

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Freedom of Information / Privacy Acts

Release

SUBJECT: Silas Newton

FEDERA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD	
A LBUQUERQUE	A LBUQUERQUE	7/21/70	4/3/70 - 6/2	26/70
TITLE OF CASE		REPORT MADE BY		TYPED BY
Ø		SA		dl
	NING COMPANY; SEARCH FOUNDATION; SEARCH FOUNDATION;	CHARACTER OF	- CONFIDENCE GAMES	5 7 5 7 5 570 670
REFERENCES :	•			26

Albuquerque airtel to Los Angeles, dated 4/3/70; Albuquerque letter to Oklahoma City, dated 5/28/70; Oklahoma City letter to Albuquerque, dated 6/26/70.

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LEADS:

OKIAHOMA CITY DIVISION (INFORMATION)

Information copy of this report is being furnished to Oklahoma City Division in view of outstanding investigation that Division.

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	2	- Albu	querque (87-7861) 7865	2 13 F	1112	<u>,,,_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,</u>	······································	
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Agency						<u> </u>		More rules	
Request	Recd				- 	1	(MEDIAGO	
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How Fw	/d		2707	***************************************		-		^ A	

UN. ED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JL TICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:		
Report of: Date:	SA 7/21/70	Office: A LB UQUE RQUE
Field Office File #:	AQ 87-7861	Bureau File ≴:
litle:	BUCKHORN MINING COMMAGNETIC RESEARCH DISTLAS MASON NEWTON	FOUNDÁTION;
Okoracters	INTERSTATE TRANSPOR	PRINTION OF STOLEN PROPERTY -
Synopels:		
January, swindle have bee erty minerals	1970, and began to one made with out-of-state development	to Silver City, New Mexico, area organize what appears as a mining Investigation shows contacts tate individuals to purchase propoped by NEWTON. No traces of coperty have been located in assay is being salted.
		- P -
DETAILS :		
	AT SILVER CITY, NEW	EW MEXICO
New Mexi	rn of subject SILAS l	med in the Albuquerque office upon MASON NEWTON to the Silver City, parent indication that he has be-game in this area.
mately J	NEWTON returned to sanuary, 1970, and has	Silver City, New Mexico, approxi- as associated himself with
business establis	relationship between shed; however, NEWTON	en NEWTON and has not been has opened an office in Silver

This document contains neither recommendations not conclusions and according to the contains and the contains and the contains and the contains are considered to the contains and the contains are contained to the contains and the contains are contained to the contained to

ALBUQUERQUE DIVISION

AT SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO

Maintain contact with established sources close to the mining operation of captioned subjects.

Research connects	has printed on the window of the office "Magnetic Foundation and Buckhorn Mine." An extension phone the offices of NEWTON although in opposite ends of the block.

The Buckhorn Mine basically consists of two properties, one of which is the mining property where the development work is being conducted and secondly a piece of property approximately fifty miles distance on the other side of the county in Vanadium, New Mexico, whereon is located a small mill and custom smelter. The second property is believed to be leased with option to buy. A source actually working in this operation has provided rock samples and a surreptitious assay of these samples for mercury, which is the stated mineral the property is being developed for, show absolutely no traces of mercury in the assay. Statements have been made to also locating silver; however, as of this date the silver assay has not been completed.

A recent conversation between NEWTON, and an unidentified third person was overheard in which it was stated that one of the three was to leave for El Paso where he was to obtain mercury and in addition to that an exclamatory statement was made, "This mill has to operate for only one day, that's all we need, just one day."

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

A review of the records of the County Clerk, Los Angeles, California, by SA revealed the following information:

On April 30, 1969, SILAS MASON NEWTON appeared

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and withdrew not guilty plea and pled guilty to count one (26104A Corp Code). Probation and sentencing on count one and disposition on remaining counts set for June 24, 1969.

On June 24, 1969, probation and sentencing continued to December 29, 1969.

On December 29, 1969, on a motion of the defendant, probation and sentencing continued until July 13, 1970.

The following investigation was conducted by SA on April 30, 1970:

AT SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Commission, Corporation Records' Section, advised there was nothing on record in his office for the Buckhorn Mine, Magnetic Research Foundation, but that the Copper Corporation of America, filed articles of incorporation on February 14, 1969, listing their principal address as 110 Yankie Street, P. O. Box 922, Silver City, New Mexico, and the agent of the company as

The corporation has authorization for 25,000 shares of issued stock valued at \$25,000.

According to the articles of incorporation, the purpose of this corporation was to mine, smelt, refine, convert, prepare for market copper, sulfuric acid, chlorine, cryolit aluminum by-products, gold, silver, lead, zinc, brass, iron, and steel.

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The Directors of the company are

The Incorporators are the same persons named as Directors.

The names of the stockholders and the value of the stock was not given on the record and there was no description of the properties held by the corporation in this record.

AT SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO

- 3 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT	INGOFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD	
	ALBUQUERQUE	ALBUQUERQUE	11/30/70	7/2/70 - 11/24/7	0
BUCKHORN MINING COMPANY; MAGNETIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION; SILAS MASON NEWTON:		SA SA		TYPED BY dak	
		CHARACTER OF CASE ITSP - CONFIDENCE GAME			
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X	Albuquerque le	letter to Albuque: tter to Los Angel tter to Albuquerq	rque, dated : es, dated 9/2	21/70.	770.
	LEADS:	-	P	14	/
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AT PINOS ALTOS, NEW MEXICO

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AQ 87-7861	
2. Will, therefter, set forth appropriate leads to have interviewed concerning information that he reportedly advanced a substantial sum of money to NEWTON and in connection with the Buckhorn Mining Company.	
AT SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO	
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to-	1 - U. S. Attorney, A	Albuquerque		
Report of, Date,	SA November 30, 1970	Office	ALBUQUERQUE	
Field Office File #	AQ 87-7861	Bureau File	#. 87-111909	
Title .	BUCKHORN MINING COMPA MAGNETIC RESEARCH FOU SILAS MASON NEWTON;			
Character,	INTERSTATE TRANSPORTA	ATION OF STOLE	N PROPERTY -	
ŝynopsis-				
a substa	individual known only a antial sum of money to b ent "salted" mining ope	vewton	reportedly advanced in connection with uckhorn, New Mexico.	
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DETAILS:	3			
	The following invest:	igation was co	nducted by SA	
	AT POTEAU, OKLAHOMA			

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1 LA 87-28977 HFD/rsr

The following investigation was conducted by SA on September 30, 1970:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

File Number A-226576, which is a criminal case in the Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, charges SILAS M. NEWTON with illegally selling a security for value without having permission from the Commission of Corporations, State of California. He allegedly sold an interest in an oil well to be drilled in Sedona, Arizona.

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attorney for the victims in this criminal case, advised Superior Court Judge RICHARD HAYREN that complete restitution had been made by NEWTON to the victims, and that mutual releases had been signed with regard to all transactions between NEWTON and the victims.

This case came up for hearing on July 24, 1970, and the defendant entered a motion to withdraw his plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty.

On the court's own motion, the case was dismissed in the interest of justice pursuant to Section 1385 Penal Code (PC), and NEWTON's bail was exonerated.

For the information of the Albuquerque Office, the probation report, which was dated June 30, 1969, contained the following information concerning NEWTON:

He was born on July 19, 1887, at Shelby County, Kentucky. He is divorced and is a college graduate. He has claimed his occupation was that of a geologist, who had an income of \$500 s month, being employed by the Mechanic Research Foundation, Tucson, Arizona. He claims to have a Bachelor of Science in geology from Baylor University and to have studied for six months at Oxford University in London.

NEWTON has been married four times. Two of these relationships ended in divorce, and two with the deaths of his wives. He was last married in 1950, and this wife divorced

2 LA 87-28977 HFD/rsr

him in 1961.

NEWTON has had no military service. He claims to be a life member of the Professional Golfers Association.

He has FBI Number 835 \$61.

The probation report sets out the following arrest record:

Date	Department	Charge	Disposition
July 8, 1931	New York City Police Department	Conspiracy	No disposition
September 23, 1934	SP Oneida, New York	False stock statement	No disposition
July 15, 1935	SO El Mira, New York	952 PL	No disposition
September 25, 1936	PD New York City	Grand Larceny	No disposition
October 15, 1952	USM, Los Angeles	ITSP	
0 cteber 14, 1952	Sheriff's Office Los Angeles	Suspicion fugitive from Colorado (cen game)	No disposition
March 12, 1958	USM Denver	Fraud by Mail; Violation Secur and Exchange Act and Conspir	rity jury trial
December 7, 1967	Los Angeles Police Department	Grand Theft Merchandise	No disposition (Probation officer states this is possibly the arrest for the current offense.)

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3 LA 87-28977 HFD/rsr

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accom	elished co	n man of man	y years sta	nding, who	is kn <mark>owle</mark> d	lgeable
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AT SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO

The August 12, 1970, issue of the "Silver City Daily Press," published at Silver City, New Mexico, contained on the front page two photographs bearing the caption, "New Mine Near Buckhorn." The caption under the photographs continued to state that S. M. NEWTON shipped ore samples from the above shown mine to California by air Monday to be assayed. The mine, which is believed to contain silver ore, is located about one mile north of Buckhorn in Western Grant County. The mine is located on the side of a hill on state land and is near an area where NEWTON has been seeking mercury for about five years. A fault runs through the area of the small pit and black rock is located in the earth below the fault.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Eale
office at
furnished the
remarks introductions
He has in the past, been acquainted with SILAS NEWTON
who have been engaged in numerous mining
wentures in the vicinity of Silver City and Grant County, Hew Maxico. He has seen recent publicity in the Silver City
newspaper concerning a mine near Buckhorn reportedly operated
by MENTON and he has, in fact, had occasion to perform assay
tests on samples of ore allegedly coming from the mine near
Buckhorn as well as from a mine near Vanadium, New Mexico, also reportedly operated by NEWTON He said his
tests on the ore proved that the ore was worthless and did
not contain substantial amounts of silver or mercury as
indicated in the publicity in the local press. He further
commented that the publicity concerning the mine near Buckhorn, New Mexico, made mention of the possibility of mercury in this
area, which ha stated was practically impossible insumuch as
this area is located in an old lava flow where mercury would
be unlikely to be found.
to an office occupied by NEWTON and the
partitions in the office were very thin and NEWTON
being elderly, were somewhat hard of hearing and conversed in
loud voice. He does recall hearing conversation through the
partition at one time wherein somebody was being asked or told to go to El Paso and buy a quantity of mercury. He
could conclude only that the purpose of the mercury was to be
used to "salt" the mine either near Buckhorn or Vanadium,
New Maxico, with the idea of convincing someone that the mine
was, in fact, valuable for the purpose of obtaining mercury.
continued that it has been rumored that
an individual known as had advanced a substantial
sum of money, something in the neighborhood of \$50,000, to
MENTON ostensibly for development work on the Buckborn
mine. He could conclude only knowing NEWTON's background as
11/24/70 . Silver City, New Maxico Fil. AQ 87-7861
8a Date dictared 11/25/76

The House agent common neither the commensations against the act the FBI II is the property of the FBI and it lagned to your agency.

being a con man, of course, lost this investment
and had been taken by NEWTON He said he does not know
the present whereabours of however
further stated that a recent paying contractor
in Silver City, employed a whose
name is unknown to him, who has reportedly stated that one
of the principal reasons he came to Silver City for the paving
job was that he had contact with some person in either Arkansas
or Tenmassee who had discussed with him the possibilities of
a mining venture in connection with either the Buckhorn mine
or the property in Vanddium. said that the name of
this could probably be obtained from the City Hall
inasumen as the paving contract was a city project and this
individual was the firstto arrive in connection with this contract.
EILE CONTRECT.
advised that to the best of his knowledge,
NEWFONI have now laft the Cilver City area
apparently after obtaining the funds from and
he has no information concerning the whereabouts of
NEWTON He said that is reluctant to accept
the fact that he has been taken insofar as he, knows,
has not made any complaint to any law enforcement
acency that he has been swindled by NEWTON He said
is apparently convinced that he has invested in a good
thing and he is determined to salvage something from the operation, although in opinion, the mine near Buckhorn
as well as the property near Vanadium, is worthless insofar
as obtaining any substantial quantities of silver ore or

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALBUQUERQUE ALBUQUERQUE ALBUQUERQUE 3/31/71 12/23/70 - 3/26/71 FREFORM MADE BY SA BUCKHORN MINING COMPANY; HAGNETIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION; SILAS MASON NEWION; Albuquerque report of SA Albuquerque report of SA Albuquerque sirtel to Jackson, 1/2//71. -P- LEADS: JACKSON. HISSISSIPPI FURTISE Albuquerque results of interview with as requested in reAQairtel. ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED ID NONE ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED ID	REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD	····· <u></u>
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to		
Report of Date	SA Office. ALBUQUERQUE March 31, 19/1	
Field Office File #-	AQ 87-7861 Bureau File # 87-111909	
Title:	BUCKHORN MINING COMPANY; MAGNETIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION; SILAS MASON NEWTON;	
Character-	INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY - CONFIDENCE GAME	b70
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DETAILS:

AL PHOUR DON'T

(1) Maintain contact with for any further information concerning subjects activities. (2) Upon receipt of results of interview with from Jackson, conduct any further necessary investigation. AT ALBHOUPDONE, NEW MEXICO Through contact with the identify and obtain background information on an FNU reportudly the has been in contact with individuals from on behalf of subjects NEWTON

B*
CONTR PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

		12/30/70
1		office at
collowing inform	Mitioni	furnished the
_	recently heard that :	SILAS NEWTON
have three	agh a	(FAU) yet unidentified "pigeons"
from 1	He said NEWTON	have established an
assay laborater and in addition	to NEWTON	Silver City. New Mexico:
lends a certain	said that the estai	blishment of the laboratory
ienlok	are setting up some ";	pigeons" from in
venture either i	in Vanadium, New Mexico	up some money in a mining or, or at the mine near
Suckhorn, New Mo mount of public		tly received a considerable
•	•	
The transfer of the second of		T = T = T = T = T = T = T = T = T = T =
2/23/70 ett	War City. Now Marine	FUnAQ_87-7861
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AT	SILVER	CITY,	NEW	W MEXICO:	
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The following Identification Record under FBI Number 835 861 was received from the Identification Division of the FBI on February 11, 1971:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 835 861

, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	POSITION
•				,
PD.,NYC,N.Y.	Silas I'. Newton	7-8-31	fug. warrant - Montclair, N. conspiracy	7-10-31 del. to N.J. Auth
SPol.,Oneida,N.Y.	Silas Mason Newton,#2268	9-23-34	false stock statements	
SO. Elmira, N.Y.	Silas M. Newton	7-15-35	2 indictments - vio. 952 P.L.	rel. on bail \$2500
PD.,NYC,N.Y.	Silas M: Newton #E-93874	9-25-36	G.L., 2nd -warrant	,
USM Los Angeles	Silas Mason Newton #29068	10-15-5	State stolen	2-11-53 neuro pill ret US CJ penver Colo on the of Ilsi
SO Lot Angeles Calif	11	10-14-52	Susp Fugitive Colo (Confidence Came)	cue or tror
O Riverside Cali	Silas-Mason Newton #50116	12-2-52	Confidence Game	Hold for Colo.
D Denver Ĉolo	Silas Mason Mewton #37279	12-5-52	hold for DA's offine	
BM Denver Colo	Silas Mason Newton #5501	3-12-58	mail fraud vio Securities & ex- change .ct & Conspiracy	acquitted by jury trial
SO Los Angeles Calif	Silas Mason Newton #C-630673	12-7-67	GT money	
1		4		1

Information shown on this Identificati contributors. Where final disposition is no municate with agency contributing those in Notations indicated by * are NOT base gative leads as being possibly identical wit

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

		Date	3/31/71
	furnished the follow	ing information:	
of SILAS Ni to appear i but he unde	has no recent infor MICH In District Court, Silvestands the appearance Separtedly ill somewhat	He said NEWTO ver City, during a has been postp	N was scheduled the past week ened because
end It does	net appear at this to interest in this ve	is operated by Ime as though ei	
been in eco	also said that he the identity of (first tast with people from a mining ventures with	t name umknown) who who are	al information the is said to have interested in
•			
		 	
3/26/71	Silver City, New N	lext so File,	AQ 87-7861
SA	/11		3/39/71

The control regions neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency,

FD-263 (Rev. 12-19-67) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ...

REPORTING OFF	ICE	OFFICE	OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE P	w KIO D
ALBUQ	JERQUE	ALB	UQUERQUE	5/19/71	3/25/71 -	
TITLE OF CASE	.,			REPORT MADE BY		TYPED BY
$O_{\mathtt{BUCKHORN}}$ mining company;		SA		mec		
MAGI	NETIC R	ESEARCH 1	FOUNDATION:	CHARACTER OF	ASE	
8114	IS MASO	N NEWTON				
				ITSP -	CONFIDENCE O	SAME
···						**************************************
REF	erences	:				
		dated 1	que report o 3/31/71. letter to Al	f SA buquerque, 3	/25/71.	
			âna	C -		
AD M I	INISTRA	TIVE:				1
المساف		In view o	of the fact	that	whose	;
lnte	erview :	is report	ted herein,	has stated h	2 LOADed NEW	VION
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to.			
Report of Date:	SA May 19, 1971	Office: Albuquerque	
Field Office File #:	AQ 87-7861	Bureau File #. 87-111909	
Tirle:	BUCKHORN MINING COMPAN MAGNETIC RESEARCH FOUN SILAS MASON NEWTON:		
Character,	INTERSTATE TRANSPORTAT	CION OF STOLEN PROPERTY -	b7(
he considered for the further than the f	ider that he had been che to identify FNU unsuccessful.	to NEWTON as a loan and did	
	-	· U =	

DETAILS:

The state of the FBI and is loaned to your agency, it and its contents

DERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGAT

Date March 25, 1971

1	was advised of the identity of the interviewing
	and the nature of the inquiry which concerned and their mining
brobei	rty in Silver City, New Mexico.
	stated that he has known SILAS NEWTON
	pout four or five years and that he loaned him \$10,000
	four years ago and that NEWTON has paid back part of
	noney. He advised that he never gave NEWTON a lump sum
	s money but that it was over a period of time. He
	d-that neither NEWTON have tried to sell him any
	in any mines and that he has spent some time in Silver
City v	vith NEWTON who is a of his.
	stated that he met who is also known
to him	
	stated that he believed NEWTON was to have
	silver and mercury mines. stated that he could
	e led to believe that NEWTON would attempt to sell any
	llent mining stock as he was in his opinion too fine a
gentle	emen; however,
•	
	stated that in 1968 when he was in New
* -	he believed Mr. NEWTON advised him that had
	en him out of lots of money", but he could not prove
it.	
	stated that he applied to fourth an
inform	stated that he could furnish no further nation concerning any of the mining adventures of NEWTON
	and could furnish no further information concerning
oi-bhei	of them.
3/23/7	Jackson, Mississippi Film Jackson 87-7861
SA	yħ
<u>~`l</u>	- $ -$
	The state of the s

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The Special Agent	following investigation was conducted by
AT SILVER CIT	Y, NEW MEXICO
been in the Sand noted that	further advised that SIIAS NEWTON has not Silver City, New Mexico, area for quite some time at NEWTON was the defendant in a law suit involving of Bayard, New Mexico. He said NEWTON conveniently

- 3 -

became ill when this suit was called for trial in Grant County District Court and he has not known NEWTON to be back in the Silver City, New Mexico, Area since that time.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 3 Page 7 ~ b7C Page 11 ~ b7C Page 12 ~ b7C