

## 3 die in excavation mishap

REMSSEN (AP) — Three summer employees at an Oneida County excavation site were killed here Friday when a 45-foot wall of gravel collapsed on them.

Those killed were identified as Paul V. Bello, 23, of Utica and Raymond A. Linck and James M. Weeks Jr., both 18 and both of Chadwicks.

The area where the tragedy occurred was on Bardwell Mill Road in the Town of Remsen.

Lillian Heald, whose husband John owns the the gravel and sand pit, said the county has been operating the site for more than 10 years now for a road con-

struction company.

Officials said the walls of the site had become dangerously high, and workers were digging a hole for explosives so they could dynamite the banks down in order to prevent just such a catastrophe.

Remsen Fire Chief George Yutzler, who was at the scene, said heavy machinery produced vibrations that caused the landslide.

Officials estimated that between 100 and 125 tons of gravel fell on the three men.

Three other workers were in the pit at the time but escaped uninjured. The accident occurred at around 2 p.m.

Star Gazette  
August 12, 1978