

WHITE HORSE RANCH
MATERIAL

November 15, 1980.

Mr. Ralph S. Mason,
Consulting Geologist,
3932 S.W. Idaho Terrace,
Portland, Oregon 97221.

Dear Ralph:

The effort you went to in pursuing my "will of the wisp" has been most heartening and be assured appreciated.

It was admittedly a "shot in the dark" suggestion but, with your remembrance of the White Horse Ranch material of years ago, it has been productive. I consider the White Horse possibility well worth looking into.

I have the ranch located on the Geological Map of the east half of the state, which I have had since its release of several years ago. Too, at hand a set of 30 minute sheets which show the White Horse terrain and road systems in good detail.

As for Bullion Monarch, to date we have had no luck.

You and I share the days which go by so fast, and more power to both of us. I have just returned from a volcanogenic copper "show" in the south Jackson Range of Humboldt County, which was "too little and too late"; also a two inch occurrence of high grade gold which will remain a one-man headache.

This next week brings to Reno a Precious Metals Symposium (AIME sponsored) which I have talked myself into attending. After that placer studies, close to home, which blow hot and cold. We will follow that with Thanksgiving with friends in Sacramento.

Thanks again, Ralph, for your efforts, and I'll let you know the results as the southeast Oregon safari progresses.

Sincerely,


David LeCount Evans 5

December 26, 1980

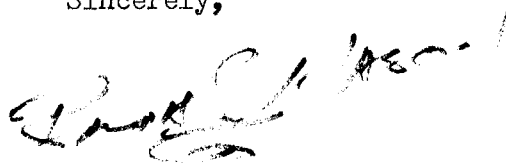
David LeCount Evans
1700 Royal Drive
Reno, Nevada, 89503

Dear Dave:

Yesterday one of my old prospector friends called from Mitchell to wish me Merry Christmas and chat about mining. He holds a lot of claims just west of McDermitt and has leased them to Placer-Amax. His ground has mercury, uranium and some gold, plus a lot of good cutting rock (which is why he located in the first place). Placer has been tying up large amounts of land within the confines of the recently identified caldera on the Ore-Nev line. Several other companies are active in the area as well.

Just north of this area, of course, is the Whitehorse Ranch. Last year Anaconda leased a chunk of it for Uranium but they have now tossed it. My prospector friend feels that there are good chances that other metals might be found up in this district. All of this isn't terribly earth-shaking, but I pass it along for what it is worth. Season's Greetings!

Sincerely,



Ralph S. Mason

RSM:r

January 13, 1981

Mr. Ralph Mason,
3932 SW Idaho Terrace,
Portland,
Oregon 97221.

Dear Ralph:

Better than two weeks have passed since I received your good letter of the 26th and this line is overdue. No excuse except that it has taken me much of the time to regain my composure after a visit of one lively grandson. Age is wonderful but with my 75th coming up in March I find that I can no longer 'take it'. We did many things including trips to Pyramid Lake, the Virginia Range and the Comstock, Virginia City and its 'Coney Island', et cetera, et cetera. Add to that the chores of Christmas, loss of sleep and too much of everything, and it is little wonder that it took me time to recover.

Your comments regarding the activities around McDermitt are quite in tune with the activity I have been watching from afar. Too, I would be quite in agreement with your conclusion that the Whitehorse Ranch area should have several challenges in its rocks, and not just U308. My thoughts and interest in copper reflect that approach; too the projection I have carried on my maps from Boise's Silver City southwesterly into the McDermitt area, underlying the Tertiary lavas, might give one dreams of some precious metal. When and if, a California 'partner in crime' can get back up here, we will go out again and look over the area around Whitehorse.

Certainly with the profession agreeing on a Caldera, far be it from me to disagree. But after all these years, I have concluded that geologists are very much like sheep, and follow each other methodically. A case in point is my experience when I entered the petroleum picture in 1945. At the time Reef production had been found in Texas, the from that time on for at least a year, every new discovery in the mid-continent had to be a reef. We finally got over it, and returned to the old fashioned anticlines, porosity traps, stratigraphic traps and other mundane reservoirs.

I am still fascinated with Global Plate Tectonics and what it has done to make life more, confusing and hope one of these days to have someone take my maps seriously.

May you have a very good year!

Sincerely,

David LeCount Evans

March 3, 1976

Mr. Harold Biaggini,
P.O.Box 161,
Cayucos,
California 93436.

Dear Harold:

Just to keep you informed I have not tried to get any help from the Oregon State Survey. Inasmuch as I will be in Menlo Park, next week, I am sure that we can get the major part of the maps we want from the Bookstore at the USGS on Middlefield Road.

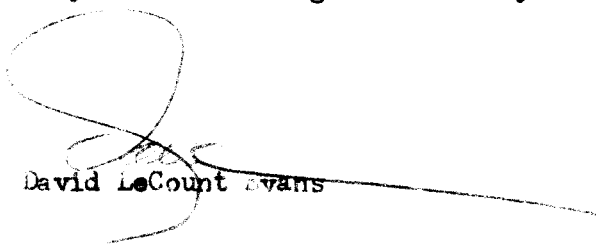
Too, while there, I plan to get the address of the Metzger Map Company, in San Francisco, whose specialty is County maps of the western states.

And last, an Oregon friend of mine who has been doing some research here at Mackay for the last six months is now returning to Oregon, and will search out the Forest Service maps.

It is still planned to leave here on Sunday, next, to check in at the Motel Riviera in Menlo Park. Will spend all day at Stanford, including the evening, and then after doing some odd jobs, including the USGS, return to Reno on Tuesday. All of this, of course, contingent upon the weather which, at long last, appears to acknowledge that this is winter. In the last five days we have had some additional five feet of snow on top, and travel has been unpredictable. The final 'fling' was last night which brought four inches of snow to Reno. Now we may get a break for the week end, but I would not bet on it.

Will get this map collection resolved as soon as I can. They tell me I am leaving for Tennessee on April 1, to be gone a month, but I will accept it as fact when I am on the plane.

Kitty joins me in the very best. It was good to have you with us again.


David LeCount Evans

DAVID LE COUNT EVANS

CONSULTING GEOLOGIST
1700 ROYAL DRIVE
TELEPHONE (702) 747-4101
RENO, NEVADA 89503

October 21, 1980

Mr. Ralph S. Mason,
Geologist,
3932 Southwest Idaho Terrace,
Portland, Oregon 97221.

Dear Ralph:

Several years have passed since I last visited with you in Portland. In the meantime you have been head of Oregon's State Geological Survey and the writer has put in, as usual, the years as a consultant and prospector.

Since I know no one now with the Oregon Survey, I seek your help. If what I have in mind is within reason would you be so kind as to pass this on to the proper party, assuring him that my interest in Oregon geology started in 1932, that I continue to think well of Oregon's possibilities, and, too, that I am registered under # 6565.

In July 1972, enroute from northeastern Malheur County, I gassed up at Rome and spent considerable time looking at a collection of copper and lead samples, on display by station owner, a Mr. Dallas Palmer. Palmer claimed that they were from prospects south of Rome, in the Owyhee highlands. At the time I told him I would return. Eighteen months later, when I did try and reach him, Palmer had given up his business, moved on to Vallejo, and from there elsewhere, and I have never been able to reach him.

To add fuel to the fire, it was in 1973, I was sent a 1969 Annual Report of the Bullion Monarch Company, referring to one of its properties as "a copper mine 100 miles north of Winnemucca, Nevada, with 1500 feet of strike length and several feet of thickness", which would put it in the area.

Finally, the existence of a surface, covered with green rock, was referred to by a hunter, talked with last week. The area, at the time was inaccessible, because of the nature of our touring equipment, and some question regarding his estimate of distances.

Before returning to the district, it has occurred to me that the Oregon Survey, in the early seventies might have received samples for assay from that area; the sender would have been a Dallas Palmer. All I seek is the fact that such materials were sent-in, thus confirming the existence, perhaps, of such a deposit, before we put in more time trying to find something that does not exist.

With reference to the Jordan Valley 1:250,000 (Army) sheet, NK 11-5, the area of concern would lie east of La Rosa Canyon, and south from Topin Creek Butte, or, in Ranges 45 and 46 East, and Townships 36 through 41 South.

Naturally, it is intended to follow up again on the Bullion-Monarch Annual Report, to see if a specific location for their 1967 property can be had.

Walker and Repenning's study of the area (West Half of Jordan Valley quadrangle), USGS Misc. Invest. Map 1-457, 1966, shows only volcanics and fault structures but is "based on reconnaissance and photogeological mapping." I am aware of no other studies, ie: graduate theses or otherwise.

Noted is the "retired" beside your name in the AIMME directory. I hope that this is just a broad category and that you are putting your geological background and talent to remunerative consulting use.

We are still in Reno and have no intention of moving. When you are down this way, do let us know.

Sincerely,



David LeCount Evans

November 7, 1980

David Le Count Evans
1700 Royal Drive
Reno, Nevada 89503

Dear Dave:

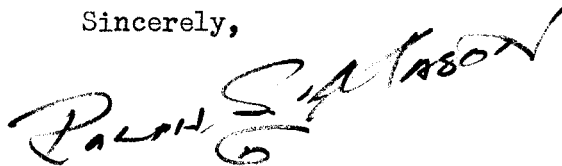
So nice to hear from you! I am happily and busily retired and wondering why the days go by so fast. Your query re copper south of Rome prompted me to write to our field offices in Grants Pass and Baker to find out what they knew. Unfortunately they had no leads on either the deposit or the Bullion Monarch Company.

All is not lost, however, for I do recall that years ago a cowpoke from the Whitehorse Ranch brought in a good looking copper sample which he said came from the ranch. The area lies almost on a direct line between Fields and Rome, (legal description would be about Twp. 36 S. and Rge. 36 E.), right on the Harney-Malheur county line. I have searched the assay records in the Portland office but can find no data concerning the sample.

This part of the state has received very little attention from the Department so who knows but what there is a copper prospect just waiting for somebody to stake it?

Have you a copy of the geologic map for the east half of Oregon? George Walker, et al, of the USGS put it together several years ago and it may be going out of print. The Grants Pass office of the Department, P.O. Box 417, Grants Pass, 97526, still has a few copies which I imagine they will be happy to part with for \$5.00, postpaid. The older western portion is still available for \$3.50, postpaid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "RALPH S. MASON". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ralph S. Mason

November 15, 1930

Mr. Harold Biaggini,
P.O. Box 161,
Cayucos,
California 93436.

Dear Harold:

The enclosed letters between Mason and Evans are self explanatory. Mason's recollections of some years ago re: the material presented from the White Horse Ranch are considered, perhaps, significant.

Note on the enclosed worn out map of Oregon, the position of the Ranch, the igneous trend coming north to Denio, the occurrences of igneous intrusives in Idaho, and the dashed line, projecting the possibilities, between the two. In short this is "where we were when we started thinking about it. My more recent thinking of the Caldera possibility, the importance of the fracture pattern around its margin et cetera was certainly non-productive; maybe we should go back to the more symplistic approach, the next time we are out there.

Received has been the correspondence of some years ago re: mercury in Mexico which I have read with interest, but which leaves me in the dark, as to what you have in mind. It's a small world. I had a memorable experience, circa 1968, examining a mercury property in the State of Zacatecas, which did not stand up at all; returned after three days in the field, and fought ones, to Monterey, settled down at the hotel bar minding my own business, and then realized that the bar-keep at had provided my drink with 'knock-out' drops. I was able to get back to my room before it was too late.

Am continuing to map the placer you and I hurriedly went out to see and find it interesting and not an impossibility. The main channel under all of that surface debris has some character; have carried it through to the north, under some 150 feet of volcanics, and find it in place on the other side; too, studies of the Smith Valley side (old studies) indicate a similar channel heading, under similar cover, to the area you and I saw. The total trend would amount to four miles. As you may recall, the actual deeper channel showed values, supposedly of \$2.50 to 4.50 per yard, which today would exceed \$50. Volume to date, including the north projection, indicates a gross of about 12 million; if it can be continued westerly into Smith Valley, it would be considerably greater. Intend to put in a few more days in the field before Thanksgiving. If you want to consider the results, say the word.

My best to you and Eddie.

David LeCount Evans