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

September 30, 1955

224 New Customhouse
Denver 2, Colorado

RECEIVED
OCT 6 - 1955

Memorandum

To: Secretary to the Operating Committee, DMEA

From: Field Team, Region III

Subject: Joint Report of Examination, DMEA Docket 3925, (Uranium), Navajo and Big Mama claims, Jeff S. Briggs, et al., Fremont County, Colorado

Enclosed are the original and three copies of the report pertaining to the above application.

The examiners conclude that a significant discovery would not result from an exploration project.

They recommend that the application be denied, and we concur in this recommendation.

W. M. Frazer
W. M. Frazer

E. N. Hershman
E. N. Hershman

Enclosures

Reviewed by Operating Committee
10-10-55

RECEIVED OCT 6 - 1955

IN REPLY REFER TO:

DMEA
Date Rec'd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Denver Federal Center
Denver, Colorado

SEP 29 1955

BUREAU OF MINES
Denver, Colorado

September 27, 1955

TRANSMITTED

SEP 30 1955

Memorandum

To: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

From: E. N. Harshman
John F. Shaw

Subject: DMEA Docket 3925 (Uranium), Navajo and Big Emma claims, Jeff S. Briggs, et al., Fremont County, Colorado

Enclosed are the original and nine copies of a joint engineering and geologic report of examination of the subject property by J. E. O'Rourke of the Geological Survey and Carl Belser of the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

O'Rourke and Belser conclude that the deposits are insignificant and that there is no known reason to assume that exploration will lead to a significant discovery. They recommend that the application be denied.

We concur with their conclusions and recommendation.

DRMacLaren
for E. N. Harshman
Member, Field Team

John F. Shaw
John F. Shaw
Supervising Mining Engineer

Enclosures (10)

DRMacLaren:arh

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

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JOINT REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY EXAMINING TEAM
REGION III

DMEA 3925

Navajo and Big Fuma Claims

Jeff S. Briggs, et al.

Fremont County, Colorado

Uranium

Joint Engineering and Geologic Report

by

J. E. O'Rourke
U. S. Geological Survey

Carl Deiser
U. S. Bureau of Mines

September 20, 1955

DMEA Docket 3925
NAVAJO AND BIG EMMA CLAIMS
JEFF S. BRIGGS, ET AL
FREMONT COUNTY, COLORADO

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On July 24, 1955, Jeff S. Briggs, 711 South Navajo Street, Denver 19, Colorado, applied for aid in an exploration project on the Navajo and Big Emma claims. The applicant proposed to explore a pegmatite dike for uranium mineralization by 12 core drill holes at a total estimated cost of $5,050.60.

The property was visited by an examining team on September 1, 1955. The prospect consisted of several pegmatite masses containing small concentrations of radioactive magnetite. No uranium minerals were observed and there was no reason to assume that exploration would discover larger pegmatite bodies or higher grade material. The application was recommended for denial.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The examining team was accompanied by Jeff S. Briggs, representing the applicant, J. W. Adams of the U. S. Geological Survey, and John F. Able of the Bureau of Mines.

The Atomic Energy Commission was consulted before the examination was made.

LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY, AND CLIMATE

The property, consisting of 13 unpatented claims in a solid block, lies in an unnamed hanging valley to the south of Texas Creek, section 17, T. 19 S., R. 73 W., of the 6th Principal Meridian, Fremont County, Colorado, at an approximate altitude of 7,500 feet (fig. 1).

Annual rainfall amounts to about 18 inches, and pine and fir timber, suitable for most mine use, grows on the upper slopes of the hanging valley. Enough water flows down the bottom of the valley for drilling purposes. Winters are not too severe to prohibit year around operation.

The canyon leading from the hanging valley to Texas Creek is narrow and contains cliffs.

About three-fourths mile from Texas Creek on State Highway 69 an old road leads up a draw to the east. The road needs improving and ends abruptly on a steep hill side. From the end of the road it would require approximately one mile of road work up over a ridge and down the other side to reach the bottom of the hanging valley. This road work would be expensive, even for a light truck road. The road from the property to Texas Creek, on the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, would be approximately 3 miles long, from whence Canon City is 26 miles to the east on U. S. Highway 50.

Labor and supplies can be obtained in Canon City. The nearest ore depot is at Rifle, Colorado.

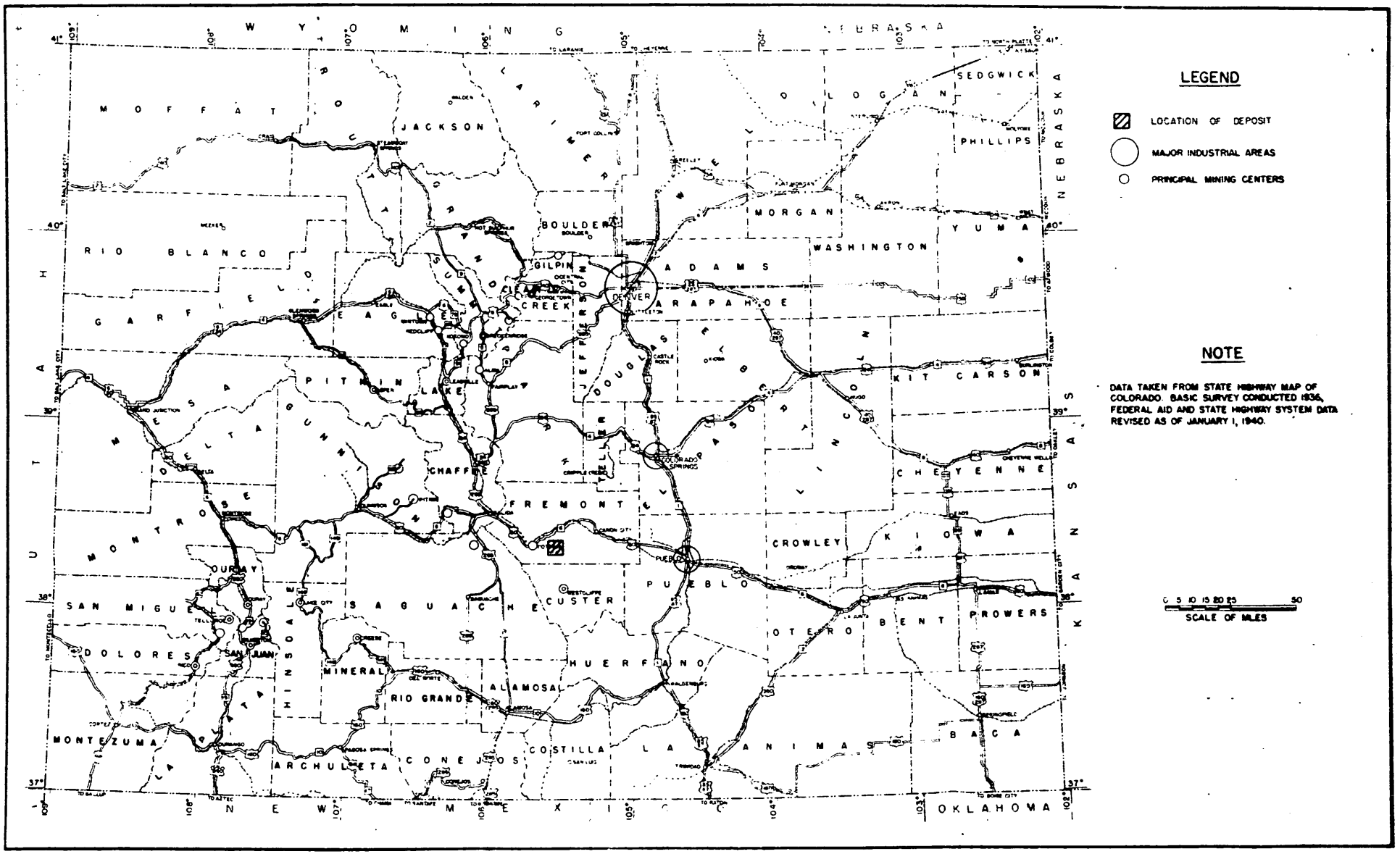

FIGURE 1 - LOCATION MAP, NAVAJO AND BIG EMMA CLAIMS, JEFF S. BRIGGS, ET AL, FREMONT COUNTY, COLO. DMEA 3925

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HISTORY AND PRODUCTION

There are no known old mines or prospects in the hanging valley containing the pegmatites. The claims were located in April 1955. No work has been done on the claims and no production has been made.

OWNERSHIP AND EXTENT

The claims are recorded in the records of the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Fremont County as follows:

Claim	Book	Page	Discovered	
Navajo No. 1	345	75	April 8, 1955	All claims located by from one to six of the partnership, Jeff S. Briggs, et al.
Big Emma No. 1	345	77	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 2	345	78	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 3	345	79	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 4	345	80	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 5	345	225	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 7	345	225	April 13, 1955	
Big Emma No. 8	345	226	April 13, 1955	
Big Emma No. 9	345	227	April 15, 1955	
Big Emma No. 10	345	228	April 15, 1955	
Big Emma No. 13	346	449	April 20, 1955	
Big Emma No. 15	349	307	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 16	349	308	April 8, 1955	
Big Emma No. 12	346	448	April 20, 1955	

The claims were amended on June 3, 1955 (Book 349, page 306) "because of the Schoen-Porter claims on the north and northeast."

PRESENT STATUS

Exploration and Development

None.

Mining and Milling Equipment and other Facilities

None.

GEOLOGY AND MINERAL DEPOSITS

The prospect consists of several pegmatites containing small concentrations of radioactive magnetite. Some of the pegmatites are lenticular sills in biotite schist, others are irregular, poorly defined bodies in granitic gneiss.

The largest of those in the schist is up to 5 feet thick and is exposed for 15 feet along its strike. It is composed of medium-grained perthite, quartz, and accessory magnetite. It is concordant with the foliation of the country rock, striking N. 45° E. and dipping 75° SE. Several other pegmatites of similar lithology, dip, and strike were seen. None of the exposures is more than a few feet long, and the maximum radioactivity observed in any of them was 0.2 MR/hr (background 0.05 MR/hr).

The pegmatites in the granitic gneiss are larger than those in the schist, but they have indefinite borders and are difficult to delineate.

Radioactivity in the pegmatite appears to be localized in segregations of coarse euhedral magnetite that may be several feet in extent. No uranium minerals were observed, but it is probable that the radioactivity is due to uraninite or its alteration products finely dispersed in magnetite. The maximum radioactivity noted (1.2 MR/hr) would indicate an equivalent uranium content of about 0.1 percent; normally the radioactivity of the magnetite segregations is considerably lower. It appears that the assays submitted by the applicant are not representative of the average grade of the material.

ORE RESERVES

None.

PROPOSED EXPLORATION AND COSTS

The applicant proposed a drilling program as follows:

Independent contracts

None.

Labor and supervision

2 men, 30 days at $25/day	$1,500.00	
Total labor and supervision.		$ 1,500.00

Operating materials and supplies

Gasoline and oil.	100.00	
Transportation by horse (gas, oil & water)	50.00	
Total operating materials and supplies		150.00

Operating equipment

Drill and pump.	735.00	
Freight charges on same	12.00	
100' pipe (various lengths)	126.55	
Fishing tool.	16.55	
Reamer.	36.00	
Core barrel	42.50	
4 drill bits at $44 each.	176.00	
Shell	36.00	
Total operating equipment.		1,180.60

Rehabilitation and repairs

None.

New buildings, improvements, etc.

None.

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous	200.00
Total cost for 1,200 feet of core drilling	$3,030.60
Cost per foot	2.53

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the opinion of the examining team that there is no known reason to assume that exploration will lead to the discovery of larger pegmatite bodies or higher grade materials. The deposits are insignificant and do not warrant exploration by DMEA.

It is recommended that the application be denied.