

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF MINES

MINE SAFETY STATION

201 POST OFFICE BUILDING  
VINCENNES, INDIANA

To; Frank J. Stortz, through E. E. Quenon. Benton, Illinois.  
From; W. R. Chick, September 26, 1955  
Subject; Explosions reported in mines around Eldorado, Illinois.

In answer to Mr. Frank J. Stortz's request regarding the above subject through Mr. E. E. Quenon, of September 13, 1955, The only information I can find is from the Illinois Coal Report of 1954, which gives a summary of all explosions that occurred in Illinois from 1883 to December 1951, which shows that an explosion occurred in the Ogara Ogara No. 8 mine, Ogara Coal Company, later known as No. 8 Mine, Sahara Coal Company, on February 14, 1921, in which three men lost their lives. Also three men lost their lives by Suffocation in Oxygen apparatus, while Opening a fire sealed area to see if the fire was extinguished, on June 29, 1918. The oxygen of one of the three man crew was fully consumed and the two other men used up all of their oxygen in attempted rescue of the one man who went down, Members of the fresh apparatus crew outside the seal quickly brought the bodies to fresh air where artificial respiration was applied but failed.

There is no record of any explosions in the old Seagreaves mine, later No. 20 mine, Peabody Coal Company.



Very truly yours,  
*W. R. Chick*  
W. R. Chick,  
Federal Coal-Mine Inspector.