

Mine Blast Probe Opens

Committee Enters Disaster Tunnel

SUNNYSIDE, Utah.— Investigation of the gas explosion in the Sunnyside mine of the Utah Fuel Co., which killed 23 miners and injured seven others, officially opened today when a committee representing the State, U. S. Bureau of Mines, union and operators entered the mine.

According to Stanley Harvey, state coal mine inspector, the committee members are:

For the state—O. A. Wiesley, State Industrial Commissioner, Mr. Harvey and his assistant R. J. Schultz; J. Howard Bird, mining engineer representing the U. S. Bureau of Mines; for Local 6244, United Mine Workers of America were William R. Cox, president; Albert Roberts, financial secretary, Elmer Brinley, Alex Romero and Lawrence Misner, members of the safety committee; for the operators were James Thorpe, superintendent Castle Gate; Archie Morrison, superintendent at Sunnyside.

Accompanying the committee as observers were Claude P. Heiner, vice president and general manager of the company, Carl Westerberg, project manager, Frank Markosek, mine foreman and Joe Dowd, vice president, district 22, UMW.

Mr. Harvey said reopening of the Sunnyside mine still was very indefinite. The reopening date will depend apparently on progress made in cleaning up the mine and in repairing ventilating systems and other equipment.

Meanwhile, four of the injured miners, Tony Leger, Edward Edwards, James Coleman and Martin Dean, were released from the Dragerton hospital. The three other miners in the hospital, Tony Trujillo, John B. Tuiterez and Guadalupe Sandoval, were reported "doing very nicely" this morning by the doctor.