

4/8/86 More visitors from Germany have arrived - Udo Jansen (51) from Ludwigsbury and Harry and their families and Bladere the Score cow, a huge black dog ideally suited for tidying Base Camp, sitting/sleeping on, etc. After a mega-piss-up with the divers last night Udo, Harry and their hangovers accompany Dan & Co down Osu today. - Graham has come downhill and left ~~with~~ hitching, homeward bound. Jonny Tombs setting out uphill with bread the rest of Marcus' surveying equipment, and some other goodies. The weather is pretty inconclusive...

8pm have compressed the camp & am zipping off to Amador's with the other Germans to celebrate my birthday. Have fun here & have some chortos (dangling above the stove)

Welcome Phil Rose! G.

5/8/86 'On the futility of eating'

Woke up at 6 am-ish in lovely sunshine and had just enough time & wits left to put on underwear & shoes & get out of my tent before I threw up most of what I'd eaten yesterday evening. The rest left via the more normal exit three hours later. Argh. - The food tent was found to be inhabited by a mouse this morning.

G.

Could someone going to Cangas these days please buy a toothbrush for Phil Rose - TA. G.

Duncan Gilchrist has arrived - Welcome! & walked up to Top in the early afternoon with personal stuff & some veg. No-one coming down. -

G.

(52) 6/8/86 Mega-food carry uphill

Gerhard taking: carbide, gas (lots), ~~canes~~ ^{meat}, salmon, tomatoes, molize, flamed cane food (fruit) (some).

7/8/86 left in dinner to catch the bus.

Good evening & see you all at BCRA

Ed

Andy's address in Geneva: from ~ early Sept. 1986.

No 2

~~Rue~~ Rue du Centenaire,
1227 Carouges,
Geneve

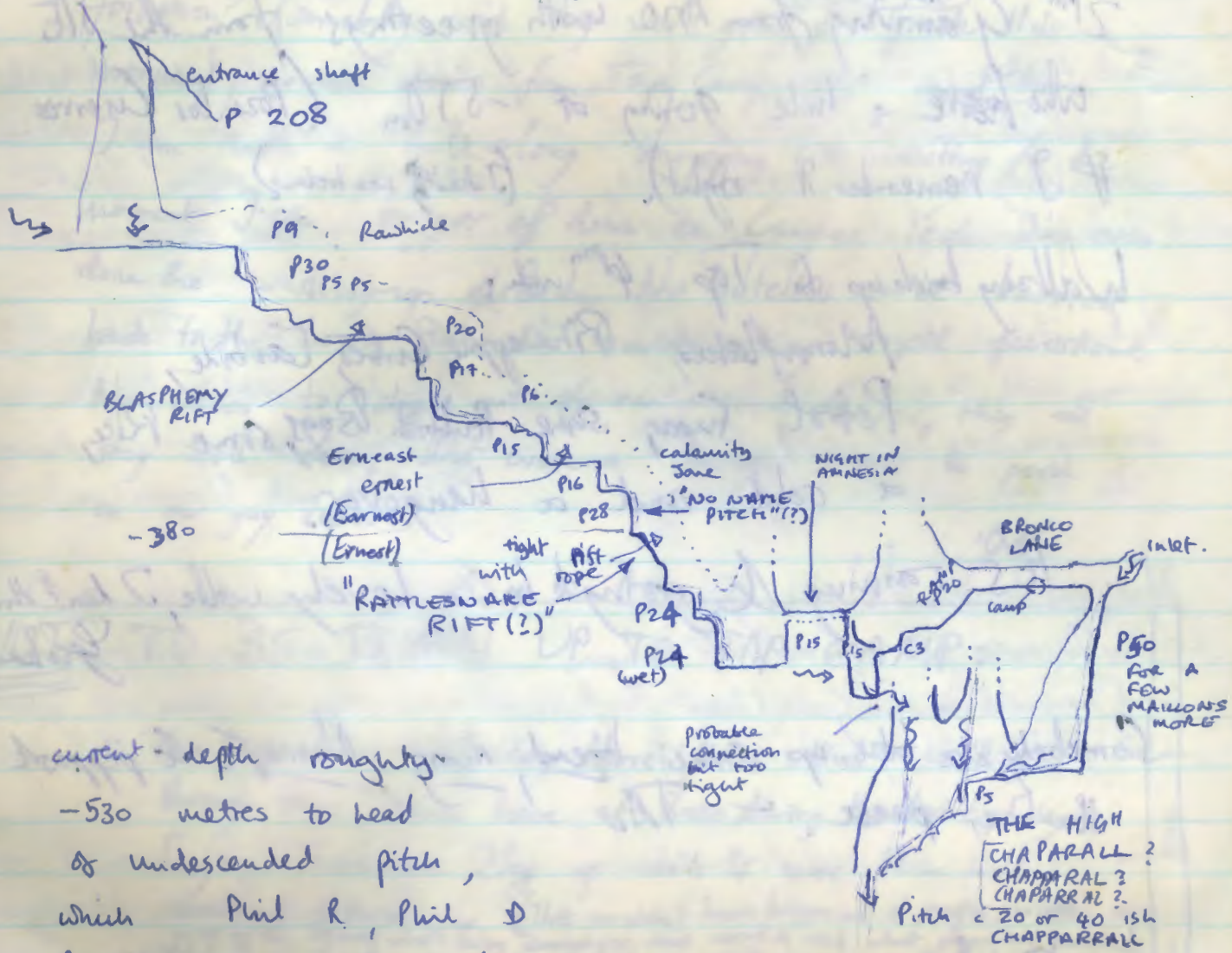
Book your skiing hol's now!

2/8/86: PB down to Cangas. Picked up "Lista" with letters for:

- Phil D (1)
- Dave H (1)
- Fred (1)
- Marcus (1)
- Gerhard (~ 10)

(I found 5, in fact, 4)

F20 as it stands 8th August:



current depth roughly:

-530 metres to head
of undescended pitch,
which Phil R, Phil D

& El Jefe are supposed
to be pushing down today: the
cave must either have stopped or broken the 2,000 feet
mark.

(Final depth ~ 585m - sump level within a few metres
of that of Psycho killer)

(54)

10 August:

2^{pm} G arriving from Ario with greetings from the STE who have a hole going at -550m (Pozo los Cuerrros if I remember it right). (I didn't see below)

Walking back up to Top from with:

Moonflakes, Pineapple Cubes, Carbide, Petrol, Sugar, some Rubber Bags, some Rice, a cold and a hangover.

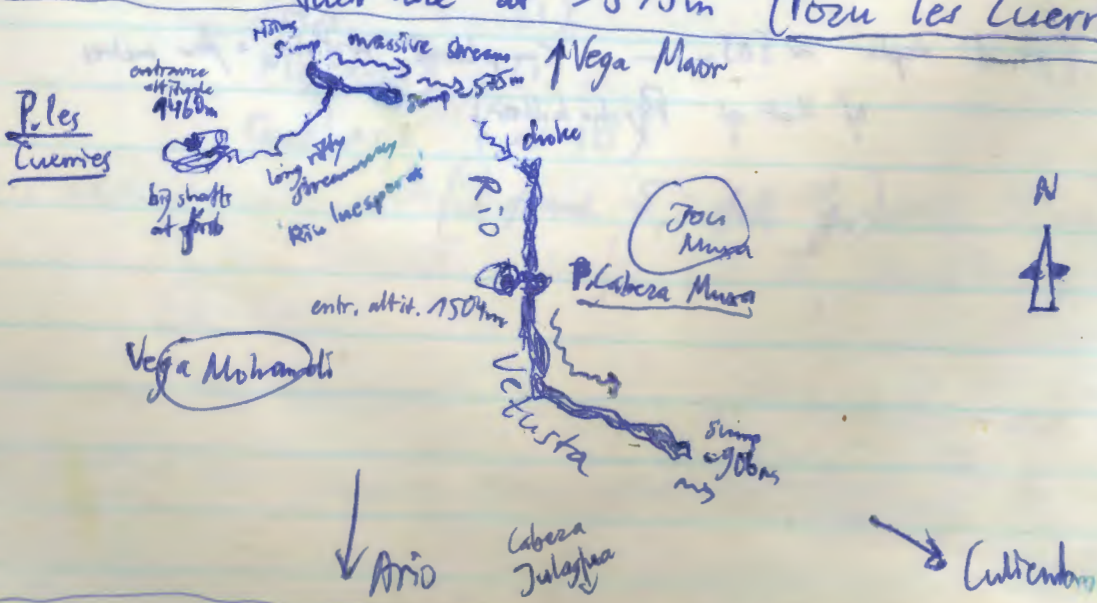
It's raining & going to be a lovely walk, I don't think Gerhard

Somebody else take up some bread, orange, Nescafe & peppercorn like, please. - TAC

12 August:

3^{pm} G arriving from Ario with more greetings from the STE who've bottomed their hole at -575m (Pozo los Cuerrros).

SKETCH MAP & PLAN:



13 August — Oh Jim so lonely. The divers' tents forsaken (somebody said they were going to ^(return and) pack this morning), no one down from Top Camp yet, and here I am with a mile-long shopping list waiting for the moment I can bugger off down to Cangas. Yeah I've even done the washing up already. No botellas to be carried back to the Lower Bar. No tourists asking stupid questions. No vacos to chase out of our sacred fences, they all stay well clear. Not even a drough wants to perch on our guy ropes...

Y/N

NOT TO BE TAKEN UP TO TOP CAMP:

- The remaining 7-odd Moren'flake tins - we'll get through these down here at Base during the last Exp. days.
- Sugar. There are 2kg up which is more than we'll manage between us. (This wouldn't have happened if people wrote up in the logbook what's being carried up, and cared to read what others have carried.)
- Petrol - for the moment. It were walked up on Sunday and these should last us at least a week from now.
- Rice and Pasta - tons of these are in the Top food tent and they can't be buried for next year. (Well you can bury them but they won't do you any good in '87...)
- 206 Bleuete gaz cylinders. Half a dozen waiting at Top - use the ones here for the lanterns.
- any kind of tackle, obviously.

Also, when you're carrying up half a ton of fresh veg, it's a good idea to leave one each tomato, pepper, onion, spud, orange, lentil, chick pea, green bean or what have you behind so that the poor chap having to guard Base the following night can cook himself a nice dinner. TA.

Gabard

(56) A Poem for Gerhard by two friends from university at Munich,
Die Höhlenforscher

Fast täglich suchen sie nach Spalten,
um sich im Dunkeln aufzuhalten.
Dort hängen sie dann oft am Seil,
denn manche Spalte ist gar steil!

Nach während sie den Boden suchen,
-man hört sie manchmal leise fluchen-
vermessen sie, wie sich's gehört,
die Höhle ziemlich ungestört.

Nur mühsam kann in engen Gängen
der Dünnste sich noch vorwärts zwingen,
Und braucht er auch Geduld und Kraft,
wie glücklich ist er, wenn er's schafft.

Dann heißt es, sich zurück zu winden,
um den andern zu verkünden,
daß es nichts zu sehen gibt,
wenn man nicht nen Fels verschiebt.

Sichermaßen. man belehrt
macht die ganze Gruppe kehrt,
sucht nach einem andern Gang,
hofft, der sei besonders lang.

Eine edle Forscherseele
trotzt auch einer wassen Höhle!
Ist der Gummizug dicht,
scheut sie auch das Schwimmen nicht.

Wenn man heimkehrt, wird beschrieben,
wann man wo wie lang geblieben.
Fotos sind von großem Wert,
sie zu machen, ist erschwert:

Dafür braucht der Forscher Licht,
doch das gibt's in Höhlen nicht.
Ein Behelf ist hier nicht dumm:
Blitzlicht mit Magnesium!

Oh die Sache funktioniert?
Hast Du das schon ausprobiert?
Wir wünschen Dir dazu viel Glück!
Und komm bald wieder heil zurück!

Annettes & Johannes Schwaiger
July 1986

translated (not too well) by G. on 12 August whilst guarding Base Camp.)

The Cave Explorers.

(57)

They look for cracks 'bout ev'ry day,
so that they may in darkness stay.
It oft takes ropes to go down deep,
for many cracks are rather steep!

The floor unseen still, God knows where,
- you sometimes hear them softly swear -
they start (they know how to behave)
surveying properly the cave.

Low is the roof, the rift is tight,
even the thinnest has to fight.
Patience is needed much and strength,
but happy who gets through at length.

Then 'outward' is the way to choose
and back to Camp, to spread the news
that ev'rywhere the view is block'd
unless you try to shift a rock.

Thus enlightened with surprises
the whole group at once arises:
down the next route in a throng,
hoping it will turn out long.

A true caver remains brave
even in the wettest cave!
With a good web suit, yes my dear,
- a swim is all enjoyment sheer.

Write up when you return, don't lie,
who was where, ^{for} how long, and why.
Pictures a good impression make
although they're somewhat hard to take.

For these the caver needs much light,
alas, the cave's as dark as night!
Chemistry helps you in this fix:
Just fire a magnesium mix.

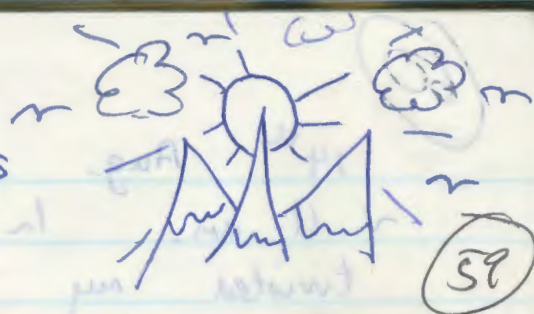
Whether this will work alright?
Goshard, we wonder, have you tried?
We wish you luck there all around!
And come back home soon, safe and sound!

* * *

↪

13th later in the day.

Cheers for the Moonshades bags
lot of love & explicit sex
"The shoring drawers"



There's mail for Roy (2), Martin et jeff & Fred (1),
(2, 1 of them old!) (1)

5 PM (!) back from epic shopping trip. Spent 1 hour walking &
waiting for a lift down, and 2 1/2 hrs walking/waiting for a lift up.
Even so I had to walk the finish from Enrol.

7:30 pm setting out for TL. Carrying:

5 loaves bread, 27 eggs, marg, jam, honey, nocilla, some rubbish bags,
some soups, some herbs & spices, some olives, peppers, tomatoes, a few apples,
sour drops. Also one anchor grease syringe, and cotton wool for the
first-aid kit. Clouds gathering now over the path, think I'll
want my compass hanging ~~around~~ my neck.

As a change from G some left hard drinkable
Phil W. left for top camp at some early hour
(hardly light I believe, but then I didn't open my
eyes. As it is at last sunny I have
opened up the tents to dry and washed my socks!
I would go for a swim in enal but I guess
I can't leave camp unattended. We have had two
groups of visitors today, the S.I.P. have given us
their 'pos' and an english couple - I can't remember
names, are heavy and may visit top camp.

14th Aug. PB. Set off from T.C. at ~ 11 am. In the X-valley I slipped and twisted my ankle. I hopped to Airo where Blas bandaged me up and sent me on my way. Got down at ~ 4pm with no pack, it is still in the valley below. I hope someone comes down before I run out of water as I can't make it over to the spring and back.

QUOTE OF THE DAY (Tu 19/8/86)

Dave "I'm too honest"
"Too fucking honest"
"I'm not honest that way" Horley