

REPORT ON THE RALPH CLAIM IN THE NICOLA MINING
DIVISION NEAR MERRITT, BRITISH COLUMBIA

JULY 1, 1982

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HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY

During July, 1981, a helicopter-borne electromagnetic survey was flown over selected areas near Merritt, B.C. as part of the Nicola Project (MS11). Purpose of the survey was to test Nicola Group volcanic rocks for geophysical responses related to volcanogenic massive sulfide deposits. Ralph claim was staked to cover 1 geophysical anomaly because competitors were actively exploring the Merritt area at the time. The property was explored briefly in July, 1981 and again in June, 1982.

WORK TO DATE

Work on the property to date includes an

expenditure of approximately \$1300 (\$~~1050~~⁹⁷⁵ US) and 6 mandays of geological mapping and geochemical sampling. Outcrop on hilltops indicates that the claim is underlain by Triassic Nicola Group andesite tuffs and flows intruded by Cretaceous Coast Intrusion granodiorite. A total of 27 silt, ~~samples~~ 23 soil and 10 rock samples were collected, ~~and~~ analyzed for Cu, Zn, Pb and Ag or Ba and/or Au, As, Sb, and Hg. ~~and~~ Data were plotted on probability paper to determine background, threshold and anomalous values.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Geological mapping indicates that prospective Nicola Group volcanic rocks ~~do~~ ^{possibly} underlie the apparent geophysical anomaly but they are andesites, not rhyolites. Geochemical sampling did not locate any anomalous silt or soil values that could not be explained by

sample composition (high organic and clay content) or cultural causes (zinc galvanized sewer pipe). A check on the flight film for the geophysical anomaly indicates that the contractor misplotted the flight lines by more than 1 km. ~~to the north~~ and Ralph claim ~~is~~ lies to the north of the actual geophysical anomaly, which is as yet ~~unstated~~ has not been stated nor examined.

Neither geology nor geochemistry produced positive results. The geophysical anomaly does not lie on the claim. Therefore, Ralph claim should be allowed to lapse on its anniversary date, August 14, 1982. Geological ~~followup~~ and geochemical followup of the actual geophysical anomaly is now underway.

Respectfully submitted
Bead Locke