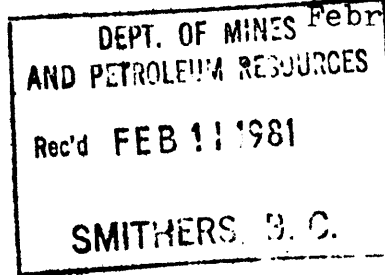


3880 Imperial St.
Burnaby, B. C. V5J 1A2
February 6, 1988

Mr. Tom Schroeter, P. Eng
District Geologist
P. O. Box 877
Smithers, B. C.
VoJ 2NO



Dome mtn
882353

Dear Mr. Schroeter:

A letter of appreciation to you has been delayed by Christmas activities and a lengthy bout of "flu." Thank you for your interesting and informative letter of December 5th, enclosing pictures of Free Gold Group on Dome Mountain, in response to my inquiries regarding the property.

Since you worked on the Free Gold Group during 1972 and 1973 and have visited it almost annually ever since, your knowledge of the property is valuable. Dr. Mandy and I were there in 1938 and rode up the mountain on horses from the Latchford ranch. At that time Alex Chisholm and A. J. Cope were partners in the Dome mountain venture and A. J. Cope accompanied us. We had our meals in the cook-house there and were quite comfortable staying in one of the cabins. I am glad to hear the old, well constructed buildings are still standing and in good condition. As you say, let us hope the convenient road access now will not result in destruction of the camp. Of course mining people would pay due respect and preserve the past but vandals and thoughtless others would have no appreciation of the splendid workmanship of hardy pioneers.

The modern touch is noted, in one of your pictures, in motorcycles. Dr. Mandy and I either had to reach Dome Mountain by horseback or on foot, slow but enjoyable means of transportation. The scene at the camp was one of tranquil beauty and isolation, where we were charmed by a pet chipmunk eating from our hands and perching in comradely friendliness on our shoulders when we relaxed in front of the cook-house.

My husband and I accompanied Archie Harrer to the Lorraine and the Silver King on horses of packer Ben Nelson, who went along to look after his horses and act as guide. Did you know or have you heard of those colorful characters and were the two properties just mentioned ever developed?

Peavine Harvey was one of the fascinating pioneers of Smithers. We rode up to his claim on horseback. I somehow have not recorded in my notes the name of his property or exact location and wonder if you have any data regarding it. I do not know his real name as everyone called him Peavine, due to his selling of real estate when he first came to the country from the States (wish I knew which state as I was born and reared in Indiana) and promoted sales by saying, "Even the peavine here grows kneehigh." I recall his compact cabin was near the portal of his "mine" and that he didn't think it "fittin" for a lady to go into a dark, underground tunnel. I stayed in his cabin while the men made an examination because it was raining very hard and the surrounding steep area was not suitable for a restful walk. I should appreciate any information you may have concerning Harvey and his property.

Your jurisdiction, west to the Queen Charlotte islands and north to the Yukon and Alaskan borders, is a big territory. You have doubtless visited some of the old mining camps where we pioneered and some recently revived and developed. Have you encountered the historic Engineer Mine on Lake Tagish in northern British Columbia? Part of a radio interview heard recently concerned the Engineer which has been taken over by a group of women, obviously entirely ignorant of mining and admitting it, reported to be the first all feminine company in British Columbia to engage in mining - possibly in Canada. I tuned in just in time to hear the president of the recently formed company, in response to a question, answer, "Yes, the Engineer is in the Yukon. I haven't been there but I've been in White HorseNo, there's no stories connected with it." She

stated that the mine was discovered in 1889 and "began" in 1900 but was closed in 1931 and then there "was a bit of leasing." The dates are verified by data I have and she said she acquired hers from the B. C. Minister of Mines Report. How could she then place it in the Yukon? Moreover, the Engineer has a record of mismanagement and litigation of which she must not have been informed or chooses to disregard.

I telephoned the B. C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines regarding the new Engineer Mine Company and the location cited by the president as the Yukon. I told him that was wrong as I had been on the property in British Columbia. The present Manager didn't know, except from a vague rumour, about this venture and said I must be wrong and that my interest in the matter was commendable but must be purely personal. I did not argue but I am perplexed and consider this a matter to be corrected. The radio report said some work was done on the property last year and drilling is planned for 1981. I can't help being concerned about the apparent inaccuracy and I am sure you will be also as the problem is in your district. If I am wrong I want to be set right and if she is wrong, she should be told.

Progress on my Memoirs of the thirties has been slowed by the "flu." However, I shall now return to the project with renewed vigor, thanks to your additional information.

Msy the New Year be good to you in every way.

Truly yours,

E. Madge Mandy

Mrs. Joseph T. Mandy

