

29th July 1992 8/11

(61)

Tim, Steve - chewing underwood
pitches + the chills

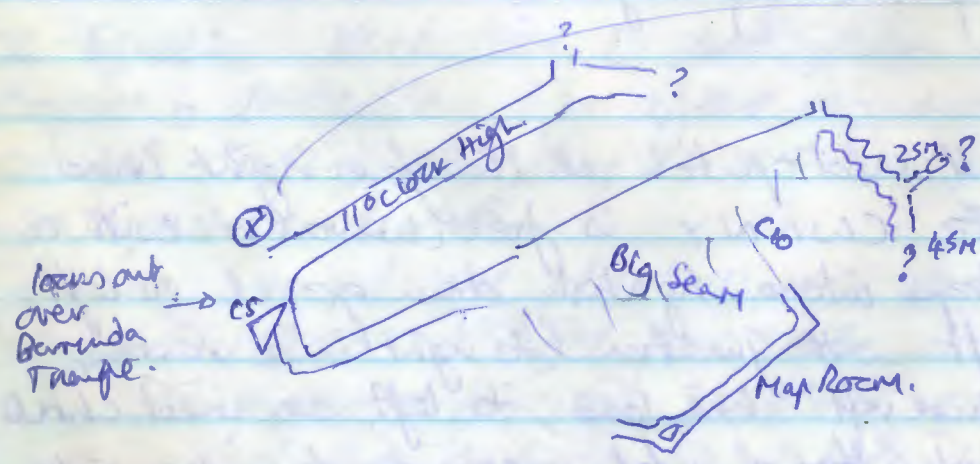
- ① I climbed the pitch at the bottom of the ice shelf passage, just to the right of the crawl on. Despite its inviting nature, it is a dead end.
- ② Climbed up above the big talus cones at the top of the ice shelf. It looks as if there is a passage above a ledge in the roof (stal drip over the lip), reached by a exposed but simple traverse, then an overhanging climb up (needs bolting probably).
- ③ At the bottom of the pitch below the (concrete) slope following the ice shelf (Chamber with no more) there is a climb down to the left into a small rift which continues into a very big chamber. --- it's a passage not a chamber
- ④ The pitch behind the way into chamber with no more (yet) appears near the top of the first part of the very large chamber.
- ⑤ The small slot-pitch in the far right hand wall of the cavern is free climbable with a line and drops into a tightish down gully to left, reaching a rift with junction (to right is a narrow, wet, "yankshure rift" like lead; to left, an inlet climb) to the right of at bottom of pitch seems to turn up into the boulder chock - should be looked at.

(62)

(6) The "Triangular" hole in the right wall of Cwnwy is a short (2m) chute down, 2m along to a body-sized slot at 45° into a pitch. Not nice, but should be descended if no voice connection from below is made.

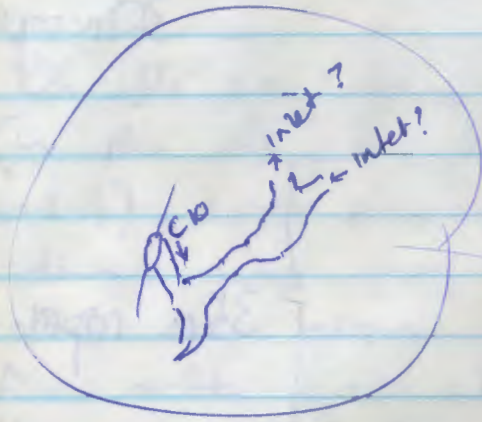
(7) Above the triangle - [Why don't we call this chamber "The Berruda Triangle" ?] - is a chute up through boulders, through a small hole into passage. one way soon comes out high above Berruda triangle, and a short traverse leads into a lovely Rift - 11 o'clock High. This goes to a junction and beyond.

The other way goes through tilted passage for c 15m to the start of a huge, draughty Siver. This has at least two leads (1) a Rift at about 20m on, with beautiful map like patterns on the walls - it goes ("The map room" ?) Another 15m on, another Rift, which goes upstream for 45m + ... with a lead (chute to a hole) 25m in, on the left. It also goes down, but is narrow, at the top, and may need to a barrier.



RAA
conduits to
Ladder Pit
down into pipe

Aqueduct (High above
Traverse)



Pit

CS

Chamber visible
below choke

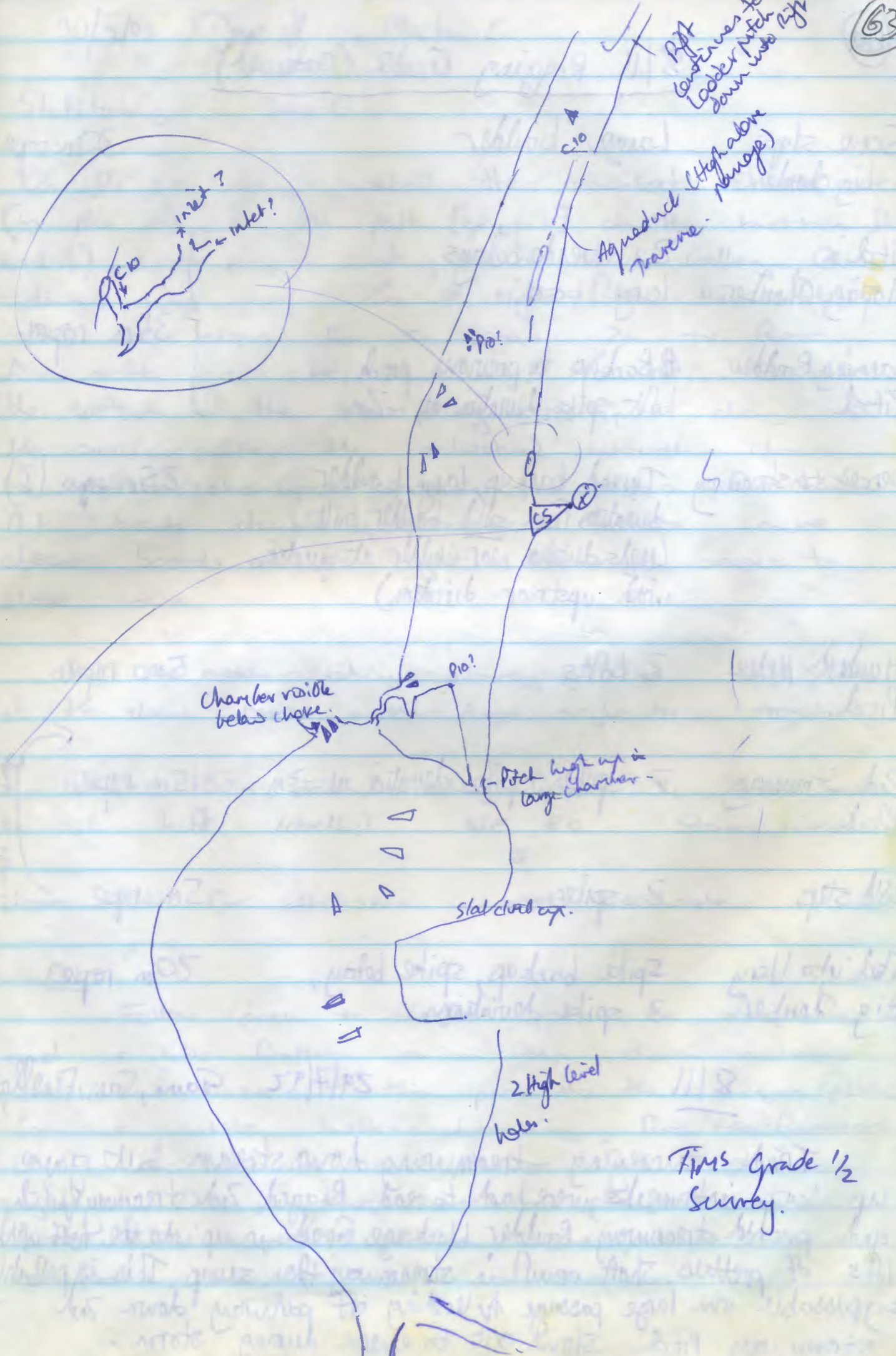
Pit?

Pit high up in
large chamber

slab closed up

2 High level
holes

Fins Grade 1/2
Survey



(68)

8/11 Rigging Guide (Continued)

Scree slope in big chamber Large boulder 30m rope

Pitch in Sloping Chamber 2 thread belays, large boss } 35m rope

Hanging Boulder Pitch Backup to previous pitch, bolt, spike deviation at -2m } 35m rope

Descent to streamway Thread backup, large boulder, deviation from solid boulder, bolt, (needs deviation near boulder at junction with upstream direction) 25m rope (?)

Hundred Metre Pitch 2 bolts 5m rope

2nd Streamway Pitch 2 spikes, spike deviation at -3m 15m rope

Bolt step 2 spikes 5m rope

Pitch into Very Big Chamber Spike backup, spike belay, 2 spike deviations 20m rope

8/11

29/7/92 Gavin, Sam, Fuelle

Tried surveying streamway downstream but gave up 'coz instruments were hard to read. Rigged 2nd streamway pitch and pushed streamway. Boulder blockage forced us up into the roof with lots of pretails. Short crawl in streamway then slump. This is probably bypassable via large passage by leading off pathway down 2nd streamway pitch. Slow exit to emerge during storm.

30/7/92 Dave H. & Martin L.

(65)

Shuttbacking in Area G

On the way down visited the unmarked cheese cave (to the left of the path [going down] at the bottom of sod 4) Large entrance at end of blind valley. Climb down snow plug. To the right follow the rift climb up along for 5m drop 2m to floor of rift - rift continues. To the left at the bottom of the snow plug continue along the snow enter the unlocked wooden door to small chamber containing racks of cheese. At back chamber passage ascends - more cheese boards on the right. Passage seems to close down.

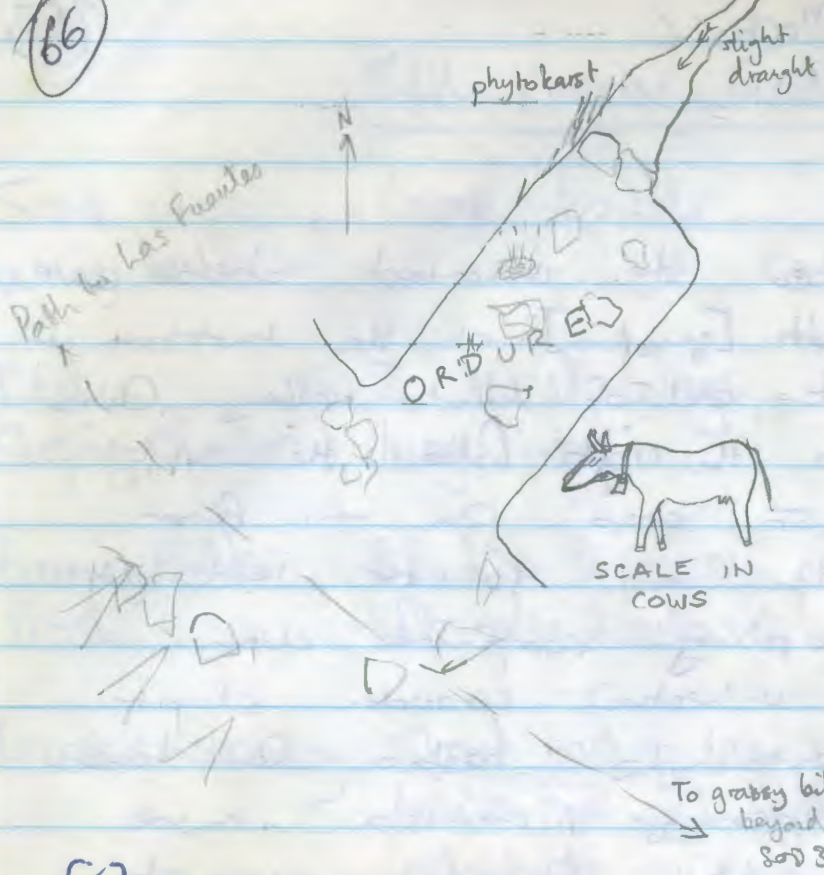
This cave needs pushing & surveying & some photos of the cheese racks & the door might be interesting.

About 60m down valley from the cheese cave is a shaft labelled SIF 84 Stones rattle

down this for 4-6 secs - worth a look.

G1

Follow path to Legos post the sheep fields and a bit further on drop down to lower path on left - this parallels the Legos path for a while before heading for Los Fuentes. G1 is obvious cow shelter full of shit on night. Of interest due to photokent in back of cave. Closes down, but does draft a bit - see survey.



phytokarst looks something like this and is distinctive because it points to a light source - i.e. the cave entrance. It presumably forms by photosynthetic algae or lichens colonising pits on the rock and being back into it at a rate slower than normal surface erosion. Previously reported ^{or seen} in Malaysia, New Britain, China & Co. Clare.

N.B. This cave was recorded by the 1961 Expedition, but the phytokarst was not seen then. *John*

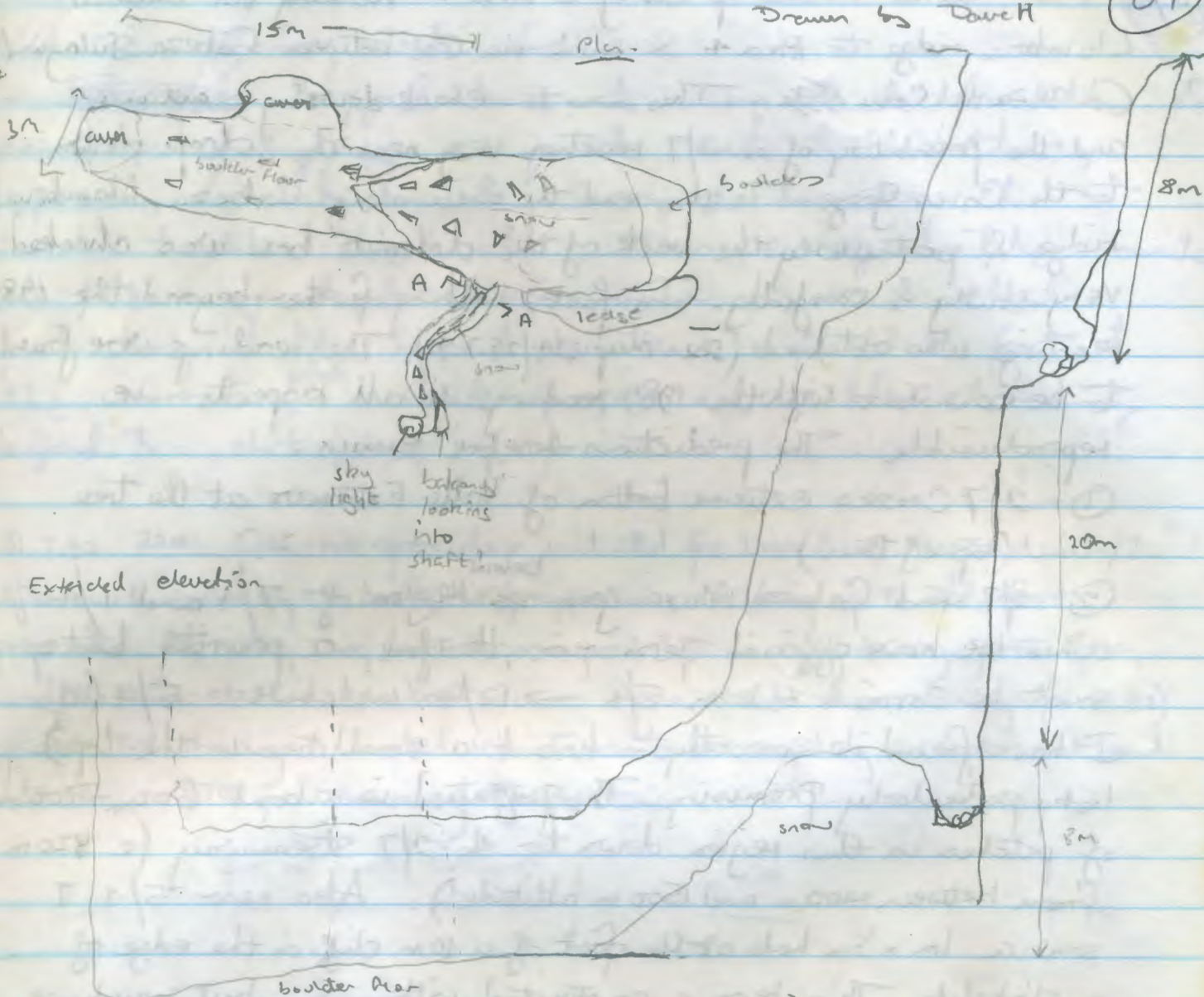
C13

From Col continue to follow Las Fuentes path at 1 Junction turn left (right goes to Las Fuentes) over lip of bowl are 3 shafts. middle shaft can be rigged from large boulder labelled OCCC

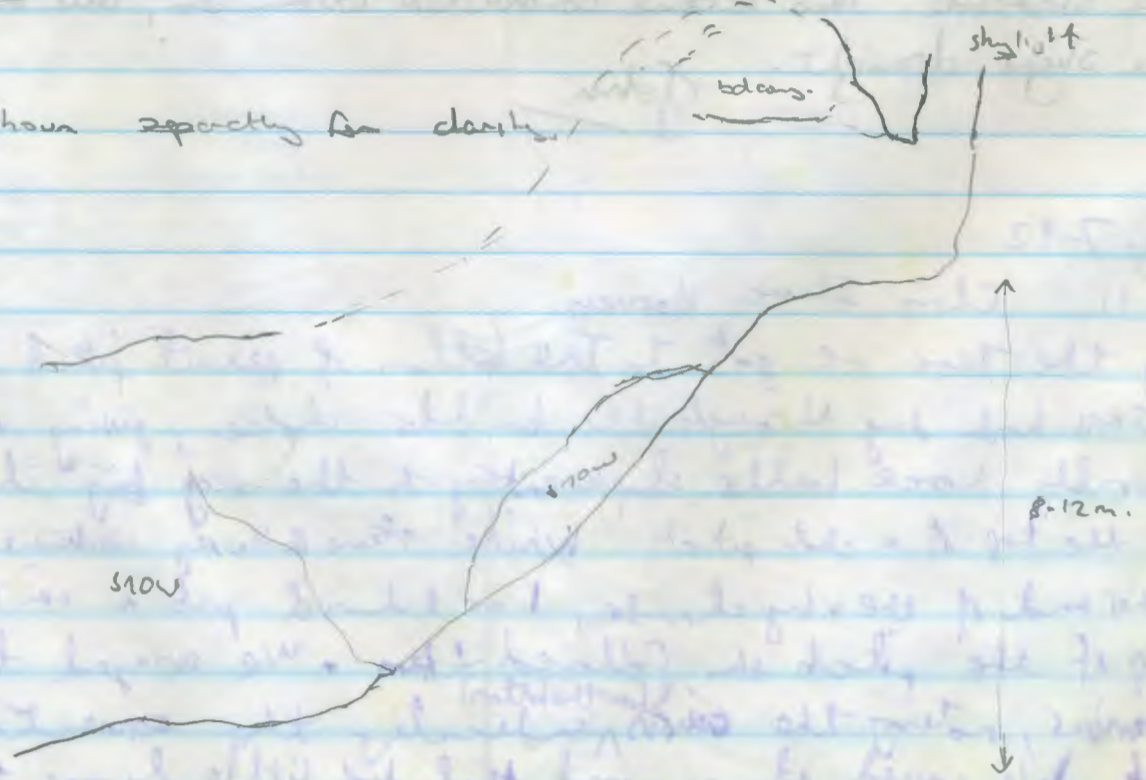
G-3
Ø

On drop to ledge followed by 20m drop to snow plug. Down the snow plug passage descends ~ 20m before ending in over. Path was along passage above or right contains a second over.

Bed at snow plug a steeply 60° gravel slope can be accessed to daylight and on left is hairy climb (not attempted) to a balcony looking into a shaft may be original shaft may be parallel shaft (but I don't think so)



A-A shown separately for clarity



(Cover) this corner is ok
Dave.

(68) 31.7.92 John walked up early to Aric - Walking via Cabeza Llambría ridge to Area 4 & back via Col between Cabeza Julagual & Cabeza del Corva ~~etc~~. This was to check downing reactions and the possibility of a 2/7 reaction very near the drop down to the Caves Gorge. To this end the area along Cabeza Llambría ridge & particularly the back of the dolomite boss was checked very slowly & carefully. In fact, nothing further beyond the 1989 readings was obtained (see map 24/25.7.92). The readings were found to be consistent with the 1989 readings in all respects i.e. reproducible. The predictions therefore remain:

① 2/7 crosses extreme bottom of Valle Extremo at the tree line (top of trees)

② 2/7 and Cabeza Muxa join ^{below} ~~the~~ region of 7/4 and 1/4. When we have official permission, therefore, a priority blitz must be carried out on 5/4 \rightarrow 12/4 inclusive. 5/4 (if I have found it correctly - has it a small tree in the top) looks particularly promising. The potential is about 600m-700m of pitches in this region down to the 2/7 streamway (c. 820m from between 1400m and 1500m altitude). Also near 5/4 I saw a 1m x 1/2m hole at the foot of a 10m cliff on the edge of a shale hole. This became constricted within 5m, but may have a slight draught.

John

30-7-92

8/11 Chris, Steve, Horney

By the time we got to the bottom of peanut pitch Tim & Sam had dug through the boulder choke, giving a 65°-60° horribly loose boulder slope entry to the very big chamber & at the top of a short pitch. While Steve & Horney continued to the other end of the v. big chamber, I went down & put a car's at the top of the pitch then followed them. We surveyed the v. big chamber, noting the ~~car's~~ ^(for the bottom) indicating the connection, then out. We cued at a speed that did little damage to my suspension at least.

Chris

31-7-92

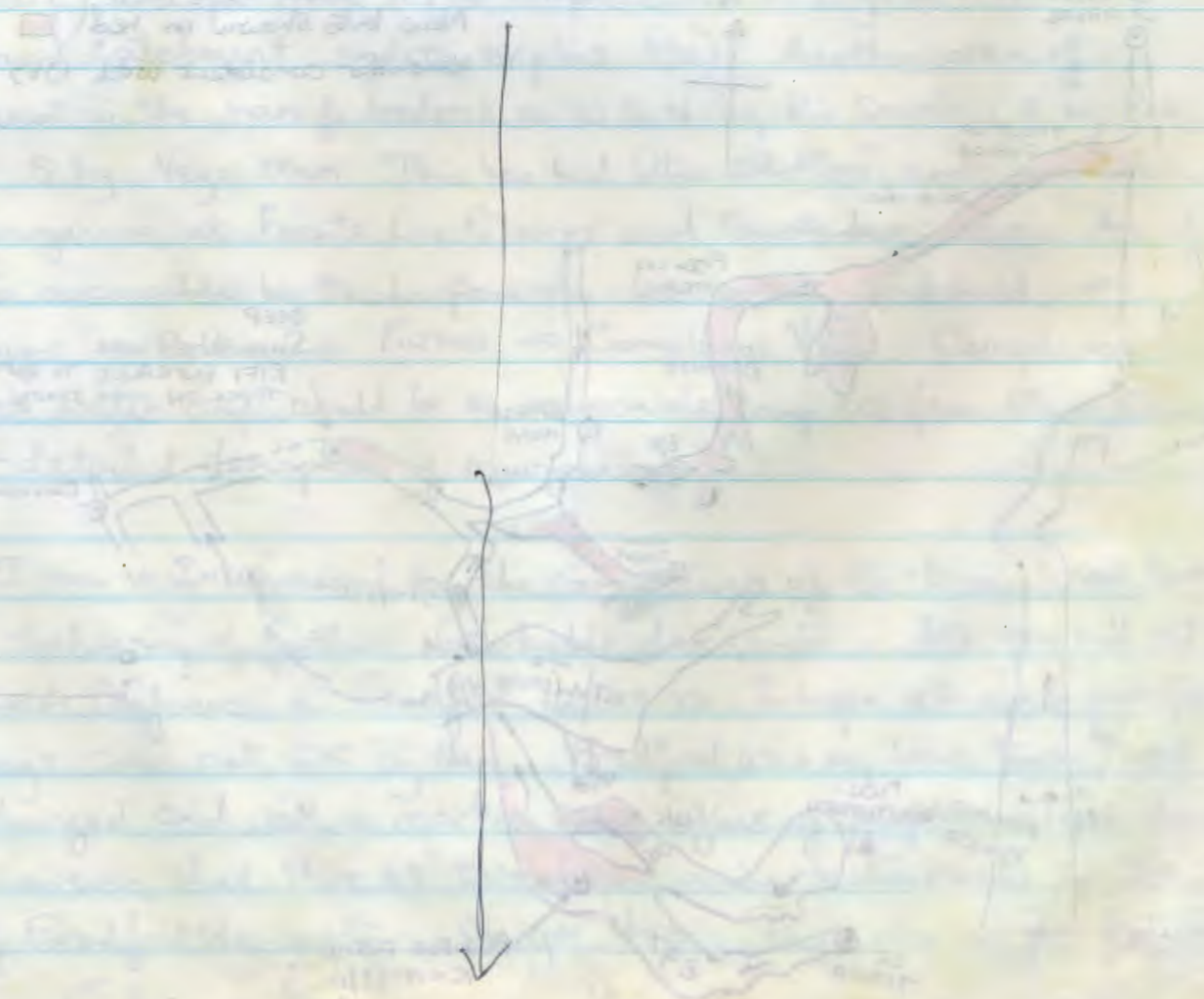
8/11 Chris, Gary, Martin L.

~~Surveyed~~ Rigged dam into v. big chamber from bottom of point pitch - giving a quick route to the bottom, bypassing insalubrious etc. Surveyed downstream to 'Tumble tumble little stal'. Then surveyed the connection into the v. big chamber to give us a closure. I had a quick look at the I had downstream riff at the foot of the connection^{pitch} - a climb up gives a sizeable streamway beyond to a short pitch (4 m).

Chris

31.7.92 2200 Call-out procedure initiated for Dave B. & Martin H. in 2/7.

After much radioing to base, kit preparation, walking up to 2/7, food preparation etc. they were located coming out late carrying heavy photo gear, and the team stood down about 2 am. As a result this morning (1.8.92) people are showing a marked reluctance to do anything except eat and talk. PTO for summary of operations.



— 2

31/7/92 (70)

- 10 pm Call out for Martin Hicks + Dave Bell.
- " Dave Monaghan + Chris set off with first aid kit etc to check entrance
- 10.50 Gavin + Tim set off with hill caring gear.
- Light signals 3 Flashes wait a minute repeat - OK
- 6 Flashes " " " " - prepare next stage
- 10.30-55 Base camp alerted via radio to stand by until stood down. Harney to drive if required.
- 11-20 6 Flashes from entrance -- continue call out.
- 11.49 3 flashes from entrance - signal for OK.
- 11-30 → 0100 Food preparation for covers & returning "rescuers".
- 1/8.92 0200 approx. Stand down.

Next day - entire Aris camp is used out from exertions of night before's rescue!
 Tim & Chris eventually manage to totter down to base camp to be ill thro' rather thro' Aris.
 1.8.92 John returning to base camp for last time, with regret, to leave for France early 2.8.92. Thanks for everything - I wouldn't have missed it for worlds. A Summary of my musings is:

