DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
Control Slip

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

DMA Docket No. 3499

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Cys to USBM & USGS

Routing Slip

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CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

400

MAY 31 1955

dmea 3499

Hon. Richard L. Neuberger
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Neuberger:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 25, 1955, regarding mercury exploration either completed or proposed by Mr. Morris L. Page and Mr. Charles J. Page, at Strickland Butte Mine, Crook County, Oregon. Our Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury covers the work completed under Contract No. Idm-E537. Our Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury covers the application for additional work submitted to our Field Team, Region II, on September 1, 1954, received here September 24, acknowledged September 27, and denied without prejudice after careful study by letter of March 11, 1955.

Reference is also made to my telephone conversation of May 24, 1955, with your Administrative Assistant, Mr. John G. Jones.

As arranged in that conversation, I am enclosing a copy of a related letter of May 10, 1955, to the Secretary from Mr. Burton J. Westman of Aloha, Oregon. Also enclosed is a copy of the Secretary's reply of May 25, which deals either directly or indirectly with the matters covered in our discussion.

If after reviewing the enclosed correspondence you have other questions, we shall be glad to provide further information.

Sincerely yours,

E. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Docket No. DMEA 2628
Docket No. DMEA 3499
Adm. Reading File
Operating Committee
Thor Kiilsgaard, USGS

cc: Code 400 (DMEA 2628)
Code 400 (DMEA 3499)
Code 400-Reading File
Field Team, Reg.I-NW, Spokane
H.M. Meyer, USBM

WSMartin/ls

COPY

400 file
dmea 3499

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee On
Interior and Insular Affairs
May 25, 1955

Mr. C. O. Mittendorf, Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Subject:
Docket No. DMEA 2628 (Mercury)
Contract No. Idm-E537
Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Mittendorf:

With reference to the above subject, there are several questions I would be very much interested in having answered as a result of recent inquiries from my constituency.

1. Has the DMEA a reason for doubting the statement of a consulting geologist when he reported to you that "there is every favorable evidence that commercial quicksilver ore can be developed providing a common sense exploration program is followed."?

2. Wouldn't the DMEA, as well as the principals, stand to gain a great deal if the quotation in question No. 1 is true?

3. At the time the DMEA field team from the Spokane office discussed the prospects on the property with the interested principals, is it not true that the results of the previous report were not brought out for discussion and have not been to this date, and is it not also a fact that copies of these field reports and maps which rightfully should have been given to the principals have never been delivered?

4. Wasn't the interim period excessive between the time that application for renewal of the contract was made in August of 1954 and acknowledgment of it received in a letter of February 18, 1955?

5. Wasn't this letter rather abrupt in its statement that the DMEA was closing its records and books with respect to this project without giving any explanation as to the reason for its action?

6. Is there any reason why this 1954 application could not be reopened and acted upon favorably at this time so that exploration can commence this season?

7. Will it be possible for the 1953 DMEA reports and maps to which Morris L. and Charles J. Page are entitled, be returned to them?

I would greatly appreciate a prompt reply to this letter.

King regards.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Richard L. Neuberger
RICHARD L. NEUBERGER
United States Senator

RLN:dh

Omen 3499

400

JUN 16 1955

Hon. Wayne Morse
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Morse:

This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of June 8, with attached letter of May 10, 1955, addressed to you by Mr. Burton J. Westman, Consulting Mining Geologist, P. O. Box 31, Alsea, Oregon, which letter we are returning as you requested.

Mr. Westman's letter concerns mercury exploration either completed or proposed by Mr. Morris L. Page and Mr. Charles J. Page, at Strickland Butte Mine, Crook County, Oregon. Our Docket No. DMEA 2626-Mercury covers the work completed under Contract No. Ida-2537. Our Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury covers the application for additional work submitted to our Field Team, Region II, on September 1, 1954, received here September 24, acknowledged September 27, and denied without prejudice after careful study by letter of March 11, 1955.

Reference is also made to telephone conversation of June 14, 1955, between our Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division and Mrs. Mary C. King of your office.

As arranged in that conversation, I am enclosing a copy of a related letter of May 10, 1955, to the Secretary of the Interior from Mr. Burton J. Westman. Also enclosed is a copy of the Secretary's reply of May 25, which deals either directly or indirectly with the matters covered in our discussion with your office.

If after reviewing the enclosed correspondence you have other questions, we shall be glad to provide further information.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson

ACTING Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Docket
FT, Reg.I-Spokane
Thor Kiilsgaard,USGS
Operating Committee

cc: Code 400
Adm. Read. File
H. M. Meyer, USBM

WEMartin/ls 6/15/55

DOCKET
Surname:
DMEA 3499
Martin
Selfridge

JUN 16 1955

Hon. Wayne Morse
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Morse:

This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of June 8, with attached letter of May 10, 1955, addressed to you by Mr. Burton J. Westman, Consulting Mining Geologist, P. O. Box 31, Aloha, Oregon, which letter we are returning as you requested.

Mr. Westman's letter concerns mercury exploration either completed or proposed by Mr. Morris L. Page and Mr. Charles J. Page, at Strickland Butte Mine, Crook County, Oregon. Our Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury covers the work completed under Contract No. Idm-E537. Our Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury covers the application for additional work submitted to our Field Team, Region II, on September 1, 1954, received here September 24, acknowledged September 27, and denied without prejudice after careful study by letter of March 11, 1955.

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If after reviewing the enclosed correspondence you have other questions, we shall be glad to provide further information.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson

ACTING Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Docket
FT, Reg.I-Spokane
Thor Kiilsgaard, USGS
Operating Committee

cc: Code 400
Adm. Read. File
H. M. Meyer, USBM

WSMartin/ls 6/15/55

C
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Y

P. O. Box 31
Aloha, Oregon
May 10, 1955

AIR MAIL

3499

Honorable Wayne Morse
U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have followed your good work in Washington and now have this opportunity to write to you regarding the following subject:

Docket No. DMEA 2628 (Mercury)
Contract No. Idm-E537
Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

In 1953, Morris L. and Charles J. Page, Prineville, Oregon, entered into the above contract with the DMEA and pursued the same with forthright dilligence. However, while they participating with their own funds, they had little nor no voice in the exploration program. In their own words, this exploration amounted to no more than "searching for geology" whereas the actual intent should have been exposing ore.

In May, 1954, the writer investigated the subject property and reported, in part, "...there is every favorable evidence that commercial quicksilver ore can be developed providing a common sense exploration program is followed". In the same report, regarding the DMEA exploration, it was also stated that the work "was an extravagant waste of time and effort not to mention the operator's money." The DMEA PROGRAM HAD All the earmarks of a college experiment rather than a sensible, practical exploration program and could only be the result of inexperienced DMEA field personnel.

The writer then drew up plans for a sensible exploration program from experience gained in that region. This was discussed with the DMEA field team on the property although there seemed to be considerable objection in attitude for reasons unknown other than possibly any agreement might reflect on their position in the U. S. Geological Survey. Whether they agree or not, there is but one way only to logically explore for ore and that is to follow existing ore showings. This is a commercial venture not a college experiment and theories of interest to pure science are of no importance here.

The primary objective here is to locate and develop commercial ore to augment production of vitally needed metal and to reimburse both the federal government and the operator.

The operators, knowing they can and will develop mercury ore equal to previous production, reapplied in 1954 for continuance of the contract or renewal thereof. This application was sent to the Spokane regional office. Months passed without word from that office. On February 18, 1955, a rather curt letter from Mr. Frank E. Johnson, Acting Administrator, DMEA, Washington, D. C., stated "It is not our intention to make a certification of discovery or development which would create a lien against the subject property. We are, therefore, closing our books and records with respect to this project." No explanation or anything. Proportionately, with respect to financial means, the operators of this contract spent far more than did the DMEA and are certainly entitled to some consideration. Having an experienced exploration geologist recommending that such exploration be continued certainly warranted a letter of explanation directly from the Spokane office as to why this project was considered closed. Such bureaucratic aloofness is not to be condoned in the least.

There are some possible explanations that might bear some investigation as to why this favorable project was closed. No. 1 is that our state has never been favored with DMEA projects in proportion to the number in adjoining states. Oregon has probably as much or possibly more undeveloped mineral potential than most states. No. 2 is that the DMEA field team visiting the property were one of inexperience. Of their results in 1953, this writer reported the work they caused to be done "was an extravagant waste of time and effort not to mention the operator's money." No. 3 is one of pure speculation but of some merit. It is the possibility that the project was closed so that the property can be obtained by a major concern currently now very interested in the region.

Furthermore, in addition to an explanation to the principals as to why the project was closed, the DMEA should have sent them copies of the field reports and maps so that there could be some common ground for discussion as to why the project was closed. On July 12, 1954, Hon. Clair Engle stated in a letter to me "The principals are entitled to an exploration report...as that information should not be withheld." The principals are not only desirous of receiving such reports, which are now almost two years overdue, but also want to open this project in that there is every indication that this project can and will be a success.

Thank you, Senator Morse, for your kind attention to this plea and trust that you will obtain results for us.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Burton J. Westman
CONSULTING MINING GEOLOGIST

Morris L. and Charles J. Page
Strickland Butte Mine
291 East 6th Street
Prineville, Oregon

400

DOCKET
DMEA 3499
SURNAME:
Martin

MAY 31 1955

Hon. Richard L. Neuberger
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Neuberger:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 25, 1955, regarding mercury exploration either completed or proposed by Mr. Morris L. Page and Mr. Charles J. Page, at Strickland Butte Mine, Creek County, Oregon. Our Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury covers the work completed under Contract No. Idm-E537. Our Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury covers the application for additional work submitted to our Field Team, Region II, on September 1, 1954, received here September 24, acknowledged September 27, and denied without prejudice after careful study by letter of March 11, 1955.

Reference is also made to my telephone conversation of May 24, 1955, with your Administrative Assistant, Mr. John G. Jones.

As arranged in that conversation, I am enclosing a copy of a related letter of May 10, 1955, to the Secretary from Mr. Burton J. Westman of Aloha, Oregon. Also enclosed is a copy of the Secretary's reply of May 25, which deals either directly or indirectly with the matters covered in our discussion.

If after reviewing the enclosed correspondence you have other questions, we shall be glad to provide further information.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Docket No. DMEA 2628
Docket No. DMEA 3499
Adm. Reading File
Operating Committee
Thor Kiilsgaard, USGS

cc: Code 400 (DMEA 2628)
Code 400 (DMEA 3499)
Code 400-Reading File
Field Team, Reg.I-NW, Spokane
H.M. Meyer, USBM

WSMartin/ls
5-27-55

Official dock# 3499

COPY

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee On
Interior and Insular Affairs
May 25, 1955

Mr. C. O. Mittendorf, Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Subject:
Docket No. DMEA 2628 (Mercury)
Contract No. Idm-E537
Striekland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Mittendorf:

With reference to the above subject, there are several questions I would be very much interested in having answered as a result of recent inquiries from my constituency.

1. Has the DMEA a reason for doubting the statement of a consulting geologist when he reported to you that "there is every favorable evidence that commercial quicksilver ore can be developed providing a common sense exploration program is followed."?

2. Wouldn't the DMEA, as well as the principals, stand to gain a great deal if the quotation in question No. 1 is true?

3. At the time the DMEA field team from the Spokane office discussed the prospects on the property with the interested principals, is it not true that the results of the previous report were not brought out for discussion and have not been to this date, and is it not also a fact that copies of these field reports and maps which rightfully should have been given to the principals have never been delivered?

4. Wasn't the interim period excessive between the time that application for renewal of the contract was made in August of 1954 and acknowledgment of it received in a letter of February 18, 1955?

5. Wasn't this letter rather abrupt in its statement that the DMEA was closing its records and books with respect to this project without giving any explanation as to the reason for its action?

6. Is there any reason why this 1954 application could not be reopened and acted upon favorably at this time so that exploration can commence this season?

7. Will it be possible for the 1953 DMEA reports and maps to which Morris L. and Charles J. Page are entitled, be returned to them?

I would greatly appreciate a prompt reply to this letter.

King regards.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Richard L. Neuberger
RICHARD L. NEUBERGER
United States Senator

RLN:dh

DMEA
File Copy
DMEA 3499

(Copy also filed in DMEA 2628)

N.S. in R.R.

P.R.S. # 5086

MAY 25 1955

Dear Mr. Westman:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter of May 10, 1955, written as consulting mining geologist for Morris L. and Charles J. Page, Strickland Butte mine, Primeville, Crook County, Oregon, who previously had a Defense Minerals Exploration Administration Contract No. Idm-2537, Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury, covering the same mine.

The subject contract was dated June 2, 1953, and work thereunder was completed during July and August 1953. On March 22, 1954, the Certifying Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II, was notified by the Executive Officer of that Field Team that the operator had not submitted a final engineering report on the results of the project and, although such a report was required by the contract, this requirement was waived by the Executive Officer, who apparently felt that the project reports of August 8 and August 31, 1953, submitted by Mr. F. E. Lewis, could be accepted in lieu of the usual final report.

Mr. Morris L. Page by letter of May 12, 1954, which I acknowledged on May 20, thanked me and the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, and especially the Executive Officer and members of the DMEA Field Team, for their work on the project. Accordingly, I am surprised to note your criticisms of the project and your request for reports covering the work.

As the enclosed DMEA Order-1 Amended makes clear, any Defense Minerals Exploration Administration project must be conducted in accordance with a contract which specifies the work to be performed. The subsequent Defense Minerals Exploration Administration's inspections and reviews of the project serve, and are intended to serve, only to insure that the project is conducted in accordance with the contract. The Field Team's reports are solely for the confidential use of the Government and are not made available for distribution.

You also comment that the letter of February 18, 1955, informing the operator that Defense Minerals Exploration Administration did not intend to make a certification of discovery or development which would create a lien against the subject property, made no mention of "the 1953 application."

The application that resulted in Contract No. Idm-E537 was dated July 17, 1952. It seems likely, therefore, that you are referring to an application dated September 1, 1954, submitted by Morris L. and Charles E. Page, covering a program of further exploration at the Strickland Butte mine, and identified, as we advised the applicant by letter of September 27, 1954, as Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury. That application, after review and consultation among the appropriate commodity specialists, was denied by a separate letter on March 11, 1955, and accordingly was not discussed in the above-mentioned letter of February 18, 1955, which concerned only the outcome of Contract No. Idm-E537, Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury.

Denial by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration of an application for exploration aid is generally made without prejudice to the property. If you have new information that would justify a different conclusion about the merits of the Strickland Butte mine, a new application could be submitted, which should state such information clearly; and, with your technical background, you will appreciate that your conclusions can best be supported by a geologic map on a working scale showing specifically any new assay results.

Also enclosed for your convenience are Defense Minerals Exploration Administration application forms. You can expedite consideration of any revised application, should you desire to submit one, by sending a copy direct to Mr. A.E. Weissenborn, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region I - Northwest District, South 157 Howard Street, Spokane 4, Washington, at the same time that you submit three copies to the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration here in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Douglas McKay

Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Burton J. Westman
P. O. Box 31
Aloha, Oregon

Enclosures

P.R.S. #5086
WSMartin/ls
5/19/55

Copy to: Docket No. DMEA 2628
Docket No. DMEA 3499

Code 400--DMEA 2628 file
Code 400--DMEA 3499 file
Code 400--Reading File

Admin. Reading File
Thor Kiilsgaard, USGS
Helena Meyer, USBM
Field Team, NW Dist.-Reg.I-Spokane

Secretary's Mails and Files
Secretary's Reading File
Mr. L. E. Imhoff
Asst. Sec. Wormser (2)

Operating Committee

COPY

P. O. Box 31
Aloha, Oregon
May 10, 1955

Honorable Douglas McKay
Secretary
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Subject:
Docket No. DMEA-2628 (Mercury)
Contract No. Idm-M537
Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

Dear Sir:

The subject is the official docket number of a certain contract entered into by Morris L. and Charles J. Page with the DMEA in 1953.

This exploration project was completed that year and, while Messrs. Page did the work and put up their portion of the exploration funds, the DMEA apparently had full say as to how the project was to be conducted. The principals felt that the project amounted to but little more than "searching for geology" whereas the actual intent should have been to discover ore.

In May, 1954, the writer examined the property for Messrs. Page and reported, in part, that the DMEA exploration was "an extravagant waste of time and effort not to mention the operator's money." The operation in plan had the semblance of a college experiment rather than a sensible commercial venture. The writer concluded his report with " ... there is every favorable evidence that commercial quicksilver ore can be developed providing that a common sense exploration program is followed." Based on previous experience in the region, the writer then recommended that the principals apply to the DMEA for a renewal of the contract in order to complete the exploration to follow ore showings and make a discovery of ore equal at least to that which had been mined on surface in the past.

This proposed exploration program was amended somewhat to temper the disagreement with the DMEA exploration program of 1953 after a discussion with the Spokane office field team on the property. The officious attitude of this team will not be discussed here other than to say that one wonders how many projects fail as the result of such "examinations" by federal personnel inexperienced in the art of exploration.

The principals applied for a renewal of the contract and months passed without any word from the Spokane office. It was realized that such processing required time. Then, a letter dated February 18, 1955, from Mr. Frank E. Johnson, Acting Director, DMEA, Washington, D. C., rather bluntly stated that "It is not our intention to make a certification of discovery or development which would create a lien against the subject property. We are, therefore, closing our books and records with respect to this property." No mention of the 1953 application; no discussion nor reason for such action. Certainly the applicants were entitled to more consideration than this. Having a recommendation by an experienced geologist for the applicants warrants some discussion. Did the field team turn in an adverse report fearing that a logical exploration program might discover ore and reflect upon their reputations?

That property has all the indications that ore is there and can be developed and produced providing the exploration program is completed and not left in the half-scratched condition it is in at present. The ore should be developed to pay for the wasteful 1953 operation. Or is it that Oregon continues to be left out of the picture as has been so noticeable in the past?

Furthermore, why haven't the reports and maps by the DMEA not been made available to the principals? Clair Engle informed this writer on July 12, 1954, that the principals involved in the property are entitled to an exploration report; to date nothing has been sent to them. The writer wants to know from those reports what laboratory investigation has been conducted. From the discussion with the field team, apparently nothing was done. Had they done so, their attitude would certainly be favorable on learning just how intense the mineralization has been on the subject property and that nowhere to date has such ore replacement been observed in the Ochoco region.

We trust that through your efforts this application will be reopened and both fairly and favorably acted upon.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Burton J. Westman

Burton J. Westman*
CONSULTING MINING GEOLOGIST
for
Morris L. and Charles J. Page*
Strickland Butte Mine
Prineville, Oregon

BJW/me
cc:f

* Members, AF&AM, Beaverton Lodge No. 100

(Retain in DMEA backup for surnames not shown on final copy.)

PRS #5086

DRAFT OF P.R.S. LETTER

Martin
Meyer
Nelson
Hafford
Carr

Dear Mr. Westman:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter of May 10, 1955, written as consulting mining geologist for Morris L. and Charles J. Page, Strickland Butte mine, Prineville, Crook County, Oregon, who previously had a Defense Minerals Exploration Administration Contract No. Idm E537, Docket No. DMEA 2628 Mercury, covering the same mine.

The subject contract was dated June 2, 1953, and work thereunder was completed during July and August 1953. On March 22, 1954, the Certifying Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II, was notified by the Executive Officer of that Field Team that the Operator had not submitted a final engineering report on the results of the project and, although such a report was required by the contract, this requirement was waived by the Executive Officer, who apparently felt that the project reports of August 8 and August 31, 1953, submitted by Mr. F. E. Lewis, could be accepted in lieu of the usual final report.

Mr. Morris L. Page by letter of May 12, 1954, which I acknowledged on May 20, thanked me and DMEA, and especially the Executive Officer and members of the DMEA Field Team, for their work on the project. Accordingly, I am surprised to note your criticisms of the project and your request for reports covering the work.

You also comment that the letter of February 18, 1955, ~~which~~ informed the operator that DMEA did not intend to make a certification of discovery or development which would create a lien against the subject property, made no mention of "the 1953 application."

The application that resulted in Contract No. Idm-E537 was dated July 17, 1952. It seems likely, therefore, that you are referring to an application dated September 1, 1954, submitted by Morris L. and Charles J. Page, covering a program of further exploration at the Strickland Butte mine, and identified, as we advised the applicant by letter of September 27, 1954, as Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury. That application, after review and consultation among the appropriate commodity specialists, was denied by a separate letter on March 11, 1955, and accordingly was not discussed in the above-mentioned letter of February 18, 1955, which concerned only the outcome of Contract No. Idm-E537, Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury.

Denial by DMEA of an application for exploration aid is generally made without prejudice to the property. If you have new information that would justify a different conclusion about the merits of the Strickland Butte mine, a new application could be submitted, which should state such information clearly; and, with your technical background, you will appreciate that your conclusions can best be supported by a geologic map on a working scale showing specifically any new assay results.

As the enclosed DMEA Order-1 Amended makes clear, any DMEA project ~~could only~~ must ~~be~~ be conducted in accordance with ~~the corresponding~~ a contract which specifies the work to be performed ~~and in executing whatever proposed contract might be submitted to him for signature, an operator would accept the terms thereof~~. The subsequent DMEA inspections and reviews of the project serve, and are intended to serve, only to insure that the project is conducted in accordance with the contract. The Field Team reports are solely for the confidential use of the Government and are not made available for distribution.

Move to (X)

Also enclosed for your convenience are DMEA application forms. You can expedite consideration of any revised application, should you desire to submit one, by sending a copy direct to Mr. A. E. Weissenborn, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region I-Northwest District, South 157 Howard Street,

Spokane 4, Washington, at the same time that you submit three copies to the DMEA here in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of the Interior

Enclosures

Mr. Burton J. Westman
P. O. Box 31
Aloha, Oregon

WSMartin/ls
5/18/55

cc: Docket No. DMEA 2628
Docket No. DMEA 3499
Code 400 - DMEA 2628
Code 400 - DMEA 3499
Adm. Read. File
Thor Kiilsgaard, USGS
Helen Meyer, USBM
Field Team, Reg. I-Spokane
Secretary's Reading File
Secretary's Mails & Files
Mr. Imhoff
Asst. Secretary Wormser (2)

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

Surname copy

Ching
Ellis
Kilsgaard
Hedges
Martin

MAR 11 1955

Messrs. Morris L. Page and Charles J. Page
d/b/a Strickland Butte Mine
291 E. 6th Street
Prineville, Oregon

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3499 (Mercury)
Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

Gentlemen:

Your application for aid in an exploration project and other information available to us in Washington concerning your above-named property have been reviewed.

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

Careful study of all our information, although noting a small amount of mercury mineralization on your property, indicates to us that the probability of disclosing minable ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

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

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

MChing/gla 3-11-55
cc to: Admr.'s Reading File
Operating Committee
Docket
Messrs. H. M. Meyer, Rm. 2623
T. H. Kiilsgaard, Rm. 5224
Code 700
Mr. Ching
DMEA Field Team, Region I, NW District

RJ

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

DOCKET FILE

March 11, 1955

Summary of Proposed Project

Object: Denial of application for an exploration project.

Docket No. DMEA-3499

Commodity: Mercury

Applicant: Morris L. & Charles J.Page
d/b/a Strickland Butte Mine
291 East 6th Street
Prineville, Oregon

Property: Nine unpatented mining claims located in SE$\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 14, T. 13 S., R. 17 E., W.M., Crook County, Oregon. Applicant is the owner.

Date of application: September 1, 1954

Amount of application: $16,250.00

Work proposed: Sink inclined shaft from intersection of No. 6 and No. 8 trenches to perlite contact; then drift 50 feet each way along the contact before sinking through the perlite dike.

150 ft. shaft sinking @ $75.00/ft.	$11,250.00
100 ft. drifting @ $50.00/ft.	5,000.00
Estimated total cost	$16,250.00

Field Team Report: February 1, 1955

This property was explored unsuccessfully under Docket No. DMEA-2628 by trenching and a short winze. While there may be lenses of ore at the contact between the tuffs and rhyolite, there seems little reason to assume that such lenses would have any significant size. Denial of the application is recommended.

Commodity Committee Members' Comments:

Geological Survey - E. L. Newcomb, February 18, 1955.

The previous project was based on the favorability of the clay-tuff contact as a possible zone of significant mineralization.

The target selected for exploration in the early contract was the most favorable on the property. Other targets were considered to be of lesser importance and must remain unfavorable in the light of results obtained in the earlier project. There is no promising evidence which suggests that further exploration is warranted or can be expected to be successful. Recommends that the application be denied.

Bureau of Mines - Helena M. Meyer, March 4, 1955.

Points out that in an unpublished report by Aaron C. Waters, U.S.G.S., it was indicated that the most favorable location for exploration at the Strickland Butte property is at the contact between the hydrothermally altered tuffs and the rhyolite plug at depth. Thinks it is important to obtain greater knowledge of cinnabar-bearing areas even though the materials found may not be economic under normal conditions. Therefore, inclined to favor a modest program for further investigation. Does not feel strongly in this instance.

Rare & Miscellaneous Metals Division - Michael Ching, March 7, 1955.

The exploration work under Docket No. DMEA-2628 showed that relatively small concentrations of cinnabar occur along the contact between an overlying heterogenous tuff and a red tuffaceous clay band, but such occurrences are erratic and not of economic size. The present application providesfor additional exploration at depth along the contact between the tuff and an intrusive rhyolite plug. All underground work on the property to date has been a short distance north and west of this contact. However, some of the trenches excavated under the former project reached the contact without revealing significant mineralization. There is nothing to indicate that any mineralization that might be found along this contact in depth would be any more significant than that found under the former project. Furthermore, Applicant proposes to sink along a vein through which he believes the mineralizing solutions passed to form a small ore body mined in 1940-41. Under the exploration project recently completed a similar inclined shaft nearby followed a much more strongly mineralized clay band down dip only to have the mineralization pinch out at a depth of 14 feet.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

Further work along the lines proposed in the subject application is not likely to find an ore body of significant size. It is recommended that the application be denied.

Ernest Wm. Ellis

Ernest Wm. Ellis

3/4/55 gla

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 4, 1955

Memorandum

To: E. W. Ellis

From: Helena M. Meyer, Branch of Base Metals

Subject: DMEA Docket 3499 (mercury) Morris L. Page & Charles J. Page d.b.a. Strickland Butte Mine, Crook County, Oregon

The applicants explored the property unsuccessfully under Exploration Project Contract No. Idm - E537, Docket No. DMEA 2628. The work consisted of trenching and a short winze to follow ore exposed in one of the trenches.

The applicants now propose to sink a winze from trench No. 8 downward along the red clay band to explore the contact between this red clay band and the rhyolite plug.

The Field Team, in the letter dated February 1, stated that there is no promising evidence to suggest that further exploration is warranted or can be expected to be successful. The Final Report of the Field Team states that "... it is doubtful that an ore body would be discovered...". It also says, however, "... underground exploration of the cinnabar-bearing stratum at its contact with the rhyolite plug may be successful in finding richer concentrations of cinnabar than were found by the trenching...". In the letter of February 1, the Field Team states that Mr. Waters indicated that the most favorable location for exploration at the Strickland Butte property is at the contact between the hydrothermally altered tuffs and the rhyolite plug at depth.

I think it is important to obtain greater knowledge of cinnabar-bearing areas even though the materials found may not be economic under normal conditions. Therefore, I would be inclined to favor a modest program for further investigation. I do not feel so strongly in this instance, however, that I would urge that the application be approved if the Geological Survey and DMEA disagreed.

Helena M. Meyer

Helena M. Meyer

Copy to: Division of Minerals
Branch of Base Metals
H. M. Meyer
F i l e s

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 4, 1955

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HMMeyer/vr
Copy to: Division of Minerals
Branch of Base Metals
H. M. Meyer
F i l e s

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 4, 1955

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Helena M. Meyer

Helena M. Meyer

HMMeyer/vr
Copy to: Division of Minerals
Branch of Base Metals
H. M. Meyer
F i l e s

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

2-21-55 Am.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
FEB 18 1955

February 18, 1955

Re: DMEA-3499
Page Brothers
(Strickland Butte Mine)
Crook Co., Oregon
$16,250 - Mercury

Memorandum

To: E. W. Ellis, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of application

The operator has proposed to explore a possible vein along a perlite dike by sinking a 150-foot inclined shaft and drifting 100 feet.

The Field Team has recommended that the application be denied.

The Strickland Butte mine was granted DMEA assistance in 1953 for exploration of the most promising mineralization showings on the property. The completed contract work consisted of seven trenches and a 28-foot prospect shaft. Mineralized rock was exposed in trenches 4, 6 and 7 and in the 28-foot shaft; however, the amount of recoverable mercury indicated by this work was estimated to be only about 10 flasks. Most of this production would be obtained from a small ore lens in the 28-foot shaft. The results of the exploration work were unfavorable and significant amounts of mercury were not found. A certificate of discovery was not issued.

The previous project was based on the favorability of the clay-tuff contact as a possible zone of significant mineralization. The same information and reports were available at the time of the initial field examination as we now have for our present consideration, with the exception of the DMEA trenching results. The target zone selected for exploration in 1953 was the most favorable on the property. Other possible targets were considered at the time to be of lesser importance and still are less favorable in light of the poor results obtained on the DMEA project.

Although there are unexplored areas remaining on this property, there is no promising evidence which suggests that further exploration is warranted or can be expected to be successful. The best target zone has been tested and proven to lack significant ore shoots.

I recommend this new application be denied.

E. L. Newcomb

E. L. Newcomb

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
FEB 18 1955

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Copy to: DMEA (3)

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

Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
FEB 18 1955

February 18, 1955

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(Strickland Butte Mine)
Crook Co., Oregon
$16,250 - Mercury

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M. L. Newcomb

Copy to: DMEA (3)

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Defense Minerals Administration
FEB 18 1955

February 18, 1955

Re: DMEA-3499
Page Brothers
(Strickland Butte Mine)
Crook Co., Oregon
$16,850 - Mercury

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Although there are unexplored areas remaining on this property, there is no promising evidence which suggests that further exploration is warranted or can be expected to be successful. The best target zone has been tested and proven to look significant are absent.

I recommend this new application be denied.

E. L. Everomb

Copy to: IMEA (3)

2/14/55 gla

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

So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
FEB 7 1955

February 1, 1955

Mr. George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3499 (mercury)
Application for exploration assistance
Morris L. Page & Charles J. Page
d/b/a/ Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Selfridge:

Reference is made to your letter of November 22, 1954, asking about the status of the above-cited application. Because we believe there is sufficient information already in our files, a formal appraisal report has not been prepared. It is believed the information which follows will serve adequately.

This property has been explored unsuccessfully by Exploration Project Contract No. Idm-E537, Docket No. DMEA-2628. The work of this contract consisted of trenching, and a short winze to follow ore that was exposed in one of the trenches. Certification was not recommended. The project was described in a final report dated September 1954, by S. W. Zoldok, Bureau of Mines and W. P. Puffett, Geological Survey.

The applicants are now applying for assistance on an exploration project to sink a winze from trench No. 8 downward along the red clay band to explore the contact between this red clay band and the rhyolite plug which forms Strickland Butte. During the past season they have done a small amount of exploration work and have exposed a narrow stringer of cinnabar which is trending at nearly right angles to the contact between the rhyolite plug and the tuffaceous clays. It is their opinion that by following this stringer to the contact and exploring along the contact, they will be successful in finding much more favorable concentrations of cinnabar than were found by the trenching done under contract Idm-E537. According to an unpublished report on the Strickland Butte property by Aaron Waters, U. S. Geological Survey, the proposed exploration project as outlined in this application has some justification. Mr. Waters suggests that

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
2-11-55
(date)

the most favorable location for exploration at the Strickland Butte property is at the contact between the hydrothermally altered tuffs and the rhyolite plug at depth.

It is the opinion of the field team, based on the previous project final report, that while there may be lenses of ore at the contact between the tuffs and rhyolite, there seems little reason to assume such lenses would have any significant size. Therefore, we recommend denial of the application; however, if the commodity men feel that the exploration comes under the scope of the DMEA program, we would not object.

By Field Team, Region I, NW District

John S. Vhay, Acting Exec. Officer
U. S. Geological Survey

~~Thomas E. Howard for~~
Wing G. Agnew, Member
U. S. Bureau of Mines

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

2/7/55 gla

Defense Materials Administration
Received
FEB 7 1955

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

February 1, 1955

Mr. George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

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d/b/a/ Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

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By Field Team, Region I, NW District

John S. Vhay, Acting Exec. Officer
U. S. Geological Survey

~~Thomas B. Howard for~~
Wing G. Agnew, Member
U. S. Bureau of Mines

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

700

Surname copy

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

Ching
Ellis
Selfridge
E. Johnson
Rutledge

NOV 22 1954

Mr. A. L. Weissenborn
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region 11
South 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3499 (Mercury)
Morris L. and Charles J. Page
Strickland Butte Mine
Prineville, Oregon

Dear Mr. Weissenborn:

On September 20, 1954 the Field Team forwarded the subject application to this office with the advice that enough information was on hand as a result of an earlier exploration project on the same property, to evaluate the proposal without a field examination, and that such an appraisal would be made as soon as the field man returned to the office.

Will you kindly advise us of the present status of the proposed appraisal and report.

Incidentally, we note that under the old Strickland Butte Mine project (Docket DMEA-2628) no final report by the Operator was submitted to Washington. Kindly advise us if it is your intent to waive such a report.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge by ES
Chairman, Operating Committee

APPROVED:
T. H. Hedges by ES
Member, Bureau of Mines
E. L. Newcomb by ES
Member, Geological Survey

MChing:am
11-18-54
cc to: Admr. Reading File
Operating Committee
Docket - DMEA-3499
Docket - DMEA-2628
Messrs. H. M. Meyer, Rm. 2623
T. H. Kiilsgaard, Rm. 5224
Code 700 (2)
Mr. Ching

R.C.S.

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

September 27, 1954

Memorandum

To: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

From: Chief, Operation's Control and Statistics Division

Subject: Assignment of Docket Number

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

DMEA-3499 Morris L. & Charles J. Page

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

Messrs. M. L. & C. J. Page
Strickland Butte Mine (dba)
291 E. 6th Street
Prineville, Oregon

September 27, 1954
Subject: DMEA-3499
Re: Exploration Assistance

Gentlemen:

The receipt of your application dated September 1, 1954 for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-3499 and referred to the Rare and Miscellaneous Metals Division.

Kindly refer to in any future correspondence relating to your application.

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON 25, D.C.~~
So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

RECEIVED
SEP 24 1954

September 20, 1954

Mr. George C. Selfridge, Chairman
DMEA Operating Committee
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: New application (mercury)
Morris L. Page and Charles J. Page
dba Strickland Butte Mine
Crook County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Selfridge:

Enclosed are the original and 2 copies of an application for exploration at the above-cited property presented by Morris L. Page and Charles J. Page of 291 E. 6th Street, Prineville, Oregon.

No field examination will be necessary because we have enough information on hand to evaluate the proposal as a result of an exploration project completed at the same property. An appraisal will be made and sent in to you just as soon as our field man returns to the office.

By Field Team, Region II

John S. Vhay

John S. Vhay, Acting Exec. Officer
U. S. Geological Survey

Thomas E. Howard

Thomas E. Howard, Acting Member
For: Wing G. Agnew
U. S. Bureau of Mines

Enclosure

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
SEP 24 1954

RECEIVED
SEP 3 1954
U. S. G. S.
SPOKANE, WASH.

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

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. 3499
Metal or Mineral Mercury
Date Received
Estimated Cost $16,250
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address: Morris L. Page and Charles J. Page, doing business as
Strickland Butte Mine
291 E. 6th St.
Prineville, Oregon

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

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

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

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

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract Nine unpatented mining claims located in the SE¼ of Sec. 14, T. 13 S., R. 17 E., W. M., in Mill Creek Mining District of Crook County, Oregon, and recorded at County Auditor's office, Prineville, Oregon, in the Mining Records for Crook County.

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

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

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

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it Govt. Loan Docket No. DMEA 2628, only.

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice. (See attached Annex 1.)

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

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

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

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points. (Refer to your file DMEA 2628 for (a)(b)(c)(d)

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.
We either own or can rent any equipment needed.

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

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc. (See Annex 2.)

(*c*) The work will start within 30 days and be completed within 12 months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations. (See Annex 3.)

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project (See Annex 4

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

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants. (See Annex 5.)

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel. (See Annex 6.)

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be. (See Annex 7.)

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project. None

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project. None

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes. (See Annex 8.)

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above. (See Annex 9.)

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

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

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

[X] Money [ ] Use of equipment owned by you [X] Other

Explain in detail on acompanying paper.
(See Annex 10.)

CERTIFICATION

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

Dated September 1, 1954

Strickland Butte Mine
(Applicant)

By Morris L. Page
Chas J. Page

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

ANNEX I

Claim	Book	Page
Redbird	5	556
Strickland Butte No. 1	5	539
Morning Glory	5	578
Wildcat	5	574
Buckhorn	5	575
Rocky Point	5	560
Buena Vista	5	555
Black Hawk	5	573
Modoc	6	143

ANNEX II

Proposed Work:

To sink a 4'x6' incline shaft following a definite vein dipping approximately 39% and striking 35 degrees south of east, along a slip, which is also definite. This vein shows some highgrade ore. It is our opinion, as well as the opinion of our Geologist, Mr. Westman, and your field man, Mr. Puffett, that if we follow this vein to the perlite contact, and then drift approximately fifty feet each way, along the contact, we will find a fissure through the perlite dike, or a fault, that will take us by again sinking, below the dike, and thus into the main ore body.

As the attached sketch shows, we cut this vein in Trench No. 6, and again at greater depth in Trench 8, which showed it going into the old workings. Thus, we are sure that this is the vein the ore followed to make the deposit mined in 1940-41.

ANNEX III

Experience record of applicant M. L. Page:

12 years experience drifting, sinking, timbering and general mine work on this property, as well as three years general mining on a lead and zinc property on Scissor Creek in Crook County.

Experience record of C. J. Page:

10 years experience drifting, sinking, timbering and general mine work on this property.
1 year working for W. J. Sueffert at Jimmy Ann Mine on Ochoco Creek, Crook County.
1 year Johnson Creek Mine for James Morris.
Experienced operator all types heavy equipment.

Experience record of Burton J. Westman, Geologist and Engineer; for Morris L. and Charles J. Page:

1935 to 1938 General mining experience both hardrock and placer gold, Northern California.

1938 to 1942 Michigan State College; 57 term hours geology, 55 term hours general engineering; majored in mining and structural geology.

1940 to 1942 Three field seasons geologic mapping and magnetic surveying on the Michigan Geological Survey under Carl E. Dutton, now head of Lake Superior Branch, U.S.G.S.

1942 to 1944 U.S.A.A.F. Aviation Cadet. 11 mos. hospitalization and given CDD discharge 50% disability.

1944 to 1945 Mapping, sampling and mine examinations No. Calif.

1945 Project engineer U.S.B.M. Iron River (Mich.) project. Magnetic surveying, laying out drill sites and supervising diamond drilling. Full charge of office details.

1946 Mapping, sampling and mine examinations in No. Calif. and Oregon.

1947 Head Foreman and Assist. Quarry Supt., 2000 t/day plant, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

1948 to 1950 Field engineer up to Mgr of Core Bit Division, Koebel Diamond Tool Co. Deep well diamond coring, core bit design (did work for Wing G. Agnew designing bits and core lifters for USBM) Was on Oil Field Practices Committee and Mine Coring Equipment Specifications Committee of Core Drill Mfgrs. Association.

ANNEX VII

Compressor rental per foot	$ 2.00	
Hoist rental per foot	1.00	
Pump rental per foot	1.00	
Ventfan and motor rental per foot	.25	
	$ 4.25	
250 Ft. at $4.25 per foot		$ 1,062.50

ANNEX VIII

Analytic work per foot	$ .50	
Workmen's compensation, insurance and payroll tax per foot	.75	
	$ 1.25	
250 ft. $1.25 per foot		$ 312.50

ANNEX IX

Contingencies

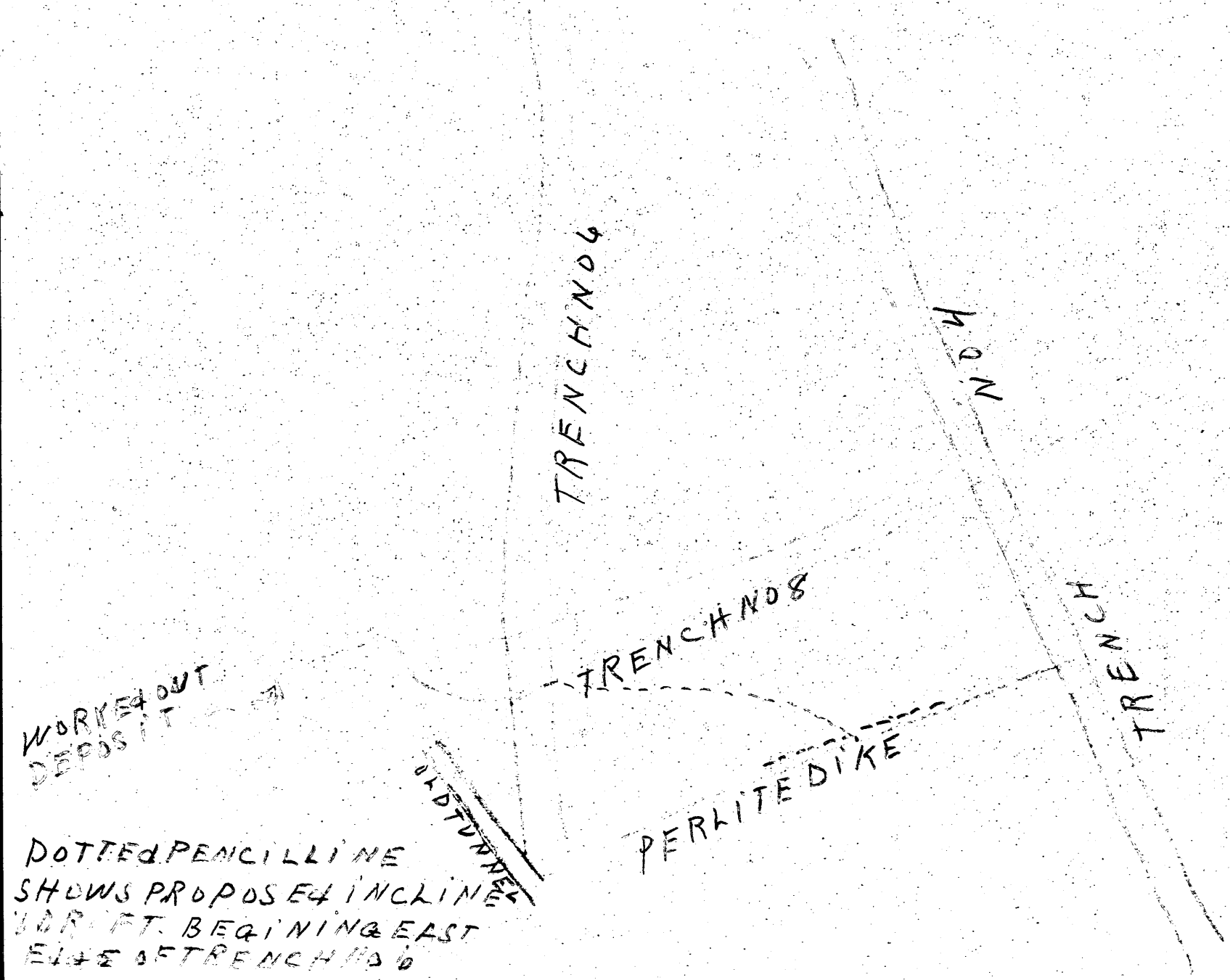
Cleaning and leveling Trench No. 8 with bulldozer, haulage of supplies and timbers per foot	$2.00	
250 Ft. at $2.00 per foot		$ 500.00

ANNEX X

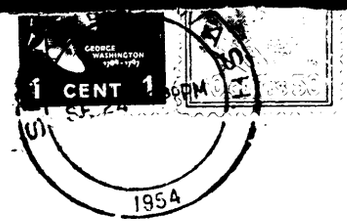
Our 25 percent of this contract will be furnished in money and labor.

N.

ANNEX II


TRENCH NO 6
TRENCH NO 8
TRENCH NO 4
PERLITE DIKE
OLD TUNNEL
WORKED OUT DEPOSIT
DOTTED PENCIL LINE SHOWS PROPOSED INCLINE UNDER FT. BEGINING EAST EDGE OF TRENCH NO 6

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Mr. George C. Selfridge, Chairman
DMEA Operating Committee
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

400 file.

P.R.S. # 5086

Ames 3499

MAY 25 1955

Dear Mr. Westman:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter of May 10, 1955, written as consulting mining geologist for Morris L. and Charles J. Page, Strickland Butte mine, Prineville, Crook County, Oregon, who previously had a Defense Minerals Exploration Administration Contract No. Idm-E537, Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury, covering the same mine.

The subject contract was dated June 2, 1953, and work thereunder was completed during July and August 1953. On March 22, 1954, the Certifying Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II, was notified by the Executive Officer of that Field Team that the operator had not submitted a final engineering report on the results of the project and, although such a report was required by the contract, this requirement was waived by the Executive Officer, who apparently felt that the project reports of August 8 and August 31, 1953, submitted by Mr. F. E. Lewis, could be accepted in lieu of the usual final report.

Mr. Morris L. Page by letter of May 12, 1954, which I acknowledged on May 20, thanked me and the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, and especially the Executive Officer and members of the DMEA Field Team, for their work on the project. Accordingly, I am surprised to note your criticisms of the project and your request for reports covering the work.

As the enclosed DMEA Order-1 Amended makes clear, any Defense Minerals Exploration Administration project must be conducted in accordance with a contract which specifies the work to be performed. The subsequent Defense Minerals Exploration Administration's inspections and reviews of the project serve, and are intended to serve, only to insure that the project is conducted in accordance with the contract. The Field Team's reports are solely for the confidential use of the Government and are not made available for distribution.

You also comment that the letter of February 18, 1955, informing the operator that Defense Minerals Exploration Administration did not intend to make a certification of discovery or development which would create a lien against the subject property, made no mention of "the 1953 application."

The application that resulted in Contract No. Idm-E537 was dated July 17, 1952. It seems likely, therefore, that you are referring to an application dated September 1, 1954, submitted by Morris L. and Charles J. Page, covering a program of further exploration at the Strickland Butte mine, and identified, as we advised the applicant by letter of September 27, 1954, as Docket No. DMEA 3499-Mercury. That application, after review and consultation among the appropriate commodity specialists, was denied by a separate letter on March 11, 1955, and accordingly was not discussed in the above-mentioned letter of February 18, 1955, which concerned only the outcome of Contract No. Idm-E537, Docket No. DMEA 2628-Mercury.

Denial by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration of an application for exploration aid is generally made without prejudice to the property. If you have new information that would justify a different conclusion about the merits of the Strickland Butte mine, a new application could be submitted, which should state such information clearly; and, with your technical background, you will appreciate that your conclusions can best be supported by a geologic map on a working scale showing specifically any new assay results.

Also enclosed for your convenience are Defense Minerals Exploration Administration application forms. You can expedite consideration of any revised application, should you desire to submit one, by sending a copy direct to Mr. A.E. Weissenborn, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region I - Northwest District, South 157 Howard Street, Spokane 4, Washington, at the same time that you submit three copies to the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration here in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Douglas McKay
Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Burton J. Westman
P. O. Box 31
Aloha, Oregon

Enclosures

P.R.S. #5086
WSMartin/ls
5/19/55

Copy to: Docket No. DMEA 2628
Docket No. DMEA 3499

Code 400--DMEA 2628 file
Code 400--DMEA 3499 file
Code 400--Reading File

Admin. Reading File
Thor Kiilsgaard, USGS
Helena Meyer, USBM
Field Team, NW Dist.-Reg.I-Spokane

Secretary's Mails and Files
Secretary's Reading File
Mr. L. E. Imhoff
Asst. Sec. Wormser (2)

Operating Committee