

26/7/91. Tim shaft hunting in Acah.

Found and marked (discretely) 14 holes, all insignificant. in and below Hano de las Cruces. Didn't have sufficient gear to look down 9/4, or 5/4; and didn't find 10/4 or 11/4 which I think are nearer flared holes. The area is very shattered, but with most things churning quickly (nothing deeper than c 10m that I found), but it looks more interesting as you get lower and near to the very steep part overlooking Cumbre. Details ~~for~~ Also compass marked the 5/4 - 9/4 caves for future reference. Details of the insignificant gravels later.

27/7/91

00.00 we were all safely tucked in bed after excitement, babble, and Cocoa.

04.00 William, like the rest can't sleep due to excitement for tomorrow's caving so gets up to put the water bottle under the juete

04.15 Joan checks the time but decides its too early to get up to do the water bottle (see 04.00)

05.35 Joan checks time but falls asleep whilst doing so

06.15 Joan gets up to do water bottle, finds it mysteriously under the juete and climbs upwards to see the dawn. Very nice dawn too!

07.15 Joan returns, camp seems quiet.

08.15 Steve has left down to 53/5 to get his gear. Tim is making brekky, Richard is cutting rope with William, Michelle is considering the world + her lenses, Gavin is on the mend after a hot day yesterday, Joan is wishing that its was last night so that another 6 hrs sleep could be had.

10.30 The party finally departs for 9/10

10.30 → onwards - tent - hooks are the order of the day.

12.00 wash-up. Feel bored by oat-pan

13.45 Rescue 2/3rds water container from Refugio

15:05 27/7/91

No!

Is it a plane, is it a bird? It's super-calf.

Hurting through space at nearly 6 miles an hour this nifty bovine races across the grassy slopes, down through the dips, up over the hills, away across the plains to find the new world of BIGERIC.

Here it comes, super-calf, flying like a soaring aeroplane with one fell swoop it lands in BIGERIC where shade is often found, only to find the evil cross-eyed mean-faced villain of peace EL WARBLEFLY.

They face it out across the tent; Super-calf goes for his tail, El warblefly goes for his proboscis and the fight is on. Slowly they advance until

Supercalf sees the fluorescent green of El Warblefly's eyes. The searing heat is intense, 37.8°C in the shade. The watching crowd of Tolipán, Nouille, and 2 packets of carrots gasp as the fight falls through.

Supercalf hurls his tail high to swat El Warblefly. El warblefly turns and in a streak of yellow-belliedness, the kind of yellow that perfectly matches those mean glistering eyes, flies the tent. Supercalf turns and hurtles away to save the universe from such evil villains as El warblefly yet again and again.

AND/ The moral of this tale is DON'T FIX TACKLE BACKS IN THE MIDDAY HEAT, IT ADLES YOUR BRAIN.

P.S. A cow did run straight through big Eric though!

JA

I THINK THAT WE SHOULD START TO STERELIZE THE WATER UP HERE. So that it doesn't reproduce?
 Our water container is having a bit of a battering from dirty (i.e. dung) covered hands filling water containers directly over ours, SO
 DRINK HOT DRINKS, OR PRE-BOIL THE AGUA

Goodbye Anio for ? a year
 boo hoo hoo!
Joan

9/10

[Note - we ~~re~~ renumbered the
 caves so Hub

7/10 = one by the path

8/10 = "mound in field"

9/10 = one top of ridge

10/10 = big promising entrance.

After furtling about in 10/10 (of which more
 later, no doubt), Richard & I went up to
 8/10.

I threw rocks in but they were not heard
 in 10/10.

A ladder was put down - I attempted to
 squeeze in. Suddenly found myself in a Paul
 Cooper situation. Large shaft behind me, only
 shoulders hold me in. Ladder would be a long
 way away.



"Richard, I think I
 need a lifeline."

Richard scouted down
 to 10/10 to get a rope.

I lay in the squeeze listening to my heartbeat
 & pondering the odd fact which reverberated
 wonderfully in the shaft behind.

Eventually I was able to climb down.
The shaft continued! Passage at the bottom!

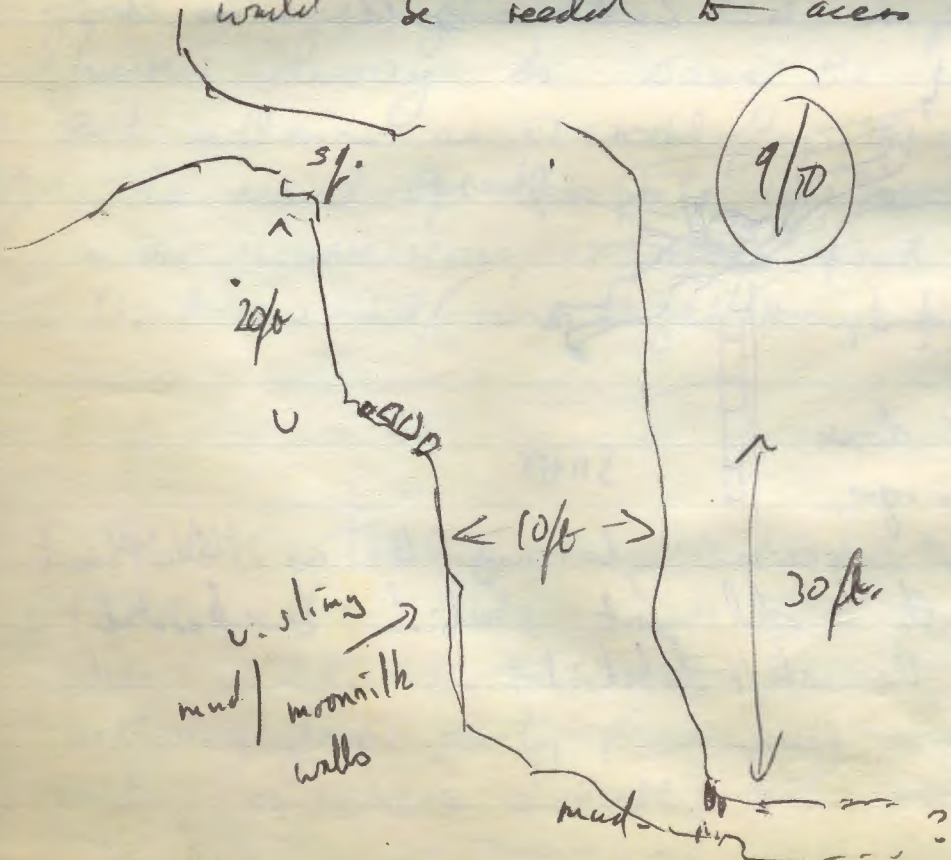
The eventual scheme worked as was:

- SKL descend ladder to ledge, clip at to ladder & put on SKT kit.
- ~~SKL~~ SKL pulls down enough rope to ~~reach~~ reach bottom of shaft
- R4 reties rope so that SKL I can ascend down.
- SKL goes to bottom, checks it out, pushes back to ladder, 'debits', and is lifted back then squeeze by R4.

RESULT

This worked but the shaft is not promising. There is a passage at the bottom, but with a rift* beyond. I couldn't quite see a way on, but I couldn't see a blocky either.

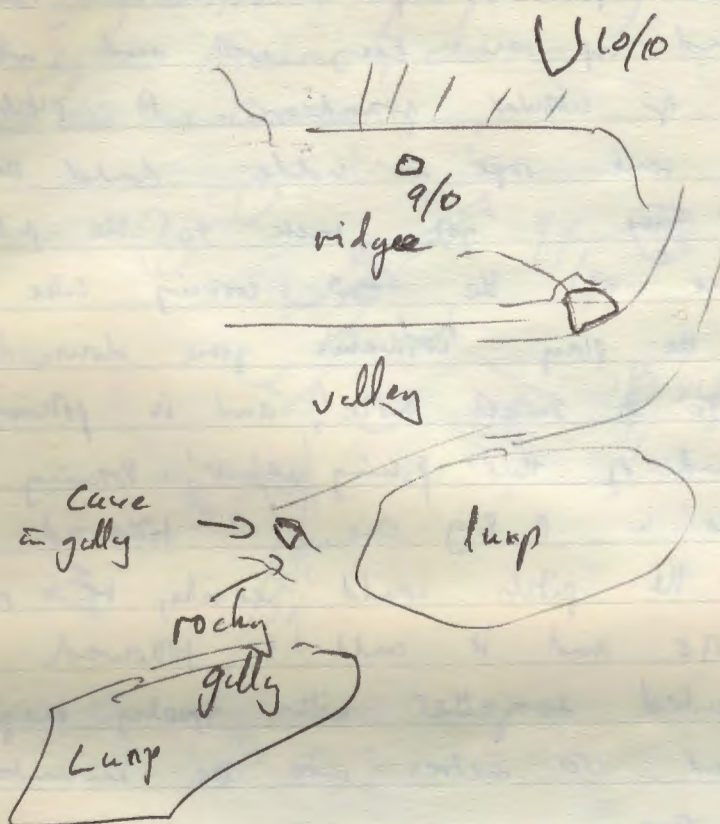
Some steel breaking & a rock removal would be needed to access it.



* rift in body
- steel in width
~ 3ft high.

One for Tim,
I think.

On the way back, I found another cave(?) , in the first descent after the ridge at 4/0



Steve

Bye Bye!

Herap's Exploration of 10/10

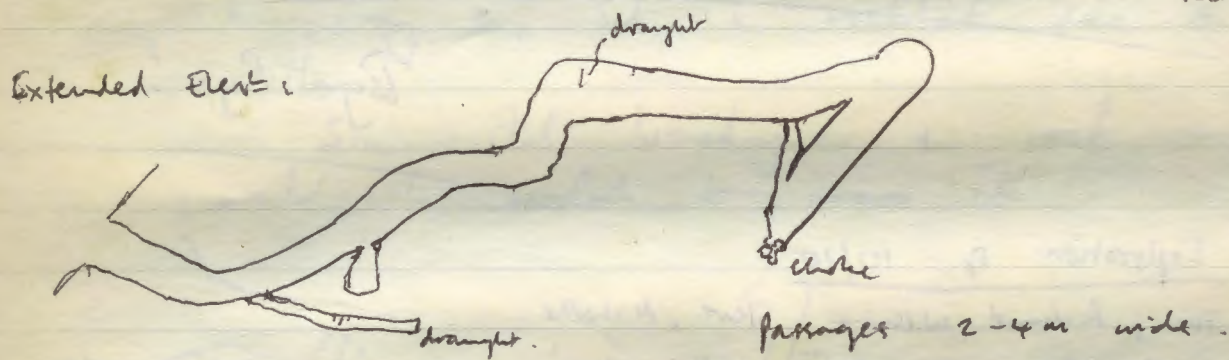
Tim, Richard, William, Steve, Michelle.

We minced down to the hill above 10/10 numbering the caves along the way but not looking at any of them - we were saving ourselves for 10/10 could it be the big one? The climb down to the entrance is not easy, and Michelle & Tim who hadn't seen it ~~there~~ before, threw off their packs and gaped at the handsome entrance. Tim was suitably impressed, Michelle suitably unimpressed. Could it be the big one?

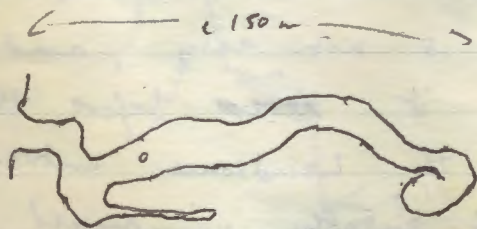
We kitted up and in we went, down the majestic passage, round a majestic corner, up an awesome ramp and along more of the majestic passage. A small descending

hading rift was pushed by R_h + W_s but it choked in stall, and despite the draught there, was clearly not the Big One. Back to the big main passage, awesome in its majesty - R_h climbed up an easy wall and into a continuation passage of circular grandeur. A pitch! I went back to get some rope or ladder. Could this be a big one? By the time I got back to the pitch Michelle was out alone at the top looking like Mrs Lincoln at the end of the play. 'William's gone down there' she said pointing to a small hole, 'and is poking about.' I didn't like the sound of that 'poking about'. Poking about is not what you do in A Big One. I followed William down. The bottom of the pitch could easily be reached through the little hole and it could be followed down to a pile of boulders cemented together with timely majestic mud. The cave was finished 150 metres into the mountain. I let out a fart. A Big One.

Richard.



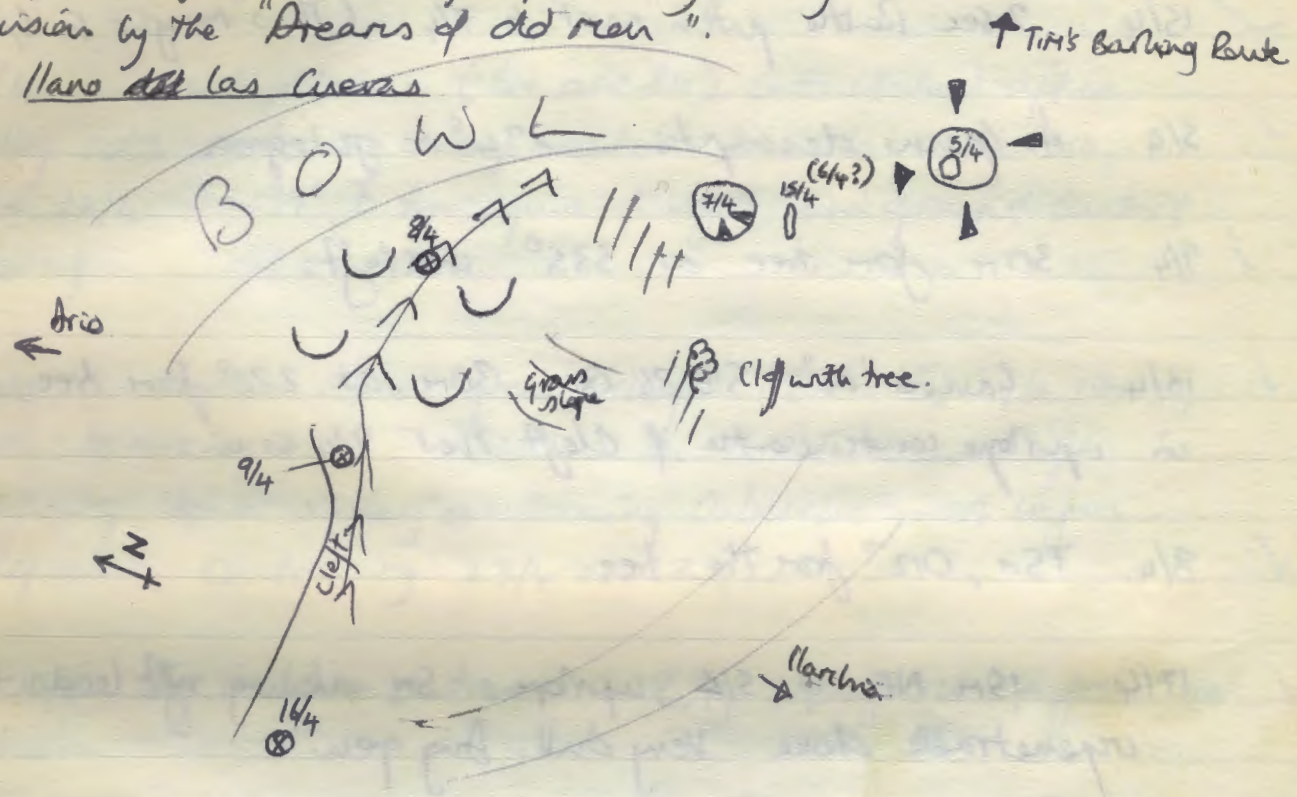
Plan:

~~Bill~~ Bill + Tim surveyed it.

28th July 1991

(Tim) now feel able to report my series of insignificant finds of 26th July in Area 4, after previously being silenced into submission by the "Brears of old man".

Hano ~~del~~ las Cuevas



Hano las Cuevas is a jumble of depressions down the valley directly below the ridge between Cabeza Julagua and Cabeza del Coru. It is marked by a small tree sticking out of a small cliff facing NW. Cabeza Julagua is on a bearing of c 297° from the tree, which is a good shade spot.

(except for bearings and descriptions of there in the book.)

The following are entrances down the steepening valley (series of depressions) that faces rough NE into the gorge towards Culicillo, starting from the lowest ridge above the depression of 5/4.

- ✓ 13/4. Insignificant partially choked cleft in cliff facing gorge (roughly NE) 30m below top of ridge at bottom of bowl near 5/4. Small pit contains remains, with nothing dry under boulders. No draught.
- ✓ 14/4. Gravel-in entrance above 13/4, going up, at top of small cliff cleft in cliff. Insignificant

- ✓ 7/4. 295° to Cabeza Julaguen. 40m SW of the tree, and slightly up-slope (down valley).
- ✓ 15/4. 2sec Rattle patch next to 7/4. (This might be 6/4)
- ✓ 5/4. As Gamin's description: 294° to Julaguen.
- ✓ 9/4. 30m from tree at 335° , in cleft.
- ✓ 16/4. Gamin's "a" SIE 86 ⊗ 30m, at 238° from tree, in up-slope continuation of cleft that 9/4 is in.
- ✓ 8/4. 75m, 012° from the tree
- ✓ 17/4. 15m NE of 5/4, up-slope. 5m sloping rift leads to open-entrance chow. Very dull. Dug open.
- ✓ 18/4. open entrance down valley from first green depression over ridge E of 5/4, with picturesque rock arch, leads to chow. Some dig, but no draught. Other end of rift also closed.
- ✓ 19/4. Hole in rock face in NW face of depression just before the valley goes steep. Leads quickly to animal shelter. No draught. Rainless.
- ✓ 20/4. Rock shelter in left wall of sheltered valley N of 19/4. Just below tree. Hoopless.
- ✓ 21/4. Short passage chow. Entrance in small rock cutters at end of valley depression before valley goes very steep. Alt c 1465m

✓ 22/4 Rift entrance in shattered depression leads 10-15m past snow plug to chove. up to right 10m to closed inlet. Depression is just before valley down goes steep. Alt. c. 1435m

23/4. Dual pitches (6m and 8m) into closed rift in valley notch overlooking steep section down to Culiceros, SW from 22/4. 139° to top spine of right hand group of central range. Alt c. 1435m.

24/4. Another rearing rift shaft (8m or so) into chove, with better entrance. Located in wide rock cleft running down valley overlooking Culiceros just before depression containing 23/4 and 23/4.

25/4 Big walk-in entrance in \odot of valley over lip from S/4. choves.

26/4. Goat shelter (with water remaining) 150m c SE of S/4 high up on bank. Doesn't do anything remotely interesting

AREA 10.

7/10 53° to Calera (Larclia)

~~214~~ 214° to Jultayu (white top)

left of Trea path in valley ~~passage~~ running down from Jultayu. short drop into tight rift.

8/10 Access over pt. ~~214~~ 56° to Larclia
 357° to Verde.

150m left of Trea path on green col. 3m deep pit, 2m at bottom, boulder floor, 2m hole at top. Very wacky.

9/10 45° to Larclia. 344° to verde. Near col top before drop into excrevero - [See Steve's Report of Yesterday].

10/10. 44° to Marlene
347° to Verde.
c 1510m Alt.

"Continue on the opposite wall - Marlene" (Justin's A-70)
050° from 10/10. + 0.5° climb.

11/10. Shaft with wedged boulder top - appreciable. In shattered
ledge running towards BRDreiros.

Cabeza Marlene 058°
Verde 003°

Alt c. 1555m.

ledge 2m below surface leads to 8m pitch, and further 4m
boulder slope down to Choue. Climb up to right leads to
choked inlet.

12/10. 15m from 8/10 - Another Access over hole ~~is~~
covered by a large boulder. Choues after 2m. "S" shaped
rift.
Marlene 047°
Verde 357°.

Gain had earlier dismissed it as not even worth mentioning.

Dear expedition photographers,

The Polish death-rig pendule deserves a photo - There's
a pair of 20ft stalagmites that will look Brill with someone
Abreting down pad. But since its "off route", well be
taking the pendule out very soon....

Tis.

15/5 Lament

Why is it

Oh why is it

Some people shit

Where others sit.

15/5 Lament II

I can't begin to contemplate

Why some would choose to
defecate

And see their fresh
abusions land

In places where I used
to stand