

4 Miners Killed In Underground Train Accident

TRIADELPHIA, W.Va. (UPI)
—Four miners were killed Friday when a train carrying them from the Valley Camp Coal Co. No. 3 mine derailed a few minutes before reaching the surface.

The victims were Edward Schultz, 39, George Thompson, 59, Howard Sims, 49, and Paul Orth, 31, all of the Triadelphia-Wheeling area.

Company officials said three of the victims were among seven miners lying on a flat car for the ride to the mine entrance. The company said this was in violation of regulations.

The fourth victim was the motorman on the rear motor.

A company spokesman said that had the three men been riding in an enclosed car as required by mine regulations, they would have escaped death. The spokesman said the motorman would have died.

Four other miners on the flat car suffered minor injuries.

The train consisted of a lead motor followed by the flatcar normally used to haul supplies, an enclosed car carrying several other miners, and a rear motor.

An investigation was scheduled today by representatives of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the state Department of Mines.

The mine had resumed operations Thursday following a one-day wildcat strike.