R V KIRKHAM Cu File

As a result, extensive bulk sampling and test milling of gold-bearing material from the Magino joint venture can be in-

exploration programme. A deep diamond drilling programme is underway at Magino to test ore conditions down to 600 m. Currently drillindicated reserves are calculated to a maximum depth of 150 m and consist of about 1.7 Mt averaging 8.6 g/t gold.

itiated in December as part of the final

Underground Work at Houston's Silver Queen

Houston Metals Corp. has entered the final phase of its \$C4.5 million exploration programme at the Silver Queen mine, Owen Lake, north central British Columbia. The company is driving an 850 m long decline to intersect the No.3 vein about 130 m below the 790 m level. In addition, some 1,300 m of cross cuts will intersect a number of other veins. To date proven, probable and possible reserves are placed at: 1.39 Mt averaging 3.4 g/t gold, 34 g/t silver, 10% combined lead-zinc, 0.7% copper, 0.1% germanium plus values of indium and gallium on the basis of a 1.2 m mining width and a 15% dilution factor.

Based on a 136,000 t/y operation, operating costs are estimated at about \$C120/t milled and annual operating profits at about \$C26.2 million. Metallurgical studies indicate that three types of concentrates can be obtained, zinc, copper and lead, with the zinc concentrate containing 0.45 kg/t of germanium. A pyrite circuit would recover by cyanidation the gold and silver remaining in the pyrite tailings. The concentrates will be custom smelted.

The company plans to complete the feasibility and environmental studies by early 1988 and start on the construction of a 450 t/d concentrator complex at a projected cost of \$C10.0 million for a start-up date in the winter of 1988-89. Houston has a 60% interest in the claims held by New Nadina Explorations Ltd.

Gold Revival for Yugoslavia?

Studies are underway to examine the feasibility of reopening the Blagojev Kamen gold mine situated in the Bor area of eastern Serbia. The mine was closed in 1964 because it was not profitable at the world price of gold then prevailing. Surveys have shown that some of the mineralization is very high grade, between 20 and 30 g/t gold. Expenditure on the project for 1987 and 1988 is projected at Din890 million (\$US1 = Din848.50).

Kaaba/Alawas Plan Picacho Mine

Vancouver partners Kaaba Resources and Alawas Gold are planning to bring the heap leach gold mine in the Picacho Peaks area of Imperial County, Califor-

for the first year, rising to 25,900 oz in the second year based on 89% recovery for gold and 60% for silver.

Malawi Promotes Gemstones . . .

The Malawi Development Corp. (MDC) has formed the Gemstone Company of Malawi which will be responsible for developing the country's gemstone potential. MDC has already started the implementation of a gemstone mining project at Chimwadzulu in Ntcheu district. Previous mining there produced goodquality sapphires and rubies. A Reserves Mineral Licence has been granted to MDC in the Chimwadzulu area, which gives it the right to buy, hold and sell all types of gemstones.

. . . Garnet Find in U.S.S.R

Also in the gemstones field, a large garnet deposit has been discovered on the Kamchatka peninsula of the U.S.S.R. According to the B.B.C.'s Summary of World Broadcasts, the value of these stones is said to be particularly high.

Milling Facility at Magino

Muscocho Explorations Ltd. and McNellen Resources Inc. anticipate that the 360 t/d plant currently being constructed in the Goudreau area of Ontario will become operative before year-end.

the mineral rights to the Selvag titaniferous magnetite deposit located in the Vesteralen region of arctic Norway. The deposit contains about 200 Mt of ore and is one of the largest titaniferous magnetite deposits in Scandinavia. It also contains some copper, nickel and cobalt

as well as approximately 70 g/t of scandium.

A mining operation producing 1.2 Mt/y of ore is currently in the planning stage. The company aims to start construction work in summer 1988 with a production start-up in mid-1989.

Drake Gets Approval

Melbourne-based Mount Carrington Mines Ltd. has announced a go-ahead for the Drake gold and silver project west of Casino in New South Wales, Australia, reports the Gold Gazette. The operation, due to commence producing in May 1988, is expected to have a processing rate of 300,000 t/y with a mine life of four years. Mineable reserves are 580,000 t at 2.7 g/t gold in the Strauss zone, 340,000 t at 1.7 g/t gold in the North Kylo zone, 61,000 t at 4.6 g/t gold in the Guy Bell zone and 423,000 t at 1 g/t gold and 103 g/t silver in the Lady Hampden zone. Capital costs should be \$A10.6 million and working costs about \$A1.8 million. Estimated gold production is 22,200 oz

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