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## My Sabbatical is Over

### A Monday Morning Musing from Mickey the Mercenary Geologist

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Folks, it is nigh time.

My self-imposed sabbatical will soon be over, done, and gone.

Let's recap:

By the late twenty teens, it became increasingly difficult to find nanocap resource stocks that met my strict criteria of proper share structure, people, projects, and financial wherewithal.

Then in mid-2020 gold soared to record highs. As per usual, it was accompanied by a boom in the junior resource sector. In a brief five month period, over \$3.0 billion was raised. The usual professionals were soon coat tailed by a new, exuberant, and unwitting mass of generalist North American speculators who poured into countless oversubscribed and dilutive financings.

I had seen this show before, in 1996, 2007, 2010, and 2016.

So I became an aggressive seller into the buying frenzy. I logged windfall profits, sold some stocks at alltime highs, and withdrew significant assets from the sector.

By the time the massive amount of private placement paper was free trading in late 2020 and early 2021, the price of gold had corrected, the bottom had fallen out of penny crapper stocks, and there were no buyers. The brief bull market run within a secular bear market was over and greedy speculators had been burned again.

The event that clinched my stock-picking sabbatical occurred in Q1 2022. The Biden Administration revoked a previously approved Environmental Impact Statement for road access to a world class copper district in Arctic Alaska. This shutdown ultimately cut a longtime sponsor's market cap by 75%. The stock has yet to return to its Q4 2021 price levels. That said, it has doubled since President Trump's election and got another boost with a Day 1 executive order restarting natural resource development in Alaska. I surmise that better days lie ahead.

My 2022 year-end message to subscribers presented the case for a hiatus (<u>Mercenary Musing</u>, <u>December 31, 2022</u>).

If I could not provide serially successful stock opportunities for valued subscribers, I determined to cease my newsletter until markets improved.

And by not writing a single word under this banner for the past 25 months, I have done exactly that.

But now that the predicated move in gold looks here to stay, I am coming back.

After spouting little but doom and gloom for the nanocap resource sector since that 2020 run-up in gold, I surmise that the 13-year bear market for these companies is turning for the best of the best.

So I am on the hunt for bargain basement deals in the world's highest risk/highest reward speculative stock market.

Folks, I have found candidates. I have met with company management. My standard due diligence is in progress.

If select companies pass muster, I will bring new and exciting opportunities to you, my legacy subscribers, in the near future.

Please stay tuned.

Ciao for now,

Mickey Fulp Mercenary Geologist

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The <u>Mercenary Geologist Michael S. "Mickey" Fulp</u> is a Certified Professional Geologist with a B.Sc. in Earth Sciences with honor from the University of Tulsa, and M.Sc. in Geology from the University of New Mexico. Mickey has 45 years of experience as an exploration geologist and mining analyst searching for economic deposits of base and precious metals, industrial minerals, uranium, coal, oil and gas, and water in North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Mickey worked for junior explorers, major mining companies, private companies, and investors as a consulting economic geologist for over 20 years, specializing in geological mapping, property evaluation, and business development. In addition to Mickey's professional credentials and experience, he is highaltitude proficient and bilingual in English and Spanish. From 2003 to 2006, he made four outcrop ore discoveries in Peru, Nevada, Chile, and British Columbia.

Mickey is well-known and respected throughout the mining and exploration community for his ongoing work as an analyst, writer, and speaker.

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