

~~(To be compiled)~~

Notes on Telephone conversation with Dan Blankenship - April 5, 1977.

Nothing much has happened. Still working every day; putting in nine or ten hours a day when the weather's good. Doing some drilling up around 10-X.

Never put that 25-inch sleeve down in 10-X. There's other problems with it. We redrilled it down to about 95 feet but that's all (it was blocked off at about 90 feet). We're still not sure if it's open below 100 feet (i.e., whether the collapse bridged the hole or filled it all the way down to 237 feet. I'd have to drill through metal in order to get through it.

I'm doing churn drilling now (probably between 10-X and the Cave-in Pit). I'm on my third hole. I'm trying to find out exactly from what level that metal (found in 10-X in 1971) ~~at 165 feet) came from originally.~~ came from originally. It came from 165 feet out of 10-X. (that was the soft metal). That's where we got it from but that doesn't mean that's where it actually was to begin with. It could have come from 212 feet or anywhere down below 165. Chances are it would have come from below and not above 165 feet, because we were using a rotary drill and that blows everything up. The first time we hit that metal in 10-X was with Bowmaster, their ~~rotary~~ rotary drill putting down a six-inch diameter hole in 10-X. Later Parker Kennedy made the 27-inch diameter hole (and more metal was recovered).

All we're doing now is exploratory churn drilling. We're just looking for something that's in its undisturbed state and left by the original people.

We can't work down in the Money Pit area very well in the winter time because that area is too wet. The frost is just getting out of the ground now. M.R. wants me to get back to it but it will probably be the end of this month before I can get back to it.

I remember with Dunfield, December 1965 was a thaw and then in January (after first week) it got bitter cold and everything froze up. It was around the end of February when the Cave-in Pit

collapsed.

The whole ~~xxxx~~ search has cost me about \$80,000. My construction business in 1966 was a very good year; I had just finished a \$2.5 million hospital contract. I left a good business (for Oak Island) when I had just turned a corner.

Tobias told me the ad campaign thing had fallen through. Had something to do with the SEC rules. I don't know what his new plan (to raise money) ~~it~~ is.

re Peter East - He's a character. He came out to the island last Fall. We were working in 10-X at the time. East had some sort of (divining) rod in his car. He walked around the island twirling it around. ~~Walking~~ We were pumping 10-X from a new pumping hole we've got/north of 10-X (changed from the one that used to be a few feet to the east). We were pumping about 600 gallons a minute and had the water level in 10-X down to about 160 feet. So here East walks all around with his rod and says 'I can tell you exactly where the water's coming from, how deep it is and how much is coming in.' He said there was ~~an intake~~ 'a little seepage coming in from here about 100 feet down', pointing toward the north where a pump was pulling out about 600 gpm. So I said you're wrong on the level and you're way the hell wrong on the 'little seepage.' He spent more time out there with other rods and a metal detector. He spent maybe two hours out there. Then he came up to me and said, "well, I'm sorry to tell you, you're wasting your time. There isn't a damn thing on this island." And in the next breath he says, "Oh incidentally, when is triton going to call it quits?" (He was already to sign a contract with Chappell no doubt).

The GI's used dowsing in Viet Nam to locate underground bunkers and Viet Cong tunnels. Ernie Thurston showed me a map ~~he had dowsed~~ of the end of the island that he had dowsed. He found fourteen vaults and three layers of tunnels. (Dan believes in dowsing as I do; i.e. that it can be used to locate underground tunnels. But not to find gold and silver or any other

treasure.)/ The thing with these ~~dowsers~~ dowers is as soon as you ask them what they've found elsewhere (and can prove) by their dowsing, they can't give you anything definite. I always say, "I'm sorry, I'm from Missouri; show me." \*

When Ernie (Thurston) was here he picked out several spots with Claude Chappell and we dug in every one of them. And he was wrong on every one of them.

And with Goodman, I tried two big areas that we bulldozed and several ~~other~~ other smaller areas. And they didn't pan out.

I believe oak island was built either in the late 1500's or anytime during the 1600's. It's my opinion too that the Spanish were involved. \*

Re Lochard - I thought even before I went down to Haiti (in 1970) that he and his communal bank ~~were~~ was a bunch of nonsense. Lochard told me he got out of the country with about \$50,000 worth of ~~gold coins~~ gold coins. I rather ~~ex~~ suspected the whole thing was a hoax all the time. Nobody knew nothing about it when I went to Haiti; they never heard of Lochard or the communal bank. It was just a wasted trip. I was down there three days. When I came back and talked to Lochard he said I went to the wrong part of the island. I was in the north and he said it (Kavanach Hill) was in the southern part. I met Lochard in Boston and we even had him up here on the island. And his big fat friend was with him, the pilot. He raises (fat boy) great dane dogs as a hobby and a business. They more or less stuck to their story.

Lochard showed us some pictures of himself down in some kind of a cavern that was maybe eight or nine feet high and made of coral rock. There were two or three pictures, black and white, in this chamber or tunnel. According to him this was an old communal bank. He said it was backfilled with loose debris and they dug out the loose debris and this is when they found the coins. What he told me didn't dispute or confirm Tobias' communal bank. But when I showed him the sketch (~~of~~ of O.I. work) ~~triton did - see photo~~ Lochard said that that wasn't what it was

like. But he was scared to talk more and didn't want his whereabouts ~~known~~ known in New York. And ~~later~~ Tobias couldn't locate him; it was finally this guy up in Boston who located him. We got in touch with him. I met him in Boston and later on both of them came up here. As far as I know Tobias first heard about a communal bank in Haiti from Lochard.

One interesting thing though was the heart-shaped stone that he described to us. And at that time he didn't know anything about the heart-shaped stone we had found. That's a strange coincidence.

Re Oak trees - there are hundreds still alive on Oak Island. (though surely not the large Red Oaks). Some are rock oak and others swamp oak, which has a light colored bark on it. Oak Island is not the only island with oaks on it.

The Money Pit area is about 12 feet lower now than it was prior to 1965 when Dunfield scraped it down. My memory is that when we were doing the drilling with Becker (in late 1960's,) I was using minus 10 feet (to make up for the different elevations since pre 1965) and M.R. thought it was closer to 12.

\*\*\*)(Note that Dunfield's measurements of limestone bedrock, cavity, etc. were based on height from ~~the~~ old surface; i.e. including the ten feet he'd scraped away. But Triton's drill results after 1966 are based on actual elevation - so 10 feet has to be ~~subtracted~~ added to Triton's drill results in Money Pit area to compare ~~wx~~ them with pre 1966 work levels and findings.).\*\*\*\*

(Dan says the fact that 10-X is on a line with the two drilled rocks, as shown in the 1937 Roper survey, is ~~just~~ "just a coincidence." He also still declines to say what prompted him to drill in that particular spot in the first place. "The whole story will come out some day.")

Re charred bones - Found that sometime around 1969, maybe 1970. I found several places that had burnt bones in pits under rocks. They were analyzed as bone (with no distinction

available between human and animal bone). Whoever did the test on them said he couldn't tell whether they were animal or human because it was just the burned residue (~~xxx~~ (ash) of the bones. These weren't found in the Money Pit area; they were found in several areas.

Re Beamish finding a Spanish coin - I never saw it. I doubt it exists because the man is a quirk. And very much of a liar. I don't accept that coin. I accepted his finding the anchor because ~~xxxxxxx~~ he lied about it and I found out about it. (He brought it down to Andover, apparently). But we couldn't locate it. It's a shame it's lost because as far as I'm concerned it may be one of the best finds on the island. I wanted to take a chip off of it and send it to Stelco to have it analyzed. And also we wanted to look at the shape of it and see if it was Spanish.

We found plenty of coconut fiber down in Smith's Cove. And where we found it there was no evidence of any other digging. We found it after we put the dam in there (in 1970) by digging parallel with the beach. We cut across a trench. And we exposed the way they put their drains in; it was beautiful. On top of the drains was the coconut fiber which was analyzed (by NRC) as being coconut. It wasn't all coconut on top of the drains, there was also branches and ~~ix~~ leaves. That was when we found the skidway; all in the same summer.

(Henskee comes on phone to tell me about a ~~xxxxxx~~ piece of sonar equipment he made.) I refined the thing that Bill Parkin had and made a better version. I've tried it in different open drill holes and it works pretty well. It picks up thumps from drilling in other areas and also noise from dripping water in drill casings many feet away from the one I'm testing with the sonar. (used to detect cavities via passage of sound).