

X

1955 0006

M/NM FATAL

55-8000 6 ~~700 sent~~
Letter Report

MSHA LIBRARY
P. O. BOX 25367
DENVER, CO 80225

~~August 11, 1955~~

6-11-55

0200000

Mr. J. Howard Bird
Bureau of Mines
207 New Customhouse
Denver 2, Colo.

Subject: Four fatalities in shaft accident,
Miami Copper Co., Miami, Arizona,
June 11, 1955.

Dear Mr. Bird:

This will supplement my letter report of June 22 with the above subject titled "Three fatalities in shaft accident, Miami Copper Co., Miami, Arizona, June 11, 1955."

Michael N. White, age 42, married, a miner employed at the mine for many years died of his injuries July 3, 1955. His original injuries were described as a broken pelvis and minor head wounds. There was considerable bruising in connection with the injury to the pelvis and a blood clot developed which resulted in his death.

The transcript of the inquest held following the first three deaths was read at the Globe, Arizona Courthouse. The evidence so presented would add little to the information given in my original report except for the following comments:

Following the accident a witness stated the words of the motor helper just previous to the accident were "About 1 inch more." The same witness in the inquest said the words were, "Here it comes." This latter wording might indicate the car approached the shaft with more speed than was first thought.

The existence of a stop block prior to the accident was described by witnesses so there seems no evidence to support the theory held by some workmen in the mine that no stop block was placed. However two witnesses did state the stop block could not be found after the accident.

The verdict of the coroner's jury was "An accident caused by reason or reasons unknown to this jury." The mine safety engineer classified the accident as "cause unknown." The Arizona Mine Inspector classified the accident as due to faulty construction.

Sincerely yours,

Allen D. Look

Allen D. Look

cc: J. Westfield (3) ✓
M. L. Williams
Files