MME Form 9
Rev. Nov. 65

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Geological Survey

OFFICIAL DOCKET FILE

Contract No. _____ Docket No. 6677

Application
- [ ] 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- [x] Withdrawn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
- [ ] On-site Exam. Report (Tab)
- [ ] 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

MME Form 40
Jan. 65

Budget Bureau No. 42-R1508
Approval expires Dec. 31, 1968

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.)*

Billy Bruce Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

APPLICANT DO NOT USE THIS BLOCK

DOCKET NUMBER: 667Y

DATE RECEIVED: 12/15/67

REGION: III

DIVISION CODE:

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION *(Check one)*

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

STATE IN WHICH FIRM IS ORGANIZED:

LIST CORPORATE OFFICERS OR PARTNERS HERE, IF APPLICABLE

NAME	ADDRESS	TITLE

MINERAL(S) FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO EXPLORE: Gold, Bismuth, Silver, Uranium, Copper & Iron

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT: $ 22,000.00

PROPERTY NAME: Lucky Strike No. 1, 2 & 3

LOCATION — COUNTY: Grant — STATE: New Mexico

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. III). 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 Office of Minerals Exploration, Department of the Interior,* ~~Washington 25, D. C. or with the nearest OME Field Office~~ 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.

December 9, 1967
DATED

Billy Bruce Bratton
BY *(Signature)*

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.

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 true copies of correspondence which show: (1) date of loan request, (2) amount and terms requested, (3) proposed use of loan funds, and (4) the 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 on MME Form 52. If the agreements cannot be obtained, state reasons and provide copies of letters of refusal.

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 and sampling methods used. Support your statement with copies of assay certificates and assay maps if available.

(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) State your reasons for expecting to find ore, and 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.

(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 and address 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 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 cost 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).]

PITTSBURGH NATIONAL BANK

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15230

December 5, 1967

Telephone: Local 355-2243
Area Code 412

Mr. B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Dear Mr. Bratton:

Your letter addressed to Mr. M. E. Lambing has been referred to me for reply. Please feel free to stop in the main office of the bank at Fifth Avenue and Wood Street, and I will be glad to talk with you.

However, I wish to point out that your interest in obtaining a $30,000 loan to finance the drilling, logging and testing of eleven core holes on mining claims you own in New Mexico, would require marketable or liquid security of some type. As commercial bankers, we only loan on a basis where we can expect to receive payment of our funds advanced in a reasonable period of time, and naturally do not assume the risks which investment bankers do. We would not be interested in an unsecured loan based on the above facts. If your interests were presently producing a net income to you, it might be possible to consider a secured loan.

Very truly yours,

John W. Creighton

John W. Creighton
Vice President

JWC:js

Western Pennsylvania National Bank
FIFTH AVENUE AT SMITHFIELD · PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15222

R. L. Cashion
VICE PRESIDENT

November 22, 1967

Mr. B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

Dear Mr. Bratton:

Your letter of November 20, 1967, addressed to Mr. Cancelliere has been referred to me.

It would not be feasible for us to grant a loan for the purpose you outlined in your letter because of the distance of the operation from Pittsburgh.

I would suggest that you try to arrange your financing through a bank in New Mexico where the operation is located.

We appreciate your considering us for this business and are sorry that we are unable to accommodate you.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Cashion

B. B. Bratton
3[illegible] Broadmoor Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

1. Financial Eligibility:
   a. Copy of letters from Western Pennsylvania National Bank and Pittsburgh National Bank.
   b. Not applicable.
   c. I propose to furnish my share of the cost in cash.

2. Applicant's Rights in Land:
   a. I own three mining claims.
   b. The three claims are located in the White Signal Mining District of Grant County, New Mexico, Section 2, Township 20 South, Range 15 West. These claims are known as Lucky Strike #1, #2, and #3, recorded in book 57 of Mining Locations on pages 6, 7, and 8, at the Grant County Courthouse in Silver City, New Mexico. These claims are along the vein known as the Apache Trail.

3. Physical Description:
   a. There is an abandoned 200 foot shaft and an old pit on the property. These are shown on the geologic map attached. A description of the old mining operations is attached.
   b. I was not connected with any of the previous mining operations.
   c. Production from past mining operations is given in the description of the old mining operations attached.
   d. See description attached.
   e. See description attached.
   f. Many minerals are visible on the surface. Mr. Charles Russell, a former owner who worked the mine told me that he had tunneled thru the iron ore at the 100 foot level and that it was 15 feet thick. He was mining gold and bismuth at the 200 foot level along this same iron ore vein. They struck a water vein and the lower tunnel became unworkable because of water.
   g. See description attached.

4. Accessibility of Property:
   a. Mr. Charles Russell who owns the U Up & U Down Ranch south of White Signal will meet the representative. His mailing address is--Bin "A", Tyrone, New Mexico. The telephone number is 505-538-2114.

      The property is approximately 3½ miles south of the Tyrone turnoff along state highway 180.

      There is a gate on the West side of the highway at Cherry Creek. This trail is thru property belonging to Mrs. Della W. Richardson. Follow the left hand trail to the windmill then go southwest to the fence. The claims are across the fence along the ridge west.
   b. Silver City is approximately 14 miles from the property. There is a railroad spur to Tyrone, approximately 3½ miles.

B. B. Bratton
3[illegible] Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

5. Exploration Work:
   a. The ore body lies almost vertical with its exposed face along the center of the claims. We will cut 10 trenches across the vein to expose the mineralization and we will drill 11 holes to follow the mineralization in depth.
   b. We propose to use the trail thru Mrs. Richardson's property for access. A bulldozer trail along the vein will provide access to the drilling sites.
   c. We propose to start work immediately after the contract is signed and anticipate that the work will be completed within one month.

6. Experience:
   Mr. Charles Russell will supervise the operation, he is a well known mine operator in this area. I have had many years experience in a supervisory capacity in heavy mill and industrial construction.

7. Estimate of Costs:
   a to g. The office for this operation will be established in Silver City as there are no structures on the claims and none are to be built.
   The office will be equipped with three desks with chairs, one drafting board with stool, two extra chairs, a three section filing cabinet, two typewriters, adding machine, telephone, water cooler and miscellaneous stationary and office supplies.
   The office staff will consist of a secretary, a bookkeeper and a draftsman. \?
   Two pickup trucks will be provided for transporting men and supplies to the job and ore samples to the assay office.
   Miscellaneous tools and equipment will be supplied for removing and preparing samples of ore for identification and testing.
   The field force will consist of a superintendent, a foreman and three men. \?
   A geologist will be hired for consultation and probably two field trips.
   The drilling, trenching and surveying will be contracted to local firms. Testing the samples will also be contracted.
   The claims will be inspected by the geologist, the superintendent and myself to mark the locations for drilling and trenching. After all of these have been marked, a survey crew will survey the claims and establish the locations and elevations at all drill holes and trenching sites, and establish access routes. This information will be incorporated in a map of the claims and cross sections at each hole and trench. The work of drilling and trenching can then be started.

B. B. Bratton
3[illegible] Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

The superintendent will be in charge of the work by the contractors, he will keep the log of the drilling and will identify the formations and pick the samples for testing.

The foreman and crew will remove samples from the trenches, prepare samples to be sent for testing, take h the samples to the testing company and assist in other operations as required.

The draftsman will plot identified formations on the cross sections, plot the location of test samples and calculate and tabulate ore quantities.

The estimated time to complete the operation is one month. The estimated expenses are as follows:

Office Rental	$ 200.00
Office equipment rental	200.00
Office supplies	200.00
Telephone & Misc.	100.00
Secretary	500.00
Bookkeeper	500.00
Draftsman	500.00
Superintendent	1,000.00
Geologist	1,000.00
Foreman	800.00
Crew (3 men)	1,200.00
Project Manager	2,000.00
Surveying	1,000.00
Truck rental	800.00
Tool rental	300.00
Misc. Supplies	200.00
Drilling, 1100 ft. @ $10.00	11,000.00
Trenching, 10 days @ $150.00	1,500.00
	$22,000.00

MME Form 7
(2/63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
7/9/68	Peterson	120
7/9/68	Kirkemo	120
		110
		220

Mr. Billy B. Bratton
214 Le Moyne Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Bratton:

This will acknowledge your letter of July 6 informing us of the circumstances that prevent you from continuing with the subject application.

We are, therefore, considering your application as having been withdrawn and are placing it in our inactive files

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Economic Geology File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
Region III w/copy of incoming ltr.
Mr. Peterson

ECPeterson/bsl 7/9/68

OFFICIAL
COPY
O. M. E.
RECEIVED
JUL 3 1968
INITIALS | CODE
gla | 130
Gof | 120 M
~~Fcf 110~~
120 P

214 Le Moyne Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228
July 6, 1968

Mr. Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of Mineral Exploration
U. S. Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
Washington, D. C. 20242

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On my recent trip to New Mexico I found that my claims were not valid and that the mineral rights to this section had been leased to someone else, therefore I have no alternative but to drop the project.

Yours truly,

B. B. Bratton

B. B. Bratton

BBB/jb

MME Form 7
(2/63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
7/2/68	Peters	120
7/3/68	Kirkham	120
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		120M

JUL 3 1968

Mr. Billy B. Bratton
214 Le Moyne Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Bratton:

We have not heard from you since your letter of April 26, 1968. Will you please advise us when we may expect to receive the necessary data so that we may continue processing your application. If you have decided not to pursue it further, please so inform us.

We wish to cooperate fully in allowing you ample time to obtain the requested information; however, we cannot indefinitely postpone action on an application.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Economic Geology File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
Region III
Mr. Peterson

ECPeterson/bsl 7/2/68

214 Le Moyne Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
April 26, 1968

OFFICIAL COPY
O. M. E.
RECEIVED
APR 29 1968
INITIALS CODE
gla 1.20
Dep 1.20
Jop 1.10
EOP 1.20

Mr. Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of Minerals Exploration
United States Department of Interior
Geological Survey
Washington, D. C. 20242

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Johnson:

We plan to make a trip to New Mexico in the very near future to make all of the necessary arrangement to go on with application and to proceed with my exploration.

Yours truly,

B. B. Bratton

B. B. Bratton

BBB/jb

NOTE: The new address.

MME Form 7
(2/63)

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Date	Surname	Code
4/17/68	Peterson	120
		120
		110
4/17	cc	220
		120M

Mr. Billy Bruce Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Bratton:

We have not had a reply to our letter of March 14, 1968. If you need additional time to prepare this information, please let us know. If we do not receive a reply from you within thirty days from the date of this letter, we must assume that you are no longer interested in proceeding with your application and we shall consider it as having been withdrawn.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON cc

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
~~OME~~ File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
Region III

ECPeterson/bsl 4/17/68

MME Form 7
(2/63)

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3/14/68	Kirkemo	120
"	Overcase	110
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Mr. Billy Bruce Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Bratton:

We have not heard from you since your letter of December 29, 1967. Will you please advise us when we may expect to receive the necessary data so that we may continue processing your application. If you have decided not to pursue it further, please so inform us.

We wish to cooperate fully in allowing you ample time to obtain the requested information; however, we cannot indefinitely postpone action on an application.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Kirkemo (gla)
for: Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
OME File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
Region II

ECPeterson/bsl 3/13/68

MME Form 7
(10-58)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
1/4/68	Peterson	120
	(on leave)	120
		110
		220
		120M

JAN 5 1968

Mr. Billy Bruce Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Re: OME-6677 (Gold, Silver and other minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Bratton:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 29, 1967, enclosing additional information in support of the subject application for exploration assistance.

Regulations governing administration of the OME program require that each application fully describes the proposed work and includes all of the detailed data called for by the application form. Without this information, it is impossible to evaluate all of the factors involved and to decide whether the Government should enter into an exploration contract with the Applicant. It was for these reasons that we asked for additional information in our letter of December 21. We suggest that you review the letter wherein we cite specific requirements relating to geological data, work plan and a detailed cost estimate. In this case, costs for the drilling and trenching should be supported by bids from three contractors if possible.

Upon receipt of the requested data we shall be pleased to continue the processing of your application; however, nothing in this letter should be construed as a commitment by the Government to grant an exploration contract.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
OME File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
Region III

ECPeterson/bsl 1/5/67

43683

and to a much lesser extent sphalerite and molybdenite, is found only as small grains intimately associated with the pyrite. Elsewhere, these three minerals occur as discrete masses in veins. Bornite is recorded only from the Neglected, Austin–Amazon, and Lone Pine deposits in the western and southwestern Big Burro Mountains. Other primary metallic minerals (except gold), as well as calcite, barite, and fluorite, are found at relatively few of the deposits. Secondary minerals, particularly chalcocite and the oxidized copper minerals, are abundant and widespread.

In only a few places in the Big Burro Mountains has mining progressed deeply enough to uncover primary minerals. The Neglected, Austin–Amazon, Foster zinc, probably the Apache Trail, and some of the fluorspar mines are the only places where unoxidized primary parts of the deposits were exposed, mined, or observed. Some of these were inaccessible. In the White Signal and Tyrone areas, the visible parts of all deposits are in the oxidized or supergene-enriched zones. Information on the character of the primary concentrations was deduced from study of the oxidized parts of the deposits, from study of dumps, and from incomplete data from old reports.

The primary deposits are of diverse character. Copper deposits are the most profuse, and in much of the area copper is the sole or dominant metal; elsewhere, it accompanies gold. Other deposits consist chiefly or contain important quantities of fluorspar, silver, zinc, lead, bismuth, and uranium.

Two major periods of primary epigenetic mineralization are distinguished; a Late Cretaceous or Early Tertiary period of dominantly base-metal mineralization made up of mostly copper but also iron, zinc, lead, molybdenum, probably bismuth, and some gold and silver, and a Late Tertiary period of fluoritization accompanied by the deposition of precious metals and probably uranium. No definitive date was obtained that would warrant classifying any of the epigenetic deposits earlier than Late Cretaceous, but this possibility cannot be ruled out.

The absence of exposures of primary parts of mineral deposits classified as belonging to the early period of mineralization has precluded any detailed analyses of paragenetic relationships of the ore minerals. Undoubtedly, this was not a simple period of mineralization, but instead mineralization extended over a considerable time and consisted of various phases, differing in character. This was not so true of the late period of mineralization, but here, too, there were several substages; at least three periods of fluoritization, separated by faulting and brecciation, have been identified at the Burro Chief mine.

The early period of mineralization is associated in time, and possibly genetically, with the intrusion of quartz monzonite porphyry. It is identified as being a part of the Late Cretaceous or Early Tertiary period of widespread base-metal mineralization so prevalent in Grant County and throughout southwestern New Mexico.

B. B. BRATTON
314 BROADMOOR AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15228

Filled fissures characterize the deposits, and replacement ore bodies are of minor importance. Veins are along or near prominent fault or fracture zones, but occupy only part of the zone, and are associated with silicified and brecciated areas; or they occupy fractures within a much shattered area. The metallized sections of individual veins rarely extend more than a few hundred feet in length or more than three feet in width.

In the section on structure, the mountains were described as consisting of three blocks, the Willow Creek, Tyrone–Burro Peak, and White Signal. The central Tyrone–Burro Peak block is a horst. The primary mineral deposits of the three blocks differ in character. The Tyrone–Burro Peak contains the Tyrone copper deposits, with chalcopyrite and pyrite the main minerals. The White Signal contains deposits dominantly of chalcopyrite, pyrite, and gold, and of specular hematite and gold, with some bismuth and silver minerals and galena. The Willow Creek also contains gold, chalcopyrite, pyrite, and silver and bismuth minerals with some sphalerite and galena. The Tyrone–Burro Peak block appears to represent a deeper zone of mineralization within which only pyrite and chalcopyrite were deposited in quantity, and which has been uplifted to its present position. The gold-copper and bismuth and silver and lead-zinc mineralization, with barite and calcite gangue, was emplaced at shallower depths and is preserved only in the less deeply eroded Willow Creek and White Signal blocks.

Within the Willow Creek block, the change in character of the mineralization northeastward along the Bismuth–Foster–Beaumont fault zone is of interest. Gold, bismuth, and bismite give place to sphalerite, then to molybdenite and silver, and then chalcopyrite. Zonation due to temperature is suggested except for the anomalous presence of silver with the molybdenite at the Beaumont shaft. The nature of the primary silver mineral, however, is unknown.

The late period of primary mineralization is characterized by fluoritization. Many of the deposits are within Middle to Late Tertiary volcanic rocks or are within faults that cut these rocks or Gila Conglomerate. They are presumed to be related in time to other fluorspar deposits throughout western Grant County, which are in similar rocks, and to the Late Tertiary period of precious metal mineralization described by Ferguson (1927).

The fluorspar veins are spatially close to some of the earlier deposits and are along the same or parallel faults or fractures. Nowhere, however, are any primary base-metal minerals, except pyrite, associated with the fluorspar. Gold does occur with the fluorspar at the Shrine mine, at deposits just south of the Big Burro Mountains, and elsewere. Gold and fluorspar are characteristically associated in the Mogollon district (Ferguson). At the Hines and Langford deposits south of the Big Burro Mountains, secondary uranium minerals occur with the fluorspar, and

B. B. BRATTON
314 BROADMOOR AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15228

structural trends, and the position of the individual deposits within the district is a reflection of this. The majority of the deposits are near the intersection of north-northwesterly and east-northeasterly dikes, fractures, and faults.

Nearly all the deposits are small, the veins often consisting of pods up to 50 feet long and 3 feet wide spaced along a fracture like a string of lenticular beads. Others, however, are of constant widths throughout their known length. Rarely can the veins be traced for more than 500 feet. Major exceptions are the Uncle Sam and Apache Trail veins. These are on the edges of the district and are not typical of the area. Widths of the veins seldom exceed 10 feet, except for the broad breccia and fracture zones, and most deposits are 2 to 3 feet wide.

A number of the veins fill fractures that were previously intruded by dikes. Mineralizing solutions impregnated and altered the dike rock so that the original character of the rock is unrecognizable, and a separation between dike and vein is difficult to make.

None of the deposits has been explored to depths greater than 260 feet; the workings average less than 100 feet deep. Unaltered pyrite or the water table, both indicative of the lower limits of the zone of oxidation, effectively limited the extension in depth, since the primary ores were of too low grade for economical mining. Gold concentrations are confined to within 60 feet of the surface, and oxidized silver, copper, and uranium minerals did not go much deeper. As a consequence, little information about the primary character of the veins is available. Only in the lower levels of the Merry Widow mine was the unoxidized vein observed. Other deep shafts, and in fact almost all the workings, are inaccessible. Information was obtained from examination of dumps, outcrops, old records, and from personal communications with individuals who had mined in the area.

Veins. The numerous veins in the district are grouped into four categories: quartz-pyrite, quartz-specularite, high-silver or lead-silver, and turquoise deposits.

The quartz-pyrite veins are characterized by quartz, pyrite, chalcopyrite, and gold. Other primary minerals are hematite, magnetite, sphalerite, galena, probably uraninite, bismuth, and silver. These are the veins known locally as "gold veins" and they are the most numerous. The bulk of the mining has been done on these veins, which have produced almost all the gold, copper, and uranium mined. All are small, and no single vein has been traced more than a few hundred feet. Limonite, resulting from the oxidation of the pyrite, characterizes the outcropping parts of the veins. Other minerals in the oxidized zone are the ore minerals malachite and azurite, gold, torbernite, and autunite. Bismutite occurs at a number of deposits, and iron phosphates are in the upper sections of the Merry Widow mine.

The quartz-specularite veins are dominantly specular hematite,

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which normally constitutes 75 to 90 per cent of the vein. Magnetite is abundant locally. Quartz is a minor component; it is invariably present and is intimately mixed with the hematite and magnetite. Small amounts of gold and bismutite are in some of the veins. Torbernite and autunite are in the oxidized zone and may be indicative of uraninite in the unoxidized parts of the deposits. Most of these veins are small and appear to be abundant around Saddle Mountain. Outstanding, however, is the Apache Trail vein in the northern part of the district, which can be traced for more than a mile and is as much as 10 feet wide. The veins are simple fracture fillings plus wall rock, normally granite, that is replaced and impregnated with quartz and specularite.

The high-silver or lead-silver veins are all inaccessible, and individual deposits are classified solely from inspection of dumps and from old records and reports. Seven deposits are placed in this group. All but one, the Red Dodson mine on the south side of Tullock Peak in the central part of the district, constitute the most easterly and southeasterly deposits in the district. Cerargyrite was the principal ore, and only at the Dodson mine is there a report of metals other than silver being produced. Here copper was mined as well as bismuth and lead. Argentite was observed on the dumps of the Blackman and Uncle Sam mines, and barite is reported to have been a gangue mineral at the deposit in the extreme eastern part of sec. 31, T. 20 S., R. 14 W.

Primary minerals are postulated as being chiefly galena and argentite in a gangue of quartz and sometimes barite, with locally small amounts of bismuth and chalcopyrite. Gold was negligible. Uraninite was probably present, as some of the deposits contain secondary uranium minerals.

The Mose Trimmer mine, described later, is about four miles southeast of the Uncle Sam and the Tullock silver mines but is outside the limits of the White Signal district as herein defined. The mineralization of silver-bearing galena in barite and quartz gangue at the Mose Trimmer mine, however, is identical to that postulated for the high-silver group of deposits; thus it probably belongs with this group.

Uranium deposits. Uranium and radium minerals were first identified in the White Signal district in 1920 (F. I. Leach). Torbernite was mined at the Merry Widow, California, Acme, Shamrock, and other properties and was shipped for use in making "radioactive water," "radioactive face powder," and radium salts for medicinal purposes, and for the extraction of radium. The radium boom lasted until the late 1920's. Renewed activity in the late 1940's resulted in extensive prospecting and exploration and culminated in the shipment in 1954 and 1955 of four carloads of uranium ore averaging between 0.1 and 0.2 per cent U_3O_8 from the Floyd Collins and Inez deposits. The total amount of uranium and radium recovered is unknown.

Uranium is found in the district as concentrates of secondary phosphates along fractures in altered granite and dike rocks and as dissemina-

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tions scattered through the altered rocks within the zone of oxidation. The concentrations of secondary phosphates are usually along or within dikes of diabase or intermediate composition. Some, however, are in fractures in granite in proximity to such dikes, and a few deposits are in granite with no apparent relationship to any dikes. The dikes with which the secondary uranium deposits are associated have a high phosphorus content.

The deposits are zones of closely spaced fractures coated or filled with autunite or torbernite. The fillings are rarely more than one millimeter thick. The richer concentrations are in zones in altered granite or dike rock where the fractures are more closely spaced and where, in addition, the uranium minerals are disseminated through the altered rock. Some zones are several feet thick and, in places, as at the Floyd Collins and Inez deposits, comprise the entire width of the dike.

Most of the deposits can be traced for only short distances, but a few can be followed for more than 500 feet along the strike. The more persisent deposits, with few exceptions, trend northwest. Except for the Apache Trail, the major uranium deposits are associated with quartz-pyrite veins as a rule at or near the intersection of the quartz-pyrite veins and northwest-trending diabase dikes.

Acme–Utah–California. The Acme–Utah–California deposit is in the SE¼ sec. 22, T. 20 S., R. 15 W. on claims owned by A. G. Hill, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and A. A. Leach, Lordsburg. Two inclined shafts, respectively 18 and 35 feet deep, a shallow pit, and an open cut constitute the workings on the Acme claim. Numerous pits are on the Utah claim, and four shafts, the deepest not more than 40 feet, and several pits are on the California claim. Four diamond drill holes have also explored the vein, and State Highway 180 crosses the Utah claim and exposes part of the mineralized zone.

Diabase and rhyolite dikes traverse the granite at the deposit. The diabase dikes trend northwesterly from the southernmost shaft on the California claim to the Acme shafts. The dikes dip 50 to 90 degrees southwest and are as much as 65 feet wide. The diabase is extremely altered near the shafts and consists mostly of limonite, chlorite, and clay. North-northwest-trending and east-trending faults cut the diabase dikes.

Uranium mineralization is scattered through a zone that extends northwesterly from the southern boundary of the California claim to the Acme shafts and is coincident with the zone of northwest faulting and diabase dikes. The deposits are localized where the diabase dikes are cut by north-northwest-trending faults. The veins which fill the faults consist of quartz, hydrous iron oxides, and locally torbernite. Uranium minerals also occur disseminated in the altered diabase, and at the Acme shaft, a 10-foot-wide diabase dike is radioactive across its entire width. The most intense radioactivity, however, and the greatest concentration of torbernite, is along the contact between the granite and diabase.

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Torbernite also fills fractures in the western end of the highway cut on the Utah claim and, more abundantly, in a 40-foot-wide zone of shattered granite in the eastern end of this cut (photo 10). Drill holes in this

Photo 10

FRACTURED GRANITE, THE FRACTURES CONTAINING SEAMS AND COATINGS OF TORBERNITE

South side of State Highway 180 on the Utah claim 0.9 mile west of the White Signal store. The 1- to 2-inch dark-colored alteration zones in the granite adjacent to the fractures are characteristic of fractures at this locality that contain radioactive material.

area showed radioactivity at intervals to a depth of 165 feet. An east-trending fault, obscured by the highway, cuts the granite at this locality.

Apache Trail. The Apache Trail deposit is about three miles north of the White Signal store in the NE¼ sec. 2, T. 20 S., R. 15 W. It is owned ~~by Charles Russell, Tyrone, and Mrs. Elsie R. Wiley, Los Angeles.~~

The claim was originally located for copper about 1890, but early production is not known. Between 1915 and 1920, five carloads of copper ore averaging 5 per cent copper and 5 ounces of silver a ton were shipped. In the 1920's, about 50 tons of ore containing 1.5 ounces of gold a ton

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and 4 per cent bismuth were shipped from a pit near the old shaft. In 1944, radioactive material was identified in the vein and in an adjacent dike. A 200-foot-deep vertical shaft with levels at 100 and 200 feet, an old caved inclined shaft, and numerous pits explore the property.

At the mine, a quartz-specularite vein which strikes east and dips 60 to 65 degrees north cuts the Burro Mountain granite (fig. 7). It can be traced for more than a mile west and more than 2000 feet east of the shaft. It averages 3.5 feet wide but in places is as wide as 8 feet. Paralleling the vein, and cut by it in at least two places on the surface, is a diabase dike. The vein consists essentially of specular hematite, hematite, magnetite, and quartz. Locally, gold, bismuth, copper carbonates, limonite pseudomorphs after pyrite, fluorite, lead minerals, and uranium minerals are present.

In the mine, a fault which strikes north 65 to 75 degrees west is exposed on the 100-foot level. The copper mined was along this fault. A brecciated zone along the fault contains fragments of the quartz-specularite vein. The diabase dike is exposed near the west end of the drift.

Torbernite was recognized only within and adjacent to the dike in the west end of the 100-foot drift, but in numerous places on the surface, the quartz-specularite vein is radioactive. The torbernite occurs as well-developed, green, transparent crystals, individually and in clusters, in vugs and along fractures.

Intense sericitic alteration of the granite along both copper and quartz-specularite veins has locally converted the granite to a white, fine-grained, powdery mass of quartz and sericite. In places, this alteration extends as much as five feet from the vein. The diabase dike is chloritized and altered to a soft brownish rock adjacent to the quartz-specularite vein. At one locality, fibrous crystals of bronzite more than six inches long have developed along the margins of the dike.

The Apache Trail deposit represents a potentially large deposit of high-grade iron ore, although detailed mapping, sampling, and core drilling are needed to prove an economical resource. Impurities may detract from its desirability. The gold, bismuth, and uranium content of the vein is apparently not great, but no thorough exploration has been made.

Blue Jay. The Blue Jay deposit is described in detail by Granger and Bauer (1950) and Lovering. It is in the N½ sec. 26, T. 20 S., R. 15 W., three fourths of a mile south of the White Signal store and 400 feet west of State Highway 169. In 1961, the claim was owned by C. O. and Fred Prevost, White Signal. It is explored by numerous pits and trenches.

The deposit lies along the east-northeast-trending Blue Jay fault, which at this locality is resolved into several closely spaced subparallel faults and dikes intruded along the faults (fig. 8). Isolated segments of dikes occur within the shear zone. The dike rocks are so intensely altered that their original character is difficult to discern; clay and hydrous iron

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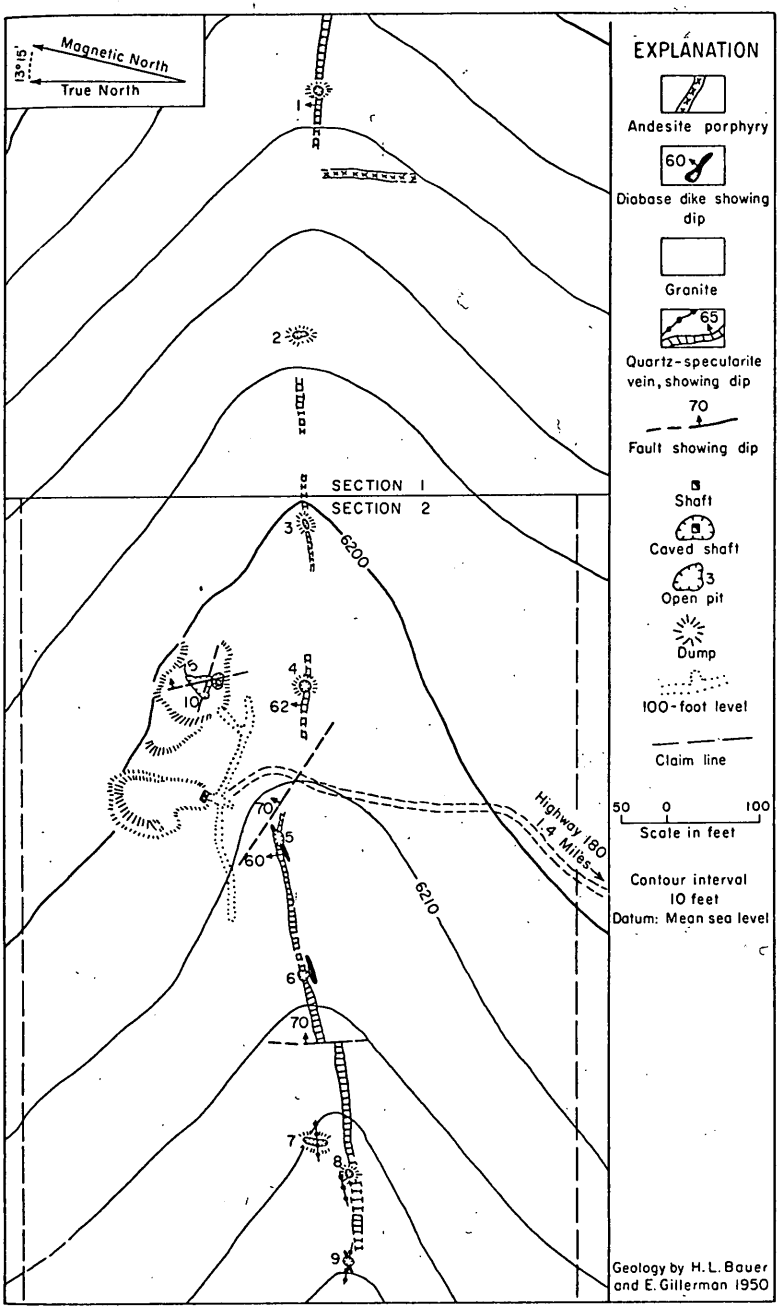

Figure 7

GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE APACHE TRAIL DEPOSIT, WHITE SIGNAL DISTRICT

B. B. BRATTON
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Copies to R. BBH

314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
December 29, 1967

OFFICIAL COPY
O. M. E.
RECEIVED
JAN 2 1968
INITIALS | CODE
BH | 120
JG | 400
RD | 700

Mr. Frank E. Johnson, Chief
Office of Minerals Exploration
United States Department of Interior
Geological Survey
Washington, D. C. 20242

Re: OME-6677

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In response to your letter of December 21, 1967 I am attaching two copies each of my letter to the Pittsburgh National Bank and to the Western Pennsylvania National Bank. I wrote a third bank and got a third refusal.

Also attached are two copies of a letter I wrote to Mr. Elliot Gillerman and two copies of his reply. Mr. Gillermans letter is included because in it he confirms his statements in Bulletin 83, Mineral Deposits of Western Grant County, New Mexico published by State Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, New Mexico as to the composition of the vein-specularite-and the length and width of the vein. I am sure the aerial photographs from which the topographic map of White Signal Quadrangle was made are still on file so that you could check his statement about the vein being visible from the air.

In view of the fact that my claims extend approximately 4500 feet along this vein I believe I am justified in stating that a large body of iron ore is indicated on my claims and that this can be verified only by exploring the vein in depth. The cheapest way to do this is by drilling. Drilling can be done in such a way as to substantiate the existance of the other ores and give some information as to the quantity of each present.

My loan application was prepared after consultation with competent mining people who are familiar with the vein and the number of holes specified is considered to be the minimum that could give an indication of the quantity of the ores present. As I stated the location of the holes is very important in order to gain the maximum amount of information from each hole. It is for this reason that I plan to hire the most competent geologist available (Mr. Gillerman if possible as he is familiar with the area) to locate these holes. If

I do this before an exploration contract is signed, this cost could not be included, and I believe this to be properly part of the work to be included in the exploration contract.

The sceduled time of one month for the project is based on drilling four to six holes at a time. There are only two local drilling contractors, so that it is not possible to get three local bids. One of these contractors has six rigs I believe.

It will require all of the organization that I list in the application to carry out the project efficiently in the time specified. I believe that the estimated amount of money is sufficient to carry out the project in the time specified.

Yours truly,

B. B. Bratton

B. B. Bratton

B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
OME-6677

314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
November 20, 1967

Mr. M. A. Cancelliere
Western Pittsburgh National Bank
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15230

Dear Mr. Cancelliere:

I would like to make an appointment to discuss a $30,000.00 loan from your bank.

This is the estimated cost of a detailed ore survey including drilling, logging and testing eleven core holes on mining claims that I own in New Mexico to determine the amount of iron ore, gold, uranium, bismuth and copper present. All of these are known to be present. Iron ore is the most abundant metal and the indicated quantity would have a value in excess of $3,000,000.00.

Yours truly,

B. B. Bratton

BBB/jb

B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
OME-6677

314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
November 20, 1967

Mr. [illegible] D. Landing
Pittsburgh National Bank
5th at Wood Street
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15230

Dear Mr. Landing:

I would like to make an appointment to discuss a $30,000.00 loan from your bank.

This is the estimated cost of a detailed ore survey including drilling, logging and testing, eleven core holes on mining claims that I own in New Mexico to determine the amount of iron ore, gold, uranium, bismuth and copper present. All of these are known to be present. Iron ore is the most abundant metal and the indicated quantity would have a value in excess of $3,000,000.00.

Yours truly,

B. B. Bratton

bbb/jb

B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
OME-6677

314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15228
November 11, 1967

Mr. Elliot Gillerman
c/o State Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources
New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Campus Station
Socorro, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Gillerman:

In reference to the Apache Trail mine covered in your Bulletin 83, Mineral Deposits of Western Grant County, New Mexico.

I have recently acquired this claim as well as two other claims along this vein with the help of Mr. Snogell. I would like to know if you have any additional information about this vein other than that given in Bulletin 83.

I am particularly interested in the iron ore, and I hope to build a steel plant there using a new steel process of my own invention, if it can be proven that there is a minimum of 150,000 tons of recoverable iron.

I would like to have your suggestions as to how to go about the detailed mapping, sampling and core drilling suggested in the bulletin.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

B. B. Bratton

BBB/jb

B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

OME-6677

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS · LAWRENCE, KANSAS · 66[illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY

November 22, 19[illegible]7

Mr. B. B. Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Dear Mr. Bratton:

Your letter pertaining to the Apache Trail vein and [illegible] forwarded to me. I am greatly interested in the fact that [illegible] are considering working the deposit. I wish you a great [illegible] of success.

Unfortunately I do not believe that I can add much to what is set forth in Bulletin 83. When working in the area, my interest in the Apache Trail was largely from the viewpoint of its possibility as a source of Uranium. Little thought was given to the specularite vein as a source of iron except to note its extent and the possibility that a large tonnage might exist. In rechecking some of my old records I note the statement that it could be traced for over 2 miles and ranged up to 10 feet wide. This is somewhat greater than that stated in the Bulletin.

If my memory serves me correctly I believe we followed the vein westward from the Apache Trail shaft for considerable distance, it being exposed in pits and on the surface. Aireal photos showed it plainly as a dark line. It was offset in places and in spots did not crop out. I would think that tracing the vein on the surface and mapping it and the adjacent geology in detail, plus trenching across the outcrop and a few diamond drill holes to penetrate the vein at depth was what I had in mind in making the statement that appears in the Bulletin. But I had no detailed exploration plan mapped out. Based upon exposures on the 100-foot level in the Apache Trail Mine, we calculated the dip of the vein at about 60-65° N. This would guide you in the placement and direction of drill holes.

A mile or so north of the Apache Trail Mine, west and perhaps south of the Emma Mines (see plate 3 of Bulletin 83) I seem to recall [illegible] and additional exposures of specular iron ore. We never traced these out however.

I am sorry I can give you no additional information. If I can be of assistance in any way in the future, however, do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

Elliot Gillerman

Elliot Gillerman

E:ds

MME Form 7
(10-58)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
12/20/67	Pattison	120
12/20/67	Sirkamo	120
		110
12/21	cal	220
		120M

AIRMAIL

DEC 21 1967

Mr. Billy Bruce Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Re: GMM-6677 (Gold, Silver and other Minerals)
Billy Bruce Bratton
Lucky Strike Claims
Grant County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Bratton:

A preliminary review of your application for exploration assistance indicates that additional information is needed to continue its processing.

Although you have submitted copies of letters from two banks refusing to grant an exploration loan, it is necessary for you to furnish copies of your letters to the banks requesting such a loan. Your letters should state the amount of the loan, purpose, date, and terms requested. Banks in the vicinity of the project area should be contacted.

It is not certain from the data presented whether eligible minerals may occur on your property in quantities sufficient to qualify it for assistance under GMM regulations. In an effort to establish this, we suggest that representative samples be taken of the Apache Trail vein outcroppings and assayed. Information as to the location of samples taken, how sampled, sample widths, and copies of the assay certificates should be forwarded for our evaluation.

Also required is a sketch or map showing present workings and proposed exploration in relation to the claim boundaries. The work should be described fully, indicating the specific geologic targets you wish to explore, how you propose to explore them, and give individual locations and footages for each item of work. It is doubtful that the proposed work can be completed in one month as you have indicated.

Detailed estimates of the necessary costs for each item of the work must also be supplied as required under Item 7 of the application form. This should include cost of supervision, labor, assaying, equipment, supplies, etc.

43683

In this connection, reasonable allowances are made for supervision and office expenses under an OME contract. The employment of a foreman and project manager, in addition to a full time supervisor-engineer would not be approved. Likewise, the employment of a secretary, bookkeeper, and draftsman cannot be justified.

If the proposed work is to be continued, as indicated in your application, cost estimates should be supported by bids from three contractors if possible.

We will be pleased to consider your application further upon receipt of the requested information. Nothing in this letter should be construed as a commitment by the Government to grant an exploration contract.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
OME File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
Region III

ECPeterson/bsl 12/20/67

December 15, 1967

Mr. Billy Bruce Bratton
314 Broadmoor Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228

Subject: OME-6677

Dear Mr. Bratton:

Your application for exploration assistance, dated December 9, 1967, submitted to our Washington, D. C. office has been assigned Docket No. OME-6677.

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

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

Copy to Region III with copy
of application and attachments