

*Visited the "scenic rock" quarry (on July 7) held by Dutes Duthiel. Sawn slabs of this rhyolite with unusual oxidation patterns is popular with tourists and are sold at his Crystal Cabin rock, gem and crafted jewelry shop in Tlell. Duthiel is an avid prospector of crystals (zeolites etc), agate, opal and fossils. "Scenic rock" occurs in a logging road quarry in Tertiary Masset rhyolite 26 km south of Port Clements. The rhyolite is pyritic and well fractured in a reticulate pattern, resulting from bedding-parallel and columnar joints. Chemical weathering progresses into the rock from fractures as sharply banded oxidation fronts. The leading edge is centimetre wide "bleached" zone, apparently due to migration of ferrous iron toward the trailing edge where iron is fixed in a terra cotta band of iron oxide. Interesting patterns are produced by minute inhomogeneities and disruptions in the weathering process.

*Okak Resources Ltd project on the Southeaster (103G 004) epithermal gold project was toured with Vic Guinet and Bob Yorston on July 8. Northwest structures parallel to the Sandspit fault cut Jurassic Yakoun andesite and are accompanied by banded chalcedonic to amethyst quartz, calcite, minor pyrite and other base metals, and gold. Previous exploration comprises about 2300 feet of underground development (1917-1932) followed by excavator trenching and drilling (32 holes, 1483 m) in 1987-1991. The old mine workings are uncomfortably close to a new housing development on the Skidegate Indian Reserve. The 1997 program consists of prospecting, soil geochem and IP, aimed at developing targets for a modest drill program northwest of the known 1650 m strike length (further from the reserve). Okak's work to date shows that the Chinukundl granite pluton, regarded as a prospective host rock, is less extensive than mapped by Sutherland Brown. A recent clear cut has exposed interesting zones of pyrite and extensive sheeted zeolite veining in Yakoun andesite east of the vein zone but may be unrelated to mineralization at Southeaster.

*Tasu (103C 003) and adjacent Garnet skarn/porphyry prospect (103C 004) visited on July 10. The area is under investigation by geologist/pro prospector Murray McClaren for:

- Tasu mill tailings- Proposed recovery for magnetite content, said by McClaren to be 5 million tons with 35% magnetite. Used for coal washing, market price is \$100 per tonne.
- Cobalt and gold in new skarn zones. Tasu No. 3 deposit reputed to have contained 0.1% Co; other areas contained up to 0.02 oz/t Au.
- Porphyry copper-(moly-gold) in quartz diorite adjacent to skarn zones.

The tailings, discharged to form a beach, have been wave-sorted so that the visible portion is enriched in light minerals (quartz, garnet) with 10-20% magnetite. Presumably, magnetite is concentrated slightly offshore. The Garnet prospect, 2 km east of Tasu mine, comprises skarn copper, zinc and magnetite showings and a widespread copper-molybdenum porphyry stockwork. The area was explored (and drilled) by Moresby Mines, DOWA, Canadian Superior and Imperial Oil from 1965 to 1972. Porphyry mineralization is within weakly altered biotite-hornblende granodiorite to quartz diorite of the San Christobal complex. Molybdenite occurs on fractures and chalcopryite is finely disseminated, occurring in close association with primary biotite.

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*Rupert Resources Ltd. underground drilling program at Surf Inlet (103H 027) was reviewed with supervisor Ed Skoda on July 12. The Surf and Pugsley mines produced 382,000 ounces of gold from 1,091,000 tons of ore (prior to 1942) and was extensively explored by Cominco and Matachewan Consolidated Mines Limited in the 1980's. Gold occurs in an arcuate, 4.5 km long, northerly quartz-carbonate-pyrite vein within diorite and gneiss. The arcuate vein zone is a tensional splay of the Grenville Channel fault (AR 15377). Two holes are being drilled from the vein hangingwall on the 900 level to confirm two gold intersections drilled in 1942 but not followed up (apparently) because