

dan blankenship interview - may <sup>19</sup>20/75 (at his home in Martins Point, M.S.)

(just got back from month in florida. sold home and now living permanently near island with wife and son)

"I stopped into new york on way up to get pump. hit cavities at four different elevations in hole 10-X in 1971. twice in glacial till, overburden. and then we hit a small cavity in 15 or 20 ft. of bedrock, below the 180-foot mark. and then we ended up the hole in 235 feet into a hell of a big cavity. and the water has been staying constant at about 44 feet below the top of the hole, though she does rise and fall with the tide, though not exactly with the tide. the 235 feet is in bedrock which starts at 180 feet. started diving into the 27-inch hole to check the size of the cavity. started the hole with a six-inch rotary drill. in the glacial till at well over 100 feet the bit dropped about four feet or so. that was a cavity, and there shouldn't be a cavity in glacial till, no way. but it is possible to get a cavity in bedrock, because its the limestone family and the gypsum family and this family is noted to have cavities in it, sinkholes, fissures and one thing and another; not too unusual. ~~the~~ Anyway, we hit one cavity there. then we went down another 15 or 20 feet. then we hit another cavity about another 20 feet below that one. and then we hit bedrock about 180 feet. About 30 feet into bedrock we hit a small cavity about two feet high and from then on we never got a return (of material). we continued on through that and hit another cavity right on the bottom at 230 to 235 feet. so we pulled off of the hole and moved down to the money pit area and put another hole in there that triton wanted to put in. and that was an interesting hole too; we hit wood below bedrock in that hole. then went back to 10-X. At about 150 feet, actually below that, we were blowing out the hole and all of a sudden pieces of metal started coming out of the hole. the metal blew out from 165 feet, but weren't sure (what depth) where it came from. got two ~~handfulls~~ handfulls of this metal. it was thin metal and at the time I picked up it was chewed up and obviously it was ~~uncovering~~ against some kind of cement or something because it had small pieces of cement on one side. amazingly, the metal was free of rust, not bright and shiny, but more like the color of lead. and it was soft. but in a few minutes the darn stuff started to oxidize, showing that it had been starved for oxygen for a long period of time. by the next morning, the metal had hardened. it changed composition. had it analyzed by stelco and they said it was low-carbon steel. this happened in the fall of 1970. after that we were in the bottom of the hole, cleaning it out with a churn drill to find out where in the hell that metal came from. well, we weren't successful. winter came on and we pulled out of the hole.

"The next spring (1971) we went back there (10-X) with the 27-inch bit. then we took it down, adding casing as we went. (1-4-inch steel casing) Some of the members of Triton did not think there would be anything in bedrock; they were more concerned with on top of bedrock. so with this in mind, we put the casing down to 165 feet and tried to get into bedrock without casing. but we couldn't do it. so we ended up with 27-inch casing down to 165 feet and then we took a 25-foot piece of 25-inch casing, slipped it ~~down~~ down inside of that to keep the stuff from falling in and then we ~~xx~~ finished the hole down to the bottom. but we couldn't find anything foreign down there. but when we went down with the big 27-inch bit, we did hit wood in the glacial till



above bedrock. We hit a lot of it. that wood was analyzed; we sent it away for ~~analyzing~~ carbon-dating to a testing lab. The carbon dating came out in the year 3100 B.C. It was radioactive. the lab ran other tests; we came out with a ~~whole~~ whole dishpan of this wood. the tests came out the same; 3100 B.C., plus or minus 75 or 80 years. a lot of people speculated that it was probably regular glacial wood. but I can't believe it, because the wood was in perfect shape, no rot in it whatsoever, and it came from well below 100 feet. It was spruce and it was tough wood, I couldn't see any cut edges on it, even though we got a lot of big pieces. but at any rate, we didn't like the carbon dating. We found out later that it's an old old practice to use pitch blend in preserving wood. Now, pitch blend ~~is~~ is radioactive. So the radioactivity could have come from the pitch blend.

"Anyway, we played around for a long time on the bottom of this hole and we couldn't come to any conclusions. So we said we're going to examine on top of the bedrock now. (above 180 ft) I went down the casing on a seat with a couple of lights ~~and saw~~ (after pumping out the water) and hell, I saw a big cavity about eight to ten feet around at 180 feet, in an irregular shape. (had already pulled out the 25-inch casing, so nothing but rock walls) About three to four feet on top of the bedrock is limestone. so there was an outcropping of this stuff on top of the bedrock. I stayed down there about a half hour, examining the walls very very carefully, but I couldn't find anything that was unnatural.

" Then we drove the casing the rest of the way down and really explored the bottom. Started diving on the bottom. Had four different divers down on the bottom at different times. But trouble with the diving is that your in anhydrite rock and your shoulders rub against it and it turns the water cloudy like milk. Can't even see your hand in front of you. I made seven dives down there myself.

"We've just about discounted the bottom of that hole. We've had a new member that's joined Triton. He's a scientist and inventor. He designed a sonar (detector) last summer. Had an oscilloscope on top and we detected a disturbed area ~~was~~ behind the casing in the overburden. The plan now is to put a couple of pumps in there, pump the water down and I'll go down on a seat and cut a couple of observation holes in the side (of the casing where the cavities have been detected by sonar). Will cut holes through the 1-4-inch steel casing. Cavity detected by sonar appears to be towards Smith Cove. That's where we're going to cut the holes.

"Another thing that came out of that ~~hole~~ damn hole besides that metal, we brought up about seven or eight pieces of chain which also was tested by stelco as being very old, definitely before 1740. And we brought up two other kinds of metal from that hole, from a higher elevation. This corresponds to the area that we're now interested in. That's the plan in 10-X - is to stabilize the water, pull the water down and go down in the dry holes. We tried to cut holes a year ago under water, but we weren't successful. Going to cut the holes myself this summer with an acetelyne torch. Will use a compressor ~~for~~ for torch and fresh air. I almost killed myself one time, I was only ~~blowing~~ blowing air through a 1-4-inch hose; no good. (you got to replace the air that the torch uses) So, I'll have at least an inch and a half pipe for air down there.



"We can pull the water down to any place we want (in 10-X). All you need is an 850, 1,000 gallons a minute pump. This is what we're trying to get now. Once we cut these holes, we're going to see what's behind them. They're just observation holes. Now, it's possible; after all we did hit wood with that big bit; so the casing has to be against wood somewhere (behind the casing). There's only 20 feet (section) where it can be, we know. So once we find that area, doubtless ~~that~~ this is where the metal came from. It might be all colapsed in there now, we don't know. Hole 10-X is 180 feet northeast by east from the Money Pit. (east-northeast). We know the hole is connected to one flood tunnel, because one diver we sent down had good visibility at 170 feet. He was only in about 70 feet of water because we'd pulled the water down to 100 feet below the surface of the hole. At 170 feet visibility started getting bad, he kept going down. In the neighborhood of 200 feet he couldn't see in front of his mask. He said mud is coming in and it's coming in above me, coming in from under the casing. he said he could feel the current (from the flood tunnel). We checked the Smith's Cove area and saw it was mudied up. And we did it with our pumping in 10-X. So there's no question we stumbled on one of the flood tunnels. So we bulldozed the area (in Smith's Cove) over. Got the diver back two weeks later and visibility was good. ~~ixkthatxareax~~ So we did stop the water from coming in from that particular area. But had to keep pumping. ~~Soxwex~~ But we still know that the water is still coming in at about 600 gallons a minute. It's not natural seepage, it's salt water coming in from the ocean, there's no question about it. They've got so many ~~fhandsmkumaks~~ flooding systems tied together ~~ixk~~ it's amazing. I've ~~got~~ fairly good evidence of over a dozen (flood tunnels). Some of them I've picked up on aerial photographs. We've done an awful lot of ~~fhainsmwithhighxpkanex~~ flying with light planes over the island while we're doing pumping tests and dye tests. You can see quite a bit when the water's calm. You can see disturbed areas on the bottom. Weren't successful in blocking them all off, but we know generally the area that they're in. We know the flooding rate is about 600 to 650 gallons a minute and the pump I'm getting will pump between 800 and 1,000 gallons a minute. (only have a 350-gallon a minute pump now)

"There's another area we're interested in going back to this summer. (where shaft in enclosed house is) Came up with a small piece of wire there within about 10 feet of the surface. We put a shaft 6 1-2 by 12 feet down to 110 feet, cribbed to 100 feet. The wire was analyzed by Stelco as being definitely man made before 1850, possibly before ~~ixk~~ 1800. Analyzed by a metalurgist. We had to pull out of that shaft when spring (1974) came and the shaft got too wet. We started the shaft in october 1973 and quit in march 1974. Shaft is approximately 800 feet northeast of the Money Pit. Not planning to work in that ~~ix~~ shaft this summer, If I do, it would be late summer. First order of priority is we're going to install this large pump and see what in hell is behind the casing in 10-X. Then, of course we're going to continue this shaft down with the proper type of pump. Ideal time to do this ~~ixkthatx~~ is in that fall when it's dryer.

"Another thing we're going to do this summer is put some more 12-inch holes in the Money Pit area. We have some areas in the Money Pit area that we definitely hit wood in the bedrock in about five holes. And that was (in 1967) 30 to 35 feet in the bedrock. Bedrock there averaged ~~ixkthatx~~ around 160 feet. Can't tell is any of the wood was hand hewn because ~~ixk~~ they were too small. But carbon-dated to couble hundred yrs ago.

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See Aug 18 89

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doing that in Summer 1976

see p. 9



"Nolan has seven lots on the island. his operation is separate from Triton's. (chuckles and takes a long pause when asked about the aerial photography markers nolan discovered on his lots saturday) "Well, let me ~~put it in this way~~ try and cover it this way. In 1967 we gave nolan shares because he surveyed the holes that were being put down by Becker Drilling Company around the money pit area. He was given compensating shares. I don't know what, \$3,000, \$3,500 worth of shares or whatever he considered his work was worth at the time. So ~~we~~ we figured he was a member of triton. Then later on, Triton reorganized; it wasn't ~~Triton, it was~~ Triton then, just David Tobias and myself. And then Triton was organized in April 1969 and everyone who had shares in the previous thing was sent papers ~~whereby~~ where they would return their shares and they would be held in escrow by an attorney and then they would be issued shares in Triton, depending on how many shares they had. ~~It was~~ approximately half of what they had. But nolan never returned his shares, but technically he's still a shareholder in Triton because whenever he does return his shares, he'll be issued shares in Triton. Now, at that time, about 1969-70, four or five years ago, he ~~claimed~~ claimed ownership of seven lots in there. He tried to get treasure trove license on these lots that he claimed he owned. We fought him ~~and~~ and the minister, Halliburton at the time, wouldn't give him the license. Then Halliburton went over on vacation in England and when he was away, Stanfield was the (SMITH) premier and Stanfield gave him the license. So we became very upset about that. Anyway, we've been fighting Nolan all along up about until two years ago, two and a half years ago and he was breaking up my causeway, one thing and another. We had it out hot and heavy, and we were just getting ready to go to litigation; the papers were signed and everything. We were going to get into the whole ball of wax in this litigation. But about two days before the thing, Nolan came out there and started talking to me. He approached me, I did not ~~approach him~~ approach him. This was about two or three years ago. He approached me and wanted to know if something could be worked out. So I said I don't know, it's kinda late but I'll do some quick telephoning and I did. And one member (of Triton) wanted me to work out something with him, one member didn't want to, and I had the deciding vote and I decided I would try to work something out with him. So he and I worked out an agreement.

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"Basically, it acknowledges his treasure trove license. We agree in the agreement not to get into the ~~the~~ question of ownership of those lots, because we were primarily interested in the treasure trove license, not ownership, not real estate. So, with this understanding, we allow Nolan to use the causeway and we allow him to cross Chappell's property to get to these contested lots. We don't acknowledge ownership, only his treasure trove ~~license~~ rights. And for this, he reciprocates and he gives us rights to pass over Crandalls Point and these lots that he considers he owns. It works both ways. He definitely owns Crandalls Point, no question about that. So anyway, that basically is the agreement. And then I worked out a deal where he had to give me some sweetener for me to sell it to Triton. So the sweetener was that if anything is found on these contested lots that he claims ownership on, Triton gets 40% of it, if he finds it. Now, if we agree to a (search) program between he and I, and Triton foots the ~~bill~~ bill on the program and we do find something then, then Triton gets 60% and he gets 40%. And, he has no claim on the balance of the island, period; with the exception of



if he ever turns in his shares, he'll be given corresponding shares for his legitimate holding. No percentage beyond anything we find. But basically, that's the agreement we have. So we don't have a ~~gr~~ fight with Nolan. He ~~sign~~ signed that agreement. It's still in effect and will be as long as ~~we~~ either one of us holds the (treasure trove) license.

"I know of some of the original markings and he (Nolan) knows of probably many more than I know. These people (original diggers) did the markings on the island, there's no question about that. Not only did they leave markings, they left monuments. They left stones cut certain ways, there's no question about that. We have found several different types. It's amazing how they were able to cut these damn stones and get them the same, but they are. If you know what to look for, you can see them. Now, we have not let this out, but they had a code and they knew what the whole code was and of course it's taken a hell of a detective job on Nolan's part and our part too to try and pursue it.

"Triton basically is not interested in what Nolan is doing. I ~~personally~~ personally am because I happen to feel as strongly as Fred does that these markers do go back to the original people. And once you accept that, then you have to place importance on them. As far as reconstructing them (the markers) Nolan is running various sight lines through on different ways, and I know more or less what he's doing. In fact, a little bit too much for his satisfaction. But that's neither here nor there; I'm not stupid, I hope. So anyway, he ran lines through our property last fall. I wasn't aware of this. I was up there drilling, working my ass off, and I didn't know that he was running these (lines) off. But he ran lines through there and at the end of these lines, my god, he dug trenches, 18, 20 feet long. Dug them by hand. So then when I started seeing this, I raised hell. I got hold of him (and) I said 'you have no business of digging on our property, none whatsoever.' And I said 'it's going to stop right now, because as far as I'm concerned, you've broken our agreement.' This was last fall. This is where he found one ~~marker~~ marker that comes to a point. I know where he found it; I know exactly where he found it. So when he found it, then he backsighted it to another certain point that we're aware of.

*The one Nolan showed me.*

"The thing is, there's no question, he stumbled on something, in my opinion. He stumbled on something. And the pieces are falling together now; it's a question of time, it's starting to gell.

Whoever (between Nolan and Triton) unlocks the secret of Oak Island first is not important to me; I didn't know it was important to Fred.

*COLES \**

"As far as I know he (Gordon Coles) still owns shares (in Triton). I don't know anything to the contrary. He probably has put the shares in trust. Gordon Coles has nothing to do with Triton now other than doubtlessly his shares are still valid. Just because he became ~~Assistant~~ <sup>deputy</sup> Attorney General (for Province of Nova Scotia) doesn't mean that he would give his shares away; it would be foolish. But he don't believe in Oak Island, but that's neither here nor there. He accepted these shares in lieu of fees and one thing and another. But he is very very careful and he's still a friend of mine and, I'm sure, a friend of David Tobias. But he has nothing to say in this dispute that Fred Nolan has gotten himself into. He (Nolan) got himself into this. We don't even know what



the hell he's trying to do; we really don't. We think he must be crazy in order to antagonize the government like he's been doing over Crandalls Point. Why did he put up a roadblock there (last summer)? He waited until the road department put up the road and boom, he ran and put a fence across it, see. Now, this is between him and the government; we have nothing to do with it. We're at peace with Fred. And ~~governments~~ ~~he's~~ ~~bringing~~ ~~this~~ ~~on~~ ~~himself~~ he's bringing this on himself. But Gordon Coles is staying completely out of it. If he (Nolan) thinks Gordon Coles is using his influence (to favor Triton), ~~xxx~~ he's crazy as hell. Because you call up Grodon Coles and ask him what's going on at Crandalls Point, he don't know nothing about it. He'll say attorney so and so is handling it and that's it. And he don't get into it, because he does not want anyone to come back to him and say 'conflict of interest', you know.

"If he (Nolan) thinks that Triton is trying to work and use Coles' influence in order to ~~get~~ ~~xxx~~ get him (Nolan) to lose his license, he's wrong. Because we have nothing to gain in that respect. We have no irons in the fire. (But if Nolan were to lose his treasure trove license) "who the hell (but Triton) should pick it up. We had the treasure trove license over the whole island. What he's doing now, he's bring on himself.

"As far as we're concerned, we would prefer seeing the province run conducted tours in there. And the reason is quite obvious. It's getting to be a bigger and bigger tourist attraction. 20,000 to 25,000 (people) should come this year. So the thing is, to just have these people go on the damn island, ~~xxx~~ going any place they want to go, would be a ~~xx~~ bitch. You don't know who's going to watch out for fires and one thing and another like that. Plus the fact they get in your hair. They come right down to where I'm working. So the guided tours are a good idea.

"I wouldn't have the guts to do what he's (Nolan) is doing (re fighting the province). Not me. Triton got part of the tourism revenue on Oak Island "last year for the first time. The first year (summer of 1973) we got nothing; asked for nothing; wanted nothing. But then we found out that they had worked out a deal with Nolan after we said we didn't want nothing. They worked out a deal with Nolan and gave him a third. So last year, knowing this, we said we're not going to let this happen again. So we said we'll take the same deal you gave Nolan, thinking they were going to give Nolan the same deal. And they were going to, but at the last second he pulled out of it. ~~xxx~~ As far as I know (Nolan got 30 pc last year, Triton got 30 pc and the government kept the rest). It didn't amount to no great amount of money, but sure, it did help to pay for some of the maintenance on the causeway. Then too, they paid \$3,000 or \$3,500 for a parking lot three years ago over here (on the island) so I allowed them to use the parking lot. Reasonable compensation. And too, when you're dealing with the province, you don't just give them carte blanche cheques to come in and do anything damn thing they want to, because then you might be giving away your legal rights, and we have to be careful in that respect too. We want to cooperate with them; we want them to have their tourists.

Triton "won't" get any revenue on tourism this year. "The province has seen fit that they don't want to make any deal with Nolan, they don't want to make any deal with Presley, and they didn't want to make



any deal with us. I've got a letter telling them that they've got three ~~different~~ different sets of circumstances. Nolan is one set of circumstances because of his ownership of Crandalls Point, and they put the road up there; it's up to them to do whatever they want to do with him. Now, if they trespass on Presley's property, that's another set of circumstances. But the ownership of the causeway is uncontested. \* We own the causeway; or M.R. Chapell does, and he's a big shareholder in Triton. So we own the causeway and we own the island, or the bulk of the island with the exception of these contested lots. And we have to maintain the causeway, and now I have to spend about 5 or 6 grand building it up and everything. So we feel it's only fair ~~tax~~ that we be given some compensation in order to, if not anything more, at least pay for the parking on the other (island) side, or something towards it, and maintainance of the causeway. It can't be no great amount of money, but by the same token, if you give away your rights, once you give them away, you can't get them back. We have to have something in writing saying that we have to be relieved of any responsibility if somebody goes across the causeway and runs off it and gets killed or anything like that. That's the main thing. We're not penny pinching or anything like that, but by the same token, if we allow them a blank cheque to go across, then we give up our rights.

Daniel Henski<sup>EE</sup> is "in the (Triton) syndicate. We gave him shares; he's a shareholder. (Got shares) more or less (for the work he does). Dan has no responsibility really; he's alone. The only child with his mother. He came up here in 1965; had a run in with Dunfield and then he went back. I treat him a lot more kindly than Dunfield. He spent a ~~making~~ hellish long time doing his conductivity testing. I helped and worked with him and gave him a little encouragement now and then. But he has yet to perfect the system where it would work. ~~The~~ If a thing's going to be scientific, you have to be able to repeat it at will, you know. Dan hasn't been too successful with it.

"He (Dan Henski<sup>EE</sup>) got some damn good ideas from Bill Parkin who is a member of Triton. Bill gave him some good ideas. He (Parkin) is from outside of Boston, from Wayland, Mass. He's a research scientist, inventor and brilliant. He joined Triton about two years ago. I just stopped ~~xxxxxxx~~ and saw him when we came through Boston.

"Surprisingly enough (Triton has had) not too many (new members join the syndicate since 1970). You see, with the corporate setup that we have under Canadian law we are allowed a maximum of 50 members then it has to go public. Now, I believe our membership is still around the 30 mark. I don't think there are over 30. Now what we did when we saw ~~that~~ we were pushing 30, what we did is that Tobias and I got in agreement that we just couldn't let anybody come in for a few hundred dollars or anything like this here, because we'd be using up our numerical number and not getting the money. So with this in mind, we set up a minimum investment. Because we're not after the small man anyway. No way. We're after persons that if they lose the money, they can afford to lose the money, you see. It's not an investment to make money, it's something that you have to be more or less interested in, and sure, maybe we may be lucky, maybe we'll all end up being millionaires, no question about it. But in the same token, it is the search that is the the compelling force that keeps you going. Because everybody has their own mountain that they want to climb. This is our mountain we want to climb.



The minimum investment in Triton is \$5,000. Actually, it's \$5,021, because you get 21 common shares and they're \$1 a share. That's the minimum investment we set. ?

\* Triton, again, I'm not positive of my figures because they're being audited now. But I would say off hand, Triton has spent probably right in the neighborhood of a half million dollars. And Tobias on his own before then I would say probably spent another \$150,000 besides that. So I think these are a ball park figure. I haven't had it (the money) to spend lately. Actually I think I spent a little over 5 grand the year before last of my own money and then I think I spent close to \$7,000 last year. So it's still a drain. (Spent) in the neighborhood of (\$100,000) of my own money (on Oak Island). I started on Oak Island in 1965; ten years, going on 11 years. Crazy! It's crazy little things like this here (shows me small piece of wire) that just keep me going. Now this came out of the ~~shaft~~ hole where I put the shaft in. (calls Janie to show me her piece of metal). No doubt about it (the wire was man made). It was hand drawn. It goes back at least 200 years. A. B. Dove, metallurgist at Stelco did the analysis. He has retired now. That's why we put the shaft down, believe it or not. We found it (the wire) about 10 feet down below where we started. (It was the) only piece we found. Only that. We came up with pieces of wood, but that's the only peice of metal.

/// Now, the amazing thing is that we also came up with this wire in 10-X with the 27-inch churn drill. Same identical analysis on it. It was about the same size; the same diameter. Probably two or three or four pieces came out of 10-X. (shows me various peices of the lead like metal that came out of 10-X).

\* Dan Henski put the (aerial) survey markers out. This is what we don't like about Fred. There are certain piles of stones up in here. These stones mean something, we know they do. Now, as quick as Fred spotted these here and located them accurately on his surveys, he deliberately tried to mislead me and moved these stone piles. As soon as he surveys an area, he deliberately bulldozes it so that he covers over his tracks. We don't do this. We try not to disturb the area, at all. And I'm mad at Fred for this here. And I've told him he has no right to do that. He's come on our property here and he's bulldozed. He is on our property 150 feet here right now. Legally, with our agreement we have, see. But, I don't want to go to court with him and fight with him all the damn time. But he keeps needling you. He does more and more all the time. And he better smarten up. So Dan Henski put these out because, sure, we've got arial surveys showing different markers around here and everything. We've had them for a long time. We had them for ~~amongx~~ before he did. And I've worked out certain things. The government, Lands and Forests department, are going to be running some runs this week and he (Henski) asked me if I mind if he ~~puts~~ puts up the markers. Hell no, I don't mind, not in the least. I'll be using the information. You'd be surprised what you can see (from arial photographs). Nolan has no business saying anything about that because the S.O.B., he bulldozed property that don't even belong to him here, and I've not taken him to court. So he has nothing to say about us putting on markers on there (Nolan's 7 lots). He goes whay the hell down here (Triton property) and puts all kinds of trenches through here, and he had no business doing that. I don't mind him running sight lines through here; I do mind him doing digging. And that's where that (surveyor's) marker came from (on Triton property)



*See map in "Dunsmuir" file. 9*

Nolan has lots #5 and #9 through #14, on the island. "He don't have all of the swamp (area), that's what's bugging him. (laughs). You have no idea how complex and the magnitude of this thing. We'll put them (the aerial markers) back; don't you ~~worry~~ worry about that; I'll put them back. I haven't seen Fred yet, ~~but I'm going to~~ I'm going to have a few things out with him. I don't get excited when he does something, why should he get excited when I do something? He's been on our property, and he continues to do it. So when the hell is he going to honor this agreement we have. He hasn't even started to honor it yet. We're not doing any racing (with Fred to find the treasure first). I wish him all the luck in the world (in his expectation of finding the treasure this summer). Who knows? (how far away Triton is from finding the treasure) We know more now than ~~we~~ what we knew last year and we knew more last year than what we knew the year before.

"If we had the money to invest now that we had when we started as Triton; ~~ix~~ if we had that kind of money, then we feel that we could get to the bottom of this very quickly. We've gotten estimates on putting a large diameter hole down in the money pit area ending up with about a 30-foot (diameter) hole in bedrock at 180 feet and down into bedrock to 225 feet. And my god, the damn estimate was \$350,000 four years ago. The shaft would start off 100 feet across, telescoping down and ending in bedrock at 30 feet across. An open shaft.

"We've been going along on reduced expenditures for quite some time now, a smaller operation ~~that~~ than what we were doing years ago, because of the finances. It's a steady drain all the time. We haven't got the money now to do what we would like to do based on the knowledge we have. Now, if we went public, we could raise \$1 million or \$1.5 million. And that would ~~doubtlessly~~ doubtlessly accelerate how quickly we resolve this thing. We've talked about (going public) and we do know, we've been told, that we could raise \$1.5 million, no problem, by going public. It's a possibility that if we don't get to something this summer, the possibility is open that we may go public. So far, I'm against it and I've been trying to pursue this thing as fast as I can with the funds that are available, that's all. Fred (Nolan) is more or less the same thing. Fred will only do a certain amount of work ~~with~~ with what funds he wants to spend for that time. He's not going whole hog. (It's) not true (that Nolan is, as he claims, spending more on legal fees than on the Oak Island search). But we almost got into ~~ix~~ him (on a legal battle) It was within two days and then we worked out that agreement.

(Shows me survey maps made recently of the island, showing piles of stones and old surveyors' markers found by Triton over the years) Nolan has bulldozed a lot of this stuff off. (stones with iron ringbolt - what Nolan says are surveyors' sight lines) A five stone triangle was exposed not too long ago and then three drilled ~~rocks~~ rocks. Found these just two years ago in 1973. Drilled rocks are in a row. There's others, but we know about these here. Straight lines through these markers and they're hundreds of feet apart, hit dead on with a transit on other drilled rocks and ring bolts. ~~Take~~ These are some of the things that make you wonder. Drilled some 8-inch holes along these lines and hit wood and probably iron, but not sure (of the iron). And running a straight line through is where I hit wire (was on the basis of these surveys that Dan decided to put the shaft where he did in 1973 autum) The shaft (according to the chart) is about 650 feet north of the money pit. ✓



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// "these are some of the things that I know about and Nolan knows about. But he also has other stones with drill holes in them and quite a few other goodies that I know about. So, sure, it's just a question of time before this thing will start falling together. I think these markers and stones were put there by the original people in order that they could sightline the places they buried the treasure. These sight lines are amazingly accurate. I agree with him (Nolan, that the ring bolts, so called, are really used by old time surveyors to sight along) He (Nolan) don't leave nothing in place once he finds it. He moves the rocks after he'd located them. (But Triton knows the location of most of the markers and drilled rocks) because he (Nolan) very foolishly gave me a survey a long time ago that he forgot about. He'd give anything to ~~give~~ get it back. That was while we were buddy-buddies. He's ~~an~~ a hell of an accurate surveyor (shows me how Nolan has plotted the ring bolts and other markers). I think we're going to come up with something very interesting this summer, I really do. I think Fred will too; Because we found some things this winter that we intend to do something about this summer. I'd love to tell you about it, but I don't feel free to tell you about it because it just gives him ammunition (Fred) and it's just unnecessary ammunition, you know. I don't want him reading something in the paper and coming back to me; do you follow me? I give him (Fred) credit for being very very clever and I think that he's put together doubtlessly much more on the surface of the ground than what I have done because I don't have the time, you see. I have doubtlessly found things in here that he don't know about, but he probably has found twice as much as what I ~~know~~ know about, because he has spent more time doing ~~that~~ that. And not only that, my investigation has been mostly with drilling, right. I've had reasons to suspect chambers and one thing and another in certain areas and we were drilling these areas. I think it's quite possible that he (Nolan) will come up with something this summer that will probably be near or on the surface of the ground. He (Nolan) has found out a lot of things quite recently, within the last six or eight months. And I know about some of it, and you'll hear about it this ~~summer~~ summer; no question about it. There's certain things that he wants to do and he'll probably have to do it in conjunction with Triton. I don't see how he can do it legally alone, you know. (Because it's not just on his property) and because of other reasons.

see Nolan's comment on that! //

Re aerial markers: "Dan (Henski) knows they're ~~going~~ going to be running (aerial) surveys this week, so he asked me if I mind (him putting out the targets) and I said 'hell no' because we ~~know~~ did the same thing last year and it can be done quite well. If he (Nolan) wants to make a big deal out of it then he's going to suffer by it. Because I'll insist that he don't absolutely come off of his property at all, to even run a sight line through. He's taking a narrow minded attitude. He has no business to make a big deal about that (aerial target) enterprise. Obviously (the dispute is over treasure.)

\* // "The main reason why I believe (the treasure is still there) is that I havent seen any physical evidence of anything being taken out of ~~the~~ the ground and I believe that if they took anything out of the ground, they wouldn't have been careful about concealing it. Why should you cover ~~my~~ your tracks up once you take something out. I've looked the island over pretty daman carefully; it's <sup>not</sup> a big island; and I've never seen anything where they took anything out.

// // // (Shows photographs - ck id) "If you look carefully you can see small ~~xx~~ pieces of wood that was in those samples. (picture of Bill Parkin with oscilloscope & grid paper for sonar readings) (picture of



180  
+55  
235

11

body with analysts report from underwater photography and physiology reports - "this is outline of a body/ jaw and mouth very realistic; \* perhaps too much so/ no teeth in evidence/ suggests body in sitting position originally, then toppled over" - picked up by underwater camera in 10-X in late 1971 - after hand was sighted, couple of months later. We never disclosed the head thing before) (Shows picture showing logs and - very clearly - cut boards with nails in them - this is 10-X down at the bottom, 235 feet) This is 55 feet in bedrock; this is why I wasted so much time in this damn hole. We've tried already to recover these things (by diving). But I'm not going down there no more because it's too damn dangerous; it's much much too dangerous. This chamber is real big, maybe 8' by 14', elongated and you hang down like a pendulum and you drop down into this chamber and you just hanging down in space. What you want is away from you quite a bit. The bottom is now xx eroded and once you do step on the bottom, then all the silt comes up and obscures your vision. (shows another picture showing a rectangular shape - "looks like a rectangular box of some sort and something on the end of it - it would be a hell of an ~~odd~~ odd shaped rock) This hole (10-X) has cost us a fortune.

Re piece of wire: "He (Stelco metallurgist) says that they used to make wire back to 10,000 years ago. A.B. Dove, senior development metallurgist for stelco. wire ~~is~~ dated between "1500's to 1800's" by Dove. It was man-made, no question about that. (Found spike and metal strap on beach last year on beach about nine feet below original beach level - spike and strap analyzed by Stelco as being at least 200 years old.)

"We may go public, but I don't know. Ask Tobias; fine person. I worked out on that island some miserable, miserable days. I've worked out there in the winter on the churn drill, well below zero with the winds 35, 40 miles an hour blowing. You've got to be some kind of a nut to do this, see. We're (Triton) definitely going to stick to it through this year anyway, we have a treasure trove license through another year after this ~~xx~~ here. (expires dec 1976; same as Nolan's license) We have a good thing working for us up on 10-X now and that's going to bear further investigation and we may be lucky there. And then we're going to put some large-diameter holes down in the Money Pit area. But we're also going to be doing something else this summer that's going to be very interesting, that's for sure; and we could come up with something. It's very possible. I feel very strongly about coming up with something that you can actually see, hold, this summer. I ~~xx~~ feel very very encouraged about that. We've come up with more evidence this past winter.

"I question pirates (as the source of the treasure) more than anything for the simple reason that it doesn't seem their cup of ~~xx~~ tea to do something like this (didn't). This thing was a very very well engineered and well laid out thing; and I think it could have had one designer. How often can you get a ~~xxxx~~ bunch of cutthroats to listen to one man and do everything he said. ~~xxxx~~ I rather suspect that hopefully it might go back to as early as the Spaniards. The Spaniards had the Western Hemisphere for 90 years to themselves before the English with Drake came over. And in those 90 years they looted South America, Central America something fantastic. This is the period between 1550 to 1650, because the Spaniards were here in 1528, ~~xx~~ give or take, and they started looting South America ~~xx~~ right off the bat. Rozere goes back to 1534, and he was one of the greatest looters of all.

Smith's Cove beach

Pizarro?

→



"When you look at a globe and see the pattern of trade winds, the natural sailing route (from central america) would bring you to Nova Scotia. And so they said what the hell, why give it all to ~~Queen~~ Queen Isabella; ~~give~~ give her one and we'll take three, or something like that. "We hope" (that' it's Inca gold)

A Spanish type anchor was found by Peter Beamish in 1965 and he took it to Hanover, Mass. (Anchor has disappeared).

"I still believe that we're going to come up with something this summer. And I don't discount the fact that Fred might come up with something, I don't discount it in the least. I believe he's right (re the treasure being spread all over the island) I think he and I are the only two that believe that (it's Spanish treasure) Found two old shoes ~~7m8m~~ 11 feet below the beach in 1970. And found another big wooden structure on another part of the beach with an oak peg in it. (Old workings) are from one end to the other (of the island).

"I really don't know" (how many shares I have in Triton.) I'm really ~~not~~ so damn much interested in that. Chapell probably has about 25%, Tobias probably has about 15% and I would probably have about 10%.

"The main thing is climbing that mountain. Being the first to get to the top of that mountain."

Re Esquire article - "If you've got time for a short drink, I've got time for a short story." (rest off the record).