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05/04/87

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES FILE DATA

PRIMARY NAME: BLACK MULE GROUP

ALTERNATE NAMES:

LA PAZ COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 737

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 6 N RANGE 17 W SECTION 30 QUARTER C  
LATITUDE: N 33DEG 49MIN 17SEC LONGITUDE: W 108DEG 04MIN 20SEC  
TOPO MAP NAME: BOUSE - 15 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: EXP PROSPECT

COMMODITY:  
IRON HEMATITE

BIBLIOGRAPHY:  
HARRER, C.M., 1964, USBM IC 8236, RECONN. FE  
RESOURCES OF ARIZ., P 122  
ADDITIONAL WORKINGS IN SEC. 31  
ADMMR BLACK MULE GROUPS FILE

BLACK MULE GROUPS (E & W)

YUMA COUNTY  
BOUSE DIST.

The Century Mining Company, two miles southwest of Bouse, Arizona, is completing its manganese mill and expects to be milling very soon at the rate of 250 to 300 tons per shift, producing about 100 tons per day of concentrate. The plant consists of a 12 by 20 inch jaw crusher, 30 inch cone crusher, storage bins, screens, and heavy media plant, together with feeders, conveyors, and other equipment. A large part of the equipment was obtained from Mohave Mining and Milling Company of Wickenburg. The ore for the plant will come from the Black Mule East group of claims, about five miles northeast of Bouse, and the Black Mule West group, some six miles to the southwest. Jim Hicks of Bouse is president of the corporation; Bill T. Turner, plant superintendent; and R. S. Woodruff, engineer. Principal stockholders in the corporation, organized in 1959, are said to be Texas men.

Taken from MINING WORLD, February, 1961, p 39.

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Learned that the manganese mill of Century Mining Co. (Jim Hicks, Pres.) was idle but expected to start up March 1st to fill a concentrate commitment with Kaiser on or before March 27th.

TRAVIS P. LANE - Weekly Report - 2-18-61

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April 20 - Visited the Century Mining Co. mill at Bouse with Jim Hicks and a prospective shipper, Van Horn. The plant is still idle waiting on a contract with Kaiser.

TRAVIS P. LANE - Weekly Report - 4-24-61

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The Century manganese plant is still idle and a start-up does not seem eminent. Several persons at Bouse spoke of Anderson showing them a contract signed by a Japanese group for delivery of 300,000 tons of iron ore.

TRAVIS P. LANE - Weekly Report 5-20-61

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July 19, 1961 - Interviewed Tom Saunders, formerly Mill Supt. for Mohave Mining & Milling Co. and then for a short time metallurgical consultant for Harqua Hala, now he is retained by J. B. Williams, Pres. of Twentieth Century Manganese Co. (Hick's people). He says there is no activity at the Bouse Manganese Plant - still looking for a market.

TRAVIS P. LANE - Weekly Report - 7-22-61



Memo

October 14, 1960

BLACK MULE GROUPS E & W

Travis P. Lane

Visited the new manganese mill of Century Mining Company (Black Mule deposits) about 2 miles southwest of Bouse. It was expected that the wheels would be turning on a start-up run within the week. A large part of the equipment was obtained from Mohave Mining & Milling Co. The operators anticipate a milling rate of 250 to 300 tons per shift and a production of about 100 TPD of concentrate (under 30%).

The plant is quite substantial. The flow sheet is essentially as follows:

12" x 20" jaw crusher, screens, 30" cone crusher, 2 mill storage bins, screen (with minus 1/8" going to a storage pile), a Heavy Media plant; together with feeders, conveyors, etc. There are no jigs or tables or flot cells in the circuit. The operators are reticent about market outlets. The main product +1/8"-1 1/2" will probably go to Kaiser with minimum grade specification 26% Mn.

President of the company is Jim Hicks of Bouse.

Plant Supt. is Billy T. Turner.

Engineering Management is in the charge of R.S. Woodruff.

The construction crew has consisted of 6 to 10 men and start-off crew (with operations at 1 shift per day) will be about the same.

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See: MINING WORLD, August, 1960 - P 48

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Visited the Century Mining Co. (Jim Hicks, Pres.) manganese plant near Bouse. The plant operated for a short time making about 3 car-loads of concentrate. The company expects to resume in February on a firm contract from a steel company.

TRAVIS P. LANE - Weekly Report - 1-14-61

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF ARIZONA  
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine Black Mule Groups (E & W) Mn

Date July 1, 1960

District Bouse, Yuma, County

Engineer Travis P. Lane

Subject: Visits of Oct. 17 & Nov. 17, 1959 and June 16, 1960.

Property: The property consists of the Black Mule East group of claims some 5 miles northeast of Bouse and the Black Mule West group some 6 miles southwest of Bouse, and a millsite one mile southwest of Bouse; all unpatented.

Clearing of the millsite was begun and a 16" water well drilled in Oct. 1959 and construction of the mill was in progress at the time of the June 16, 1960 visit.

Owner: Jim Hicks, Bouse, Arizona

Operator Century Mining Co., Bouse, Arizona

Jim Hicks, president, organized the corporation (Arizona) in the summer of 1959. The stockholders are a group of Texas people.

Black Mule Groups (East + West)

Yuma County

(East — 5 miles NE of Bouse;  
West — 6 miles SW of Bouse)

reference: Arizona Dept. of Mineral Resources  
Black Mule Group (E+W) Yuma County (File)

Reconnaissance of Iron Resources in Arizona

by C.M. Harrer Bureau of Mines Information  
Circular 8236 U.S. Dept. of the Interior 1964

present owner: Century Mining Co. of Bouse, AZ  
Jim Hicks, Pres. as of 1961

previous owner: Jim Hicks of Bouse, AZ

all of the claims are unpatented

history of the mine:

The Century Mining Co. was organized by Jim Hicks in the summer of 1959. Obtained mining equipment from Mohave Mining and Milling Co. In January 1961 the plant operated for a short time making about 3 carloads of concentrate. Throughout 1961 the Century Mining Co. was idle while awaiting a market contract. In Nov. 1961 Sterling Oil of Oklahoma, Inc. acquired exclusive rights to a process for the production of high purity manganese dioxide for the lease of 350,000 ~~tons~~ long tons of manganese ore over a 5 year period. no other info.



Black Mule Group (cont.)

geology: manganese hematite - limonite  
replaces Paleozoic limestone.

assay: 1964 by Bureau of Mines

21.4% Cu, 1.3% Mn, 0.8% titanium,  
0.12% phosphorous, 0.22% sulfur, 43.6% silica