

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES
BOX 1381
JUNEAU, ALASKA

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MINERAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

IBECK CREEK, CORDOVA QUADRANGLE, COPPER

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From a conversation with Joe Ibach, old time prospector who presently lives on Lemesurier Island, it was learned that in the very early 1900's he and some associates had driven an adit on what he remembers as a very promising copper prospect on a creek that was named after him near Cordova. The creek is now called Ibeck Creek, the original spelling apparently having been lost. His description of the mineralization sounding as if it could be a prospect of commercial possibilities, it was decided to search for it. Accordingly, the undersigned made the search on October 1, 1954, but with negative results. However, at the time of writing it appears that another search is justified and should be carried out.

Ibeck Creek is in the Cordova and Cordova C-4 Quadrangles just west of the lower end of Scott Glacier. It drains a portion of Sneyhard Glacier. The flying time from Cordova is about 10 or 15 minutes. The approximate geographical coordinates of the prospect as marked on the map by Mr. Ibach are $145^{\circ}24'24''$ W longitude and $60^{\circ}38'15''$ N latitude. The vicinity was reached by landing on the small lake through which the

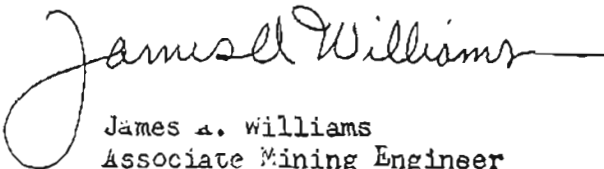
creek flows before emerging into the wide valley with a relatively "hot" performing small plane (Cessna 180).

A reconnaissance was made up the creek bed and back down on the right limit as shown in the attached vicinity map. Float was thoroughly checked in the creek, along the banks, and on the right limit bench for evidence of copper mineralization, but none could be found. No sulfides of any nature were noted. Some reddish material resembling jasper was seen, and very occasionally a piece of fine-grained basic material that had weathered to a brownish color was encountered. The country rock is limestone and some graywacke.

The reconnaissance was made up the creek to a point well above where Mr. Ibach indicated his adit was located, and also past the reported mineralization zone. No trace of the adit or a dump could be located. On the way back downstream, the reconnaissance was made back and forth over the right limit bench, which is about 50 to 100 feet above the stream level, on the possibility that the adit might have been up there. The bench appears to be mostly of large unconsolidated material all the way down to the creek level, and the most logical place for an adit would seem to be where the bench meets the true slope of the mountainside. However, Mr. Ibach seems quite sure that the adit was at creek level and lends force to his statement by recounting that the creek used to wash away part of the dump.

Because of the absence of even a small amount of mineralized float and the failure to find indications of old workings, it was temporarily assumed that probably an error had been made as to the locality of

the prospect. On further research, however, it has been found that U. S. Geological Survey Bulletin 443 reports three copper prospects on Ibeck Creek, and so it appears that another and more lengthy search on Ibeck Creek is justified in the hopes of finding a commercially interesting copper deposit.


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