



April 19, 1957

MEMO

TO: A. J. Jersin

FROM: William R. Smith

On April 16, 1957, on the way to an inquiry in the Durango area, I visited the M. R. Valtz-R. L. Christian No. 1 well in Section 12, 16-S, 66-W, near Fountain, Colorado. The purpose of this investigation was to clarify the status of the well resulting from a request for a release of the plugging bond by the C. L. Frates & Company (insurance).

The well is located in grazing land immediately south of the Fort Carson Reserve. At first it appeared that the well was in a small (approximately 2-foot by 2-foot square) minor sump. I removed the snow and tumble weeds and probed the mud and found no indication of casing, plug or open hole. Further investigation revealed an open hole approximately four feet north of this sump, which had an inverted funnel and a square wooden 1-inch plug over it. After removing these, I dropped stones in an attempt to determine the depth, and although not conclusive, the hole is over 1000-ft. depth and has no casing in it.

I recommend that the bond on this well be maintained until such time as the above-mentioned hole is examined for depth, properly plugged to protect surface water, and sufficiently plugged at the surface to eliminate the possibility of injury to livestock or pollution of surface water.

*W. R. Smith*