for the REC remote area first aid course. All four members are involved in setting up the UIAA Diploma in Mountain Medicine in the UK so we were well supplied with official medical bits of paper. In reality if an accident or serious illness were to occur in this area mountain and evacuation skills would be more use than any medical qualification. The logistics of evacuation would be complex but the Chilean Navy has an excellent reputation for helping in difficult and truly serious circumstances. Insurance is vital.

SANITATION & RUBBISH

It was a pleasure to note virtually no pollution on the shores of the Fiord. We found two plastic oil containers which we removed and two old rusting tins in the area of the Moore River. The Naval Hut is a potential focus for human pollution.

All our rubbish was burnt at the end of the trip on rocks at a site below high tide level. Tins were crushed and collected together with any plastic, batteries and other non destroyed rubbish. This was then secured into one plastic sack that was taken back to Puerto Natales for proper disposal.

Our Base camp water supply was the run off from the tarpaulins. This was normally more than adequate! Early in the trip we had to collect water from a fresh water stream about 100m from the camp. Higher on the ridge we relied on melted snow or collecting from snow melt pools.

At base camp we elected to shit direct into the fiord well away from the camp itself into an area where the current quickly broke up the faeces and took the residue out to sea. For a large population this would not be sustainable but the bacterial dilution factor seems to make this the most appropriate system in this climate with boggy ground at sea level. Up high we relied on crapping down hill from our campsite and leaving the residue to break up on the surface of the snow or rocks. Again this would seem most appropriate for a group of our size in a rarely visited region.

Our trip policy is always to take no pollutant toilet paper. In this climate it would soon become boggy. Half the world are anal washers and as long as hands are carefully cleaned after use this seems to work well. Above the snow line it becomes a pile tingling sensation.

When we dug our top camp out from seven feet of snow it is inevitable that some rubbish must remain. We tried our utmost to collect everything but apologise to future groups if they find any sign of our passing. If they carry any missed rubbish down for us and return it to civilisation I will happily pay for a round of drinks. If we return in better weather we will recheck the area.

BIRDS RECORDED

The birdlife was less diverse than Nick Banks had expected prior to our visit. He felt that the variety of vegetation and terrain should have led to a greater diversity of species than experienced in the Fiord of the Mountains but this was not the case.

SPECIES LIST:

Blue – Eved Cormorant (Phalacrocorax atriceps) Flightless Steamer Duck (Tachyeres ptneres) Flying Steamer Duck (T. patagonicus) Ashy-Headed Goose (Chloephaga poliocephala) Yellow – Billed Pintail (Anas georgica) **Red Shoveler (A. platalea) Condor** (Vultur gryphus) **Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) Crested Caracara (Polyborus plancas)** Magellanic Oystrecatcher (Haematopus Leucopodus) Rufous - Chested Dotterel (Zonibyx modestus) **Common Snipe (Gallinago gallinago)** White – Bellied Seedsnipe (Attagis Malouinus) Kelp Gull (Larus dominicanus) South American Tern (Sterna hirundinacea) Austral Parakeet (Enicognathus ferrugineus) Thorn-Tailed Rayadito (Aphrastura spinicauda) **Dark-Bellied Cinclodes (Cinclodes patagonicus) Green – Backed Firecrown** (Sephanoides galeritus) Andean Tapaculo (Scytalopus magellanicus) Cinnamon – Bellied Ground Tyrant (Muscisaxicola capistrata) Dark – Faced Ground Tyrant (M. macloviana) Rufous – Backed Negrito (Lessonia rufa) Chilean Swallow (Tachycineta leucopyga) House Wren (Troglodytes aedon) Roufous – Collared Sparrow (Zonotrichia capensis) Austral Thrush (Turdus falklandii) Austral Blackbird (Curaerus curaerus) Black – Chinned Siskin (Carduelis barbatus)

OUOTES

It's a great time of year to go on an expedition, you miss all the party conferences at home.

One has to come to enjoy a spiritual retreat in a remote area. Any climbing is a bonus.

Patagonia has two different techniques. It can wear you out slowly or beat the shit out of you quickly. It frequently chooses to do both together.

We have had wind, rain, unconsolidated snow, snow to sea level and now a plague of rats.....

You can tell that Chile has a Roman Catholic tradition...... all the virgins are beautiful, tempt you, play with you, tease you but.....

Final Day: Pity we have not got another two weeks, my socks might dry out.

Patagonian climbing is a like childbirth. At the time you swear never again, but after a few months you are planning the next one

FINANCE

At the time of departure the exchange rate was £1=US\$ 1.61 and 1US\$=655peso.

This gave an approximate rate of 1000 pesos to the pound or 650 pesos to the dollar.

We carried almost all our money in US\$ cash spread round various money belts and hiding places. Some expensive items are best paid for in US\$. It is easy to change money at change shops in Punta Arenas or Puerto Natales. We all carried credit cards in case of emergency.

We had greatly appreciated financial support form the Mount Everest Foundation, British Mountaineering Council and Welsh Sports Council but did not seek other major sponsors preferring to be independent of commercial obligations. As before we invested out grant for a few months in Premium Bonds but, for reasons best known to himself, ERNIE decided not to sponsor the trip further.

Income:

MEF Grant	£750
Welsh Sports Council	
BMC	
Balance r	

Major expenditure:

Total Flights four people return Heathrow to Punta Arenas	£2899.20p
Minibus PA to PN return	
Accommodation PA	
Accommodation PN	
Boat Charter into mountains and out (US\$3000 and gift GPS)	
Food for hills (US\$5 per person per day)	
Food en route to hills and return plus beer bill	
Hard wear (fuel, pots & pans, cord, wellies etc)	
Satellite phone	
Insurance	
Tips	£80
Films	
Expected report costs & postage	. £250
Repair cost Terra Nova Loan tents	awaited.
Approximate total costs	£9000.

THANKS

Our Families:

Sally, Jenny and Tom Hillebrandt. Lindsay, Rebecca and Jackie Banks. "M" Smith. Karen Kemish.

Sponsors:

Mount Everest Foundation. Sports Council of Wales. British Mountaineering Council.

Equipment:

Terra Nova. Carolyn Budding.

Supporters & Advisors:

Twid Turner. MEF/BMC reference. Martin Doyle. MEF/BMC reference. Ashley Williams. Spanish Translation. John Rees. British Consul. Paul Davies. Journey Latin America. Gabriela Dornheim. Lan Chile. David Cohen. Crown Plaza. Heathrow. Juan Pablo Reyes & Hernan Jofre. Conceptio Indigo. Maria Rivera. Hospedaje Nena. Penguin :Capt Conrado. Son Capt Conrado Alvarez Gonzales & mate Jose Alvarez Saldivia.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Journey Latin America, 12/13 Heathfield Terrace, Chiswick, London, W4 4JE. England. Tel: 00 44 (0)208 747 3108 Fax: 00 44 (0)208 742 1312. E mail: <u>sales@journeylatinamerica.co.uk</u> Excellent track record of services to South America for Expeditions.

Capt Conrado Alvarez D, Bories 238, Puerto Natales, Chile. Tel: 00 56 61 412228. Fax: 00 56 61 410645. C/o E Mail: <u>Kipatago@ctcinternet.cl</u> Charter of boat. Penguin. Knows Area. Speaks some English.

John Rees, British Consul, Cataratas del Niagra 01325, Punta Arenas. Chile. Tel: mornings 00 56 61 228783. afternoon (home) 00 56 61 211535. E Mail: <u>reesking@terra.cl</u> Always helpful. Sensible to book in and give him details for emergency use with insurance details.

Gobierno de Chile, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Direccion Nacional de Fronteras y Limites del Estado, Bandera No 52 Piso 5, Santiago, Chile <u>www.difrol,cl</u> Fax: 00 56 2 6971909.

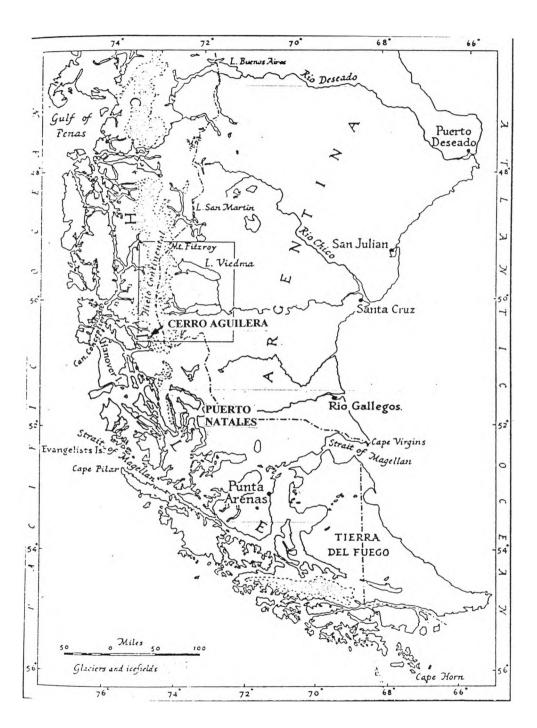
Maria Rivera, Hospedaje Nina, Boliviana 366, Punta Arenas, Chile. Tel: 00 56 61 242411 E mail: <u>m.rivera@aim.com</u> Like a mother to British Mountaineering expeditions for 15 years.

Manuel Gutierrez Nelra, Punta Arenas. Tel: 00 56 61 218935. Mobile: (09) 64449991876 Owns and drives nine seater minibus. Often based at Airport. Not phased by large amounts of equipment.

Hernan Jofre (Bigfoot Expeditions) & Juan Pablo Reyes, Conceptio Indigo, Landrilleeros 105, Puerto Natales. Tel: 00 56 61 413609 E Mail: <u>indigo@entelchile.net</u> Web Site: <u>www.conceptoindigo.com</u> Accommodation, Café, Cyber café, Bar, Resturant, English speaking. Knowledge of

area. Climbers.

Terra Nova Equipment, Ecclesbourne Park, Derbyshire, DE55 4RF. Fantastic Mountain tents.



SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA

