

NAME OF PROPERTY

MUSKETEER (CORONA)

OBJECT LOCATED—Musketeer No. 1 claim (Lot 1921).

UNCERTAINTY IN METERS 100. Lat. 49°25'50" Long. 125°41'45"

Mining Division Alberni District Clayoquot

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

The property is about a mile from the western margin of the Jurassic Bedwell River batholith, and is underlain by igneous rock which shows some range in texture and composition but consists principally of quartz-diorite. Some finer grained granitic rock, outcropping along the trail west of Sam Craig Creek, is probably intrusive into the quartz-diorite. Several dykes on the property are andesite and some others, too altered for definite determination, are probably andesitic. The granitic rocks and the dykes have been altered hydrothermally near shears and fractures.

The five veins so far discovered are in fractures along which there has been more or less shearing and which on their attitudes may be divided into two groups. The one group consists of fractures which strike from 10 to 30 degrees east of north and range in dip from 85 degrees westward to about 75
see Card 2

Associated minerals or products of value - Silver, zinc, lead, copper.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The property is located on the lower end of Sam Craig Creek, a tributary of the Bedwell River, some 43 miles west-northwest of Port Alberni. The claims lie within Strathcona Provincial Park.

Messrs. Hovelaque, Waterhouse, and Donahue prospected the Bedwell (Bear) River area during the period 1897-9. They discovered one of the "Musketeer" veins and staked the Corona claim. Annual assessment work, apparently mainly open cutting, was carried on into 1903.

The Musketeer and Shamrock groups, totalling 13 claims, were staked in 1938 by Patrick McCrory and optioned in the fall of that year to a group, including Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C., Limited, and Anglo-Huronian, Limited, who in June 1939 incorporated Musketeer Mines, Limited; Pioneer and Anglo-Huronian jointly acquired an option on a 70% interest in Musketeer Mines. Development work began in the fall of 1938 and to 1941 included 3,823 feet of drifting and cross-cutting, and a 300 foot raise from the 700 to the 1,000 level on the Musketeer vein. A 25-30 ton-per-day mill was built and put into operation on December 16, 1941. Mining and milling operations continued until the end of July 1942 when the mine closed; a further 600 feet of drifting and 125 feet of raising was done in 1942. The Musketeer Nos. 1-4 and Shamrock Nos. 1 and 2 (Lots 1921-1926, respectively), and B. Fr. (Lot 1928), were Crown-granted to the company in 1950.

The property was acquired early in 1958 by interests who in December of that year incorporated Bedwell River Gold Mines Limited; the mill was put into operation late in 1958 and some 1,700 tons were milled before operations ceased in 1959.

Copper Town Mines Limited optioned the property in 1961. The mill was operated from October to December of that year, and from February to the end of August 1962. Underhand stoping was carried out on the Musketeer and Trail veins. A crosscut was begun in October and driven 270 feet south-westerly, cutting 2 quartz veins. Underground work during the period February-April 1963 was done under an agreement with Kootenay Base Metals (Consolidated) Ltd.; the mill operated part time.
see Card 2

Mineral Resources Branch, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa.

513330 *

HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

During 1942 and the period 1961-1963, a total of 10,545 tons of ore were milled at this property. From this ore 6,167 ounces of gold, 3,470 ounces of silver, 1,520 pounds of copper, 7,050 pounds of lead, and 13,000 pounds of zinc were recovered. Some 1,700 tons were reported milled in 1958-59. From 55 tons of high-grade shipped in 1974, 96 ozs gold, 69 ozs silver, 121 lbs copper, and 4,954 lbs of lead were recovered.

MAP REFERENCES

Bedwell River-Drinkwater Creek Area, (Geol.), Sc. 1":1 mile, Fig. 1, Bulletin No. 13, British Columbia Dept. of Mines.

Map 17-1968, Alberni, (Geol.), Sc. 1:250,000, Paper 68-50, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

#Map 92 F/5 E, Bedwell, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By

DMacR

DMacR

Date

05-75

10-80

REFERENCES

Sargent, H.; Supplementary Report on Bedwell River Area; Bulletin No. 12, pp. 31-47, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1941.

Joubin, Franc R.; Musketeer-Buccaneer Area, V.I.; The Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Transactions, Vol. 45, 1942, pp. 2-14.

Stevenson, J.S.; Lode-Gold Deposits, Vancouver Island; Bulletin No. 20, Pt. 5, pp. 22-25, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1944.

Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1899, pp. 790, 792; 1900, p. 923; 1902, p. 232; 1903, p. 192; 1940, p. 73; 1941, p. 70; 1942, p. 66; 1958, p. 59; 1961, p. 102; 1962, p. 105; 1963, p. 102.

Mineral Sector; Corporation Files: "Musketeer Mines, Limited"; "Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C., Limited"; "Anglo-Huronian, Limited"; "Bedwell River Gold Mines Limited"; "New Musketeer Gold Mines Ltd."; "Honda Mining Co. Ltd."

Geology, Exploration and Mining; British Columbia Dept. of Mines: 1974, p. 175.

NAME OF PROPERTY

MUSKETEER (CORONA)

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT (continued)

degrees eastward. Some of these fractures follow the walls of andesitic dykes of the same general attitude. The other group consists of fractures striking from about north-east to almost due east and dipping north-westward or northward at angles from 45 degrees to 75 degrees. The Musketeer Vein, belonging to the second group, cuts and appears to offset slightly the Trail Vein, which belongs to the first group. The veins are cut by shears which strike from 30 to 80 degrees west of north and dip northward or north-eastward at angles from 45 to 85 degrees. There is some faulting of veins by the shears, the horizontal displacements observed are of the order of a few feet or inches. The Trail Vein cuts some masses of altered andesite but for most of the length of this vein in the walls are of quartz-diorite which is also the wall-rock of the other veins on which extensive work has been done.

The vein-fractures usually contain gouge along the walls. Introduced vein-matter consists of quartz with more or less white carbonate and varying proportions of sulphides. The widths of vein-matter observed range from a fraction of an inch to more than a foot. In the Musketeer Vein the maximum width observed is 8 inches, but in the Trail Vein widths of 8 or 10 inches are common and locally widths exceed a foot. Usually the greatest widths are found where a split converges with the main fracture. The quartz is often notably well-crystallized. The sulphides consist of pyrite, sphalerite, galena and chalcopyrite. The pyrite is frequently in coarse crystals. Some good crystals of sphalerite were found in one vein. The sulphides occur following the ribbon-planes in some ribboned parts of the veins and as irregular masses which may form a large part of some unbanded parts of the veins. Free gold, generally quite fine, has been found in several of the veins.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

The Crown-granted claims (Mineral Lease M-61) were purchased by Honda Mining Co. Ltd. from Hummingbird Mines Ltd. in June 1972. By a January 1974 agreement Honda transferred its interest in the property to Mr. Samuel Craig, of Craig Mining Ltd., in consideration for 5% of net smelter returns, plus \$1.50 per ton of ore mined and shipped. Mr. Craig entered into a production agreement with New Musketeer Gold Mines Ltd., subject to the 5% retained by Honda. The Executive Council of the BC Government in September 1974 ordered that mining operations be allowed to proceed within Strathcona Park on Lease M-61. In November 1974 a trial shipment of 55 tons of high-grade ore was reported.

Tonnage and grade at the height of exploration activity, in about 1942, were reported as 19,879 tons at 0.33 oz/t Au (NM 28/11/74). Total production to 1974 was about 12,300 tons.