

4 Miners Trapped In Hazard

HAZARD, Ky. (AP)—Four miners were caught under falling earth in a truck mine south of Hazard Tuesday and authorities said it appeared there was no hope any would be found alive.

Everett Bartlett, of the Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals, said the men were taking out pillars of coal, seams left after a mine is worked, when the accident happened.

Rescuers were trying to reach the men, using timbers to brace up the roof of the mine as they worked their way in.

The accident occurred at the Bradley-Breeding No. 4 truck mine at Pine Knot about 20 miles south of this southeast Kentucky town authorities said.

The men were identified tentatively as Kennedy Adams, Josh Noble, Ben Sexton and Sidney Mullins, Bartlett said. No ages or home addresses were available.

Earth Fall Traps 4 Knott Miners

Authorities Fear None Will Be Found Alive

Radioactive Fowl

SINGAPORE, Dec. 12 (AP) — Bird watchers report having sighted waterfowl which they claim have almost certainly migrated from the area of the recent Soviet nuclear tests.

The sighting, coming on the heels of a New Delhi, India, report that eight highly radioactive waterfowl had been shot there, has brought warnings from the head of the radioactivity station in the University of Malaya here.

Dr. M. Huq said a highly radioactive bird could cause death if eaten.

Mother Of 5, Who Fell Off Truck, Dies

CYNTHIANA, Ky., Dec. 12 (Special) — A young Harrison County mother of five children, hurt when she attempted to keep one of them from falling off the rear of a truck, died Monday night of injuries received when both she and the child fell off the vehicle.

Mrs. Margaret E. Clifford, 31, of Route 5 Cynthiana, wife of Hanson P. Clifford, succumbed at 7:50 p.m. Monday in the St. Joseph Hospital at Lexington where she had been a patient since the night of Dec. 6.

Members of the family said Mrs. Clifford and her children were riding in the bed of a truck on their farm about 6 p.m. that night when a two-year-old twin son, Charles, became frightened when, he said, "a rooster crowded."

As the child jumped with surprise, his mother feared that he might fall off the moving truck and grabbed for him, and both she and the child fell out, the mother striking her head. The child was not injured.

Her husband, who was driving, heard the noise and turned around and came back to find his wife and child lying beside the lane on their farm at Robinson.

HAZARD, Ky., Dec. 12 (AP) — Four coal miners were caught under falling earth in a Knott County truck mine 20 miles from Hazard today and authorities said it appeared there is no hope any will be found alive.

Everett Bartlett, of the Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals, said the men were taking out pillars of coal, seams left after a mine is worked, when the accident happened.

Rescuers were trying to reach the men, using timbers to brace up the roof of the mine as they worked their way in.

The accident occurred at the Bradley-Breeding No. 4 truck mine at Pine Top in Knott County, about 20 miles from this Eastern Kentucky town, authorities said.

Identified Tentatively

The men were identified tentatively as Kenny Adams, Josh Noble, Ben Sexton and Sidney Mullins, Bartlett said. No ages or home addresses were available.

An unidentified miner, leading a pony cart loaded with coal out of the mine, had just left the scene when the accident occurred, Bartlett said.

Rescue workers were able to work their way around the fall area, indicating the men were completely covered.

Hear No Sounds

The workers heard no sounds and it appeared all those trapped were dead, Bartlett said. He said it may be "two or three days" before rescuers can dig down to the men.

The mine is in the side of a hill and the cave-in area is an estimated 300 feet back in the mine.

A truck mine differs from a rail mine in that the coal is hauled away from the mine by trucks and taken to a rail point. At rail mines, rails lead directly to the tunnel entrance for the coal to be loaded on railroad cars.

Four Killed

Three Bodies Found In Ky. Coal Mine

HAZARD, Ky. (AP) — Rescuers recovered three bodies today of men killed by a cave-in at a Perry County truck mine.

Rescue workers, operating in shifts, recovered the bodies of Ben Sexton and Sidney Bryant of Letcher County and Josh Noble of Smithboro.

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The fourth victim of yesterday's cave-in at Bradley-Breeding No. 4 truck mine was identified as Kenny Adams, Letcher County.

Authorities said a 10 to 12 foot thick section of the roof collapsed about 1,000 feet inside the mine entrance.

Seven men were in the truck mine, including tram driver Dave Craft, who was only about 30 feet away. The other two escaped safely.

Rescue teams worked through the night but held little hope of finding the men alive. Several hundred miners from the Southeastern Kentucky coal

fields waited in cloudy, freezing weather today to do what they could to help the rescue parties.

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The cave-in occurred as the men were removing pillars of coal, used to support the roof when mining operations were carried out, mine inspector Everett Bartlett explained.

The rescue was slowed because workers had to prop up sections of the roof as they advanced.

The mine is 20 miles from Hazard.

There are many truck mines in the area, small operations that depend upon trucks to haul coal to terminals rather than load directly from the pits into rail cars.

Billy Visits JFK

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Rev. Billy Graham has paid a call on President Kennedy.

Search Goes On For Trapped Coal Miner

HAZARD, Ky. (AP) — Some 40 weary miners, working around the clock in shifts, continued their search Thursday for the body of a fourth miner buried in a cave-in at a coal mine at Pine Top, about 20 miles east of Hazard.

Rescue workers recovered the bodies of three of the victims Wednesday but failed to find the body of Kenny Adams, about 48. The four were buried deep in the mine Tuesday afternoon when the roof of the tunnel fell in, covering an area of possibly 60,000 square feet.

Officials at the scene said they had sighted the shuttle car Adams was driving when the cave-in occurred but said they had no idea when they would reach it. The miners were having to cut their way through rock about eight feet thick to reach the car.

An official at the Kentucky Department of Mines said the department believes the mine caved in because supporting pillars were removed in improper sequence.

The statement was made by a department official, who declined use of his name, after a preliminary investigation of the accident at the Bradley-Breeding Coal Co. Mine in Knott County.

The official said the men were all killed instantly when the tunnel caved in.

"It is common to extract pillars supporting the roof once the advance work is done," the official said.

"If they are pulled in a systematic manner, the roof breaks off behind the pillars which had been extracted. If it is done in a proper manner, there is very little danger in the process.

"Apparently the trouble at this mine was caused because the pillars were extracted in improper sequence, which caused the weight of the unsupported roof to be thrown on a few pillars."