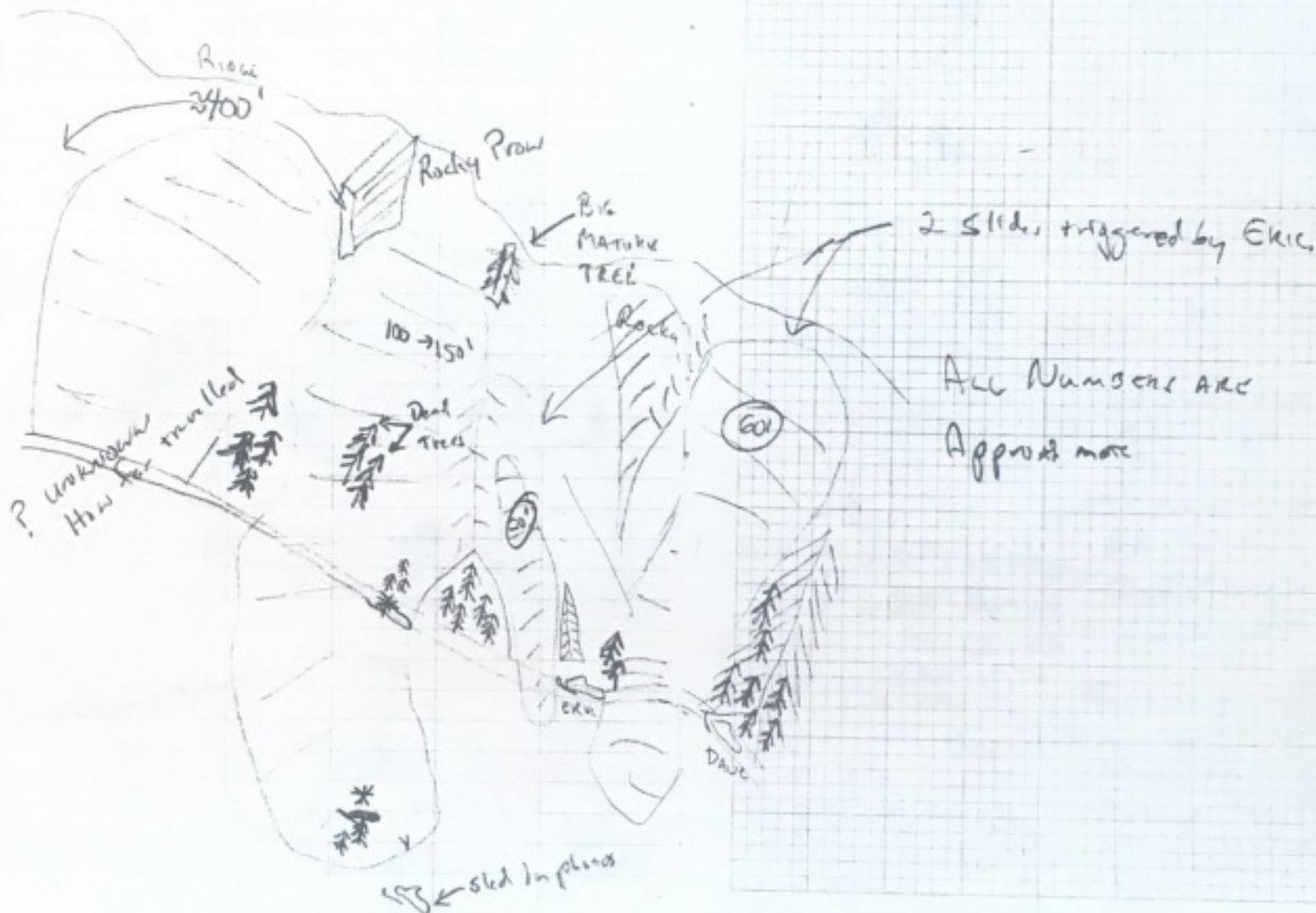


Great : 435-355-3620
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 Logan FAX: 435-



BOX ELDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Date: December 14th, 2000

Time: 2100 hrs

Incident Type: Avalanche Involving Snowmobilers.

Location: Area of Willard Peak

Agencies Involved: Box Elder County Sheriff's Department, Box Elder County Search and Rescue, Utah State Parks & Recreation, Wasatch Snowmobilers, and numerous other volunteers

INFORMATION:

On the evening of December 14th, 2000 at approximately 2015 hrs, Box Elder County Dispatch was notified of an avalanche that had occurred in the Willard Peak area. The information received stated that there were four people snowmobiling in the area, and when the avalanche was triggered, one of the riders got caught up in the slide. The information that we have at this point in time, is that one of the riders came down off of the mountain, while the other two have remained at the sight, and are searching for the fourth member of their party. The condition of the victim is unknown at this time, and Sheriff's Search & Rescue Members along with Parks & Recreation are en route to the avalanche sight, to assist in the rescue.

An update press release will be issued as more information becomes available.

UPDATED PRESS RELEASE - 0230 hrs, December 15th, 2000

Since the initial press release, we have been able to determine that the location of the avalanche is in an area below what is referred to as Willard Basin. There were over 30 volunteers that responded to this incident to assist in the search, from various agencies and volunteer organizations, including family and friends of the four snowmobilers.

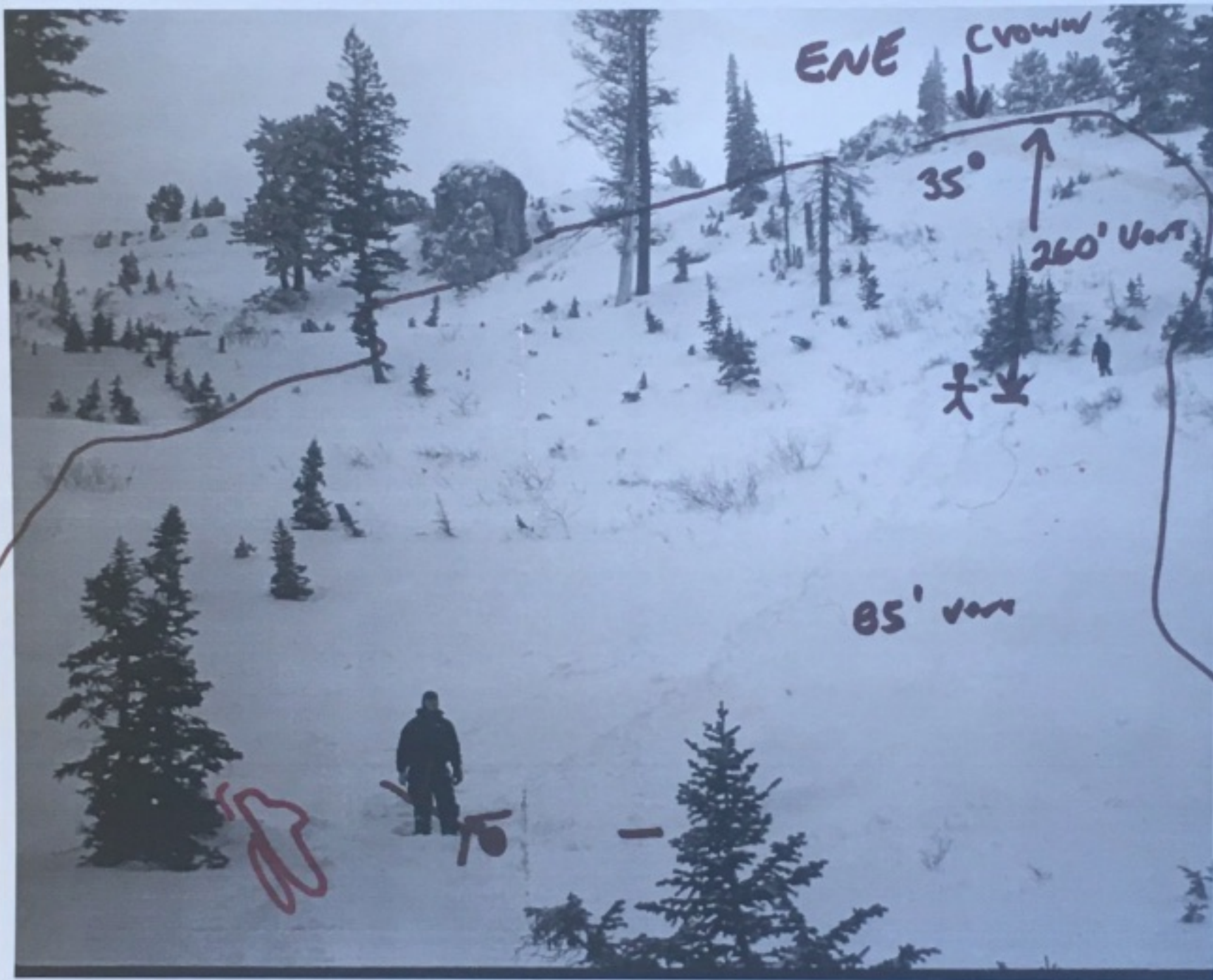
The exact size of the avalanche is unknown at this time. The weather conditions on the mountain were hampering the search, as a storm moved into the area with high winds and blowing snow.

At approximately 2300 hrs on December 14th, the missing male snowmobiler, who is a Weber County residence, was located in the slide path. He was deceased. Initially, his snowmobile was located, and after a search of that immediate area, the victim was located within just a few feet of the machine. Once the victim had been found, everybody came off of the mountain as quickly as possible, because the storm had increased in intensity.



SNO MO ACCIDENT 12/14/00 @ 2000 meters

ATTACHMENT 5



Attachment

SNO MO ACCIDENT 12/14/00 ~ 2000 hrs

F.