



Trepicio, West face : photo. R. Ruddle. collection

EAST MIDLANDS UNIVERSITIES PERUVIAN EXPEDITION 1985
EXPEDITION REPORT SUMMARY

1.1 Expedition members.

Roy Ruddie (leader)
Andrew Ravenhill

1.2 Objectives.

- (a) 1st ascent Jurau D (5674m)
- (b) New route, West face Siula Grande (6356m)

NOTE: In January 1985 we heard that Jurau D had been climbed, in 1981, by an Italian party. We deleted it from our objectives and replaced it by the unclimbed south of Sierra Norte (5860m).

Siula Grande west face was climbed by Joe Simpson and Simon Yates shortly before our arrival in Peru. On seeing the face we realised that they had climbed the only easy line on the face. The rest of the face looked extremely difficult and beyond our team's capabilities.

1.3 Achievements.

Mountain	Route	Altitude reached	Date	Remarks
Rosario N. (5596m)	E. ridge	5580m	30:7:85	Last 16m looked difficult - not carrying a rope.
*Trapezio (5653m)	W. face	5500m	6:8:85	Retreat 4.30pm in neck-deep powder snow. Not carrying bivvy gear.
*Sierra N. (5860m)	S. ridge	5600m	12:8:85	Retreat. Ravenhill dropped sleeping bag.
Sierra N. (5860m)	N. face	SUMMIT	24:8:85	
Rasac (6040m)	S.E. ridge	SUMMIT	24:8:85	Traverse from summit of Sierra N.

* Indicates a new route.

1.4 Expenses.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Personal contributions	1060x2 = 2120	<u>Total</u>	2570
MEF	200	(see report for details)	
Loughborough Students Athletic Union	200		
Loughborough University	50		
	<u>£2570</u>		<u>£2570</u>

1.5 Dates

Leave U.K. 13th July 1985
Return 26th September 1985



Roy Ruddie, November 1985.

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3. INTRODUCTION

3. i. EXPEDITION MEMBERS.

Originally the E.M.U. Peruvian Expedition was to have four members. However, in the weeks leading up to our departure, two of the team pulled out - one through injury (running a half-marathon!) and the other due to lack of money.

The final team was as follows:

LEADER: ROY RUDDLE (Student)
26 THE MIDLINGS
SEVENOAKS, KENT.

ANDREW RAVENHILL (UNEMPLOYED)
117 ROTUNDA ROAD
EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

3. ii. OBJECTIVES.

First ascent: JURAU D (5674m)

New route: WEST FACE SIULA GRANDE (6356m)

Note: In January 1985 we found out that Jurau D had been climbed, by an Italian party, in 1981, so we deleted Jurau D from our objectives and replaced it by the unclimbed South ridge of Sierra Norte (5860m)

3. iii. GETTING THERE.

Simple - for us Viasa Airlines proved the cheapest. The 19 hour flight from Heathrow to Lima (change at Caracas) landed at 9 a.m. Sunday, 14th July, giving us time to recover from jet lag and find out where things were, before business began on Monday morning.

Monday and Tuesday were spent shopping for six weeks food and fuel, (see Appendix III) registering at the British Embassy, and visiting Senor Morales and South American Explorers Club. We also spent six hours looking for (and eventually finding, with the help of our hotel owner's sister) the one bus company that runs a service to Cajatambo, where our walk-in began. (Such are the problems of speaking absolutely no Spanish!)

Wednesday 6 a.m. saw us leaving Lima on the ethnic bus to Cajatambo. The journey took twelve hours - six on the Pan American highway and six more, averaging 10 m.p.h., on a dirt road.

We spent ten days in Cajatambo (3400m), staying at the only hotel in town (clean and safe, approximately £1.50 each for a bed and three meals a day). This was longer than planned, due to Ruddle being ill, but it did give us the opportunity to join in two fiestas, treated as special guests.

4. LAGUNA JURAU BASE CAMP

by ROY RUDDLE

4. i. WALK - IN.

Our first attempt (July 20th) ended in disaster. Andy and the arriero failed to wait for me at the col above Cajatambo (4150m) - I was moving slower than they were, due to the effects of altitude, sun, and an infection picked up during a communal drinking session at a fiesta two days before. That night Andy reached Huayllapa (3500m) as planned, but I collapsed and fell asleep one km from the col (16 km from Huayllapa).

The next day, Andy returned to Cajatambo with the arriero and our gear. I was taken back to Cajatambo on a burro by some locals, where the local doctor pumped me full of penicillin to combat the chest infection I now had (the effects of a night out at over 4000m, dressed in only a light sweater and jeans).

July 27th saw us leaving Cajatambo again, for Laguna Jurau, this time for good. The walk-in was easily accomplished in two days; the first day, to Huayllapa (20km), took $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and the second day, to our base camp (4400m), took 6 hours (12km).

Note: The best base camp in this area is on the west bank of the river coming from Sarapococha, by any of the small streams or ponds.

4. ii. ROSARIO NORTE: EAST RIDGE. (5596m) - JULY 30th.

We had heard that this route presented no technical difficulties so we took one axe and crampons each, and no rope. At 7 a.m. we left our tent and walked up the hillside, first on a good path and then on scree, to reach the base of a snow couloir (5300m) at 10.30 a.m. From here, easy (Scottish I) climbing took us to a bump some 15m below the main summit (1.30 p.m.). The last 15m looked difficult, so, as we had no rope, and any fall would have had high death potential, we turned round and descended, reaching the tent in two hours.

4. iii. TRAPICIO: WEST FACE (5653m)

Our first attempt (August 1st/2nd) got no further than a bivouac at 4850m on the moraine of the Jurau glacier. There was heavy snow during the afternoon of the 1st, and more snow the next morning, so we descended to base camp to sit out the bad weather.

For our second attempt (August 5th - 8th) we found a good bivvy site at 5000m, also on the moraine, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours from base camp. On August 6th, we left our bivvy at 4 a.m., and headed across the Jurau glacier for the West face of Trapecio, which we believed to be unclimbed.

Initially we made fast progress, on good 45 nevé, but after 200m we were forced onto steep (55°) snow, with the consistency of sugar. Progress became much slower and it took us until 9.30 a.m. to reach the base of the rock band (5400m) which we expected to provide the crux of the route. Our expectations were correct - after only 4 metres I could go no further and I scuttled back to the belay to remove my crampons. (The rock on Trapecio has weird, vertical strata and very few flat hand/foot holds. The best way of climbing it is by delicate lay-away moves.) Without crampons I made better progress, and eventually gained a block belay below some steep mixed ground. Andy followed the pitch (about H.V.S.) and pulled the ropes through while I put my crampons on (the next pitch was mainly ice.). A good snarg protected a boulder problem start, which led to a spike at 5 metres. Here I had an option, to go a) straight up (over - hanging), b) left (desperate) or c) right (the least of the evils).

Going right the climbing was not hard, just scary - 60° to 80° thin ice on top of rock, which rang hollow every time I placed an axe. I was half expecting to fly off down the mountain at any moment, attached (via axes) to a large sheet of ice, but instead, after 30 metres, I reached solid ice and a break in the ground above which led to a snow stake belay at the start of the summit snow field. At 3 p.m. Andy arrived, gripped solid and questioning my mental health - enough said! He led off up the snow field (50° sugary snow), but after 1½ hours we had climbed only 40 metres, and Andy (20 metres above me) was up to his neck in sugar. It was obvious that we could not reach the summit (150 metres above us) for at least another 5 - 6 hours, so as we had no bivvy gear, we turned round and retreated.

Two abseils, one off a solitary snow stake, took care of the rock band, and another gave us a short cut to the glacier, from which a two hour walk saw us back at our bivvy on the moraine.

The next day we went to investigate the south ridge of Huaraca (5537m) but the 350m gully that gives access to the ridge from the west looked extremely difficult so we abandoned our plans and, on August 8th, returned to base camp.

4. iv. SIERRA NORTE, SOUTH RIDGE (5860m)

On August 11th, we walked up Sarapoquocha valley and then the lower part of the Siula Glacier to a bivouac below Sierra Central, at 5050m. The next day we left some spare food and fuel here and climbed up a 30° - 40° snow slope to the ridge (5600m) connecting Sierra Central and Sierra Norte, the continuation of which provides the substance of the unclimbed south ridge of Sierra Norte. That afternoon I climbed a small peak (5630m) situated on the ridge, to get a better view of our intended route, before cutting a bivvy ledge on the ridge and settling down to make endless brews. By 5.30 p.m. we had finished brewing/eating and I got into my sleeping bag. A few minutes later, Andy took his sleeping bag out of his sack and immediately dropped it down the west side of the ridge. I belayed Andy from my Redline as he climbed as far down the west side as possible. At 20m he was stopped by large, overhanging drop, and was able to see a maze of crevasses and seracs below the drop into which his sleeping bag must have disappeared. We had no option but to abandon our attempt on Sierra Norte and descend immediately. The descent to our base bivvy (5050m) took two hours.

The following day, we descended to base camp, after a detour round the west side of the Sierra ridge to look for Andy's sleeping bag on the Rasac glacier.

5. J A H A Q U O C H A B A S E C A M P

by ANDREW RAVENHILL

5. i. WALK FROM LAGUNA JURAU TO JAHUAQUOCHA.

On Saturday, August 17th, our arriero was supposed to come to Laguna Jurau to take us, and our gear, down to Huayllapa, but he did not show up. The next day we left our tent at 6.15 a.m. and descended to Huayllapa (12km) in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. We found our arriero and he said there was still time to bring our gear to Huayllapa that day, so, while he rounded up two burros, his wife cooked us breakfast.

Three and a half hours saw us back at base camp, where we hurriedly packed our gear and loaded the burros. The walk down (again!) to Huayllapa was slow, due to the heavily laden burros, so we had to walk the last three miles in the dark, arriving at Huayllapa at 8.30 p.m.

The next morning we bought some more supplies (potatoes, eggs, sugar and lard) before we left at 8.30 a.m. The day's walk was 24km - over two 4800m passes. On reaching the first pass it snowed heavily. This put our arriero off a bit and he wanted to camp for the night, but we would have nothing of it, so when the snow stopped we continued. Several hundred metres down the other side of the pass he again stopped and said we should camp for the night. Again we argued, and when he sat down I walked on and Roy started to drive the burros, the arriero soon followed.

We arrived at Jahuaquocha at 6 p.m. in heavy rain, and pitched camp near some German climbers.

5. ii. RASAC: EAST RIDGE. (6040m)

Poor weather kept us in our new base camp until Friday, 23rd August, when we left to walk in to attempt Rasac, via the east ridge. We left camp at 7 a.m., and followed a good path up the hillside on the western side of the Yerupaja glacier. Eight hours led us to a good bivvy site at 5400m on the glacier moraine,

Our day on Rasac started with brews and a regal meal at midnight. We left the bivvy at 2.30 a.m., travelling light - only one rope and three axes between us. We soon reached a large bergschrund, beneath Sierra Norte north face, which we crossed via a snow bridge. Then we climbed a rightwards slanting snow couloir to the east ridge, from where couple of interesting pitches led to the summit (5860m) at 7.30 a.m. Photos were taken and we looked down the unclimbed south ridge, ornately decorated with cornices.

A narrow corniced ridge lead us across to Rasac proper, reaching a col at the base of the ridge at 9 a.m.. There followed some 700m of good snow/ice climbing up along the well-defined ridge. We reached the summit ridge about 4 p.m., from where knee/waist deep powder led across to the summit. We stayed on top for half an hour, taking photographs of each other, and of the marvellous views from this high, centrally-placed Huayhuash peak.

Having never seen the east face in daylight, we did not know the easiest way down, so we just down climbed steep snow until we were stopped by a steep 150metre rock-wall. Roy forced a route down, soloing by head-torch and moonlight, and I followed him with the occasional abseil. Back on the glacier, we headed back to our bivvy, reaching it at 11.30 p.m.

Next day, 25th August, we returned to base camp - three hours walk.

5.iii. WALK-OUT - JAHUAQUOCHA TO CHIQUIAN.

After a day's rest, we made our first attempt to walk out. This failed after fifty yards, due to a combination of sick and frisky burros shedding their loads!

The next day we tried again, and were successful. The path from Jahuaqucho contoured round the hillside above the Rio Achin before descending steeply from Pampa Llamac to the village of Llamac, where we spent the night (13km; 4 hrs).

The following day, we continued to Chiquian with a different arriero as ours said he would be murdered if he went there with us! The path to Chiquian was a virtual motorway, the scenery constantly changing as we lost altitude. It was very hot with a very strong sun.

Our arrival in Chiquian was a bit of a shock - one minute walking along a rough dirt path, then around a corner onto a concrete road with sewers and electric light!

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6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The team would like to thank all those who gave advice, lent gear or gave discounts on purchases. They were as follows: -

ADVICE: Alan Rouse
Mick Fowler
Leeds Peruvian Expedition 1984

DISCOUNTS: Mountain Equipment (Redline sleeping bags,
Goretex waterproofs)
Wild Country (Slings, rocks & friends)
Snowdon Mouldings (Bivvy bag)
Raven Foods (Dehydrated food)
Berghaus (Super-yeti gaiters)
Kodak (Film)

LOANS: Nottingham University Expedition Equipment Centre.
(Wintergear super diamond tent & M S R stove.)

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We would also like to thank the following bodies for the grants received:

Mount Everest Foundation
Loughborough Students Athletic Union
(Sue Bottomly & Yuri Matischen)
Loughborough University of Technology

7. USEFUL ADDRESSESBRITAIN :

B M C
Crawford House
Precinct Centre
Booth Street East
MANCHESTER M13 9RZ
Tel: 061-273 5835

Mount Everest Foundation
Hon. Sec. Simon Brown
212 Greys Road
Henley on Thames
Oxon RG9 1QX
Tel: 0491-576677

Expedition Advisory Centre
Royal Geographical Society
1 Kensington Grove
LONDON SW7 2AR
Tel: 01-581 2057

Peruvian Consultate General
52 Sloane Street
LONDON SW1X 9SP
Tel: 10-235 6867

Stanford's International Map Centre
12 - 14 Long Acre
Covent Garden
LONDON WC2E 9LP
Tel: 10-836 1321

Journey Latin America (J.L.A.)
16 Devonshire Road
Chiswick High Road
LONDON W4 4PH
Tel: 01-747 3108

Specialist Library on S. A.
Canning House Library
2 Belgrave Square
LONDON SW1X 8PJ

Alpine Club Library
74 South Audley Street
LONDON W1Y 5FF
Tel: 01-499 1542

PERU :

British Embassy
Edificio El Pacifico
PISO 12
Plaza Washington
Avenida Arequipa
LIMA
Tel: 283830/283 836-39

South American Explorers Club
Portugal 146
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Sr. Cesar Morales Arnaco
Jefe de la Seccion Andinismo
Instituto Nacional de Recreacion y Educacion Deportiva (INRED)
Estadio Nacional
Gate 29, 3rd Floor (Piso)
LIMA 1.

A P P E N D I X 1. ITINERARY

July	13, 14	Fly to Lima	
"	17	Bus to Cajatambo (3400m)	
"	27, 28	Walk-in to Laguna Jurau (4400m)	
"	30	Rosario Norte (5596m)	
August	6	Trapeccio (5653m)	
"	12	Sierra Norte (5860m)	
"	18, 19	Walk to Jahuauchocha (4050m)	
"	24	Sierra Norte and Rasac (6040m)	
"	28, 29	Walk-out (Chiquian)	
"	31	Huaraz	
September	5	Lima	
"	8	Nazca)
"	10	Arequipa)
"	13	Copacabana (Bolivia))
"	15	Puro)
"	17	Cuzco)
"	21	Lima	
"	26	Arrive Heathrow	

Playing
Tourists

A P P E N D I X 2. EXPENSES

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Personal contributions		Airfare £475 x 2	£ 950
£1060 x 2	£2120	Travel in Peru	£ 25
M E F	£ 200	Equipment	£ 800
Loughborough Students		Medical	£ 50
Athletic Union	£ 200	Accomodation	£ 55
Loughborough University	£ 50	Labour hire	£ 55
		Insurance	£ 155
		Film	£ 150
		Food	£ 230
	£ 2570		£ 2570

N.B. The above expenses do not include our tour of southern Peru.
This cost approximately £ 225 per person.

A P P E N D I X 3. FOOD

M E N U : Breakfast : Porridge, tea.
 Lunch: Chocolate (if climbing) or
 soup and potatoes.
 Dinner: Dehydrated soya with potatoes/pasta
 Raven regal meal
 Trout and potatoes.

We took advantage of our 40kg baggage allowances on Viasa and
 took with us: 20 Raven regal meals
 4 ten-portion packs of Raven freeze-dried soya
 and 2 ten-portion packs of Raven desserts.

These were supplemented by Knorr soups, Sublime chocolate,
 Universal powdered orange drink and Quaker oats (bought in Lima)
 and potatoes, eggs and fresh trout (bought in Huayhuash).

Our meals were generally very good, the trout and Raven desserts
 (apple flakes & custard and blackcurrant supreme) in particular were
 superb. The regal meals, however, were a waste of time. In order to keep
 the pan clean, one just adds boiling water to the bags the meals come in,
 then letting the meal rehydrate for five minutes before eating - by
 which time it gets stone cold!

We ended up cooking our meals in a pan (they tasted delicious
 when hot, but, of course, the pan became dirty - defeating the object
 of buying regal meals in the first place!). Usually we supplemented the
 meals with pasta, as we felt they were not large enough.

The Raven ten-packs of soya were also delicious (spicy beef, beef
 bourgogne & shepherds pie - our sweet and sour chicken was stolen by
 trekkers

Both of us have only limited experience of First Aid, and no Doctor was present. Luckily, no serious problems were encountered. Despite taking a comprehensive medical kit with us, only a few items were used. However, it would be inadvisable to carry much less than the items listed below. We took :-

DRESSINGS, etc.

Elastocrepe bandage
Airstrip elastoplast
Cotton wool
Triangular bandage
Micropore tape
Zinc oxide tape
Scissors
Thermometer
Sterile lint dressing
Sperco second skin

DRUGS, etc.

Sterotabs
Multivit tablets
Eye ointment
Antiseptic cream
Throat lozenges
Antocid tablets
Insect repellent
Anti-malarial: Maloprim, Chloroquine
Anti-diarrhoea: Lomotil, Imodium
Acute mountain sickness: Diamox
Painkillers: Paracetamol, Fortral
Sleeping pills: Temazepan
Antibiotics: Penicillin tablets

We also took a medical reference book, 'MEDICINE FOR MOUNTAINEERS' (published by the Mountaineers)

INOCULATIONS: Yellow fever, Typhoid, Cholera, Polio,
Tetanus and Gamma-globulin (Hepatitis)

MEDICAL PROBLEMS:

- a) **DIARRHOEA:** This was not a problem in base camp, but after the walk-out to Chiquian both of us suffered very badly following a meal in a local restaurant. The cure seemed to be rest, lots to drink and getting ^{cut} of Chiquian as soon as possible.
- b) **SUNBURN:** Both of us, at some point, suffered facial sunburn and chapped lips. Factor 15 suncream was effective in preventing further damage.
- c) **ALTITUDE ACCLIMATIZATION:** R. Ruddle took several days longer than A. Ravenhill to acclimatize to the altitude on the walk-in to base camp. Once at base camp no further problems were encountered. Diamox was carried but not taken by either of us.
- d) **CHEST INFECTION:** R. Ruddle suffered a serious chest infection after collapsing and spending a night out, alone, on the first walk-in. The infection was quickly cleared up with the help of injections from a Peruvian Doctor, and a course of penicillin tablets. We were lucky, but the incident should serve to remind climbers to obey basic rules and move at the speed of the slowest member of the party.

A P P E N D I X 5. EQUIPMENT

All expedition equipment, apart from cooking utensils, was brought from Britain. The 40kg baggage allowance on Viasa Airways proved more than enough to get all our equipment out to Peru.

Climbing hardware is in short supply in Peru; the only place where gear can be purchased easily is in Huaraz in the Cordillera Blanca.

- A. CLOTHING: The temperatures in the Huayhuash were somewhere between those that occur in the Alps in summer and winter. When climbing, we wore the following:-

Sweater	Koflach Ultras
Fibre pile jacket	Wild country thermal gloves
Balaclava	Berghaus super - yeti gaiters
Goretex/pile mitts	Goretex oversuit
Pile salopettes or lifa trousers	/ Rohan super salopettes

Redline sleeping bags, goretex bivvy bags and karrimats were all we carried for bivouacs. A. Ravenhill's 5-season karrimat was considerably warmer than R. Ruddle's 4-season one.

- B. CLIMBING EQUIPMENT: We took the following hardware with us:-

2 ice axes (Simmond Barracuda; Clog Condor)	2pr	crampons
2 ice hammers (Simmond Chacal)	20	pegs - assorted
12 ice screws and drive-ins	1	Dead man
5 snow stakes - 1m lengths	4	Friends
1 set of rocks and assorted nuts, assorted slings and tie-offs.	25	Karabiners
	2	Harnesses
2 phoenix climbing helmets	2	Descendeurs
2 sticht plates		
3 45m, 9mm ropes		

On routes we carried 4 pegs, 4 nuts, 3 snargs, 2 snow stakes and several slings and tie-offs. This selection proved adequate, although friends would have been useful for the rock band on Trapecio. Snow stakes were the most useful form of protection, or for abseiling off (Trapecio and Ras c). A deadman was sometimes carried but never used.

- C. COMMUNAL GEAR:

1 Wild Country Superdiamond tent	1	Silva compass
2 stoves - Optimus 123 Climber	1	File
- MSR Multifuel	1	Tube seam-sealant
1 1:50,000 Cordillera Huayhuash map	1	Tube super glue
2 rolls of adhesive tape	2	Sigg bottles

The Optimus stove was used mostly at base camp - until its safety valve seals perished (probably due to over-priming with petrol). It was used successfully up to 5,000m, although at this height it was difficult to light. The MSR worked well at all altitudes (it was used up to 5600m) and gave no problems lighting. It was more efficient than the Optimus.

A P P E N D I X 6. PHOTOGRAPHY

We both used Kodachrome 25 and 64 predominantly, which are well-tried and tested films producing very good results in terms of fineness of detail and colour rendition. Ektachrome 100 and 200 were also used, as was Ilford Pan F (black & white) film.

Cameras and accessories taken were:

Olympus XA and All Flashgun	80 - 210mm Zoom lens
Contax 139 Quartz, 50mm F 1.7 lens	Flash gun
28mm wide angle lens	Various Filters

The limited exposure control on the Olympus XA meant that a lot of daylight high altitude photographs were over-exposed and the colour washed out.

However, the size of the camera and ease of use made it very practical.

The Contax 139 is easier to handle in mountaineering situations (Goretex/pile mitts, etc.) than any other camera Roy has tried (Nikons included).

It has no mechanical shutter speed back up, but produced perfect exposures everywhere, even at dawn on Rasac, when temperatures were approximately -25° C.

A P P E N D I X 7. PLAYING TOURISTS

Any climbers in Peru who can spare two weeks extra on their trip will find a whirlwind tour of southern, cultural Peru very worthwhile.

We used and recommend the following hotels, restaurants and modes of travel. (Hotel prices are for a double room; transport prices are for a single ticket.)

NAZCA: Hostal NAZCA \$2
 Flight over Nazca lines \$20
 Restaurants: Restaurant El Dorado
 Hotel de Turistas

AREQUIPA: Hotel: Residential Guzman \$2.50
 Restaurants: Restaurant Bonanza
 La Pizza Nostra

COPACABANA: Hotel: Alijamiento San Jose \$4

PUNO: Hostal Europa \$1
 Restaurant International
 Excursions: Iros islands \$2

CUECO: Hostal Machu Picchu \$4
 Restaurants: loads of good ones in and around the
 Plaza d'Armas.

TRAVEL:

Lima - Nazca	Bus (Ormëno)	7 hours	\$3.50
Nazca - Arequipa	Bus (Ormëno)	12 hours	\$6.00
Arequipa - Puro	Train (Pullman)	10 hours	\$9.00
Puro - Copacabana	Collectivo	3 hours	\$3.50
Puro - Cuzco	Train (Buffet)	10 hours	\$9.00
Cuzco - Lima	Air	1½ hours	\$35.00
	(Peruvian Air Force)		