

3/8/85 PL1 + PL2
 Called by after a 2000m walk down from
 Prop camp via Tulkuya + Ca de de Luenga. PL1
 went down to Cagas + PL2 returned to top. - Both
 ate a tin of faka ^{box} ~~tin~~ ^{see} bread + drank a
~~tin~~ of wine. Have decided to try + take
 part of my big vase together + use it pitched
 as a stove tent.

Sunday 4/8/85 John W. passed this way after a very
 hot climb from Base camp, to collect kit left here, and
 en route to top camp. Spent the hottest part of the day
 in the shade of the tents & tidied the food tent, which is
 now well stocked, even with fresh (ish) bread and eggs.
 Opened a tin of orange slices using a tent peg and lump
 hammer - I think a proper tin opener at Ario would be
 useful. Took survey instruments + 1 sheet of graph paper from Ario
 to top camp, also new log book for top camp & fluorescein for
 F20 → 1/6 connection studies. Probably my last visit to Ario
 - pity, it's such a nice site for feasting around if the weather
 is good; however, there's work to be done at top camp.

Sund 4/8/85 Arrive at Ario 8⁵⁰ pm and find the cows have raided a rubbish
 bag, not to mention other even more material traces of their presence. Celebrated the rest of
 my birthday with an excellent "Beef Stroganoff à la John West". ^{Get}

Mon 5/8/85 John Hutch passed by for a tea- and drying-breaks en route
 to Top Camp 10¹⁵-1⁴⁵!

(52) 5/8/85 THERE'S A RUMOUR THAT SOME PEOPLE CONTEMPLATE GIVING UP EVEN THE CURRENT MINIMUM PRESENCE AT ARIO.

AS ONE WHO HAS SPENT MANY NIGHTS HERE, MORE THAN ONCE ALONE, I MAY BE ALLOWED TO MAKE A FEW POINTS ABOUT THIS IDEA.

AT THE MOMENT, ARIO IS BEING USED AS:

1) MET'-STATION, (YES I KNOW PHIL ROSE DOESN'T LIKE TO BE REMINDED OF THE FACT.)

2) BASE FOR SURFACE SURVEYING AND SHAFT PROSPECTING IN AREAS 5, 7 AND 9. SHAFT BASHING IS IMPOSSIBLE SINCE NO TACKLE. JESTYN'S SHAFT ON JULTAYU HAS NEITHER BEEN MARKED NOR PRECISELY LOCATED ^(YET) AND ANOTHER CASE OF A RIDGE CAVE SYNDROME IS ABOUT TO HAUNT THE NEXT FIVE EXPEDITIONS.

3) CONVENIENT STOPOVER POINT FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T MAKE THE DIRECT LAGOS-TOP CAMP RACE IN LESS THAN $2\frac{1}{2}$ HOURS. EVEN MORE CONVENIENT IF YOU WALK UP HERE IN THE EVENING, STAY OVER NIGHT AND CONTINUE THE NEXT MORNING SO THAT YOU ARRIVE IN TIME AND FRESH ENOUGH TO GO CAVING. (AND WITHOUT HAVING HAD A DINNER OUT OF THE SCARCE TOP CAMP SUPPLIES!)

4) OBVIOUS POINT TO RETURN TO WHEN YOU'VE GOT LOST IN THE MIST AND TOP CAMP IS STILL OUT OF THE RANGE OF YOUR WHISTLE. (WHO COULD BE BOTHERED TO RETURN TO LAGOS ??)

5) STORAGE SPACE FOR SOME PERSONAL EQUIPMENT (IN MY CASE, FILMS, SPARE CLOTHING, SOME REPAIR MATERIAL AND THE LIKE)

THERE'S NO SPACE FOR ANY MORE TENTS AT TOP CAMP. THERE MAY BE ^{BY} ~~THE END OF THIS WEEK~~ AND IF DESPERATE WE COULD MOVE MARTIN MAY'S TENT (THE GREEN ONE) UP THE MOUNTAIN. HOWEVER, WE WILL BE FEWER PEOPLE THEN AND CROWDS OF A DOZEN OR MORE CAN'T GATHER ANY LONGER AT TOP.

WITHOUT A CAMP AT ARIO I'D THINK TWICE (OR MORE) ABOUT WALKING FROM LAGOS TO TOP IF THE WEATHER IS ~~EVER~~ SO SLIGHTLY DOUBIOUS AND I MIGHT THINK IT WISE TO SPEND THE REST OF THE EXPEDITION AT BASE, (SIC!)

THINK ABOUT IT, (AND IF YOU DISMANTLE THE CAMP WITHOUT HAVING READ THE ABOVE, BEWARE I'LL CATCH YOU AND ~~SMASH~~ SMASH YOU ON THE HEAD WITH THIS LOGBOOK!) LOTS OF LOVE FROM Uperhard

Mon 5/8/85 4:45 pm Arrive Fred, Phil D, Phil S, Ukey & Duncan G! Welcome (back) to (53) Arto!

D.
Phil ^h thinks "I'm remarkably little".

Tue 6/8/85 9:15 am Ukey & Duncan & Phil D & Fred off to Top Camp in the rain.

4 pm We're out of gas (and out of oil) and I can't get the Coleman stove to work. Pretty "cool". At least it has stopped raining for a moment and I'm off with the paint to try to find Iestyn's shaft. Y.N.

All I've got after 1 hour is a sore thumb and a heap of broken, burnt or otherwise useless matches.

5 pm John W arrived after very misty walk from top camp. Conditions at top camp are atrocious - we had hail yesterday, snow today, force 8 winds and otherwise non-stop torrential rain. People don't get up early under these conditions, and one caving party did not leave until 2 pm! (Well that's not an exception...)

9 pm Back from Area 7, no working stove at the camp, and the Refugio has run out of food! John^(W) & I at least have a coffee up there. I hadn't got far when clouds & rain had caught up with me again. Knowing I had no chance I used it as well as I could and having messed around for a while I indeed nearly fell down Iestyn's hole. ^{It actually is a} ~~And then the clouds~~ ^{but it is the one} tore and the sun came out - just after I'd taken some misty ^{John W. found after I.W.'s} ~~drainings~~ ^{5/7/85} ~~piccies~~ ^{drawings} of the entrance. Took bearings, explored the surroundings and the way from/to the cairned path, sprinted up to get a nice picture of the gorge, but too many clouds sitting down there only waiting to come up ~~to~~ to me. Marked Iestyn's thing as 7/7 and trotted home.

Location of cave. Follow the J. path for about 48 cairns from the Trea junction. Since this is not very likely to be reproducible, alternative instructions: Climb up until the path reaches the ^{ridge of the} large northern spur and you look down into the Sou del Jaltaya (the deep ~~basin~~ ^{basin} with Curvicente at the far side). Then turn and go back down 6-7 cairns. - Either way you should end near the top of a long grassy slope with Arto

(54) north of you, and a scree valley sloping down parallel to the grassy ridge on its western side (which is to your right, looking up to J.) The transition from ridge to valley is mostly steep and in one point ^{consists of} a vertical cliff controlled by a rift cutting into the ridge (with a tree growing out). Don't climb down there unless you're Richard or suicidal, but take a less lethal path either meandering down from above (left) of the cliff or contouring round below (right) of it to cross the scree slope at one of various obvious levels. Follow path across a little col. To the right a grassy hillside gives an excellent view of the Refuge & of part of the Caves gorge. This is where my bearings were taken. Straight ahead a big crosscut rents the rock, and the marking is on one of the rock faces ~~to the~~ on the right side.

Description of cave, as far as visible from outside: Vertical rift striking $60^{\circ}-280^{\circ}$ intersects E-trending rift striking N-S. 10m below surface a snowplug is visible at the intersection point. Stones go past it but apparently not very far. Way on along one of the rifts may be possible. Worth a closer look in any case.



Bearings from the Viewpoint on the Little Hill:

Ario 3°

(don't know which of the things behind it is Tulayua, sorry)

Twin peaks of the diff behind the Canal de Trea
59° and 60°

Cave entrance in rift E of scree valley 125°

Top of Tulayua 155°

7/7 ~260°

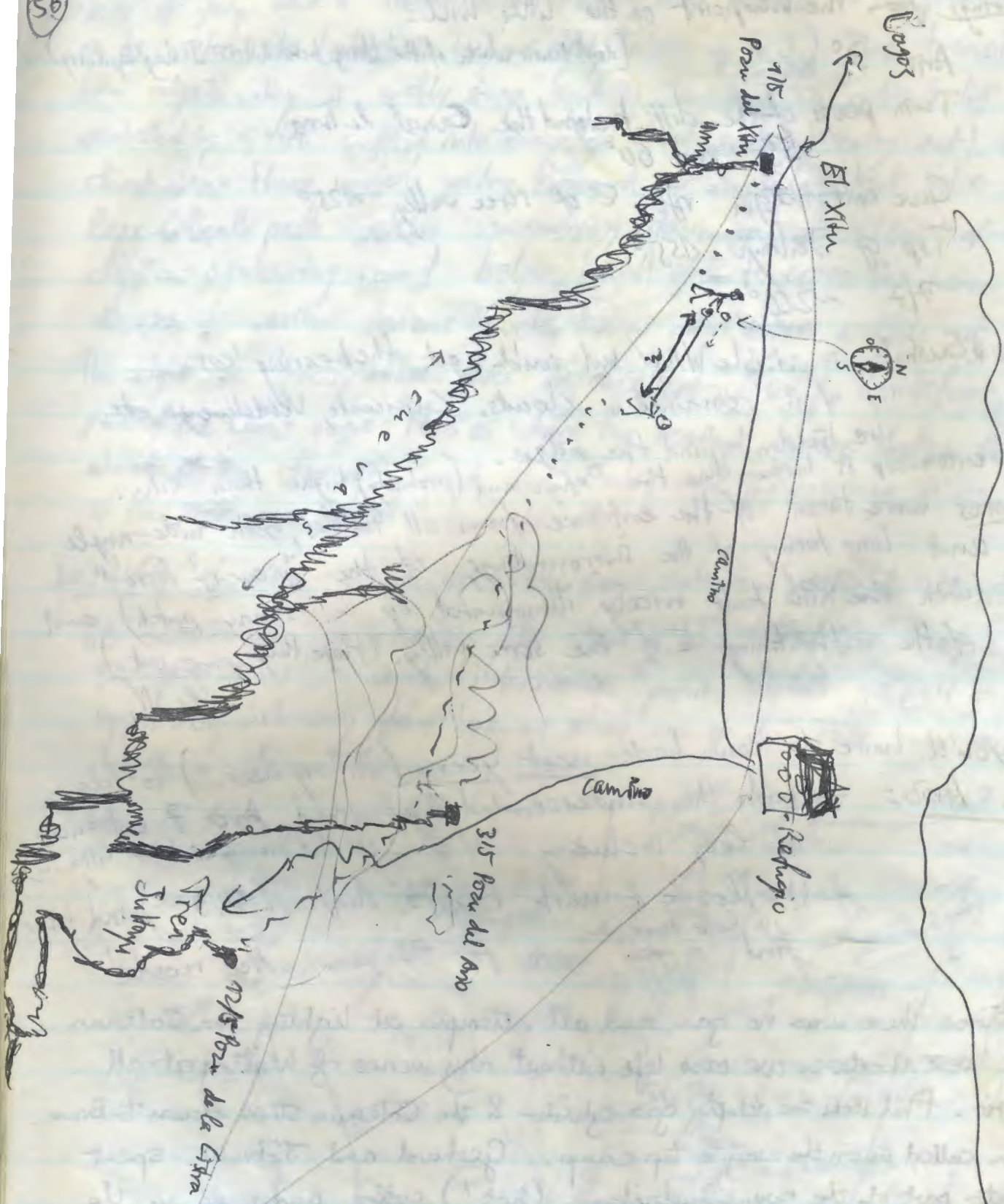
Pico d. Gushutem is visible WNW but couldn't get the bearing 'cos top of it remained in clouds. Curicente, Verdelluenga etc. are hidden behind the ridge.

The entrance is higher than the Refugio and (probably) higher than Xitu. Pictures were taken of the entrance from all 4 sides, both wide-angle and long focus, of the surroundings, of the "view of Ario" (with the Xitu fault nicely illuminated by a sunny patch) and of the rift thing E of the scree valley. (Hope they come out.)
G.W.

So you'll have to come back next year (oh my dear...) to do from Ario: — bash the undescended/unfinished Area 7 entrances at last, including 7/7. (It's this one went into Gstra....)
— (re-)locate & mark Geoff's shaft (10/9 ?) and have a look down it.
— And a few more for the year after next!

Since there was no gas and all attempts at lighting the Coleman stove were abortive, we were left without any means of heating at all at Ario. Phil took the empty gas cylinder & the Coleman stove down to Base. Martin called in on the way to top camp. Gerhard and John W. spent the later part of the evening drinking (hot!) coffee and wine in the Refugio, which was at least warm. Later we stumbled down in the dark back to camp, where we fancied some mornflakes. In the dark (or was it because of the wine) we helped ourselves to a liberal helping of salt instead of sugar — and so to bed. There was ground frost at Ario.

→ Would've had some Bocadoillos but poor Bras is left with $\frac{1}{2}$ loaf of bread for himself and that's all. The Refugio is not entirely reliable as an emergency stopover point ...



[This is to explain Bras why we wanted to borrow his measuring tape for surface surveying. I know you merry speleologists don't need such silly drawings to get your ideas over...]

20 m "Elephant" measuring tape (made in Spain) courtesy of Bras at Arco Refugio.

Wednesday 7.8.85. Gerhard & John W. do surface survey 12/5 → 3/5 → 1/5. Problem, we have compass & clinometer but no measuring tape, since all the tapes are underground at top camp and cannot be released. Ever resourceful, John had spotted a 20m measuring tape in the kitchen at the Refugio the previous evening. So it was up to the Refugio for a 9am coffee and the accompanying sketch by Gerhard was used to explain to Bras what we wanted it for — he duly obliged with the loan of the tape. Here are the survey readings — a second copy is being taken back to Britain by John W. where it will be computerised & plotted. It should be useful in closing the traverses for 12/5 → Xitu, 3/5 → Xitu. Fixed points for future reference are the painted ⊗ circles on 12/5, 3/5, 20/5 and 1/5 (Xitu), the base of the signpost stake on the yellow path (sign now missing) and the centre of the "rays" on the Mirador. John W. Compass + clinometer, Gerhard tape

Station numbers	Distance m.	Compass °	Clinometer (10m scale) (Clinometer (°) (±0.5))	
⊗ → 1	11.2	288	+9.25	+42.5
1 → 2	20.0	294	+1.25	+7.0
2 → 3	20.0	331	∅	0
3 → 4	20.0	334	+1.65	+9.5
4 → 5	20.0	352	+3.10	+17.0
5 → 6	20.0	17	+4.25	+23
6 → 7	15.7	2	+3.75	+20.5
7 → 8	20.0	325	-0.75	-4.5
8 → 9	20.0	∅	+1.10	+6.5
9 → 10	20.0	∅	+0.70	+4.0
10 → 11	20.0	353	+2.00	+11.5
11 → 12	16.8	346	+2.50	+14.0
12 → 13	20.0	352	-2.50	-14.0
13 → ⑭	3.8	323	-6.00	-31.0
13 → 15	20.0	338	-1.00	-5.5
15 → ⑮	18.9	90	-4.75	-25.5

(P.S. Stations follow Jukayu-Arro path to n18, then cut across along Xitu fault to the Iron Stakes, then follow the Xitu path.)

<u>Station numbers</u>	<u>Distance</u> <u>m</u>	<u>Compass</u>	<u>Clima</u> <u>(10m scale)</u>	
15 → 17	2φ.φ	322	+φ.4φ	+2.5
17 → 18	2φ.φ	33φ	+1.4φ	+8.0
18 → 19	2φ.φ	321	-φ.75	-4.5
19 → 2φ	2φ.φ	289	-1.φφ	-5.5
2φ → 21	2φ.φ	28φ	+φ.5φ	+3.0
21 → 22	2φ.φ	3φ2	+φ.5φ	+3.0
22 → 23	2φ.φ	296	-φ.5φ	-3.0
23 → 24	2φ.φ	296	φ	0
24 → 25	2φ.φ	298	+2.2φ	+12.5
25 → 26	2φ.φ	283	-φ.7φ	-4.0
26 → 27	2φ.φ	277	+2.9φ	+16.0
27 → 28	2φ.φ	27φ	+5.2φ	+27.5
28 → 29	2φ.φ	29φ	+1.φφ	+5.5
29 → 3φ	2φ.φ	297	-φ.2φ	-1.0
3φ → 31	2φ.φ	3φ7	φ	0
31 → 32	2φ.φ	28φ	+φ.25	+1.45
32 → 33	2φ.φ	3φ9	+1.7φ	+4.45
33 → 34	2φ.φ	316	+φ.5φ	+3.0
34 → 35	2φ.φ	348	+φ.9φ	+5.0
35 → 36	2φ.φ	348	+φ.9φ	+5.0
36 → 37	2φ.φ	3φ9	+φ.25	+1.5
37 → 38	2φ.φ	293	-1.φφ	-5.5
38 → 39	2φ.φ	289	+φ.5φ	+3.0
39 → (4φ)	1φ.4	267	+3.7φ	+20.5
40 to base of stake ← 1.6φ m vertical.				
4φ → 41	2φ.φ	25φ	-1.5φ	-8.5
41 → (42)	5.1	15	-4.6φ	-24.5

Station numbers	Distance m	Compass	Clino (10m scale)	
40 → 43	20.0	301	-0.25	-1.5
43 → 44	20.0	302	+0.35	+2.0
44 → 45	20.0	301	+2.10	+12.0
45 → 46	20.0	301	+2.30	+13.0
46 → 47	20.0	281	+2.00	+11.5
47 → 48	9.1	271	-0.50	-3.0
48 → 49	20.0	279	+0.90	+5.0
49 → 50	20.0	291	-1.00	-5.5
50 → 51	20.0	301	+1.00	+5.5
51 → 52	20.0	279	-0.85	-4.5
52 → 53	20.0	274	-0.80	-4.5
53 → 54	20.0	255	-0.50	-3.0
54 → 55	20.0	268	-0.75	-4.5
55 → 56	12.0	244	-3.10	-17.0
56 → 57	6.3	110	-3.50	-14.5

- 0 Red cross at 12/5
- 14 Red cross at 3/5
- 16 Red cross at 2/5
- 40 Eye level at iron stake on yellow path (base of stake is -1.60m (below) this)
- 42 Red cross at 20/5
- 48 Centre of "rays" on top of Mirador
- 57 Green cross at 1/5 (Xitu)

Accuracies : Distances to 0.1 m
 Compass to 1. degree
 Clino to 0.05 on 10m scale

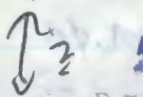
Nicola & Dave Horsley called in on way from te to bc. John W & Gerhard to Base camp. Sorry to leave you, Arto and the Picos.

John

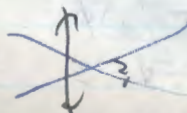
Wed 7/8/85 A Postscriptum to the Area 7 shaft-thrashing business.

(60) I've just re-read the Proc 10- & Logbook entries referring to 1/7-6/7, and my horrified impression is that I might have made a thorough mess. There are now three pairs of caves which roughly fit the same descriptions and locations (as far as the latter go) and may or may not coincide, viz.:

1/7 Pozo de Vaxeya
shaft above a lower
entrance, under the
Jattayu path, on the
northern spur



Iestyn's "shaft-entrance"

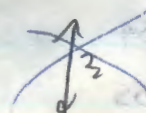


my "Iestyn's Other Holes"

6/7 Rift with snowping at
-8m, in a depression



Iestyn's hole-cave-snowping



my 7/7 - see above.

The old logbook entries and sketch maps are too vague to make sure whether or not they refer to the same caves as mine, and Iestyn's Illustrated Guide to the Picos - well you've seen it. However, I have had a close look at "my" crossrift before I marked it - from all sides - and seen no sign of any previous marking - 6/7 is supposed to be marked as such. (Has 1/7 ever been marked? - And somehow I haven't noticed a proper shaft where according to Iestyn & 1/7 there ought to be one.)

Someone knowing his/her whereabouts in area 7 will have to

8/8/85 sort this out one day, I'm afraid. Sorry for the trouble...

P.P.S. After I final talk with Iestyn I'm pretty sure that: G.W.

- his shaft-entrance is 1/7 whereas his snowping+hole is just that and doesn't go anywhere far,

- the thing John W. & later I found by his description, now marked 7/7, is probably new, and has nothing to do with Iestyn's holes.
G.W.

Wed 7/8/85 4³⁰ pm Down to Lagos, having dismantled the (61)

2nd Force Ten and carrying both with me. The brown (D. H.'s) tent is now the stored food & kitchen tent. Somebody carry the carbide, mailons, bolts, hangers & the big Fabada tin up to top — these are certainly no longer needed here. E.V.

THURS. 8 AUGUSTO 1985

Margot + Phil S. arrive after a pleasant walk from Lagos, to scave off a flock of sheep licking morn flakes off the (un-dare) washing up.

Took off our boots, sorted gear, ate morn flakes, festered etc [I found my fav. wrap-spot from last year: lots of interesting plants growing in it, and my score still scratched on the rock].

We're not taking anything to top camp from here except my gear, and since it is now 12:00 we are taking the bare ~~minimum~~ minimum.

- I'm leaving my spare (new) over-suit here, if some kind soul will aid it on its way to TC.

Flies seem to be worse than last year, Philip S.

P.S. We have wought a can opener. Thanks a lot!

Later: Margot is now chasing a sheep yelling "come back you silly sod, and give me back that spoon!" I think the heat is getting to her. It picked it up by the handle & walked off with it.

9-9³⁰ pm: Ukey & Dave H. pass by on the way to Top Camp, taking along the latter's tent. Martin Hides has taken his sigg bottle down with him during the day & ~~left~~ left the petrol in a mornflake tin. Could someone get an empty sigg bottle

from Top and pick it up, it is neither safely stored nor transportable as

It is now, 9⁴⁰ pm Gull. arrives & sorts out the mess the place is in.

Stuff to go up: (apart from the petrol) Fabada tin, other food tins (apart from some one-person emergency stuff as long as a tent is here, e.g. Morn flakes, Stewards Leftold 7 Min. - Ready Dishes etc.), Carbide, Mailons, hangers, bolts etc. etc.

Stuff to go down: Petrol lamp (choiced somewhere), Surface survey instrument set, 3/6 survey, shaft bashing left, most of the cutlery & crockery. And the surplus gas cylinder lid which I stupidly left behind. P.D.

(62) Stuff to go up eventually, i.e. when the camp is abandoned completely:
all remaining food & gear, (rest of) gas cylinder, ^{with its lid, pray!} ~~post-water container~~ & ~~wading up to we~~
Stuff to go down eventually: cooler, water containers, remaining cutlery & cooking
stuff, Logbook, medical kit, items left behind by various people
unless they pick them up before. — And all the rubbish!!

A group of nice people from London is "taking over" our campsite, —

Porridge (or not milkpowdered & sugared Morniflakes) tastes ever so much nicer
with cinnamon.

G.W.

Remember the Expedition T-shirt for Bras!

Fri 9/8/85 12¹⁵ ish. G.W. leaves Aris for T.C. with personal
gear + a few plastic plates & mugs. Intention to return in the
afternoon and carry up a load of food, ^{carbide} the petrol, [&] possibly other
stuff such as the Savlon bottle, one water container, the remaining tackle, some
cutlery. (And the gas cylinder??)

The five Londoners (see above) have left for the Caves gorge, —

My camera with zoom lens & telefocus lens is missing!!!

Last seen on 7/8/85 morning when I put in a new film.

(Stupid thing to take away; the camera body is old & banged, & both lenses
are sublimely defunct — I know how to cope with their idiosyncrasies.)

Gerhard

6⁰⁵ pm Back to pick up the second load. Bl...y sheep
all over the place, have dragged out from the porch 2
rubbish bags, the eggs and the salt tin. Damn clever.
I found the salt tin 15 yards away upright and empty
and with no visible trail of salt leading there — they've
licked it all up. Meanwhile the ungerthe has produced
quite an independent mess,

Taking up to Top Camp:

- BDH container full of Ca₂.
- 2 Padelobags
- 25m rope
- several hangers, crabs, waitlons, bolts; 1 betay

- 1 tin Tabada
- 2 tins Mornflakes
- 2 Mtl.-tins with bagrolls + 1 egg each
- 2 John West meat tins
- 1 Mtl.-tin with lentils
- 1 ^{padel} ^{rice} bag with 2 onions, 1 pepper & several 'atoes
- 1 box Spice 'n' Bastes
- 1 box Matches
- assorted cutlery

Washing up bowl
 1 sigg bottle with the petrol (don't use the "petrol" Mornflakes)

Leave 9:30 pm in the mist. (in for food!!!)

Gerhard

SATURDAY 10 AUGUST 1985 13:19

P.M.S. arrived for T.C. by circuitous route (but educational).

Mission: To pillage Arid & get vms for T.C. Place is deserted, even ~~off~~ of sheeps.

My sleeping bag & new TROLL SUIT to go to Lagos please.

Have taken UVISTAT & needles (sewing) from 2st aid kit.

Decanted all remnants of tulipan into one pot & taken to T.C.; ^{reoloko} can full of ex tulipan container. The petrol appears to have evaporated.

Got 3 vms for me, PR & FW. Added to totabin back of this book. Left for T.C. 14:20. P.M.S.

Mon 12 August: YW ~~was~~ crashing out here 11:20 pm after having spent 3 1/2 hours getting lost from T.C. to Lagos (well, in fact I was taking a nice & easy shortcut - but not knowing this & seeing less than 20m ahead in the mist I kept walking slowly and consulting my compass every 5 steps. Also some of the stone arrows on the Lagos path have been rebuilt/rearranged since I last saw

No st hasn't!!!

(64 out) them which was a bit confusing) 3 hours festering / repacking / eating / talking to John & Margaret & Phil & 3 Spanish cavers from Valencia, and ~~3~~ 4 hours with mega-heavy pack destined for Top Camp walking uphill in the dark & mist. Managed to find all the way to El Jito without turning my headtorch on - something to be proud of when you fall into the one lonely tent remaining here stiff and clammy and disappointed with your other achievements today...

Tue 13/8/85

QUOTE OF THE DAY - by Jefa JULIA @ the Refugio

(my rendering of her Spanish is certainly incorrect, please amend) :

"¿Tu estás del grupo del vino?"

Got up 8^{am}-ish, had a coffee & a Spanish lesson at the Refugio (trying to explain to Julia & the others that we're doing long overnight trips & where the water is probably going to & what our caves are doing in general). 9³⁰-ish off to T.C. via the Met. Station - my pack is still as heavy as yesterday although I've nibbled some bread.

John

And now it's all over...

Greetings from Bras - hopes to see you back next year!