DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
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DMA Docket No. 3795

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MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Form Approved.
Budget Bureau No. 42-R1035.2.

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT, PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER 1, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. 3795
Metal or Mineral Chromium
Date Received April 25, 1955 4-28-55
Estimated Cost $5,000
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address:

Harry Bienick } partners
Howard Martin }
411 Butte St, Grass Valley, Cal

(*b*) If other than an individual, add to your name above whether a corporation, partnership, etc., and the name of the State in which incorporated or otherwise organized.

(*c*) If a corporation, add to above statement, titles, names and addresses of officers.

(*d*) If a partnership, add to the above statement the names and addresses of all partners.

2. *General.*—Read DMEA Order 1, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects," before completing this application. Submit this application and all accompanying papers in quadruplicate (four copies), with your name and address on each sheet of the application and on all accompanying papers. Where sufficient space is not provided on the form for all required information, state it on an accompanying paper, with a reference in each case to the instruction to which it refers by number. Comply with all applicable instructions; or, if not applicable, so state. File the application with Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest field executive officer thereof.

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract Wonder mine No. 1

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known.

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise lessees

(*d*) If you are not the owner, submit with this application a copy of the lease, contract, or other document under which you control the property.

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

4. *Physical description.*—(*a*) Describe in detail any mining or exploration operations which have been or now are being conducted upon the land, including existing mine workings and production facilities. State your interest, if any, in such operations. Also describe accessibility of mine workings for examination purposes.

(*b*) State past and current production, and ore reserves, if any, giving quantities and grades.

(*c*) Describe the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.), and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Send with your application (but not necessarily as a part of it) any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.

5. *The exploration project.*—(*a*) State the mineral or minerals for which you wish to explore chrome

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc.

(*c*) The work will start within ..... days and be completed within ..... months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project:

(*a*) *Independent contracts.*—(Note.—If the applicant does not intend to let any of the work to contractors, write "none" after this item. To the extent that the work is to be contracted, do not repeat the cost of the contract-work in subsequent items.) State the cost of any proposed independent contracts for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in terms of units of work (such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, per cubic yard of material moved, etc.).

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel.

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be.

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project.

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project.

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes.

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above.

NOTE.—No items of general overhead, corporate management, interest, taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes), or any other indirect costs, or work performed or costs incurred before the date of the contract, should be included in the estimate of costs.

7. (*a*) Are you prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation (Sec. 7, DMEA No. 1)?

(*b*) How do you propose to furnish your share of the costs?

☐ Money ☒ Use of equipment owned by you ☐ labor Other

Explain in detail on acompanying paper.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Dated April 21, 1955

Harry L. Bienick
(Applicant)

By

Title 18, U. S. Code (Crimes), Section 1001, makes it a criminal offense to make a willfully false statement or representation to any department or agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—66551-1

Another party by the name of Bernard Dressler, has an interest in this mine and the lease reads the same as with Mr. Lawn with the exception of the percentage paid which reads the following with Mr. Dressler:

V. As for the rental or royalty for said premises, the Lessee agrees to pay the Lessor three and one-third percent of the gross receipts of all ores recovered and sold from the claim called "Wonder No. 1" and one and two thirds percent of all of the gross receipts from all ore mined and sold from the claims known as "Wonder No.'s 2 to 6" inclusive. Payments of said sums to be made when the Lessee receives etc.,

Before leasing this mine to me & my partner Art Lawn did $5000 worth of development work on same with his bulldozer, he uncovered and sold $1200 worth of high grade chrome which was in the one kidney, he looked for more but finally gave up the mine and leased it to us. My partner and I sunk a 55 foot shaft and took out $1500 worth of high grade ore as following 48% CrO, 10% FeO making it worth 119 (one hundred nineteen dollars per ton), we get a premium for its low iron content. To date we have 1280 man hours underground mining and developing, 640 open pit (mining & stripping), we have spent out $3500. developing and exploration of the property, $400 on new machinery and equipment and $1500 on used plant and used equipment acquired from others making a total of $5400.00 ($5400), also have a nice cabin built on property, and are ready to resume mining if we can get the necessary finances. We would like to sink another fifty feet, at least and feel sure with this depth will hit the body of chrome, in place of the usual stringer we have been following have three nice stringers showing up now, and we believe with $5000.00 loan from the government can set up operations again after our 3 months lay-off due to rains and winter weather, & lack of finances to continue.

There is a year around road to this mine and is close to the stock pile at Grants Pass, around 85 miles. We have plenty of water, mill site, power line goes right over us, but our lacking in money to recondition our equipment, and need materials such as piping for water in order to drill, the drill, pump, and mining car we are now using we borrowed from another miner and which he is now asking us $300.00, & they are well worth the price. With the present development could use another man to help us & the going wage for miners is $2.20 an hr.

I have been interested in mining for about 25 years, but this is my first experience in chrome mining, but my partner Howard Martin has worked for a couple of years with one of the largest chrome mines in our state and is experienced in all phases of mining chrome, and before that worked in the gold mines to the south of us, so all he has done is mine and he is classed as a No. 1 miner.

Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible,

Sincerely

P.S. This Property was examined before for a nickel loan, but gov. thought it too low (.70 to 1% nickel assay) & not enough deposit of nickel, in operation prior to date of examination, I feel confident if you examine this property you proceed after with the loan.

Harry F. Bienick

400

JUL - 7 1955

Messrs. Harry L. Rissick and
Howard Martin
411 Battle Street
Crescent City, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Gentlemen:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in Washington relating to the above noted property have been carefully reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration must, in its judgement, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense Program.

Careful study of all our information, although noting scattered pods and lenses of chromium ores on your property, indicate to us that the possibility of disclosing minable ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, therefore, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

TLChapman:foc
7-1-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Read. File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
Messrs. Katlin, USBM
Killsgaard, USGS

July 1, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrator, DMEA

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Subject: Denial of application for exploration assistance to the amount of $5,000.00
Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Harry L. Blemick and Howard Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Denial of the subject application is recommended by this Division and is based on the following information:

1. The applicants, Harry L. Blemick and Howard Martin, 411 Battle Street, Crescent City, California, requested exploration assistance to the amount of $5,000.00 for sinking the existing shaft an additional 50 feet and drifting on the mineralized structure.

2. The property consists of five unpatented lode mining claims, as follows:

Wonder 1 to 5 inclusive, recorded in Book No. 18, pages 245-250 at Crescent City, Del Norte County, California, Sections 5 and 6, T. 17, N., R. 3, E. Humboldt and Meridian.

Bare

3. A lease, dated May 15, 1954, was issued to Harry L. Blemick by Art Lunn, the owner of the property. Harry L. Blemick, the lessee, formed a partnership with Howard Martin.

4. The rocks exposed in this area are peridotite and dunite. The chromian mineral chromite occurs in pods and lenses along fracture zones.

5. Development work consists of bulldozer trenching and stripping and a 50 foot inclined shaft with 27 feet of drifting.

6. About 25 tons of chromite ore assaying 48 percent Cr_2O_3 has been produced from the property. Hydrous nickel mineral stains are found along the fracture zones.

7. In 1953 this same property was presented as a minimal prospect, Docket No. DMEA 3016, but the application was denied.

8. The Field Team has now concluded that there is little possibility of developing any chrome ore bodies of strategic importance.

9. The Field Team recommends denial of the application and the Commodity Divisions of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur in the recommendation.

W. S. Martin, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division

TLChapman:foc
7-1-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Read. File

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED
JUN 29 1955

June 29, 1955

Re: DMEA 3795
Bienick & Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte Co., Calif.
$5,000 - Chromite

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report

The conclusions of the Field Team fit the production record of this prospect.

I concur with the recommendation that the application be denied.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

NENelson:iml
G-6/29/55

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
C. Katlin, 3515

400

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

RECEIVED
JUN 17 1955

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

June 15, 1955

Memorandum

WSM

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building
Washington 25, D.C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3795 (Chromium)
Bienick and Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

In response to your letter of May 13, 1955, we are attaching four copies of a report by J. D. Warne and H. K. Stager on above subject property.

The report recommends that application for exploration assistance be denied. Roscoe Smith and I are in agreement with the recommendation.

S. Ricker

Attach.

SRicker:gh
cc: R. M. Smith
File

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

RECEIVED
JUN 17 1955

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION II

APPLICATION REPORT

DMEA-3795 - (Chromium)
Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

J. D. Warne
Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

H. M. Stager
Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

June 14, 1955

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1. - Location map
Fig. 2. - Geologic sketch map of the Wonder Mine Del Norte County, California

INTRODUCTION

Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin, 411 Butte Street, Crescent City, California applied for Government assistance in a $5,000 program under the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, docket number 3795, to explore for chromium at the Wonder mine, Del Norte County, California. The applicants wish to explore a chromite horizon in peridotite by sinking an additional 50 feet of shaft from the bottom of an existing 20 foot inclined shaft.

A field examination was requested by the Operating Committee, and was made by J. D. Warne of the Bureau of Mines and H. K. Stager of the Geological Survey on April 12, 1955, accompanied by Mr. Howard Martin, one of the applicants.

As no maps or assays were available the examiners mapped and sampled the surface and underground exposures.

The property was also examined in 1953 under docket number DMEA-3016, for nickel, and the loan denied.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The chromite deposit at the Wonder mine consists of small, erratically-spaced pods of chromite in peridotite. The results of the examination indicate that there is little probability of finding minable bodies of chromite with the proposed program.

Past exploration has consisted of surface stripping by bulldozer, the sinking of a 50 foot inclined shaft, and the driving of about 27 feet of drift. The surface stripping, involving the moving of several thousand yards of material at a cost of about $5,000, yielded a total of about 12 tons of chromite ore. The shaft and drift work produced only 13 tons of ore. The chromite pods that constitute the target of the exploration are so small and erratically distributed that the cost of any type of surface or sub-surface exploration is almost certain to exceed the value of ore found.

The inferred reserves of chromite do not justify the proposed program. It is recommended that Government assistance under the DMEA program be denied.

LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY, LOCAL RESOURCES

The Wonder mine is in secs. 5 and 6, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., Humboldt B and M., Del Norte County, California (fig. 1). It is reached from Crescent City, Calif. by U. S. Highway 199 a distance of 26 miles to Patrick Creek Lodge. From Patrick Creek Lodge, a Forest Service road follows Patrick Creek 3.2 miles northward to Old Patrick Creek Station. From this point, a steep mountain road, which follows the original stage coach trail, leads 3.8 miles southwestward to the mine.

Labor, timber, supplies, and equipment are obtained from the surrounding area or Crescent City, Calif. and Grants Pass, Ore., which are respectively 33 and 87 miles distant. The California-Oregon Power Co.'s main transmission line to Crescent City crosses the mine property.

HISTORY AND PRODUCTION

The group of six unpatented Wonder claims were originally located during World War I. A 51-foot vertical prospect shaft was sunk on the Wonder No. 1 claim about 1918, but no production was made. The claims were relocated by a Mr. Tom Cronin in November 1951. Bulldozer stripping operations in the vicinity of the shaft produced 10 tons of chrome ore during 1951-1952. A new inclined shaft, located about 80 feet northeast of the vertical shaft, was begun in May 1954 and sinking is still in progress. About 15 tons of chrome ore has been produced to date from this work.

PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP

The property consists of six unpatented claims: Wonder Nos. 1 to 5 inclusive located in sec. 5, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., and Wonder No. 6 located in sec. 6, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., Humboldt B. & M., Book 18, pages 245-250, Del Norte County, Calif. They are jointly owned by Tom Cronin and Bernard Dressler of Crescent City and Arthur Lawn of Smith River, Calif. The claims are under lease to the applicants

Harry Bienick and Howard Martin, 411 Butte Street, Crescent City, Calif.

The mine is operated intermittently by Howard Martin, who is an experienced miner. Harry Bienick has had no previous mining experience.

DEVELOPMENT

Surface facilities consist of a low headframe and a crude hoist shack over the collar of the inclined shaft. The following equipment is being used:

- 1 Compressor, 105 cfm, mounted on a 1947 2-ton Dodge truck
- 1 Mine car
- 1 Jackhammer
- 1 Hoist windlass, small, home-made

The 5 by 6 foot, 2-compartment shaft averages 45 degrees inclination northeastward, however, the slope is irregular as the chrome mineralization was followed downward. The length of this shaft is 50 feet. A single drift level extends 17 feet eastward and 10 feet westward at the 25-foot level (fig. 2). A vertical, inaccessable shaft reported to be about 50 feet deep is located 60 feet to the southwest and an adjacent area to this shaft has been stripped by bulldozer.

GENERAL GEOLOGY

The rock exposed in the vicinity of the mine is chiefly peridotite that has been extensively serpentinized and is deeply weathered. It is

about 1 mile from the eastern edge of a 10 mile wide north-trending belt of ultrabasic rock that is bounded on the east by the Galice formation of Jurassic age and on the west by Franciscan type rocks of probable Cretaceous age.

ORE DEPOSITS

The chromite bodies are small irregular pods and lenses containing from a few pounds to several tons of ore each. A zone of these pods and lenses trends about N. 10° E. and dips about 45° N. The largest pod mined was about 5 feet in diameter and averaged 48 percent Cr_2O_3.

Chromite, the only ore mineral present, occurs as massive pods and lenses of disseminated grains in dunite and peridotite. Gangue minerals are olivine, magnetite, and serpentine.

A light green mineral, presumably a hydrous nickel mineral, forms a thin coating on fracture surfaces in the peridotite near the center of the Wonder No. 1 claim. This mineral constituted the basis for the earlier DMEA application for assistance in a nickel exploration project. Samples taken during this earlier examination contained from 0.07 to 0.30 percent nickel, an amount not uncommon in the ultrabasic rocks of northern California.

Total chromite production from the Wonder mine is 25 tons of ore containing an average of 48 percent Cr_2O_3 and 10 percent FeO.

SAMPLING

The following samples were taken in connection with this examination (see fig. 2):

Sample No.	%, Cr_2O_3	%, Fe	Description
1	38.26	10.40	Specimen of highest grade chrome mineralization at face of inclined shaft. one foot width
2	52.52	11.80	Grab sample of about 1 ton stockpile of sorted chrome ore at collar of shaft.
3	28.02	8.48	Grab sample of about 5 tons of mill ore stockpiled at collar of shaft.

ORE RESERVES

Except for a few pounds of chromite exposed as small pods and lenses in the bottom of the inclined shaft and in the face of the east drift, there are no measured or indicated ore reserves at the Wonder mine. Inferred reserves may total a few tens of tons in small pods of massive chromite and concentrations of disseminated ore erratically distributed in the peridotite of the Wonder claims.

PROPOSED EXPLORATION

The applicants propose to further sink the Wonder No. 1 inclined shaft a distance of 50 feet, at a total cost of $5,000.00. They intend to continue following the chromite mineralized zone regardless of the various inclinations required in driving the shaft.

The application is incomplete; and the proposed work is poorly planned and conceived by the applicants.

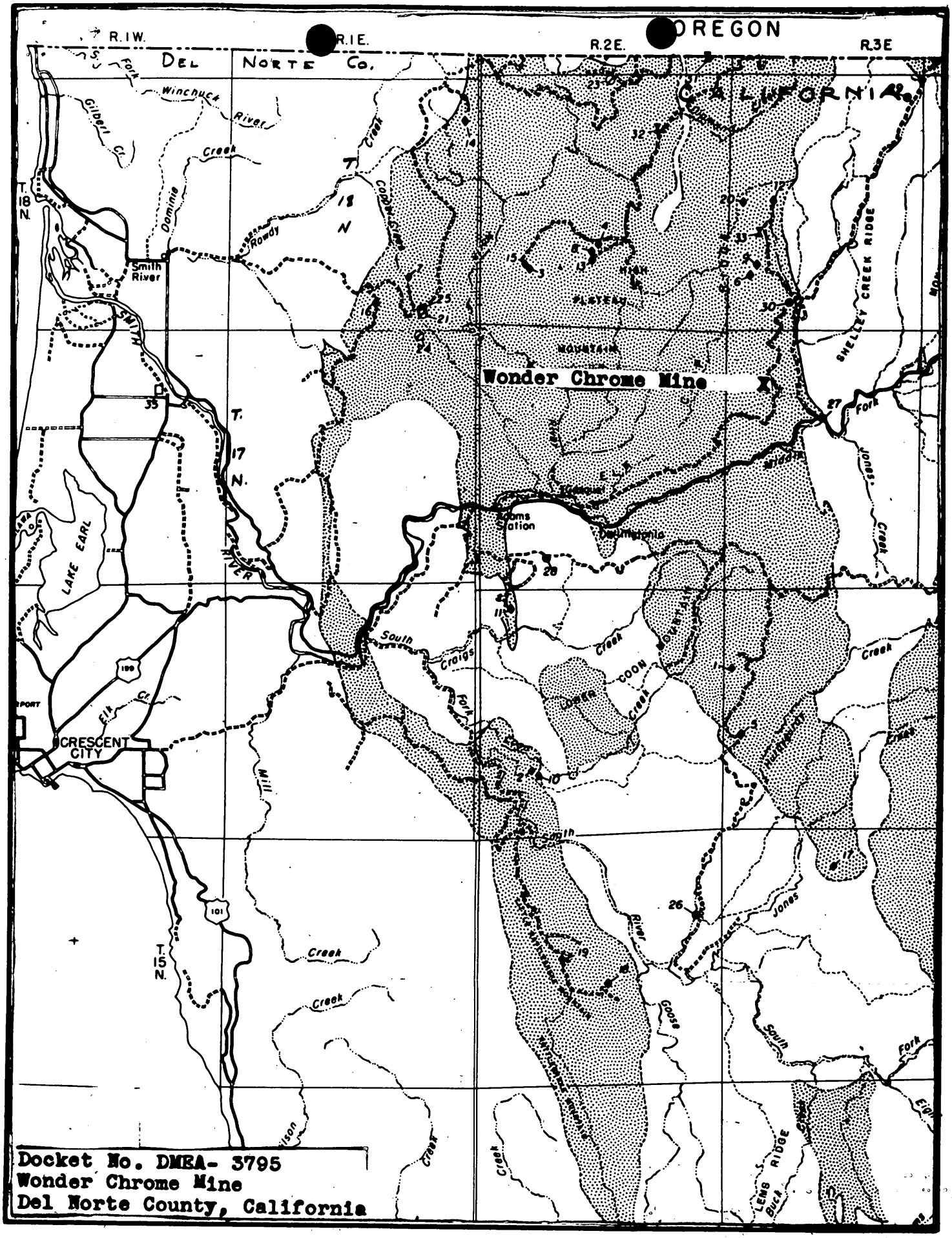
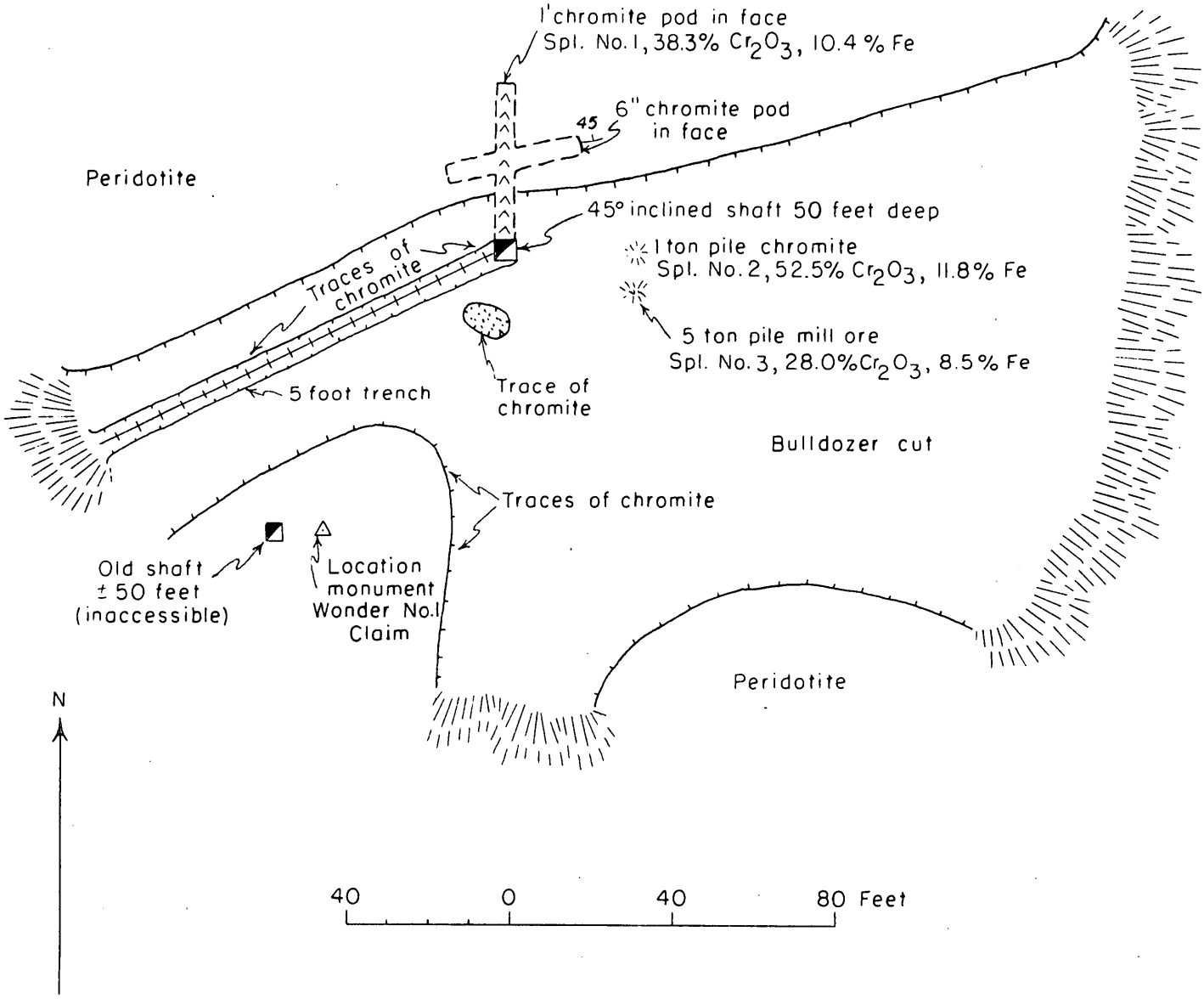


FIG. 1 LOCATION MAP



GEOLOGIC SKETCH MAP OF THE WONDER MINE
DEL NORTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Figure 2

400

MAY 1 3 1955

Messrs. Henry L. Blastick and
Manuel Martin
421 Rubio Street
Greenwood City, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Monday Mine
Del Norte County, California

Gentlemen:

The above-docketed application for exploration assistance for chromium ores has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and referred to Mr. Spangler Richey, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region IX, 1645 Evans Avenue, Reno, Nevada, for review and a possible field examination of the property.

Any assistance that you can give the members of the field team, if a field examination is found necessary, will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

TLCheapman:fcc
5-20-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. IX
Charles Kuhlin, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

400

MAY 13 1955

Mr. Spangler Rieber, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
3605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Blasdick and Martin
Member Mine
Del Norte County, California

Dear Mr. Rieber:

The above-docketed application for exploration assistance is being referred to your office for review and a possible field examination of the property if found necessary.

Two copies of a relevant memorandum by R. D. Trace, Geological Survey, dated May 6, 1955, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee

Enclosures

APPROVED:

M. E. Volin for J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey

TLChapman:fcc
5-10-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
Charles Katlin, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

IN REPLY REFER TO:

400

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 6, 1955

Re: DMEA-3795
Bianick & Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte Co., Calif.
$5,000 - Chromium

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: R. D. Trace, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of application

The application does not give sufficient data to evaluate the Wonder mine. A Field Team report on the same area for nickel (DMEA-3016), however, states that "Several small lenses of chromite were seen in the peridotite, but these are much too small and widely spaced to be of economic value."

The applicant may have worked the property since the Field Team report. I'm not sure when some of the work described in this application was done.

Perhaps the application should be referred to the Field Team, for examination only if they deem it necessary.

R. D. Trace

CC: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
Charles Katlin, 3515 Interior

Apr 1954

Mr. A. D. Lawn
9th and L Streets
Crescent City, California

Dear Mr. Lawn:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 6, 1954, asking how to apply for aid for exploration of your 120 acres of property, some of which we note assays 1% nickel and also carries some high grade chrome.

The United States Government grants assistance to individuals, corporations, or other legal entities for the exploration of strategic minerals within the United States, its territories or possessions, on a participating basis, under the rules and regulations set forth in the attached DMEA Order-1, Amended. Certain sections of the order are explained more fully in the "Questions & Answers" booklet included herewith.

In the case of authorized nickel projects, the Government will participate in the approved exploration costs to the extent of 75 percent, the money to be repaid from income on future production. For chrome projects the corresponding figure is 50 percent.

If you wish to participate in the Exploration Program of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, you should complete in detail and submit to us four of the enclosed copies of Form MF-103. In the event that your new application covers any of the claims included in your application of April 20, 1953 (our Docket No. DMEA-3016-Nickel), please so state.

In addition to your inquiry concerning exploration aid, your letter states that you wrote to us at the suggestion of General Services Administration, Emergency Procurement Service, in order to obtain information as to whether there is a guaranteed market for nickel and copper in the event you were to produce these commodities. Your letter does not state whether your inquiry was to the Washington office or to a field office of General Services Administration. It is not a function of DMEA to report on marketing situations concerning minerals. If there is any agency familiar with this matter, it might be the Washington office of GSA. Therefore, we are writing a letter in your behalf to the GSA.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittenderf

Administrator

cc: Mails & Files
Code 400
Adm. Read. File
EPS, GSA
FT, Reg. 3
Enclosures

WSMartin/ls 4/19/54

C O P Y

9th & L Streets
Crescent City, California
April 6, 1954

Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We have just received a letter from the General Services Administration, Emergency Procurement Service in reply to our letter inquiring as to whether there would be a market for Nickel or Copper from the small mines, and if so at what price per. pound.

They suggested we contact your office in the hope of getting the information we desire.

It is our understanding that your office assists owners of mining properties in exploring their mines.

We have 120 acres of property, some of which assays 1% Nickel, also carries some high grade Chrome.

We would like to have the gound drilled for exploration purposes to see if the ore will come up to Commercial Standards, if so what are the possibilities of obtaining an exploration loan.

We are quite anxious to find out if there is a Guaranteed market for Nickel from the Government.

Yours very truly,

/s/ A. D. Lawn

A. D. Lawn

C O P Y

9th & L Streets
Crescent City, California
April 6, 1954

Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We have just received a letter from the General Services Administration, Emergency Procurement Service in reply to our letter inquiring as to whether there would be a market for Nickel or Copper from the small mines, and if so at what price per. pound.

They suggested we contact your office in the hope of getting the information we desire.

It is our understanding that your office assists owners of mining properties in exploring their mines.

We have 120 acres of property, some of which assays 1% Nickel, also carries some high grade Chrome.

We would like to have the gound drilled for exploration purposes to see if the ore will come up to Commercial Standards, if so what are the possibilities of obtaining an exploration loan.

We are quite anxious to find out if there is a Guaranteed market for Nickel from the Government.

Yours very truly,

/s/ A. D. Lawn

A. D. Lawn

APR 23 1954

3016

Hon. Hubert B. Scudder
House of Representatives
Washington 15, D. C.

Dear Mr. Scudder:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter of April 20, 1954, inquiring about a letter of April 6 addressed to us by Mr. A. D. Lawn, 9th and L Streets, Crescent City, California. Your letter to us was written with respect to a communication you received from Mr. Lawn's partner, Mrs. Phyllis Bienick, 411 Butte Street, Crescent City.

We are pleased to tell you that we sent information about our exploration program direct to Mr. Lawn on April 13. On that same date we referred his letter to Mr. Irving Gumbel, Acting Director, Materials Division, Emergency Procurement Service, General Services Administration, Washington 25, D. C., for further attention with respect to certain questions asked us by Mr. Lawn which are not related to Defense Minerals Exploration Administration functions. Copies of both letters are enclosed.

If we receive any further correspondence from Mr. Lawn or his associates, it will, of course, be given prompt attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

Enclosures

cc: MAILS & FILES
CODE 400
ADM. READ. FILE
FIELD TEAM, REG. III
IRVING GUMBEL, Materials Div., EPS, GSA

WSMartin/ls 4/21/54

400

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1012 Flood Building
870 Market Street
San Francisco 2, Calif.

August 27, 1953

Mr. Robert F. Appel
Attorney at Law
225 H Street
Crescent City, California

Re: Locket DMEA-3015 (Nickel)
Lawn, Brussler & Cronin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Dear Mr. Appel:

In reply to your letter, dated August 24, asking for the assays we obtained when examining the Wonder Mine, I am sorry to have to tell you that we are not at liberty to give them to you. I will say, however, that the nickel content of all samples was too low to class the rock as economically minable. The samples were not assayed for cobalt.

It is not the nickel content alone that determines whether a property is worthy of an exploration loan. There are other factors that come into the picture also, such as the geology of the deposit, extent of mineralization, type of ore, and so forth. In the case of the Wonder Mine, denial was based on the conclusion that the probability of disclosing minable ore reserves was not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation.

Sincerely yours,

H. C. MILLER
H. C. Miller
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Copy to: DMEA, Washington, D. C.
H. H. Bailey, USGS
A. C. Johnson, Reno

Application was denied 7/23/53.

400

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JUL 14 1953

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Office of
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team
Region III

1012 Flood Building
870 Market Street
San Francisco 2, Calif.

July 10, 1953

WSM

Memorandum

To: George C. Selfridge, Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

Subject: Docket DMEA-3016 (Nickel)
Arthur Lawn, Bernard Dressler and Tom Cronin
Wonder Mine, Del Norte County, California

Reference is made to the letter dated May 19, 1953, from W. S. Martin, acting Chairman, Operating Committee, requesting a field examination of the Wonder Mine.

Attached are four copies of a report entitled "DMEA-3016 - Wonder Mine, Nickel, Del Norte County, California," by W. P. Irwin and D. B. Tatlock, Geologists, U. S. Geological Survey, dated July 8, 1953.

The field examination and four assays of samples indicate the serpentine masses on the property contain only as much nickel as is normally found in serpentine masses throughout the state. It is recommended that the application be denied.

H. C. MILLER

H. C. Miller
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Attachments

Copy to: E. H. Bailey, USGS
A. C. Johnson, Reno (With copy of report)

Irwin OC
7-20-53

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JUL 14 1953

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, D. MCKAY

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION III

DMEA 3016 - Wonder Mine, Nickel

Del Norte County, California

W. P. Irwin
U. S. Geological Survey

D. B. Tatlock
U. S. Geological Survey

July 8, 1953

Introduction

The Wonder mine in Del Norte County, California, was examined on May 31, 1953, by W. P. Irwin, G. W. Walker, and D. B. Tatlock of the Geological Survey, and because the examination was included with a more extensive trip to other localities, Mr. Salem Rice, of the California Division of Mines, accompanied the Survey geologists. The owners of the Wonder mine had applied to DMEA for Government participation in a $48,020.00 exploration program, and the examination was pointed toward determining the feasibility of further exploring the property for nickel. The owners of the property are Arthur Lawn, Bernard Dressler, and Tom Cronin, of Crescent City, California.

Location

The property is in secs. 5 and 6, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., Humboldt B. and M., Del Norte County, California. It is readily accessible by road from Patrick Creek Lodge, which is on U. S. Highway 199 about 26 miles east of Crescent City on the road leading to Grants Pass, Oregon. To reach it from Patrick Creek Lodge, first travel 4 miles northward on a Forest Service road to Old Patrick Creek Station and there cross to the west side of Patrick Creek. On the west side of the creek, turn left and travel southwesterly about 3 miles. The property is along the west side of the road at an altitude of about 2,000 feet between Elevenmile and Twelvemile Creek.

Workings

The principal excavation on the property is a vertical shaft, about 50 feet deep, reported to have been dug during World War I, probably in search of chromite. The shaft was not entered during the examination, as the ladder and timbering is in dangerous condition. Viewed from the collar, the entire shaft appeared to be lagged. In the vicinity of the shaft the overburden has been stripped by bulldozer over an area about 100 feet by 150 feet. The only structure on the property is a small headframe over the shaft.

Geology

The workings are on a small, gently sloping bench in an otherwise steep and deeply entrenched terrain. The bedrock that underlies the bench is dark reddish brown and deeply weathered in contrast to the nearly fresh bedrock exposed on the steeper slopes. Owing to its anomalous topographic form and the intensely weathered rock, the bench is believed to be an old surface of erosion.

The only rock seen near the workings is peridotite that has been altered extensively to serpentine. A light green mineral, presumably a hydrous nickel mineral, forms a thin coating on a few of the rock surfaces. This mineral is fairly abundant at only one place over an area of about 25 square feet, but, even there, probably constitutes less than one percent of the rock. The rock on the dump from the shaft is nearly devoid of the light green mineral. Several thin lenses of chromite were seen in the peridotite, but these are much too small and widely spaced to be of economic value.

Sampling

Many samples of the altered peridotite have been assayed, according to the applicant, and all have contained nickel. A list of six assay results shown in the application range from 0.70 to 1.0 percent nickel.

Four samples were taken during the examination. Sample no. 1 is of fairly fresh "slickentite" serpentine about 50 feet S. 80° E. of the shaft. Sample no. 2 is a composite of chips from numerous blocks of fine-grain serpentinized peridotite on the dump from the shaft. Sample no. 3 is a composite of the dark-reddish soil from five localities in the bulldozer cuts. Sample no. 4 is of the deeply weathered peridotite north of the shaft. The assay results are tabulated below.

Sample no.		% nickel
1	Fresh slickentite	0.25
2	Composite of serpentine on the shaft dump	0.30
3	Composite of dark reddish soil derived from serpentine	0.07
4	Deeply weathered peridotite	0.21

Conclusions

The nickel content of the rocks at the Wonder mine is the same as that of most of the serpentine in California, and the assays are strictly comparable to assays of serpentine from the Burke nickel deposit (DMEA-2671). Since the nickel content is not abnormal, the granting of a loan to further explore the deposit would establish a precedent under which every one of the hundreds of serpentine masses in California would warrant similar exploration.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the applicant's request for a DMEA loan be denied.

JUL 2 1 1953

400

Mr. Tom Cronin
c/o Mr. Larry Mierick
Crescent City, California

Re: Docket No. [illegible] 3015 - Nickel
Prince Lawr, [illegible] Dressler,
[illegible] Cronin
[illegible] Mine
Del Norte County, California

Dear Mr. Cronin:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in connection concerning the above referenced property have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Materials Procurement Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense program.

Careful study of all the information, although indicating the presence of nickel mineralization at the [illegible] site, indicates to us that the probability of disclosing mineable ore reserves on your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

F. Rutledge/jh
7/22/53
cc. to: Docket
Adm. Reading File
Oper. Comm.
Code 400
[illegible] Davis, USBM
D. [illegible] Emmon, USGS
GSA Field Term, Region III, (2)

40d

July 22, 1953

Memorandum

To: Administrator, [illegible]

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, [illegible]

Subject: [illegible] of a chromite project in the [illegible]
[illegible] 3016 - [illegible]
[illegible] Bernard [illegible], and [illegible]
[illegible] Under [illegible]
[illegible] Sierra County, California

The review of the subject application by the [illegible] is based on the following information:

1. The applicant proposed to diamond drill and trench a [illegible] ive chromite [illegible] at an estimated cost of $[illegible],020.00.

2. [illegible] chromite [illegible] stated [illegible] (here). [illegible]

3. Conclusions reached during [illegible]

Conclusions	Signal
1. Area "[illegible]"	[illegible]
2. Composite of [illegible] the [illegible]	[illegible]
3. Composite of drill [illegible] derived from [illegible]	[illegible].07
4. [illegible] chromite	[illegible].21

4. The iron content of the [illegible] is the same as that of most of the serpentine [illegible] comparable to that of [illegible]. Where the chromite is [illegible] contained in [illegible] the ferro-magnesian silicate [illegible], the [illegible] cannot be recovered economically by [illegible] process.

5. The examining field [illegible] recommended denial.

6. The field [illegible] recommendation.

7. The Commodity [illegible] of the Secretary [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] concur in the denial.

SIGNED

[illegible] Martin, Jr.
Director, Office of Export Control

FARutledge/jh
7/22/53
cc. to: Docket
Adm. Reading File
Oper. Comm.
Code 400 (2)

400

MAY 1 3 1953

Mr. Tom Cronin
% Mr. Harry Bierick
Crescent City, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA -3016 - Nickel
Arthur Lann, Bernard Dressler
and Tom Cronin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Dear Mr. Cronin:

Your application for assistance in exploring a nickel occurrence at your Wonder Mine in Del Norte County, California, has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA, and has been referred to Mr. H. C. Miller, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III, 1012 Flood Building, 870 Market Street, San Francisco 2, California, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

Should a field examination be made of the property, any assistance that you can render the examining engineers will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

JHopkins:foc
5-15-53

cc: Docket
Code 400
FT. Reg. III
Operating Comm.
Adm. Reading File

cc: H. W. Davis, USBM
T. P. Thayer, USGS

400

MAY 1 9 1953

Mr. H. C. Miller, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III
1012 Flood Building
870 Market Street
San Francisco 2, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3016 - Nickel
Arthur Lann, Bernard Dressler
and Tom Cronin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Dear Mr. Miller:

Reference is made to the subject application for exploration assistance which is being referred to your office for review and possibly a field examination.

Information relative to this occurrence of nickel is lacking in Washington, and it is believed that a project aimed at determining the worth of this deposit as a potential source of nickel in the United States may merit some consideration.

The following memoranda have been prepared and are enclosed for your information:

Memorandum by T. P. Thayer, U. S. Geological Survey May 12, 1953
Memorandum by Hubert W. Davis, U.S. Bureau of Mines May 7, 1953

Sincerely yours,

W. S. Martin
ACTING Chairman, Operating Committee

Enclosures

APPROVED:

J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines

A. R. Kinkel, Jr.
Member, Geological Survey

JHopkins:foc
5-15-53
cc: Docket
Code 400
FT, Reg. III
Operating Comm.
Adm. Reading File
H.W. Davis, USBM
T.P. Thayer, USGS

May 8, 1953

MEMORANDUM

To: Docket No. DMEA-3016 - Nickel

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division

Subject: DMEA-3016 - Exploration Assistance - Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California
Arthur Lawn, etc.
Crescent City, Calif.

Under Article 4 - Physical Description of the subject application, it is noted that the applicants make the following statement; "To the best of our knowledge, there are several million tons of nickeliferous ore in a body in an altered periodotite, also, that nickel has been found where samples have been taken." There is attached to the application a certificate of analysis of six samples by the Grants Pass Chrome Company that show nickel values ranging from 0.70% to 1.00%. Apparently these samples were taken from points on the Wonder No. 1 claim. It is also stated that a sample taken from the dump of the shaft that had been sunk to a depth of 50 feet showed an analysis - .75% nickel.

The geographical location of this property indicates that it apparently lies within the large and extensive serpentine belt that extends along the Coast Ranges of California into the State of Oregon. It is at Nickel Mountain in this mountain range in Oregon that the Hanna Company with government aid from DMEA is developing a deposit of nickel ore containing proven reserves of 3,400,000 tons having a nickel content of 1.5%. Preparations are presently being made to mine this ore body and to recover nickel in an electric smelting plant utilizing the D'Ugine Process in the form of a ferro-nickel alloy.

This project is approximately 100 miles south of Nickel Mountain and apparently nickel occurs in the mineral garnierite in each instance. At Nickel Mountain it has been found that the nickel is so wrapped up in the mineral molecule that it resists all attempts at concentration and can be recovered as a saleable product only in the form of ferro-nickel alloy.

It was learned through contact with officials of DMPA that it is true that the serpentine belt in the Coast Range of Northern California frequently will show an appreciable nickel content upon analysis and in some isolated instances values comparable to those reported in the cited application are common. However, it may be questionable that a large body of commercial nickelferous ore will be found in the vicinity of the applicants' property.

Attached are some random notes on the Ugine Process that will be employed by the Hanna Nickel Smelting Company at Nickel Mountain Oregon.

SIGNED: W. S. MARTIN

W. S. Martin, Acting Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division

Attachment

JHopkins:foc

cc: Docket
Code 400

D'UGINE PROCESS

"Dried ore crushed to approximately minus half-inch size is fed into rotary kilns and is heated to a temperature of about 600° C at which it loses most of its water of hydration. Heated ore is conveyed by skip to feed hoppers located above the electric furnaces and from these it is charged into the furnaces as desired.

In the Ugine Process the electric furnaces are employed solely for the purpose of melting the ore and not for the production of the ferro-nickel inside the furnaces, as is the case in the Albany Process. In the Ugine Process all the reactions resulting in the production of ferro-nickel take place outside of the melting furnace under closely controlled conditions.

At regular intervals of time, say 1 hour, a predetermined amount of molten ore is poured out of the furnace into a special reaction vessel. A predetermined amount of the reducing agent is added to the vessel and after the reaction is completed two products are made:

1. A slag which is poured into a slag car and taken to a dump, and

2. Ferro-nickel which, according to the experiments conducted to date, contains 35 to 37% nickel, the balance being iron.

This ferro-nickel is transferred to a small refining furnace in which basic flux is employed to remove phosphorus in a conventional manner. The dephosphorized metal is then poured into a ladle which contains a small amount of specially prepared desulphurizing flux. This comprises about 4% of the weight of the ferro-nickel and consists of approximately equal amounts of bauxite and lime.

After the first pouring the contents of the ladle are poured again into another ladle to insure better mixing and the final desulphurized ferro-nickel is then poured from the ladle into a casting machine. Based on the work done so far, the Ugine Company expects to obtain an over-all plant recovery of not less than 88% of nickel contained in the ore. The Hanna Company prepared its cost estimates based on an over-all 85% plant recovery."

The Ugine Process was developed in France to treat New Caledonia ores. The following are compared average analyses of Oregon and New Caledonia ores:

COMPARED AVERAGE ANALYSES OF OREGON & NEW CALEDONIA

	Caledonia	Oregon
NiO	4.80%	2.14%
SiO_2	40.90	46.00
Al_2O_3	5.40	2.42
Fe_2O_3	12.65	13.48
CaO	0.35	Tr
MgO	23.70	30.80
Heat Loss	11.00	5.70

FERRO-NICKEL PRODUCT

Ni	48 to 53%
C	Max less than .05%
Si	Less than .1%

Discarded slags - .12 to .20% NiO

DOCKET
SURNAME
Chapman
400
Martin
Katlin
Killgaard
Gerhon
Selfridge
Jeffman

JUL - 7 1955

Messrs. Harry L. Bienick and
Howard Martin
411 Battu Street
Crescent City, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Gentlemen:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in Washington relating to the above noted property have been carefully reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration must, in its judgement, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense Program.

Careful study of all our information, although noting scattered pods and lenses of chromium ores on your property, indicate to us that the possibility of disclosing minable ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, therefore, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

TLChapman:foc
7-1-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Read. File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
Messrs. Katlin, USBM
Kiilsgaard, USGS

R.C.S.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 1, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrator, DMEA

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Subject: Denial of application for exploration assistance to the amount of $5,000.00
Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Denial of the subject application is recommended by this Division and is based on the following information:

1. The applicants, Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin, 411 Butte Street, Crescent City, California, requested exploration assistance to the amount of $5,000.00 for sinking the existing shaft an additional 50 feet and drifting on the mineralized structure.

2. The property consists of five unpatented lode mining claims, as follows:

Wonder 1 to 5 inclusive, recorded in Book No. 18, pages 245-250 at Crescent City, Del Norte County, California, Sections 5 and 6, T. 17, N., R. 3, E. Humboldt and Base Meridian.

3. A lease, dated May 15, 1954, was issued to Harry L. Bienick by Art Lawn, the owner of the property. Harry L. Bienick, the lessee, formed a partnership with Howard Martin.

4. The rocks exposed in this area are peridotite and dunite. The chromium mineral chromite occurs in pods and lenses along fracture zones.

5. Development work consists of bulldozer trenching and stripping and a 50 foot inclined shaft with 27 feet of drifting.

6. About 25 tons of chromite ore assaying 48 percent Cr_2O_3 has been produced from the property. Hydrous nickel mineral stains are found along the fracture zones.

7. In 1953 this same property was presented as a nickel prospect, Docket No. DMEA 3016, but the application was denied.

8. The Field Team has now concluded that there is little possibility of developing any chrome ore bodies of strategic importance.

9. The Field Team recommends denial of the application and the Commodity Divisions of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur in the recommendation.

W S Martin

W. S. Martin, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division

400 DOCKET
SURNAME
Chapman
Martin
Katlin

July 1, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrator, DMEA

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Subject: Denial of application for exploration assistance to the amount of $5,000.00
Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Harry L. Bisnick and Howard Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Denial of the subject application is recommended by this Division and is based on the following information:

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3. A lease, dated May 15, 1954, was issued to Harry L. Bisnick by Art Lewn, the owner of the property. Harry L. Bisnick, the lessee, formed a partnership with Howard Martin.

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7. In 1953 this same property was presented as a nickel prospect, Docket No. IMMA 3016, but the application was denied.

8. The Field Team has now concluded that there is little possibility of developing any chrome ore bodies of strategic importance.

9. The Field Team recommends denial of the application and the Commodity Divisions of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur in the recommendation.

W. S. Martin, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division

TLChapman:foc
7-1-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Read. File

Docket

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Copy mailed 6-30
RECEIVED
JUN 29 1955

June 29, 1955

Re: DMEA 3795
Bienick & Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte Co., Calif.
$5,000 - Chromite

WSM

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report

The conclusions of the Field Team fit the production record of this prospect.

I concur with the recommendation that the application be denied.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED
JUN 29 1955

June 29, 1955

Re: DMEA 3795
Bisnick & Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte Co., Calif.
$5,000 - Chromite

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report

The conclusions of the Field Team fit the production record of this prospect.

I concur with the recommendation that the application be denied.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

NENelson:iml
G-6/29/55

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
C. Katlin, 3515

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED
JUN 29 1955

June 29, 1955

Re: DMEA 3795
Bismick & Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte Co., Calif.
$5,000 - Chromite

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report

The conclusions of the Field Team fit the production record of this prospect.

I concur with the recommendation that the application be denied.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

NENelson:iml
G-6/29/55

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
C. Katlin, 3515

DMEA

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED
JUN 17 1955

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

June 15, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building
Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3795 (Chromium)
Bienick and Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

In response to your letter of May 13, 1955, we are attaching four copies of a report by J. D. Warne and H. K. Stager on above subject property.

The report recommends that application for exploration assistance be denied. Roscoe Smith and I are in agreement with the recommendation.

S. Ricker

Attach.

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
6-20-55
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

RECEIVED
JUN 17 1955

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION II

APPLICATION REPORT

DMEA-3795 - (Chromium)
Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

J. D. Warne
Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

H. K. Stager
Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

June 14, 1955

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
6-20-55
(date)

RECEIVED
JUN 17 1955

CONTENTS

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1. - Location map
Fig. 2. - Geologic sketch map of the Wonder Mine Del Norte County, California

INTRODUCTION

Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin, 411 Butte Street, Crescent City, California applied for Government assistance in a $5,000 program under the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, docket number 3795, to explore for chromium at the Wonder mine, Del Norte County, California. The applicants wish to explore a chromite horizon in peridotite by sinking an additional 50 feet of shaft from the bottom of an existing 50 foot inclined shaft.

A field examination was requested by the Operating Committee, and was made by J. D. Warne of the Bureau of Mines and H. K. Stager of the Geological Survey on April 12, 1955, accompanied by Mr. Howard Martin, one of the applicants.

As no maps or assays were available the examiners mapped and sampled the surface and underground exposures.

The property was also examined in 1953 under docket number DMEA-3016, for nickel, and the loan denied.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The chromite deposit at the Wonder mine consists of small, erratically-spaced pods of chromite in peridotite. The results of the examination indicate that there is little probability of finding minable bodies of chromite with the proposed program.

Past exploration has consisted of surface stripping by bulldozer, the sinking of a 50 foot inclined shaft, and the driving of about 27 feet of drift. The surface stripping, involving the moving of several thousand yards of material at a cost of about $5,000, yielded a total of about 12 tons of chromite ore. The shaft and drift work produced only 13 tons of ore. The chromite pods that constitute the target of the exploration are so small and erratically distributed that the cost of any type of surface or sub-surface exploration is almost certain to exceed the value of ore found.

The inferred reserves of chromite do not justify the proposed program. It is recommended that Government assistance under the DMEA program be denied.

LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY, LOCAL RESOURCES

The Wonder mine is in secs. 5 and 6, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., Humboldt B and M., Del Norte County, California (fig. 1). It is reached from Crescent City, Calif. by U. S. Highway 199 a distance of 26 miles to Patrick Creek Lodge. From Patrick Creek Lodge, a Forest Service road follows Patrick Creek 3.2 miles northward to Old Patrick Creek Station. From this point, a steep mountain road, which follows the original stage coach trail, leads 3.8 miles southwestward to the mine.

Labor, timber, supplies, and equipment are obtained from the surrounding area or Crescent City, Calif. and Grants Pass, Ore., which are respectively 33 and 87 miles distant. The California-Oregon Power Co.'s main transmission line to Crescent City crosses the mine property.

HISTORY AND PRODUCTION

The group of six unpatented Wonder claims were originally located during World War I. A 51-foot vertical prospect shaft was sunk on the Wonder No. 1 claim about 1918, but no production was made. The claims were relocated by a Mr. Tom Cronin in November 1951. Bulldozer stripping operations in the vicinity of the shaft produced 10 tons of chrome ore during 1951-1952. A new inclined shaft, located about 80 feet northeast of the vertical shaft, was begun in May 1954 and sinking is still in progress. About 15 tons of chrome ore has been produced to date from this work.

PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP

The property consists of six unpatented claims: Wonder Nos. 1 to 5 inclusive located in sec. 5, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., and Wonder No. 6 located in sec. 6, T. 17 N., R. 3 E., Humboldt B. & M., Book 18, pages 245-250, Del Norte County, Calif. They are jointly owned by Tom Cronin and Bernard Dressler of Crescent City and Arthur Lawn of Smith River, Calif. The claims are under lease to the applicants

Harry Bienick and Howard Martin, 411 Butte Street, Crescent City, Calif.

The mine is operated intermittently by Howard Martin, who is an experienced miner. Harry Bienick has had no previous mining experience.

DEVELOPMENT

Surface facilities consist of a low headframe and a crude hoist shack over the collar of the inclined shaft. The following equipment is being used:

- 1 Compressor, 105 cfm, mounted on a 1947 2-ton Dodge truck
- 1 Mine car
- 1 Jackhammer
- 1 Hoist windlass, small, home-made

The 5 by 6 foot, 2-compartment shaft averages 45 degrees inclination northeastward, however, the slope is irregular as the chrome mineralization was followed downward. The length of this shaft is 50 feet. A single drift level extends 17 feet eastward and 10 feet westward at the 25-foot level (fig. 2). A vertical, inaccessable shaft reported to be about 50 feet deep is located 80 feet to the southwest and an adjacent area to this shaft has been stripped by bulldozer.

GENERAL GEOLOGY

The rock exposed in the vicinity of the mine is chiefly peridotite that has been extensively serpentinized and is deeply weathered. It is

about 1 mile from the eastern edge of a 10 mile wide north-trending belt of ultrabasic rock that is bounded on the east by the Galice formation of Jurassic age and on the west by Franciscan type rocks of probable Cretaceous age.

ORE DEPOSITS

The chromite bodies are small irregular pods and lenses containing from a few pounds to several tons of ore each. A zone of these pods and lenses trends about N. 10° E. and dips about 45° N. The largest pod mined was about 5 feet in diameter and averaged 48 percent Cr_2O_3.

Chromite, the only ore mineral present, occurs as massive pods and lenses of disseminated grains in dunite and peridotite. Gangue minerals are olivine, magnetite, and serpentine.

A light green mineral, presumably a hydrous nickel mineral, forms a thin coating on fracture surfaces in the peridotite near the center of the Wonder No. 1 claim. This mineral constituted the basis for the earlier DMEA application for assistance in a nickel exploration project. Samples taken during this earlier examination contained from 0.07 to 0.30 percent nickel, an amount not uncommon in the ultrabasic rocks of northern California.

Total chromite production from the Wonder mine is 25 tons of ore containing an average of 48 percent Cr_2O_3 and 10 percent FeO.

SAMPLING

The following samples were taken in connection with this examination (see fig. 2):

Sample No.	%, Cr_2O_3	%, Fe	Description
1	38.26	10.40	Specimen of highest grade chrome mineralization at face of inclined shaft.
2	52.52	11.80	Grab sample of about 1 ton stockpile of sorted chrome ore at collar of shaft.
3	28.02	8.48	Grab sample of about 5 tons of mill ore stockpiled at collar of shaft.

ORE RESERVES

Except for a few pounds of chromite exposed as small pods and lenses in the bottom of the inclined shaft and in the face of the east drift, there are no measured or indicated ore reserves at the Wonder mine. Inferred reserves may total a few tens of tons in small pods of massive chromite and concentrations of disseminated ore erratically distributed in the peridotite of the Wonder claims.

PROPOSED EXPLORATION

The applicants propose to further sink the Wonder No. 1 inclined shaft a distance of 50 feet, at a total cost of $5,000.00. They intend to continue following the chromite mineralized zone regardless of the various inclinations required in driving the shaft.

The application is incomplete; and the proposed work is poorly planned and conceived by the applicants.

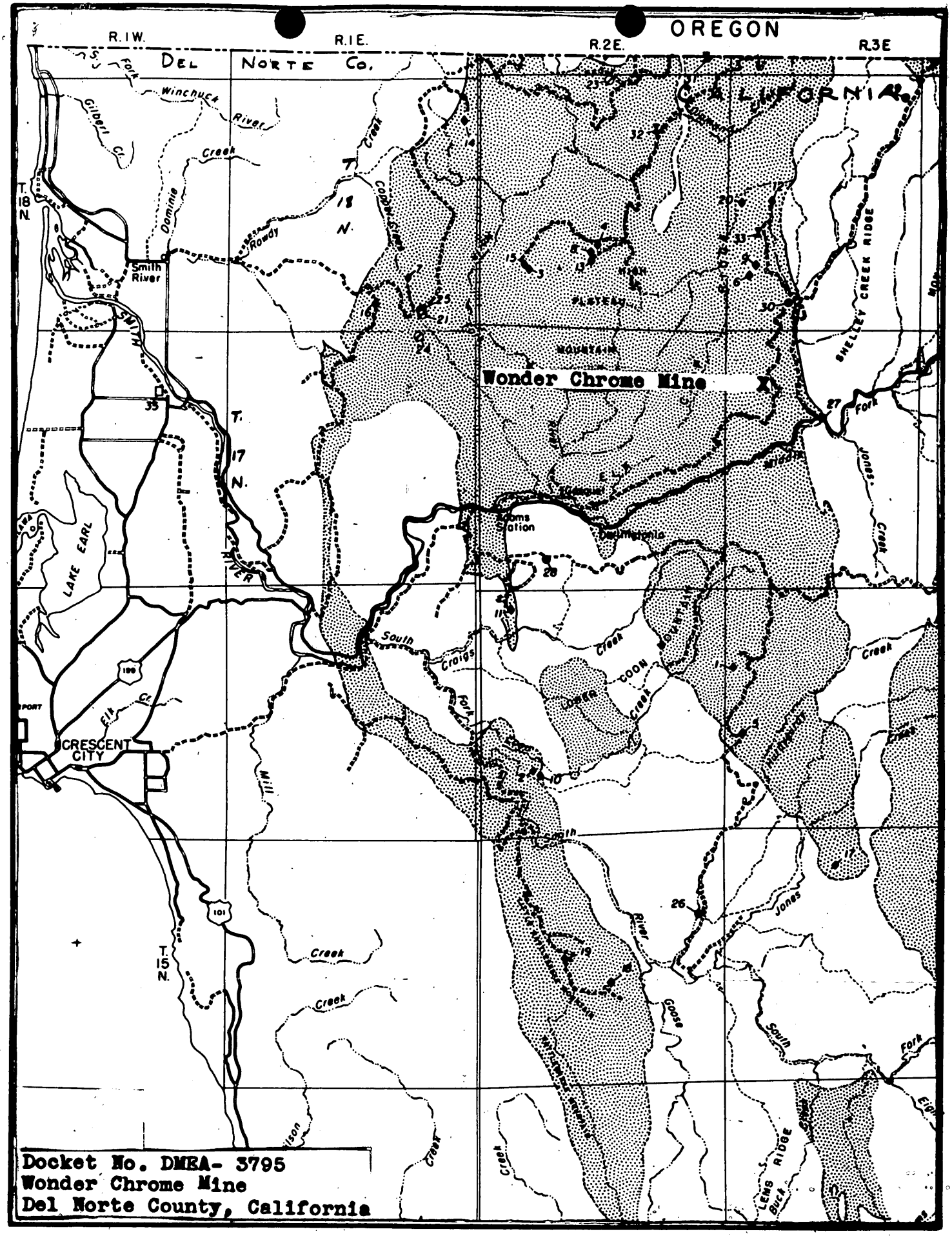
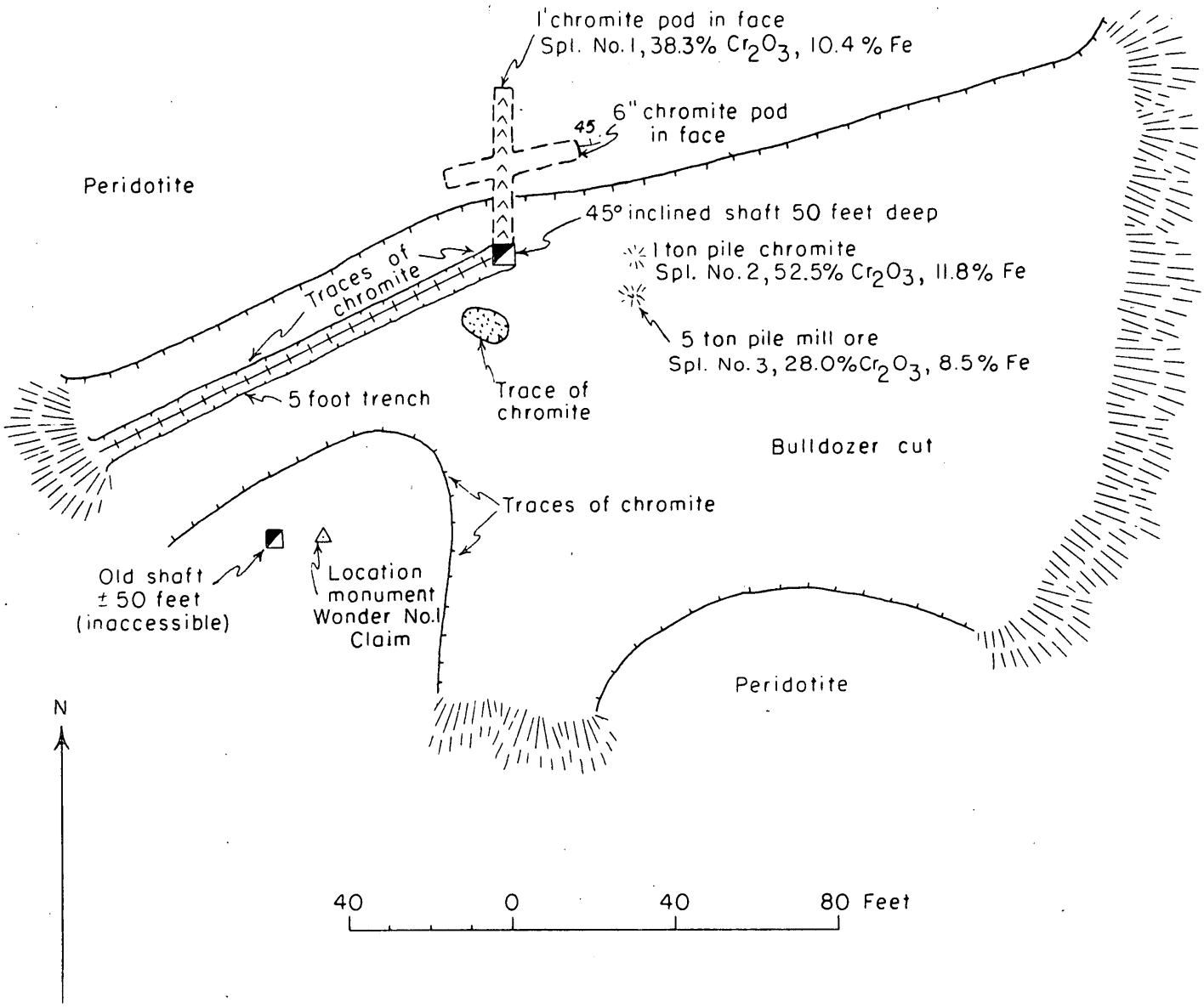


FIG. 1 LOCATION MAP



GEOLOGIC SKETCH MAP OF THE WONDER MINE
DEL NORTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Figure 2

DOCKET
SURNAME
Chapman
400 Martin
Katlin
Selfridge
Kjolmes

MAY 1 3 1955

Mr. Spangler Richer, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Rissick and Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Dear Mr. Richer:

The above-docketed application for exploration assistance is being referred to your office for review and a possible field examination of the property if found necessary.

Two copies of a relevant memorandum by R. D. Trace, Geological Survey, dated May 6, 1955, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (JHB)

Enclosure

APPROVED:

M. E. Volin For J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines (JHB)

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey (JHB)

TLChapman:foc
5-10-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
Charles Katlin, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

R.G.H.

DOCKET
SURNAME
400 Chapman
Martin
Kadin
Kilsgaard
Valin
Selfridge
F.E. Johnson

MAY 13 1955

Messrs. Harry L. Hiestick and
Howard Martin
411 Battu Street
Crescent City, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3795 - Chromium
Wonder Mine
Del Norte County, California

Gentlemen:

The above-docketed application for exploration assistance for chromium ores has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and referred to Mr. Spangler Hickey, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II, 1665 Reno Avenue, Reno, Nevada, for review and a possible field examination of the property.

Any assistance that you can give the members of the field team, if a field examination is found necessary, will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

TLChapman:fec
5-10-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
Charles Katlin, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

R.C.S.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Dwachel

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 6, 1955

Re: DMEA-3795
Bienick & Martin
Wonder Mine
Del Norte Co., Calif.
$5,000 - Chromium

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: R. D. Trace, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of application

The application does not give sufficient data to evaluate the Wonder mine. A Field Team report on the same area for nickel (DMEA-3016), however, states that "Several small lenses of chromite were seen in the peridotite, but these are much too small and widely spaced to be of economic value."

The applicant may have worked the property since the Field Team report. I'm not sure when some of the work described in this application was done.

Perhaps the application should be referred to the Field Team, for examination only if they deem it necessary.

R. D. Trace

R. D. Trace

Copy re[illegible]ned [illegible]

April 29, 1955
Subject: DMEA 3795
Re: Exploration Assistance
Wonder Mine No. 1

Messrs. Harry L. Bienick
and Howard Martin
411 Butte St.
Crescent City, California

Gentlemen:

The receipt of your application dated April 21, 1955 for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA 3795 and referred to the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division.

Kindly identify all future correspondence relating to your application by this docket number.

Sincerely yours,

Robert E. Adams, Chief
Operations Control and
Statistics Division

60932

April 29, 1955

Memorandum

To: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

From: Chief, Operation's Control and Statistics Division

Subject: Assignment of Docket Number

There is listed below the assigned docket number to an application recently received from Region II.

DMEA -3795 Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin

Robert E. Adams,
Chief, Operation's Control
and Statistics Division

DMEA

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

April 25, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Loan Application (Chromium)
Wonder Mine No. 1
Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin
411 Butte Street
Crescent City, California

Attached are three sets of MF-103, Application for Aid forms relative to above subject. The fourth set has been retained in our files.

S. Ricker

Attach.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

April 25, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D.C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Loan Application (Chromium)
Wonder Mine No. 1
Harry L. Bienick and Howard Martin
411 Butte Street
Crescent City, California

Attached are three sets of MF-103, Application for Aid forms relative to above subject. The fourth set has been retained in our files.

S. Ricker

Attach.
SRicker:gh
cc: H. C. Miller
R. M. Smith
File

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Form Approved.
Budget Bureau No. 42-R1035.2.

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT, PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER 1, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. 3795
Metal or Mineral Chromium
Date Received April 25, 1955 4-28-55
Estimated Cost $5,000
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address: Harry L. Bienick, Howard Martin, partners
411 Butte St., Crescent City, California

(*b*) If other than an individual, add to your name above whether a corporation, partnership, etc., and the name of the State in which incorporated or otherwise organized.

(*c*) If a corporation, add to above statement, titles, names and addresses of officers.

(*d*) If a partnership, add to the above statement the names and addresses of all partners.

2. *General.*—Read DMEA Order 1, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects," before completing this application. Submit this application and all accompanying papers in quadruplicate (four copies), with your name and address on each sheet of the application and on all accompanying papers. Where sufficient space is not provided on the form for all required information, state it on an accompanying paper, with a reference in each case to the instruction to which it refers by number. Comply with all applicable instructions; or, if not applicable, so state. File the application with Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest field executive officer thereof.

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract
Wonder Mine No. 1

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known.

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise
lessees

(*d*) If you are not the owner, submit with this application a copy of the lease, contract, or other document under which you control the property.

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

4. *Physical description.*—(*a*) Describe in detail any mining or exploration operations which have been or now are being conducted upon the land, including existing mine workings and production facilities. State your interest, if any, in such operations. Also describe accessibility of mine workings for examination purposes.

(*b*) State past and current production, and ore reserves, if any, giving quantities and grades.

(*c*) Describe the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.), and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Send with your application (but not necessarily as a part of it) any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.

5. *The exploration project.*—(*a*) State the mineral or minerals for which you wish to explore chrome

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc.

(*c*) The work will start within 1/Day days and be completed within ..... months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project:

(*a*) *Independent contracts.*—(Note.—If the applicant does not intend to let any of the work to contractors, write "none" after this item. To the extent that the work is to be contracted, do not repeat the cost of the contract-work in subsequent items.) State the cost of any proposed independent contracts for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in terms of units of work (such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, per cubic yard of material moved, etc.).

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel.

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be.

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project.

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project.

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes.

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above.

NOTE.—No items of general overhead, corporate management, interest, taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes), or any other indirect costs, or work performed or costs incurred before the date of the contract, should be included in the estimate of costs.

7. (*a*) Are you prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation (Sec. 7, DMEA No. 1)?

(*b*) How do you propose to furnish your share of the costs?

☐ Money ☒ Use of equipment owned by you ☐ Other labor

Explain in detail on acompanying paper.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Dated April 21, 1955

Harry L. Bienick
(Applicant)

By .....

Title 18, U. S. Code (Crimes), Section 1001, makes it a criminal offense to make a willfully false statement or representation to any department or agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—66551-1

Another party by the name of Bernard Dressler, has an interest in this mine and the lease reads the same as with Mr. Lawn with the exception of the percentage paid which reads the following with Mr. Dressler:

V. As for the rental or royalty for said premises, the Lessee agrees to pay the Lessor three and one-third percent of the gross receipts of all ores recovered and sold from the claim called "Wonder No. 1" and one and two thirds percent of all of the gross receipts from all ore mined and sold from the claims known as "Wonder No.'s 2 to 6" inclusive. Payments of said sums to be made when the Lessee receives etc.,

Before leasing this mine to me & my partner Art Lawn did $5000 worth of development work on same with his bulldozer, he uncovered and sold $1200 worth of high grade chrome which was in the one kidney, he looked for more but finally gave up the mine and leased it to us. My partner and I sunk a 55 foot shaft and took out $1500 worth of high grade ore as following 48% CrO, 10% Feo making it worth 119 (one hundred nineteen dollars per ton), we get a premium for its low iron content. To date we have 1280 man hours underground mining and developing, 640 open pit (mining & stripping), we have spent out $3500. developing and exploration of the property, $400 on new machinery and equipment and $1500 on used plant and used equipment acquired from others making a total of $5400.00 ($5400), also have a nice cabin built on property, and are ready to resume mining if we can get the necessary finances. We would like to sink another fifty feet, at least and feel sure with this depth will hit the body of chrome, in place of the usual stringer we have been following have three nice stringers showing up now, and we ~~believe with $5000.00 loan from the government can set up operations again~~ after our 3 months lay-off due to rains and winter weather, & lack of finances to continue.

There is a year around road to this mine and is close to the stock pile at Grants Pass, around 85 miles. We have plenty of water, mill site, power line goes right over us, but our lacking in money to recondition our equipment, and need materials such as piping for water in order to drill, the drill, pump, and mining car we are now using we borrowed from another miner and which he is now asking us $300.00, & they are well worth the price. With the present development could use another man to help us & the going wage for miners is $2.20 an hr.

I have been interested in mining for about 25years, but this is my first experience in chrome mining, but my partner Howard Martin has worked for a couple of years with one of the largest chrome mines in our state and is experienced in all phases of mining chrome, and before that worked in the gold mines to the south of us, so all he has done is mine and he is classed as a No. 1 miner.

Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible,

Sincerely,

Harry L. Bienick

P.S. This Property was examined before, for a nickel loan, but gov. thought it too low (.70 to 1% nickel assay) & not enough deposit of nickel, is expensive periodite formation, we feel confident if you examine this property you proceed give us the loan.

DMEA 3016

Mining Lease
(copy)

This agreement of lease made and entered into this 15th day of May, 1954, by and between Art Lawn, hereinafter referred to as Lessor, and Harry Bienick hereinafter referred to as Lessee,

Witnesseth

That for and in consideration of the monies hereinafter agreed to be paid and the mutual covenants and benefits from each to the other moving, the Lessor has leased and demised, and the Lessee has leased and taken from the Lessor, the following described mining claims situated in the County of Del Norte, State of California and more particularly described as:

Those certain mining claims situated in an unorganized mining district in the County of Del Norte, State of California in the vicinity of Patrick 's Creek and known as the "Wonder No.1"; "Wonder No.2"; "Wonder No. 3", "Wonder No. 4"; "Wonder No. 5"; and "Wonder No. 6."

For a period or term of five (5) years from and after the date hereof with an option of renewal as hereinafter setforth, for the purpose of removing and recovering therefrom, merchantable ores which may be on deposit therein. And upon the following terms and conditions, to wit:

1. Lessee agrees to enter in and upon the said claim and to operate the same in a good and minerlike manner, and according to the best uses of the industry in the vicinity, and he agrees to start mining operations within a reasonable time from the date of this agreement, and to prosecute said work without delay or interruption, acts of God, and things and matters beyond the control of Lessee accepted, It being understood and agreed that should the Lessee fail, refuse, or neglect to operate the same for any period of ninety (90) days continuously, then and in that event, this agreement shall terminate and said failure to operate for said period will be construed as an abandonment of this lease.

11. Lessee shall keep and observe all rules and regulations of any constituted authority and all the laws of the State of California and of the United States, in respect to mining and that he shall not suffer any wastes to be committed upon the said premises.

111. Lessee agrees to save harmless the Lessor from and liability of whatsoever kind and nature arising out of the use and occupancy of said mine and shall keep all employees insured for workman's compensation and other proper charges.

1111. All operations including labor, material, hauling, and other things and matters in connection with the extraction and delivery of ore shall be at the expense of Lessee.

V. As for rental or royalty for said premises, the Lessee agrees to pay to Lessor five percent (5) of the gross receipts from all ores recovered and sold from the claim called "Wonder No1; and one and 2/3 percent of all of the gross receipts from all ore mined and sold from the claims known as " Wonder No!s 2 to 6, inclusive. Payments of said sums to be made when the Lessee receives payment for ore delivered to stock pile. All ore shall be shipped or delivered to stock pile. All ore shall be shipped or delivered to stock pile at Grants Pass, Oregon, or to such other places as may be advantageous to the parties hereto and Lessee agrees to deliver to Lessor copies of invoices of all ore so delivered at the time of payment of royalties. (over)