

CONTACT INFORMATION
Mining Records Curator
Arizona Geological Survey 1520 West Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

602-771-1601
http://www.azgs.az.gov
inquiries@azgs.az.gov

The following file is part of the

Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources Mining Collection

## ACCESS STATEMENT

These digitized collections are accessible for purposes of education and research. We have indicated what we know about copyright and rights of privacy, publicity, or trademark. Due to the nature of archival collections, we are not always able to identify this information. We are eager to hear from any rights owners, so that we may obtain accurate information. Upon request, we will remove material from public view while we address a rights issue.

## CONSTRAINTS STATEMENT

The Arizona Geological Survey does not claim to control all rights for all materials in its collection. These rights include, but are not limited to: copyright, privacy rights, and cultural protection rights. The User hereby assumes all responsibility for obtaining any rights to use the material in excess of "fair use."

The Survey makes no intellectual property claims to the products created by individual authors in the manuscript collections, except when the author deeded those rights to the Survey or when those authors were employed by the State of Arizona and created intellectual products as a function of their official duties. The Survey does maintain property rights to the physical and digital representations of the works.

## QUALITY STATEMENT

The Arizona Geological Survey is not responsible for the accuracy of the records, information, or opinions that may be contained in the files. The Survey collects, catalogs, and archives data on mineral properties regardless of its views of the veracity or accuracy of those data.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 0 0 0 O 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QUARTZ <br> SERICITE <br> KAOLIN | 16,000 | 32,900 | 30,000 | 30.0 | 78.0 | 3300 |  | BLISTER CAKE | MEXICO CITY | 1450 | 220 | 46,000 | 1966 |
| QUARTZ MONZONITE | 58,000 | 129,406 | 128,600 | 22 or 23 | n.a. | 800 | 350 | ANODES | EL PASO | $1890^{\circ}$ | n.a. | 139,000 | 1965 |
| QUARTZ PORPHYRY LIMESTONE | 20,000 | 74,033 | 58,200 | 11 or 12 | n. a . | 5400 |  | ANODES | EL PASO | $2350^{3,4}$ | n.a. |  |  |
| MONZONITE DIORITE RHYOLITE | 31,000 | 70,818 | 70,689 | 32.76 | n.a. |  |  | ANODES | EL PASO | $1380^{\circ}$ | n.a. |  |  |
| QUARTZ MONZONITE GRANITE PORPHYRY | 12,000 | 32,150 | 19,000 | 32. | 86.6 | 13,000 ${ }^{\text {s }}$ |  | CONCENTRATES PRECIPITATES | INSPIRATION DOUGLAS | $468{ }^{\text {s }}$ | 122 |  |  |
| SCHIST <br> DIABASE PORPHYRY | 24,000 | 58,235 | 50,200 | 20 to 22 | 84\% | 9040 |  | ANODES | MARYLAND | 1003 | 393 |  |  |
| QUARTZ DIORITE METAMORPHOSED SEDIMENTS | 22,000 | 81,372 | 56,388 | 22.25 | 82 | 27,421 | 598 | FIRE REFINED BLISTER | MARKET MARYLAND | 1140 | 320 | 100,000 | 1965 |
| SCHIST GRANITE | 16,500 | 48,908 | 19,697 | 37.5 | 86. | 3807 | 490 | CATHODES BLISTER | MARKET | 1305 | 194 | SAME ${ }^{\text {º }}$ | 1965 |
| METAMORPHIC LIMESTONE | 4000 | $12,476$ | 12,476 | 27.13 | 89.86 |  |  | CONCENTRATES | INSPIRATION | 362 | 34 | 18,000 |  |
| SCHIST <br> DIABASE <br> LIMESTONE | 1600 | 17,064 | 17,356 | 23.14 | 96.73 |  |  | BLISTER | LAUREL HILL, N. Y. EL PASO | 984 | 108 |  |  |
| MONZONITE PORPHYRY QUARTZ MONZONITE | 36,000 | 92,588 | 94,895 | 29.91 | 88.22 |  | 2485 | ANODES | LAUREL HILL, N. Y. EL PASO | 1823 | 239 | 100,000 | 1965 |
| MONZONITE PORPHYRY | 6000 | 19,631 | 11,878 | 28.0 | 75.0 | 7753 | 267 | CONCENTRATES PRECIPITATES | HAYDEN <br> EL PASO | 345 | 36 |  |  |
| IGNEOUS SEDIMENTARIES | 8400 | 23,600 | 21,200 | 31.0 | n.a. | 2400 | 400 | CONCENTRATES PRECIPITATES | HAYDEN <br> EL PASO | 256 | 50 |  |  |
| HORNFELS ARGILLITES TACTITES | 15,000 ${ }^{1}$ | 52,400 | 52,400 | 28.6 | n.a. |  | $14^{2}$ | CONCENTRATES | HAYDEN <br> EL PASO | 479 | 73 |  |  |
| HORNFELS ARKOSITES | 8000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 25.0 | 91.0 |  |  | CONCENTRATES | EL PASO | 300 | 45 | 35,000 | 1966 |
| QUARTZ MONZONITE WELDED TUFFS LATITE | 12,000 | 21,000 | 19,000 | 25.0 | 86.0 | 2000 | 550 | CONCENTRATES PRECIPITATES | HAYDEN <br> EL PASO | 250 | 95 |  |  |
| QUARTZ PORPHYRY QUARTZ MONZONITE SCHIST | 14,000 | 20,000 | 19,000 | 22 to 25 | 85 |  |  | CONCENTRATES PRECIPITATES | TACOMA <br> EL PASO | 230 | 79 |  |  |

## 1 CURRENTLY 20,000 TPD

2 MOLY PLANT STARTED LATE 1964, 600-\%00 TPY POTENTIAL
3 40\% UNDERGROUND ORE IS DIRECT SMELTING
4 INCLUDES CONCENTRATES FROM UNDERGROUND ORE
5 INCLUDES DOUGLAS

## 6 WAGES \& SALARIED

7 COPPER CITIES
8 INCLUDES MIAMI, CASTLE DOME, COPPER CITIES
$90.422 \%$ CU OXIDE, $0.476 \%$ CU SULFIDE
10 TO TREAT LOWER GRADE ORE-NO INCREASE


Of interest at the mill are the on-stream X-ray analyzer, a computer being tested, and a test of rubber liners, lifters and grates in a ball mill going into nine months continuous operation.

The smelter produces blister and fire refined copper. There is little gold or silver in the ore to be lost by going the fire refined route to market. A new concentrate-precipitate drier is to be installed at the smelter to reduce moisture in charge to reverberatory.

## San Manuel

Historically San Manuel goes down in the ranks with Inspiration, Miami and Ray as a great underground blockcaving mine. In present day terms it is a phenomenon which exchanges honors with Climax as world premiere blockcaving mine in rock caved and hoisted, although Climax does not have to hoist ore. In our Southwest copper story, San Manuel is second only to Morenci in copper production but it employs the greatest number of people in a mine-by-mine count. Where Inspiration, Miami and Ray were venturing into the unknown to a larger degree, San Manuel had its neck stuck out somewhat considering the lower grade of ore to be extracted.

Development began in 1948 although the property was optioned in 1944 and the presence of the orebody had been known for a good many years before. It came on stream in 1955. It was a large undertaking involving the development of underground mine plant, building of a reduction works, 30 -mile railroad and permanent townsite. But after all the orebody boasted a half billion tons of reserves.

Production based on underground personnel averages 61 tons per man-shift, overall it is rated at 38 tons per man-shift.

San Manuel completed an expansion this year that increases ore production from 35,000 tpd to 40,000 tpd. Two sections have been added to the mill to step up milling capacity from 35,000 tpd to 39,000 tpd. A primary crusher was added at each of the two ore shafts. A new reverberatory furnace has been constructed at the smelter.
Besides blister copper, the Company has several valuable by-products; molybdenum gold and silver. Blister copper is sent to Laurel Hill, N. Y., and El Paso, Texas, for refining.

Magma's Superior Div. may be reaching the end at the old Magma mine. Begun in 1912, the property has been a substantial high grade mine producing copper and byproduct gold and silver. Square set mining has been supplemented with sand fill in recent years. Extreme temperatures in underground workings necessitated the construction of a system for cooling the air. A large refrigeration plant was built about 20 years ago and was added to later. Engineers come from all over the world to study this operation. Vein mining at depths of 3000 to 4900 ft , naturally high temperature gradient abetted by heat from mineral oxidation and the warm temperatures of desert air at the surface created severe conditions for providing adequate control of humidity and temperature at the working faces. The underground plant is in need of modernization but the Company reports that at present there are insufficient ore reserves to justify this expense.

The reduction works are composed of concentrator and smelter. Blister copper is the end product.

## Silver Bell

Interests of the American Smelting and Refining Co. in this area consist of open pit mining and concentrating of copper ores at Silver Bell and Mission near Tucson and a custom smelter at Hayden. The Company has built a new building in Tucson to house its U.S. mining and southwestern administrative offices.

In 1952, stripping was begun on a copper deposit at Silver Bell. Mining was not new to the area, small underground mines having been worked for many years until 1927 when a hiatus began.

Two pits are benched out of the mountain side about four miles apart, the Oxide and El Tiro. The concentrator is adjacent to the Oxide mine. Two types of ore are being extracted, relatively clean disseminated sulfides in igneous rocks with sedimentary inclusions and sulfides in sediments with overlying oxides. The mixed and oxidized material encountered in stripping, containing about $1 \% \mathrm{Cu}$ or less, is being segregated, pending results of ammonia leaching tests in a 10 -ton pilot plant. Content of this material prohibits acid leaching.

The concentrator is being expanded from 9000 tpd to 10,000 tpd by the addition of a sixth ball mill and some new crushing and screening plant.

A well developed dump leaching system has been in operation since 1960 , irrigating dumps with water and precipitating on iron scrap. This operation is to be expanded from circulating 1000 gpm to 2000 gpm.

## Mission

 dump of the Pima mine started some 4 years earlier. The two new mines, Mission and Pima, 15 miles south of the center of Tucson, are within sight of older underground mines of Banner Mining Co., now among the groups leased to The Anaconda Co.The open pit mines in this immediate vicinity are found in alkaline sedimentary rocks, easy grinding hornfels and tougher argillites and tactites. To develop these deposits, it has been necessary to remove about 200 ft of desert alluvium.

Moving 100,000 tons of ore and waste each day puts Mission among the biggest mines in the country. In this Southwest group, it is topped only by Morenci, although Mission is seventh in total copper production. In mining, Mission uses the biggest shovels, having five with $9-\mathrm{cu}$ yd and one with 10 cu yd buckets. Trucks are 55-, 60- and 65-ton load capacity with one 85 -ton truck leased for testing. Automatic lubrication is being installed on all shovels. Samples, posted on maps within 24 hr , permit convenient mine control.

When the modern concentrator was constructed, certain automatic controls were not provided but the design was compatible for incorporating additional such devices. The latest addition installed in January and still experimental, is an on-stream X-ray spectroscopic analyzer complex. It consists of a VXQ 25000 six-channel X-ray made by Applied Research Laboratory of Bausch \& Lomb to measure copper and molybdenum concentrations and pulp densities. All measurements are made simultaneously. Samples are analyzed from eight locations taken every 15 or 20 minutes. Points sampled are final concentrates, final tailing and scavenger tailing, two locations each and one each of flotation feed and combined scavenger concentrate. Data are programmed to an LPG 21 General Precision computer with a print-out unit. An oscilloscope is used for programming and trouble shooting.

After exhaustive research, a molybdenite byproduct plant was put on stream toward the end of 1964. To feed this plant, copper concentrates are combined with a scavenger concentrate which contains $\mathrm{Cu}, \mathrm{Ag}, \mathrm{Zn}$ and $\mathrm{MoS}_{2}$ values. In the process, concentrates are roasted prior to final flotation. A small tonnage of zinc concentrate is also made as a by-product.

Mission has been operating at slightly better than design capacity since start-up and is currently treating about $20,000 \mathrm{tpd}$.

## Bagdad

Bagdad is no exception to the rule of being the surviving operating company in an old mining district. In 1941 underground blockcaving was expanded and in 1946 underground work was abandoned in favor of open pit mining. The pit today is 800 ft vertically from crest to floor. Shortly after the pit was developed, a system of crushing the ore with a crusher in the pit floor was devised. Feeders removed the reduced rock from a bin to a $1000-\mathrm{ft}$ belt conveyor which travels in a $171_{2}{ }^{\circ}$ incline tunnel to surface and lifts the ore a vertical distance of 300 ft to discharge it to the fine crushing plant. As pits go, Bagdad's is a small one but operates with large dimensions; $50-\mathrm{ft}$ benches are carried and loading buckets are up to $9 \mathrm{cu} y d$.

The concentrator mills 6000 tpd and floats the coarsest ore in the Southwest; it is unique in not having a regrind section.

Molybdenite grade, which fluctuates from $0.03 \%$ to $0.05 \%$ in the ore, is recovered by flotation. A steaming unit has been recently installed to clean copper concentrates of reagents prior to moly flotation. This reduced reagent consumption in the moly plant.

Oxide ores are recovered by heap leaching on dumps. A 200 -ton acid plant makes acid from imported sulfur for use in leaching. A long-held ambition of the Bagdad Copper Corp., to produce refined copper at the property is about to be realized. A chemical refining process developed by Chemetals Corp. will be used to convert cement copper to high purity copper metal. The plant, costing $\$ 4$ million and owned jointly by Bagdad and Chemetals is under construction and is to be completed in 1966. Cement copper will be redisolved in sulfuric acid and precipitated with hydrogen under temperature and pressure. Precipitates will be filtered, sintered and sized. The powder metal is expected to be equivalent to electrolytic copper.

The fact that Bagdad is tucked off by itself in some tough country with poor road connections to the outside would seem to be cause for depression. But quite the opposite appears to be true judging by the jaunty and cheerful appearance of the workers and the camp. There could be several explanations. The nonunion labor force enjoys a $10 \%$ par-

Primary cyclones lie low at Mineral Park.

ticipation in the profits. The unique chemical refining plant will bring with it the aura of the Space Age. Then, next to most dwellings is a camper, power boat or both ready to roll when the weekend arrives to more salubrious locals such as nearby Lake Mead.

## PIMA

The mill began life at a capacity of 3000 tpd , was increased to 7500 tpd in 1963 and, by mid-1966, will be milling at the rate of $18,000 \mathrm{tpd}$. The Company is owned $50 \%$ by Cyprus Mines Corp. and $25 \%$ each by Utah Construction and Mining Co. and Union Oil Co.

A northeast extension of the pit is being prepared that will nearly connect with the Mission pit of American Smelting \& Refining Co. The present mine is now 600 ft below the rim and will reach a depth of 720 ft when it is phased out in 1967. The Company is going to larger haulage units, up to 85 -ton capacity, with the acquisition of nine electric-wheel trucks.

New crushing facilities and 4 mill sections similar to 2 existing sections and 2 thickeners are to be added to the concentrator. Portions of the old crushing plant will be incorporated into the new crushing plant which includes a new 54 -in. gyratory crusher. Crushing is in three stages. A mill section is composed of 1 rod mill in open circuit with 2 ball mills, each in closed circuit with cyclones. Two stage grinding reflects the harder ores found in the Pima district. At some other mines only one stage of ball milling is needed before rougher flotation. Nearly all plants regrind the pulp before cleaner flotation steps. Each rougher flotation section has 6 banks of 10 cells and the cleaning section has 3 banks of 10 cells which services two rougher sections. Scavenger concentrates from the rougher sections and cleaner tails are reground. At present there is no by-product molybdenite plant although research is in progress.


Duval first entered the copper mining industry when it began production at the Esperanza mine in the Twin Buttes District in 1959. It is now readying its second pit at this location to start production by January 1966. Further west, the Company is doing exploration on a new low grade deposit, the Sierrita, which could also be tributary to the Esperanza mill.

The Esperanza deposit is in quartz monzonite porphyry, welded tuffs and latite; ore minerals are chalcopyrite and chalcocite. Mining was contracted to Isbell Construction Co., but on August 1 the equipment was purchased and Duval began conducting its own mining operations. The first drop cut was made recently but prior to this the loaded haul was downhill.

Waste from the pit is stocked for dump leaching. No acid is added to the water irrigating the dumps. An attempt is made to spray the least amount of solution possible and still wet the surface on the theory of minimum flow maximizing concentration in the pregnant solution. Dumps are leached continuously.

The two section concentrator has one rod mill for two ball mills in closed circuit with cyclones in each section. Overflow from the cyclones goes to rougher flotation, regrind, cleaner and recleaner banks. In the moly plant, copper concentrates are steamed and treated in three stages of flotation after which the molybdenite concentrates are roasted to molybdenum trioxide for shipment to market.

MINERN PARK
Newest star in the Arizona showcase of copper mines is the Mineral Park property of Duval. Exploratory work begun in 1959 led to the conclusion that a deposit containing upwards of 60 million tons of 0.54 Cu and 0.045 Mo could be mined by open pit methods at an overall stripping ratio of approximately 1.5 to 1 . During the exploration period, drillholes were checked by underground bulk sampling. Airborne work not only speeded mapping but helicopters were used in locating some drill equipment. The precipitous terrain posed many problems in addition to those for drilling; in particular location of access roads and adequate sites for waste disposal. These dispositions were made before the commencement of stripping. Two years of pre-mine stripping, about 18 million tons, were completed to coincide with concentrator construction and mine production began in November 1964.

Cut-off grade for mining is $0.4 \% \mathrm{Cu}$ equivalent. All rock having a minimum to $0.4 \% \mathrm{Cu}$ assay is placed on heap leaching locations. The fact that assay records are being kept on leach dumps as they are formed will provide much valuable information on efficiency of leaching not available at many of the older mines. Advantage was taken of mining on the face of Ithaca Peak to provide a downhill haul to the primary crusher throughout the mining of $70 \%$ of the orebody.

The $12,000 \mathrm{tpd}$ concentrator is designed for copper and molybdenum recovery. It is the first one in the Southwest to use single stage wet autogenous grinding. Of the four mills in operation, two were operated autogeneously and two were using balls for grinding. While the autogenous mills were performing at rated capacity, the two using balls were at excess capacity. The cyclone classifiers are placed close to the mills in a position approaching horizontal in order to minimize pump head.

The plant is equipped with centralized electrical control and instrument panels. The instrument panels were delivered as complete units to the plant during construction with marked leads for connections accessible from outside the units.

The moly plant is similar to the one at Esperanza. Copper concentrates are sold to Asarco at Hayden. -

## DUMP LEACHING-AN EXPANDING SOURCE OF COPPER

On this page and the succeeding two pages of photographs attention is focused on the leaching of lowgrade copper ore on mine dumps. This practice is expanding rapidly and may ultimately lead to large scale "chemical mining."

Leaching is still in the "art" stage because there is little precise knowledge of the chemistry. Although the practice is not new, it is only recently that intensive experimentation has begun with a view to lifting the process out of the category of a minor sideline and elevating it to an integral part of copper producing operations. For example, at Chino leaching has been dovetailed into overall mining plans by expanding the leaching operation, putting higher grade material on the leaching dumps, and raising the cut-off grade of ore that is sent to the concentrator.

It is quite possible that as experimental work progresses, dumps will be shattered by explosive charges for controlled percolation of solutions that may be injected under pressure and fortified with catalysts and solvents to achieve greater production in a shorter period of time. It is probable that the future will see more leaching in place than at present.

Current leaching practice is an approximation of natural processes, in which old dumps or low grade ore, considered waste, is irrigated with water, in some cases souped up with acid. The water percolates through the dump dissolving copper as it descends until the solution is trapped at the bottom where it drains to catchment reservoirs and is then delivered to tanks where it replaces iron placed there to precipitate the copper. Operating data given in table below show variations in different orebodies.

For all practical purposes, ${ }^{\text {, }}$ leaching is performed by sulfuric acid and ferric sulfate by oxidizing copper
minerals to soluble copper sulfate. Where there is sufficient pyrite in the waste dump, leaching may be performed with natural water, the acid being formed by reaction with pyrite. The general equations given below approximate the reactions which are thought to take place for the minerals that are amenable to the process. Chalcopyrite, an important ore mineral, is not significantly leached by the solutions. Certain bacteria, utilizing iron and copper in their metabolism, are oxidizing agents which catalyze the leaching process. Other catalysts and solvents are coming on the market which may economically increase the efficiency of leaching. Precipitation of copper from the pregnant solution may see a change in method due to the high cost of iron scrap.

## Azurite

$\mathrm{Cu}_{3}(\mathrm{OH})_{2} \cdot\left(\mathrm{CO}_{3}\right)_{2}+3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}=3 \mathrm{CuSO}_{4}+2 \mathrm{CO}_{2}+4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
Chalcocite
$\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{~S}+2 \mathrm{Fe}_{2}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{3}=2 \mathrm{CuSO}_{4}+4 \mathrm{FeSO}_{4}+\mathrm{S}$
Covellite
$\mathrm{CuS}+\mathrm{Fe}_{2}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{3}=\mathrm{CuSO}_{1}+2 \mathrm{FeSO}_{4}+\mathrm{S}$
Cuprite
$\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{H}_{23} \mathrm{SO}_{4}+\mathrm{Fe}_{4}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{3}=2 \mathrm{CuSO}_{4}$
$+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+2 \mathrm{FeSO}_{4}$
Chrysocolla
$\mathrm{CuSiO}_{3} \cdot 2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}=\mathrm{CuSO}_{4}+\mathrm{SiO}_{2}+3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
Malachite
$\mathrm{Cu}_{2}(\mathrm{OH})_{2} \cdot \mathrm{CO}_{3}+2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{1}=2 \mathrm{CuSO}_{4}+\mathrm{CO}_{2}+3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
Pyrite
$2 \mathrm{FeS}_{2}+2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+7 \mathrm{O}_{2}=2 \mathrm{FeSO}_{4}+2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$

| DUMP LEACHING DATA | CANANEA | COPPER QUEEN | RAY | CHINO | INSPIRATION | BAGDAD | ESPERANZA |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Qty. of sol. circulating, gpm | 1200 | 2100 | 5000 | 11,000 | n.a. | 3300 | 1000 |
| \% Cu in dump (range) | 0.2-0.4 | 0.3 | n.a. | 0-0.5 | n.a. | 0.25-0.75 | 0.15-0.4 |
| pH of sol. to dump | 2.75 | 3.5 | 2.1-3.5 | 3.5 | 2.64 | 2.00 | 4.5 |
| $\mathrm{Fe}^{++}$in sol. to dump, gpl | 20.0 | 10 | 1.2-2.4 | 3.6 | 4.96 | 3.80-4.20 | 1.44 |
| $\mathrm{Fe}^{++ \text {a }}$ in sol. to dump, gpl | 2.2 | nil | 0.06 | . 1 | 0.50 | . $10-20$ | trace |
| Cu in sol. to dump, gpl | 0.15 | nil | trace | . 1 | 0.24 | 0.02 | trace |
| pH of pregnant sol. | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0-2.5 | 2.5 | 1.88 | 2.3-2.5 | 2.5 |
| $\mathrm{Fe}^{++}$in pregnant sol., gpl | 6.0 | 3.5 | 0-0.96 | 1.0 | 3.34 | . $02-.05$ | trace |
| $\mathrm{Fe}^{++}$in pregnant sol., gpl | 12.0 | 3.0 | 0.24-1.80 | 1.0 | 2.73 | 1.80-2.00 | 0.24 |
| Cu in pregnant sol., gpl | 1.50 | 1.4 | 0.24-3.60 | 1.8 | 1.877 | 1.10-1.30 | 1.2 |
| Quantity of acid additions, lb/ton of sol. | none | none | n.a. | 3.3* | 9.82 | 14-16 | none |
| Operng, range of Cu in preg. sol, gpl | 1.30-2.50 | 1.1-2.4 | 0.60 | 1.2-2.4 | n.a. | 1.3-1.10 | n.a. |
| Solution loss, \% | 5.0 | 1 | n.a. | 5-6 | 6.65 | 7 | 25-30 |
| Iron consumption, tons/ton Cu ppt | 4 | 2.5 | n.a. | 1.5 | 2.52 | 1.8 | 1.35 |
| Length of dump rest, months | 6 | 12 | n.a. | 4 | n.a. | 21/2 | none |



stripped and is ready for mining. Another deposit amenable to open pit exploitation is in reserve. Each of the deposits is a distinct porphyry-volcanic contact zone of disseminated secondary copper mineralization.

The Company is in the throws of a $40 \%$ expansion. One feature of the expansion is a new ore pass placed in the bottom of La Cananea pit to eliminate the necessity of an adverse ore haul in a pit that will reach a depth of 700 ft . It was necessary to drive a 2500 ft inclined tunnel under the pit, excavate a station to accommodate a $66-\mathrm{x} 84$-in. jaw crusher and drive a $600-\mathrm{ft}$ raise to the bottom of the pit. Ore will be removed by belt conveyor. Since the portal of the tunnel is at a lower elevation than the existing crushing plant, the tunnel conveyor discharges to another inclined belt that carries the ore 2500 ft to the secondary and tertiary crushing installations.

The concentrator is being expanded from 16,000 to $22,000 \mathrm{tpd}$ capacity. One rod mill is being added ahead of each pair of ball mills. Cyclones will be used to classify the rod mill discharge, the spigot product going to ball milling and the overflow to flotation. The ball mills are also served by cyclones. Scavenger flotation cells are being added. These plant additions, representing a nominal $40 \%$ increase in milling rate are hoped to increase copper production in practice by one half.

There is a well developed dump leaching set-up at Cananea. Ferric sulfate which is naturally present is used for dissolving copper and no acid is added. The concentration of ferric sulfate reaching the precipitation plant must be controlled because it consumes iron. Some solution bleeding is done in an attempt to reduce build-up of iron salts. To more completely prepare the dumps for solution, they are alternately leached and rested.

The Cananea product is blister copper cakes that are sent to Mexico City.

As is true at most foreign camps, the Company must operate extensive maintenance shops for rebuilding equipment. Maintenance and motor-pool employees total 360 of the 1670 payroll. Power is generated in the Company's gas-fired steam power plant which has a generating capacity of $38,000 \mathrm{kw}$.
morenci
In the exciting period of copper development that surged in Arizona after the turn of the century, Morenci was the first copper producing district of consequence. Until 1932, production was from underground mining operations and at this time all underground mining was discontinued. Stripping operations on the now famous pit began in 1937 and the new copper concentrator was ready for production in 1942.
Morenci and New Cornelia are the only remaining rail-haulage pits in the Southwest copper industry. At Morenci a double entry ramp system is used with approximately two trains serving each operating shovel. Trains are dispatched according to shovel requirements rather than by assignment to shovels.


New leach-precipitation drum in operation at Morenci.

Ore cars are 80 -ton nominal capacity drawn by $1750-\mathrm{hp}$ and $1850-\mathrm{hp}$ locomotives. Some older 1200hp engines are also in service. Truck haulage is utilized as the need arises for stripping operations above operating rail haulage levels and for making drop cuts. Through 1963, 917 million tons of ore and waste have been removed from the pit of which 607 million tons were ore.

The original concentrator was 25,000 tpd milling capacity, increased to 45,000 tpd two years later or in 1944. Nominal milling capacity today is 58,000 tpd, achieved by 30 parallel ball mills of approximately 2000 tons capacity each operating in closed circuit with a spiral classifier.

During the 30 's, when a method for concentration of the projected open pit orebody was being considered, leaching was in the running because of the rapid oxidation characteristics of the chalcocite ore. The decision was made to follow the uncomplicated sulfide-flotation route. Presently, an LPF adjunct to the mill went on stream and is expected to recover an additional 1.25 lb of copper per ton of feed from the oxide copper previously going out in the tailing. As a result, total copper production will be increased from $7 \%$ to $10 \%$.
In the process, crushed concentrator feed is leached with sulfuric acid to dissolve copper and then precipitated with a unique sulfide precipitant to convert it to a mixture of cupric sulfide and sulfidized metallic copper particles. Both these reactions proceed almost simultaneously in a revolving drum, one, placed beside each of the 30 ball mills. The precipitated copper continues with the sulfide copper through grinding circuit to flotation where it is recovered. As the total ore emerges from the leaching drum it is neutralized with lime to alkaline flotation range.

The LPF addition necessitated the construction of an acid plant, additional capacity for the lime plant and a precipitant manufacturing plant, which consumes pyrite, lime and coal as raw materials.
A concentrate roasting plant has also been installed at the smelter.


FIG. 5
FNS CC:



FIG. 7-COMPOSITE LEVEL MAP, NEW YEARS EVE MINE
28. II INT OWNHOM21世

Fig. 2


ESPERANZA Traced from Private Map
$\qquad$
$200^{\circ}$


1500 FEET TO JUNCTION OF CAPAROS WITH ESPERANZA WASH.

$$
\downarrow=
$$



FIG.3-CROSS SECTIONS THROUGH D.D. HOLES, AMARGOSA PROJ. I709, PIMA CO., ARIZONA


FIG.2-GEOLOGIC PLAN OF ESPERANZA DEPOSIT, AMARGOSA PROJ. I709, PIMA CO., ARIZONA


FIG.I-GENERAL LOCATION MAP, ESPERANZA DEPOSIT, AMARGOSA PROJECT 1709, PIMA CO., ARIZ.








## LEGEND

Note: Geology by U.S.G.S.




$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{ll}
0 & \\
C & \\
0 & \\
E & = \\
0 & L \\
D & D
\end{array} \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { Bottom } \\
\text { Arizona } \\
\text { Diamond }
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$






JUNE, 1944
FIG.3-CROSS SECTIONS THROUGH D.D. HOLES, AMARGOSA PROJ. I709, PIMA CO., ARIZONA


FIG.2-GEOLOGIC PLAN OF ESPERANZA DEPOSIT, AMARGOSA PROJ. I709, PIMA CO., ARIZONA


FIG.I-GENERAL LOCATION MAP, ESPERANZA DEPOSIT, AMARGOSA PROJECT I709, PIMA CO., ARIZ.










