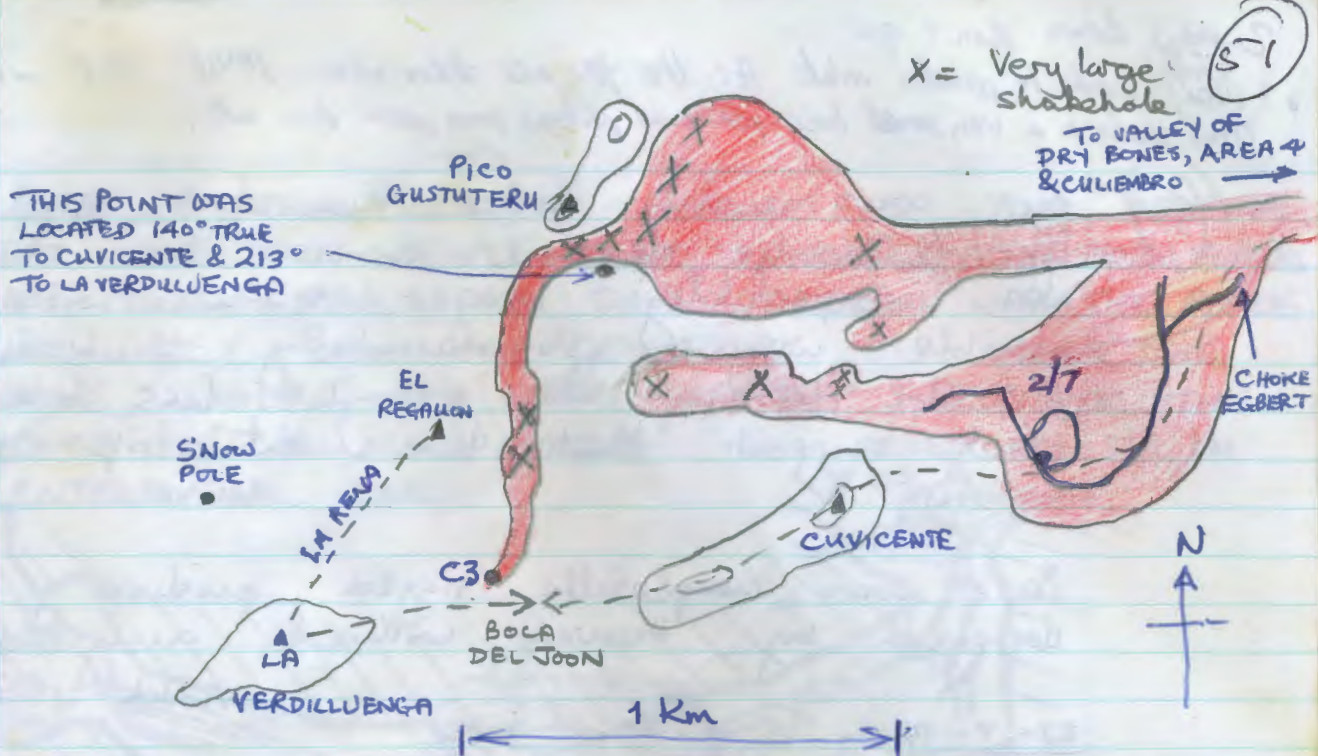


29/7/95



John dowsing over C3. The route has several large shakeholes/depressions on the way down & near Pico Gustuteru. This enters the northern limb of the reaction previously found (see OUCC 13) around the Jultayu bowl. If this is correct then there is the potential for the new passages to pin 2/7 beyond Choke Egbert. A suggested lower entry might be at the eastern end of the "Valley of Dry Bones" (reaction first found here in 1989). The water is thus destined for Culiembro, either via Xitu, or (if the area 4 dowsing is correct) via the Cabeza Muxa inlet.

29/7/95

Wtodek & Harvey ↓ D7

Harvey packs rucksack & prepares for arduous trek to dig/shaft. Wtodek points to entrance - "No, not across the Vega Aliseda - that rock just behind shit creek", Harvey approved.

Climb down through boulder reaction reaches top of 30m shaft, with strong draft. This was the site for a comprehensive tutorial on bolting from Wtodek. After this, and me putting in a bolt we climbed back to the surface to deposit. One cloud over sun.

After a long & interesting discussion about geology, hydrology, etc ...

Harvey went down to put second bolt at the top of the shaft. The second

2 was down don't go.

1 way leads to parallel inlet. At the far side there is a small slot with draft. This leads to a very small hole you could perhaps push your arm into.

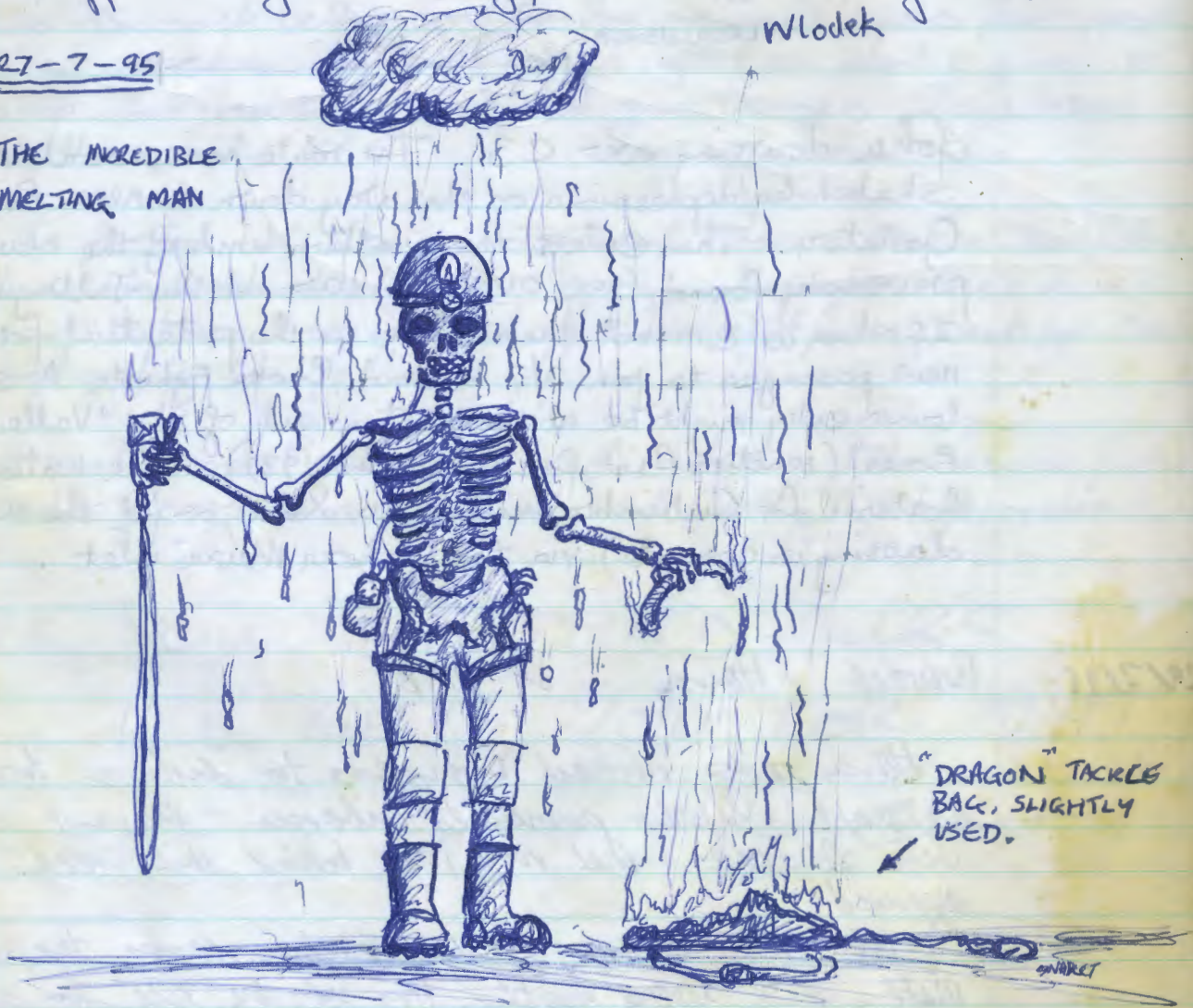
(52)

one was much faster than first one. After this he descent down. The shaft was unexpectedly longer ~ 30m with few possible ways. Unfortunately somewhere at the bottom the draught has been lost, what suggest that the next trip can be necessary.

Cave was completely rigged, pushed, and derigged by Harvey, without any difficulties. Wlodek

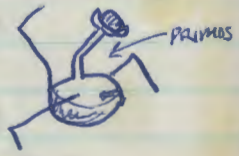
27-7-95

THE INCREDIBLE MELTING MAN



27-7-95

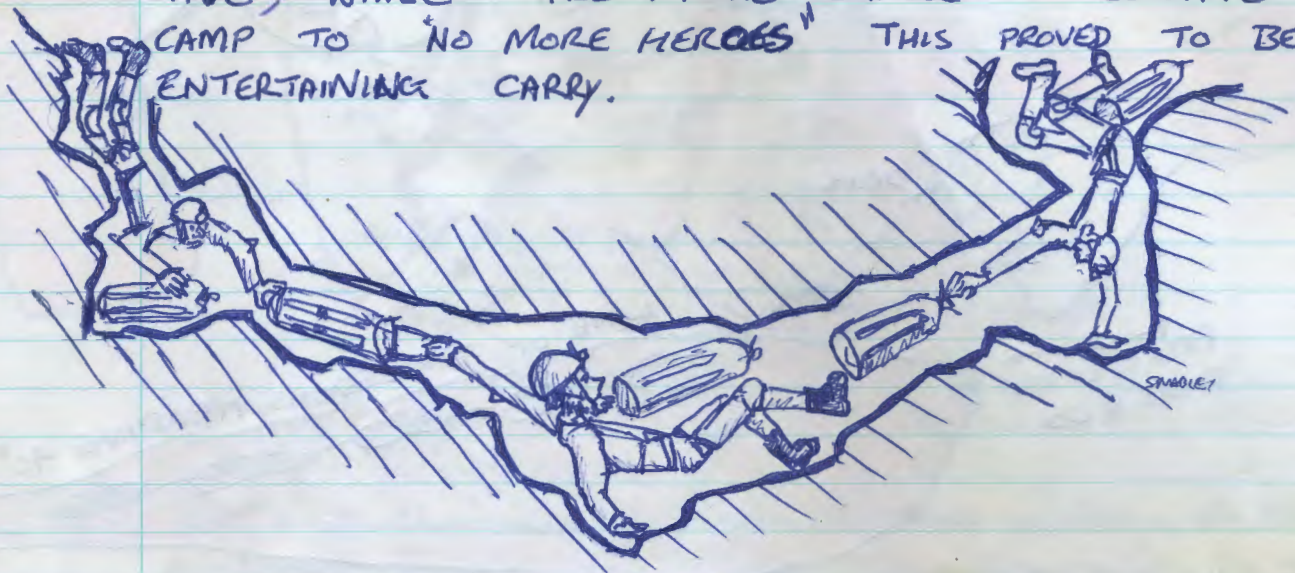
WLODEK + ANETTE + SNABLET ARRIVED AT CAMP T.3. TO FIND ALEX IN THE ABOVE STATE. (ISHI). ALSO WE FOUND THAT THE PRIMUS STOVE I HAD CARRIED DOWN, WAS NOT IN THE BEST OF SHAPE. WITH NO STOVES, A ~~SMALL~~ TOASTED ALEX AND A VERY TIRED ANETTE, WLODEK DECIDED TO GO AND GET HELP FOR ALEX (SRT KIT) AND GAS.



Logistic?

28-7-95

AFTER A SMALL LOGICISTS PROBLEM OF FOUR SLEEPING BAG AND FIVE PEOPLE, WE AWOKE TO MORN FLAKES AND THEN PAUL AND DAVE ARRIVED WITH THE RESCUE KIT. ALEX + DAVE + ANETTE + PAUL EXIT FROM THE CAVE, WHILE ROB + MIKE + SNABLET RELOCATE THE CAMP TO 'NO MORE HEROES' THIS PROVED TO BE AN ENTERTAINING CARRY.



AFTER SETTING UP CAMP 2 WE PROGRESSED TO THE END OF THE KNOWN CAVE (SO FAR). AT THE BOTTEM OF LIGHTENING ONLY TO FIND ONE SUMP OPSTREAM AND A VERY WET SWIMMING PASSAGE WITH 30CM OF AIRSPACE, ~~THE~~ IT LOOKS LIKE IT WILL SUMP VERN SOON. WE SURVEYED THIS PITCH AND HEADED BACK TO CAMP 2 LOOKING FOR A SUMP BYPASS AND THE DRAUGHT.

29-7-95

ROB + MIKE + SNABLET EXIT FROM THE CAVE. SNABLET

& Mark

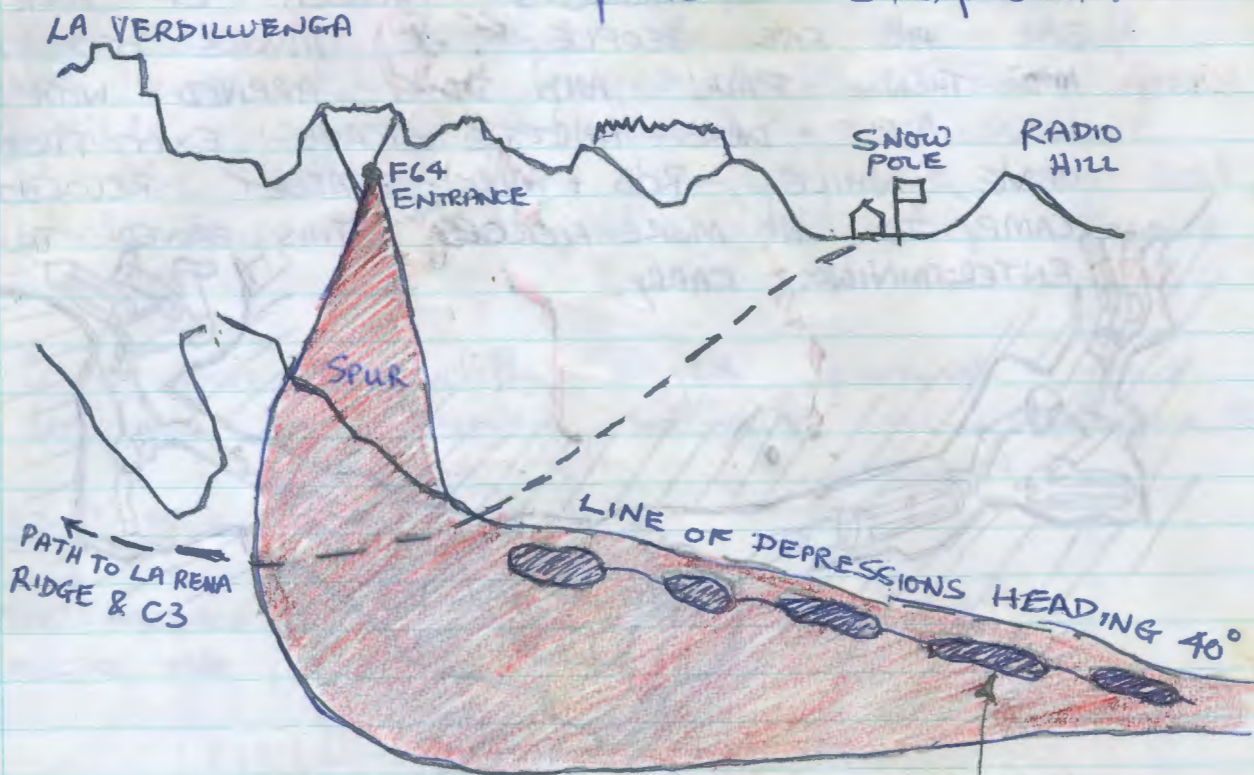
30.7.95

1430 Sherry Mayoxarrew from Australia, such is the draw of the Picos! Quite like old times. They have been to Yellow Bag Cave, which sounds very political & strict with Belgians & Spaniards. They walked from the Central Massif via Cain & the Trea path.

(54)

30.7.95

John dowsing over F64 + amble through Vega ^{de} Aliseda.
Not quite what I expected!

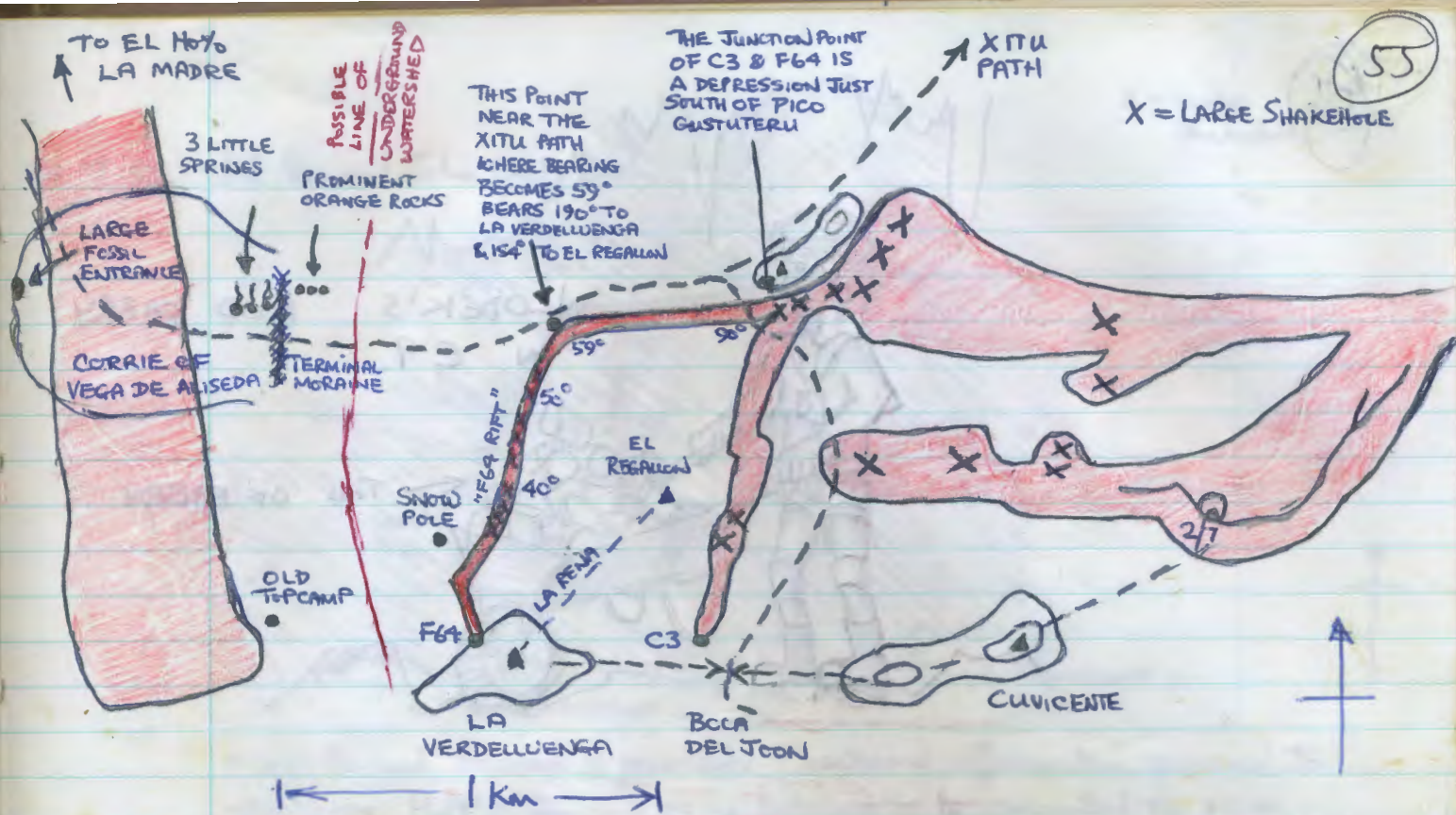


A VIEW OF THE BEGINNING.

YOU COULD TRY DIGGING SOME OF THESE DEPRESSIONS. THIS ONE HAD A 2 SECOND RATTLE.

From the spur above the path to La Rena ridge and C3, the line of F64 follows a long line of depressions heading 40° True "F64 Rift". There are many possible sites for alternative entrances here — take your pick! The rift continues, changing bearing to 50° and finally 59° near the Xitu path. "F64 Rift", by the way, provides an easy alternative route to the Snow Pole instead of climbing the spur to its right (viewed from the route up from Xitu). The route then turns due east and joins the C3 predicted course, in a depression just to the south of Pico Cjastutera. Thus it seems that F64 is yet another tributary of the Culiembro system. It will be interesting to see if this predicted junction between F64 and C3 can be found underground.

Perhaps you don't like the conclusions, but C3/F64 would make an interesting through/round trip, perhaps.



What a charmingly pleasant place is Vega de Alsedá! A classic corrie complete with terminal moraine. No sounds but the tinkling of remote cow bells & the buzzing of insects. There are 3 little springs just inside the moraine (not much flow except in winter possibly) and the prominent orange rocks are of course a peculiarity. There is a large fossil entrance way up in the crags. Its form (if it were to be stripped of its grass verdure) quite reminded me of the Valley of the Kings at Luxor, right down to the ^{hard limestone and} pyramidal "Peak of the West" (Pico Conjurtao). In glacial times caves would have formed under the ice and this possibly accounts for the large drainage system which now exists to El Hoyo La Madre. The edge of this reaction was again checked to see if the position of the underground watershed could be detected. It now seems that this watershed passes between the Snow Pole and Old Top Camp, passing through the Vega de Alsedá to the east of the terminal moraine.

Well, I hope you like this bullshit.

John

(56)



31.7.95 Dear Pete,
 Can you please make a list of
 who's got what from the Dragon
 spares kit??
 To you lovely man, James

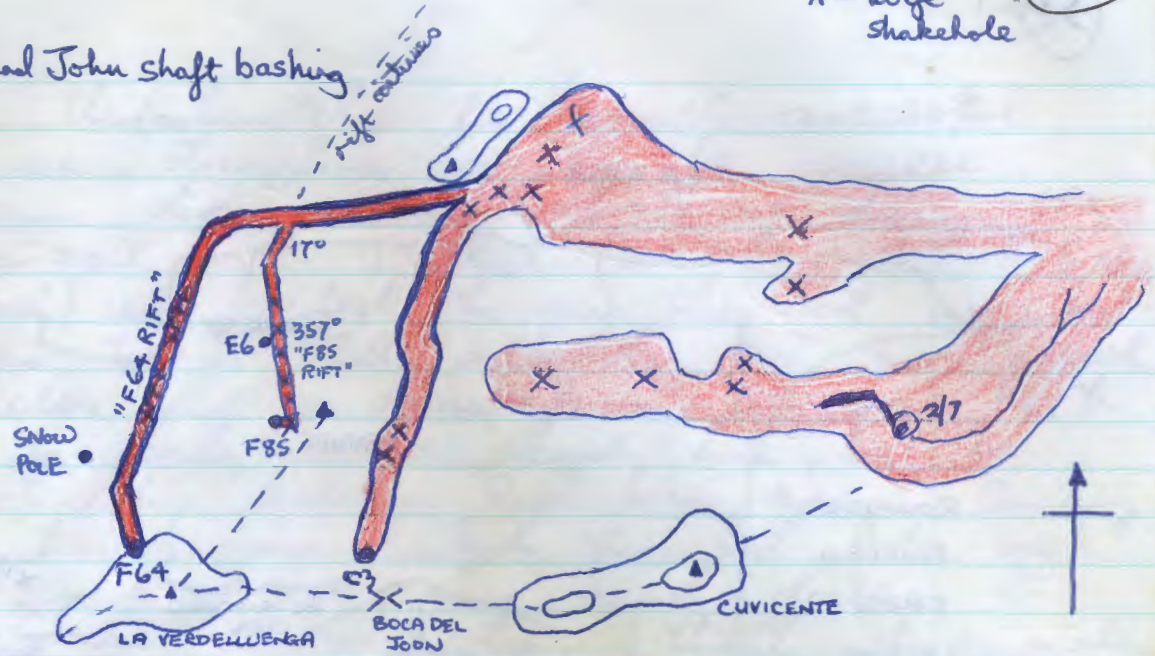
30/31.7.95 Hello OUCC
 We came to visit but have got to go back
 in our der-rig yellow-bag cave with the jolly organised
 Belgians. I think I prefer the laid-back OUCC
 style expeditions where you can write your adventures
 in a log-book rather than filling in a form to
 say what you're done.
 Give our love to everyone as we didn't get to see -
 big stobbery kisses + squishy hugs
 Sherry + Mark
 © XXX.

31.7.95

Bill, Firo and John shaft bashing

X = large
shakehole

(87)



F85 tagged, dowsed & pushed. Dowsing information passed to explorers Bill & Firo. F85 is believed to be connected to F64. The dowsing reaction is closed off to the S, W and N of the F85 entrance. Proceeds 50m 90° to large depression then drops into a 357° rift "F85 Rift" for 300m. This rift has on its west wall the entrance to OUCC E6. The description of this reads as if it has entered a varlose rift passage which is blocked. The bearing changes to 17° 100m before the Xitu path. This 17° direction can be seen continuing to the skyline east of La Rasa with some prominent rift/collapse/solutional features visible at long distance. However, the dowsing reaction ceases at the F64 reaction before the Xitu path is reached. The junction is at a large & deep doline close to the Xitu path immediately below a prominent cleft in the northern crag. See over for view.

Conclusion: F85 joins F64 below large doline close to Xitu path identified by prominent cleft in northern crag.

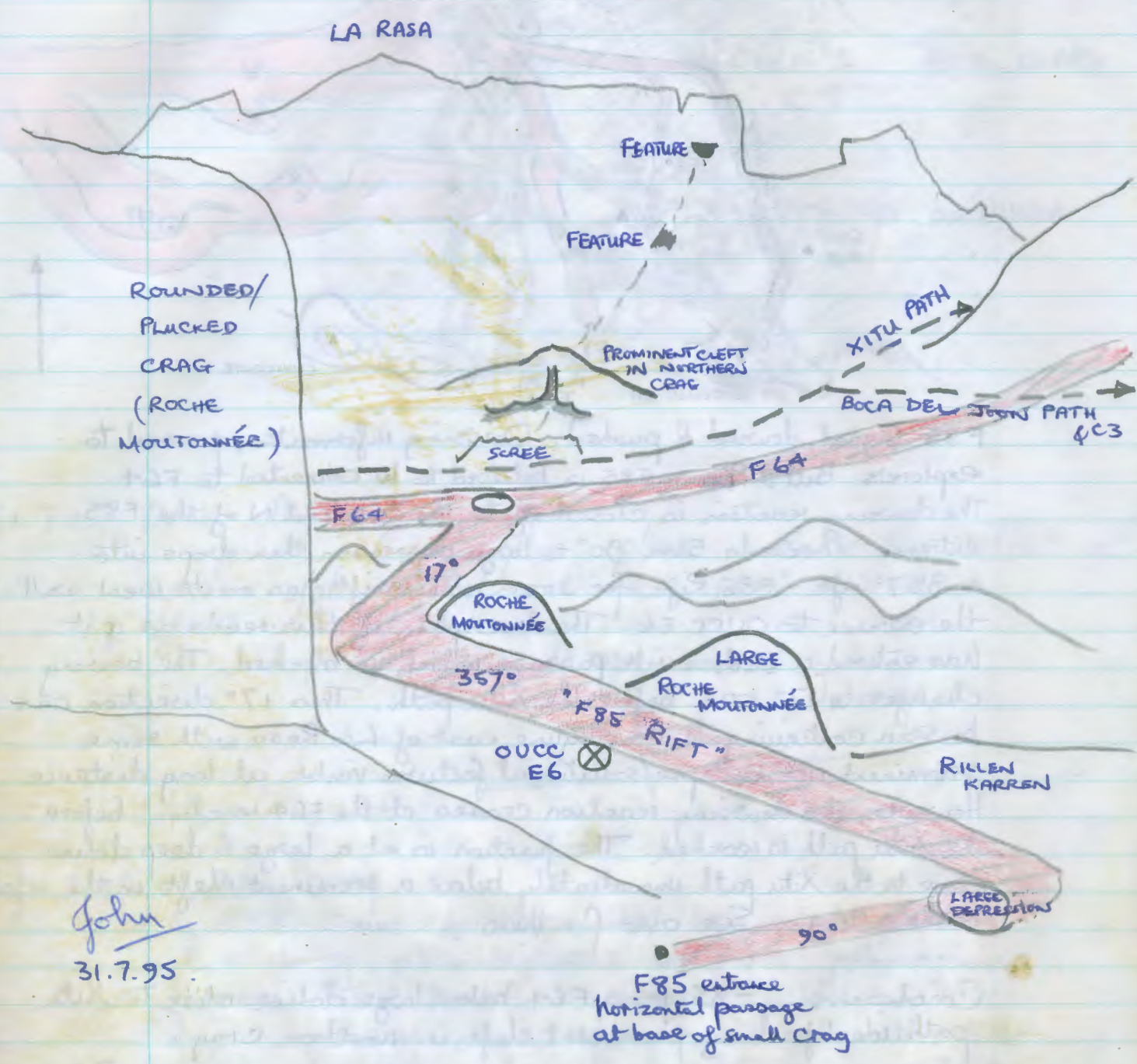
P.T.O.

Pushing in F85

The cave starts with an about 10m long horizontal passage. At the end of it there is the first (hopefully) first pitch which is about 5m deep. We made a Y-hang and Bill descended the pitch. He came out almost immediately and said it was ended by a boulder floor. I descended, too. The pitch is really nice with some dipstones and beautiful shapes. After

58

LA RASA



John
31.7.95

about 17 meters there is a ledge. A deviation was put in. At the bottom I found a small hole which leads into a rift tight rift and there is (draft) draught.... I climbed up and managed to persuade Bill that it was worth doing some hammer work. We came back to the camp and got some chisels, a hammer and some extra bolts hoping we ~~would~~ would need them.... So went back and I started the hammer-work while Bill went to descend on the

draft. Unfortunately he wasn't successful, like me, struggling ~~at~~ at the squeeze ... Bill came down and helped to me doing the hammer-work. At 9 o'clock (when our FTB was promised) we decided to give this work up, but only for today! Bill ascended first and noticed two holes and a chimney on his way. He tried to reach the second hole, but he couldn't, the deviation kept him away. On my way out I checked the first hole which leads up and there is a sand-drome. It looks to be an easy dig, I think it is worth trying it, despite a lack of draught ... See you tomorrow F85!

31. 4. '95.

Pivo

Pushing in F85 again. Bill and Pivo

First of all I have to admit that I wasn't right yesterday. Actually, at the second hole there was draught ... Our plan was that I would go first to the second hole and put in some bolts or fix some how a shorter rope and then Bill would be able to use the main rope for checking the chimney. Unfortunately I couldn't find any proper place to rig the rope from. But the rift is tight enough so I couldn't fall down although I haven't got a courage to leave the rope for a long time. So, there wasn't ~~any~~ other possibility and I started to dig. After about one and half our struggling I managed to make a squeeze and I could realize that stones fall down about 15 metres and there is a boulder chode above the squeeze. Meanwhile I had left the rope and Bill could descend down to the bottom of the pitch. I crawled into the squeeze and started to think what to do ... I had no idea there wasn't enough place to

turn around and the boulder chode looked ~~huge~~ awful. I climbed down and let Bill have a load.)

1-8-95

Well it's my last few minutes at Top Camp, for this year at least. Just wanted to say my good-bye to the log book + thank you for a great year. Hope to see you all at Bull Pot Farm on the New Year if all goes well.

Mike

So he climbed up and first of all he had to make the passage wider. When he could have a load he wasn't too satisfied. After a short struggling he came down (and saw) to find out what to do. After eating of a chocolate he went back with a plan to enter the ~~one pass~~ into the new passage and rig the rope. He found a small hole (enough to rig it) but he couldn't turn around so he told me that I was shorter and I should try it. I went up, went through the squeeze and could turn but some stones from the boulder chode gave me a surprise..... First I thought I would escape from that boring place but underneath me there was a new rift... so I didn't. I descended down and when the rope ended I left it (I can because it is not a hard free climb, actually. This part is a fossil rift. At the bottom of it there was a boulder chode, too which I could drop down. About 1.5 meters down there is a ledge. I couldn't climb down more, but I think (it is) there is a streamway below. Of course I dropped stones down, with fall down for a very short time (can't be more than 5 metres) and some of them bobbed into water. It goes down. I couldn't find the bearing out but it's possibly goes to the F64. Meanwhile, stones came were coming down