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Rescuers Mirror Mine Drama

Life...Death...and Hope



With ambulances on stand by, members of a fresh rescue team await turn to descend more than a half-mile into

the earth for search and recovery work at the Cane Creek Potash Mine near Mosh. Rescue work is now in third day.



Workers of the Texas Gulf Sulphur Co. fly flags at half-mast from this structure atop the mine's shaft headframe.



Henry LaViolette, foreground, and Frank Markosch talk to newsmen. They brought first rescued miners to surface.



Blanket is lifted to shield body of first victim of mine blast from view of onlookers, when recovered from Cane

Creek Potash Mine early Thursday. Search and recovery teams are working around the clock at the disaster scene.



Rescue team brings first victim from the disaster-stricken Texas Gulf Sulphur Co. mine near Mosh. at 2:33 a.m., Thursday.

Company officials did not identify the first of eight known dead miners, victims of Tuesday's blast.

Rescued Pair Hits Mine's Safety

By Grant V. Moseley  
Tribune Staff Writer

MOAB, Aug. 29 — The two miners who were lifted to safety from the depths of Cane Creek Mine Wednesday returned to the mine Thursday to lead a blast at safety procedures and rescue operations.

DONALD BLAKE Hanna, 27, and Paul McLennan, 25, who had been trapped for 19 hours, got up from their Moab hospital beds to return to the scene.

Mr. Hanna, a miner for Marion International, the company developing the mine, was spokesman for the pair.

"A LOT OF time has been wasted," he said. "They ought to have them out by now." He criticized the rescue operations Thursday before five more men were found alive in the blasted mine.

MR. HANNA and Mr. McLennan had left five men behind a barricade near the 2,300-foot level of the mine's east drift or tunnel where the pair made their way to safety on Wednesday.

"We got out of there without masks," Mr. Hanna said. "As a matter of fact, I worked in there for three hours replacing five sections of high pressure air line and I will get out."

MR. HANNA said that safety rules had been broken and safety procedures were not being followed before the explosion.

"There hasn't been a state inspector into that mine," Mr. Hanna said. "I've never seen one."

JOHN W. HOLMES, state metal mines inspector, said, however, that the mine had been inspected "about every two months since the shaft was started in 1961."

The last inspection by state personnel "to his knowledge" was in July, Mr. Holmes said.

THERE HAD never been any serious violations noted during those inspections, Mr. Holmes said.

Around a mine, there are always a few minor infractions from time to time, Mr. Holmes said. "But we have found none of a serious nature here."

HE NOTED THAT his office had ordered safety doors installed at the top of the shaft during the early stages of construction. The doors close when it is not in use.

Look Out, Thief! Beekeeper Ired

BLOOMFIELD, ENGLAND, Aug. 29 (AP) — C. C. Cloughfield told police Thursday somebody stole 6,000 bees from his bee farm.

"WHOEVER DID it will have to be careful," he said. "Otherwise I will come across my hives and recognize them."

Plans Improvements

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29 — The Bureau of Public Roads will start construction work soon on long needed improvements to Route 27 between Greenlake Junction and Mena in Garfield County, Utah, Frank E. Moss (D-Utah) reported Thursday.

"An order had also been issued to halt all smoking in the mine," Mr. Holmes said.

FROM THE start of construction to Tuesday's blast, four men had died in accidents at the mine.

Two weeks ago, two miners were burned when a pocket of natural gas ignited while they were working in the mine.

STEVE HATSEY, state coal mine inspector, and a methane gas expert, said rescue operations in the mine were being carried out in such a way to keep "racks" at a minimum.

Mr. Holmes said that several rescue attempts had been taken Wednesday when it was thought rescue could reach the five trapped miners known to be alive without replenishing their oxygen.

"THEY PUSHED 1,700 feet into the east drift and perhaps that was a little farther than they should have gone," he said. "But we were lucky."

"We have met with the U.S. Bureau of Mines people, men from the U.S. Geological Survey, mine owners, company officials and the rescue teams before making a rescue move," Mr. Holmes said.

MEANWHILE, James West

field, assistant director of the Washington, D.C., to lead a U.S. Bureau of Mines, for federal state-mine investigation health and safety, arrived from into the tragedy.

Recent State Safety Rules Changed Blasting Advice

Utah's latest safety rules 10 months on the revision, times for mining operations which update and add to the were 37 days old when a dead 1963 provision.

A new section deals with ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate-fuel oil mixtures. Another provides for mining, milling and processing radioactive mines, mills, and active ones.

A REVISION example occurs in reference to blasting. In the old section "The policy of blasting at mine or during the shift, other than the regular blasting time at the end of the shift," should be "reduced as much as possible."

ACCORDING to the revision, "Blasting underground during the shift should be avoided. Where blasting is done before the end of the shift, working places shall be cleared of miners and dust be removed as much as possible."

The 1963 edition contained 66 general sections and 13 underground mining sections.

A COMMITTEE representing industry and labor worked from men return.



Eyes bandaged with burn suffered in Tuesday's mine blast, Donald Blake Hanna, one

of first rescued from shaft, is led by Jack while as he returns to the disaster scene.