

Newspapers and Magazines 1900s

INDIAN GIVES LOST MINE CLUE—AND WARNING

A clue to the legendary “Lost Creek” mine was revealed Saturday by a 73-year-old Indian who repeated the warning that it “would be death to a white man to find it.”

August Jack Khatsahlano is the only living Indian who claims to know the story of the fabulously rich mine, located somewhere in the rugged hills around Pitt Lake, 60 miles north-east of Vancouver.

There are reports that 21 white men have died searching for the “Lost Creek” bonanza. The latest searcher, Alfred Gaspard, 60, of Langley British Columbia, disappeared in July 1950. Royal Canadian mounted police were unable to find a trace of the hopeful prospector.

“It will be located only by a person with Indian blood,” Khatsahlano said. He broke a 60-year-old Indian silence to say that the white men who sought the gold always have left Pitt Lake in the wrong direction. That was the only clue he would reveal.

The rich mine was allegedly discovered in the 1880s by an old, rough Indian known as old Slumach, who was said to have forced his squaws to bring in supplies on their backs.

Indian legend says Slumach whispered the secret of the mine to his son, just before the gnarled old Indian died on the gallows in New Westminster, BC, for the murder of a half-breed in 1891.

The tale says that the trial judge went to the condemned man and told him that instead of hanging, he would get life imprisonment if he told the secret.

“No, when I die, mine dies,” Slumach is said to have replied.

Indian gives Lost Mine clue—and warning

The Daily Review (Hayward CA) 22 December 1951

Indian gives clue to mine

The Billings Gazette (Montana) 23 December 1951

Clue on lost mine holds dire fate

Pacific Stars and Stripes (Tokyo) 24 December 1951

Canadian Indian gives clue to lost bonanza

Idaho State Journal 24 December 1951