13 miles, by road, southwest of McDermitt in 1931, by Gamos Alcorto and Euserbio Agnarez of McDermitt, Nev. Shortly after, the Cordero group of claims located by the discoverers was leased to the Bradley interests of San Francisco, but the lease was relinquished in 1933.

When the writer visited the area in June 1937 there was no activity.

Cordero Group

The Cordero group comprises five unpatented claims. Development consists of an inclined shaft 75 feet deep and lateral workings totaling about 1,000 feet. There is no mining equipment on the property. In 1933, after the Bradley interests had ceased operations, the owners produced about 68 tons of sorted ore, which was retorted at the Opalite quicksilver mine in Oregon, 23 miles west of McDermitt. According to Agnarez, 42 flasks of quicksilver were produced from this ore. This is the only production.

The cinnabar occurs disseminated in an opalite formation considerably broken by faulting.

NATIONAL DISTRICT

The National district is in northeastern Humboldt County on the west slope of the Santa Rosa Range, 18 miles by road southeast of McDermitt, Nev., and 77 miles a little east of north from Winnemucca, the nearest railroad point and supply center. The mines in the vicinity of Buckskin Peak, about 3 miles southeast of the camp of National, are usually considered part of the district. The district was discovered by J. L. Workman and Lew Davis in June 1907, who located virtually all the properties in the camp, comprising 34 claims. The following year Workman purchased Davis's interests in the ground and divided it into lease blocks several hundred feet square. Leases were granted for a one-year period, and the sliding-scale system of royalty payments adopted was as follows:

Assay value per ton	Royalty, percent
$50 or less	10
$50 to $150	15
$150 to $250	20
$250 to $1,000	25
$1,000 or more	40

Rich ore was found in 1909 in the Combination lease owned by the Stall brothers, Frank and George; the first ore shipped from this lease is reported to have averaged $19.90 per pound. While this lease was active, an option on the property was obtained from Workman by Sam Gundaker and associates, who organized the National Mining Co. A one-year extension of the Stall lease contract had also been given by Workman to the Stall brothers,

and with the discovery of the rich ore, litigation followed over the validity of the extension of the lease. This litigation resulted in a compromise in May 1910, and the Stall brothers resumed operations under the management of H. C. Cutler. In September of the same year the lease was sold to the National Mining Co. For a number of months prior to the time the lease was sold, it is reported to have produced from $250,000 to $275,000 per month. The National Mining Co. operated for a number of years, and the history of the district is largely the history of this one mine. Cutler[12] speaks of the richness of the ore as follows:

> The high grade ore, assaying over $20 per pound, was taken out in sacks to the mill, crushed in a small Blake crusher to 1/2-inch size, and then recrushed in a laboratory crusher to 1/4-inch. From this crusher it passed to a no. 2 cone grinder, and finally to a Braun disk pulverizer, where it was ground to 60-mesh. The pulp was placed in an arrastra (4-feet pan) with quicksilver and amalgamated for 6 hours. About 105 pounds of ore were worked per charge and four charges in 24 hours. An extraction of 98 to 99.5 percent was made and tailing shipped to smelter. About $650,000 was turned out by this mill in a little less than 3 months.

So rich was the National mine ore that, in order to prevent "high-grading", a steel tower was built near the entrance to the mine, from which an armed guard kept watch night and day. A large searchlight surmounted the tower, and at night its rays played upon the entrance to the mine.

After the district passed its peak of production the only activity was sporadic leasing operations until 1935, when the increased price of gold stimulated a revival of activity. Production of the district is shown in table 4.

The geology of the mineral deposits of the district has been described by Lindgren[13] and by Winchell[14].

12/ Cutler, H. C., National: Nev. Min. & Sci. Press, vol. 101, 1910, pp. 606-607.

13/ Lindgren, W., Geology of the National Mining District: Min. & Eng. World, vol. 35, 1911, pp. 1175-1176.

14/ Winchell, A. N., Geology of the National Mining District: Nev. Min. & Sci. Press, vol. 105, 1912, pp. 655-659.