

014354

REC'D JAN 17 1955  
Action Date

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM C. H. E. Stewart

CITY Toronto, Ontario.

A C		
E J	1	1-17
H K	DATE	January 14th, 1955.
L	1	1-18

TO Evan Just

SUBJECT

KETSA RIVER - YUKON TERRITORYA = Action C = Comment  
L = List of Correspondence

Attached herewith, is a copy of the data on the Comwest discoveries and stakings in the above referenced area. *- back of file*

This information is to be treated as confidential but may be retained since we have made copies thereof in this office.

The general map shows the amount of staking that has been done in the area up to the time weather conditions stopped all activity.

I had an interview with Mr. F. M. Connell regarding the above area. As you will recall, he originally expressed a desire to acquire our claims. The Comwest organization more or less implied that our showings were of secondary importance despite the fact that any discoveries they have made on their own ground are not yet definitely known to be in place. They based this statement on the fact that they obtained higher silver values on samples taken from float occurrences on their main group as compared to the values we obtained in sampling outcrops in place.

I countered by suggesting that we might join forces, combining our claims and financing the exploration of the area jointly.

In my recent conversation, Mr. Connell adopted a somewhat different attitude. He stated that they would welcome operating partners in the area and that he was inclined to proceed with exploration of their ground independently.

As the matter now stands he is thinking the situation over and we are to meet again. I do not feel that we should consider any amalgamation unless the Connell organization is prepared to accept a reasonable arrangement. We are perfectly capable of carrying out our own operation independently otherwise.

Mr. Connell stated that they currently plan to spend approximately \$50,000.00 on their various claim groups in the area. Like ourselves, he feels that the area is one of great promise even though there are no known orebodies of economic size as yet. The high silver ratio is the important factor.

Provided they are willing to join forces on a reasonable basis, I think that would be our best policy.

Failing that, I think we should organize an expedition into the area during the coming season. Any such operation should be set up to include the following personnel:

- 1 Engineer in charge
- 1 Helper (Draftsman)
- 2 Pick and Shovel men
- 1 Cook

The expedition would have to be serviced by pack horse. These can be hired in the area.

Frank Hoey is obtaining some additional information on the area in general regarding mineral showings therein. If this data is favourable, we should also give consideration to placing him together with one good assistant prospector in the area as a prospecting unit. They could base at our main camp and work out of same to cover the general area.

January 14th, 1955.

E. Just

KETSA RIVER - YUKON TERRITORY

No doubt, the Connell organization has the same idea in mind with respect to general prospecting of the area. Quite likely other groups may also be contemplating similar action. Consideration should therefore be given to placing Hoey and his partner in the area in advance of the main party. We might be able to service them in some degree by air dropping their supplies at a pre-determined location simultaneously with the date they are placed in the area.

This is an expensive area to operate in and any orebody must be of "bonanza" grade in order to be attractive. The estimated cost of the proposed expedition is as follows:

Project "A" - Work on claims	\$ 10,000.00
Project "B" - General prospecting	<u>6,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 16,000.00</u>

Your comments will be appreciated.

CHES:bMcK.



*LW action*

EC'D JAN 26 1955  
Action Date

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM C. H. E. Stewart

CITY Toronto, Ontario

A C		
E J	A	
H K	DATE	Jan. 25th, 1955.
L W	/	1-26

TO Evan Just

SUBJECT

KETSA RIVER AREA

A = Action C = Comment  
I = Information

Further conversations with Mr. F. M. Connell of Conwest disclose that he has now decided to carry out a major exploration programme on their claims in the above district and on the area in general. This will consist of a combined operation with one crew working on the claims and one or more field parties doing general prospecting in the area.

They have decided to carry out this operation independently. The principal reason for this decision is the fact that they now feel they would welcome other operating parties in the area and that to have two or more organizations working in the district will be advantageous from a standpoint of road facilities, etc.

They are planning to put their provisions and supplies into the area over a snow road. A winter road is being broken out from Carmacks (on the Salmon River) across to Ross River on the Pelly. This road is already established as a winter route. From Ross River it will be necessary to make and break a road to the Ketsa River area claims.

The placing of the supplies and provisions is planned for late March or early April. The field crews will be placed in the area late in May. They will be serviced during the summer season by pack horses operating from Bruce Lake.

Conwest may place prospecting crews in the area over the breakup period in an endeavour to beat other parties to the area from a prospecting standpoint.

Mr. Connell has requested that we give consideration to assisting in the cost of making a winter road serviceable.

If we are going to operate in the area on any basis whatever we must be prepared to contribute toward this cost. Considering the fact that we have definite outcrops in place carrying good values, I see no other course of action than to plan a project for the area. I would prefer that we organize any project on the basis of carrying out exploration work on our claims with general prospecting of the area as a secondary but important objective.

I think we should be prepared to investigate this area by possibly placing a two man party in same over the breakup to be followed by a field crew to cover the claims in late May.

Please let me have your reactions.

CHES: bMcK.



Evan Just

New York

2/1/55

C. H. E. Stewart

Ketza River Program for 1955

Replying to your memo of January 25, as I stated over the telephone, my own belief is that we should put a party of four or five men into the area in the coming season, beginning as early as you consider feasible. This party should include one good prospector, one young geologist, and probably two workmen, one of whom might be a part-time cook. I suppose that another man will be necessary to handle a small group of pack horses to supply the party from Bruce Lake.

My concept is that the party should spend the first month prospecting outside ground, particularly in the area to the south and southeast of our claims, unless new evidence brought in by Hoey alters our thinking. This party should be prepared to stake claims where sound judgment dictates.

After the party has been at work approximately a month, I think we ought to plan on going in and having a look for ourselves, at which time we can decide on how the party will operate for the balance of the season. We will, of course, have to do sufficient work on the 14 claims we now hold to maintain their standing. However, I presume that a geological map of the claims would satisfy this requirement, if we decide to minimize activity on these claims.

For the rest of the season, the party could devote itself to prospecting new outside ground or carefully going over the ground in hand by that time. Also, some trenching could be done to develop the showings further. Considering how much of the outcrops appear to be under talus, it seems to me that we might consider an M&W survey of selected areas later in the season. (Note that Hoey's report mentions pyrite as well as galena.) Considering that pyrrhotite is reported in some of the showings, magnetic surveying may also be apropos in selected areas. I see no reason for joining in the construction of a winter road at this time. We ought to be prepared to do our share of work on the route for a pack train, but according to Seraphim, a few man days would take care of this. We can consider work on a winter road when we are convinced that we have something worth development.

I would appreciate your estimate of the cost of such a party. Show the M&W work separately.

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Evan Just

EJ:CM