

COAL FATAL

~~1966-0385~~
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
Health and Safety Activities
District C, Barbourville, Kentucky

April 12, 1966

Memorandum

TO: G. W. Parry, Subdistrict Manager - Barbourville (Ky.) Subdistrict

From: Raymond Linville, Federal Coal Mine Inspection Supervisor

Subject: Report of roof-fall accident in the abandoned No. G-22 Mine,
Hite Preparation Company, Martin, Floyd County, Kentucky,
April 2, 1966

This report is based on an investigation made in accordance with provisions of the Federal Coal Mine Safety Act (66 Stat. 692; 30 U.S.C. Secs. 451-483).

William Conn, who was getting coal from an opening of an abandoned mine for family use, was killed instantly by a fall of roof about 5:30 p.m., Saturday, April 2, 1966. Conn was 41 years old and had 20 years mining experience. He is survived by his widow and eight dependent children.

The Hazard office of the Bureau of Mines was notified of the accident by Willard Stanley, Senior Inspector, Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals, at 8 a.m., Monday, April 4, 1966, and an investigation was made the following day.

Information for this report was obtained from a visit to the scene of the accident and from Willard Stanley, Senior Inspector, Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals.

The mine in which the accident occurred is on Arkansas Branch near Martin, Kentucky, and it was abandoned July 1965. The mine was opened by drifts in the Elkhorn No. 3 coalbed, which averaged 26 inches in thickness locally. The accident occurred along the main entry about 15 feet in by the portal. The entry had been driven 14 to 16 feet wide. Timbers had been set on 4-foot centers on each side of the entry; however, the timbers had been removed for a distance of about 10 feet along the left side of the entry where the accident occurred, and safety posts were not used. Coal was being mined from the solid with a pick and was brought to the surface and to the victim's home in coal buckets.

cc: James Westfield (3)
J. S. Malesky
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On the day of the accident, Conn left home with his son at 5:10 p.m., to get some coal from the mine for family use. At about 5:30 p.m., Conn was digging coal along the left rib of the entry with a pick when the rock fell, and he was caught and killed instantly by the falling rock. Conn's son, who was on the surface, heard the rock fall, and he found the victim under the rock. Aid was summoned from other people living in the area, and the body was removed from under the rock shortly thereafter. The rock that fell was 6 feet long, 4 feet wide, and ranged from 3 to 8 inches thick.

/s/ Raymond Linville

Raymond Linville