

OU Cave Club

1986 Exped

Top Camp Log

Thursday 10/7/86

Day Two of Base Conjurao.

[Day one devoted to Carrys up by
 Fred, Phil, Mel, Steve, Neil, Dan, John, John,
 Mike, Paul, Dev, Roy, Martin
 Totally shatter, despite our early start
 up. Started at 9:00, and took till 2pm
 to get here by the Airo cat-across route.
 Foggy at base but clearing sunshine up above
 2000 m meant that some people found their
 legs didn't work. Possibly their caution, and
 the ferry - the luxury cash for Sante...
 had some thing to do with it.
 John, C. & Roy stayed overnight.]

Day two started with negative walk
 up lead by Fred. So MEGA was it, taking
 longer than the Airo route + making everyone
 but Fred + Martin totally + utterly + especially
 FITTED. Fred + Martin of course went straight
 back down for a second carry.

Steve, Mel + Roy rigged in Ridge
 Phil, Mike + John C. rigged in FRO

* * * THE RIDGE CAVE STORY * * *

We had left our kit at the entrance, by Steve
 as the mega-ite-walk up ended up so high
 that we descended to Ridge.
 Then.....

We took quite a lot sub owing to recollection of pitch length rather than total rope length, was all a bit short. As a result, ropes intended for Borborzumi ended up being used higher up. Got as far as rigging rope down no-nose 20m to Numb Canal, in a leisurely 5½ hour trip.

What is done there:

Entrance. 120m, 60m rope
 Bottom of Axolotl. 15m rope
 Top of 20m. 25' ladder, 25m rope,
 lots of rigging gear, but only 1 R.P.

What needs doing.

Rig to Big Belugas ...

- Alright
- 1) longer rope (20m true) or 1st pitch.
 (Free 15m rope labelled as 20m)
 - 2) Shute rope (10m) as traverse line to D.I.D. (Free 15m rope)
 - 3) Short rope for Axolotl
 Short rope for swing pitch (15m, 10')
 Bolt for swing pitch.
 (Free 35m rope)

Carrying the 60m in should do Borbs I-II,
 with the ladder - the 15m for (1)
 will do Borb III. The 35m for (2)
 will do weather Station!

¡¡ Hey Presto!!

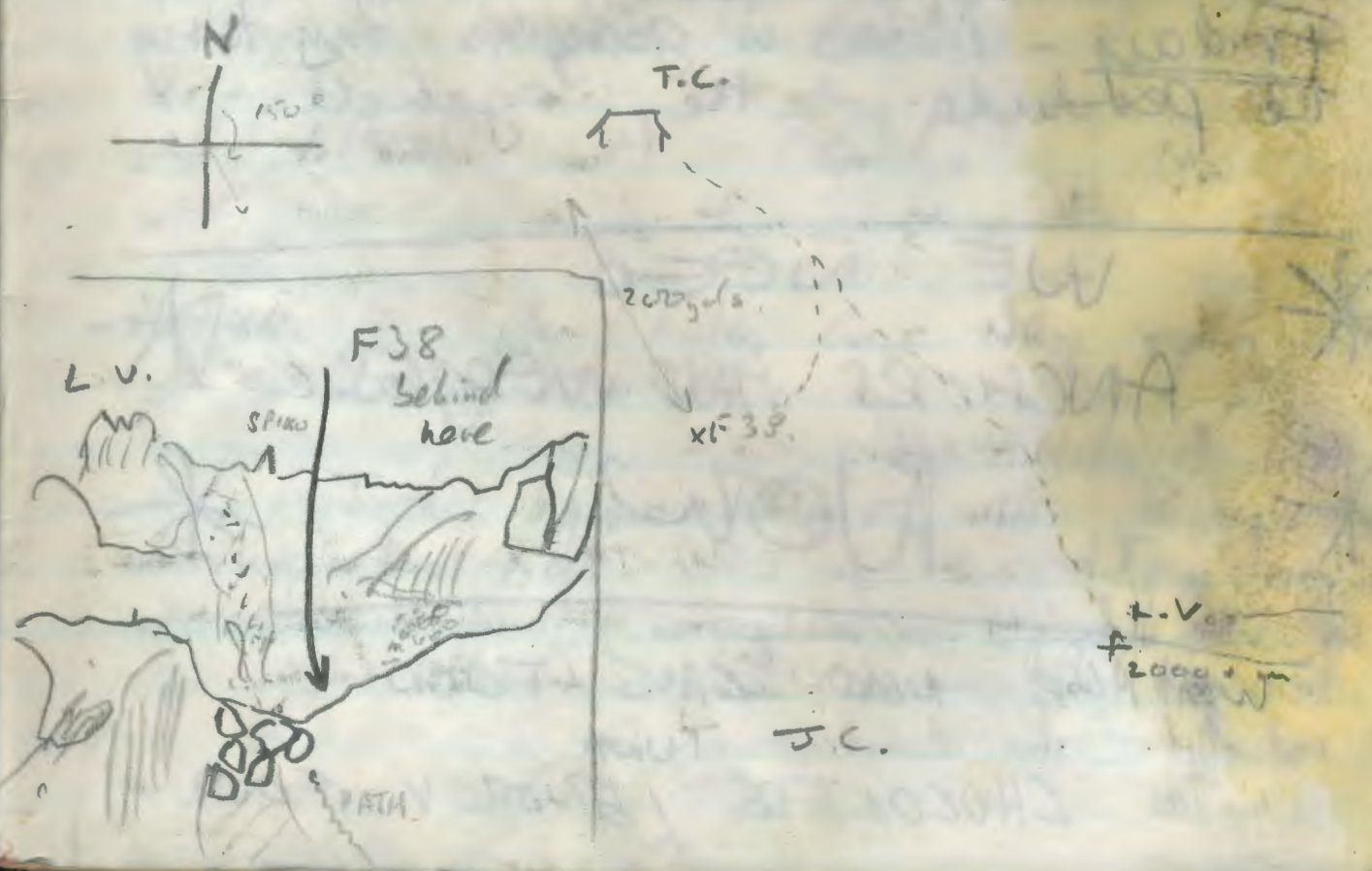
Had a nice day.

Everyone get stuck in the Axelott in the way out + I did D.D. in 6'30" so there (OK. not very good but I was knocked from track.)

Cleary
Steve

For Paul, so he doesn't have to show anyone else THE LOCATION of TOP CAMP WATER supply (F38)

Take path up to La Verdellunga. Turn right at 1st "dolin". Note largish snowfield. F38 located at top of snowfield. It unsure character. Features are the column (see slideshow) + ice cover. Good crop may or may not be present.



F. 20 Thursday.

The lone ranger rides again with Tonto getting deeper every year as the Ivory tower snow pillar slowly melts. The rigs for L.R and Tonto are the same as in previous but the eyehole is now about fifty feet above the top of the much diminished ivory tower. We went right to the bottom of the shaft and had a poke around. There seemed to be a way on which ought to take us into the adjacent shaft (full of mailows) but a ^{after} quick look down there we found the way on blocked so we came out.

Friday - Mike is going to try to rig the pendule to the eyehole.

* WE NEED *
 * ANCHORS AND WEDGES. *
 * NOW. *

WE ALSO NEED CAVE FOOD

TUNA
 i.e. CHOCOLATE + ENERGY FOOD.

MANDARIN ORANGES ALONE ARE NOT ENOUGH

FRI DAY 11/7/86

STEVE + MEL → Ridge. Enough gear
to get us to a ridge of Barney rubble. Setting
off about 10:30.

MIKE + J.C. to FLO, see

We will with good stay over & go down tomorrow

We need scrubber for washing up
RUBBER BAGS

AND A PEN!

11/7/86

The Ridge Cave Story again

Steve + Mel + I

Took gear to ridge to Barney rubble
(conclusive) BOT - those were page very wet
- continued next morning & over page)

12/7/86

6

Ridge Cave - current situation.
- Rigger as far as Weather Station, down
which there is a rope. The rig is awful (hence
our non-descent) but there seems little alternative
than a tape round a small sharp lump of
choss unless you put a bolt in. We had
only 3 anchors and had used them by ~~then~~
here.

- Tackle in cave:

at entrance. - 120 m rope. Should do Fred Flutten
← Pitch into D.B.

at Weather Station. 2 x 20 m rope. (one is only abt 15!)
1 x 15 m rope
1 x 40 m rope.

One or two tapes, wires (medium/long).
Lots of mailons, hangers & krabs.

So with what is there you should be able to
rig into D.B.

You will need more wires, tapes, ~~bolts~~
Anchors - Wedges!

There is a bolt kit & a carbide clamp
at the bouldery ledge for Barb. III. We tried
to put a new bolt in for the ladder to
replace Richard's abortia, but lost our last
wedge. The hole is there if you want to use

It.

Re-rigging this needs doing:

- Head of Bororygmic (Carnaby tape + wire). This is a lot safer than it looks, but some form of Y-seley would be best. The pitch needs a relay or deviation 1/2 way down, as it ends on a ledge.
- Borob III - ladder is ~ 6 feet short. The longest ladders we have should just reach, or take a v-shoot one to add to the end.

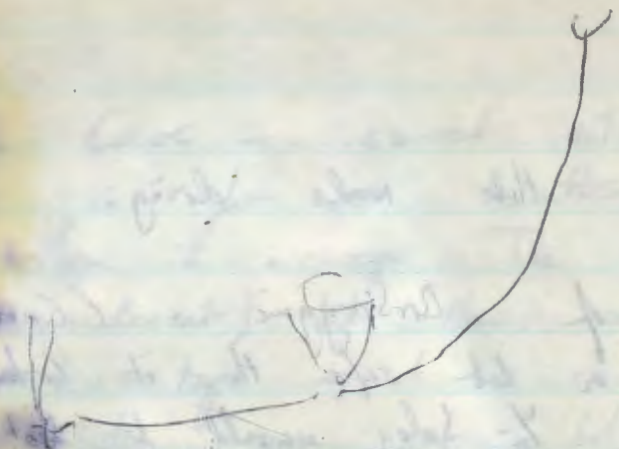
Ideally, D.D. could be re-rigged with a relay about 10 feet down. The top slay could be inside the end of the rift instead of round the corner. This would make the take-off (avoid 'sporting') but would avoid the need for rope protectors.

The top ***

12/2/86 F20

Mike + Neil got through the eye hole. 2 relays on long wires badly rigged, probably need removing, certainly need tidying up. Clear down there: 2 tape slings @ top of tonto, 30m rope + some mailons + knobs + wire at eye hole, big rope + some rigging gear + tlb at bottom of snow plug. Wants re-rigging on Marlow straight to eye hole! Mike

(9)



If it gets sunny — could
 someone spread my gear out to
 dry? It's by the cañon.
 Ta. Steve.

11th July F20 Mk. I Fred & Paul.
 Arrived with nonstrous 200m of marlow we
 got off down. One Tonto new rebelay No. 1
 + wimped out due to general **BUBADIT WIGGAGE!**
 (wire running block (3" x 3" x 2") and other factors.
 Fred then we down carrying the end of the
 Marlow. Once he was down to the eyehole
 I let all the slack rope down and waited
 until I got v. cold then triggered off
 3 1/2 hrs.

F20 MK II Fred, Dan, Martin.
 I left all the rope at the eyehole and
 went on after Paul. As I got back to Top
 camp Dan and Martin were just about
 to set off down, so I decided to go with
 them. Had a cup of coffee, got to 1052 on
 the way to the cave and found a new

leave on the ridge at 282° from Top Camp.
 I went to the traverse that required the
 pitch at the top with the mauls. I then went
 down and did the same at the other side. Due
 to the weight of rope my bobbin would not function
 properly, i.e. it sat upside down which meant that
 I had to wrap the rope around my leg as I
 was facilitated by raising the knee, stopping by straightening
 the leg. I proceeded down the big pitch in this
 manner to the traverse and tried pulling myself
 across but with the rope weight this proved too
 much. With a great well noise (heard at the top
 of the pitch) I shot across the shaft, this was
 fun I thought. Then the rope became intertwined
 from my leg and descent started rapidly, this
 produced the effect of wheel skid! When I
 stopped, sliding on the rope that was caught
 in the eyehole I perched across to the
 eyehole and climbed up the last five feet or so.

Followed Martin to the eyehole & then spent
 hours untangling various ropes whilst Martin had
 made attempts at rigging but full of mauls

Short wire needed

Bottomed but full of mauls & then resounded
 after mandarin stop. Great into A Spanish canyon

Tried to rig first Full of Mauls. What a
 bummer! We decided to go out and cure back
 tomorrow with some short wires.

(10)
Neil & Dave Ridge Cave Rigging Trip.

Rigged very slowly to the top of Fred Flintstone, before running short of gear.

Gear needed down the cave: hangers, mailbags, tapes, short & medium wires & ladders for the pitches in the Big Crunch. Also the weather station pitch has a slight rub which needs sorting on Barney Rubble. The wire needs replacing with a photo one so it isn't doubled.

ROUTINE DRY

IF {Inclemency} > nice and sunny THEN

(PLEASE) Put my gear in INGLESPOT Bag (THANKS)

ENITUOR (MIKE) ^{ALCOOL OR phuck.}

If anything has removed something from my bag (in the evening Suppliers bag), please put it back

Thanks Ray

arrives from Los Lagos at 8pm, 3 1/2 hours walk, totally drained of energy. 2 hours to the top of the X-valley, was as if a tap had been opened, draining all the energy from my legs. Only kept going by the knowledge that it wasn't far.