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PRINTED: 06/20/2002

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: RICO PROSPECT

ALTERNATE NAMES:

MARICOPA COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 164A

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 5 N RANGE 9 W SECTION 26 QUARTER NW  
LATITUDE: N 33DEG 45MIN 50SEC LONGITUDE: W 113DEG 10MIN 35SEC  
TOPO MAP NAME: AGUILA - 15 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: EXP PROSPECT

COMMODITY:  
MANGANESE

BIBLIOGRAPHY:  
USGS AGUILA QUAD  
ADMMR RICO PROSPECT FILE

# DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ARIZONA

## FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine Rico Mining Co. Prospect

Date 5-9-58

District Big Horn, Maricopa County

Engineer Lewis A. Smith

Subject: Mine Visit

Location:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles SW of the Purple Pansy Mine (Ambrosia) (See 26 T5N, R9W)

Owner: Mr. W. Church, Aguila, Arizona ✓

Operator: Rico Mining Co. ✓

Agent: Ellwood Wright, Box 935, Aguila ✓

Mine Supt: "Blimp" Evans, Aguila, Arizona ✓

Principal Metal: Manganese ✓

This prospect is being drilled and stripped. A rotary drill is cutting holes to a depth of 190' in a down-dropped block of andesite. This block is approximately 800' wide (Se to NW) and plus 900' long (NE-SW). Since only a small part of the mineralized area has been drilled (the apparent deepest portion), the value of the mine cannot now be evaluated. The block is highly shattered and is bordered on three sides (E, S, & W) by faults, the north side being covered by later rhyolite and detritus. Along the south fault, on the north side, the andesite appears to be about 190' thick, and is mineralized from 35' down to the bottom. The holes thus far drilled indicate an erratic manganese content distributed over a width of 40' and 350' of length. The overall assay average thus far is slightly over 8%, but the 5' samples in the holes indicate a range from 3% to 25% Mn. The ore seems, on these meager results, to be in two horizons (35-55' from surface) and 85'-125'. The two zones appear to vary in grade from hole to hole. The inference is that the andesite may be a series of jumbled blocks. However, this inference could easily be changed when more holes are drilled at closer intervals. In many ways this property resembles the occurrence of ore in the Purple Pansy, Black Rock mines and other mines in the area. At each of these mines despite erratic local distribution, with strongest concentrations next to the faults, the general average grade of ore of many of the mines is within a range of 8 to 14% in large tonnages. Large tonnages were mined from Ambrosia's Purple Pansy and Mohave's Black Rock. In each case certain local areas were high and others low, and all of the areas were somewhat jumbled. Despite this erratic tendency of local distribution, the averages have been good milling ore. 10% Mn is considered to be good mill heads. The cut off point at present is just under 7% Mn.

Therefore, in this deposit if further drilling follows its present trend, a good tonnage of average milling could easily result. The narrowness of the ore zones as now outlined, may cause a serious mining complication especially as pertains to the lower zone. It is hoped that as the drilling moves northeastward, the width will be increased. It is questionable according to Evans, that under 10% could be handled by underground methods.

Rico Mining Co. Prospect  
Sec. 26, T. 5N., R. 9W.  
Maricopa County

reference: Arizona Dept. of Mineral Resources  
Rico Mining Co. Prospect (file)

present owner:

minerals: manganese

history of the area:

in 1958 the property was owned by  
Mr. W. Church of Aguila, Az. The  
Rico Mining Co. did some drilling and  
stripping work. The overall assay  
average was slightly over 5%. The  
ore zones were considered very narrow

geology:

andesite and rhyolite; manganese concentra-  
tions strongest next to faults.