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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: WEBBER

ALTERNATE NAMES:
CONGRESS

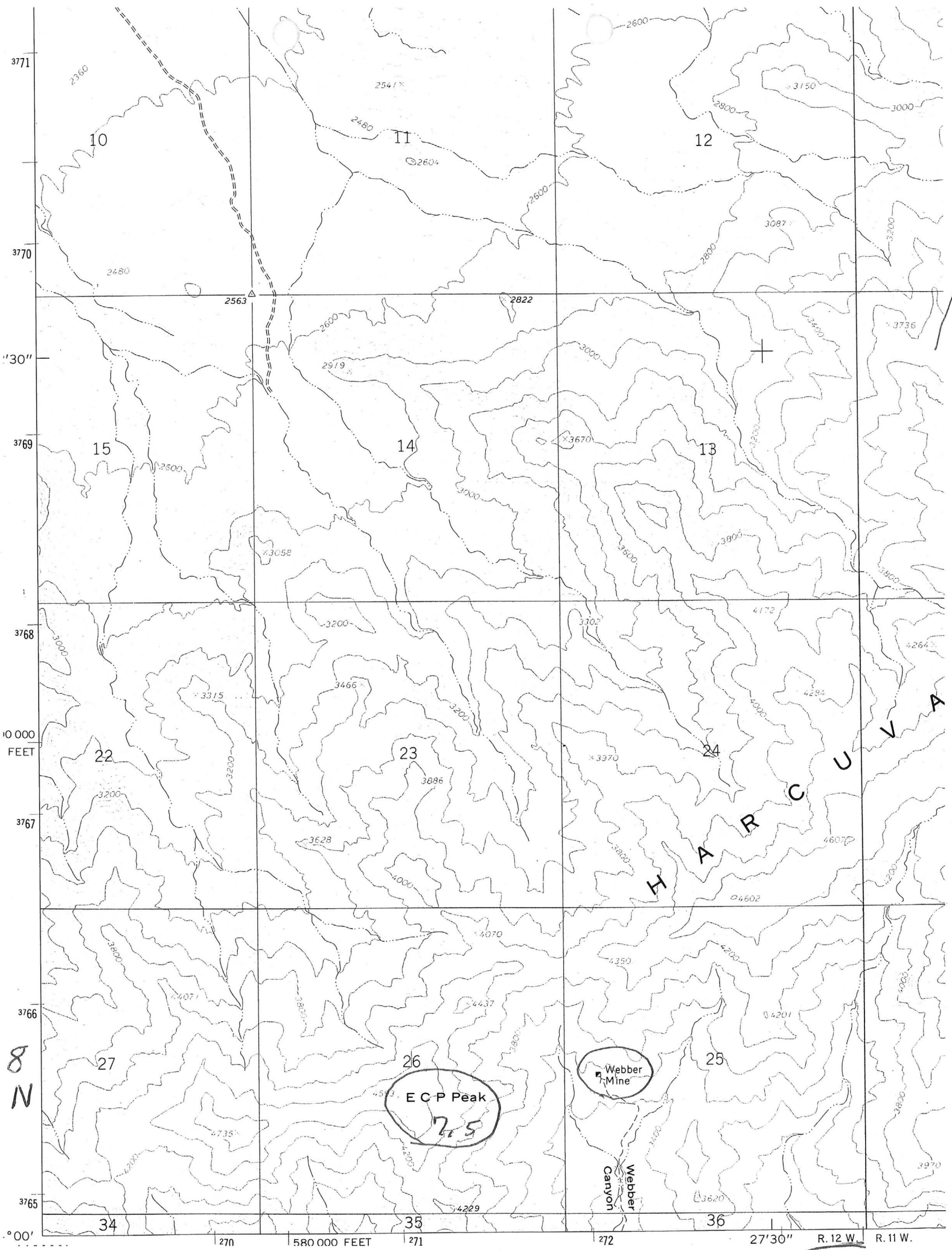
LA PAZ COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 350

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 8 N RANGE 12 W SECTION 25 QUARTER NW
LATITUDE: N 34DEG 00MIN 27SEC LONGITUDE: W 113DEG 28MIN 06SEC
TOPO MAP NAME: E C P PEAK - 7.5 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: PAST PRODUCER

COMMODITY:
COPPER
SILVER

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
AZBM FILE DATA
ADMMR WEBBER MINE FILE



NUMBER 350	FILE Z	CONT 0	CONT1 N	PRNAME CONGRESS						ALTNAME1 WEBBER
ALTNAME2				ALTNAME3						
ALTNAME4				ALTNAME5						
ALTNAME6				CURSTAT PAST PRODUCER	MNAME E C P PEAK - 7.5 MIN					NLAT 34
NLATMIN 00	NLATSEC 27	WLONGDEG 113	WLONGMIN 28	WLONGSEC 06	TOWN 8 N	RANGE 12 W	SECTION 25	QUARTER NW	COM1 CU	MOD11
COM2	MODI2	COM3	MODI3	COM4	MODI4	COM5	MODI5	COM6	MODI6	
AG		BIB1 AZBM FILE DATA								
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BIB4										
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BIB6										
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BIB8										

REPORT ON PRESENT CONDITION AT PROPERTY OF
COMMONWEALTH MINING COMPANY.

It should be plainly understood that the mineralization is connected with a crack through the rocks. There has been more or less movement along this and closely spaced parallel cracks, and the solutions from which the copper minerals are deposited have arisen along these cracks. The copper minerals have not only deposited in the narrow cracks themselves in some instances, but the solutions have soaked out into the surrounding rocks and deposited minerals there. In some places only a single crack with a filling of vein material a quarter to half an inch wide exists, while at other points the ore minerals have been deposited over a zone several feet wide. Such deposits are notoriously "pockety"; that is, fairly thick and long lenses of good ore may be connected by narrow stringers containing little or no ore. The distance between these lenses or "shoots" may be great or small, and from the first it was recognized that the future of this property depended largely upon the distance between these shoots. Several such shoots appear at or near the surface within relatively small distances of each other, and there was every reason to expect that this condition would be duplicated with deeper development. At least one such "shoot" had yielded a considerable tonnage of good ore although subjected to the leaching action next mentioned.

Not only did it seem probable that additional shoots of ore would be discovered by deeper development, but there seemed a strong chance that enrichment might have occurred and that some extremely rich ore might be encountered at some depth if one or more shoots of ore

occur there. Such enrichment is brought about by the seepage of surface waters down along the cracks and through the ore bodies. This downward seepage of surface waters converts the original or primary ore which was deposited in the form of minerals with a metallic luster, called sulphides, to dull lustered, relatively soft, more or less highly colored oxides, carbonates, and silicates of copper and iron. If the leaching action is carried on long enough, practically all of the copper may be removed from the upper parts of the deposit, and carried downward. The vein material is then said to be leached. Abundant evidences of this leaching action were exhibited in the upper workings. There was every reason to believe that unleached ore encountered at depth would be richer than any material found near the surface.

It is often true that the downward working solutions containing copper leached from surface ore bodies deposit their copper contained around the primary sulphide ore minerals at or below the groundwater level. This action does not always take place, but the conditions on the property were such as to lead me to believe that it had occurred there. The material deposited is usually a dull, sooty black form of the rich copper sulphide known as chalcocite, or a gray metallic variety of the same mineral. Deposits containing copper minerals formed in this way by deposition from downward percolating solutions are called secondary enrichments, and the minerals thus deposited are said to be secondary minerals, in distinction from the original or primary minerals that were deposited from solutions that moved upward along the cracks. Such enrichments are often extremely rich, and constitute "bonanzas" that are eagerly sought. We have already found in the property near the bottom of the shaft both

forms of secondary chalcocite. There is, therefore, no doubt but that conditions on the property are favorable for the formation of such an enrichment as I have mentioned. The thing that we have not found is an ore shoot as large as some of the ore bodies near the surface, or large enough to be worked profitably. A small shoot of relatively rich material was encountered during the time when we were sinking the shoot and were bothered very badly by caving ground, but it was not large enough to be mined profitably.

I hoped and expected that by drifting north and south along the vein at or below the point where the secondary minerals were known to have been deposited, we would encounter one or more lenses of good, enriched ore, and that they would be large enough to be mined profitably. In order to be sure that we were following the main crack or series of cracks we traced it very carefully through all the workings up to the surface ore bodies and satisfied ourselves absolutely on that point. The north drift was driven at first with the main crack on one side, and later in the middle of the drift. The south drift was driven with the main crack at one side.

When I visited the property last month it looked as though we had gone well below the point where leaching had occurred. The crack was very tight, and the outlook was indeed bad, since we had found no indications of the existence of any ore shoots at that depth.

Work done during the past month has changed the outlook considerably, however. At one point in the north drift the main fissure contained four or five inches of heavily iron-stained material, and for awhile it looked as though we might be entering a leached ore shoot. Later the crack closed, and it is very tight and decidedly unmineralized in the north end of the drift. In the south drift a similar

condition was found along the floor, but a winze sunk for about ten feet proved that no ore body of any size ever existed there. At the south end of the drift there is a foot or eighteen inches of heavily iron-stained leached material containing a little unaltered primary sulphide ore. It is evident to me from conditions outlined that we have not yet gone below the point to which leaching has extended, although some secondary enrichment has certainly occurred near the shaft above the lowest workings. It is probable that the ground was more compact there, and that leaching proceeded more slowly than elsewhere.

If I were going on the property for the first time now, I should say that the chances of finding one or more fairly large ore shoots of either enriched or unenriched ore were too poor to justify equipping the property or spending money upon its development. However, the property is well equipped, and a very considerable sum has already been spent upon it. We are in a position to work rapidly, and only a relatively small additional sum must be spent in order to do considerably more development. I should therefore recommend that no more work be done on the north and south drifts, but that the shaft be sunk at least fifty feet further. The conditions encountered in sinking the shaft will probably show whether 50 feet will put us below the point to which leaching has extended. If it does not do so I feel fairly certain that 75 feet additional depth will put us as far as we need to go to get below the leached material. That depth is about as far as our present equipment will enable us to sink.

We shall then drift to the south in the hope of picking up a lens of enriched ore. I must admit that the work already done does not

justify us in feeling very confident that we shall find such a lens, but deposits of that type ought to contain enough lenses to enable us to encounter one or more of them in two months' additional work. If at the end of that time no ore body that can be worked profitably has been encountered, it would be foolish to spend more money on the property.

I have directed Mr. Leeke to start the program of development outlined, but it is, of course, your right to decide at any time to stop operations if you wish to risk no more money. While it is possible to lay off the men with practically no advance notice, it would hardly be fair to Mr. Leeke to stop his salary until the expiration of the next coming month. He could probably do much to salvage the material purchased by you if you have reached such an agreement with Webber as will make that material your property. I hope that the re-organization has taken care of that matter which was not properly handled in the original agreement.

In conclusion, I wish to say that I regard conditions as much more favorable now than they were at the time of my trip taken last month. The ground is softer and better mineralized, and it is evident that we are not yet below the point where thorough leaching has occurred. All that we need to do now to have a profitable mine is to find one or more good sized, enriched lenses. Every bit of development work done makes it more probable that such lens may be found.

I shall be glad to try to explain any points that may not be clear to you, or to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

Respectfully submitted,

Tucson, Arizona,
March 31, 1925.