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NEW YORK CITY
57 WILLIAM ST.

Betty Lee mine file

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
1014 NEWHOUSE BLDG.

UNITED STATES SMELTING REFINING AND MINING EXPLORATION COMPANY

CABLE ADDRESS, "SMELTINGCO"

75 FEDERAL STREET

P. O. BOX 2137

BOSTON, MASS.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO

P. O. BOX 1980

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

December 21st, 1936.

Mr. G. M. Colvocoresses,
1108 Luhrs Tower,
Phoenix, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Colvo:

Responding to your inquiry of December 18th, relative to the Betty Lee mine, in Yuma County, Arizona, I regret to say that we have nothing about the property in our files, and that I personally have never heard of it. As to Mr. A. H. Coleman, who claims to have been a geologist for the United States Smelting Company for several years, I have no knowledge of any man of that name ever having been employed in the Exploration Department. In my experience, it seems to be no uncommon thing, for men who have been employed as temporary assistants, to afterwards claim that they have been members of the regular staff; and sometimes they do not even seem to require this justification. In almost every camp that I go to, I hear about some individual, who claims to have been a geologist for the company, but of whom I know nothing about. Of course, as our Eastern Department and our Mexican Department also maintain geological staffs, there may be some members of them with whom I am not acquainted.

I shall be very glad to keep you in mind, in the event of any suitable opening coming to my attention, either in the employ of this company or elsewhere. I am sorry to say that I do not happen to know of any such opening at the present time, but if the current improvement in the mining industry continues, there should be a considerable demand for capable and experienced executives.

With personal regards, and best wishes of the season to your family and yourself, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

RTW/G

R. T. Walker

P. S. I have latterly been going to Tombstone by rail via Los Angeles, and not passing through Phoenix; hence have not been able to see you.

December 18th, 1936

Mr. H. B. McCray
Box 614
Lordsburg, New Mexico

RE: BETTY LEE MINE

Dear Mr. McCray:

I have received the map and reports on the Betty Lee Mine and these check fairly well with the information which I already had on that property as the same was worked by a German company prior to 1914 but apparently there have been substantial developments since that date.

I am taking steps to obtain some further information during the next few days and if this seems favorable I will write you and ask you to meet me here so that we can visit the property together. It would probably require two days or possibly three before returning to Phoenix and I cannot spare the time just at present.

I may have to go to California next week or otherwise the week beginning December 28th and as soon as I hear definitely in regard to that trip and one other matter I can figure better as to just when we could visit the Betty Lee.

Meantime can you obtain some additional information in regard to the present condition of the mine and whether the shaft is in such shape that it could be visited clear to the bottom or only down below the 250' level where they have drawn a "red line" on the blue print of which I do not quite understand the significance, although it may refer to the limit of developed ore.

Can you also procure the returns on the shipments which were made from the old stopes and get some information in regard to the water supply available for a mill.

I noticed that the old German engineer figured on cyaniding and Coleman seems to agree, but I am inclined to think that the percentage of copper in the ore would make cyaniding very expensive and that the ore might be floated to better advantage or at present prices it might be advantageous to ship crude to Douglas rather than to go to the expense of building a concentrator.

2- Mr. H. E. McCray

This property certainly looks interesting
and I hope that we can follow it up to mutual advantage.

Yours very truly,

CMC:DF

P. S. Since writing the above I have talked with a local man who has some mining claims in the vicinity of the Betty Lee and tells me that he knows the road to the property but says that it is in pretty bad shape and may not be passable to the mine. He also says that the mine is accessible down to about the 400' level. He does not know whether or not there is a caretaker on the ground but otherwise he would be glad to accompany us if his expenses are paid and if I will take the extra time to look over his claims which are about eight miles distant.

I neglected to ask you something concerning the terms on which the Betty Lee is now offered. None of my clients would consider any deal which involved a large cash payment and they might also be scared off if the final purchase price runs into very big figures. It is my idea that we ought to be able to lease and option the property with no payment other than a ten per cent royalty on shipments but with a minimum rental or royalty a month after we had held the property for six months and all rental or royalty to eventually apply on the purchase price. These are the usual terms on which business is being done at present and if the owners of properties are not willing to meet them they generally do not find any lessee or purchaser.

January 11th, 1937

Mr. H. E. McCray
Box 614
Lordsburg, New Mexico

RE: BETTY LEE MINE

Dear McCray:

Thank you for your letter of January 8th and I sincerely regret to learn that you were so entirely disappointed in the Betty Lee.

I realize that you felt that I was lacking in proper enthusiasm but as a matter of fact I have been stung so often in a similar manner and made so many useless trips on the basis of very similar representations that I am inclined to take all such stories with several grains of salt until they can be checked up from some one I know something about.

I felt very suspicious of the whole set-up when I learned that Colman was entirely unknown to the officials of the U. S. Mining, Smelting and Refining Co., which he was supposed to have served in a responsible capacity and I imagine that he may have been merely employed as a miner or for some such work since there is a man in this vicinity who sets himself up as a consulting mining engineer largely on the strength of the fact that for a time he was an ore sorter at Bluebell Siding.

It is really very unusual to find any mine with such good values as were reported to have existed in the Betty Lee unless this is being held by the owners at some perfectly outrageous figure and the stories of litigations in respect to title, quarrels, etc. among interested parties nearly always serve as excellent excuses for the fact that the ore is really not in the property.

I am sorry that you should have gone to trouble and expense in chasing such a "will-o -the wisp"; and I am really glad to learn that you have at Lordsburg a showing of real merit. I have heard that district very well spoken of by two or three responsible people and sometime later if conditions permit I will drive over your way and see if we can work out something that would be mutually advantageous.

Just at present I am trying to arrange for the resumption of activity on a small scale at the Bluebell and

2- H. E. McCray

DeSoto Mines, as there is some ore in these properties that could be taken out with profit on the basis of the 12¢ copper market, but to start with we shall only attempt to operate through lessees who can handle more economically the small showings of high grade ore which are found near the surface.

With best personal regards.

Sincerely,

G. M. Colvocoresses

GMC: DF

Lordsburg, New Mexico
January 8th, 1937

A/H

Mr. Geo M. Colovcoresses
1108 Luhrs Tower
Phoenix, Arizona

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Dear Mr. Colvocoresses;

I received the assays from the Betty Lee, also your letter yesturday, I had been waiting for, former, before writing you.

The property is not possible, The whole set up has been evidently, a wild promotion. The values indicate about two to three dollars. The concentration in the veins might run according to the assays map, but can not see how it could be.

I still do not understand the party here, as they insisted they had checked. Colman must be a "dud" to do as he did on this.

Sorry I have been the cause of even time, spent, in correspondence.

I have a property here that has real possibilities and from all indications will make a mine if properly developed. Perhaps we could get together on this, any way will continue to hunt for a property.

Best regards, For the N

Sincerely,

H. E. McGray

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A. 121. 36
 Lordsburg, N.M.
Dec., 19, 1936.

Dear Mr. Colvocoresses;

Your letter Dec. 18th. Will answer insofar as possible to do so.

Do not think the mine has been worked since some time between 1910 and 1914. At least that is the information as given the present option holders.

The road to the mine is passable for car as they have been driving to the mine. There is a watchman on the job, but do not know whether he can handle a hoist or not.

Do not know about getting to the bottom, understand that it is either caved or filled for a short distance. They, Perry and Coleman let the bucket down to the 510' level, with a light, the bucket hung and they had some trouble getting it free. It may have landed on a trap door. No one went down, to see as they were not in shape to do so.

Right over the small stope as shown I wrote with lead pencil the assay returns, as given by the A.S. and R, on the only returns, from any smelter as far as checking could uncover. This was 1.00 oz. gold and the other figures I do not recall.

There is a well on the flat which reports ample water for mill, this belongs to the property.

Do not think Coleman is very well up on metallurgy, as I am sure a floatation plant would be ahead of cyanide. In his figuring, he claims a fifty ton mill would pay the property out with a good profit.

I check your idea as to the shipping of ore direct and there are two, Superior and Douglas, which I understand they want this sort of ore. They seem to have their heads set on mill and have not looked into the shipping end.

It is rather a hurry up deal, as they do not want to sell but would do so at a price, this they set at 250,000.00 on a five year terms, with a small payment down, around five thousand, unless we could not get away on that amount. This seems like a high figure, unless their dope is correct in which case it would be possible to make money, as there would be over a year before a payment would be due. Believe that if the property was found o.k. and we could concoct a deal that the five year time could be lengthened.

Their deal which they are more interested in is to make an operation agreement, with no cash payment outside of the five thousand. This would be alright, but in either case would withhold judgment until the property was checked as I feel the dump would ship if as represented, for that reason I have been trying to get the thing lined up, can tell you more fully than writing. I am anxious to get there before Xmas, back if I can. Wire me on receipt of this, collect, whether or not you can make the trip Tue. or Wed. or when.

Sincerely,

They are rather insistent on my getting down there, believe property will check. Coleman has good rep. *HE McCray*

Box 614
 Lordsburg, N.M.
 Dec. 17, 1936.

Dear Mr. Colvocoresses;

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Am sending you assay map, Lovey report and ore check by A.H. Coleman.

Mr Coleman was for several years geologist for the U.S. Smelting Co. and he spent some ten days on the property and suppose he had the mine checked at least to the point where he was sure of the assay map. He insisted to me that the property is as represented. Two others were on the property but did not pay much attention to them. The ore brot back was very good looking, with free gold showing in goodly quantity.

You were the only one I kenw in this part of the country that would possible have any dope on it and could possibly handle the deal.

If it does check, and the ore is found in the bottom of the shaft as represented it would be something. Coleman's insisting that it was there and the fact that he has the rep. of being so hard boiled. I figured that there might be a mine not in the making but pretty well made.

There are twenty one claims in the group and as I get the picture there are several outcroppings with holes and a tunnel or two showing as good as yhe main shaft.

Coleman also insists that a fifty tin mill would pay out the property and leave a very handsome profit. This would be true if the ore is as represented,

I can get away from my work here any time so if you think it worth while to make a preliminary I can make it at your convience. A preliminary would indicate whether or not it would stand up and would then give time to make arrangements.

Sorry to have called you in the evening but was being pushed here to get action.

Yours very truly,

H.E. McCray

