

DEPARTMENT OF MINES

RB 42/82

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Progress Report on Plumbago Fluorite Claim by W.R. Peterson
U.S.A.E.C.

INTRODUCTION:

A request was made by Mr. Armstrong of the Mining Branch to inspect the workings and inquire about the future mining plans of Mr. Vom Berg, on mineral claim number 1969 registered 11th June, 1955.

LOCATION:

The claim is located on the northern slope of a low hill, 150 yards southwest of Plumbago Wool shed, and was mapped by D. King and R. Rowley on Plan U.S. 373 and included in report C.W.22.

PLAN: S 1218 Vom Berg's Fluorite Claim.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

Since pegging the claim Mr. Vom Berg has excavated a pit to eight feet depth on an intersection of two fluorite veins. This gouging operation has a length of twenty feet with an eight foot width on the northwest end and tapers to one foot at the southeast end. A definite hanging and footwall of granite and schist (Archean schists and gneiss associated with later pegmatites) are exposed in the pit and reveal the fluorite vein to have an average dip of 60 degrees northeast. (See included Plan S 1218). The easterly limb of the intersecting shear can be traced 200 feet northwest to an isolated fluorite vein. Reserves cannot be increased over the initial estimate of 100 to 200 tons from present workings.

Active mining at present consists of following the vein splits in a northwest direction and hand sorting the "high grade" from the included host of mullock. A crosscut costean is planned to open up the northern isolated part of the deposit and gain elevation while exploring along the strike toward the vein intersection.

MICROFILMED

S.M. Rodda Pty. Ltd., in Melbourne, will purchase the fluorite under the following buying agreement f.o.r. at Olary, S.A.:-

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>ANNUAL REQUIREMENT</u>	<u>PRICE PAID</u>
75 to 95% CaF ₂	150 tons	£12. 10. 0.
91 to 95% CaF ₂	30 to 50 tons	£14. 0. 0.
96 to 98% CaF ₂	50 to 100 tons	£16. 0. 0.

Less than 75% CaF₂ is not acceptable and would be rejected completely.

Twelve tons of fluorite has been shipped by truck to Yunta, S.A. and a similar parcel is being prepared to complete the initial order of twenty - four tons.

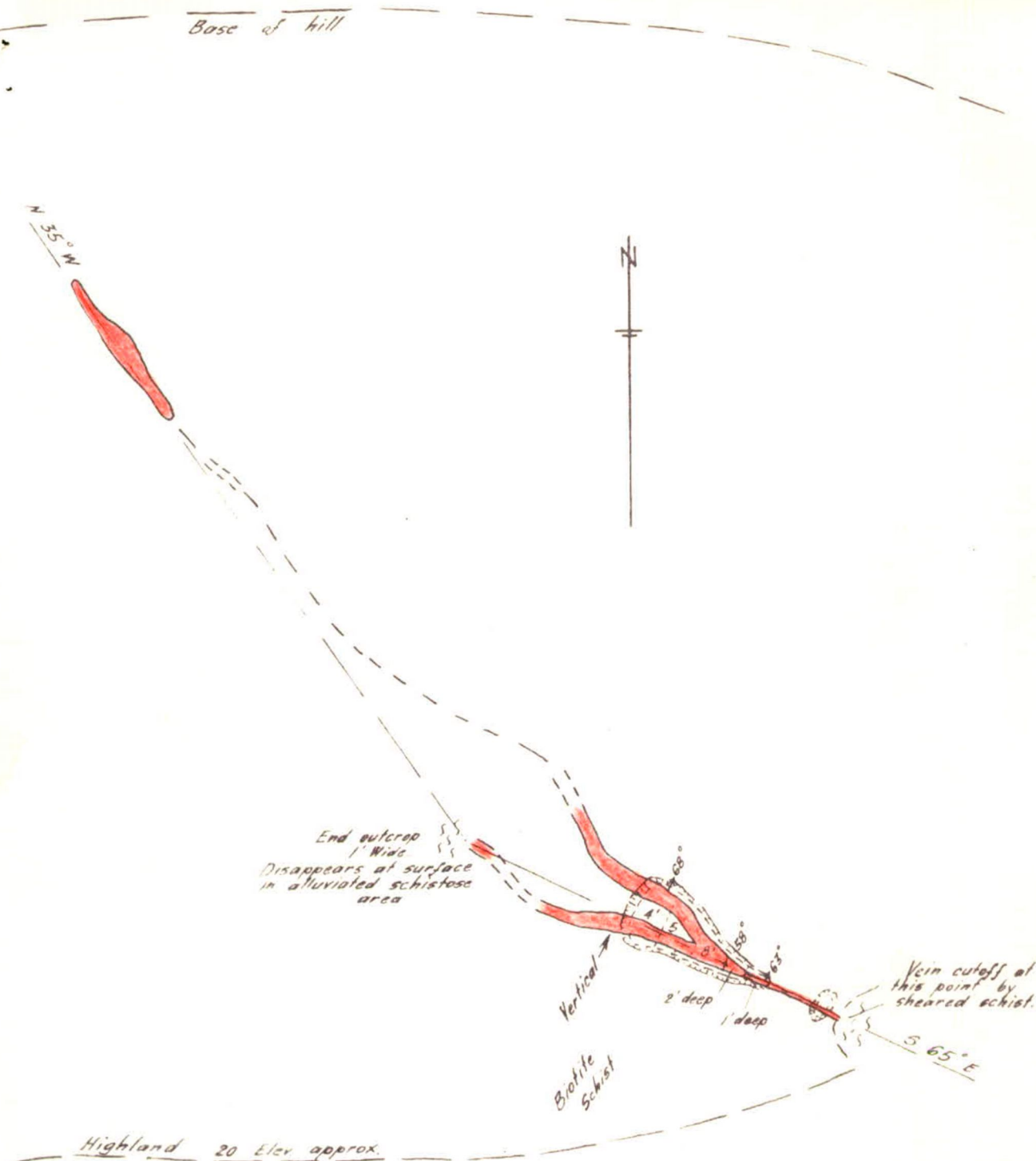
A large cubicle has been built at the mine site for living quarters and a miner hired to assist in the work.

Mr. Vom Berg planned to deepen the pit and explore the isolated vein of fluorite when drilling equipment is available at a nominal loan basis.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

To date only hand tools have been used and the mining operation would be expedited by using pneumatic drilling machines. It seems desirable to supply some State Government drilling equipment at the lowest permissible loan rates, which would be used to test the isolated fluorite vein and sink deeper in the open pit. A large capital outlay in development by inclined shaft is not warranted with the small tonnage involved and the method of mining appears to be one of selective gauging to avoid prohibitive mining costs at this stage of exploration.

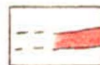
J.R. Peterson
19-4-56



Archean Granites



Vein of Fluorite



Costean showing depth in feet



To accompany report by W. Peterson, Geologist.

S.A. DEPARTMENT OF MINES

Vom Bergs FLUORITE CLAIM
S.W. of Plumbago Station
as at 9.4.56

Scale 20 ft. to 1 in.

S 1218

Fig

9.4.56