

Four Men Trapped In State Mine

HAZARD, Ky. (AP)— Four miners were caught under falling earth in a truck mine south of Hazard Tuesday and authorities said it appeared there is no hope any will be found alive.

Everett Bartlett, of the Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals, said the men were taking out pillars of coal, seams left after a mine is worked, when the accident happened.

Rescuers were trying to reach the men, using timbers to brace up the roof of the mine as they worked their way in.

The accident occurred at the Bradley-Breeding No. 4 truck mine at Pine Top, about 20 miles south of this Southeast Kentucky town, authorities said.

The men were identified tentatively as Kenny Adams, Josh Noble, Ben Sexton and Sidney Mullins, Bartlett said. No ages or home addresses were available.

Rescuers were able to work their way around the fall area, indicating the men were completely covered. They heard no sounds and it appeared all were dead, Bartlett said. He said it may be "two or three days" before rescuers can dig down to the men.

The mine is in the side of a hill and the cave-in area was an estimated 300 feet back in the mine.