

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Technical Letter
Saudi Arabian Mineral
Exploration - 5
Prepared May 8, 1965
Issued August 15, 1965

Dr. Fadil K. Kabbani
Deputy Minister for Mineral Resources
Directorate General for Mineral Resources
Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources
Jiddah, Saudi Arabia

Dear Dr. Kabbani:

Transmitted herewith are 10 copies of:

TECHNICAL LETTER NUMBER 5
SHORT REPORT ON THE EL KOOM-
ASHUMTA AREA, SAUDI ARABIA

by

Abdullah O. Ankary*

Sincerely,

Glen F. Brown

Glen F. Brown, Chief
Saudi Arabian Mineral Exploration Project

* Directorate General for Mineral Resources, Jiddah, Saudi Arabia

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SHORT REPORT ON THE
EL KOOM - ASHUMTA AREA,
SAUDI ARABIA

by

Abdullah O. Ankary*

During the period February 21 to March 27, 1965, a geological field trip was made to the El Koom-Ashumta area bounded by 24°45'N. and 25°00'N.x 42°00'E. and 42°30'E. in the Wadi ar Rimah quadrangle. Work performed included:

1. Mapping of the geologic units at 1:50,000 in conjunction with sampling of wadis for wet chemical and spectrochemical analysis. A total of 140 wadi sediments and 140 magnetite samples were collected and submitted for analysis.
2. Four samples of granite have been collected for age determination.
3. Hand specimens for all the different lithological units and mineralized quartz veins were brought for petrographic studies and chemical analysis.
4. Locating and examining four ancient workings newly discovered in this area:
 - a) The first one may be a gold working at the southern part of Ashumta hill trending S.45°E. on a quartz vein about 750 feet long. Its location is 42°16'45"E.x 24°03'50"N.
 - b) Two workings close to each other just east of El Koom hill. The first one trends east on a quartz vein about 350 feet long. The other one is north of it on a quartz vein along a fault trending S.75°E. and is 500 feet in length. These two workings may contain gold with some copper. Their location is 42°04'24"E.x 24°49'05"N.

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- c) The third one is a group of three workings nearly parallel to each other 250 feet in length and 7 feet in width along a fault line trending approximately east. There may be gold in some with copper staining and specular hematite. The location is $42^{\circ}07'55''\text{E.} \times 24^{\circ}49'50''\text{N.}$
- d) The fourth working is located $42^{\circ}04'24''\text{E.} \times 24^{\circ}49'05''\text{N.}$ This working is along quartz vein trending about $\text{N.}35^{\circ}\text{W.}$ The vein carries the tungsten minerals scheelite and wolframite. Copper stains and some sulphides are present.

Samples from an east-trending quartz vein contained free gold in the middle part of the vein, where it was formerly mined, and samples from the unworked eastern and western extensions of the vein contain wolframite and scheelite. The scheelite-bearing part of the vein is about 60 feet long and 1 to 5 feet wide. Other veins in the same area are more than 120 feet long and about 1 foot wide.