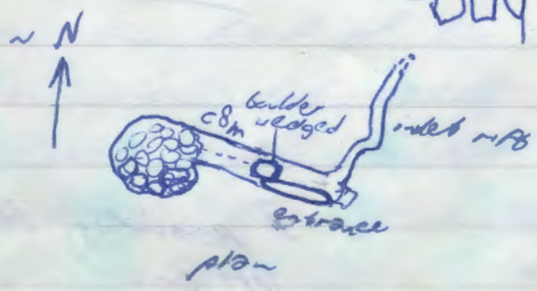
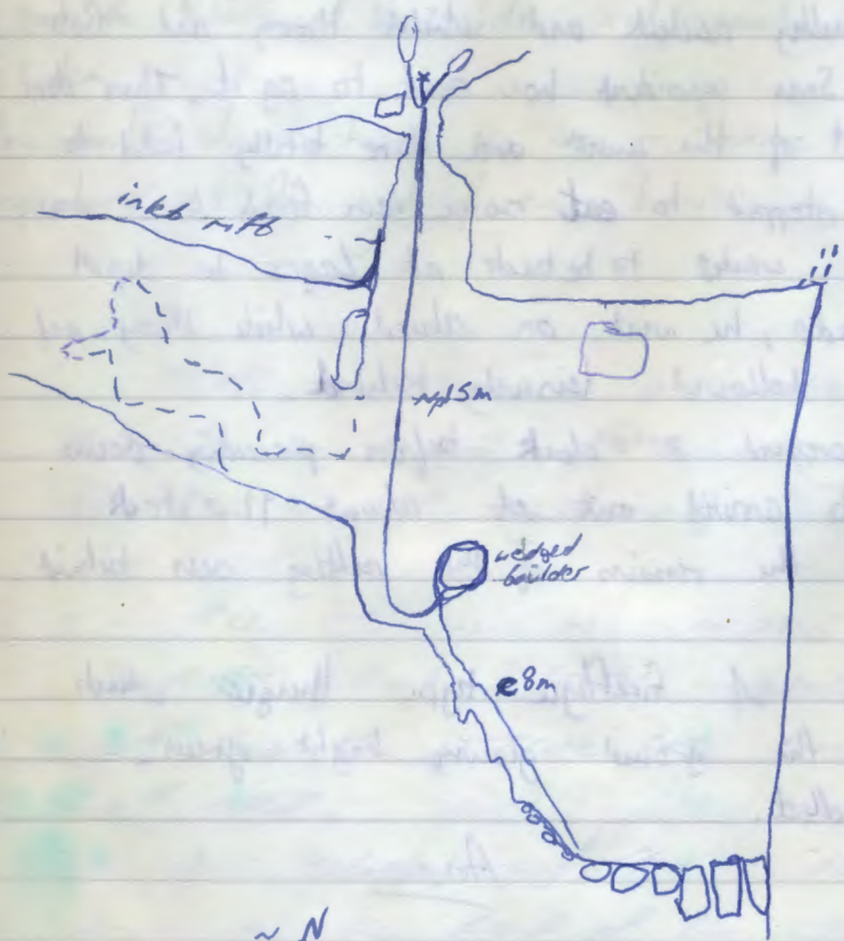


rocks), and no reasonable way on. There were gaps between some of the boulders, but in places it was possible to see down a further 15 feet, but generally the gaps were too small and the boulders too big to allow any further progress.

Ferretts joined me, then ascended whilst I had a look at the inlet rift, (it went in about 8 m, and climbed about 5 m, but again became small).

Once Ferretts had exited, Chris came down, bagged the cave, and also left, followed closely by me derigging. Another shaft bashed to conclusion!

*Phil*





12  
7.7.93

Harvey, Rob & Sean rigging 8/11

Once again the sun was out and faded between an easy day relaxing in the unusual weather conditions or goingaving down. 8/11 we chose the later. At 3 o'clock we began our descent.

The trip was intended to finish rigging and we set off without any incidents until Harry managed to detach a deviation on the way down into very Big Chamber. Unfortunately, Rob and Sean were already down the pitch and Harry was two inches too short to replace it easily. Once he had, however, we again made good progress through Wet Chert's Rift with the aid of basic levitation. At one point Sean even demonstrated his knowledge of advanced levitation when the right hand wall temporarily disappeared.

Four Pitch was eventually reached and whilst Harry and Rob hung around in the rifts Sean considered how best to rig it. This done we climbed up to the start of the ascent and there totally failed to find any bolts and so stopped to eat some cave food. As it was now 6 o'clock and Sean wanted to be back at Lagos to depart early for a trip to Oviedo, he went on ahead while Harry and Rob finished eating and followed leisurely behind.

Sean arrived back around 8 o'clock before proceeding down to Lagos. Harry and Rob arrived out at about 11 o'clock just in time to see the remains of the setting sun behind the sea.

We also saw lots of firefly-like type things which lie on their backs on the ground glowing bright green.

The dinner was excellent.

Aras

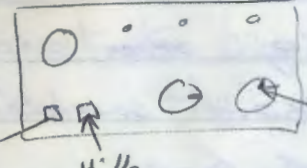
\* providing ble. C.B. is left on. ↘



How to use Sean's radio. [It's not here any more] Sean 29/7.

You shouldn't use this radio without an amateur radio licence, but it may well be the fastest way of contacting someone who speaks English and can call out the Spanish Cave-rescue. It will also work from anywhere you are likely to need it.

To use,



1) Turn on with volume.

2) Check. Tone switch is in, low switch is out.

3) Check display says 145.750. If not, press button 6.

4) Press the button at the side and speak into the radio.

5) Listen.

You should always hear a  $\text{---} \cdot \text{---}$  morse signal reply from the repeater at the end of every transmission.

Sean.

Note - There is a radio at the Refugio, this is an equally fast way of summoning help, (that is why it is there!)

The CB is now located at the top of the hillside about 100m up slope from the top of Sed G. There are two switches that you will need.

1) Volume - on/off, the bigger of the plastic knobs on the front of the CB; this should be left on even when not using the radio.

2) The speaker on/off, the loose switch on the loose red wires. Turn this on ~~from~~ when you are using the radio, otherwise turn it off.

The VHF link may work soon, this means Lagos can talk to us\* we still need to go to above Xita to reply. PRO



RADIO'S cont.

Please radio Lagos twice daily at least, once in the morning (~ 9.00am), and in the evening (~ 7.00pm). People may not be listening at Lagos permanently, especially between 9.30-11.30pm. Then if you fail to get a response, return to camp, try again later. The best time to call may be shortly after each hour (eg. after at 9.03pm, 10.03pm), if possible, we will have someone at Lagos manning the radio at that time.

Emergency Use. - it is your own.

Firstly, and most importantly, think, use your common sense!

i) If you come out of a cave, needing to summon rescue.

i) If minor, (eg Johnny has the shits, and will be making his own way out of the cave slowly), or quite minor (eg Johnny is a bit tired, and would like more hands through the squeera)

then come to camp, use our C.B.'s to summon help of the rest of our expedition / keep us briefed.

ii) If any more serious, and outside assistance will be required, (eg Johnny has a broken leg and broken arm),

then summon outside help immediately, 1) through the Refugio's radio, 2) through our C.B. to Lagos, or using Sean's radio if all else fails. Then ensure that both our camps are made aware of the situation.

2) If you are at Arco, and there is no sign of a party and it is past their call out.

i) Check all details in the back of the log books, check to see if they did take <sup>their</sup> log with them after all.



9/7/93 15

Arrived in Bilbao last night and caught the last bus to Santander. Dossed the night at the bus station, and continued to Ariondas. Met Richard, and then caught the bus up to Lagos.

Hot walk up, clay to sod 3, but clear above.

It's great to be back at Aris. Even after five previous expeditions, the mountains are still stunningly beautiful.

Giving

cont.

- (i) Brief Lagos of the situation using the C.B. if it is possible to get a response.
- (ii) Check the cave entrance, to ascertain if they are out and lost on the mountainside; are rather late, but are now or'd/ nearly out of the cave, or if they seem to still be in the cave.
- (iv) Update Lagos of the situation.

— Two points - 1 - look after yourself, your no use if you get lost or injured unnecessarily.

2 - don't disappear into the cave before you are sure that others ~~know~~ know of the situation. It will be no good if the first anyone else knows of an overdue party is when they find Aris abandoned 12 hours later.

If there are two of you, work efficiently, it would be worth one of you going underground carefully to find out what the problem is.

You should have already read the rescue guides!

*[Signature]*



Note on showering at Aris

Think about the air temperature. If the rain turns to hail half way through you will not be able to rinse the soap off.

Harvey

10/7/93

811

Paul, Sam, Rob, Gavin

Nobody else has written this up, so I suppose I'd better. Did a bit of re-rigging on the way down, and made a tourist trip into Insalubrious. Rob stood on a boulder at the bottom of Peanut Pitch, which promptly slid into the choke, blocking it. After about an hour, we'd engineered another route through. This is quite tight, and best taken slightly on your left-hand side.

Continued and rigged October, and Paul and I continued to last year's limit, then pushed for "two minutes". Started following the top of the rift, but this became difficult, so backtracked and followed the bottom. After ~30m came to a drop with the sound of a largish stream at the bottom.

Gavin



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> - Shuft Bashing in Area 9 (ish)  
Richard and Gavin.

As the rain of the previous two days had seemed to cease and there were odd patches of blue in the sky and Gavin Oresuit + Pung were still wet we decided to go shuft bashing.

Gavin was particularly interested in some shufts near the Curicente / Verdelluenga ridge; myself a cave, which looked promising I found last year but never went back to.

We wandered up towards La Verdelluenga and found a promising shuft plugged with snow. We both huddled down and noticed an interesting continuation beyond the snow plug. I SRT'd down to find a too tight rift and boulder choke.

After more walking and looking I rediscovered two huge shake holes found the previous year. One is probably just a bankday floor. The other is VERY impressive; a large rift heading into a large entrance straight into the mountain. This could lead to a BIG CAVE. (shades of Ridge Cave)

After more wandering several more entrances were noted. Gavin's shufts were found one of which is again, deep and impressive.

On the way back we noted 'The Wiggly One' a blank space at the side of apparently very low snow plug looks promising.

A return with bolting kit and longer rope will be made!

⊗ [18/9]. In valley running down from Verdelluenga, over rocky ridge ~400m NNW of La Jayada, clearly visible from this ridge. 232° Verdelluenga, 114° Curicente  
10m descent to snow plug; further 5m descent reaches too tight rift.



○ 19/9 <sup>of Verdelluenga</sup> On spur overlooking 200m diameter closed depression. Verdelluenga  $222^\circ$ ; Curicente  $118^\circ$ . Shake hole behind has window into main shaft. 25m deep shaft to snow plug. Needs bolting.

○ 20/9 In side of spur of Verdelluenga, in area of many shafts and shakeholes. Curicente  $110^\circ$ ; Verdelluenga  $216^\circ$ . 30m long gully with snow, continues into the mountain.

○ 21/9 ~~Deep~~ Near western col on Curicente-Verdelluenga ridge.  $148^\circ$  to col ( $\sim 300m$ );  $250^\circ$  to Verdelluenga. Overlooking bowl. 25m shaft.

Note: do we have a programmable calculator up here? Could someone please program it, as I'll want to work out the survey data tonight.

Gavin

My programmable calculator has a survey program. It should be coming up. Run file and back to run.



Shaft-bashing Area 4. 11/7/93. Sean + Chris V.

With 16/4 remaining as the only significant known one not yet descended by once, we chose this for some SRT practice. After some awkward rigging we discovered that Chris was without stop, constraints + croll, but descended anyway.

Location  
~~Description~~: In the right-hand side of the valley containing most of the caves in area 4 is a visible cleft, which continues to the top of the valley, bearing 225° (approx) from camp. At the base of the bowl, the cleft contains 9/4, 16/4 and a small shaft on the left-hand side of the valley, not descended, but may be digable.

Description: 20m entrance pitch (spike, 2 bolts y hang, deviation off opposite side, deviation off same side) lands on snow on a flatish floor. Ignoring the choked phreatic tube, there is a crawl over a stony slope into a chamber, filled at the bottom by loose mud floor which 'sumps'. Traversing round to the right, through a window leads into another chamber. It gets more complicated, see survey. Ends up in a 20m rift, which bells out. Other routes are possible at higher levels.

Sean

Harvey would like to ask that waste food etc. is disposed of well away from the tent area. This avoids, for example, ~~the~~ stepping on a pile of rotting rice & beans on your way to wash your hands.



20

12/7/93 Surveying Trip to 8/11.  
Garin and Richard.

My ~~trip~~ first trip to 8/11. An early start avoided the heat. We made good progress down to the sump. I got my first taster of the rifts and the light bit above the 3<sup>rd</sup> pitch.

We continued the surveying from where it was stopped a short distance beyond the sump. Despite having to rig a traverse line above an intimidating drop we managed to survey to the 1992 limit in reasonable time. We continued onwards to the ~~known limit~~ explored limit of the cave, this passage makes an interesting U-turn.

The survey suggests that perhaps one of the holes traversed above after the sump could provide a more direct route to the streamway.

Richard

13/7/93 Shaft Bashing in Area 9. Richard, Harvey, Garin

Returned to 20/9. Rigged down, and I descended to the snow. Round the corner was another drop. I started putting a bolt in, but the rock split, so I made do without. 10m down was more snow, holes round the side, but none looked inviting, especially as I was clad in T-shirt and shorts. Reascended, and traversed across this drop to the top of a much more promising hole. Rigged this properly, and descended 20-25m, to a snow pile on a boulder floor, with no way on.

Then went to 16/9A (the largest and highest of the shafts in the 16/9 area). Harvey descended. He says it's twice as high as the tree outside his