

GAS TANK BLAST INJURES 12 AT STRIP COAL MINE

Punxsutawney, Pa., Sept. 5 (AP)—The gas tank of a flaming power shovel exploded on a strip mine project near here today, severely burning 12 miners as they advanced with fire extinguishing bombs to quench the blaze.

Some of the victims were standing 200 feet away when the gasoline and oil fed flames ignited their clothing. The injured were brought to Adrian hospital here where all were reported in serious condition. Several were not expected to live, hospital officials said.

The men were at work on a strip mine at Anita when an apparent short circuit set fire to the power shovel. Strip mining is a surface operation in which large shovels are used to take coal from the earth's surface.