

STATEMENT OF DANIEL BLANKENSHIP
Sept. 27/65

Dunfield 2125

Blankenship

I visited Oak Island a few weeks before Restall died. I met there Robert N. Dunfield of California and became interested with him in the search. When Restall died I contacted him and we were able to get a ^{4%} ~~4%~~ in Restall's syndicate.

Restall only scratched the surface - never had any certain clue in 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. His work was useless, uncovered some of the fanwise drains, to verify the statement they were there. They drained into a pit 37 feet deep to a tunnel to Money Pit. That tunnel has been completely blocked for nearly a hundred years and entered the Money Pit at 111 feet as stated in your book. We have filled in the pit he dug and in which he was drowned - We have cut down some of the hilltop, by about six feet around the Money Pit. Restall never cleared out the pit or cribbing and never went to the bottom as he claimed.

I spent several days in a boat off the shore with a glass bottomed box looking for an entrance to tunnel, by which entry could have been made. I cannot tell you what I found.

The Cave-in Pit undoubtedly has some connection with the mystery and was a second entrance to the treasure chamber. It has never been properly restored.

Kidd knew the way to Nova Scotia. Your book shows that and he may have had a part in depositing the treasure. It may have been Incas treasure. I have verified the story of Pizzaro told in your book.

The distance from shore to shore at the western end of the Island is 300-500 feet, depending on the tide. The poles for cables are still there.

Smith & Coles are my attorneys. (*Gordon Coles*)

X We are keeping a full diary of our work and a tape recorder.

In a few days time - 2 or 3 weeks - you will be amazed at what we discover:- most fantastic. Your book contains the full story, but you avoid stating your theory. We have pieced together our theory from your book and we know we are right. Your book is an amazing collection of the evidence.

I live in Florida where coconuts are plentiful. The stuff found on the beach in quantities is undoubtedly coconut fibre.

The letters in your book written by Capt. Kidd are most helpful. We would undoubtedly understate what amount was deposited in any cache he made of treasure.

(*why; if he's trying to save his neck?*)

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