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REPORT ON THE
SECHART PENINSULA MAGNETITE
VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERNI MINING DIVISION

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PROPERTY FILE

March 1961

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SECHART PENINSULA MAGNETITE

Introduction

From March 21st to 27th, 1961 two geologists with an assistant examined most of the iron showings on the peninsula. Grid lines were run, geology noted and Sharpe A3 magnetometer readings were taken over the claims. Individual showings were examined in detail.

History

The following Crown Granted claims were located in the early eighteenth century:

Crown Prince	Lot 456
Victoria	" 457
Old Ireland	" 458
Bald Eagle	" 459
Iron Chief	" 374
Standard #6	" 392
Lord of the Isles	" 695
Emily R	" 696

Showings are known on the Crown Prince, Lord of the Isles, Bald Eagle and Iron Chief.

These showings have had some development work in the form of trenching, pits, shafts, adits and magnetic surveys done on them around the turn of the century. They have been examined by Lindeman and by Uglow. (Their reports, along with the B.C. Department of Mines reports constitute the main sources of factual information on these claims. As copies of their reports are enclosed with this report their findings will not be reported here.)

The Crown Prince has not been examined at all for lack of time.

Recent History

Aside from the occasional examination and some staking of claims no work is known to have been done on the ground in more recent times. Last year (1960) the peninsula was flown with a fixed wing aircraft as well as a helicopter. In the last year a ground survey was carried out over the ground, witness, fairly fresh blazes and marked pickets. It is not known who did the surveys or what the results were.

The use of existing base lines aided our work considerably.

Access

Thanks to the generosity of Andrews and Sing Logging Company Limited, we were able to stay at their float camp in a bay about one half mile west of the old whaling station of Crawford.

The only other nearby existing settlement is the float camp of Williams and Son on the west side of the southern island of the Alma Russell Islands. This camp is equipped with a radio telephone which is the closest means of contacting the outside world.

B.C. Airlines makes regular flights from Port Alberni to Sechart and the ships Uchuck and Lady Rose pass by three times a week on scheduled sailings from Port Alberni to Ucluelet.

Andrews and Sing Logging Company are building a road starting on the beach 1,000 feet west of the old whaling station and heading in a northerly direction to Cataract Lake. A mile and a half of this road has been roughed out to date.

Easy access to the Iron Chief can be gained by following this road up from the beach for about one mile and then following the Big Creek east of this road. By following the 1,000 feet contour in an easterly direction the other claims are accessible along this route.

About one half mile east of the old whaling station a foottrail starts in a small bay and winds up the mountain to the workings and ruined cabin on the Bald Eagle claim. This trail can be followed without much difficulty although it is now partially overgrown. A route has been blazed from the ruined cabin in an easterly direction to a showing on the Lord of the Isles claim. The old trail from the Bald Eagle to the Crown Prince could not be found. Steep bluffs, second growth and dense salal make travel difficult.

The Crown Prince claim was not visited as travel time to and from the logging camp to the claim was more than the number of hours of daylight in a day. However, this claim is held by Western Ferric Ores Limited and was not under option to us.

Examination of this claim could better be done from the east side of the peninsula.

Noranda's Work

In the six days available for examination of the claims, the main emphasis had to be placed on magnetometer work. Rock outcrops were noted at the same time and a map showing the general geology has been prepared. While carrying out the magnetic survey, tape and compass were used. Except for a few relatively small areas in the immediate vicinity of magnetic outcrops, compass deflection was negligible, as was proven in frequent backsighting.

A total of some 20,000 feet of line was surveyed, using old base lines already cut out, and cutting our own lines. Wherever higher readings warranted further work, more lines were run, taking readings at intervals of 50 or 25 feet. Two detailed maps are included in this report covering the showings on the Bald Eagle and Iron Chief claims.

Bald Eagle

For details of old workings on this claim see report included. The detailed magnetometer survey shows that this occurrence is too small to be of economic importance.

Magnetometer readings were higher than background when taken above the showing and much lower than background when taken below the showing.

An adit has been driven into the hill below the magnetite outcrop. The results of the magnetic survey combined with the fact that no magnetite was found in the adit confirms the shallow depth of the deposit. The magnetite occurs near the limestone-intrusive contact.

Iron Chief

An old shaft of unknown but shallow depth and some pits are part of the workings on this claim.

The detailed magnetometer survey shows an anomalous area nearly 300 feet long and 200 feet wide at its widest point. The magnetite

within this anomalous area is probably lenslike in character and consists of a number of small bodies rather than one large ore body. The magnetic map prepared by Lindoman indicates the same, and shows a number of outcrops of intrusive rock within the anomalous area. A conservative estimate of tonnage on this claim, based on magnetics and geology would be in the order of 200,000 tons. The deposit is therefore not of economic importance. In the northwest corner of the Iron Chief a narrow vein of magnetite with pyrite and pyrrhotite is exposed in the creek at the granite-limestone contact. This appears to be a small lens of no importance.

Geology

The magnetite occurrences at Sechart are near the contacts of limestone and granitic rocks. It is probably that two or more limestone bands plus some minor volcanic rocks occur on the property, but intrusion and assimilation of these rocks by the granodiorite make it difficult to trace these bands. Along the beach from the trail to the logging camp and in the bed of the main Creek on the Iron Chief claim fragments of country rock in the intrusive can be observed. The origin of the granitic rock may be complex as it is variable in composition. It may show foliation (without a gneissic or schistose texture) and in many places has up to 30% of unassimilated fragments.

A large number of various kinds of dykes cut all rocks, especially the intrusives.

The limestone and greenstones are assumed to be part of the Vancouver Group.

Where bedding of the limestone could be seen a general westerly strike was indicated.

The showings are along the south flank of the Broughton Range and lie in a slightly North of West direction. Magnetite occurs mostly in the limestone at the contact with the intrusive. Greenstones are

sometimes associated with the magnetite and minor amounts of skarn were seen. Some of the magnetite is surrounded entirely by intrusive rock, although limestone occurred in the vicinity.

Magnetic Survey

Twenty thousand feet of line was run with a Sharpe A3 magnetometer. Lines were laid out to take advantage of existing base lines and natural travel routes which avoided the steep bluffs and the heavy underbrush.

Readings were taken at one hundred foot intervals and detailed readings were taken where warranted.

The Bald Eagle and Iron Chief showings were done in sufficient detail to outline the magnetic anomalies present. The inset maps (with this report) show these bodies to be too small to be economically significant.

Magnetometer work on the Lord of the Isles, and the Northwest Iron Chief mineralized areas showed them to be too small even for a detailed survey.

Conclusions

The known showings from the Victoria claim on the East to the Iron Chief on the west are too small to be economically significant.

It is doubtful, considering past history and work done on the property, that any undiscovered magnetite body of significant size exists on these claims.

Further prospecting between the beach and these showings will have only a very small chance of meeting with success. The area to the North of the claims under examination may have a somewhat better potential. Limestone float was found in the creeks draining this area indicating the possibility of a repetition of conditions as described for the claims under consideration.

The fact that the area has been flown twice does not make the property and surrounding area attractive however.

For these reasons it is recommended to drop the option on the claims under consideration.

April 1961

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