

Ken:

I have been talking to Wilb who tells me Miles & Leek Surveys state the sample was a magnesium ferrite, 15% manganese < 1% copper < 1% cobalt or nickel I forget which. Losses 84% in ferrites.

Wilb heated a small sample with a torch and a button of iron resulted in a slag patch. The button has similar characteristics to mild steel. A second sample which followed, was heated a bit longer or higher heat, blossomed into a miniature white cloud with bright sparks in it. Sort of an A bomb in miniature, a stain was left on the brick. "Wilb concludes the magnesium went exothermic, reduced the ferrite in the spinel crystal structure formed the cloud and left the iron free to burn with O_2 in the air". The resulting dust settled over the lake.

We conclude some parts of this at least could not stand too much heat, thus limiting the possibilities of how such a manufactured item came to grief.

How are plans for New Year coming?

We are setting up a smallish house party of kindred folks and plan to play it as comes. I hope you will be able to get the extra days so we can relax, everything is informal, sock feet in the living room.

We are certainly looking forward to this, Kay has it planned for easy dining.

Are you planning rail or road? I can meet trains, buses or whatever.

Kay adds we will eat as the spirit moves us but that we are not planning a large dinner for New Year's day hence food preparation will be minimized.

Did you ever look up the cottage owner?

Louis Geoffrion told us that you phoned and the message. He is enquiring in to the metaphysics now and pushing the frontier out.

Bill ^{over}