

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD TEAM, REGION I
Northwest District

FINAL REPORT
Amended Contract Idm-E88

by

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IDAHO MINING COMPANY
P. O. Box 898
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Docket No.:	DMA-981X
Commodity:	Lead-Zinc
Prior Contract date:	July 27, 1951
Amended Contract date:	May 26, 1953
Termination date:	July 1, 1954

WASHINGTON-IDAHO MINE
Coeur d'Alene Mining District
Shoshone County, Idaho

Spokane, Washington

April 1956

History 1/

The first claims of the present group listed above were located in 1889 on the quartz vein running across the valley. The group was enlarged through the years by several parties. There were numerous pits, tunnels, and shallow shafts excavated in the course of performing the annual assessment work necessary to hold the claims.

The Washington-Idaho Mining Co. was incorporated in October 1927 to develop this group of lode claims. In 1932 the workings on the property included a 340-foot two-compartment shaft, 88 feet of shallow shafts, about 400 feet of open cuts, approximately 3,900 feet of adit tunnels, crosscuts, and drifts. The property was inactive, except for annual assessment work, from 1933 until 1948.

A small mine plant was set up during 1948, and as funds were available, underground work was carried out. In August 1950 the newly incorporated Idaho Mining Company acquired the interests of the Washington-Idaho Mining Co.

In the spring of 1951 a fire destroyed the headframe, and work was terminated. The headframe and surface plant were rebuilt under a DMEA exploration project contract, and subsequent exploration was performed.

The present mine workings connected to the two-compartment 340-foot shaft consist of three levels. The shaft collar elevation is 2,631 feet and the elevations of the No. 1, 2 and 3 levels are 2,505 feet, 2,403 feet, and 2,318 feet, respectively. The extent of workings on each level is approximately 850 feet, 400 feet, and 1,700 feet, respectively. The ground conditions are good, and level workings stand well. Occasional rock bolts or sets of timber were required to support short sections

Resume of the History and Development of the Washington-Idaho Property

During the late 1800's when placer gold was attracting men to the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, a man named Olson prospecting the West Fork of Moon Creek noted an impressive quartz outcrop running across the valley floor from ridge to ridge. Though a placer miner, he interested William Cavanaugh, a seasoned quartz miner, in locating 3 claims which became part of the Cavanaugh group. These locations are of record in 1889.

Later Jesse Heltzel and partners claimed property adjacent (both east and south) to the Cavanaugh holdings. These claims comprised the Heltzel group. Thereafter the Crescent group was located.

In October 1927 the Washington-Idaho Mining Company was incorporated by James Murray, Minnie F. Manley and A. B. Thompson and in time acquired sufficient property along and to either side of the then established shear (as marked by the above-mentioned quartz outcrop) to insure reasonable protection from future apex and extra-lateral rights problems. This acquisition included substantially all of the properties of the 3 above-mentioned groups consisting of 24 claims and a millsite, all held by performance of annual assessment work and in compliance with Federal and State laws; there being no District regulations or modifications in force.

This Washington-Idaho merger terminated the activities of the Michigan-Idaho Mining Company, Bull Run Mining Company and the Crescent Mining and Milling Company as corporate entities and also concluded the activities of Heltzel and Cavanaugh as individual operators in this area.

By 1932, workings at the property included a 2-compartment shaft about 340-feet deep and 88 feet of other shafts and/or winzes, numerous open cuts totaling about 400 feet, approximately 3000 feet of tunnels, 325 feet of cross cuts and 580 feet of drifts representing an expenditure of some \$86,255. At this time too, 400 500 worth of machinery and equipment buildings etc.