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James Doyle Sell Mining Collection

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FILE NOTE

Tecolote Prospect
Secs. 22, 23, 26, & 27.
T. 6 S., R. 13 E.
Crozier Peak 7 1/2' Quad.
USGS GQ-1107 Map
Pinal Co., AZ.

Mr. Jim Yanez, 1258 W. Mohave, Tucson, AZ 85705, phone 887-5835, dropped by to promote his large, possible breccia pipe, the Tecolote Prospect in Pinal County south of Ray and northwest of San Manuel.

Jim, for a number of years has been cleaning out and sampling the Grand Prize Mine (Section 25, T6S, R13E) with his Father and Brother. They have also sampled a number of the other veins in this area, which are shown on M. Krieger's USGS GQ-1107 map of the Crozier Peak 7 1/2 minute quadrangle.

When he investigated the "purple" alteration zone in the NE quarter of Section 23, he was suprized to find the zone larger than shown by Medora, and that it continued westward until it was cover by gravel. Jim labeled this zone--"gold-bearing leached capping". He has gotten assays as high as 0.25 ounces per ton from the zone.

The Grand Prize Mine and the alteration zone is within Precambrian Ruin Granite and westward the granite is covered by alluvium and two sequences of Quaternary sand and gravel units. Medora had placed a north-northwest-trending fault at the contact of the Ruin Granite and the older sand and gravel (Qsg), with the younger soil and gravel veneer (Qp) overlapping both the Qsp and the fault.

Yanez has remapped the Ruin Granite "fault" contact and believes that it does not extend north and south as shown by Medora, but that it curls back to the west to enclose the majority of the Qsg basin in the E half of Section 22, most of Section 23, the N half of Section 26, and part of the NE quarter of Section 27.

Yanez also exhibited a copy of an aerial photograph from the archives of Pinal County, which clearly indicates the main Cottonwood Wash as a single drainage on the Ruin Granite to the east, then strongly breaking up and braiding as it flowed over the Qsg, and makes a strong bend to the north, then when it turns back west it again becomes a major more-or-less single drainage.

He feels there is evidence that this braided portion is a sinking sub-basin covering an oxidizing mineral system in a breccia-pipe setting. Yanez has the AZ State permit for all of Sec. 23 and the north half of Section 26.

I recommend several EZL lines over this zone for mineral indications, and if favorable, then additional geophysical work to outline the limits of the system.

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James D. Sell, March 10, 1996