

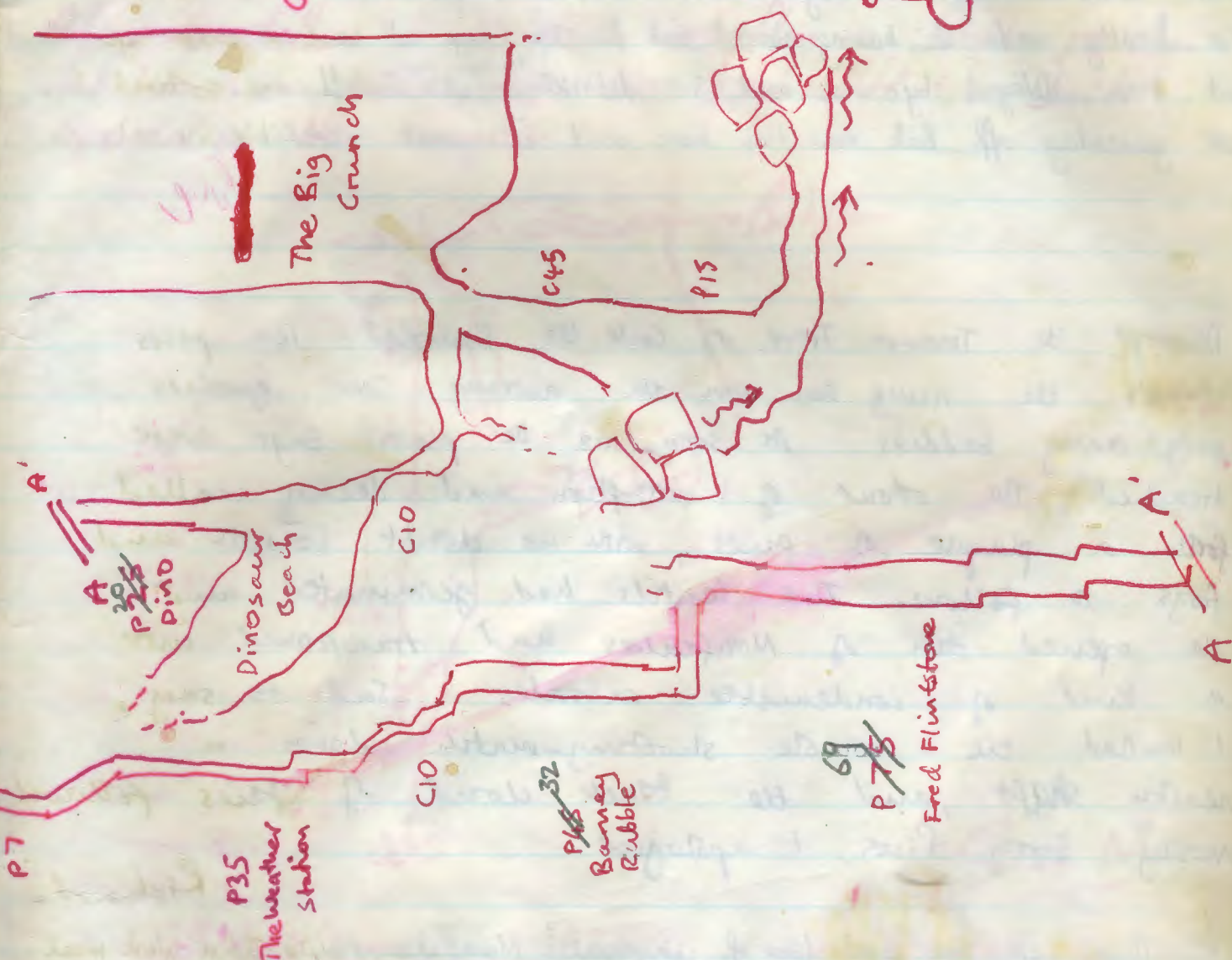
POZU DEL PIU CONJURAO: The story so far (25/7/85)



C "it'll be a
pitch by the
end of this
expedition" -
Phil Rose)

Boulder
Choke

? - 500m?



(Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the page)

(Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the page)

(43)

Tuesday 23rd

3/5 is now detached so there was a mega carry up of tackle from Anis by Phil R & Fred, Martin & Sue, William & Dave H. Fred & Phil went carrying, William & Martin went down again to Lagos and/or Anis, Sue stayed here to leave tomorrow. I've finally made it, having started out for Top Camp at least a week ago and been delayed by mist and 3/5 detackling ^(18 hour trip) which left me so tired I took yesterday off but now I'm here and it's great - incredible views!

Discovered the Treasure Trove of Gale the Bearded: Ten paces towards the rising sun from the awning. Some goodies, and very many baddies. As soon as the plastic bags were breached, the odour of corruption and decay called forth a plague of flies, with no doubt locusts and frogs to follow. The lentils had germinated and the opened tin of Momflakes had transformed into a kind of condemnable cabrales. Sad to say I turned the whole shooting-match down a nearby shaft, and the black cloud of flies followed, mostly. Sorry Picos, I apologise.

P.S. There were some good bins of unopened Momflakes, Molicos, John West meat etc.

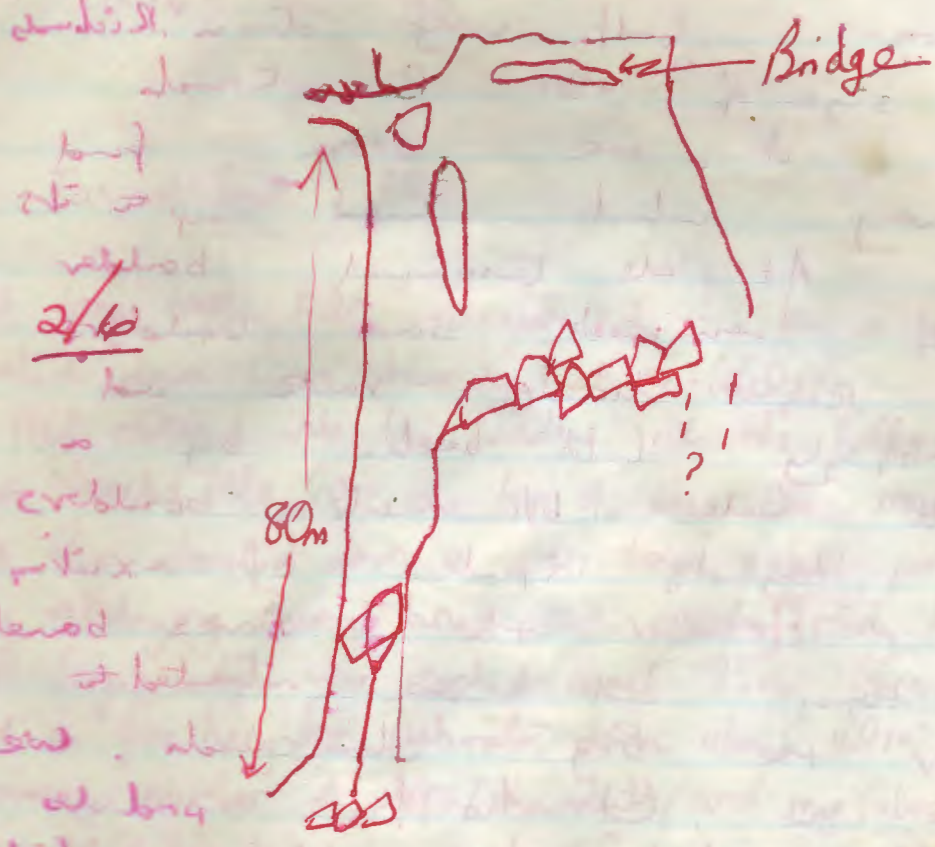
Great, Richard, Steve M. - 2/6 (Bridge Cave)?

Finally get round to having a look at 4.00pm dragging ourselves away from the brandy and lying in the sun.

Rig the shaft from a side entrance with brilliant natural belays. Steve descended with rebelay and deviations to 30m. to a floor in a huge ~~mass~~ rift. At about 20m there was a ~~large~~ boulder field.

leading into a chamber and several ways off into further shafts.

At the bottom of the 80m shaft a short passage led to an undescended 10m pitch with a black space in the distance!



Gene M.

Ridge Cave PRJ R and Dave R. Jan

This was the trip that only just happened. First Dave woke up in the morning accompanied by large ejections from his stomach and was fully intending to go down the ladders for swim. However once his mind etc Top cap this little exped it was inevitable. Armed with directions from Richard ("get off half way down our second pitch and you'll find a H&C chamber! Down the bottom

There is a lowish plateau ~~strangely~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~top~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~plateau~~
 bathed in (S.E.). This down ~~side~~ ~~is~~ ~~very~~ ~~rough~~
 smooth even though south of Chovigro was
 strong in the air due to ~~the~~ ~~Daes~~ ~~barrel~~ ~~at~~
 + bumps. ~~the~~ From Dinesar ~~no~~ ~~beach~~ ~~bed~~
 we had the way on ~~at~~ ~~once~~
 were soon half way down Richards
 chib. No sign of the Big Creek
 but bigger it we soon found
 streamway which lined up ~~at~~ ~~its~~
~~description~~. At the terminal boulder
 chib. we remained some ~~distance~~ ~~to~~
 for the right hand route and
 were ~~temporarily~~ held back by a
 of wide hole ~~between~~ the boulders.
 The rock beyond spoke of exiting
 ways on. However the Daes barrels
 are the way and we retreated to
 first look for the Big chib. We
 could high + low, id horrific ~~probes~~
 on Richards pitch, but could we find it?
 Bushy ~~top~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~chib.~~ ~~down~~ ~~to~~
 the ~~shiver~~ ~~was~~ a easy chib lead to
 this massive chib. But ~~no~~ ~~way~~ ~~out~~.
 The only possibility would be a ball
 chib up above this ~~which~~ ~~includes~~
 The exit was ~~slowish~~ ~~regardless~~
 due to Daes barrels but ~~that~~
 we'd up ~~is~~ the belts and
 had ~~are~~ ~~made~~ ~~with~~ ~~back~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~
 camp ~~before~~ ~~without~~ ~~anything~~ ~~lost~~ ~~and~~
~~the~~ ~~way~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~exit~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~far~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~camp~~

Star-date unknown {believed to be Wednesday}
 Turned up @ Top camp with 4 of the
 heaviest tins of grapefruit I have yet
 known + a few bits of SRT string +
 my phazor pumple {be gentle with it!} off
 to Lagos. see ya!
 CW

Ian and Fred F20

Tuesday 23/7/85

At long last, F20 succumbed! In a fine trip, Fred and I
 pushed down to a streamway at @ 250m.

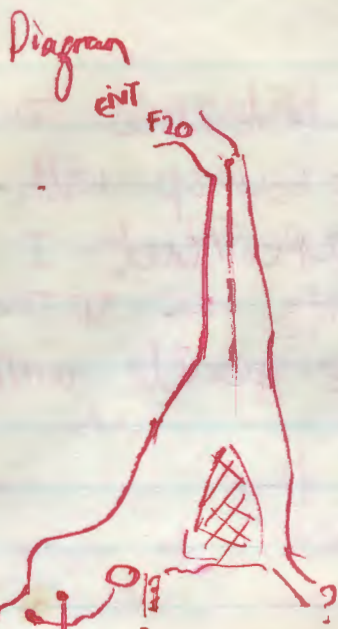
Fred climbed into the 'window' at the bottom of Tower that I
 had absided into from the top of the then much higher 'Ivory Tower'
 We then absided down a very large p shaft parallel to the Ivory
 tower, reelaying several times, and spending ^{uselessly} many hours clearing debris.

A large ledge was reached about 35m from the window and Fred
 rigged a fire hang from natural down about 40m, from where the
 increasing number of dips/showers, and my absence of an electric
 persuaded him to do a death defying traverse into another parallel shaft.

We placed 2 bobs at this pitchhead, and one ~~light~~ ^{light} to land
 in a streamway, which I explored for some ~~distance~~ ^{distance}. Stream is
 small, and the passage meandering, on average about 2ft wide in the
 higher fossil passages, and 6"-9" in the recent vadose bench carrying
 the stream.

Exciting huh! Abandoned exploration due to lack of time and poor
 light - Passage continued?

Diagnose Sorry about writing! Only 4 hours sleep and down F20 today (Wed)
 Correct Trip!



Stab-rotz
 turned up
 + narrow
 my
 of

The Saddle ?

TOMTO

FLUTTER OF
 MARLBORS

Whiter

Spagetti
 Junction

35m?

Ledge

PENDULUM

A'

STEVE'S
 Route
 (The Ivory Tower)
 Continuous

B
 B1

A A'

PENDULUM

40m?

20m

20m?

Streamers

B
 Scepter

B'

Continues

Drainage
 Straps

! (Mistake)

Tuesday 24th July

Steve M. + Ian → £20 - Quick (cheap & nasty) trip
to assess way on & improve rigging. Put extra bolt
35m pitch but otherwise rigging very good
provided you like 20' pendules.

At stream level we followed Ian's route for approx.
200m. at the same level (70m crawling at end)
this left us maybe 15m above stream. Obvious way
led to a nasty ~10m climb (best laddered) & a
large passage above streamway. Upstream led to a
waterfall and following the stream from here
proved proved proved tortuous and not worthwhile. The
other way led above streamway to pitch back down to
the stream. Depth pretty hard to tell but stones rather
for a long time (30m?). This is probably the
best way on and is the target. I only wish
I was going on the next trip & was not on my
way back to England!

Steve M.

Tuesday 24th July

1/6 SGR, PD, SH.

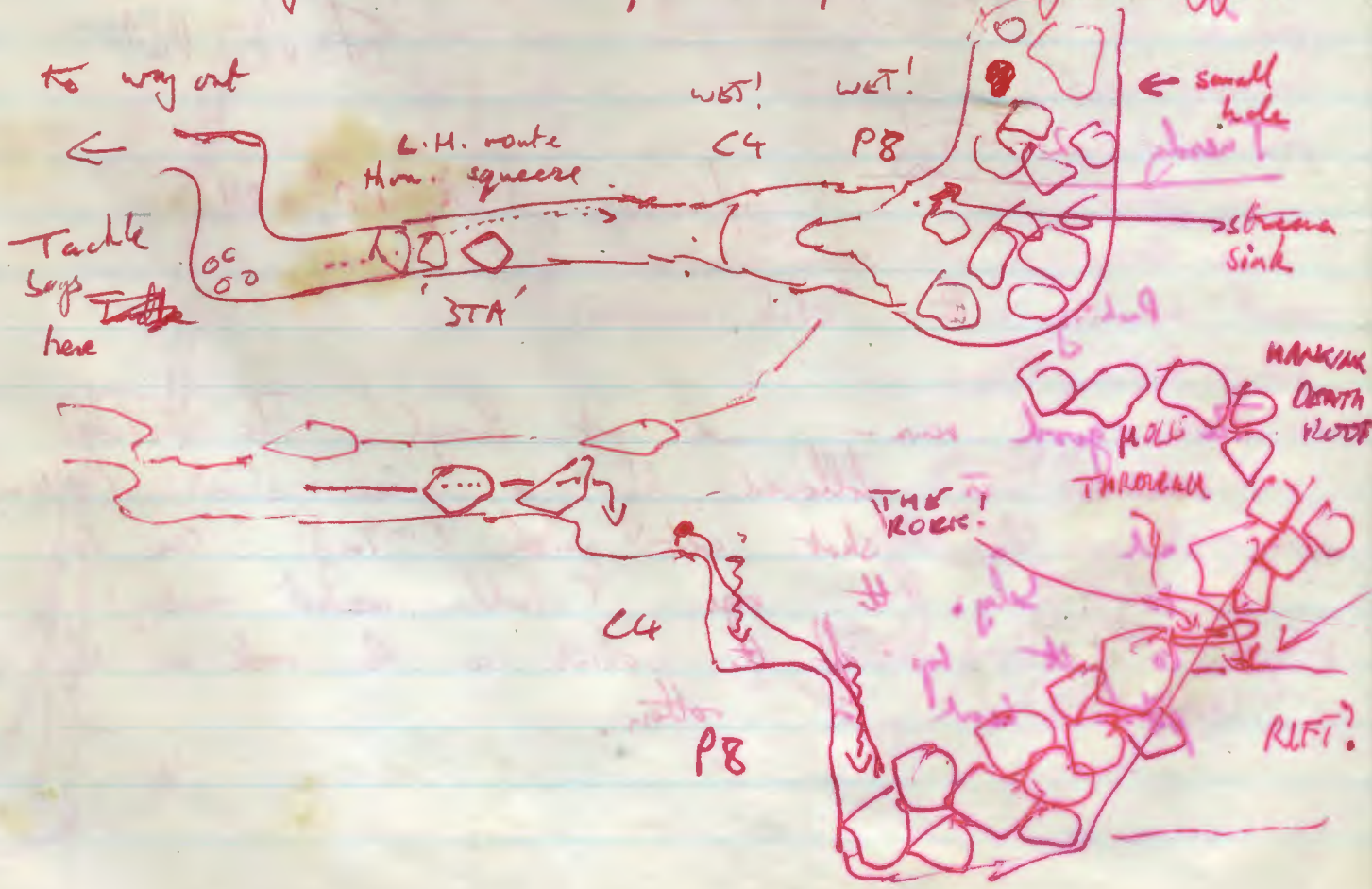
Pushing the choke.

The good news - we get through! The choke
is followed by a nice climb (~4m)
short wet pitch. (~7m). One has
to Sely. the rope (ladder needed really)
to at top of the climb as the rock at the
pitch level is rotten.



The bad news - The pitch looks like a
 a closed chamber. The only way in was
 on top was found by digging ^{in between boulders}
 pile rising from the stream sink (pitch is totally
 choked). Clearing away rocks made ^{behind}
 the stream safe with a man-sized hole
 visible. Unfortunately the last boulder, though in loose,
 looks like it might release a pile of rubble,
 possibly including the roof. I was dragged away
 by Sam + Phil, who didn't want to die.
 Attempts to find a place to pull with ropes
 failed, though bolting a pulley to the wall
 might do it.

Having taken all the trouble through the
 first boulder chock ("3TA squeeze" - a Triumph,
 but only a small one), we brought it all
 back again, but left the pitch ^{loose & rigged}



If anybody is courageous enough to ~~to~~ head out the offending rock, it is probable that the way in will be open, as apart from the hole, the rift is quite narrow, and will probably have to keep rocks out - and we may then be legal at base of the big boulder chert.

Alternatively, traversing along the rift at higher level may find way through.

We got very disappointed - came out slowly, emerging at midnight after ~ 12 hrs.

Steve R

Wed 24th July

Wed 24th July

1/6 D.H. M. May, S.C.R

Surveying

Martin "No, I didn't fall off, I just let go" May

left at about 11-30 am for 1/6 Martin on instruments, me on tape & Sue doing book. At the entrance we found a passage off to the right, with two aires, these were climbed & surveyed. A parallel passage off at the top of the climb was explored & found to stop at the bottom of the 1st pitch. Martin climbed down this and continued down the rift. It is here this incident that the above quote comes. From here we continued down the main surveying dog the main line. Descending in the dark is a heart-breaking pitch. Surveyed as far as Nick's Canal, left a prominent survey station marked with an S. And came out again about 11 pm to find that there was no one in camp and we had to start cooking in the dark. Sue