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The following file is part of the John E. Kinnison mining collection

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Via Development Corporation  
Box 4266  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Phone 2-0586

S. Frank  
8736-24 Ave.  
Bldg. 1410 J.

~~Air Mail~~

Parkey & Co



MR. JAMES KIMMELSON

Co Express Marine Co.

Tuscon, Arizona.



1111

TUCSON  
DEC 27  
6 AM  
1958  
ARIZ.



Dec 13 1963

Dear Clarence:

Harold Courtwright told me you had come to the office here at H.S. & R. the other day, and I am sorry I was out and missed the opportunity to see you.

He discussed your mine holdings with me, and said you had brought up the fact that I was familiar with those properties, so I guess under those circumstances you had implied permission for me to discuss it with him. Ordinarily I hold all such data in confidence, even to my present employers. I was very sorry not to be able to give a favorable recommendation for you, but that type of deposit is just not of such nature that our company could profitably engage in it. I looked over my old reports to you on both the Round Top and the New Dominion, and discussed with Mr. Welsh, our Ore Purchasing manager, the current economics of zinc oxide ore (thinking of the New Dominion vein itself). After these past six or seven years, during which I

(2)

have followed developments in both areas with respect to geology and ore occurrence and production, I still see no change in my original conclusions: Namely, that the probability of finding ore, on the New Dominion group and the Malloy workings, is very slim, and the high cost of exploration vs. probability of success makes it a very high risk venture -- one that is not reasonable; The Round Top area certainly contains other small gold "pockets", and if one is lucky these might be discovered by following the procedure I outlined, but the risk here is also high. One might easily spend more for exploration work than could be taken out as profit. There is, however, a high-risk gambling chance of success, but I could not recommend that R.S. step into the picture.

By the way, I have gone ahead and obtained the proper Registration as a geologist, which is now required for consulting practice in Arizona, although I do not engage in such because of possible conflict of interest with my company, except in very special cases. However, if you feel the need of capable advice and do not already have

Knowledge of a competent consultant, I would be happy to try and recommend someone who would be both of high integrity and of considerable technical competence in the particular type of problem on which you might wish advice. There are a large number of consultants, both mining engineers and geologists, operating in the Southwest, but very few of these are ~~really~~ really competent, and some are downright dishonest with their clients, apparently just in order to please them and tell what a good prospect their client has. It has been a disheartening thing to see other members of my profession come to this sort of thing, but I have followed up enough specific cases to know how widely bad practices and poor judgement has come into the consulting field. But enough of that -- perhaps you are out of mining completely by now.

If ever you stay in Tucson awhile, give me a call, as you are welcome at my place anytime for a visit. We have a small house without great facilities, but the coffee pot is always on and I usually have some tequila around, and I always enjoy an evening with an old friend.

Best Regards  
Johnny Kinnison

P.S. Schenathy in Casper Wyo.

VIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
SANTA FE, N. M.

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT  
THE ATTACHED CHECK IS IN PAYMENT OF ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW.  
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY. NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

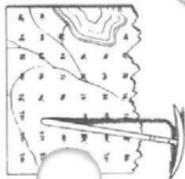
DATE	INVOICE NO.	AMOUNT	DISC.	NET	DATE	INVOICE NO.	AMOUNT	DISC.	NET
		<p><del>Dear</del> Dear Johnny: Sorry it took so long but here it is in time for Christmas. We still have the New Dominion, Round Top and Reynolds Falls. If you run across anyone who would like to talk a deal, let me know.</p>							
		<p>Thanks and regards to your family.</p>							
		<p>Johnny - This was returned by the city. Hope it reaches you this time. Merry Xmas &amp; Happy New Year.</p>							
		<p>Clarence</p>							



VIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mining and Exploration, • General Construction

BOX 4266 • SANTA FE • NEW MEXICO



John E. Kimmison  
~~P.O. Box 5356~~

Tucson, Arizona  
Box 11 - Ruby Do

~~Heard~~  
~~Tommy~~

Dec. 18, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Clarence:

Thank you for your recent letter and check. I will write Schwartz and have him deliver the maps to Mr. Long. I had thought we would be leaving for Mexico almost immediately, but as of today that plan has been completely discarded, so that I will be in Tucson for an unforeseen time, although I may leave when I change jobs, as I am planning to do.

Liz and I are planning on a short two day trip to Globe, and if there is anything I can do for you there, let me know. We will probably go sometime in January. I may wait and deliver the maps to Mr. Long Myself.

Since the final reports on the New Dominion and Roundtop properties were submitted to you so much later than I had originally promised, I would like to make this offer concerning the balance of your account. The 50 dollars received will compensate in part for my expenses and time on the field examinations and sampling, the assay results of which and verbal reports on which you received shortly thereafter. I still owe Fink for two days work assisting on the Roundtop and Gold Queen sampling. Under these circumstances, if you wish, you may return the final reports and all letters or data dated after Jan. 1, 1956, and I will adjust the remaining balance to 50 dollars, which will probably be fair to both of us.

I wish you a very successful new year, and again extend a invitation to stop by should you be in Tucson.

Very sincerely yours,

John E. Kinnison

Nov. 15, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Clarence:

We are now settled in Tucson and are quite pleased with the change. Having finally rented a place and tended to all the things which have accompanied the move, I thought I'd better get around to dropping you a short note.

I am working for the City engineering department as a civil engineer. The work consists primarily of miscellaneous surveying calculations and problems and related legal matters. I hope before I leave, which may not be too far in the future, to do some design work on paving and sewer installations.

I was so pressed for time during my last few weeks in Globe that I didn't deliver the maps to Mr. Long. I left them with Schwartz with your name on them. (A large tube and a manilla envelope) If you haven't been in Globe since your last visit when I was there, or perhaps didn't find out where they were, I will write Roland and ask him to deliver them.

Re the mine we looked at, that nite you and I drove to Tucson, and found it already leased, I recall that you showed some enthusiasm over the property, and so I will mention its present status for your general interest. It is, or perhaps was, leased by an individual named Thatchez (spelling questionable) who operated it, sinking the winzes we examined, and stopping enough ore for two shipments, one good and one bad, to Miami. I am now told that the property is idle due to his lack of finances, but that he may still hold the lease. If you should be interested, I could probably find his address for you from the Bureau of Mines.

Please let me know if the maps have been returned to Mr. Long so that if not I can arrange to have them delivered. My new address is: P.O. Box 5356 Annex Sta., and, of course, if you should be in Tucson at any time, stop out and say hello at 5301 E. Ft. Lowell Rd. Phone EA- 67641.

Best Regards

John E. Kinnison

August 6, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Clarence:

I thought I should drop a note and let you know I'll be leaving for Tucson in about two weeks. If you don't happen to be in globe before I leave, then perhaps we'll cross paths in Tucson sometime.

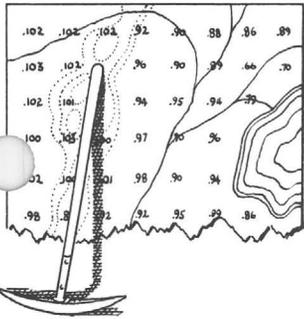
I don't know as yet what my address in Tucson will be, but you can continue to use the Dominion Hotel address, and if the check or any other mail arrives after I leave, it will be forwarded to me.

I will write when we get settled and give you my new address, and if you are in Tucson you are always welcome for coffee or perhaps a "martooni."

If I see you I will give you the maps and report, but if not will return them to Mr. Long before I leave.

Best regards,

John E. Kinnison



# VIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mining and Exploration • General Construction

BOX 4266 • SANTA FE • NEW MEXICO

June 19, 1956

John E. Kinnison

Dear Johnny:

I received your reports and letter of June 11.

We have leased all of the New Dominion. I got your report too late to do much good but it said what we were talking about the first of the year.

Yes there are 12 Blue Moon claims and just like always I want to spend the minimum money to Qualify but if you think some more would be well spent, lets do it to approx \$1200.00 total while Rusty is there. I want him to improve the road and do the assessment work on the Sunrise #1. You will recall this is the claim up Dripping Springs wash from Tatum's Ranch, that controls the drift into the ore body we talked about.

I will be in Globe the 25th of June for two or three days.

Save an evening so that I can properly congratulate you on getting married. My wife and I celebrate our 14th anniversary tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Clarence Via

June 11, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Clarence:

I told Rusty Moore that I'd show him next saturday where to build the rodd. He'll probably get on it in a couple of weeks.

If I recall correctly there are 12 Blue Moon claims. The road work I have in mind, with luck, will be less than the legal \$100 per claim (for \$1200 total), and I was wondering if you wanted or were required by agreement to spend the legal amount of money, or whether you would prefer to let the road go as assesment work regardless of actual cost.

Please advise me on this so I can submit another suggestion if necessary.

Do you plan to be in Globe during June?

Best regards,

John E. Kinnison

June 11, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Sir:

Having now mailed the New Dominion and Round Top reports, I submit the following bill which covers your account to this date.

Round Top and Gold Queen properties:

2 field days	\$100
1 office day -- report	30
Field assistant, 2 days	30
	<u>\$160</u>

New Dominion property:

2 field days	\$100
3 office days -- Collection of data and report	90
	<u>190</u>

Typing and printing on reports \$ 10

Blue Moon, preliminary examination No charge

TOTAL \$ 360

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Kimison, geologist  
Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

June 4, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Clarence:

As a supplement to the New Dominion report, I would like to add two items, and ask that you consider them confidential.

(1) I did not wish to state this in the report, but for your benefit I will point out that there are only two feasible methods for exploration on the New Dominion. I do not recommend them, but if someone desires to get rid of tax money, he might do it as follows: The No. 4 vein could be explored under the dacite capping by short diamond drill holes. There the vein crosses limestone, which is a favorable host. The No 2 vein could be tested by a long diamond drill hole located in Big Johnnie Wash. Such a hole should be placed so that it cuts the vein at about the 1200 level.

(2) I have learned that Miami Copper Co. will begin drilling and exploration on the Old Dominion property this summer.

Best regards,

John Kinnison  
Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

May 22, 1956

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Clarence:

I briefly examined the easily accessible prospects on the Blue Moon Group of "copper" claims Sunday, May 20. These deposits, like those on the Round Top and the Gold Nugget groups, are limestone replacements along westerly trending fracture zones, localized near the Troy-Martin contact.

The oxide copper ore is generally non-siliceous and low-grade and is therefore not commercial. I see no reason to believe commercial ore exists at depth. The siliceous sulfide ore in the cross cut behind the Bar Flag ranch house may be of commercial grade, but the vein is too narrow to be mined profitably.

I can not recommend any investment on these claims. If you are required by option agreement to do the assessment work for this year, as Martin leads me to believe, I might suggest that you fulfill such obligation by road building. This would benefit the property as much as anything, and would require little supervision.

As a last note of interest, I think Tony is considering putting in a bull dozer road the first of next week and sending you the bill.

I am very happy to add that I was married on May 1, and look forward to having you meet the better half next time you are in Globe.

The New Dominion and Round Top reports will be mailed this weekend.

Best Regards,

John E. Kinnison  
Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

J EK:EK

## DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE 9-11-56

SUBJECT

New Dominion & Tony Martin's Blue Moon

TO

John E. Kinnison

DEP'T

FROM

Clarence Via

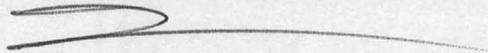
DEP'T

Sorry I missed you.

When can I have your comments on the New Dominion Group?

Before I start the assessment work on the Blue Moon Group I would like for Tony to show you around over it and get your idea where and how the work would do the most good.

I don't know when I will get back again so please mail anything to me at P.O. Box 4266 Santa Fe, N. M.

Clarence  


Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dec. 28, 1955

Dear Clarence:

Woody Simmons has been tied up over the holidays and I haven't been able to see the Mallory Shaft maps. I have to be in Phoenix Thursday and Friday, and the assays from the Roundtop property are not ready, and I won't have them till I get back. In order that you may have at least a summary of the data so far gathered, I will mention some of the factors we talked about, but I haven't gathered anything new.

New Dominion group:

The data gathered to date on the underground workings of the Mallory shaft indicates that some copper veins were found, the maximum width being 30 feet. Sulfide ore occurs below the 800 level. The veins are partly to completely oxidized above this level. Unless some more definite data is contained in the Old Dominion files it will be impossible to justify the expense of dewatering and retimbering the shaft for inspection. The only two alternatives are diamond drilling from the surface, or completing a connection between the Gem shaft, and drilling underground. It is said that a cross cut was started from the 1200 of the Gem to the 800 of the Mallory, but not completed. The Gem shaft may be accessible, and the Gem workings are probably connected to the Old Dominion workings. Both of these alternatives will be costly, and I still doubt if they can be justified, but I will make a final evaluation after seeing the Mallory maps, and talking to Sid Gribble and Mr. Long. The New Dominion vein system is on a major geologic structure, and I don't see why there shouldn't be some good ore there, but the Outcrops are very weak and certainly don't indicate strong mineralization. The possibility of silver is a separate question, and I am skeptical, but I will look into the matter.

Roundtop area:

The mines in the Roundtop group (and I suspect in the Gold Queen and Gold Nugget) occur in a shaly limestone formation about 75 feet thick, which lies between the Troy quartzite and the Martin limestone. The deposits are localized along fissures striking about N. 75 E., and consist of irregular lenses. The ore in some stopes has replaced the limestone a width of 20 to 30 feet. The observed maximum vertical range of ore is 60 feet, and this is probably about the maximum. The favorable limestone has not been fully explored, and I think the chances of finding other similar lenses of ore are excellent. The big question is what the grade will be. The assays will be of some benefit here. Of more importance, however, are the past production records, and from a very brief talk with Cliff Smith I judge he has some valuable data in his files. I will also talk with Mr. Long. The ore bodies, judging from the size of the stopes, contain anywhere from a hundred to a thousand tons. If the data, when collected, shows these pods to have produced ore with values on the order of an ounce/ton, then the property is probably worth exploring. I will visit the Gold Queen this weekend.

The work to be done consists of the collection of available information on the New Dominion, and its evaluation. The roundtop area will require one more field days and the collection of information on past production. A report on both properties should be ready in two weeks.

Respectfully,

John El Kinnison,  
Geologist.

Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Nov. 30, 1955

Dear Mr. Via:

Herein is enclosed a copy of my report on the Keystone property. In as much as the examination was made as an independent agent, the report itself is addressed to no one in particular.

This report should serve to supplement our discussions on the property, and provide a permanent record for your files.

I talked with Mr. Pettengill this evening, and the property is open at this time. Mr. Pettengill has in his possession a report by Paul Bennett, a geologist, made since my examination. I also understand that Harrison Schmitt has examined and reported on the property, but have not seen this report.

Respectfully,

John E. Kinnison,  
Geologist.  
Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

Mr. Clarence Via  
Via Development Corp.  
Santa Fe, N. M.

Nov. 1, 1955

Dear Clarence:

Just thought I'd drop a note on my activities. I talked with Woody Simmons last Sunday afternoon about the Mallory shaft. We went over to the O.D. Mine office, and he looked through just about everything and couldn't find any reports or maps, and then we went to the Miami office and he scoured that place. Woody can't remember just where the report is, although he remembers talking to you about it. He would like to know: Did he actually show you the report, and if so what files did he get it from--OD or Miami? or did he just tell you such a report was available, or that he thought there was one? If you can supply any information about the conversation it might help jog his memory.

I stopped by later that same Sunday and went underground at the manganese mine. No one was around, and I only spent a short time. If you're thinking about milling possibilities your going to have a merry time proving up some tonnage, and it's going to take a little thoughtful exploration. Just offhand I couldn't spot any ore controls other than the obscure fracture zone along which the stoning has been done. The depth of ore is going to be controlled not only by depth of oxidation, but also by persistence of the limestone in depth, and this will have to be worked out from the stratigraphy as determined on the surface(if possible).

I couldn't find any thing in the rocks you gave me. They seem to be just quartz and mica, and unless you have something in particular in mind I suggest you forget them. I placed those particular specimens in the "circulating file".

Unless you have something special to suggest, there is no point in my fiddling with the manganese property until I talk to you and find out what you have in mind.

Best regards,

John E. Kinnison,  
Geologist.

Mr. Clarence Via  
Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

July 23, 1955

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a brief summary of my examination of the Copeland property near Oracle, Arizona, on the day of July 16, 1955.

Charges as follows:

One field day	\$50
Memorandum report	No charge
Total	\$50

Sincerely

John E. Kinnison  
Dominion Hotel  
Globe, Arizona

Memorandum to  
Clarence Via  
On the Copeland Property

The Copeland Mining Claims were visited July 16 in the Company of Mr. Jack Pardee, with Mr. Clarence Carter acting as guide.

The Copeland property consists of 21 unpatented mining claims in the Canada Del Oro in the Catalina Mountains north of Tucson, Arizona. The claims are reached by driving to Burney's Mine from the Oracle-Oracle Junction road, and walking several miles southeast, up the Canada Del Oro, from Burney's Mine. It is claimed by Mr. Carter that a road from the Oracle Road reaches to one mile of the property and that it needs only minor repairs. It should cost several thousand dollars to extend this road to the different showings on the Copeland property, or perhaps a thousand dollars to any one mineral showing.

The rocks of the Copeland property consist of quartzite and limestone, representing parts of the Apache group and Lower Paleozoic sediments (limestone and quartzite). In the western portion of the claims these rocks generally strike about N. 30 degrees W. and dip northeast at 40 to 70 degrees. In the eastern part of the claims they reverse their dip, possibly forming a syncline. The northeast-dipping sediments overlie the pre-Cambrian granite of Samaniego Ridge.

The mineralized zones are replacements along the bedding of the limestones; in one location occurring in the limestone immediately above a quartzite unit. These zones, with one exception, are well oxidized to the shallow depths (not over 100 feet) to which they have been opened. The exception noted was shown by massive pyrite on the dump of an inaccessible adit. The mineralized zones consist of massive replacement of the limestone by lime-silicate minerals, mostly epidote with some garnet. Iron and copper oxides indicate the former presence of sulfide minerals. No definite trace of metals other than copper was found. Mr. Carter showed some fine samples of galena-chalcopyrite ore on the dumps of one group of prospect pits. The galena ore was completely fresh, whereas the dumps showed the material from the pits to be well oxidized. I doubt very seriously that this lead ore came out of the prospect pits on the Copeland property.

The discontinuity of mineralized outcrops, and the limited degree of lime-silicate alteration, make the chances for ore seem very slim. Furthermore this type of deposit (limestone replace, resembling the contact-metamorphic type) is notoriously hard to prospect due to the generally small size and erratic distribution of the ore bodies within the altered zone.

Due to the unfavorable geologic conditions outlined above, I can not recommend any investment in the Copeland property.

Respectfully Submitted,

John E. Kinnison, Geologist  
Globe, Arizona  
July 23, 1955

