

26A Paul, James & Wlodek
Trip to C9

We spend a couple of hours (~18) ripping cave and ~~make~~ surveying. We changed ripping in Bullseye shaft make bypass of 4D choke, change ropes in Night Games. Tony's way to the bottom it is very nasty crawl in the water in a 20 cm high passage. Probably exist a bypass of this crawl because all draught is going different way, actual depth of cave after last ~~meter~~ survey is ~380m. For extension look for on previous page.

Tony's crawl is a typical "zosadzka" for cavers, who don't like crawling in the 4°C water. Probably after bigger rain this place (~50m) is under water. I was ~~disputedly~~ disputedly by this phase.



James, whilst perusing Maria's "Bent - Buster" :
"This is terrible, what a thing to live up to, poor Gavin!"

I had a look at this cave because it's quite close to the line of F64 and so I hoped it would bypass the Force Ladies. The rigging was interesting as I didn't have any bolts. At the bottom was a boulder floor with no way on. On the way back up, I noticed a rift leading off to the right. I pendulumed in and followed the rift to another pitch. More interesting rigging (rope tied tight direct to spike ~~two~~ rope protection) knot changeover) down to another boulder floor, with no way on.

F80

New designation for H1: "Sima de Los Cabrones"

F81

New designation for H2

F82

See earlier

The word 'simas' (abyss) should not be used in this part of Spain; the local equivalent is 'Torca' with Tras la Joyada being a prototype.

27/7/96 YW

In which James and Sara go down C9

We set off at a leisurely pace up the mountain shortly after lunch. James suffering from stomach ache and sleep deprivation and Sara from a roaring cave hunger which could be assuaged only by a trip down the soon-to-be deepest cave in the world. Scenic views on the way up of the central massif rising from the clog and of James' less than adequate underwear, with plenty of stops for chocolate and water on the way. The keeping coolness of the cave overcame my slight

apprehension and I went down first. The big pitch
 at the top has a delightful symmetry as the rebelay
 and deviations switch from ~~there~~ wall to wall and
 the depth is less intimidating than it might be because
 of the frequent ledges. We came on past the next
 two pitches and ladders and into the big chandelier which
 has no name, stopping off to look at the very beautiful
 aren which has no name, through the vacuum cleaner
 to the very beautiful passage which has no name -
 I conclude that hard covers have only squeezes and
 pitches we turned back reluctantly at the head of the
 second pitch past the vacuum cleaner because of lack of
 time. En route we met Tony and later Dave and Harvey
 all downward bound. The passing up was much
 better than expected and on the last pitch James decided
 to teach me to sing to cheer me on. We emerged to
 a delicate pulch sunset and changed as darkness
 fell. We came back along Tony's thoughtfully
 chosen route and after quarter of an hour stopped
 to lie on our backs and gaze at the stars. We were
 awakened from pleasant dreams by the whistles and
 lights of friends and comrades across the valley,
 and emerged at camp having narrowly escaped a
 humble death at the hands of the Picos pick-axe
 murderer, to delicious food and welcome tea.
 Apologies to Rob whom we unwittingly lived
 away from camp to a cold night under the stars.
 Many thanks to Chris V ~~him~~ without whose gear
 all this would not have been possible and especially
 to James for a trip which made my holiday.

H1

- Pat & Steve

- 28/7/94

The day's only caving trip.

A leisurely start saw us at the entrance at around 5 pm. The entrance snow plug was lower, but as much fun as ever, forcing us to clamber over snow and pendula daringly.

I spent a long while rapping the big shaft, with Steve waiting patiently at the top. Eventually I reached the end of the 42m rope, next to a good, essential belay point, so put in yet another bolt and beckoned Steve to join me. After several minutes of 'loit', Steve reached the belay above, and delivered the rest rope to me. Supposedly 25m, it was very close to 30m. However, it wasn't enough, I was still 8m above a snow plug at the base of the pitch. However I could see the passage ongoing at the base of the pitch, the shaft closing down to a 5m x 5m archway leading N.E. (obviously one of the caves lighter bits, there probably exists a higher window if Wadell thinks this is too small.) To the S.W. the passage supposedly goes on (having been closed down all the way down the pitch), appearing to pass the base of the snow plug (ice wall on right side). We reached -100m, the snow plug was measured -106m beneath us, although it slopes down towards the archway - 'Industrial Vacuum Clean' perhaps.

We ascended, surveying to grade 36 and derring as we went. We reached the pitch top

to see/hear lightning & thunder. Figuring it to be distant, we continued our surveying / drilling, until 1 strike within 1 1/2 miles caused us concern. Steve made one of his fastest cave exits, ~~going~~ to find a place of safety (not a cave entrance full of toxic air was as good as the cave itself). Meanwhile, I waited in bivvy bag for the storm to pass whilst sitting comfortably at the big pitch head. After ~45 minutes, Steve gave the all clear, and so I continued out, leaving the last of the drilling / surveying for the morning.

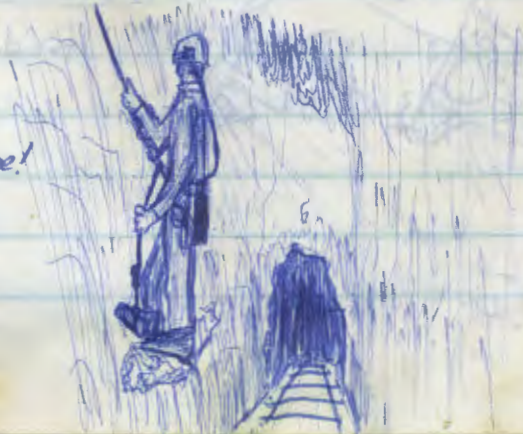
Thanks to the storm, we were 10 minutes past our call out, although our lights had been seen 1/2 hour previously on the mountain top, so panic hadn't set in when we reached base (in fact, most people, especially Jim, were soundly drunk!).

Does the cave draught?

Well, sitting at the pitch head, where the cave is a 2m x 5m squeeze, the draught outwards was phenomenal, possibly 5m/s at times. This draught seems clearly related to the meteorology at the time, (dropping pressure with the storm), but still indicates large cave volume:

eg Average 1m/s over 2x5m passage = 10 m³ / s
 For 30 minutes or 2,000 seconds = 20,000 m³
 If pressure change of 20 mbars or 2%,
 total volume = 1,000,000 m³
 or equivalent to lower underground ~~volume~~ in 2/7!

-100m,
and no more rope!



Paul

Paul has taken the survey data for drawing up back in the UK.

Instrument Calibration

- Sighting

Top of Snow Pole → Summit of Vorkelung?

Inst Set

②

③

Paul's ②

Inst # 319123 226529 406556 [315481]

Inst Comp Clin Comp Clin Comp Clin

Pold 150 1/2° +26 1/2° 149 3/4° +26 1/2° 150.5° +28°

Herry 153° +27° 150.5° +29° 153° +29°

Steve P. 149° +26° 149.5° +27° 149° +28°

Alex H. 155° +27° 149° +26.5° 153.5° +27°

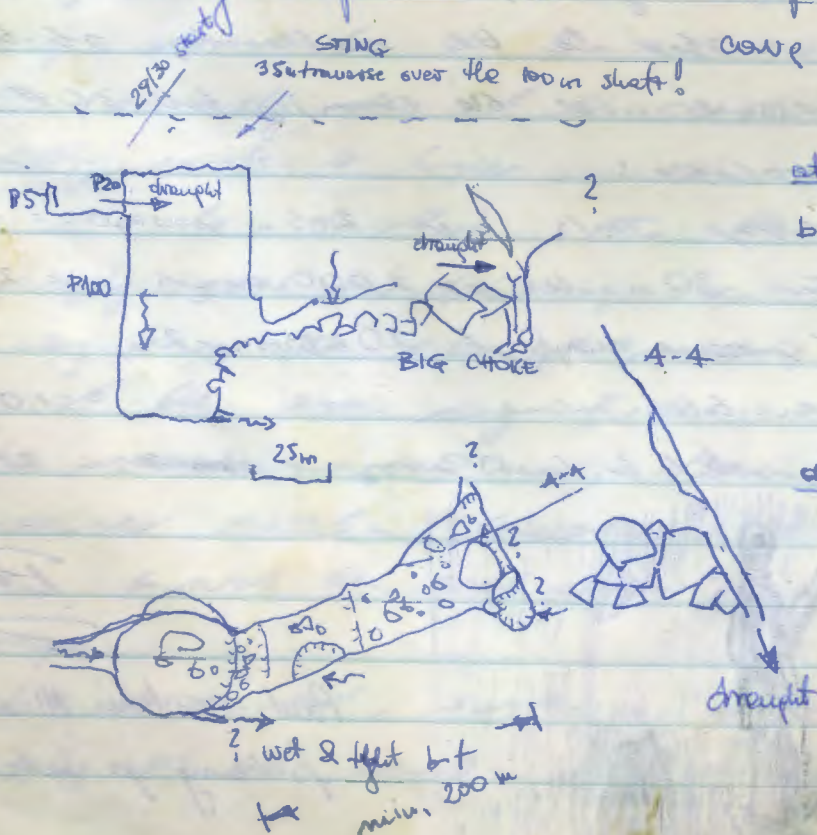
John P. 149.5° +27° 151° +27° 151° +29°

Alex H. 147° - Re-reading inst sure it read compass back to front first time.

29/30/11/94

C9 (Whodah & James)

25 hours caving trip. Our the best trip, we triggered cave and pushed



at the bottom:

- bolting kit:
- ropes 10m
- hangers 35m
- maillons 60m
- steel wires
- tapes
- no bolts!

at the top plus

food & stove

- ropes: 10m
- 15m
- 50m

30/9/94

Paul & Steve

Simo Verdelluengo

88
87

Another virtual photography trip!

It was meant to be real! I packed the gear, checking
 if it worked - Flashes - OK, Slaves - OK, Camera - OK;
 then we set off. It was a good price's start,
 3pm, planning an overnight trip, out to see the dawn
 perhaps. Down the first pitch, pass the 3 rebelayes,
 and into the rift. First stop, the first small
 chamber in the rift, with its pretty walls.
 Out with camera, went out lighting, set up flash,
 check slave still working - FLASH! - yes.
 Set up model, let's use Tennock bar for effect.
 All ready, F16, press button, CVUNK!
 Camera seizes. Work wind on, won't release shutter
 again - so rewind film, & start investigating
 problem - shutter jammed, setting to do. Took
 up camera, up rift then crissit, crissit, crissit; and
 back out in just over an hour. Well try again
 tomorrow, with Jim's camera!

Is a rose by any other name just as sweet?

~~2/7 - Dozu 30m below the eyehole - Dozu 30m Ojo del Bruja~~
- Dozu Jultayu

8/11 - ~~Dozu Cabera Jultayu~~ - Dozu Sierra Perceada

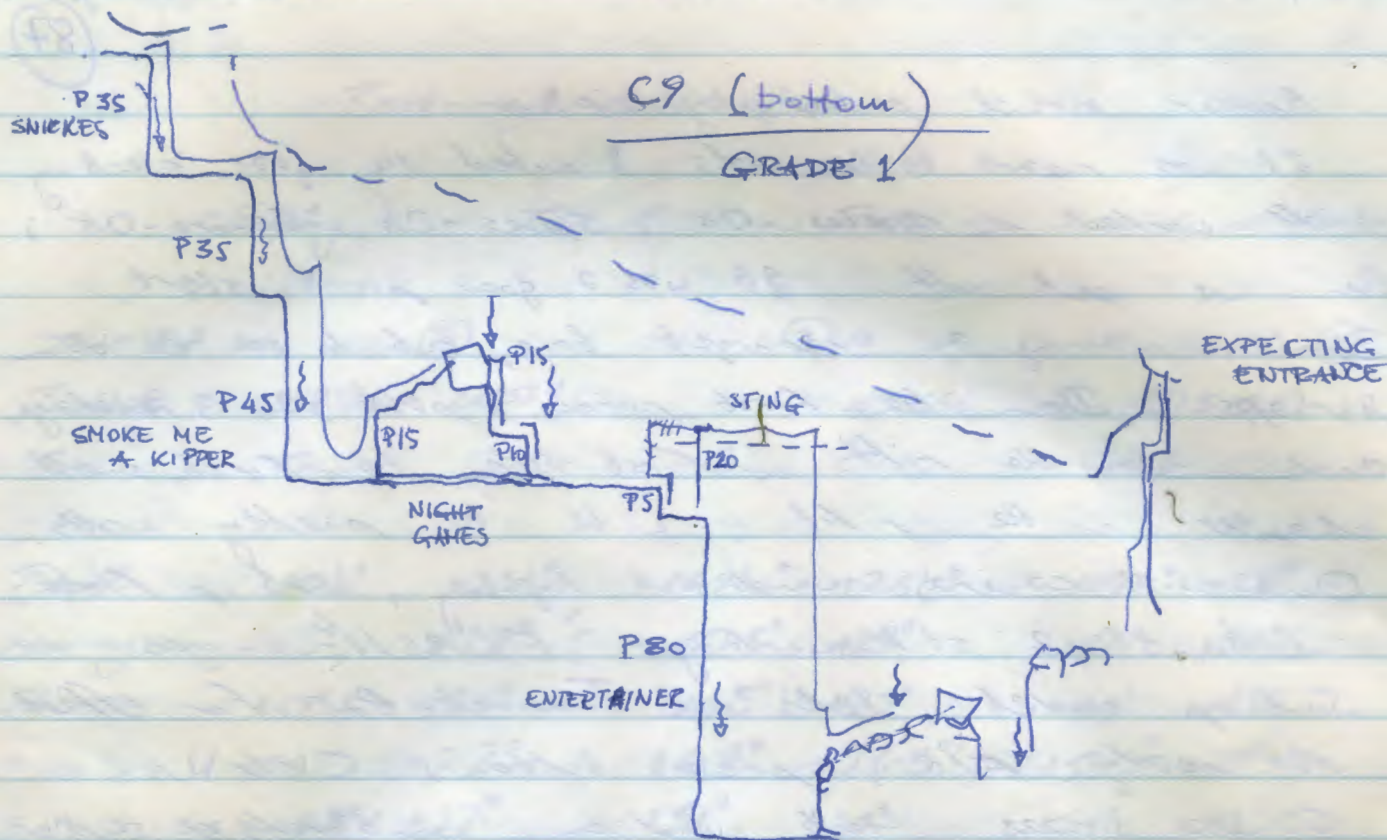
~~18/9~~ - C8

~~5/9~~ - C3 Simo Verdelluengo

~~1/2~~ - F81

~~1/1~~ - F80

87



31/7/94

Sharon

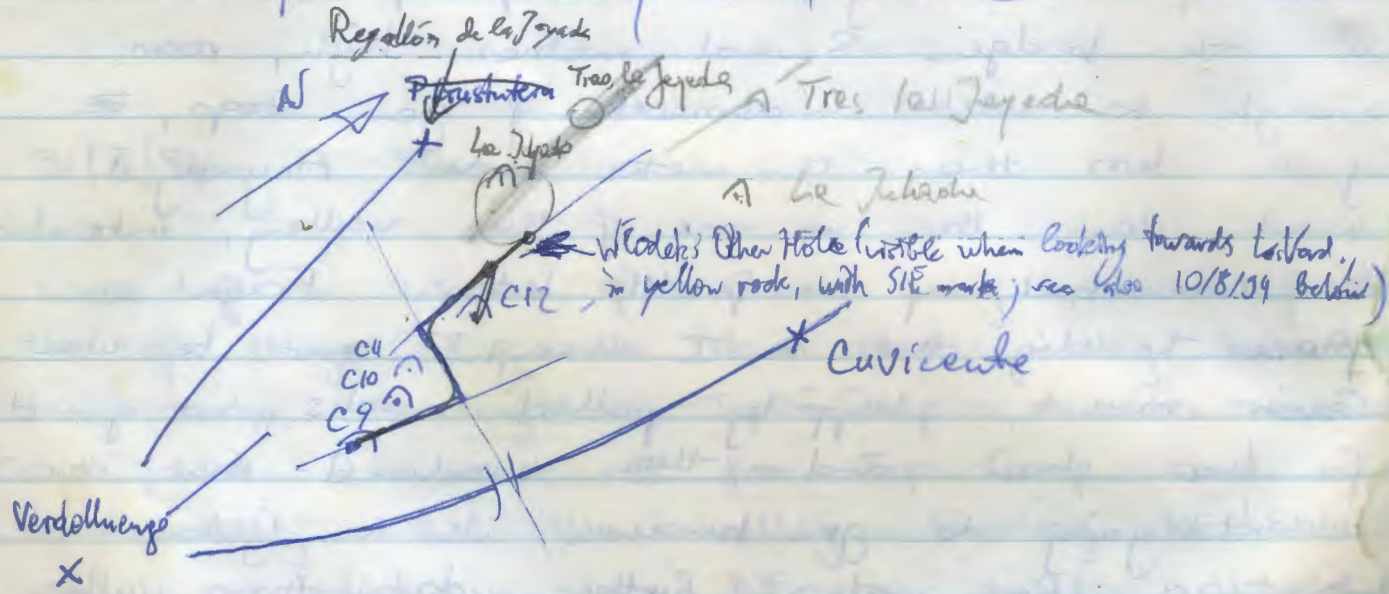
Went off in search of Gavin's dig, and found lots of things. I went down the valley behind the ridge - leading to Top Camp - on the - earned - route, ie I went SE from Top Camp and immediately hit the valley running NE-SW, and proceeded in a NE-erly direction along it, looking at shakeholes as I went. Had a peek inside the hole Gavin found a few days ago (F83) (which I don't think was written up). It's in about the 5th-6th bump along the valley floor, with lots of loose stones in the bottom of the bump, which makes it a bit dangerous in case of collapse. Gingerly peering through the hole that Gavin made obvious, you can see down several

metres in a wavy sort of rift with some snow in, but because it goes away to the right, you can't see if it continues or not. Anyway. On down the valley, over the horizon, keep going down the valley and the valley now veers slightly to the right, with a rock face like a cliff to your right. Now you're about level with the other end of the aforementioned ridge, ie where you turn off from the valley up ~~to~~ onto the ridge to get to Top Camp. Looking down the valley, to the left there's a sort of parallel valley looking like a cave run along there and collapsed. Halfway down the parallel valley - to - the - left (pvttl) there is a rock bridge. Several metres high, room enough to walk underneath if you stoop, ~~is~~ just less than a metre wide. Anyway I went down the ~~to~~ rhs of the valley, intending to come back up the pvttl later. Found a place to dig that I thought must be what Gavin meant, happily pulled rocks out of it for an hour and then realized that it wasn't going to go because it's too tight. Went a few metres further down the valley, past a rock pile that's unusual because it looks like someone tried to glue little rocks together to form big rocks, and behind this pile there's an entrance (with thirt outside it) that needs looking at. Horizontal-ish and went round a corner that I couldn't see round, so I don't know if it goes. Anyway, ~~is~~ coming back up ~~the~~ the pvttl (now the pvttr :) just near the rock bridge is interesting. One shaft

directly under the rock bridge with a small snow-plug in it (so I can't see if it does anything), and one shaft either side of the bridge (1m/2m). The entrance is gapingly obvious and cute. I can see a rocky floor but it needs someone to check ~~that~~ what the bit round the corner does. Other side of rock bridge 2m away ~~is~~ again needs checking to see if it goes anywhere. Toiled back to camp before it rained too heavily.

Shain

31/02/94 Watch shaft boring in area C or other



C10 new cave, ~ 30m lower than entrance of C9, draught, few seconds drop, probably join with C9

C11 new cave
 Regallon Tres Custutens 28°
 Cuvicente 268°
 (This is the 'hump' on the ridge/spur going down W/E from La V.)