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

RECEIVED AUG 1 7

August 15, 1955

224 New Customhouse
Denver 2, Colorado

Memorandum

To: Secretary to the Operating Committee, DMEA

From: Field Team, Region III

Subject: Report of Examination, DMEA Docket 3820 (Uranium)
Franklin K. Getscher, Brushy Basin Group,
San Juan County, Utah

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

We concur with the recommendation of the field examiners that the application for exploration assistance be denied.

Field Team Region III

W. M. Traver

E. N. Harshman

TRANSMITTED

AUG 15 1955

DMEA
Date Rec'd.

AUG 12 1955

BUREAU OF MINES
Denver, Colorado

Building 20
Denver Federal Center
Denver 2, Colorado
August 12, 1955

RECEIVED
AUG 17 1955

Region III

Memorandum

To: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

From: John F. Shaw

Subject: Docket No. DMEA 3820, Brushy Basin Claim Group, Franklin K. Getscher, San Juan County, Utah (Uranium)

Enclosed are the original and ten copies of a Joint Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations by W. D. McMillan, Mining Engineer, and Howard F. Albee, Geologist and the original and ten copies of an Engineering Report by W. D. McMillan, Mining Engineer, covering Docket No. DMEA 3820.

Franklin K. Getscher applied for exploration assistance in the amount of $52,220.00 to explore the Brushy Basin Claim Group, San Juan County, Utah by 17,640 feet of drilling.

The field examination was made on June 21, 1955. The examining team concluded that there was little possibility of finding a significant amount of Uranium on the property. It is recommended that the application be denied.

John F. Shaw
Supervising Mining Engineer

JFS:jw

cc: 10/w orig.
E.N.Harshman
DMEA 3820
Chron.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION III

DMEA 3820

Brushy Basin Claim Group

Franklin K. Getscher

Blanding Mining District

San Juan County, Utah

Uranium

By

W. D. McMillan
Mining Engineer
Bureau of Mines

Howard F. Albee
Geologist
Geological Survey

DMEA 3820

BRUSHY BASIN CLAIM GROUP
FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER
BLANDING MINING DISTRICT
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations

By

W. D. McMillan
Mining Engineer
Bureau of Mines

Howard F. Albee
Geologist
Geological Survey

DMEA 3820

BRUSHY BASIN CLAIM GROUP
FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER
BLANDING MINING DISTRICT
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

By W. D. McMillan and Howard Albee

Franklin K. Getscher has applied to the Defence Minerals Exploration Administration for Government assistance in exploration of the Brushy Basin uranium claims in San Juan County, Utah. The claims are leased from Dale Campbell who located them in July and August, 1954. The applicant proposed 168 holes with a total of 17,640 feet of drilling, at an estimated total cost of $52,220.00. Government participation at 75 percent would be $39,165.00.

A field examination was made on June 21, 1955, and information was obtained regarding the property from the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The claims are on both sides of Brushy Basin Creek. The rocks exposed on these claims are the Jurassic Morrison formation consisting in ascending order of the Salt Wash sandstone member, the Westwater Canyon sandstone member, and the Brushy Basin shale member.

In the area of the Brushy Basin claim group the Salt Wash sandstone member is the only ore producing member.

The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission has proven a favorable belt in the Salt Wash sandstone member, about 5 miles south of the group and private interests have found uranium ore on a group of claims one mile south of the southern end of the Brushy Basin claims.

The applicants claims map showed many points of high radioactivity on most of the claims, and ore outcrops on the southern group. The only radioactive anomalies found by the examining team were in from two to ten inches at the base of second rim of the Salt Wash sandstone Member.

The probability of finding ore grade material in economic quantity is extremely poor.

The examining team recommends denial of application No.3820.

DMEA 3620

BRUSHY BASIN CLAIM GROUP
FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER
BLANDING MINING DISTRICT
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

Engineering Report

By W. D. McMillan
Mining Engineer
Bureau of Mines

DMSA 3820

BRUSHY BASIN CLAIM GROUP
FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER
BLANDING MINING DISTRICT
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure — Follows page

1. Location map, Franklin K. Getscher Property, Blanding Mining District, San Juan County, Utah 2

DMEA 3620

BRUSHY BASIN CLAIM GROUP
FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER
BLANDING MINING DISTRICT
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

ENGINEERING REPORT

By W. D. McMillan

INTRODUCTION

Franklin K. Getscher applied for Defence Minerals Exploration Administration assistance for exploration by diamond core drilling of his Brushy Basin Claim Group in the Blanding Mining District, San Juan County, Utah. The proposed work was for a first stage of 100 holes on a 500-foot pattern over the 20 claims; this to be followed, if favorable results were obtained, by a second stage of 56 holes at intervals of 100 to 200 feet around the first stage favorable holes; this to be followed by a third stage of 11 holes at close intervals. The estimated total amount of drilling was 17,640 feet at an estimated total cost of $52,220.00. Government participation at 75 percent would be $39,165.00.

An examination was made on June 22, 1955 by a Region III examining team consisting of W. D. McMillan of the Bureau of Mines, H. F. Albee and Carl Roach of the Geological Survey, accompanied by Franklin K. Getscher, the applicant.

This examination and information on the district from the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission resulted in the examining team recommending denial of the application for the geological reasons given in this report.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Data on the property was obtained by personal observation, from the geologic report submitted with the application, and from the experience of the Geological Survey members of the examining team in the area. Franklin Getscher was helpful in guiding the team over the claims.

LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

The Brushy Basin Claim Group consists of 20 claims located in Sections 30-31, T. 35 S., R. 22 E. and Sections 1, 11 and 12, T. 35 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake Principal Meridian. The claims are the Brushy Basin 24, 28 32, 30, 34, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 64, 66, 68, 100, 102, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124. They are on cliffs and terraces on the west side of Brushy Basin Creek, and are reached by travelling Utah Highway 95 8.2 miles west from Blanding, Utah, thence northwesterly 2.6 miles over a graded road to a terrace on the east side of Brushy Basin Creek, thence by foot about 1/4 mile. The claims extend up and down Brushy Basin Creek for 3 miles,

Blanding, 10 miles east, and Monticello, 32 miles northeast are the nearest sources of supplies, as shown in Figure No. 1.

The claims are located on the western edge of the Great Sage Plain of Southeastern Utah, where canyons and gullies have cut below the plain. The elevation of the creek is about 6,050 feet, with a relief on both sides of about 200 feet, cut in places by steep gullies.

The vegetation consists of cacti, sags brush, native grasses and shrubs, and shrub pinons, pines and oak: The climate is semi-arid,

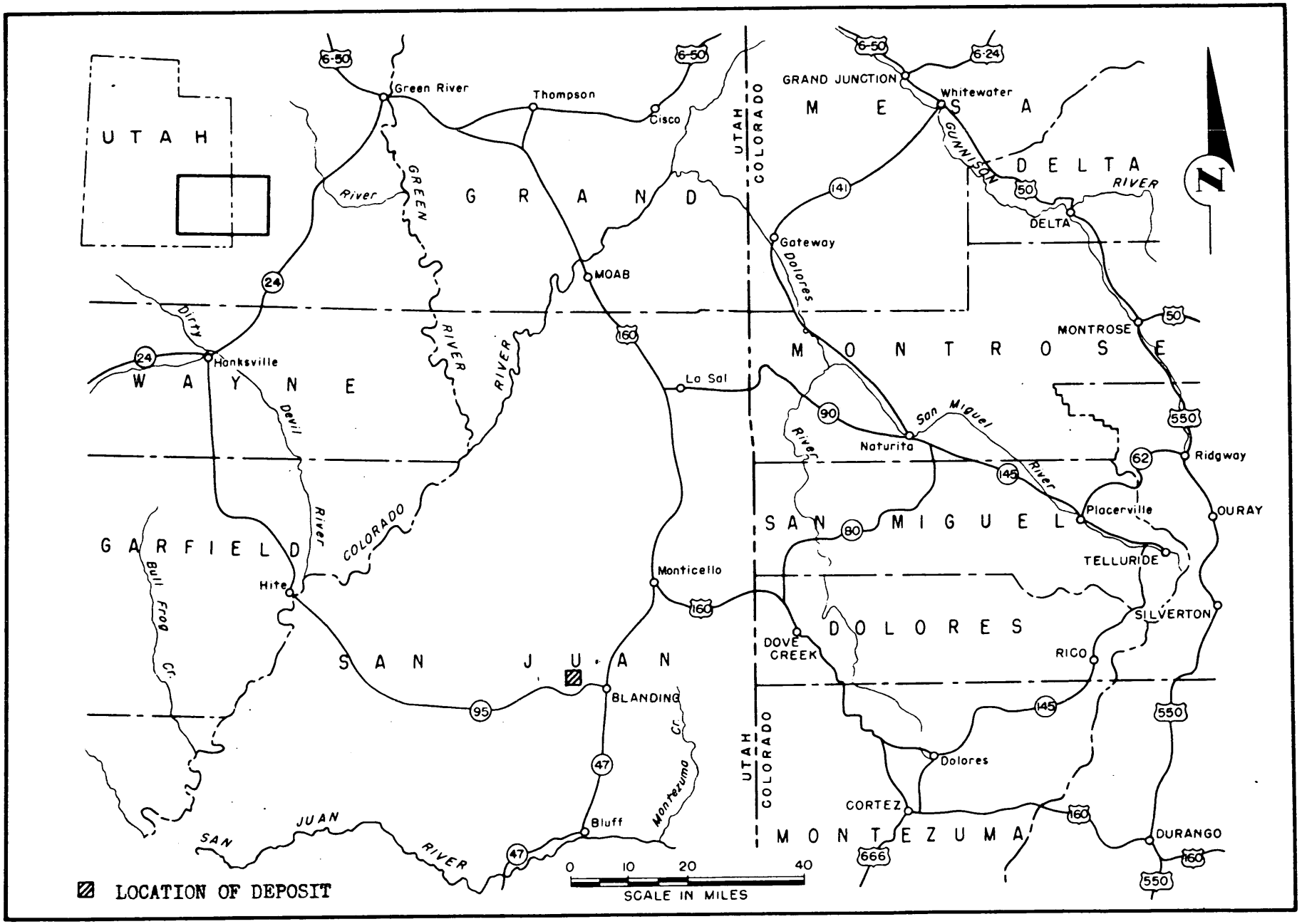


FIGURE 1 - LOCATION MAP, FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER, BRUSHY BASIN CLAIMS, BLANDING MINING DISTRICT, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH. DMEA 3820

with heavy storms of short duration throughout the year, and some accumulations of snow during the winter months.

HISTORY, PRODUCTION AND OWNERSHIP

The history of the Blanding Mining district dates from exploration and exploitation of vanadium ores after World War I. In recent years several mines in Cottonwood Wash 5 miles southwest of the Brushy Basin claims have produced many thousands of tons of uranium-vanadium ore and are still producing. There has not been any production from the property to date. The Brushy Basin group of 75 claims were located by Dale Campbell during July and August 1954, and were recorded in the recorder's office, Monticello, Utah during July and August, 1954.

Franklin K. Getcher secured a lease on 20 of these claims, but did not submit a copy nor have it recorded.

An examination of the records at Monticello showed some descripancies as given below:

Brushy Basin Claims - DMEA 3820

Claim No.	Book No.	Page No.	Cert. No.	DATES Loc.	DATES Rec.
26	131	20	9336	7-8-54	7-15-54
28	131	21	9338	7-8-54	7-15-54
30	131	22	9340	7-8-54	7-15-54
32	131	23	9342	7-8-54	7-15-54
34	131	24	9344	7-8-54	7-15-54
46	157	175)	Book and pages,		
48	157	176)	Mining Deeds,		
50	157	177)	Reg. further check		
52	157	178)	if contract is		
54	157	179)	approved.		
64	157	184)			
66	157	185	13,292	8-16-54	8-20-54
68	157	186	13,294	8-16-54	8-20-54

Claim No.	Book No.	Page No.	Cert. No.	DATES Loc.	DATES Rec.
100	157	187	13,296	8-16-54	8-20-54
102	157	188	13,298	8-16-54	8-20-54
116	157	195	13,312	8-16-54	8-20-54
118	157	196	13,314	8-16-54	8-20-54
120	157	197	13,316	8-16-54	8-20-54
122	157	198	13,318	8-16-54	8-20-54
124	157	199	13,320	8-16-54	8-20-54

Claim corners in Brushy Basin Creek are marked only by pinion branches. No markers were found on the ridge west of the creek, and there were no signs of claim surveys nor discovery work.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSIT

The Lower Salt Wash sandstone member of the Jurassic Morrison formation consisting of light grey and brown fine grained sandstone are exposed in the canyon and the immediate slopes of Brushy Basin Canyon, with the Westwater Canyon sandstone member and the Brushy Basin shale outcropping on the upper slopes. In the southern group of five claims brown to black conglomeritic sandstone appears, with irregular outcrops of mudstone from two to ten inches thick at the base of an upper twenty-foot bed of the Salt Wash sandstone member. This mudstone contains carbonaceous material of ore grade, but is unimportant in respect to ore reserves. A radiometric check of the sandstone beds failed to reveal any anomalies.

MINABLE RESERVES

None

PRESENT STATUS

Exploration and Development

None

Mining and Milling Equipment and other Facilities

None

PROJECT PROPOSALS WITH COSTS

The applicant proposed a diamond core drilling program in three stages consisting of 17,640 feet of drilling in 168 holes at an estimated total cost of $52,220.00. Government participation at 75 percent would be $39,165.00.

The examining team considers that the chances of finding commercial uranium ore on the claims are unfavorable.

CONCLUSIONS

The only uranium mineralization on the Brushy Basin claims is in a two-to ten-inch mudstone seam in the Salt Wash sandstone member of the Morrison formation. The chances of finding commercial uranium deposits under this condition are unfavorable.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that DMMA Application 3820 be denied without prejudice because no uranium mineralization was found in the Salt Wash sandstone member and the targets in the mudstone seam are too small to be given consideration.

TRANSMITTED

AUG 15 1955

Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

July 18, 1955

Memorandum

To: DMEA Field Team, Region III

From: E. N. Harshman

Subject: DMEA Docket 7820 (Uranium), Franklin K. Getscher, Brushy Basin group of claims, San Juan County, Utah

Enclosed are 10 copies of a report by J. F. Albee, U. S. Geological Survey, covering his examination of the subject claims.

The points of high radioactivity shown on the applicants' map were not confirmed by the examiners nor could the ore outcrops shown on the maps be found except for one fossil log that was of ore grade.

The claims lie to the north of a favorable ore zone found by AEC drilling in an area underlain by rocks described as semi-favorable to unfavorable for significant uranium ore deposits.

I concur with the recommendation that the application for exploration assistance be denied.

E. N. Harshman

E. N. Harshman
Member, Field Team

Enclosures (10)

TRANSMITTED
AUG 15 1955

MINERAL DEPOSITS
DMEA
RECEIVED
JUL 15 1955
U. S.
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
COLORADO PLATEAU DISTRICT
P. O. BOX 360
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

July 14, 1955

DMEA
Date Rec'd
JUL 19 1955
BUREAU OF MINES
Denver, Colorado

Memorandum

To: E. N. Harshman, DMEA Field Team, Region III

From: J. William Hasler

Subject: Franklin K. Getscher, Brushy Basin group of claims, San Juan County, Utah (DMEA 3820)

Franklin K. Getscher, 314 California Building, Denver 2, Colorado, has applied to the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration for assistance to explore for uranium on part of the Brushy Basin group of claims in San Juan County, Utah.

The application was referred to the field and an examination was made on June 21, 1955, by Howard F. Albee and Carl H. Roach of the U. S. Geological Survey, and W. D. McMillan, Engineer, U. S. Bureau of Mines, in company with Franklin K. Getscher, the applicant.

The rocks exposed on the applicant's claims are composed entirely of the Jurassic Morrison formation consisting of the Salt Wash sandstone member, Westwater Canyon sandstone member, and the Brushy Basin shale member. The uranium-vanadium ore of the Blanding area is known to occur in thin, roughly-tabular masses, as well as in rolls and in small, high-grade pockets which surround mineralized fossil logs.

The AEC has delineated a favorable belt of Salt Wash sandstone about a mile wide, but it does not extend far enough north into the applicant's property. The ore-bearing formation on the Brushy Basin group of claims becomes less favorable as it is traversed to the north. The sandstones become flat-bedded and are interbedded with unaltered, red mudstones.

No production has come from the Brushy Basin group of claims and the likelihood of finding ore-grade material in economic quantities is not good It is, therefore, recommended that the application for DMEA assistance be denied. I concur with the conclusions and recommendations of the examining field team.

Enclosed are the required number of reports and maps.

J. William Hasler

J. William Hasler,
Geologist

JWH/mlr

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION III

DMEA 3820, Franklin K. Getscher, Brushy Basin group of claims, San Juan County, Utah

Uranium

Geologic Report

by

Howard F. Albee
U. S. Geological Survey

July 14, 1955

INTRODUCTION

Franklin K. Getscher, 314 California Building, Denver 2, Colorado, has applied to DMEA 3820 for assistance to explore for uranium ore on part of the Brushy Basin group of claims. The claims are in the Blanding area of the Monticello mining district, San Juan County, Utah, in secs. 30 and 31, T. 35 S., R. 21 E., and secs. 1, 11, and 12, T. 36 S., R. 21 E., S.L.P.M. (fig. 1). The claims are about 9 miles west of Blanding, Utah, and can be reached via 6.5 miles of improved dirt road and about 3 miles of unimproved dirt road.

The applicant proposes to explore the claims with 17,640 feet of core drilling at a total cost of $52,220.00, including road building and drill sites.

The claims were examined June 21, 1955, by Howard F. Albee and Carl H. Roach of the U. S. Geological Survey, and W. D. McMillan, Engineer, U. S. Bureau of Mines, in company with Franklin K. Getscher, the applicant.

Northerly from a favorable belt of Salt Wash sandstone, delineated by Atomic Energy Commission drilling, the sandstone becomes less favorable. The applicant claims are in this less favorable area, and is recommended that the application for assistance be denied.

GEOLOGY AND MINERAL DEPOSITS

The rocks exposed on the applicant claims are entirely of the Jurassic Morrison formation. In ascending order the members are the Salt Wash sandstone, Westwater Canyon sandstone, and the Brushy Basin shale. The rocks strike east and have a regional dip of about 2° to the south.

In the area of the Brushy Basin group of claims the Salt Wash member is the only ore-producing member. Throughout the district the Salt Wash is generally composed of interbedded sandstone and mudstone lenses and cross-stratification is common in the sandstone. Local unconformities are abundant and represent scour and fill structures within the sandstone lenses. Carbonaceous material is abundant in parts of the sandstone and is found in nearly all of the ore bodies discovered in the Blanding area. Altered mudstone is a very prominent feature in all the mineralized localities of this area.

The uranium-vanadium ores of the Blanding area are in thin, roughly tabular masses; in thin to thick lenticular bodies; in rolls; and in small, high-grade pockets which surround mineralized fossil logs (Melancon and others, 1952).

The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission has delineated a favorable belt of Salt Wash that is about a mile wide and trends easterly through secs. 2 and 3, T. 37 S., R. 21 E. ~~(fig. 2)~~. Ore bodies in this belt range up to about 50,000 tons. North of this belt, in Brushy Basin draw, the Salt Wash sandstone becomes progressively less favorable. As far north as the southernmost group of Brushy Basin claims, Nos. 116-124, (fig. 2), the sands are generally semi-favorable. Northerly from this southern group of claims the sandstones become flat-bedded and are interbedded with unaltered, red mudstone beds.

The applicant's claim map shows many points of high radioactivity across most of the claims and shows ore outcrops on the southernmost group of claims. The points of high radioactivity were found by the applicant while walking the stream bottom and not on the outcrop. The examining team, in company with the applicant, traversed the stream bottom and could detect no anomalous radioactivity by scintillation counter. Part of the rims were walked, both on the southernmost claims and to the north. The indicated outcrops were walked but no ore was seen nor was any indicated by scintillation counter except in one large talus block. This talus block contains a fossil log from four to six inches in diameter with much carbonaceous material surrounding the log that is of ore-grade. The supposed mineralized indicated outcrop is at the base of the second rim, down from the Westwater Canyon sandstone. This zone is three to four times above background count and at the contact of a twenty to thirty feet thick sandstone and an underlying mudstone. The mudstone is altered from red to gray through a thickness of from two to ten inches.

No work has been done on the claims and the applicant could not show the examining team where he had taken samples.

There has been no production from this locality. Some wagon drilling has been done east of Brushy Basin draw, in section 12, by parties unknown to the applicant.

The examining team believes that the geologic probability of finding ore on the Brushy Basin group of claims is not good. Small, high-grade pods of ore may occur on the southermost group of five claims, but would be blind targets, and would be too small, if found, to be of economic value.

North of this southermost group, the sandstone is unfavorable for ore bodies. The sands are increasingly flat-bedded and the mudstone beds are unaltered except for about an inch thick, gray zone at the lower contact of the sandstone ledges.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission has delineated an east trending belt of ore-bearing and favorable Salt Wash in the Blanding area. Northerly from this belt the Salt Wash becomes progressively less favorable. The Brushy Basin group of claims is in the less favorable area. From south to north across the claims the sandstones are semi-favorable to unfavorable and little radioactivity was observed on the northernmost claims. No production has come from the Brushy Basin group of claims or from adjacent ground and no work has been done on the claims other than an access road to them.

The probability of finding ore-grade material in economic quantity is extremely poor. It is recommended, therefore, that the application be denied.

LITERATURE CITED

Melancon, P. E., Farrow, C. E., Jr., Garcia, R. J., 1953, Exploration drilling in the Blanding District, San Juan County, Utah, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, RMO 827.

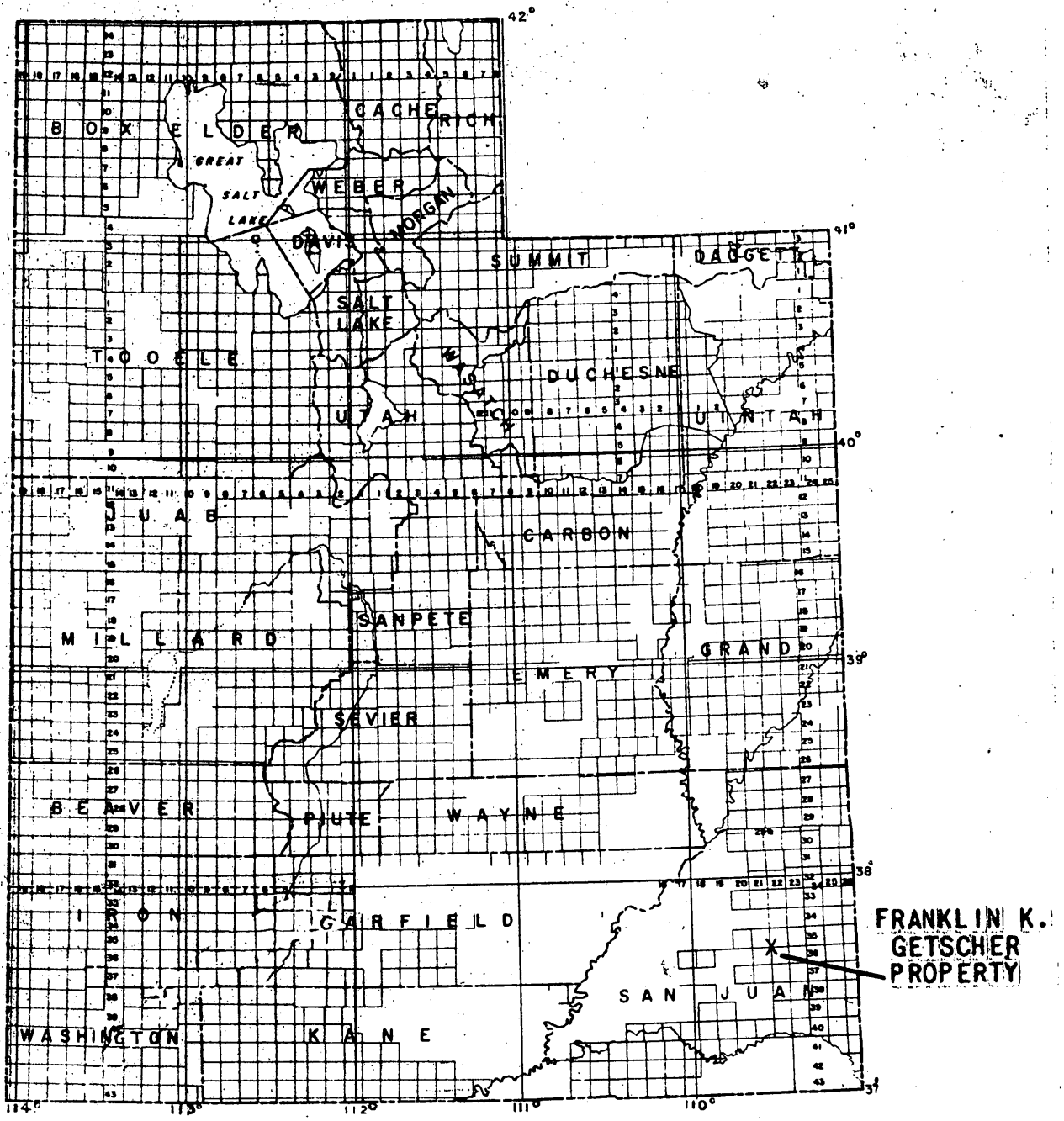
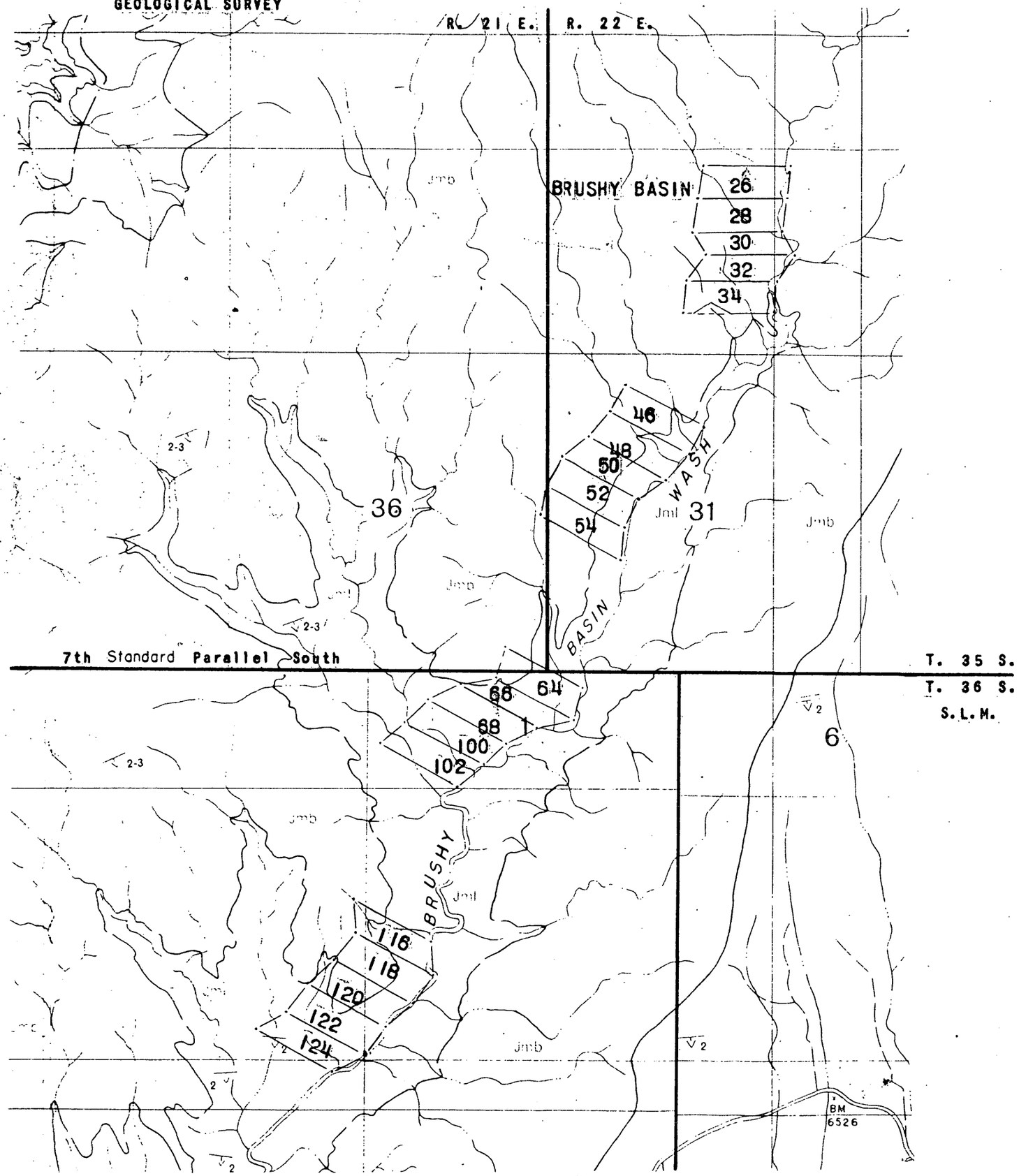


Figure 1. INDEX MAP SHOWING FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER PROPERTY
BLANDING AREA, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
DOCKET NO. 3820 JUNE 1955



EXPLANATION

Jmb BRUSHY BASIN MEMBER OF THE JURASSIC MORRISON FORMATION

Jml LOWER PART OF THE JURASSIC MORRISON FORMATION INCLUDES THE SALT WASH AND WESTWATER CANYON SANDSTONE MEMBERS

Note: BASE FROM U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PHOTOGEOLOGIC MAP ELK RIDGE 16

N

2000 0 4000 FEET

Figure 2. GEOLOGIC MAP OF PART OF BRUSHY BASIN GROUP OF CLAIMS, FRANKLIN K. GETSCHER SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH