Subject: DAWSON TIN PROPERTY
Taylor Creek, New Mexico

Reno, Nevada
January 19, 1942

To: Mr. Gustafson

From: Mr. Evans

INTRODUCTION

Instructions to contact Mr. C. H. Ramsden were received January 5 when the writer was in the Bay area. Mr. Ramsden was not available until January 8. On that date, six hours were spent with him and a Mr. Dawson, owner of the property, and tentative arrangements were made to visit the area in the immediate future.

CONCLUSIONS

Mr. Dawson's Taylor creek, New Mexico, property has had the benefit of recent Bureau of Mines and U. S. Geological Survey investigation. There seems no doubt about the intimate relationship of tin and volcanic flows. This discouraging feature, plus the negative sample results and detailed description contained in U.S.G.S. Bulletin 922-M (1940) paints an unattractive picture.

RECOMMENDATIONS

However, it is recommended that Taylor creek area be investigated. This recommendation is based on: (1) Mr. Ramsden is an individual this office can well afford to keep in touch with. He is sincere and honest in his Taylor creek interpretations. His active interest in mining may eventually crystallize in some property of merit. Fair treatment in this case is certainly justified. (2) The writer indicated his interest in making an examination in the near future.

LOCATION

The property is located in Catron county, New Mexico, on Taylor creek. It is a part of the Black Range tin district of which Squal creek and Hardcastle creek deposits are members.

HISTORY

The reader is referred to Bulletin 922-M (supra), in which the following occurs: "Nuggets of cassiterite were found in the gravel of Squaw creek in 1909 and by 1920 tin-bearing stringers had been found in all the principal areas. In the fall of 1920, the New Mexico Tin & Metals Company drove a 440-foot tunnel into the altered rock on the north side of Taylor creek, one-half mile east of the mouth of Cox creek. In 1939, the Colorado & New Mexico Tin Corporation erected a 25-ton mill on Taylor creek and ran tests on dump material. . . Mr. M. T. Anderson, in 1937, shipped 325 pounds of hand-picked material from the Taylor creek area to the Nicholls Copper Company. . . Detailed geologic maps of the areas, covering about ten square miles, were made in the fall of 1939. At the same time the deposits were explored and sampled by the U. S. Bureau of Mines."

On March 19, 1941, the property was leased to Mr. S. B. Solomon of Detroit and Mr. C. J. Rodham of Chicago. Messrs. Solomon and Rodham had not fulfilled certain stiuplations, and the property was again leased on January 13, 1942, this time to Mr. C. H. Ramsden and Mr. David D. Oliphant of Oakland, California.

GEOLOGY

Interpretation No. 1: Mr. C. E. Dawson, owner, and Mr. A. B. Connelley, engineer for Mr. Ramsden, both believe that the deposit represents a shear zone with average width of 500 feet, traceable for several miles and characterized by sufficient tin (four pounds per ton) to justify a large shovel operation.

Interpretation No. 2: Detailed mapping by the Survey has indicated that the region consists of a series of volcanics. Agglomerate and flows of an older series are overlain by a porphyritic rhyolite flow which is unconformably capped with later ash, sandstone and flows. Tin mineralization, earlier than the "cap", ash and flows, is to be found erratically distributed in the underlying rocks, particularly the rhyolite porphyry.

The rhyolite porphyry is characterized by well-developed lines of flow. Some shearing was concentrated along the zone of near-vertical flow lines. The U. S. G. S. has interpreted these near-vertical lines as the location of vents which would be the channelway for tin mineralization. Where tin mineralization is found, it is confined to widely-spaced stringers of 1-inch thickness from one to two feet long to tabular masses thirty feet long. Tin mineralization is intimately associated with specular hematite.

SAMPLES

Four hundred and seven samples were taken by the Bureau of Mines. Of these, only 50 contained more than one pound of tin per ton and only 5 contained more than five pounds per ton. It would appear that these samples present the best basis for a proper interpretation of the property.

Messrs. Dawson and Connelley, of course, insist that the government work was all located in waste and that no work was done in the actual main zone of alteration and mineralization. Maps accompany Bulletin 922-M (supra), but do not bear this out.

DEVELOPMENT

Maps accompanying 922-M indicate a total footage of 980 feet. This is divided as follows:

(1)	New Mexico Tin tunnel	350 feet
(2)	U.S.B.M. Crosscut 3N.	135 "
(3)	U.S.B.M. Shaft 2N	25 "
(4)	U.S.B.M. Crosscut 1N.	350 "
	U.S.B.M. Shaft Crosscut 1N . . .	70 "
(5)	Dawson tunnel	50 "
		980 "

The fact that this development crosscuts much of the zone of alteration as mapped warrants a detailed presentation of footage.

ORE RESERVES

No ore reserve exists. However, the owners would not agree with such a dogmatic statement.

TREATMENT METHODS

The mill established in 1939 was based on a table recovery of the cassiterite. The Bureau of Mines believes that even the finest of grinding would not separate much of the cassiterite from specularite. However, Mr. Dawson claimed a clean separation by table methods for the small tonnage tested.

EQUIPMENT

A 25-ton test mill valued at $10,000 is on the property.

EXISTING CONTRACTS

Lease No. 1 - Solomon and Rodham, March 19, 1941. Lessees: S. B. Solomon, 18255 Fairfield Avenue, Detroit, Michigan; and C. J. Rodham, 4541 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois. Principal terms: (1) Dawsons were to receive 10% of the gross "assay value" of the ore until $5,000 had been paid. Dawsons were then to receive a perpetual 5% of the gross "assay value" of the ore. (2) Dawsons were to receive minimum payments of $50 per month. (3) Solomon and Rodham were to put in 80 shifts of labor per month for 9 months. Note: Solomon and Rodham failed to comply with item 3 and have been notified that the lease is no longer in effect.

Lease No. 2 - Ramsden and Oliphant, January 13, 1942. Lessees: C. H. Ramsden, Pacific Coast Engineering Company, Alameda, California; and David D. Oliphant, attorney, Oakland, California. Principal terms: (1) Until the Solomon-Rodham lease has been satisfactorily nullified, Dawsons are to receive $150 per month. (2) With clear title established, Ramsden and Oliphant are to make a cash payment of $500. Payments of $150 per month are to continue for four months following of clearing of title, this period to be known as "Option Period." (3) With clear title established, payments of $100 per month are to start for purchase of mill on ground. These payments are to continue for 35 months. On the 36th month, the balance of $6,500 (total cost of mill is $10,000) is to be paid Dawsons. (4) After the four-months' option period, the "Lease Period" starts. Dawsons are to receive 5% of the value of the production. Dawson is to be employed at $150 per month until royalties to Dawsons equal $300 per month. The $150 salary is then to be eliminated. The lease runs for 99 years with privildge of renewal.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

In the event of interest on the part of Freeport, the property might be acquired on the following conditions: (1) A small down payment to repay Ramsden and Oliphant for expenses incurred to date. (2) The assumption by Freeport of all obligations existing between the lessees and Dawsons. (3) A payment of 10% of the value of the gross production (which includes the 5% to Dawsons). Ramsden believes that this might be lowered to 8%.

In Conclusion, a Mr. A. Be Connelley, former oil scout for Standard Oil Company of California, for services rendered to Ramsden and Oliphant, has been promised 25% of their interest. Ramsden and Oliphant have also been in touch

with A. H. Heller, Los Angeles promoter, who developed the Tungstar mine at Bishop. Also contacted has been the Belmont Smelting & Refining Company, which, the writer was told, has offices in New York City.

Mr. Ramsden also expects to approach the Placer Development Company, a California organization.

DLE:all

cc-Mr. Gentry
Mr. Shirley
Mr. Lundy
Mr. Molver
Mr. Lee

Tin-New Mexico
Dawson Property

(Catron Co., New Mexico) Telegraphic advice from Mr. Lundy requested that we contact Mr. C.H.Ramsden of Alameda California, concerning this prospect. Mr. Evans interviewed Mr. Ramsden on January 8. He and his associates had just taken an option on the property, which is one on which the Bureau of Mines has done considerable work since 1939. No ore of commercial grade has been indicated at this property, but it was indicated that the bureau's work was incomplete, and that mineable widths of 4 pound rock are indicated. It was not deamed adviseable to make this long trip for the sole purpose of visiting the Dawson property, but at a more convenient time, when other properties in this area are being visited an examination is planned.