

## Gassed Miner Saved By Pair

Winnfield, La., Dec. 17 (AP)—A naval officer and a miner made a daring 800-foot descent into a salt mine yesterday to rescue a worker overcome by carbon dioxide.

The three men reached the top of the shaft just before their portable oxygen equipment gave out.

The miner, Julius Smith, 40, was reported "in fairly good shape" by attendants at a hospital.

"It was a miracle that Smith survived," said W. H. Cameron, manager of the Carey Mine Company.

Lieut. Billy Scroggins, a naval officer home on leave, and Chester Camp, a salt miner, made the rescue.

Scroggins was demonstrating new oxygen equipment owned by the Natchitoches Fire Department when they heard of the trapped miner and he used the equipment in the rescue.

Cameron said Smith and five other workers were setting off dynamite charges to loosen rock salt deposits for digging teams when a blast sent an underground carbon-dioxide pocket into the mine compartment.

All except Smith fled the suffocating fumes. The others said they tried to return to Smith after he fell, but he said:

"Go ahead and get out of here and save yourselves."

1954 Julius Smith rescued after overcome by CO2



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