

OUCC

Boca del Joon

'95

Underground  
Camp.

A5 FEINT  
NOTEBOOK

A catalogue of the adventures  
and discoveries of O.U.C.C in  
C9 during the summer of '95.  
"Depth Through Thought."

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OXFORD UNIVERSITY  
CAVE CLUB  
LIBRARY

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Happy Campers include:

- 5/10 James "Butter fingers" Hooper \*
- 3 Wlodek "M.C.H." Szymanski
- 1 William "Red socks" Stead
- 3 Tim "Shipping precart" Guifford
- 3 Olly "Boots off" Hutton
- 3 Pauling "Eventual Agreement" Rigby
- 3 Paul Mann "Just another photo"
- 7 Will Jeremy "Cave Conservationist"
- 6 Rob "The Boat Man" Garrett
- 3 Mike "20-20 Hindsight" Coram
- 3 Alex 'the pyro' Harding
- 5 Snablet "2 in a bed"
- ~~Wlodek~~
- 3 Anette "Faster Out than In" Becker
- 5 Dave "Mathochest" Lacey
- 3 Chris "Fashion Accessory" Densham
- 2 Harvey "Just a Quick Fettle" Smith
- 2 Pete
- 3 Pivo
- 1 Bill

69 person/nights

⊗ those brave Knights of the Water Table.



## 2 "the lost frontier"

15/16 July '95 James & Włodzis (Cpt. T3)

Arrived at Sting after 2:50. To find 400+ m of rope and three other tackle bags. Moved it all to T3. Looked for long time for bypass to M.C., failing that we hung the bxxxxx. Rerigged + bolted defenestrator and returned to No More Heroes.

Ah.....

Happiness.

Włodzis started rigging pitch from No More Heroes while I pushed ahead in rift (too tight but must explore high levels).

Returned to T3 at 4 a.m. and decided to bivvy before heading out.

[Proved good idea as I got out in <sup>2155</sup> 7 mins.]

It's Great to be back.

Depth Through Thought  
We are going DOWN.

18/19 July

James & William

"The next degeneration"

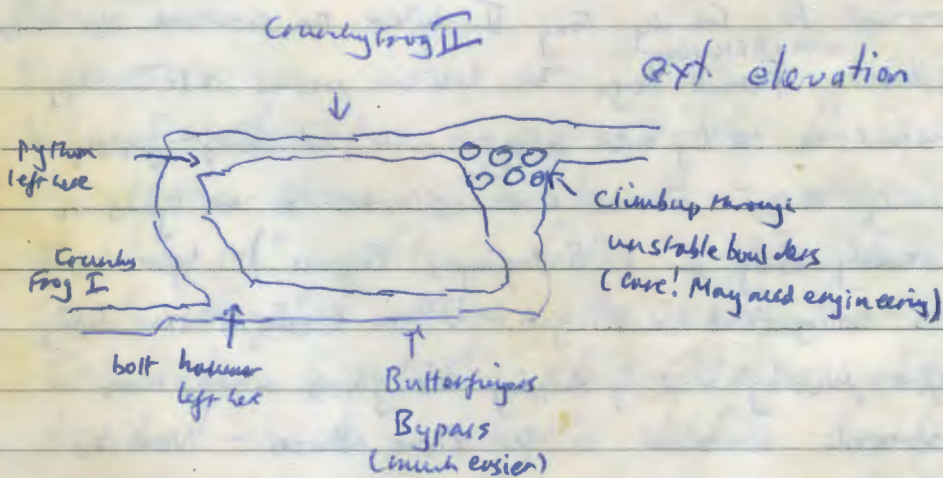
(at T.S.)

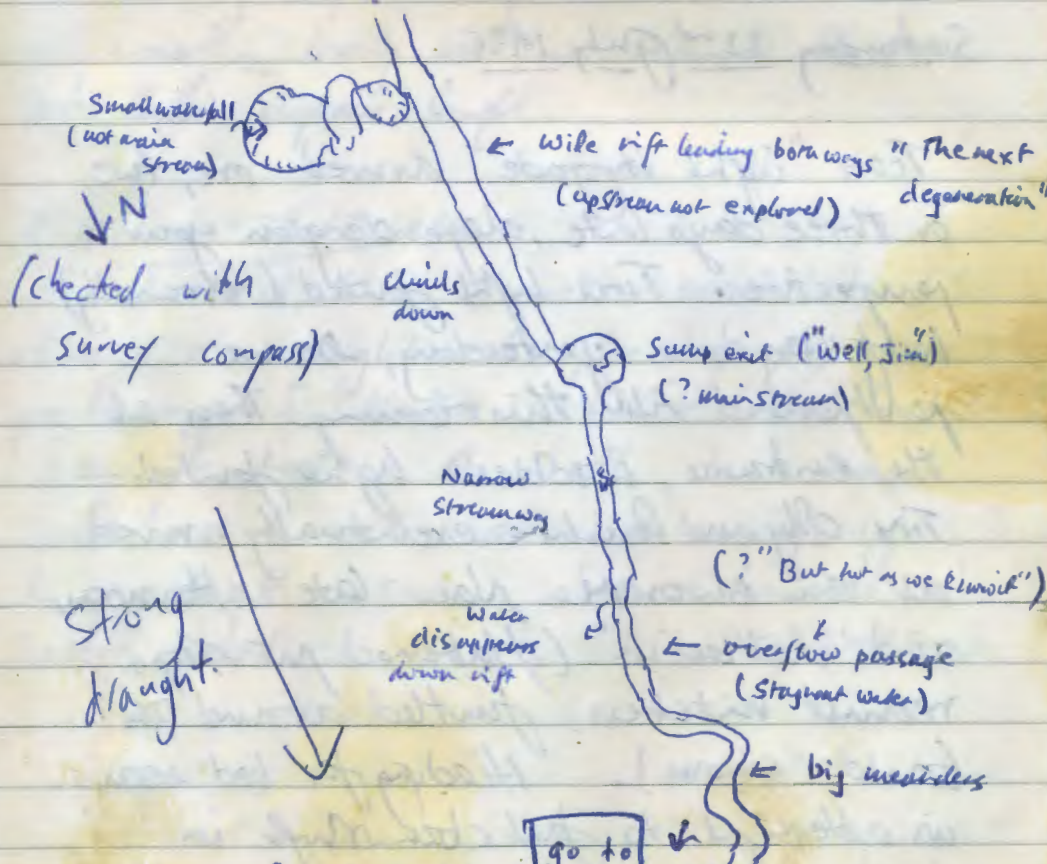
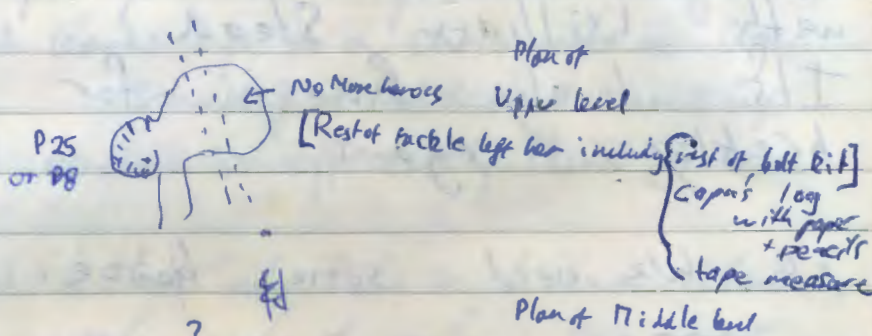
At Started ca 11:20am after a somewhat disrupted previous evening & arrived around 3pm. Had tea, got pits ready & set off again 4:15. James rigged defenestrator & WJS advised Wtodd & James's engineering skills on the west dene. Down through v. awkward rift to the County Frog where William got badly stuck & had to take everything off & empty his pockets. Got a python through first. Undaunted, William continued to County Frog II where too someone else dropped William's <sup>with all his gear in</sup> Prussic bags. This, however proved to be a blag in disguise as the bag ended up in a wide bit of rift just beyond County Frog I. James now excavated a way by-pass to County Frog II ("Butterfingers Bypass") before dropping his battery down the Klingon. William supplied a spare battery before following suit by dropping his gloves which James retrieved. Continued to No Three Heroes - Next trip should move camp there. Descended rift to <sup>less water than main stream</sup> ~~the~~ higher chamber with unfeasibly tight rift leading off. Broad rift leads back (+forward)  $\frac{1}{3}$  way down + pushed this descending slowly to phreatic tube & camp post.   
 1 Que bustina! No, no, a summit exit post. you push down stream <sup>down</sup> the narrow passage to small



cf

at Cascade where water disappears into rift a width ~50m  
along overflow channel to boulder pile which is probably  
passable with a bit of exploration (initial rock). Turned  
round at 10 pm, passing on way out to Kansas County Froy I  
& reached here at 2 am. William utterly exhausted, James  
quite chippy. Turned in 0320 hrs & up in 1020 hrs, hairy  
breakfast, ET Snow Rte 6 pm.





go to 19/19

William 19/7/95

pile of boulders (probably passable)

Let the music + cave play on...



6.

Oh what is the matter  
with William Stead  
It's lovely Raven for  
breaky again...

p.s. We need some booze.

~~~~~  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1995.

Team "light Brigade" arrived one, two,  
or three days late, depending on your  
perspective. Tim's light jacket (horribly)  
half way down yesterday, so we  
perforated till this morning. Then, at  
the entrance, Wzobek's light jacket  
Tim, Oly and Pauline eventually arrived  
at this awareness place late afternoon,  
and "settled in" (flattened pit stops,  
rebuild kitchen, fumbled around the  
boulder choke). Heading for bed soon  
in attempt to just clean up in  
readiness for the hotbed team  
~~do~~ tomorrow morning. wow, what a care



[Oh, up slope to the top, there's a rift  
which leads up to a chert into a big  
inlet. Small flat rock and chert up  
to left earlier is effectively Ured J.

Managed to tune into Radio 4 to hear Robert  
Robinson reporting words of wisdom. There must  
be something wrong with me because the Raven  
food tasted gorgeous tonight?

9:30 am 23/7/95

Paul, Will, James arrive at T3  
after a night of photography +  
portering. Fa bada for breakfast.  
Saw V team A off to the  
frontier and am now going  
to drink some Sir Edwards  
before bed. James

8.

2am 24/7/95.

We hammered Crunchy Frog I

I got lost after the bypass.

Tim carried the python to No more Heras.

We went to the end of the cave (the rock with the initials on).

We went through a small crawl on (L)

just past initialled rock into nice grey rock and meanders which lead to a pitch

(4 seconds) and a large passage above.

We surveyed back from here to Well Jim.

getting very cold.

Then we found our way back again.

Still no Hedeck, but we did OK.

(Also Tim did a climb in the chamber ~~at~~ just before the Klingon. Backwards (south) rift drafts, but is impenetrable. But ~~at~~ at very top is bold traverse (north), slot to parallel rift which needs 2 boulders moving to get 'into)



"You know, I don't think  
Walter's boring?" 9.

was! Amazing! Big Black void - especially  
after the misery of the Crunchy rifts. Lots  
of high level big stuff above the ~~low~~  
~~soft~~ stream rift from "well jiri" -  
perhaps it all connects back to  
the Black hole above the 'No more Heroes'  
inlet?

it looks to me as if the rock has changed  
from that hard, Black limestone that killed  
53/5 (and others), to a softer, lighter  
rock that is allowing development again.  
Who knows.

24<sup>th</sup> July 1995.

Team "light Brigade" get up at 1300 -  
no sign of Jarvis, Will and Paul. Tea in  
Bed. It seemed much luxury to be lying  
in a deep pit, in a smelly Alpaca, on  
rocks, in the dark, drinking tea out of  
an (almost) empty peach tin, 400m down.



10.

I wonder what mum would think?

A damn damn breaks.  
we are going down.

It is strange, and irritating, to think  
that the 4 record pitch we found  
yesterday - the limit of exploration -  
is now probably rigged, and ~~the limit~~  
leading - who knows where?

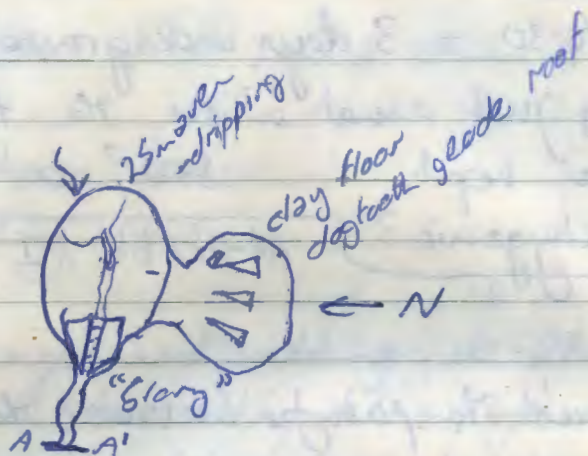
\* Camp attractions \*

① "Mornflaves, the better way"

Don't waste valuable fuel on cooking  
mornflaves for breakfast (especially when  
most of the fuel is in the streamway  
at the bottom of Good Night Vienna)! No!  
Eat them raw, with warm water and  
a tin of chopped peaches! Yes!







A lot of nasty climbing up the arêtes. I was able to get to Glory, but worth it, a beautiful dripping over, with the base of a blind chamber of base side with crystal (big - ~15cm) roof & clay floor. Possibly inlet that brings in Clingen inlet water, as it is in right direction, and is drier lower down.

Hope is still hopeful as a r.FBs bypass if Jaes can get the & engineer the squeeze to black space.



~~18:20~~ 18:20      24/7/95

Body clock defunct.

Mind wanders first to music then  
to water then to silence.

Contentment reigns .....

We got up at 10 pm last  
night (we being James, Paul, Will).

Waited for the officers to  
return and set off at 1:30 a.m.

Forced to down musik main  
hang on "defenestrator" as the rope  
was caught (see diagram of new  
rig later).

Rerigged immediate traverse properly.

Spent time hammering Crunchy Frog  
before discovering "Hope and Glory".

Hope is an excellent lead  
with 816 draught + dimensions  
heading back to defenestrator.

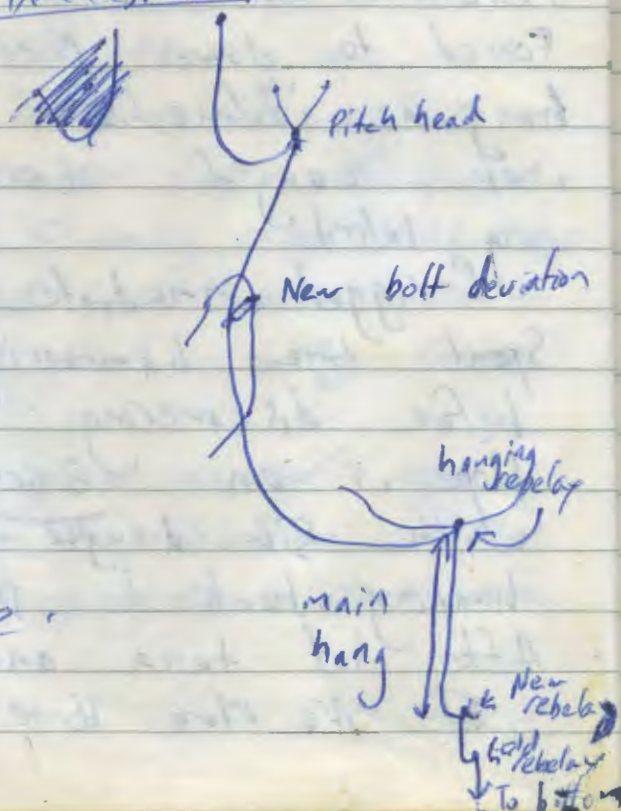
After hot tuna and pi peaches  
at No More Heroes we

Surveyed to Well Jim.  
 Then staked off to New  
 Pitch which we left for Jim.  
~~On~~ On way back I re-rigged  
 defenes tab. See below.

An excellent day, let the  
 cave roll on.  
 James

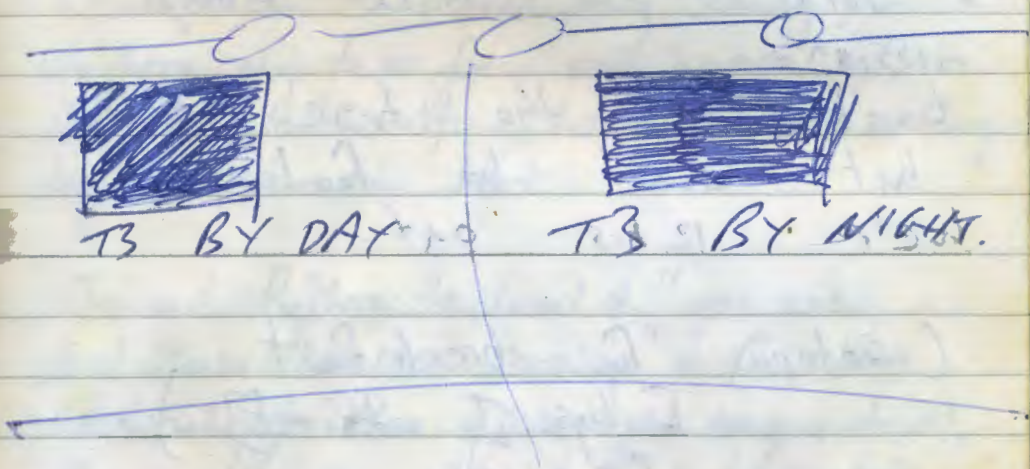
New Rig on Defenestator

Sorry  
 Not to  
 Scale.



Black hole in F64 (scale 1:1)

Black hole in C9 (scale 1:5000)



p.s. Where is the Sir Edwards?  
p.p.s. Oly, where's my under wear?

p.p.p.s. Pauline, I still haven't used the bag roll.



16

8:14 am 25/7/95

Got waken up this morning  
by Pauline to discover a  
45m pitch has been dropped.  
They left us a pitch after  
a rift so that's today's  
mission.

Look at the time (8:15)  
but don't be fooled  
we're 12 hrs out.

(Octopus for breakfast  
[legs I think]).

Crunchy Penis. noise?)  
Thanks Paul!

- Lots of photos today -  
lovely lovely,
- little surveying - mmm
- 15m pitch to drop & ? ...
- screwing
- will it be Fabada for tea?
- we leave 50.

Blk

2 15.40 25 July 1995.

Team "light Brigade" get up, 12 hours shifted, but after short sleep in hope of getting out "today". Seriously tired by ~~ex~~ time of arrival at T3 this morning (yesterday... ~~3~~ Oh below, I can't work out this 'day' thing) - mistook my tube for a rope again. However, wonderful, hard, exhilarating day's exploration had.

① Carried Python to head of "you know, I don't think Walter's coming" ("Walter's not coming" for those of who get tongue-tied), then Pauline placed good pit bolt allowing single well-lashed-up primary to give a 45 metre free hang down the middle of a Clavin pit - belling-out to reveal a large rift passage leading off into the mountain I wanted, and watched the others do the magnificent *Son et lumière* down the pitch; the warm light



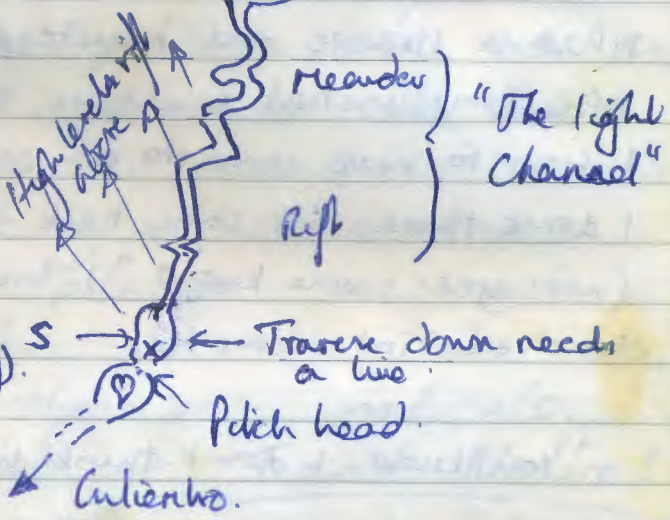
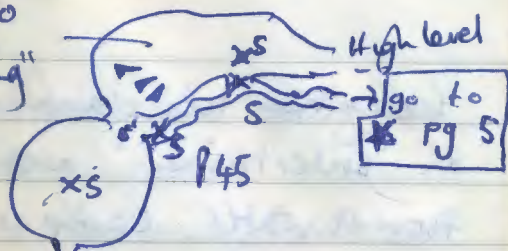
of carbides, and the excited sounds of explorers at the find.

(2) Stunned down the stream, initially a meander in ~~dark~~ grey limestone, then a joint-controlled zig-zag rift in "white-shite". They pushed down a cold stream, to another pitch. Probably 8-10m, but with an obvious passage off.

(3) The draught flows down the rift from above, so we explored upwards looking for high-level Bygonia. What we found was lots of broken pop-corn and large shattered joint passage. Worth some exploration, but my current guess is that it does not offer a way over.

Chamber with  
traverse to  
"water is  
not wrong"

recy track 1.



(on road) S → x ← Traverse down needs  
a line  
Pitch head.  
Culienho.

② Connects to P25.

xS = Permanent Survey  
Stations

④ Carried out BDIH full of fards, beds  
of waste, and 3 tackle bags. Also  
took empty Siggy bottle for paraffin.

Thanks for having us, T3.

Hope you depected. . . . All Survey Data.  
Also tech. ~~data~~



20'

I can hear the clanking of Tini and Oly  
on 'Entertainer' and the ever present  
flow of water. Camp is deserted now.  
What a strange and remote place.

After some initial squabbles, this cave and  
I seem to have come to an agreement.  
I don't think I'll come back this year  
(next year, who knows?) but I have  
some exciting memories

"You know I don't think Walter's coming!"

He never came

Bye bye C9.

P.

25/7/95 Will, James, Paul.

Left camp soon after the  
8:00 o'clock news on  
BBC WORLD SERVICE.

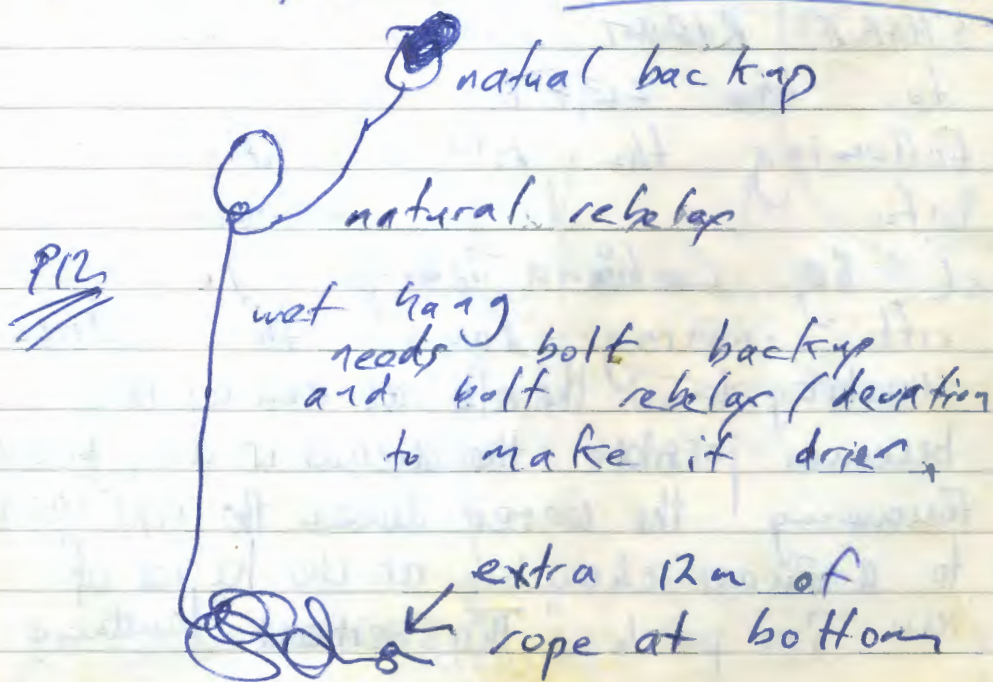
We took photos of the  
meat cleaver, a crunchy frog  
& Klingon

before surveying from the Klingon  
to No More Heroes.

Hof brew and then photos at  
No More Heroes pitch and wall, In.  
Then pushed on to the new  
pitch.....

After looking at several  
alternative pitches we took  
a gamble on the first one  
rigged + entirely on naturals.

The pitch — Tain't Natural





From the bottom of  
T'ain't Natural leads into a  
large chamber with a  
wide wellie deep pool.

The stream flows out into a  
too tight rift but by climbing up  
at about  $45^\circ$  in the rift  
a way on can be found.

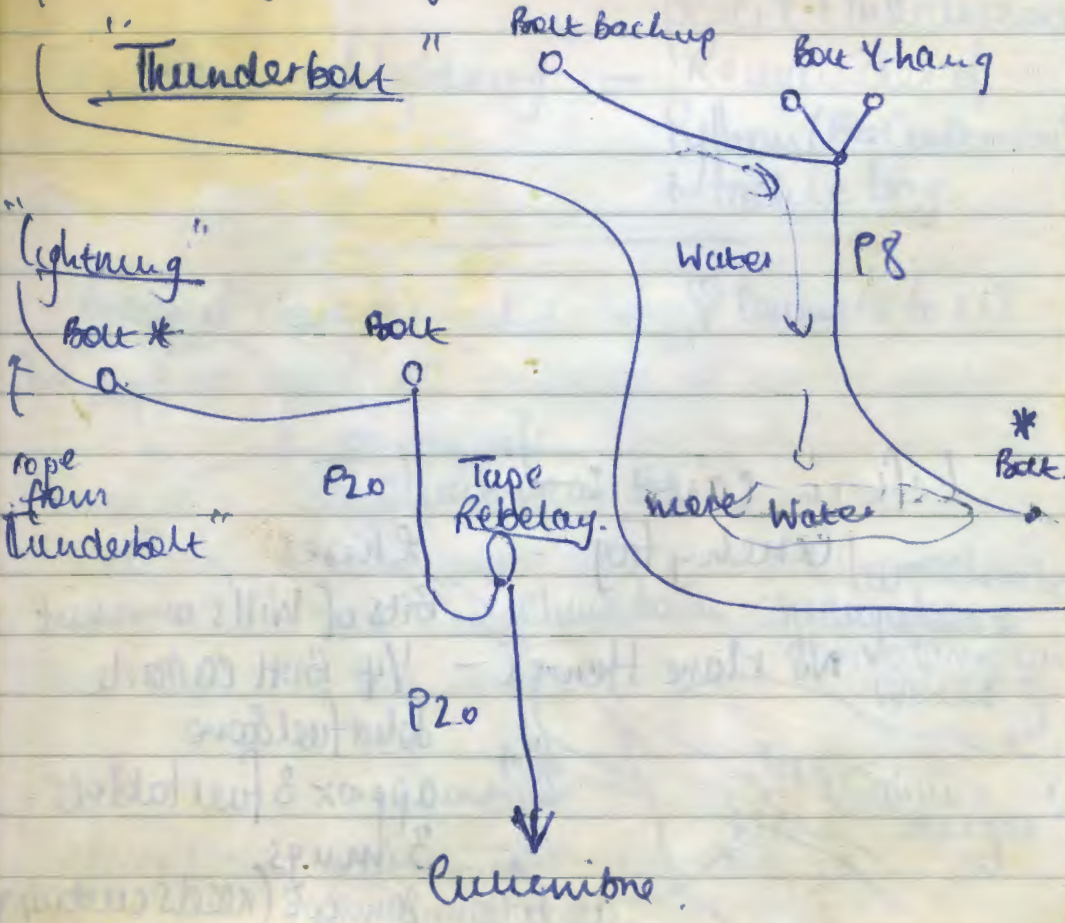
~~As soon as it is possible drop~~  
~~back down in the rift~~  
when the rift takes a  
SHARP RIGHT, climb down  
to the LEFT.

Following the rift breaks out  
into a large chamber  
("Big Kahuna barger") with a  
rift running down the middle.

Climbing down the rift as soon as this  
becomes possible the stream is seen joined  
Following the water down the rift leads  
to a small chamber at the head of  
an 8m pitch, "Thunderbolt" landing

I'm a clockwork soldier  
Drifting down in time  
Earth betraying Chronus ?

In a pool on a ledge. A further ~~40m~~ 40m  
pitch, "lightning" follows.





Left in cave :-

Canchy frog :-

Chisel

Bits of Will's oversize

No More Heroes :-

1/4 BDH carbide

Solid fuel stove

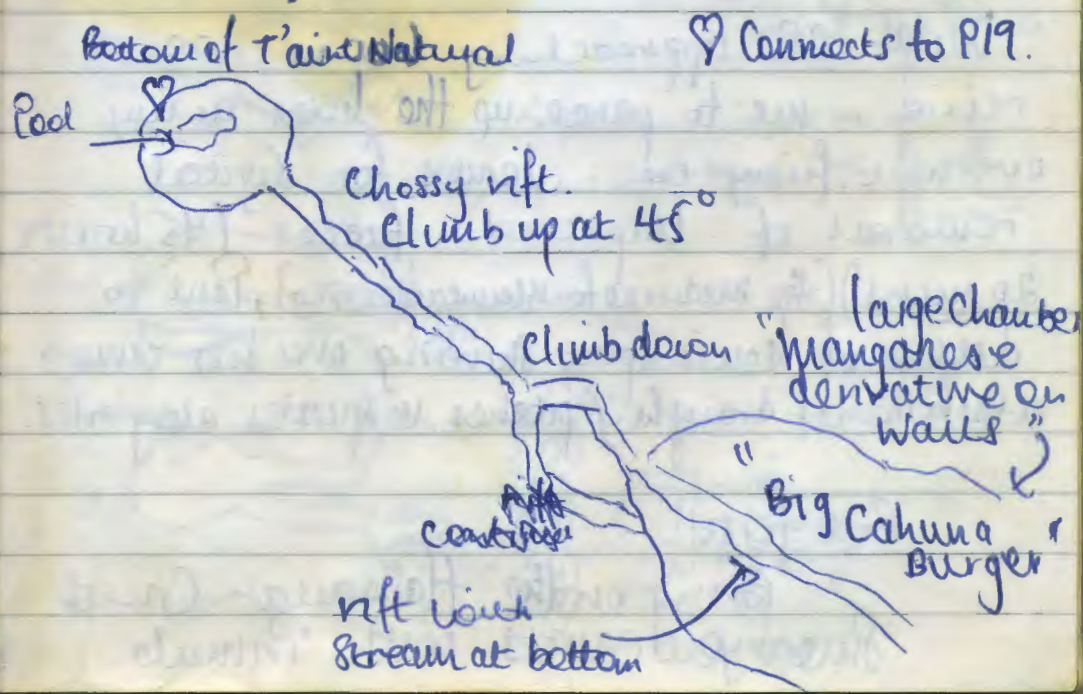
approx 3 fuel tablets

3 mugs

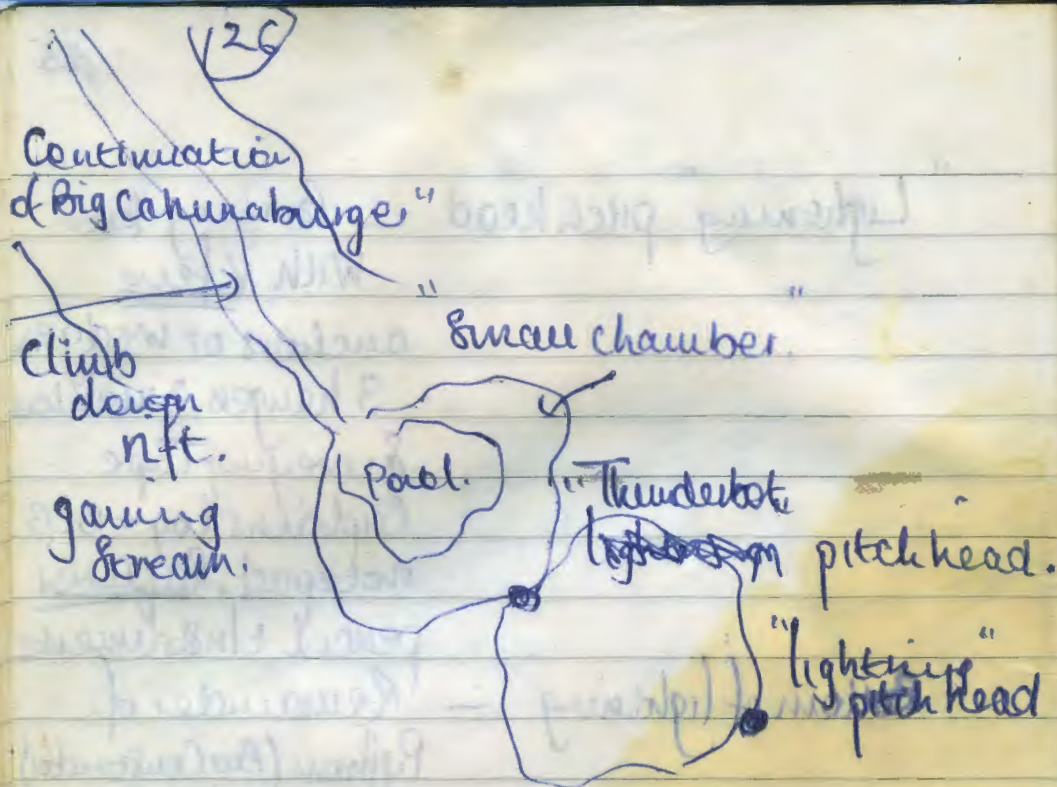
at bottom 20 rope (needs cutting)

"Lightning" pitchhead :- Baiting kit  
 With v. few  
 anchors or wedges  
 3 hangers, 2 mauls  
 Surveying Tape  
 Captains log + BCB  
 notepad. Requires  
 pencil + Instruments

"Bottom of lightning" :- Remains of  
 Python (Ba Constructer)  
 + tackle bag





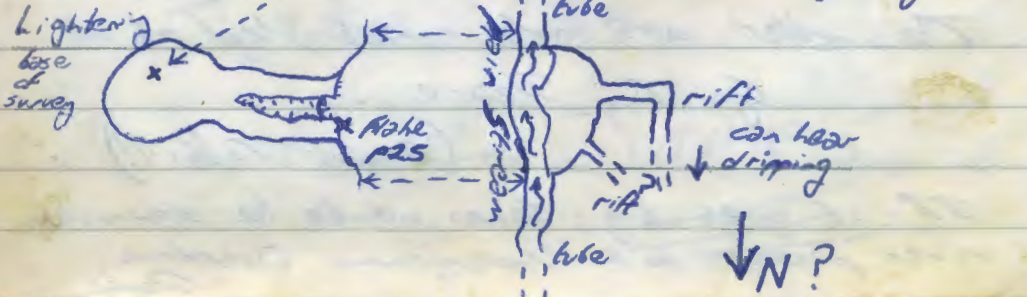
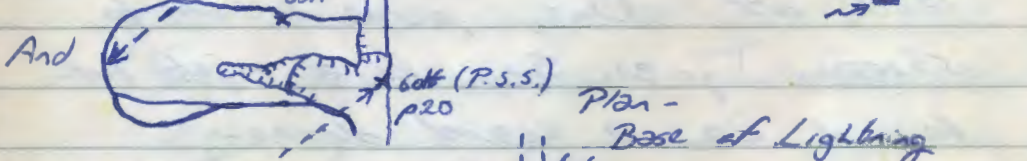
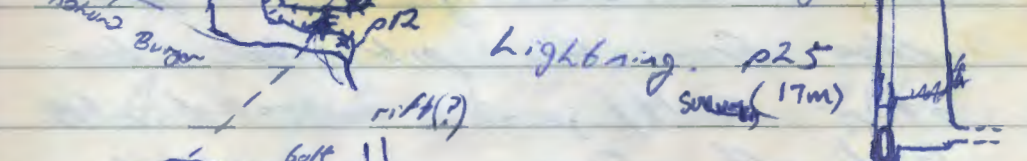
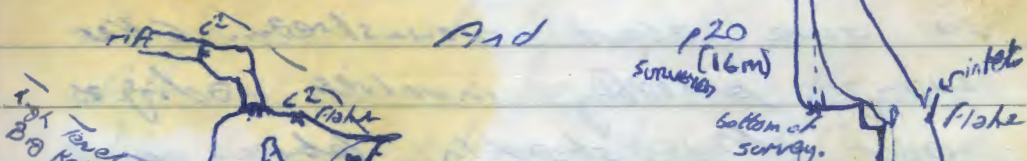
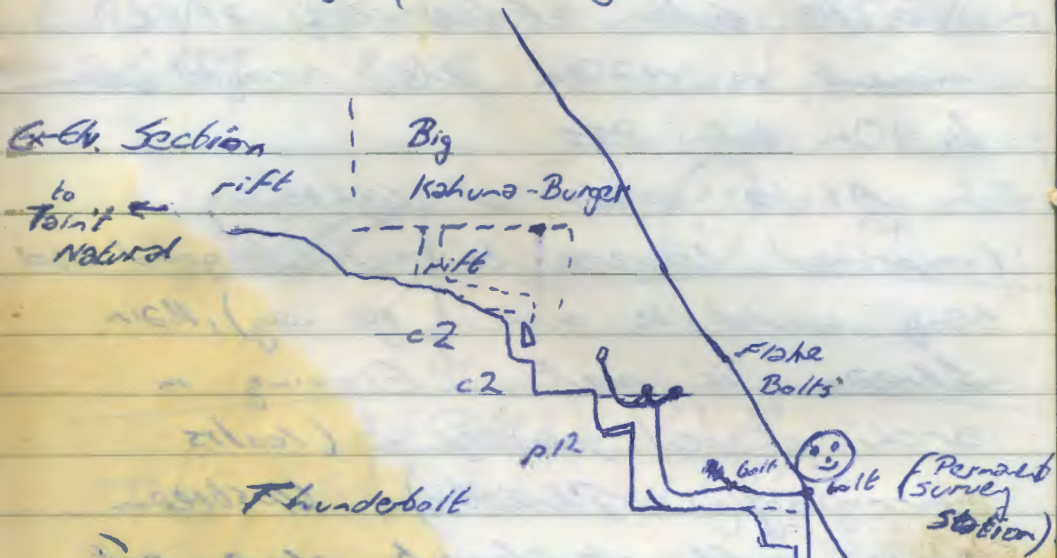


With C9 approaching 600m we retire, me to patch up the holes in my overalls, fanny etc., James for digital removal of impacted faeces (95 hours 20 mins!) [See medicine to maintaining], Paul to dream of hours spent shoving over his camera at the bottom of draughty pitches, in squeezes, along rifs.

But first...

Bring on the Hawaiian Crunch  
Smear your carrots with Prunella...

Is every spencers nightmare . . .





28.

So, the bottom of the cave at the moment is  $\sim 20\text{m}$  below surveyed bottom, &  $40\text{m}$  below P.S.S.

At the bottom of Lightering, (improved traverse to current good natural hang would be nice by the way), Main Stream is met, flowing in arch shaped passage - (looks worryingly Phreatic). Upstream shows rift development above, not so sure about downstream. Either way probably involves vadiferous water flows steadily between pools.

Also from this pitch base, two other fault/joint controlled rifts lead off. One, perpendicular to stream, goes  $5\text{m}$  to a right turn, beyond can be heard dripping.

The other was not investigated at all.

Go In Peace...

(Shoot To Kill!!)

If it goes big, Jones wants the downstream river passages to be 'Underground Overdrive'.

Paul

LAST. Permanent Survey Station  
 = LAST BOLT in cave.

See ☺ on pg 27

26/7/95 23:22

It's been another  
 great stay.

All the best to  
 the next teams.

And yes it's 9/10's  
 now.

See you when I see you.

Take Care,

Love James



27.7.95

(50)

Last night I had rocks in my bed, I began to wonder if I had rocks in my head. Fortunately one arm out of my sleeping bag was sufficient to remove the offending stones and I slept all night. Maybe camping down here won't be so bad (even the MornFlakes for breakfast tasted good!). R

27-7-95

"And the cave lit up like daylight"

Team 3 Welsh men (Rob, Mike, Alex)

After a rather cold night adjusting to the arctic sub-terranean temperatures, I emerged reluctantly from my pit to a breakfast of MornFlakes and pears. After a bit of fluffing about, we set off in pursuit of the last explored bit of cave. Past the Meat cleaver - no problem - then the De fenestator - you call this (during) rigging!! And then... You gotta have Faith or 'Not the Crunchy Frog' as Rob + I called it. Alex kept telling us there was 1 squeeze, and every squeeze we passed we asked if it was it. By the time we got there, we were pros

and only struggled for  $\frac{1}{2}$  an eye. The  
 more tight rift (I thought C9 was supposed  
 to be B/G11) & finally a break for turn  
 & chocolate at 'No More Throes'. Then on  
 to the new shift, found this gear. We found  
 'Well Jim' - quite nice & and bottomed 'Walter's  
 Not Coming'. And finally to the ~~pitch~~<sup>10m</sup> pitch  
 'I ain't natural' which the rigging ain't.  
 Rigged with a natural as backup & a piece of  
 tape around very sharp popcorn as a belay,  
 I was a bit nervous to watch Alex descend.  
 So I stood back for a bit and BOOM!!  
 And the cave lit up like day light as a huge  
 flame appeared from where Alex descended.  
 The corbide, foolishly (hindsight = 20/20) left  
 in a 2 Ziplocks, had opened & the pool at  
 the bottom supplied the necessary fuel.  
 Alex yelled that he was okay as we looked  
 over the edge, hastily putting out flames.  
 The tackle bag was flaming out the top &  
 Alex was struggling to unclip it from  
 himself & get it out of the water.



He threw off his helmet & generator  
 & dragged the tackle bag dry, but it  
 was still flaming & with every man  
 would spurt fire like a dragon and gore.  
 Suddenly, the fumes got bad & Alex yelled  
 for prussik gear. This gear, along with  
 John, chocolate, hammer, survey instruments,  
 tin opener, was in the tackle bag, nicely  
 flaming. We hastily tied Rob's gear to  
 the rope & Alex put it on, head now  
 spinning. But he made it to the top where  
 we all sat letting our hearts stop racing &  
 let out a collective 'shout'. Alex was mildly  
 burned & lost some facial hair, but more  
 shook up than anything. We soon  
 headed back to 'No More Heros', where  
 we had a chocolate break (Rob had 1 bar  
 in his prussik bag) & stared at the tin  
 of peaches we left as a reward for our  
 return. The tin opener was in the tackle bag.  
 We began to wonder if the Dragon Man would  
 repair it, but thought he probably would not.

Then we headed back through 'Cronely  
 Fog' & 'Gotta Have Faith' to 'Deserestrato'.  
 I ~~was~~ <sup>won</sup> the race to put on pressik gear  
 & went up first. Hint - yell 'Rope Free' on  
 the big ledge after ~~most~~ 'Clear' they can't  
 hear you beyond. Luckily they didn't wait  
 overly long, but I had emerged, met Wlodek,  
 Snabek, & a very tired Anette coming down  
 'The Entertainer' & had some food before they  
 arrived. Wlodek left (we needed more fuel  
 since ~~our~~ 2 of our staves didn't work) &  
 ended up calling a full ~~resp~~ rescue, well,  
 have rescue as Dave & Paul decided that they  
 could sleep before going down. Appears Wlodek  
 arrived back at 3am. But, everything was  
 fine & we ate merrily, Raven food included, and  
 went to bed. Another day in the life of an  
 ACC cover.

M, Ca



34

28-8-95 Team Mike (Rob, Mike, Snablet)

Welcome to 'No More Heros'. The camp has been mostly moved & tackle bags, 3 people, 1 Crunchy Prog & a bunch of rft. 4 hours traveling time. Not too bad, if I say so myself. So we're here. Had a bite to eat & settled in to push? Maybe. Stay tuned.

28-7-95

Mike

ROB + MIKE + SNABLET

VISTED LIGHTNING

TO CONTINUE EXPLORATION → "FAILED!!"

TO THE LEFT (UPSTREAM) REACHES A VERY LOW WET DUCT 2 1/2 cm AIRSPACE, TO THE RIGHT GOES INTO A VERY WET SUMPY LOOKING PASSAGE WITH 30cm AIR SPACE WE RECKON IT SUMPS ~~FOR~~ JUST OUT OF SIGHT, NO DRAUGHT AT ALL AT THE BOTTEM OF LIGHTNING. THE OTHER PASSAGE REACHES A SMALL CONSTRICTION AFTER 10M NEEDS DIGGING TO CONTINUE BUT THERE IS NO DRAUGHTS AND ~~IF~~ IT IS AN INLET. WE SURVEY

THE PITCHES, THEN SEARCHED FOR ANOTHER  
WAY ON, NO LUCK YET.

SNARET

It's just gone 1pm and we are cooking  
we find meal before the ascent; hopefully we will  
be out by sunset. The new campsite is pretty  
good and way better for pushing. I hope the next  
team can actually find something to push. I suggest  
looking high up in the rift just after "You know I  
don't think Walter's coming" because the cave appears  
to make a U-turn somewhere around there (probably  
at the obvious corner!).

Rob



36.

Mon 31 July

Team "enthusiasm overload"

Pauline, Will, Dave and Chris D.

With the news that the cave had sunped arriving just as we were getting up at ~~the~~ sunny top camp, the preparations for camping took second place to making eggy bread. A despondent Dave ~~to the~~ set off to the entrance on his own at midday and was just going underground as the rest of us arrived.

He zoomed down to the old camp at T3 where he spent 3 hours shivering ~~as~~ until we got there. A 3 hour shiver followed by 2 hours lugging tacklebags through a rift not designed for tacklebags lugging and Dave became all beaming smily and cheery. Some people are ~~unfathomable~~ unfathomable!

There is an awful lot of ~~camp~~ useful stuff in this cave, at both camp sites. We

brought with us the 2 tacklebags packed on the surface and also packed 2 more ~~at~~ from the Old camp. We decided that the most essential things were: ~~these~~

- \* the 4th sleeping bag
- \* the radio
- \* ~~carbide~~ carbide
- \* rope (otherwise Wodek will tell us off)

Chris reported a surreal moment - having the radio, playing Dire Straits, passed through the Crunchy Frog.

On the way Dave and I tried to think of 10 reasons to carry tacklebags through the nasty rifts, but ~~only~~ got stuck after 3.

1. ego.
2. they contain something useful like food.
3. the rift will never seem so unpleasant again.
4. ...
5. ...



38.

~~we~~ we had lots of food, ponché and sleep and are feeling good now, although Will is ~~still~~ warming himself over a candle again ...

R.

Hello James and Wlodek.  
Left here at midday-ish.  
See you midnight-ish.

Good morning Dave & Paxton.  
Hope you managed to get some sleep. Please can you take out some BDHs with rubbish in + t bags.

Managed to use all the pythons  
hurrah - with Chris

11/8/05 (at No More Heroes)

↑ August + Wlodek is  
ready for his 1st pushing trip  
this expedition!

Yesterday, James + Wlodek left in the morning and got to T3 in under 3 hrs.

Pauline + Dave,

You need to change deviation on Snab in the Park (it rabs).

(Take 2<sup>d</sup> feet of tape).

Edgar

We found traverse from top of Cascade pitch in Big Varnos to ledge of Entertainer - needs rigging in the future.

At T3 we picked up an extra full tackle bag each and carried these to No More Heroes - an excellent campsite.



I went for slow delivery  
on Refenestrator while  
Wlodek went express.  
(United Parcel Service)

Left in Cave — half tin of  
octopus at start  
of 'Gotta Have Path'.

And where's the Ponché???

Well done Will, Chris, Pauline &  
Dave for finding the  
way on.  
Hope we'll extend it.

See you this evening Will &  
Chris.

Pauline — Have a good journey  
back. Love + Peace,

James

Dave — a 2 person team  
(Sablet? Alex? Pivo? Harvey?  
John?) could come

down anytime bringing rope,  
+ food (no carbide, tea,  
milk, sugar)

Also Dave + Pauline

there's loads of carbide  
at TB so you won't  
need to take much from  
here.

1/8/95 White Rabbits etc.

We've taken a large BDH full of fettle + a ziplock  
bag of fettle and a bag of rubbish.

At the third stroke the time will be 12 pm  
precisely

Beep Beep Beep

Goodbye

Dave & Pauline



1<sup>st</sup> August Woll & Chris - Sump bypassers  
extraordinary

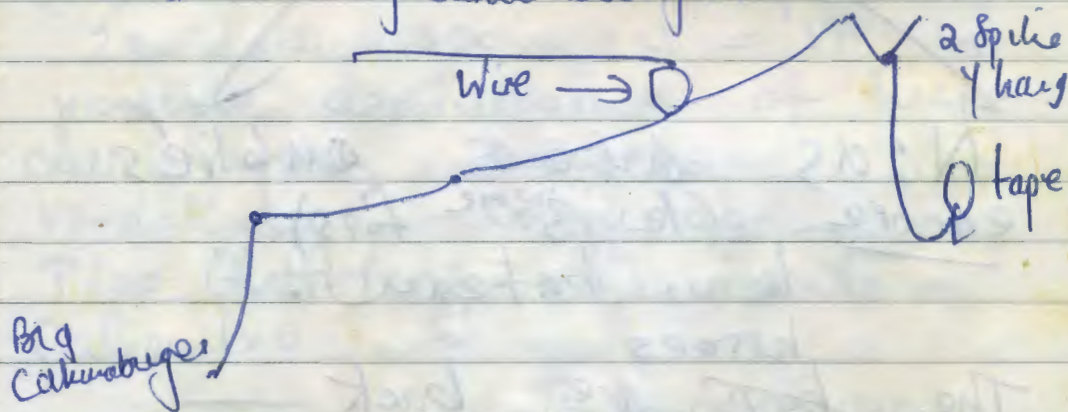
1-30 pm

After five hours through the Crunchy Frog we arrived to some of Pauline's haute cuisine. A good night's sleep ensued followed by a 1<sup>st</sup> class alpine! Start (1.30 pm).

Bumped down to Big Cahuna burger carrying our carbide hags. Pauline and Dave left us to check out the bottom(?) of the cave. Me and Chris started on the traverse at the far end of the Big Cahuna burger.

Having performed a climb I couldn't reverse, Chris started belaying a traverse line while I rigged the rest of the traverse and the pitch that followed. Absorbed to the end of the rope (passing overhand knots galore!) then we went back to retrieve the system. Chris dropped the rest of the pitch (descent needed) and we landed in a chamber with a further 2-3 second drop to one side. A beautiful 40m free hang (BBC Werdsemeic) lands in a chamber with

a 5m climb/pitch to '3 men in a Boat', a highly unstable boulder floor with many holes through to a 2 second drop, prompting Will, Chris and Dave to all clip into each other. We left the rigging of this beauty to James and Wlades, having finished the python, and surveyed back to the Big Calumaburger.



1/8/95 21:30

Will and Chris leave  
to push.

BIA STREAMWAY



44.



Nods adons oubliés  
encore (le 3<sup>ieme</sup> fois)  
le bateau !!!

heroes  
The boys are back —  
— Shoot to Kill.

James

It happened! After 2 years  
 we finally found master cave  
 under Vega Aliseda, leading  
 to Culiembro (1952 - 4000 m est -  
 = 1552 m denivelation) and  
 as collector of water from some  
 "Free" caves - An example F80  
 2300 m est - 400 m est = 1900 m  
 possible denivelation of huge  
 cave system between  
 Verdellunga - Conjurtao -  
 Pico Gustafery - Civiente -  
 Culiembro.

+ + + To be continued.

It is a great prize for me  
 for carrying down tons of  
 tackle bags, hundreds of meters of  
 ropes to bottoms, ripping etc.

+ + +

After London Underground this  
 is the most fascinating



discovery in Picos. And proof  
 my theory (look 1994 expedition  
 top camp log book) about  
 cave systems in the Western  
 Massif.

+ + +

I thought at the beginning of  
 this pushing trip that we  
 have everything; > 200 m rope,  
 lot of food, carbide, ripping  
 gear... but we forgot about  
 steam ship ("SS. Enterprise") to  
 sail on our big lake.

+ + +

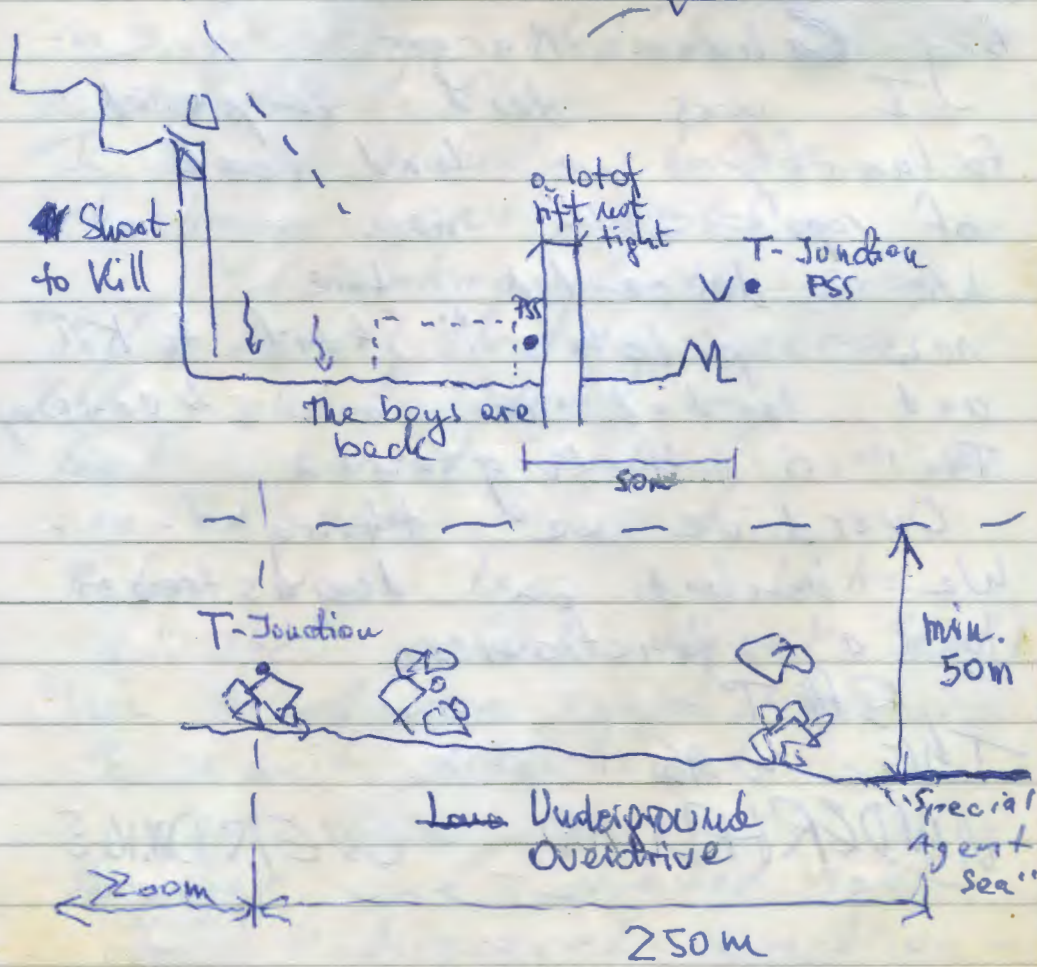
All our hope is in fast deripping  
 of F64, finding a dimpy and  
 few fast camps to go beyond  
 the lakes, not only one!

+ + +

Wadek

Because of ~~the~~ connection of our toilet with shaft below no more heroes descending this shaft is like descent in pisser.

Wbdek





~~26 August~~

Yesterday (1st August) James + Wlodek woke up to be told of a probable sump bypass and an unascended pitch. We first did some re-rigging and then went on to Big Bahana Barger.

I was dead impressed. Fortunately we had loads of rope with us.

We descended the new pitch "Shoot to Kill" and landed in a streamway. This is Underground

Overdrive we thought. We bombed on downstream to a junction.

SHT.

THIS WAS

UNDERGROUND OVERDRIVE

We stormed on down  
300 m. The place is  
HUGE.

Wet feet but I didn't  
care.

Eventually we popped out  
into a huge chamber with  
a sandy floor.

I swore profusely before  
shouting LONG LEGS  
(thinking of the survey),  
and ~~was~~ striding across it.  
After about 20 m my  
feet started sinking in the  
sand. Whoa.

Before us lay a lake  
("The Special Agent Sea")  
We ~~were~~ were speechless.....  
I can't describe it.

Anyway we surveyed 300 m  
of Underground Overdrive.



before returning knackered  
and exhaled to camp.

2/18/95

James + Wlodet resurveyed  
No More Hoses → Well, Jim.

Left 15:30 for entrance  
in search of inflatables.

We have - Capn's log with all  
Survey data

- compass + clinometer

- garbage.

- empty carbide <sup>containers</sup> ~~left~~

- no shit.

Will + Chris have a good  
journey out.

Please ~~me~~ bring out a  
list of all food etc.

Don't forget to keep  
on traversing after

Entertainer traverse.  
Yours to the far side  
of the Special Agent Sea;

James

p.s. Yet again we need  
more booze.

p.p.s. Will - don't forget  
my funky chronometer.

p.p.p.s. You could bring out  
some garbage from TB.

Also, How much carbide is  
left down the cave?  
And where?



52.

2 August Will & Chris 21-30

Went to play at the beach next to the  
logjam. But first - some serious  
DELAYED GRATIFICATION. Up at 6pm  
to BBC Radio 4 Big Ben chime (both on  
watch, dead). Replaced Aunty  
Time Bomb with pitch further down  
traverse level. Then did some re-oggies  
of the Poncho Rustlers & BBC World Service.

Streamway below Short & Kill is  
wild - we pushed easily upstream,  
through continuous boulder chokes &  
~~and~~ several inlets. This is the  
MAIN DRAIN! Surveyed about 100m  
of it, then connected James & Whitely's  
survey of streamway to 3 men in about.  
Returned bases at 2pm 3 August, 15 not  
bad for a sunned case.

4/8/95

Depart 6 am - an alpine start after  
a 4 hour warm up!

Dear next team - good luck with the boat!

Carbide :- Bottom of BBC World Service  
 1/2 full small black B&W (+ 5 squares chocolate)

Human Time Bomb no longer exists! Where the traverse/climb down to the pitch head was, climb up in the rift (handline would be useful if you can find a short piece of rope) for ~3-4m, then continue along the rift for ~20m to Delayed Gratification



Set:

## TEAM CRAP

GONTO BED @ 6:00 a.m.

Don't wake us up too early!

5-8-95

SUBJECT + FIVE

2nd wave of bugs arrived and continued on. There looked to be a storm coming when we left the surface.  
Arrived back after surveys upstream a bit.

5/8/95

The dye detectors have been placed in a bewildering variety of undetectable places. Cryptic clues to their locations have been included in the ziplock bag by the survey gear. Good luck and good searching.

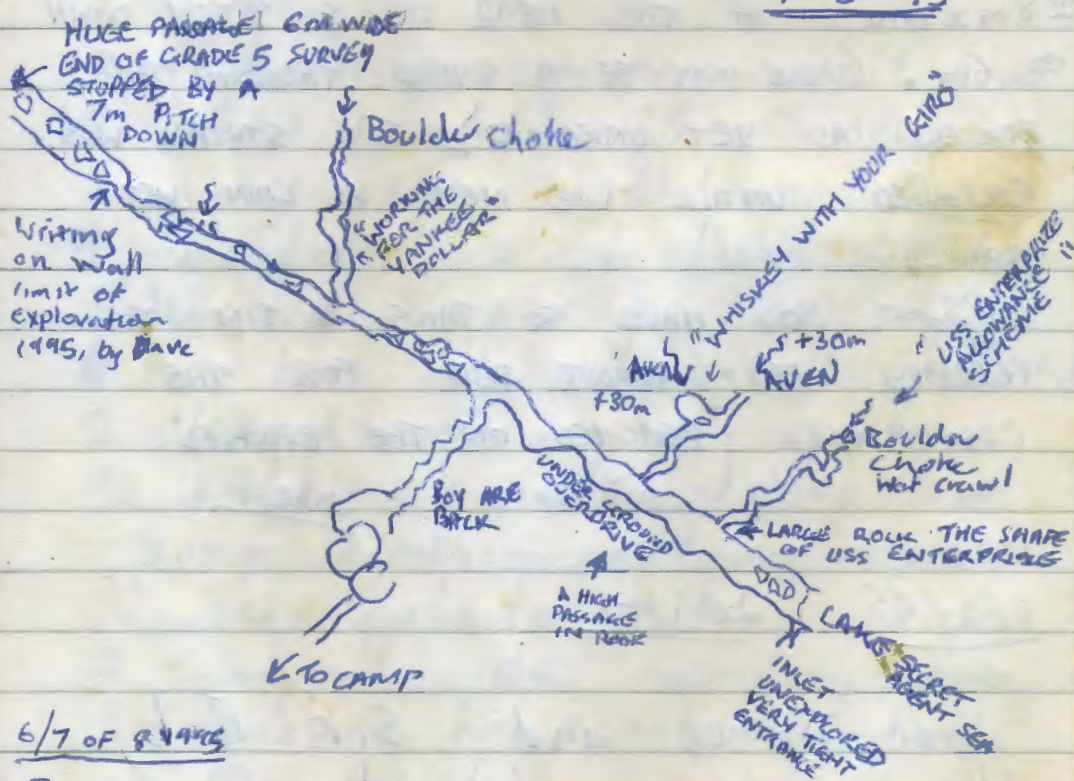
6/8/95 2130

Team camp we about to leave Harvey is still fettering so it could be another half an hour. We hope to be out by about 0800 tomorrow but this depends on how many times Harvey stops to fettle.

Smablet & Pivo: We have left a black bag of rubbish. Please bring it out.

I would have taken it but my little tackle bag seems to have wandered off to the beach A.

GRADE 1 OF THE SURVEYED PASSAGE SO FAR  
7-8-95



6/7 OF 8 1995

PIVO + SMABLET SURVEYED EVERYTHING THEY COULD FIND.  
"USS ENTERPRISE ALLOWANCE SCHEME" IS A TORTUOUS  
VERY LOW  
PASSAGE TO A CHOKES, A WET CRAWL STILL CONTINUES.



56.

"WHISKEY WITH YOUR GMD" A LARGE PASSAGE LEADS TO  
TWO LARGE AVENS. "WORKING FOR THE YONKEE DOLLAR"  
IS ANOTHER TORTUROUS PASSAGE UP TWO CASCADES  
TO A BOULDER CHOKER. WE FINISHED OUR  
SURVEY OF UPSTREAM UNDERGROUND OVERDRIVE  
IN A HIGH LEVEL BOULDER FILLED PASSAGE  
 $\approx 8m \times 6m$  AT THE HEAD OF A PITCH DOWN  
 $\approx 6m$ . (THERE MAY BE A BYPASS THROUGH THE  
BOULDERS AS YET UNFOUND). THE STREAM WAS  
FOLLOWED UNTILL WE MET A LOW WET  
CRAWL.

~~PS~~ YOU HAVE TO TAKE A TIN OF  
PEACHES TO AGENT SEA FOR THE  
CUSTOMARY "PEACHES ON THE BEACHES".

SWABET.

7/8/95 20:45

Sir James and Sir Rob,  
those brave knights of  
"the water table" arrive at  
"No More Heros?" after a

pleasant journey with an  
inflatable boat.

The Contents of an Underground  
Camp Tackle bag with  
Knockered bottom

- 2 (sleeveless) neoprene wetsuit tops
- 1 foot jammer (Sir James')
- 1 small BDH carbide
- 9 candles + 1 large candle
- 500g of carrot.
- 8 bars of chocolate (4 nutty)
- 2 lengths of washing up line
- 1 double quick Mini Air  
pump broken and in 3 pieces.
- 1 bag potato mix.
- 2 chipped oar ends, yellow
- 1 squashed tin containing hot  
chocolate.
- 1 audio cassette tape (Deep Purple)
- 1 bag noodles



55.

5 packets of 2 minute noodles.  
1 tin octopus.  
1 battered tin Mornflakes.  
2 epigas cartridge (1 large, 1 small).  
4 tins peaches (for the beaches).  
11 tins fish.  
2 packets of soup

---

8/8/95

The Water Boys (James and Rob) wake up in anticipation of great things...

I feel strangely like you do before exams,

half awaiting the big moment half going through the motions of making tea etc...

Rob went through a nice motion this morning (shortage of shit bags).

Names to discover

What's up, Dock? (aven)

Beaches on the Beaches (beach)

Galeria Maria Rosa

The Rio Grande (217 inlet)

A hard days knight.

Gr. Bin Kas Cade (cascades)

11:00am. We are slowly getting ready to leave.

We have 2 tackle bags with one boat + accessories;  
all available rigging gear (3 ropes & 1 bolt kit);  
sundry equipment.

One to depart by midday, at 5, midnight or so.

All the ingredients are in place.

Motivation All Gear Packed

Full Stomachs Warm

Good Nights Sleep Dry

Fitness

(Youth)



60.

9.8.95 ; 03:50 - We're back

We're knackered

We're very knackered

We're both Mark Morris starvin'

I've just put some water onto the boiler and we've spent the last three hours planning our four course meal.

Menu:

Starter: Soup + mashed potatoes

Main Course: Baked eggs and meat

Dessert: marinated pineapple

Final: hot chocolate au lait avec sucre.

Then we will sleep.

As to our discoveries on the Special Agent Sea Well, it is 72m long on a bearing of  $050^\circ$ , it is very deep and it stumps... terminally.

We've spent many hours searching for a bygone, including I climb up the closest inlet area to a large chamber "A Hot Day's Knight" with a short pitch down and is way on.

Downstream C9/C3 is now officially dead. As

to the draft, it goes up, probably to a lower entrance.

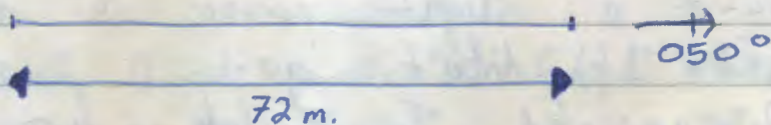
As for the tales of fur and excitement not to mention falling boulders and that "floating on air" feeling... they will have to wait for tomorrow (today, I mean)... I think my starter is ready now.

Rob

9/8/95 20:26

Well, saddly and despite much effort it did not happen.

Grade 5 (!) Line Survey of Discoveries



After several hours of tacklebag lagging we arrived at the Special Agent Sea to have "peaches" on the beaches.

Alas the peaches were pears and it all went wrong from there.



Mouth to Valve inflation was necessary for the Speleo Ship Enterprise.

Eventuall all was ready and with some trepidation Rob got into the boat and rowed off into uncharted waters, with me lining him from the shore.

I don't think I'll ever forget watch his light floating off down this deep emerald lake.

After about 20m he disappeared round a slight corner to the left. It didn't go.

Disappointed I pulled him back to shore and had a look myself. Indeed the lake was a swamp. No possible climbs up without serious (40m) bolting.

I too rowed back to shore.

The "inlet" on the right just before the S.A. Sea was pushed (I got wet up to my waist) and it connects back with the sea.

We brewed some hot chocolate and packed up 4 tackle bags leaving the boat floating on the lake.

James

On the way back we looked out for ~~possibilities~~ to push high in the vain hope that they might provide another "Terra Series". Not very likely but worth a try.

We followed footprint up the "USS Enterprise Allowance Scheme", noting the boulders ceiling as we went. There had to be something big just above us. James found a climb up a vertical boulder slope and invited me to push it. I did so and found another vertical boulder climb, this one in a rift with a narrow slot at the top. James accepted my invitation to push it, breaking through (literally) into a big upper level which he explored.



64:

while I waited. He ~~was~~ was in a rift parallel to the streamway and soon returned saying he'd found a pitch which needed dropping. "A Hard Days Knight"

Having enlarged the slot above the chink we fetched a rope and bolt kit and explored the pitch. No way on. It was now approaching midnight - time to head out, - the car had departed us.

We took the 4 tackle bags back to the "Boys R Back" junction and after a quick fifth upstream headed "out" with <sup>heavy</sup> one tackle bag each.

Rob

### LEFT DOWN CAVE

2 tackle bags  
include BDU containing  
4 big lumps carbide  
(1 1/2" diameter)  
4 small lumps carbide  
(3/4" diameter)

At Boys R Back - Under round  
Over drive  
Junction.

JH

It's O.K. (advisable even) to  
leave my radio down here. Jim

\* (I'd leave the Kamrats too)

---

Well perhaps it is the end  
of another era of oucc's  
exploration of the Picos.

We've been here many times  
before.

Once again another large piece  
of the puzzle has slotted into  
place. The line between the  
Hoya La Madre and Culiembro  
Resurgences is more definite,  
a third system has been found.  
There are, I'm sure, many  
new caves to explore that  
could lead into this  
system and downstream, well  
the water must go down..



The future of exploration here,  
like the caves themselves,  
is unknown. It's the biggest  
fear, but one of the greatest  
excitements. Let the good  
times we've had roll on.

James,

Ha! Have found error  
in Survey from Klingon  
to N.M.H.S.

The cave is now 7m deeper  
for Sam for depth of lake.

BARGAIN.

(Small amusement for someone  
who's survey Klingon to  
Well, Jim twice).

James

No More Heroes, I must leave  
you now.

C9, I've love you since the  
day we met.

For two summers we've  
known each other, shared  
secrets ~~with~~ together.

I'll never forget you.

But exploration must go on.

So, to bigger and better (or at  
least as good)

things.

James

---



68/end/

The end of another short chapter is the arrival of OUEC in the Pecos. The discovery of the large stream is another significant piece - the hydrological puzzle but the swamp has all but demolished those dreams of a mega-system. There is still plenty to do down here - several inlets need exploring, the traverse above the beach needs pushing and upstream is still wide open so anyone finding an alternative, easier entrance will be in luck.

Good luck to the next visitors

Dave

THE END

OCC 1995  
Expedition  
Night Games  
Log book

TEARPROOF  
REUSEABLE  
WATERPROOF

**NOTEBOOK**



**INTERNATIONAL LTD**





Harry

a.k.a. Night Games

log book.

Starring James + Rob,  
those brave knights of  
the water table who left  
the bath running when they  
left for camp 3 days ago.

<sup>explanation</sup>  
C9 is in flood big time.  
We're sitting it out at  
night games waiting for the  
roaring water to subside.

Wlodek + William - I understand  
but where did they come from?

I arrived here at about  
13:30 (10/8/95). Naturally  
I'm using this time to  
sing (teaching Rob caving  
songs even). It is now  
14:45 and we've done  
3 songs. It really is  
very surreal. We both  
have hoods on and Rob  
looks like a monk.  
The sound of cascading  
water is all around ~~us~~ us  
but I can see nothing



(2)

absolute pitch blackness  
I'm beyond this little  
world sitting on one  
Dragon tackle bag (I left  
mine).

Oh h h h.

I've been a hard caver  
for many a year  
And I've spent all my money  
on black rubber gear

And now I'm returning with  
stories to tell  
of streamways that rise  
and of boulders that fell  
(that's another story)

I think the water is  
beginning to subside  
but this page has  
just been splattered  
by a HUGE rain(?) drop.  
I've got my candle from  
my rescue kit (we need  
a brolly) and am about  
to learn Greensleaves!

sorted (almost)

It is still very wet (15:00)  
but my bum is extremely  
sore and I need the loo.

Back soon.



(3)

15:20 getting cold.

The Hazards of sitting  
out a flood:-

#1 Burning yourself  
on your carbide  
flame.

#2 Singing Rounds  
badly.

#3 Playing I spy in  
the dark.

Ng.

Of course it's probably  
 not as good as a 2/7  
 flood. I've just learnt  
 that you should put an  
 apostrophe between the  
 t and the s (goodch').

|    | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1  | R | R | R | R | R | R | R | R | R | J | J |   |
| 2  | R |   |   |   |   | R | R | R | R | K | K |   |
| 3  | R |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | R | R |   |
| 4  | R |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | R | R |   |
| 5  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | R | R |   |
| 6  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | J | J | J | R |
| 7  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | R | R | R | R |
| 8  | J | J | J |   |   |   |   | J | R | R | J | J |
| 9  | J | R | J | J | J | R | J | R | R | J | R |   |
| 10 | J | J | J | J | J | R | R | R | J | J | J |   |



Mornington crescent ④  
This is hell and there's  
no getting out  
(Rob looks like the  
Grim Reaper too).

Burb.

Are we playing  
flood condition rules?

It's now 16:00

—feet are bloody  
freezing.

Do cows stand  
piss on their cowstails?  
It's 16:10 and  
we've decided to  
go for it as long  
as Smoke Me a  
Kipper and She  
Rises aren't too  
wet.

I hope the res  
Vino into of  
Top Comp.



F 1, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 37, 41, 42, ~~43~~

50-84