

SAT 18th July

Cold & overcast, sunny & windy in parts. Mostly Dry & Cold.

Team 2/7: Neil, Mel & Meriel

Team asleep recovery: Graham + Lynn (after overnight trip) also Sherry.

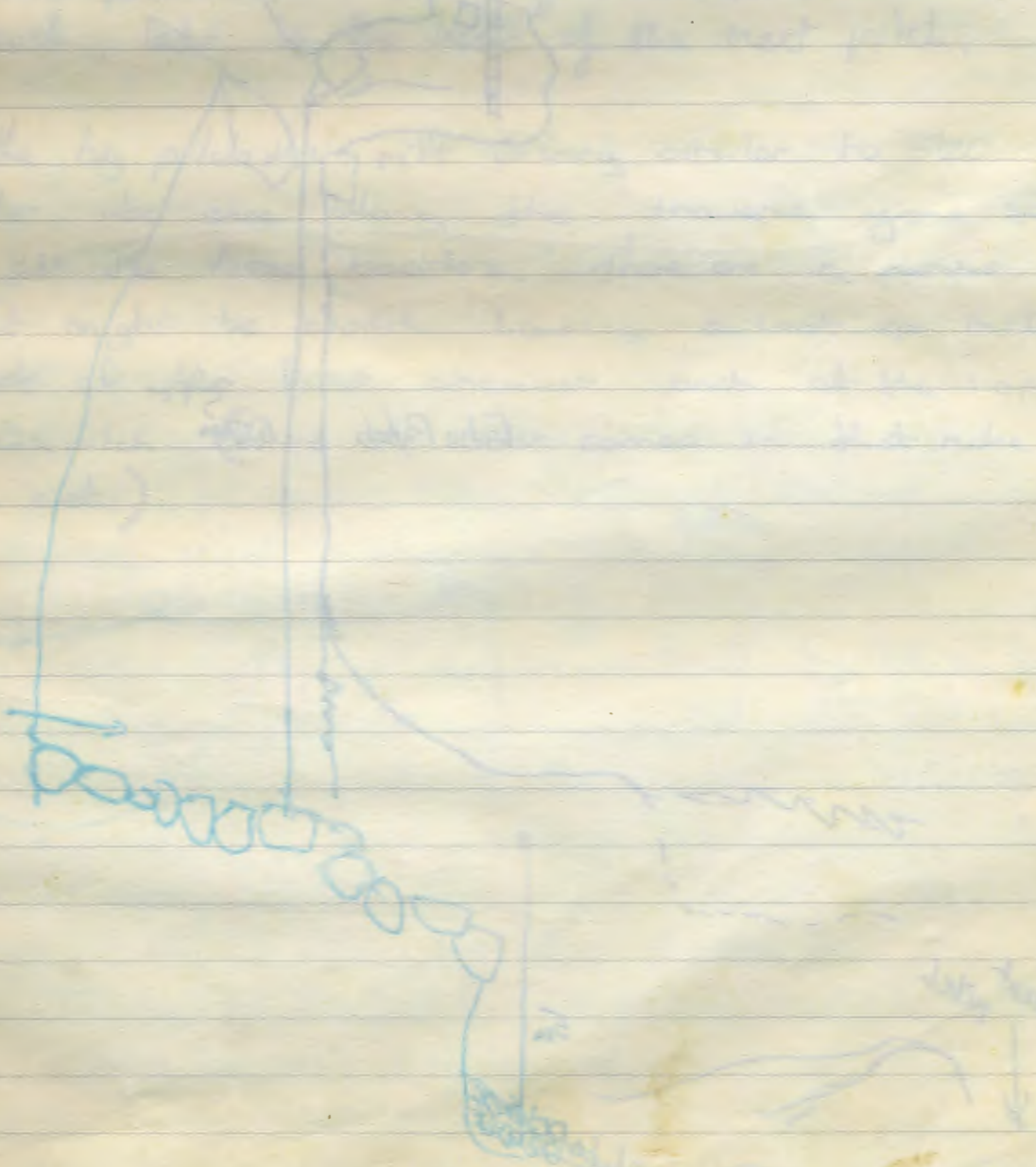
Team 1/4: Martin H., Dan & Philip

Team 1/4 photographic: Martin H., Martin L. & Paul

Team gone to Lagos: John Tambo

Team going to go to Lagos: Dave H.

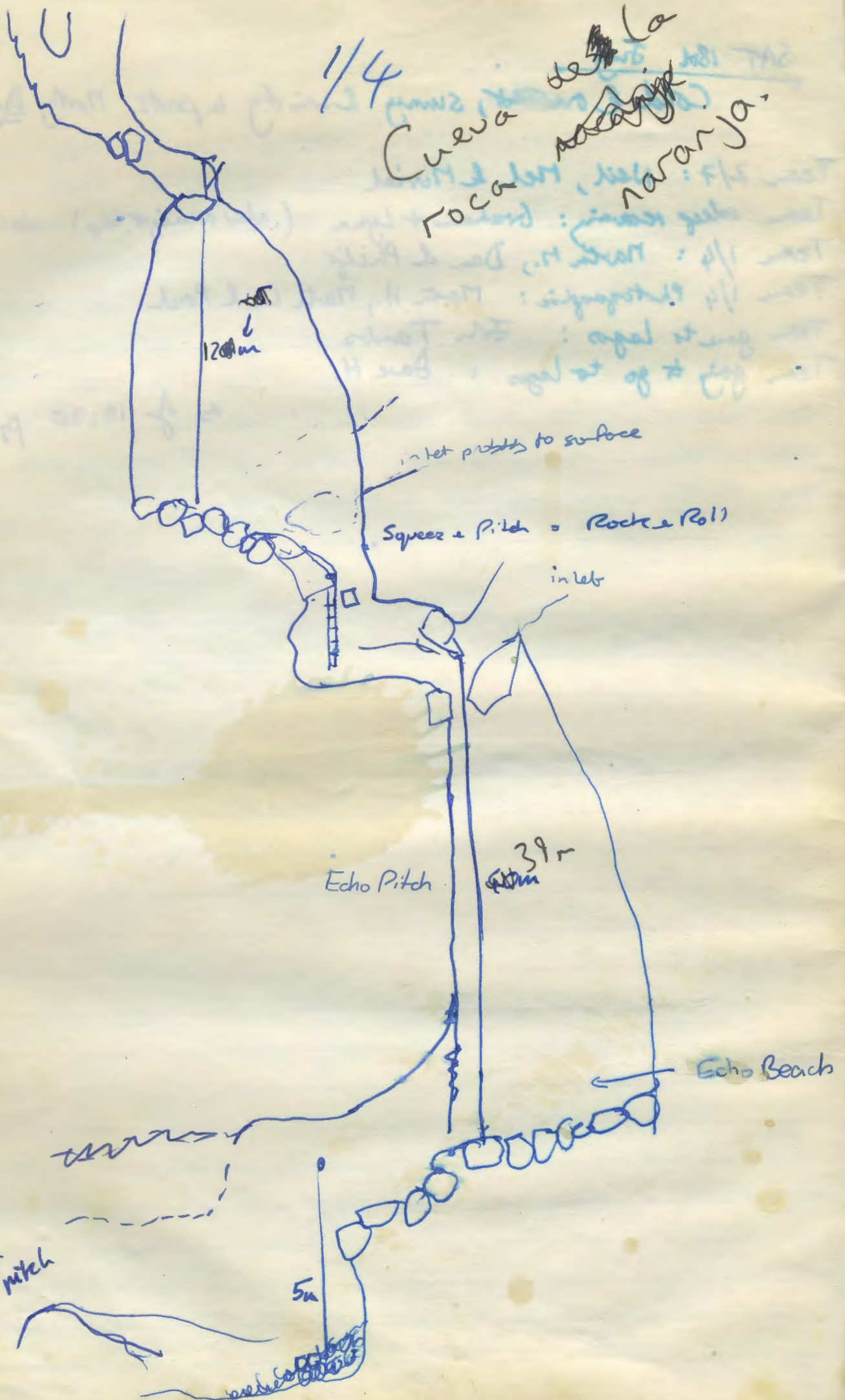
as of 10:20 PM



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1/4

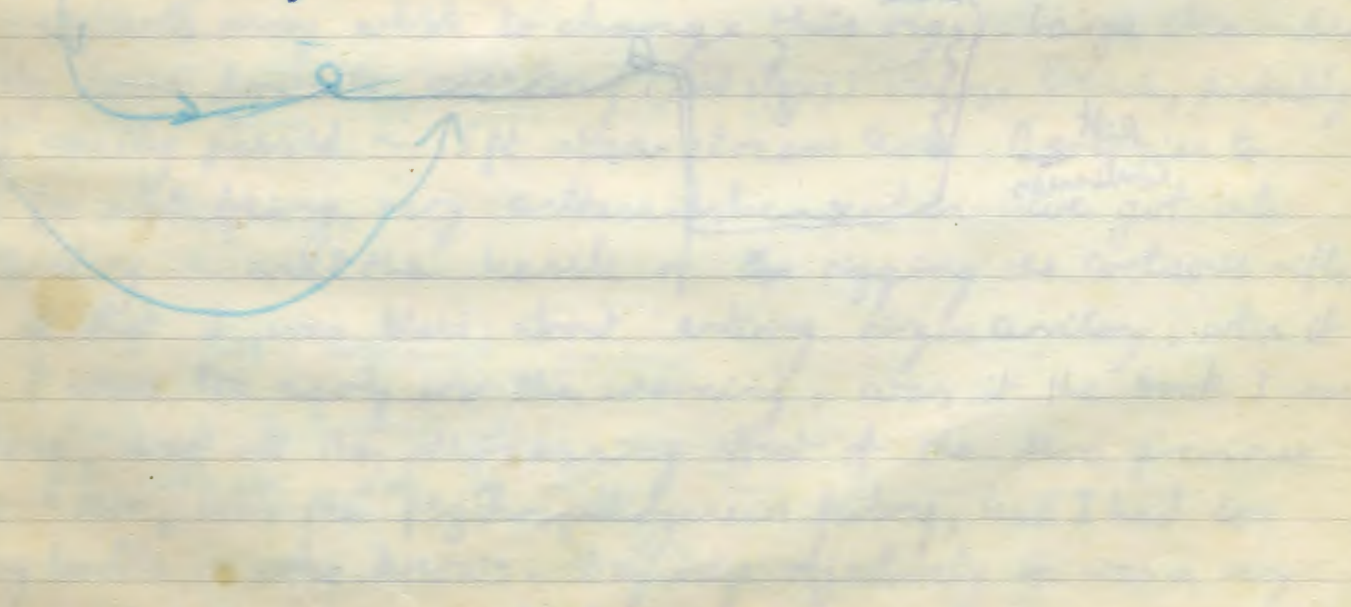
Cueva de La Roca Naranja



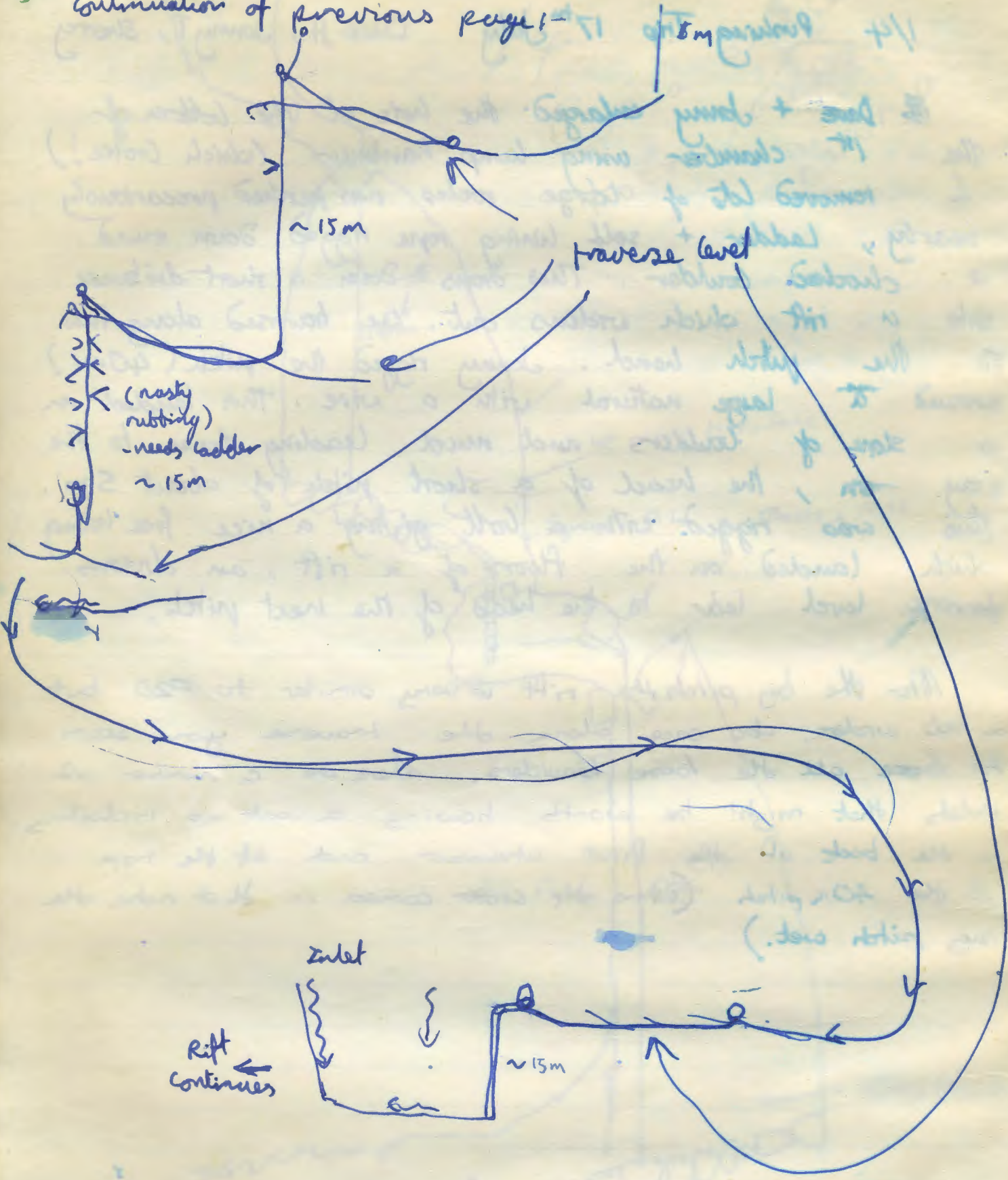
1/4 Pushing Trip 17<sup>th</sup> July Dave H, Jonny T, Sherry

Dave + Jonny enlarged the hole at the bottom of the 1<sup>st</sup> chamber using lump hammer (which broke!) & removed lots of large rocks now perched precariously nearby, Ladder + self lining rope rigged down round a chocked boulder. This drops down a short distance into a rift which widens out. We traversed along this to the pitch head. Jonny rigged the pitch (40m) around a large natural with a wire. This landed on a slope of boulders and mud leading down to the way on, the head of a short pitch of about 5m. This was rigged with a bolt giving a nice free hang which landed on the floor of a rift, an obvious traverse level led to the head of the next pitch.

After the big pitch the rift is very similar to F20 but a bit wider, also once along the traverse you seem to lose all the loose boulders. There are a number of inlets that might be worth having a look up including in the back of the first chamber and at the top of the 40m pitch (where the water comes in that makes the big pitch wet.)



continuation of previous page:-



1/4 Pushing Trip 17-18th July

Lynn & Graham.

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Left camp ~ 9pm, ~~and~~ headed for entrance in thick mist - found the entrance with remarkably little trouble. Met the previous party at the entrance just coming out.

Our mission was to rig as many ropes as possible and take long enough over it that it was light again to find our way back from the entrance. We rigged 3 ropes and took ~ 11 hours. After changing a wire on the 40m pitch the rigging proceeded methodically at the sharp end thus:-

20m rope along ascending traverse (greasy foot holds at start). Belay 45m rope to two naturals (rock too bad to bolt) not a free-hang but rub points not too serious. At traverse level with contorted drop below, ran up to further two belays down best? part of rift. Constricted space and many rub points. - Placed rebelay ~ 8ft above next traverse level to stop swinging about on lower part. A ladder on this lower section may be easier to climb and safer. Ran out rest of rope along traverse to a further pitch into large(ish) chamber with 2 inlets. Placed bolt, which spun round when tried to remove driver. Driver was removed by wiggling and shearing threads. Rigged off two naturals instead (unfortunately the secondary had to be lower than primary - but not seriously so - pedants may wish to change this rig). Large chamber quickly closes down to meandering (and sharp) vadose trench, probably most easily passed ~ 15ft above stream level. Apologies to Lynn for not being very enthusiastic when we got into new territory - was it the hassle of the rigging the tortuous rifts, was it that I was blasé about entering virgin territory, was it that it was too early in the morning, was it the book I was reading, was it the depressing effect of the two previous days rain, was the psychospelogenesis failing, had I had too many lentils - who knows. Anyway objectively it was a very good trip and the way is set for a new era in the ongoing saga of Oute's exploration of the Spanish Picos <sup>BILLISMIT!</sup> - sorry I've been reading the book too much.

pl 5 481-51 not printed

Who said to whom... "Have you ever had a long slow ~~run~~ screw against a wall"

and then replied "because I think I had one once and it was nice"

A Crisis of Conscience, - or example of pure logic.

I have not been caving, i.e. in my own gear beyond sunlight since bottoming 217 on Sunday - 6 days ago. I have sat at base camp for a day and just come up.

We have 2 going caves.

∴ I should don my gear and do an overnight pushing trip down 114 or hammering in 217.

However - It is raining + I am cold.

My gear is warm + dry in 1017 It is 9.30 ∴ It will be dark when

I reach either 217 or 114 definitely.

My gear will end up wet + consecrated if I go caving so I will be less keen on getting in it in the future. + I will catch a cold and have raw my hands raw so be less able to cave later.

+ No One else fancies an overnight trip.

∴ I will not go caving  
∴ I will go to Cangas tomorrow for a meal

But I shall return <sup>sitting</sup> invigorated + full of vigour (same thing?) and with a big plastic bag to keep my gear consecrated.

S.C.

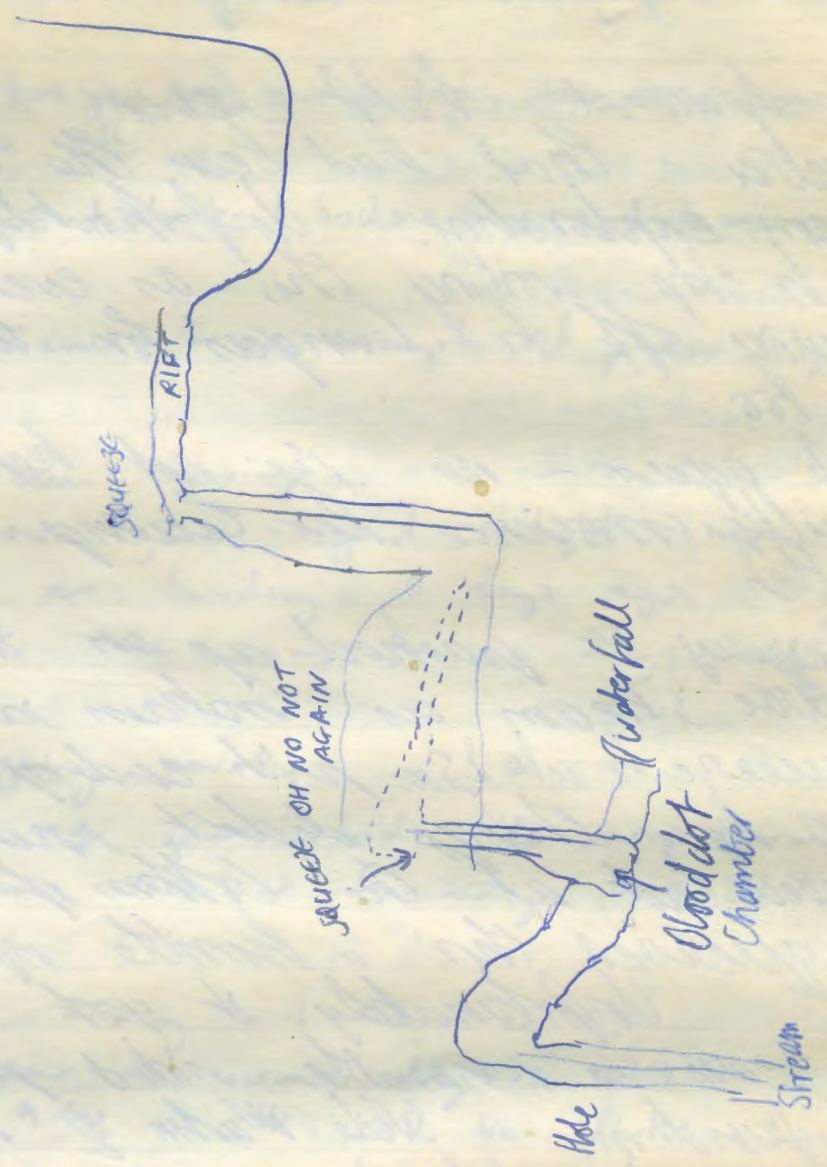
1/4 1988 July 1987. Looking http. Dan, Martin M, Phil S.

Went down at half eleven & soon reached the chamber that had been the limit of Graham & Lynn's exploration. Unfortunately I'm going to have to stop writing this as everyone is buggering off to Cangas for lunch & I'd like to go too.

Back again - as I've not been to lunch, just a guilty conscience for leaving an account unwritten.

Anyway we pushed up an awkward rift 15' above stream as Graham said. Down this a squeeze to take 25m pitch ending on a rocky floor. Now here things didn't sound too hopeful. I arrived last at the bottom of the pitch and squeezed this a terrible rift - "Oh no not again." Unfortunately it got steadily worse until it was a reasonable sized passage that you could stand in. While Martin & Phil hammered at the next pitch, I went back then the pitch rift (easy) & attempted to bring a tackle bag thru' (Hard!) Unfortunately got totally jammed, lost a welly, and had to go back out, grind about in the bottom to retrieve the welly, go back & get the tackle bag, out empty half its contents and then back thru' the rift. Nasty squeeze to head of next pitch, 'Pebble Pitch' which lands in large rift covered in bloodst formation. Phil unfortunately got very hot & stuck. "Oh No not again" and rebred early. We then rigged the next pitch. A sharp hole in the rift. No obvious way or at top or bottom

1/4





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but very pretty.

Went out reasonably quickly apart from the fact that I had managed to bugger two batteries and get a hole in my Tubo de Masico.

Pitches were wetter on the way out. An excellent pushing trip, we were never sure if we wanted the cave to go on past each squeeze or not. Good luck to the next pushers!

19/7/87

Everyone is going for a fix up in Congo and Neil, Neil and Jonathan have went down to 1/4 so I set out to retrieve my diary from ~~10/7~~ and fetch some carbide from top camp. Took a very zig-zaggy path from 10/7 looking for area E, stopped at 2/9' (La Jigoda) and climbed in over snow, way on my just to be possible but way down under the snow was sheer ice and unable to see climb, sound of running water only heard.

Found exact location of area E and several cones fitting descriptions of E1, E2 but all unmarked, those I could see climb were blocked by snow, others show some promise worth a look anyway (with gloves/oversuit as the snow freezes your extremities) or to top camp found a few unmarked shafts all boulder choked.

F38 is now completely dry, but is a manflake tin was put under every drip it could probably produce water faster than at drio took one of the bld's of carbide and

Some of the monoflokes and returned in the mist  
getting slightly lost and ending up at the bottom  
of sod + . Jon.

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