FINAL REPORT ON AUTHORITY TO PROSPECT NO. 2065 BYNOE HARBOUR, N.T.

Distribution:

N.T. Administration	(2)
Sydney	(1)
Vancouver	(1)
Oakland	(1)
Nevsam	(1)

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This P.A. was taken up because the area was considered to contain environments favourable to the accumulation of heavy minerals in beach sand type deposits. It was thought that islands and sand banks in Bynoe Harbour and the Middle Arm of Darwin Harbour might have presented barriers to the seaward migration of heavy minerals brought down by streams from the hinterland, so that accumulation of mineable deposits might have taken place.

Random sampling of the bottom of Bynoe Harbour, between Crocodile Island and the mouths of the Annie and Charlotte Rivers, showed that in its upper reaches the sediments consisted of very coarse gravels, especially near the mouth of the Annie River, where cobbles up to three inches in diameter were recovered. Decreasing amounts of gravel were collected as Crocodile Island was approached. Panning of the samples indicated that cassiterite, tantalite-columbite, and rutile might be present in the major portion of the area.

A more detailed programme of sampling was then carried out, forty-three samples being recovered. These were amalyzed for tantalum and tin by our Sydney laboratory. Results were disappointing, all samples returning less than 100 p.p.m. of tantalum and tin except one, which yielded 400 p.p.m. of tin (see Table 1).

Untested areas in Middle Arm, West Arm, Woods Inlet, Charlotte River, Annie River, and Bynoe Harbour were later tested, sixty samples being taken from locations shown on Plans No. 1900 and No. 1910. Panned concentrates were sent to Sydney for analysis. Twelve of these were selected at random, and assayed for tin, tantalum, titanium, zirconium, iron and tungsten. Results were uniformly low, the highest tin value being equivalent to 0.496 lb/short ton, and the highest tantalum value being equivalent to 0.372 lb/short ton. The remainder of the samples tested were well below economic grade. Results are shown in It should be noted that these samples were all panned concentrates, and if converted to lb/c.yd would represent only traces of mineralization.

The P.A. was therefore relinquished.

October 12, 1970 DSF:AS:794

TABLE 1
BYNOE HARBOUR BOTTOM SAMPLES

	p.p.m.		
Sample No.	<u>Ta</u>	<u>Sn</u>	
B 1	100-	100-	
2	100-	100-	
3	100-	insufficient sample	
4	100-	insufficient sample	
5	100-	100-	
6	100-	100-	
7	100-	100-	
8	100-	100-	
9	100-	100-	
10	100-	100-	
11	100-	100-	
12	100-	100-	
13	100-	400	
14	100-	100-	
15	100-	100-	
16	100-	100-	
17	100-	100-	
18	100-	100-	
19	100-	100-	
20	100-	100-	
21	100-	100-	
22	100-	100-	
23	100-	100-	
24	100-	100-	
25	100-	100-	
26	100-	100-	

Table 1 ... cont'd.

	p.p.m.	
Sample No.	<u>Ta</u>	<u>Sn</u>
B 27	100-	100-
28	100-	100-
29	100-	100-
30	100-	100-
31	100-	insufficient sample
32	100-	100-
33	100-	100-
34	100-	100-
35	100-	insufficient sample
36	100-	100-
37	-100-	100-
38	100-	100-
39	100-	100-
40	100-	100-
41	100-	insufficient sample
42	100-	100-
43	100-	100-

TABLE 2
BYNOE HARBOUR AND MIDDLE ARM BOTTOM SAMPLES

Sample Number	Sn	wo ₃	FeO	Fe	Ta ₂ O ₅	ZrO ₂	TiO ₂	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Middle Arm								
30 + 31 (Composite)	0.01	ND*		1.6	ND	0.16	0.2	
45	0.02	ND	5.7		0.01	0.15	0.36	
48	0.70	ND		10.7	0.11	0.09	0.3	
52	0.03	ND	8.0		0.01	0.19	0.47	
55	0.05	ND	5.3	•	0.01	0.47	0.79	
57 + 58 (Composite)	0.02	ND		3.6	ND	0.08	0.2	
Bynoe Harbour								
2	0.17	ND		2.7	0.05	0.08	0.3	
3	0.01	ND		0.8	ND	0.03	0.4	
4	0.04	ND	9.4		0.03	0.07	0.81	
11	0.02	ND	8.6		0.01	0.17	1.3	
13	0.01	ND	6.3		0.01	0.09	0.48	
14	0.03	ND	6.0		0.02	0.22	0.04	

^{*}ND = not detected

PROSPECTING AUTHORITY NO. 2065 ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

2748 Surface prospecting 3460 Geology Geophysics Geochemistry 64 Drilling Property expenses 236 Sampling, assaying 152 Road building Transportation 1310 Legal costs 32 Consulting fees 255 Evaluation \$8257 TOTAL



