

APRIL 24TH CAMP 2

FROM 1AM ONWARDS THERE WAS A HOWLING GALE SO MUCH SO THAT I HEARD PEOPLE GET OUT OF THEIR TENTS TO RE SECURE THEM. THE WINDS PERSISTED THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT AND I HONESTLY THOUGHT OUR TENT WAS GOING TO GET SHREDDED. NEEDLESS TO SAY I HARDLY SLEPT AT ALL AND WHEN I WOKE UP, THE WIND WAS STILL BLOWING HARD. WE HAD BREAKFAST AT 9.30AM, ALMOST GOT BLOWN OVER TRYING TO GET THERE - THIS WAS DEFINATELY GOING TO BE A RESTDAY.

THE DISCOVERY TEAM CAME OVER TO OUR CAMP FOR SOME COFFEE AND THEY TOLD US THAT THE MEXICANS HAD A DREADFUL NIGHT AT CAMP 3 ADN THAT SIX TENTS WERE SHREDDED(NOT THEIRS ALTHOUGH THEY WERE ALL FULLY DRESSED READY TO EVACUATE AT ANY TIME) ANDREW HAD ZOOMED DOWN TO BASE CAMP FOR SOME GOOD FOOD, HE IS UNBELIEVABLY FIT, AND HE WAS COMING BACK UP THE NEXT DAY (HE CAN MAKE BASECAMP IN SUCH A QUICK TIME THAT THIS SHORT BREAK WAS FEASIBLE, I HOWEVER, WOULD MUCH RATHER STAY PUT AT CAMP 2 THAN ENDURE ANOTHER 10 HOUR JOURNEY BACK UP AGAIN)

I SLEPT, READ MY BOOK IN MY TENT AND THE BAD NEWS IS THAT MY OXYGEN SATUATION IS TO THE POINT WHERE I SHOULD BE DEAD - ONLY 62! THIS WAS THE CASE FOR ME ON ACONCAGUA SO IM NOT GIVING UP DESPITE THE LOOKS I CAN SEE THE DOCTOR GIVING ME. I JUST DONT WANT TO LOOSE ANY VALUABLE BRAIN CELLS!!