

an inlet to a small chamber but air & water both going wrong way for a rump bypass
 Found a 15-20m pitch that drops down into large inlet from ~~the~~ sump to sump II. Took photos - I don't suppose they will come out but you never know. Jackie Sponsorship shots were fun to do. Came out v. slowly - I think we managed to clear Ray out. Also we didn't find a rump by pass but a brilliant last trip.

Now for the losing bits -

On expedition I HAVE LOST

- ① Whitish Sun hat
- ② Swiss Army knife (6 blades marked black & white)
- ③ Silva compass on red string

& for the even more tedious part:-

I WILL LEAVE A LIST OF PEOPLE WHO OWE THE CLUB MONEY AT BASE CAMP. PLEASE GIVE CHEQUES TO PAUL B.

Sorry, Dan

Best of luck with the rest of the expedition. Wish I could stay, forever.

See you all sometime

[Signature]

(82)
30/7/86 Tourist walk of the Spanish Branch (Carlos & Marco),
½ of the Dutch Branch (Paula), the German Branch (Marcus & Gerhard)
and the one and only Martin Lavery representing OVEE itself to
the one and only Ridge Cave. Picked up and brought to Top Camp the
few remaining fackelbags for which many thanks for the efficient help of
the Spanish Branch; left the anchor grease at the entrance to be taken
up to 2/6 (the tin is quite empty though) Lg,

~~We~~ We have had a good time
here! A bit cold ~~and wet~~, but good food!
Thanks for all!

(When you are in Holland
you're welcome)

PAULA

Netty

Netty Nop.
Kraatzweg 25
6732 EV Harshamp.
Holland.

Oranjestraat 45
Arenhem
Holland

My parents address
course on this mo-
ment I have no home.
letters are welcome to.

31/7/86 Dave Rose & Spanish Branch to Ridge Cave via 2/6
Geoff, Ian & Fred : F20 pushing
Phil D & Paul C : pushing alternative route in 2/6 below 5th pitch
Marcus & Gerhard surveying & drying camp
Richard, Graham & Dutch Branch to desperate enterprise in the Valle
Extremero ...
Martin Lavery off to Base Camp.

Dave Rose: a) When you go down to Base, please take Martin Lowery's survival bag with you. It's in Paul's blue tent.

b) Please leave us your London address:

90 Lady Margaret Rd
London N19
01 607 1290
278 2332 ext 3306 (work)

Manuel Cañameras, Carlos Galan, Dave Rose
31/7/86

Tourist trip in 2/6 -> Dinosaur Beach.

A very good time had by all. Carlos + Manuel took ~~some~~ photographs + we discussed possible projects: USSR, Turkey, cooperation to get sponsorship.

Long w/ international collaboration among speleos!

Muy contentos por conoceros! Los 400 mts primeros de la sima Conjunta divinos; vjaki todos fuesen iguales.

Esperamos que este primer contacto sirva de precedente de futuras expediciones juntas.

Richard "Infidelity comes to me so naturally" Gregson

Phil "In fact, I think I'm going to take all my clothes off in a minute" Duncan (referring to the lack of central heating in a cool-ish Top Camp)

(OK)

The Ridge cave alternative

31/7/86

Paul Cooper, Phil Duncan

Now that Sina conforas has a sensible entrance series totally untroubled by tight amphibian, and which adds a good few metres onto the total depth of the cave, ~~well~~ all is well and good. But not only is our entrance to this fine system facilitated, there is also an alternative way down via a bag of shit, (Richards) and a blind pot into a nasty scrupulous crawl at the bottom to a steep pitch which is leading AWAY from the route to ridge cave. Paul and I have rigged part of the way into this fine shaft and somebody needs to go down with more rope to finish it off. We had a good leisurely trip and came out in the for tea and sunset. ~~watch~~ watch this space!!

The situation is that the pitch is rigged but needs a deviator or reelay about 40m down. a tacklebag with ~~to~~ 30m rope in it is hanging on the end of the pitch rope. moulton's and hangers + a bit of food and carbide (1 stick full) are at the end of the crawl.

P.D.

POEM

So
 Farewell
 Picos again.
 They say F20
 Is going.
 Fuck. I would have
 To go to work at just the wrong moment,
 And also
 I appear to have missed out
 On one Dutch branch.

Keith's mum says life
 Is often like that.
 But still
 Coming to the Picos -
 Is a good crack.

Oh god.
 I'll have to come back
 Again.

D. Rose (aged 27)

(too old)

P.S. Good luck nombres. You can do it. Make F20
 prove the Gale hypothesis wrong!

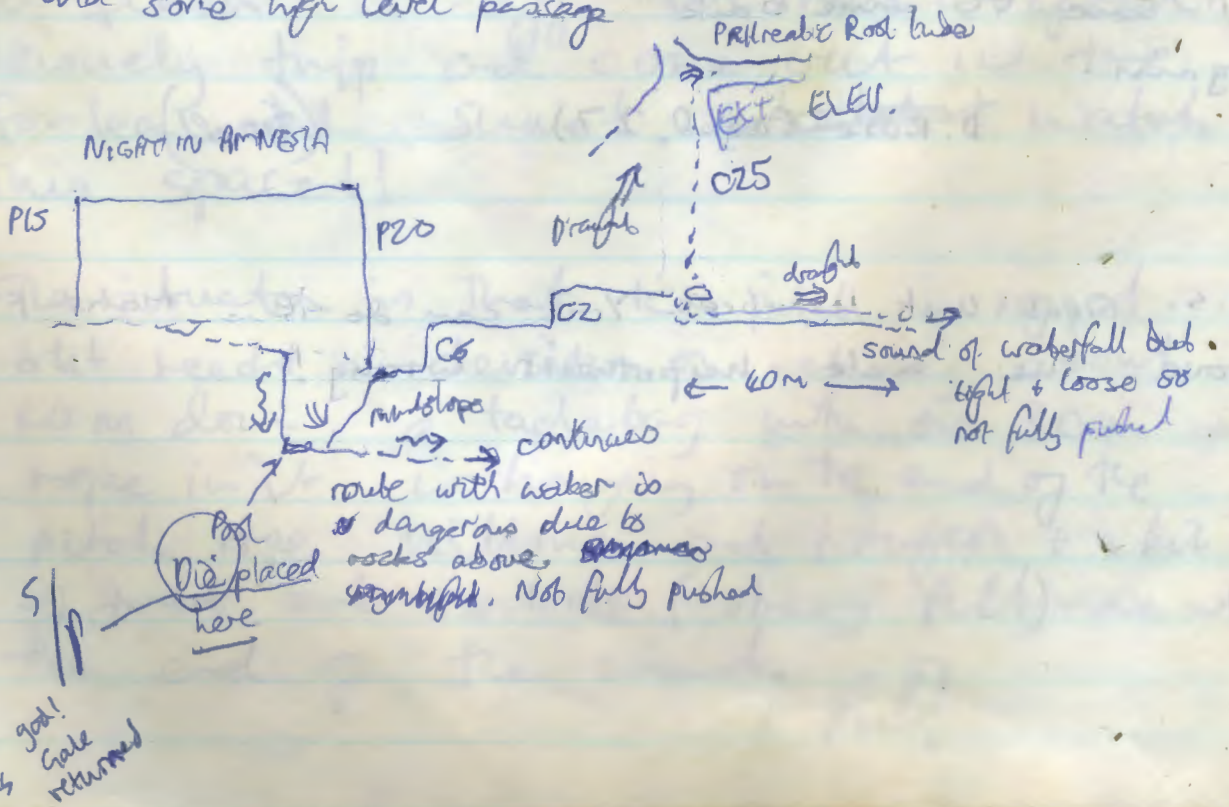
Ian H., Fred W, Geoff.

At last the long awaited pushing trip materialised. The team were well prepared for the occasion, Ian with lack of sleep, Fred walking up from Arno after the previous nights excesses with Bloss + Julian, and Geoff wanting a gerble warm up first trip.

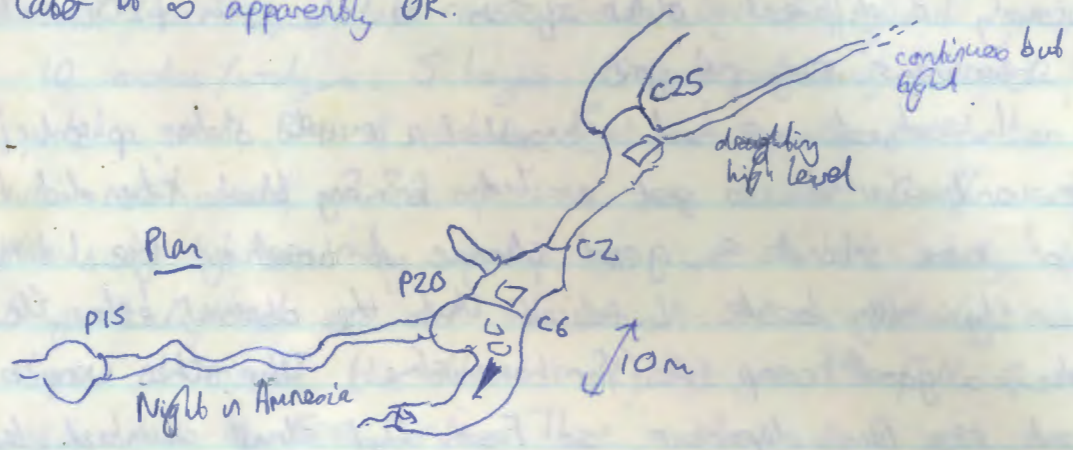
We got down at 12:00, after Fred + Geoff had glued up their suits - while wearing them! We had only anchors + wedges to carry so we were able to reach the limit of exploration by 4:15. Fred climbed up to a 'night in amnesia', rigged it as a pitch, placing 2 bolts. It's about 15m long - we used a 20m rope.

We then dragged our 3 bags along the roof tube to the undescended pitch. Ian placed a bolt and used a large flake to protect himself. I found a natural back up + descended.

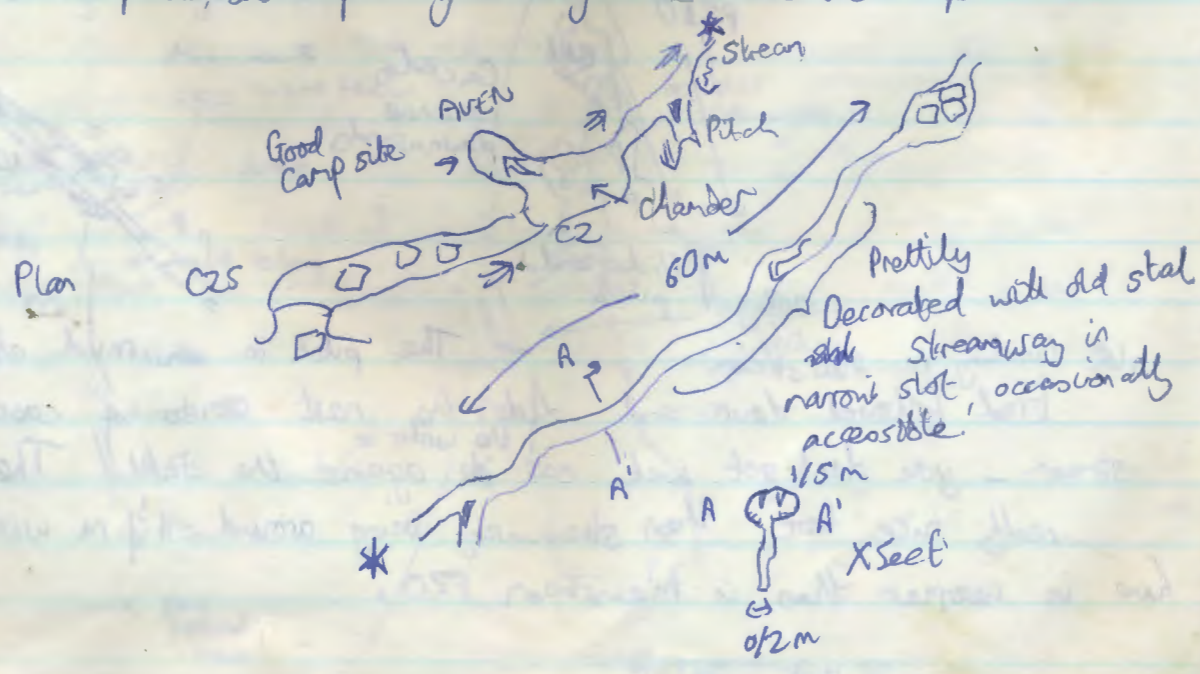
En route I discovered a huge stack of unstable boulders and started kicking them down, only to be told by Fred that this was apparently destabilising the large flake I had used for protection - this was some 15m higher! I landed in a large chamber and the others followed down. Downwards led to the stream, upwards to an old inlet and some high level passage.



Fred then put the die into the stream; Merantine Flawine B583 at around 6 or 7 pm. Geoff had a go at the streamway route, finding its passage as a rift. The early part is rather in danger from rockfall, later it is apparently OK.



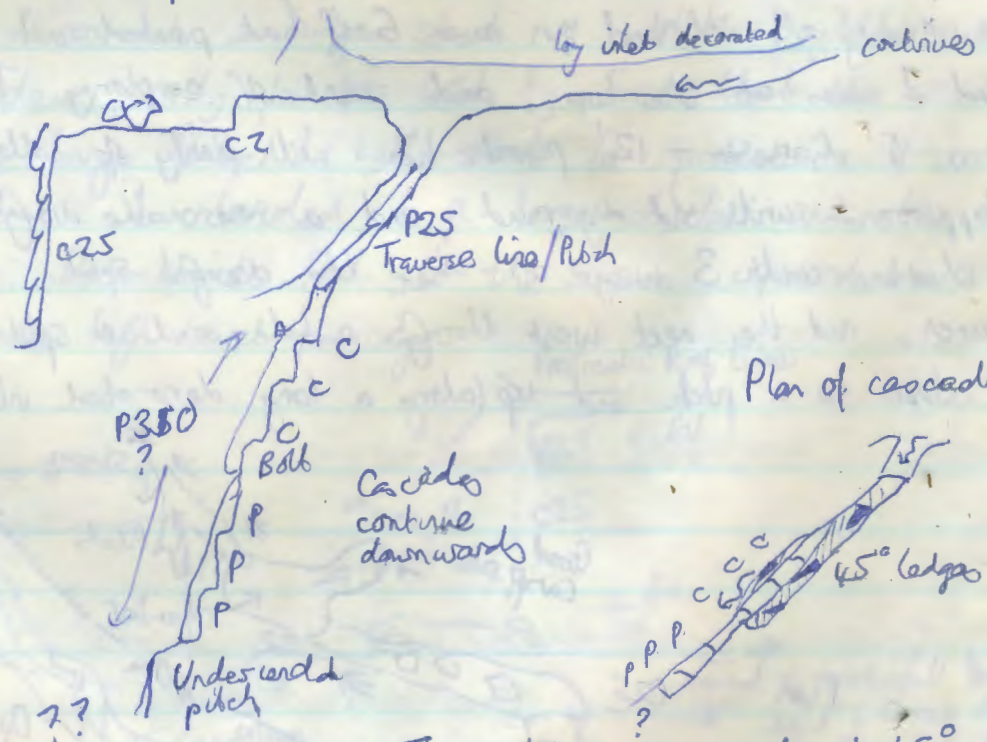
We all then had attempts at the draughting higher levels, one being a horizontal tube that gets progressively tighter and lower but a large waterfall can be heard. None of us reached it. While Fred + Geoff were exiting, I climbed an aven Geoff had pointed out. When the others exited I was at the top, and went off exploring. The aven led to a 6' diameter - 12' plastic tube with plenty of collapse, very old in appearance with old dry mud, and a reasonable draught. This led to a chamber with 3 ways on where the draught split. Most went up an aven, and the rest went through a hole and split to go down a steep slope to a pitch, and up along a long decorated inlet rift



I followed the stream for inlet for 60m, and got water for my generator. (Actually there is water accessible near the chamber I later discovered) The inlet continues, rising only very slightly. It's obviously a different, older system to the main F20 route, and the streamways may not join.

I realised we had intersected a much older, plastic/radose system and started to get excited, knowing that Xitu did this. We must now stand a good chance of breaking the 1 km mark. On the way back I noticed that the chamber below the over would make a good camp site (for hammocks.) The others were a bit worried about my long departure, so Fred had almost climbed the route (with a rope technique?) by the time I got back. Fred rigged the climb which is muddy + loose on a series of rebaring tapes.

All the gear was brought up and after a meal and light fettle I rigged the pitch after the chamber



slot leading to the stream

Fred followed down and did the next series of cascades in the stream - you don't get wet ^{the water is} as ~~is~~ against the wall. The cave is really nice here, the streamway being around 1 1/2 m wide. The cave here is warmer than is mainstream PRO.

Fred got carried away on his long rope + abraded over everything so I care away down + placed a bolt + rope protector for his return. I think we may have gone down about 40-45M in the cascade series.

There is not much gear left now - about 40M of lightest rope, 3 knots, 2 mauls, 10 anchors/wedgers, 5 hangers, 3 rope protectors, 2 wires, 1 hammer, 1 driver, 1/2 a small BDH of carbide. (at the cascades or chamber above)

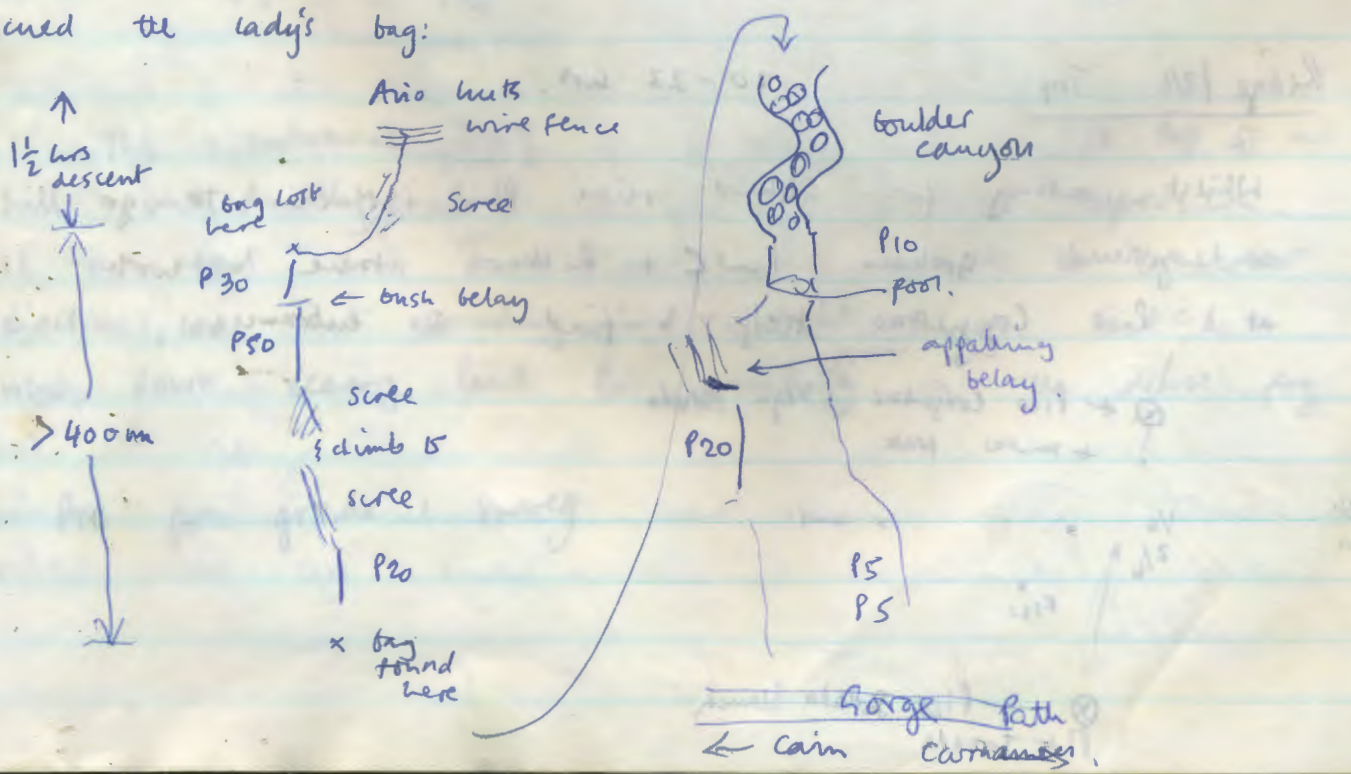
It was now around 2:30 am so we exited, Geoff was quite cold + tired, this being his warming up trip, so we started slowly, but we improved gradually and got out at around 10 am including meal + carbide stops. I moved the other small BDH, now the full of carbide, to the rear end of Ernest's rifle. There is also a 5 pills container of carbide (with no lid) in the land of spines n gals.

22 Hours. Fabulous trip. Get to it guys. This is a big one!
 Tom

31st August

Marcus W. & Gerhard N. walk around the whole area - Jan las Perdices, Ridge Cave, 2/6, P20, P7, knock several more bolt holes in, take two more bases. Good fun & very hot.

31 July
 Graham + Richard absailed down the Valle Extremosa & rescued the lady's bag:



(90)

2nd August Ridge / 2/6

Gerhard + Jeff photo trip down to big beiga.
Richard, Paul C, Graham Survey of bottom 2/6 to Dico
Martin, Phil Detachable bottom ridge.

We intend to detachable as far as shit
creek and leave the gear there for any further
putting down the road route of 2/6.

NOTE to Dave Horsley — Owing to stupidity I left my
helmet at base camp. Have borrowed yours. Thanks
Richard.

PS I have taken commoner magashity

CC

3rd August: It's raining at Top and the place is becoming as squalid
as Base. Gerhard leaves 5pm to Lagos via Arto, taking down the
ruined gas stove. Have lovely dreams — I'll be back in a couple or
so of days. G.

Ridge / 2/6 Trip: 20-23 hrs.

Whilst waiting for Gerhard since Phil + Martin to go
underground Graham Paul C + Richard take a look
at Pico Conjurao itself & find 2 entrances:

