10 Die in Mine Blast in Arkansas

Night Crew at Bates Coal Mine Wiped Out

BATES, Ark. (P)—Ten men, the entire night crew of the Bates Coal Corporation mine, were killed by an explosion deep down in the slope-type shaft here a few minutes after they went to work Tuesday.

State Mine Inspector J. W. Fitzjarrell pressed an investigation.

The badly burned bodies were removed before midnight and taken to Heavener, Okla., and Hartford, Ark., mortuaries.

The miners were identified by corporation officials as:

J. E. Manning, Hartford; Gilbert Johnson, Bates; Mayo Johnson, Jenny Lind; Alta Whatley, Greenwood; Earl Renfro, Bates; Tom Barkley, Huntington; Alvin L. Yakley, Mansfield; Odis Harris, Huntington, and Clint Huff, Clarksville.

Ben H. Bedwell, mine manager, said the miners appeared to have been killed instantly. Rescue workers reported it was difficult to reach their bodies through the debris from the blast.