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December 9th, 1971,

Texas Gulf Sulphur Discovery - Hope AreaLocation

35 to 40 miles east of Fort Graham on a height of land  
123°45'W, 56°45'N.

History

A syndicate made up of Texas Gulf Sulphur and several oil companies has been exploring the area through the services and management of Cordilleran Exploration. Exploration has been for Pine Point-type replacement deposits in Devonian formations. Mineralization has been reported in Devonian rocks throughout the area, as discovered by earlier exploratory drilling by oil companies. Devonian rocks have been mapped east of Fort Graham by the Geological Survey of Canada.

Some confusion exists as to how the original discovery was made. One story is that Cordilleran Exploration made the discovery on behalf of the Syndicate; more probably the discovery was made by Frank Whiting on behalf of W. R. Grace & Associates. It has been said that W. R. Grace were offered a position in the Texas Gulf Sulphur Syndicate and that Whiting, while flying in to look at the Syndicate's field program, discovered a gossan which he subsequently examined and staked. Surface mineralization related to the gossan is of typical Pine Point-type and constitutes the main discovery in the area. A legal battle will probably ensue as Frank Whiting thinks he owns the property and the Syndicate claim that they have all rights to it.

Conclusions

Fringe staking of the area may not be effective as the Devonian rocks mapped by the Geological Survey are limited in extent and are probably covered by Texas Gulf Sulphur and the Syndicate. Future exploration of the main discovery may be slow in transpiring because of the title problem on existing claims.

J. S. Brock