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September 10, 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR KENYON RICHARD

J. H. C.

DEC 4 1959

DAY PROSPECT
Gila Mountains
Graham County, Arizona

At your request I contacted Mr. Ruskin Lines of Safford, Arizona regarding the Day Prospect north of Ft. Thomas. It appears that Mr. Lines is the lawyer member of a partnership which controls several groups of claims in the Safford area including a portion of the area that Phelps Dodge is presently drilling just east of Safford. I accompanied one of the partners, W. D. Roper, to the Day Prospect on June 3rd and 4th. It is reached by travelling about 6 miles north from Ft. Thomas by dirt road.

This is the same property examined by Courtright in September of 1950 (see file Aa-7A.6.4). On that occasion the property was inaccessible except by foot or horseback and he was able to spend only a limited amount of time on the outcrop. Since that time a good road has been completed to the central part of the area, from which those parts of the covered fringe shown as question marks on his sketch are readily accessible.

As stated in Courtright's memorandum "older volcanic rocks in a window eroded through the younger cover of volcanic rocks...are extensively altered ...appear to have been lightly pyritized prior to weathering and leaching." "The mineralized zone continues northerly beneath the post-mineral lava cap."

I checked this northern fringes closely and found that near the younger volcanics the alteration became spotty and diminished in intensity. In some places the similarity between pre-mineral and post-mineral volcanics made it difficult to determine whether the fringe was covered or was the true limit of alteration. In no case was mineralization sufficiently intense to be considered a "promising" extension.

In the eastern end of the window there are several exposures of Pinal schist and two or three small outcrops of limestone and quartzite. Location pits in this part of the property have exposed weak copper staining in a few places.

In the central part of the exposed altered zone is a small outcrop of andesite porphyry with fairly abundant limonite-after-chalcocite on fractures and finely disseminated in the rock. This outcrop measures about 60 feet by 120 feet and its margins are clearly defined and very abrupt. In some places the change from sericitic alteration with "live limonite" to a bleached rock with brown and yellow transported limonite takes place in the space of a few inches.

I believe the limonites of this outcrop represent good copper mineralization. However, the abrupt limits and small size of this outcrop, the absence of other favorable outcrops, and the weak and diminishing alteration near the post-mineral rocks leave no promising exploration possibilities.

ARTHUR G. BLUCHER

AGE/ds
Attachment



Post-mineral
Volcanics

Cretaceous
Volcanics
w/ Andesite
Dikes

OLD DAY MINE

Pinal
Schist

T 3 S
T 4 S

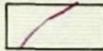
Post-mineral
Volcanics

Alluvium

Alluvium

TO ACCOMPANY Memo.
DATED Sept. 10, 1959
BY A. G. Blucher

Post-mineral
Volcanics

-  Limit of Alteration
-  Intense Alteration

Gila River

Alluvium

FT THOMAS

R 23 E
R 24 E

DAY PROSPECT
GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA
Modified after sketch by J.H.C., Oct., 1950

Scale 1" = 1 mile

June, 1950

A.G.B.

AMERICAN SMELTING AND REFINING COMPANY
Tucson Arizona

October 27, 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WILSONDAY MINENear Fort Thomas
Graham County, Arizona

I have recently spent a couple of days in the area northwest of Safford, checking on the porphyry copper prospect referred to in your Memorandum of September 25th. Before leaving, I called Reinhart and determined that the prospect was supposed to lie seven or eight miles north of Ft. Thomas and that a prospector by the name of Roper had noted extensive iron staining in the area. Subsequently I learned in Ft. Thomas that the "Old Day Mine" situated in the hills north of town, had been located some 60 years ago and had been inactive since. Ed McEuen of Ft. Thomas has the grazing rights covering the area.

An old road leads in to the prospect which might be suitable for jeep travel; however, I made the trip with a rented saddle horse. The distance is approximately 10 miles by road from Ft. Thomas. The attached map shows the location relative to the Gila River and the crest of the Gila range of mountains.

The prospect is situated in older volcanic rocks in a window eroded through the younger cover of volcanics. The younger rocks comprise a series of rather flat-lying andesite and basalt flows on a tuffaceous base. The older rocks, rhyolite and andesite flows cut by northeast-trending andesite porphyry dikes, are broken by numerous limonite-bearing joints and fractures and are extensively altered. The rock appears to have been lightly pyritized prior to weathering and leaching. No minerals other than the various iron oxide products were noted. The outcrops are pale yellowish-brown in color. The mineralized zone continues northerly beneath the post-mineral lava cap. (See attached map).

A number of faults, striking from west to northwest, cut the later lavas along the range front southwest of the Day prospect. These show quite prominently on aerial photographs (borrowed from the Ground Water Division of the U. S. G. S. in Tucson). It is considered likely that the window described above was eroded as a result of these fault movements which elevated a block of older volcanic rocks.

No workings other than a few discovery pits were found. A windmill for watering range cattle is situated in the bottom of the wash. Apparently the chief attraction to the early prospectors was the extensive iron staining and alteration in the rocks. It is possible, of course, that gold or silver values are present in some of the limonite seams. For the most part these seams appeared to strike at random; however, many with northeasterly trends were noted.

Memorandum for Mr. Wilson

It is very unlikely that the copper samples mentioned by "Smith of International" were obtained in this vicinity. However, I'm reasonably sure that this is the area described to Reinhart by Roper.

Concluding, the prospect does not itself appear to hold any possibilities; no evidence was found of limonite after chalcocite or any other mineral of potential value, and certain plutonic rocks characteristic of disseminated copper deposits are absent. However, the presence of widespread alteration and mineralization, the limits of which are partially concealed, may have some significance in a district study; only two other windows are known along the Gila range, the one northeast of Safford and a very small one seven miles north of Geronimo. (Geronimo Mine). Other windows no doubt exist, and on the chance that they might provide leads to concealed deposits, further search for them is believed warranted. As previously discussed, the most rapid and inexpensive means is considered to be by aerial reconnaissance.

JHC:ar

J. H. Courtright
J. H. COURTRIGHT

Attachment: Map

Extent of conspicuous iron staining and alteration

Divide

OLD DAY MINE



T. 3 S.
T. 4 S.

Hilonsum

Fault

TO ACCOMPANY Letter
DATED October 27, 1950
BY J. H. Courtright

- | | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| | Quaternary alluvium | } Post mineral |
| | Quaternary-Tert. fluvatile deposits | |
| | Quaternary -Tert. volcanics | } Pre mineral |
| | Cretaceous (and ^{or} earlier) volcanics | |

GEOLOGIC SKETCH MAP VICINITY OF DAY MINE

Graham County, Arizona
AMERICAN SMELTING AND REFINING COMPANY
Drainage and geology in part from U.S. Soil Conservation map by R. B. Morrison.

SCALE 1" = 1 MILE

J. H. COURTRIGHT

OCTOBER 1950
Map No. 935

Gila River
Southern Pacific RR
U.S. 70

Porter Wash
Burton Wash

G37A

FT THOMAS

R. 23 E.
R. 24 E.

AMERICAN SMELTING AND REFINING COMPANY
Tucson Arizona

September 25, 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. COURTRIGHT

PORPHYRY Cu PROSPECT
Northwest of Safford?

On a recent trip to Tucson, Jack Reinhart, who you recall used to be with us, left the following message with Mrs. Ridges:

*C.F. Smith, Ore Buyer
Miami, Ariz*

"Reinhart says there are a lot of copper prospects and was told by Smith at International that he has seen some of the ore: It comes from an area at the edge of the Indian Reservation quite a little northwest of Safford - a very remote area. There is supposed to be both porphyry and garnetized limestone. Reinhart has not seen this but it sounds as though it might be in a favorable area, due to its location in the middle of the zone of the other deposits which include Morenci. It is such rugged country that access would have to be by horseback or it might be necessary to walk. His Company could not handle it; for that reason he is telling you about it as we are in a better position to do it.

"Reinhart thinks you may be interested in it - that it might be the kind of thing you are looking for. He would have gone to see it and wanted to do that before telling you about it but had not the time. While he is in that area, if you would want any particular information he would be glad to try to get it for you as he is 'in an ideal position to do it'".

Some of Reinhart's information - e. g. "International" seems to be confused with Coppermines. However, this might be worth your inquiry to see if there is a new lead here, while at Morenci.

LKW:ar


L. KENNETH WILSON

Reinhart - Mine Supply Inc.

Called Reinhart Oct 17, to secure more accurate description of location — He said property is at least 7 miles N or NE of Ft Thomas. Roper, now in New Mex. somewhere, mentioned widespread occurrences of limonite in the outcrops. This is undoubtedly another window in the lavas — other than the Geronimo prospect which I recently visited —

- J. H. C.