OME - 6838

1. Financial Eligibility

a. OK.

b. individual

c. going to furnish labor & core drilling

2. Applicants' rights in land.
(entire section omitted)

a. Not answered

b. " "

c. " "

3. Physical description

a. What kind of mining or exploration are being or have been conducted on land.

b. owner

c. No production

d. No reserves

e. Vein ← this is the geology

f. 1 sample representing 3 "target" areas
1 Ng assay - no assays of Ni or Cr.

g. No geologic or engineering reports, assay maps, or tech. info!

4 Accessibility of Property.

Omitted entirely.

5 Exploration work

a. No description of exploration work proposed - merely states he wants to prepare target areas to core drill.

b. OK

c. OK

6. omitted entirely
does not state exp'd background

7. Estimate of work given
No estimate of work given

MME Form 9
Rev. Nov. 65

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Geological Survey

OFFICIAL DOCKET FILE

Contract No. _____ Docket No. 6838

Application
- [x] Denied
- [x] Withdrawn

Contract
- [ ] Terminated - Not Certified
- [ ] Terminated - Certified
- [ ] Cancelled
- [ ] Royalty Agreement

The records contained in this file are marked (x) and arranged in this order:

Folder No. 1:

Left Side

- [ ] Royalty Audits
- [ ] Certification of Discovery
- [ ] Closing Letter
- [ ] Cost Audits
- [ ] Termination Notice or Agreement
- [ ] Recision Notice
- [ ] Assignment of Contract
- [ ] Contract Amendments
- [ ] Contract with all exhibits and annexes
- [ ] Owner's Consent to Lien and Subordination Agreement
- [x] Application and Attachments

Right Side

- [ ] Project Summary (final)
- [ ] Work Completed Analysis (final)

All other material filed in chronological order including the following reports if checked:

- [ ] Field Team Semiannual Report for Certified Project
- [ ] Final Field Team Report (Tab)
- [ ] Operator's Final Report (Tab)
- [ ] Interim Field Team Reports
- [ ] Operator's monthly reports and all attachments
- [x] On-site Exam. Report (Tab) 4/21/71
- [ ] Settlement Sheets
- [ ] Drill Logs

Additional Folders:

Left Side

Folders No. _____: Reports

- [ ] Analysis of Semiannual Inspection Reports
- [ ] Project Summary (Interim) by MME Engineers

Right Side

- [ ] Field Team Semiannual Report for Certified Project
- [ ] Field Team Interim Reports
- [ ] Operator's Monthly Reports with Transmittal, Narrative and Maps

Folders No. _____: Maps (Use pocket folder or envelope)

Folders No. _____: Settlement Sheets

Folders No. _____: Drill Logs

Folders No. _____: Royalty Material

72195-65

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Office of Minerals Exploration
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, California 94025

January 28, 1971

Memorandum

To: Chief, Office of Minerals Exploration
Washington, D. C.

From: Field Officer
Region II

Subject: New Application (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

Enclosed is a copy of an application received in the Field Office on January 25, 1971. A duplicate copy is retained in our files.

The application was first received on December 31, 1970, but was so incomplete that it was returned for additional information. Although it is still incomplete, the Applicant evidently has done the best he can, and further requests for information appear to be inadvisable. If the application is referred to the Field Office for an examination, the necessary data can be obtained at that time.

The drilling bid is for rotary drilling yielding sludge, not core, as indicated under item 5(a).

The proposed work may be prospecting rather than exploration. A field examination to determine eligibility could be scheduled in conjunction with other work in southern California.

R. M. Smoltz
for H. K. Stager

Enclosures

MME Form 40
(Revised Nov. 68)

Budget Bureau No. 42-R1368
Approval expires Dec. 1971

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN MINERALS EXPLORATION

Pursuant to Public Law 85—701 (72 Stat. 700; 30 U.S.C. 641)

NAME OF APPLICANT *(Full legal name and mailing address as they should appear on contract if one is executed.)*

Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine ST
Paso Robles, Ca 93446

APPLICANT DO NOT USE THIS BLOCK

DOCKET NUMBER: 6838

DATE RECEIVED: 2/1/71

REGION: II

DIVISION CODE:

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION *(Check one)*

- INDIVIDUAL [✓]
- CORPORATION [ ]
- PARTNERSHIP [ ]
- OTHER *(Specify)* [ ]

LIST CORPORATE OFFICERS OR PARTNERS HERE, IF APPLICABLE

NAME	ADDRESS	TITLE

STATE IN WHICH FIRM IS ORGANIZED: California

MINERAL(S) FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO EXPLORE: Mercury - Nickel - Chromite.

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT: $15,828=

PROPERTY NAME	LOCATION COUNTY	STATE
	Santa Barbara	Ca

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Before filling out this application, please read the *OME Regulations for Obtaining Federal Assistance in Financing Explorations for Mineral Reserves* (30 CFR Chap. II). To assure prompt action, your application must provide all applicable material and information specified on the back of this application form. Avoid unnecessary correspondence and delays by submitting complete and accurate information. *Please submit two copies of this application and all accompanying papers* except as otherwise noted. Place your name and address on each sheet. Each item of information, maps, and reports required as a part of this application is described on the back of this form. Identify each attached statement by the item number to which it applies. If an item does not apply to your application, show the item number on your statement and after it write "not applicable." Maps or sketches should be used to supplement narrative descriptions of the property location and boundaries in item 2, existing mine workings and geology in item 3, and the proposed exploration work in item 5. When this information is not too complex, all of it may be shown on one map or sketch. All documents and other attachments submitted as a part of this application, except those in item 3(g) which you mark to be returned, become the property of the Government and will not be returned to the applicant. Send true copies, *not originals*, of leases, contracts, and other documents which are an essential part of your business records. *File this application with the Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Minerals Exploration, Washington, D. C., 20242, or with the nearest OME Field Office.*

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, and that he would not ordinarily undertake the proposed exploration under current conditions and circumstances at his sole expense.

Dec. 29, 1970
DATED

CLIFFORD L. SOBEY, JR.
NOTARY PUBLIC
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

Benjamin Mendoza
BY (Signature)

Owner, Individual
TITLE

A wilfully false statement or certification to any Department or Agency of the United States Government is a criminal offense. U. S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001.

My comm. expires Mar 23, 1973

INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH THIS APPLICATION

1. Financial Eligibility:

(a) Submit evidence of efforts made within 90 days preceding the filing of this application to obtain credit from your bank of account and at least one other banking institution or other private source of credit. Such evidence shall include (1) true copies of your letters to credit sources which show date of loan request, amount and terms requested, and proposed use of loan funds and (2) true copies of replies from credit sources. If the loan was offered under terms which you consider unreasonable, state why you consider them so.

(b) List names and addresses of affiliated, parent, or controlling companies or organizations and state extent and nature of their interest.

(c) State how you propose to furnish your share of the cost of the exploration work.

2. Applicant's Rights in Land:

(a) State your interest in the land and mineral rights, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or other. If you are not the owner, submit one true copy of the lease, contract, or other document (with address of owner) under which you control the property. Describe all liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances on the land and state book and page number and official place where recorded.

(b) State the legal description (section, township, and range; metes and bounds; patent number of claims) of the land upon which you wish to explore and all adjacent land which you own or control. Describe any part of the land or workings which should not be subject to Government royalty and liens. If the land consists of unpatented claims, state book and page number for each recorded location notice, including amended locations, and official place where recorded. State all the names by which you know the property.

(c) For all land or mineral rights encumbered or not owned, submit five copies of Lien and Subordination Agreements signed by owner on MME Form 52. If the agreements cannot be obtained, state reasons and whether you can furnish a performance bond.

3. Physical Description:

(a) Describe in detail and illustrate with maps or sketches all mining or exploration operations which you know have been or are being conducted upon the land. Include existing mine workings and all production facilities.

(b) State your interest, if any, in operations described in (a)

(c) State, if you know, the past and current production, supporting your statement with copies of settlement sheets, mine records, or published data if available.

(d) Describe known ore reserves, giving quantities and grades.

(e) Describe by narrative and maps or sketches the geologic features of the property, including ore minerals, geologic formations if known, and type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.).

(f) If you have sampled the area you propose to explore, show where the samples were taken, describe sampling methods used, and provide copies of assay certificates. State your reasons for expecting to find ore.

(g) Send with your application at least *two* copies of all geologic or engineering reports, assay maps, or technologic information which you have, indicating whether you require their return.

4. Accessibility of Property:

(a) To aid the OME representative who may examine the property state name, address, and telephone number of person who will meet him; give directions for reaching the property; and describe accessibility of property and of any mine workings.

(b) Name the shipping and supply points and state the distances to the property.

5. Exploration Work:

(a) Describe fully the proposed exploration work giving individual footages and sizes of openings *for each item of work.* Use narrative, maps, plans, and sections as necessary. Show location of the proposed work as related to geologic features such as veins, ore-bearing beds, contacts of rock formations, etc. Show also the relation of the proposed work to any existing mine workings and to *land boundaries* or to the closest identifiable corner.

(b) If an access road must be built, show the proposed location on the property map and state the length, type and construction methods proposed.

(c) If an OME contract is executed, state how soon thereafter work would be started and finished. State your anticipated average daily or monthly rate of progress for each type of work.

6. Experience:

State your operating experience and background to conduct this exploration work and also that of the person who will supervise the work.

7. Estimate of Costs:

Furnish detailed estimates of the necessary costs for time and materials *for each item of the work proposed in 5(a)* under the headings listed below with a total for each heading and the estimated total cost of the work. Costs for any work to be performed by an independent contractor should be listed separately under category (a) below. Costs for any work that is not to be performed by an independent contractor should be listed under categories (b) through (g).

(a) Independent contracts. State the total cost of any proposed independent contract for all or any part of the work, and the number of units and the unit cost for each type of work, such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, or per cubic yard of material moved. Cost estimates should be supported by bids from three contractors if possible. (*Note*—If none of the work is to be contracted, write "none" after this item.)

(b) Personal services. The cost of supervision, engineering and geological services, outside consultants, and labor should be itemized by numbers and classes of employees; rates of wages, salaries or fees; and periods of employment. State whether these services are available.

(c) Operating materials and supplies. List items of material and supplies giving quantity and price of each. Include under this heading power, water, and fuel, and units of equipment and tools costing less than $50 each.

(d) Operating equipment. List items of equipment and tools costing $50 or more per unit. Give specifications and indicate how each item is to be acquired—i. e., rented, purchased or provided by the applicant. If rented or purchased, state the estimated rental or purchase price. If furnished by the applicant, state condition and present fair market value.

(e) Initial rehabilitation and repairs. Describe the type and the cost of *initial* rehabilitation or repair of existing buildings, fixtures, installations (exclusive of mine workings), and movable operating equipment now owned by the applicant which will be used in the exploration work.

(f) New buildings, fixtures, installations. Describe each building, fixed improvement, and installation to be purchased, constructed, or installed for the exploration work, stating specifications and cost including labor, materials, and supervision.

(g) Miscellaneous. Describe the type and estimate the cost of repairs and maintenance of the operating equipment listed in 7(d). Do not repeat initial repairs listed in 7(e). Show also the costs of analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employees' liability insurance, payroll taxes, and other required costs that do not fall within the previous categories. [*Note*—The Government will not contribute to costs incurred before the date of the contract, or to costs of or incident to: (1) acquiring, using, or possessing land and any existing improvements, facilities, buildings, installations, and appurtenances, or the depreciation and depletion thereof; (2) general overhead, corporate management, interest and taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes); (3) insurance (other than employees' liability insurance); and (4) damages to persons or property (other than authorized repair to or replacement of equipment or other property used in the work).]

10-27-70

Mr Ralph Gardner
Mgr. Security Pacific National Bank
Paso Robles, Ca.

Dear Sir:

This is to apply for a loan of ($16,000=) Sixteen Thousand Dollars for the purpose of exploring my property in Santa Barbara County for the minerals, mercury, chromite, nickel as per our previous verbal conversations on this matter.

Thank You,

Benjamin Mendlogl

State of California
County of San Luis Obispo

I, Myrna M. Roberson, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, do certify that on this 26th day of October, 1970, I carefully compared the annexed copy of a letter, with the original thereof, now in the possession of Lee Walling of Paso Robles, State of California, and that the same is a complete, full, true and exact copy of said letter. Witness my hand and official seal the day and year first above written.

OFFICIAL SEAL
Myrna M. Roberson
NOTARY PUBLIC - CALIFORNIA
PRINCIPAL OFFICE IN
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
My Commission Expires June 18, 1974

Myrna M. Roberson
Myrna M. Roberson
Notary Public in and for said County and State

SECURITY PACIFIC NATIONAL BANK

PASO ROBLES BRANCH, 1314 SPRING STREET, PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA • (805) 238-5050

MAILING ADDRESS: POST OFFICE BOX 66, PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA 93446

November 4, 1970

Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine Street
Paso Robles, Calif. 93446

Dear Mr. Mendoza:

This letter is to inform you that because of the speculative nature of your exploritory drilling, we are unable to grant you the loan for $16,000.00.

We appreciate your consideration and hope to be of further assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph W. Gardner

Ralph W. Gardner
Manager

RWG/dd

12-7-70

Mr. Bolinbeck-Manager.
Crocker Citizens Bank.
Paso Robles, Cal.

Dear Sir

Would you please consider this letter as my application for the $16,000 loan for the purpose of exploring on my property for the minerals Mercury, Chromite & Nickel of which I've discussed earlier

Thank you
Sincerely
Benjamin Mendoza

CROCKER-CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK
CHARTERED 1870
PASO ROBLES OFFICE
604 TWELFTH STREET • PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

December 15, 1970

MR. BENJAMIN MENDOZA
1806 Pine Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Dear Mr. Mendoza:

Your letter of December 7, 1970 to Mr. Harland requesting a loan in the amount of $16,000.00 for the purpose of exploring for minerals on your property has been referred to me.

It would appear that unless this loan were fully secured by marketable securities, savings account, or cash surrender value of life insurance, that it would not be possible for us to grant your request.

If you have any questions in this regard, please feel free to call me.

Very truly yours,

R. J. Rosenthal
Assistant Manager

RJR:fm

MR. Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine STREET
Paso Robles, CAL. 93446

1. FINANCIAL Eligibility:
C. I will FURNISH much of The LABOR by doing WHAT I CAN myself.

I will Provide A CORE driller

3. Physical Description:
a. Maps AND SKETCHES ARE ENCLOSED.

b. OWNER

c. NEVER been WORKED before.

d. ASSAY REPORTS ARE enclosed

e. VEIN

f. DUG DOWN by hand approximatly TEN FEET

Where sample # 1 WAS TAKEN - AT TARGET AREA 1.

Sample # 2 FROM TARGET AREA # 2, I TOOK FROM FOUR FEET DEEP, I ONLY ASKED FOR A MERURY ASSAY ON THE ORE.

TARGET AREA # 3 The ORE is ABOUT The SAME AS TARGET AREA # 1.

IN TARGET AREA # 1, I dug approximatly FIFTEEN FEET AND THERE WAS A LARGE VEIN I could see. BUT BEFORE I could get A SAMPLE The hole CAVED IN.

g. I do NOT REQUIRE ANY PAPERS RETURNED.

5. Exploration Work:

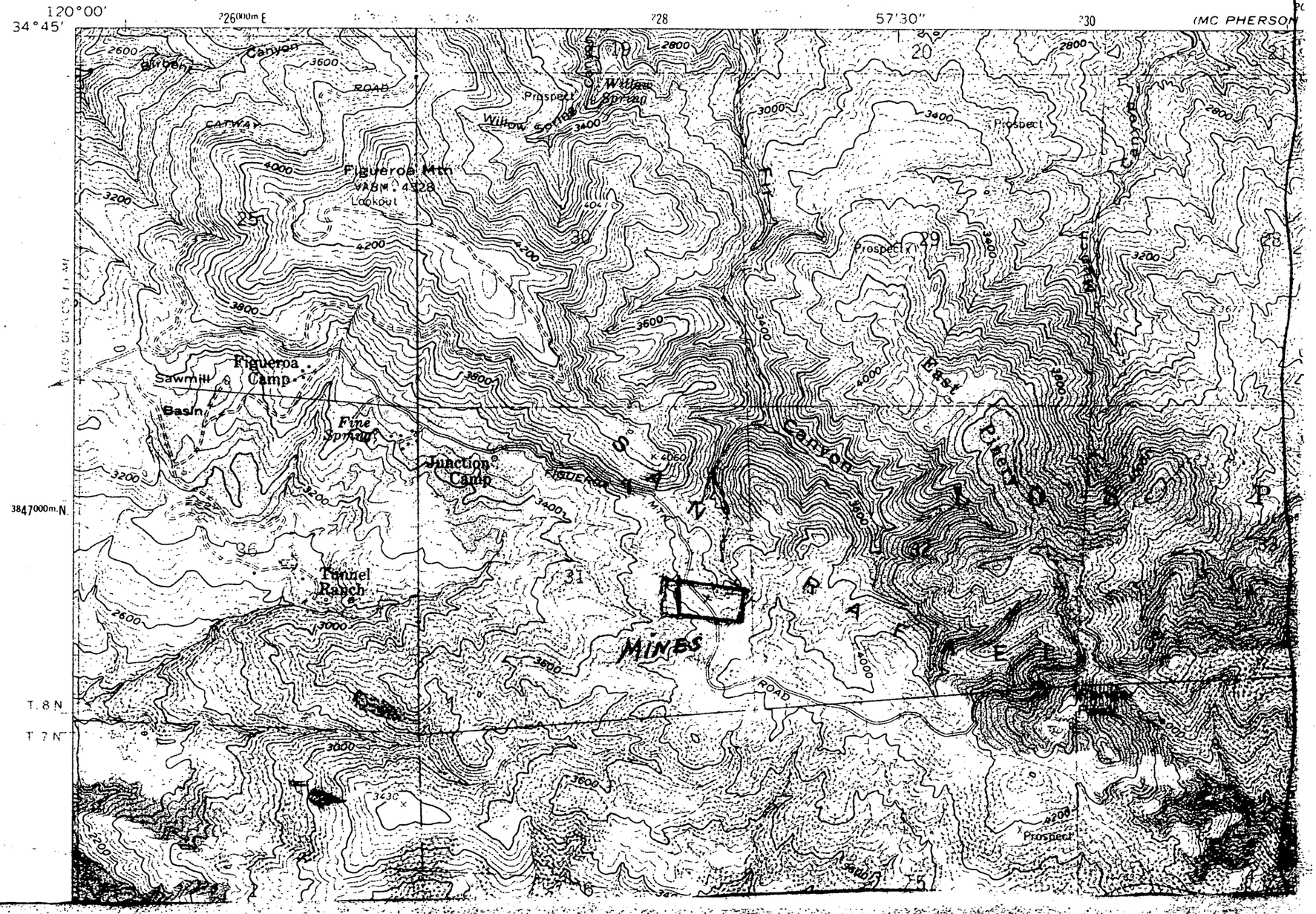
a. I want to prepare target areas to core drill.
I want to drill 7 cores in each target area. 4 3/4" by 200' deep, each core.

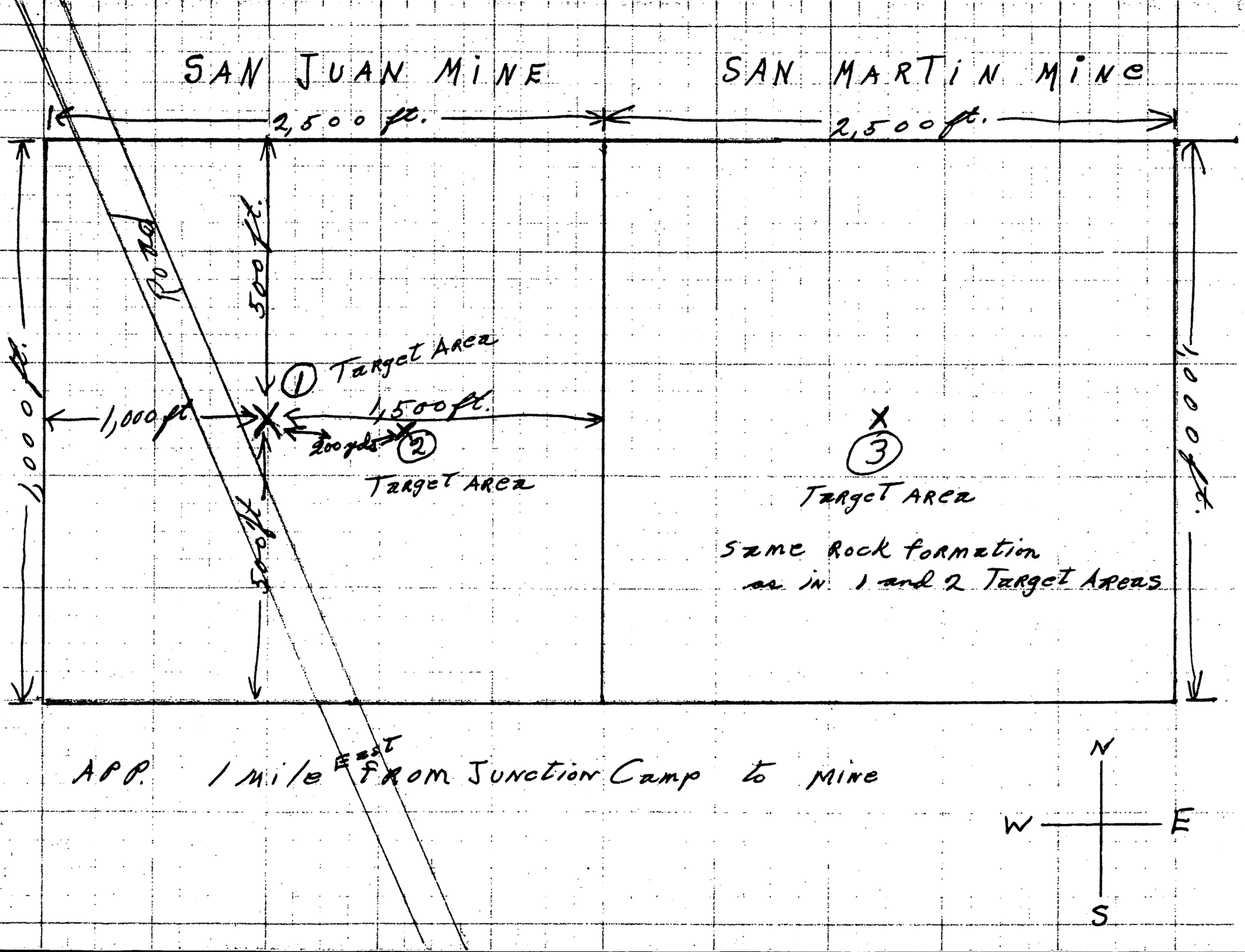
b. Road allready there.

c. Would start work immediatly.
I would have the target area ready in a week.
I don't know what my progress will be.

(TEPUSQUET PEAK)
1953
1:62 500

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY




SAN JUAN MINE
SAN MARTIN MINE
2,500 ft.
2,500 ft.
500 ft.
1,000 ft.
1,000 ft.
1,000 ft.
1,500 ft.
200 yds
500 ft.
Road
1 Target Area
2 Target Area
3 Target Area
Same Rock formation as in 1 and 2 Target Areas
APP. 1 mile East from Junction Camp to Mine
N
W
E
S

Target Area # 1

TEL. 327-8567

P.O. BOX 867

HORNKOHL LABORATORIES, Inc.
CHEMICAL AND TESTING ENGINEERS
714 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

(1)

September 11, 1967

Laboratory No. 186927 *Marked* Sample #2

Sample Ore

Received September 8, 1967

Submitted by Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine Street
Paso Robles, California

* * * * * *

SEMI-QUANTITATIVE SPECTROGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Major Constituents:		Amount in Per Cent
Silicon, Si	---	Over 10
Magnesium, Mg	---	Over 10
Iron, Fe	---	Over 10
Intermediate Constituents:		
Nickel, Ni	---	1 - 5
Chromium, Cr	---	1 - 5
Potassium, K	---	1 - 5
Minor Constituents:		
Phosphorus, P	---	0.5 - 1.0
Calcium, Ca	---	0.1 - 0.5
Manganese, Mn	---	0.1 - 0.5
Copper, Cu	---	0.1 - 0.5
Cobalt, Co	---	0.1 - 0.5
Sodium, Na	---	0.05 - 0.1
Boron, B	---	0.01 - 0.05
Aluminum, Al	---	0.005 - 0.01
Others	---	Trace/Nil

Remarks: Based on the Spectrographic Analysis the submitted sample may produce commercial quantities of Nickel and Chromium. We would advise to run assays by wet chemical analysis for Nickel and Chromium to determine the exact values of these metals.

Approved by,
Frank Hornkohl, Technical Director

Respectfully submitted,
HORNKOHL LABORATORIES, INC.
Heinz D. Pickel, Chief Chemist

ALL REPORTS ARE SUBMITTED AS THE CONFIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF CLIENTS. AUTHORIZATION FOR PUBLICATION OF OUR REPORTS, CONCLUSIONS OR EXTRACTS FROM OR REGARDING THEM IS RESERVED PENDING OUR WRITTEN APPPROVAL AS A MUTUAL PROTECTION TO CLIENTS, THE PUBLIC AND OURSELVES.

HDP:ap

Target Area # 2

TEL. 327-8567

P.O. BOX 867

HORNKOHL LABORATORIES, Inc.
CHEMICAL AND TESTING ENGINEERS
714 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

(2)

Laboratory No. 187185 September 25, 1967 *Marked* Sample of 9/20/67

Sample Ore

Received September 21, 1967

Submitted by Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Rine Street
Paso Robles, California 93446

* * * * * *

MERCURY ASSAY

Mercury, Hg:

Per Cent by Weight	---	0.025
Pounds per Ton	---	0.50
Value per Ton	---	$5.00

Current Mercury Price:

$10.00 per pound

Approved by,

Frank Hornkohl

Frank Hornkohl, Technical Director

Respectfully submitted,
HORNKOHL LABORATORIES, INC.

Heinz D. Pickel

Heinz D. Pickel, Chief Chemist

HDP:ap

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MAC'S EXCAVATING SERVICE
RT. #1 BOX 168-A
PASO ROBLES, CALIF. 93446

OUR NUMBER
1612

DATE
7-30-70

CUSTOMER'S ORDER

SALESMAN

TERMS

F. O. B.

INVOICE

Sold To Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine St
Paso Robles Calif
238-2239

Shipped To

Address Estimate

	travel time		132	00	
	tractor work		496	00	

Rodiform
7H 722

RAUCH DRILLING

VERN RAUCH

PHONE AFTER 6:00 P.M. - 434-1324
TEMPLETON, CALIFORNIA 93465

No. 5829 Dept. Estimate Date July 28 1970

Name Benjamin Mendoza

Address 1806 Pine St. Paso Robles

SOLD BY	CASH	C. O. D.	CHARGE	ON ACCT.	MDSE. RETD.	PAID OUT	

QUAN.		DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT	
4200'	1	4 3/4" Test holes per foot	$3.50		
	2				
	3	Mobilization & Demobilization		500	00
	4				
	5				
	6				
	7				
	8				
	9				
	10				
	11				
	12				
	13				
	14				
	15				
	16				
	17				
	18				

Vern Rauch

Customer's Order No.

Rec'd By

KEEP THIS SLIP FOR REFERENCE

Rediform 5H 32

S Form 7
/63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
4/26/71	(on leave)	120
	Emerick	120
4/26	Kielgaard	
		220

APR 27 1971

AIRMAIL

Mr. Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine Street
Paso Robles, California 93446

Re: OME-6838 (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

Dear Mr. Mendoza:

A careful review of your application for financial assistance to explore the subject property and other information available to us indicates that the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mercury, nickel, and chromite on your property is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation in the proposed exploration. Accordingly, we regret to inform you that your application for assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the minerals exploration program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

William L. Emerick
for

William L. Emerick
Assistant Chief
Office of Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Mineral Resources File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
OME Region II
Mr. Emerick
130

WLEmerick/bsl 4/26/71

MME Form 7
(2/63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
4/26/71	(on leave)	120
	Emerick	120
		220

April 26, 1971

Memorandum

To: The File

From: William L. Emerick
Office of Minerals Exploration

Subject: OME-6838 (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

Justification for Denial of Application

The Applicant proposed to explore for mercury-, nickel-, and chromite-bearing ore bodies along a shear zone in ultramafic rocks by rotary drilling from surface sites at a total estimated cost of $15,828.

The Applicant's two claims cover an area of ultramafic rocks, with some sandstone and chert, cut by a shear zone in which traces of mercury occur. A spectrographic analyses indicates small amounts of nickel and chromite. Surface workings - an old prospect pit and bulldozer trench - were caved, filled with debris, and inaccessible and except for a few thin quartz veinlets and small masses of silicate-carbonate rock, the Field Officer found no mineralized material exposed on the property to sample. There are no reserves of mercury-, nickel-, or chromite-bearing material on the property and no specific targets toward which the proposed drilling could be directed. The Field Officer concluded as a result of his field examination that the geologic probability of discovering significant reserves of ore was unfavorable. He recommended denial of the application. I concur with his recommendation.

William L. Emerick
William L. Emerick

cc: Director's Reading File
Mineral Resources File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
Mr. Emerick

WLEmerick/bsl 4/26/71

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Office of Minerals Exploration
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, California 94025

April 21, 1971

COPY	
O. M. E.	
RECEIVED	
APR 23 1971	
INITIALS	CODE
gla	130
lcp	120
~~WE~~	~~1202~~

Memorandum

To: Chief, Office of Minerals Exploration
Washington, D. C.

From: Field Officer
Region II

Subject: OME-6838 (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

Enclosed is an Application Report on the subject property recommending that the application be denied on the basis that the proposal is essentially prospecting in nature and the geologic probability of making a significant discovery as a result of any type of exploratory work is too small to justify Government participation.

H. K. Stager

Enclosure

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ROGERS C.B. MORTON, SECRETARY

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

REGION II

Report of Exam

APPLICATION REPORT

OME-6838 (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

By

H. K. Stager
Field Officer
OME, Region II

April 21, 1971

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EXPLORATION	5
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ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1. Index map of Santa Barbara County, California.

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Benjamin Mendoza of 1806 Pine Street, Paso Robles, California 93446, applied to the Office of Minerals Exploration for Government assistance in an exploration project, Docket OME-6838, to explore for mercury, nickel, and chromite on the San Juan and San Martin claims, Santa Barbara County, California. The Applicant infers the presence of mercury ore bodies, and possibly chromite and nickel, along a shear zone in serpentinized peridotite on the claims and wishes to explore for these ore bodies by rotary drilling from surface sites.

A review and field examination were requested by the Office of Minerals Exploration and were made by H. K. Stager, Field Officer, on April 16, 1971, accompanied by Mr. Benjamin Mendoza, the Applicant, and his son. The surface exposures on the claims were examined and the Applicant's proposed exploration was discussed.

SUMMARY

The San Juan and San Martin claims cover an area of serpentinized peridotite with some sandstones and cherts. Traces of mercury occur along a steeply dipping shear zone, and spectrographic analyses indicate small amounts of chromite and nickel. The results of the examination indicate that the deposit is too small to justify the cost of the Applicant's proposed exploration; that the proposed drilling is essentially prospecting in nature; and that there is no geologic evidence to indicate larger or higher grade ore bodies below the surface exposures or elsewhere on the claims.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the application be denied on the basis that the proposal is essentially prospecting in nature and the geologic probability of making a significant discovery as a result of any type of exploratory work on the property is too small to justify Government participation.

LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY, AND LOCAL FACILITIES

The San Juan and San Martin claims are in secs. 31 and 32, T. 8 N., R. 29 W., SBM, Cachuma mining district, Santa Barbara County, California (Fig. 1), on Figueroa Mountain, Los Padres National Forest, at an altitude of about 4,000 feet.

To reach the property, that is about 30 miles southeast of Santa Maria (the closest major town), drive south on U.S. Highway 101 about 25 miles, turn left (east) on State Highway 154 and drive 2 miles to Los Olivos, then turn north on the Figueroa Mountain road and drive 15 miles to the property. The road is passable to ordinary passenger cars and the drive from Santa Maria requires about one hour.

All necessary services, supplies, equipment, and labor are available in Santa Maria or Santa Barbara (50 miles). Water is available from springs on the property or nearby. Assay service is available in Bakersfield (190 miles) or Los Angeles (150 miles).

PROPERTY

History and Production

The Cachuma mining district was discovered about 1867 and intermittent mining operations from 1867 to 1946 yielded about 3,500 flasks of mercury with the principal production coming from the Red Rock Mine and a small amount

from the adjoining Lion Den Mine. The San Juan and San Martin claims are about 3 miles west of the Red Rock Mine. The Applicant located the claims in March 1967 but, except for two shallow prospect pits, has done no work on the property. There has been no production from the property.

Ownership

The property consists of two unpatented lode mining claims. The San Juan claim was recorded by the Applicant at Santa Barbara, California, on March 20, 1967, in Book 2184, page 1087, and the San Martin claim was recorded on March 31, 1967, in Book 2192, page 78. The claims trend east-west along the ridge top. The San Martin claim adjoins the east end of the San Juan claim.

Financial Eligibility

The Applicant furnished copies of letters to two banks in Paso Robles, California, requesting loans for the proposed work and also copies of letters from the banks denying the loans. The Applicant proposed to furnish his share of the exploration costs by his labor and the use of a rotary drill, that belongs to a friend and is presently stored at the Applicant's home in Paso Robles.

Development

A shallow prospect pit and bulldozer trench, on the San Juan claim, were excavated by the Applicant several years ago but these are now caved and filled with surface debris and slope wash. There is an old, single-room, cabin on the property but it is in poor condition and needs extensive repairs. There is no equipment, or other facilities, on the claims.

GEOLOGY

Geologic Setting

The claims are in an area of moderate to steep relief along the top of a ridge southeast of Figueroa Mountain and exposures are poor. The principal rocks exposed in the claim area are serpentinized ultramafic rocks of probable Mesozoic age. These rocks appear to be intrusive into sedimentary rocks, chiefly sandstone and chert, of probable Lower Cretaceous age. A shear zone, that strikes about N. 55° W. and is vertical or dips steeply northeast, cuts the ultramafic rocks along the center line of the claims. Locally the sheared and serpentinized rocks are slightly altered and contain thin quartz veinlets and small masses of silica-carbonate rock. It is within these altered zones that the traces of cinnabar have been found by the Applicant.

Ore Deposits

Except for a few thin quartz veinlets and small masses of silicate-carbonate rock, there was no mineralized material exposed on the property. The Applicant reported the presence of specks and thin films of cinnabar with some pyrite in the rocks he had previously exposed in the bottom of a prospect pit at a depth of about 15 feet. The pit is now caved and inaccessible, and no cinnabar-bearing material could be found in the vicinity. No chromite or nickel minerals were found.

Sampling

There were no exposures of mineralized material accessible for sampling at the time of the examination. A semi-quantitative spectrographic analysis of a sample, taken on the San Juan claim by the Applicant, indicated 1 to 5

percent nickel and chromium but no minerals of these metals were seen in the rocks exposed on the claims. A mercury assay for a sample submitted by the Applicant indicated 0.025 percent mercury (0.5 pound per ton), but no cinnabar-bearing material was seen.

Ore Reserves

There are no reserves of mercury-, chromite-, or nickel-bearing material on the property.

EXPLORATION

Applicant's Proposal

The Applicant proposed to explore the claim area by drilling 21 rotary-drill holes from surface sites, for a total of about 4,200 feet, at an estimated total cost of about $15,828.

The drilling of vertical rotary-drill holes, to depths of about 200 feet, on the San Juan and San Martin claims, without specific targets, would be prospecting rather than exploration. This was explained to the Applicant and he was advised to first prospect the claim area by panning, followed by trenching in any areas containing visible cinnabar in the pan concentrates. If trenching and prospect pits in areas containing significant cinnabar mineralization indicate possible ore-bearing structures, a program of inclined drill holes to test these specific targets might justify Government exploration assistance in a revised application at some future date.

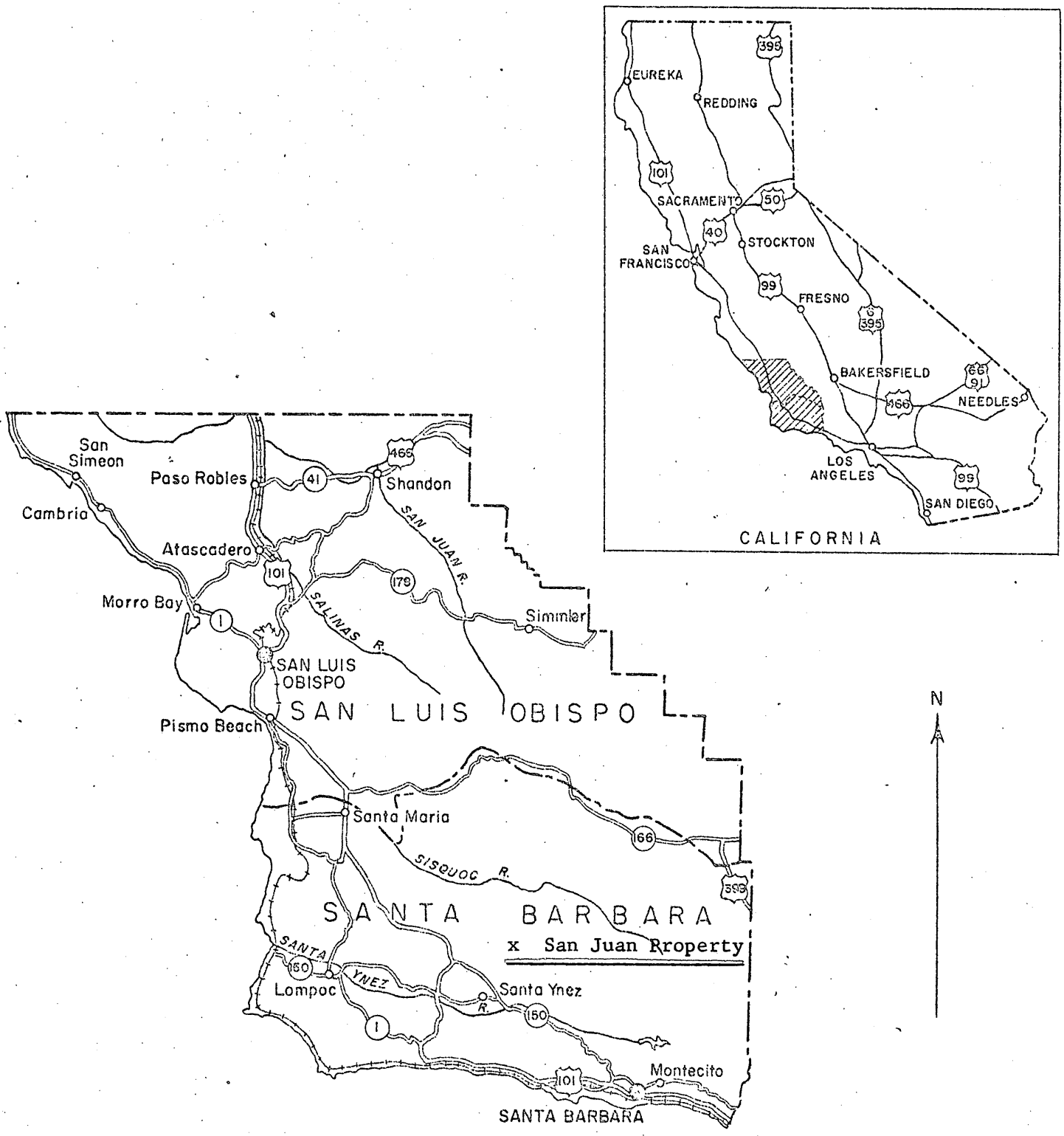

Figure. 1. INDEX MAP OF SAN LUIS OBISPO AND SANTA BARBARA COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA

0 20 40 60 Miles

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AIRMAIL

Memorandum

To: Field Officer, Region II

From: Chief, Office of Minerals Exploration

Subject: OME-6838 (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

The subject application is referred to you for further study, a field examination if warranted, and recommendations.

This one needs plenty of additional information, which you have probably tried to obtain so we won't repeat it. We are heeding the advice in your covering letter of January 28, 1971 and referring the application to the field, where hopefully the additional information can be obtained from a field examination.

Harold Kirkemo

Harold Kirkemo

cc: Director's Reading File
Mineral Resources File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
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Mr. Emerick

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Mr. Benjamin Mendoza 220
1806 Pine Street
Paso Robles, California 93446 120M

Re: OME-6838 (Mercury-Nickel-Chromite)
Benjamin Mendoza
San Juan Property
Santa Barbara County, California

Dear Mr. Mendoza:

The application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Washington office and referred to Mr. H. K. Stager, Field Officer, Region II, Office of Minerals Exploration, U. S. Geological Survey, Building 2, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, California 94025.

Mr. Stager will notify you if he requires additional information concerning the application and possibly to make arrangements for an on-site examination of the property.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Kirkemo

Harold Kirkemo
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Mineral Resources File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
OME Region II
Mr. Emerick

WLEmerick/bsl 2/2/71

February 1, 1971

Mr. Benjamin Mendoza
1806 Pine Street
Pasa Robles, California 93446

Subject: OME - 6838

Dear Mr. Mendoza:

Your application for exploration assistance, dated December 29, 1970, submitted to our office at Menlo Park, California, has been assigned Docket No. OME-6838.

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

Sincerely yours,

Harold Kirkemo
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

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