

MINING
ACCIDENTS

1978

Six killed in ^{Stat} mine accident 27/11/78 212 13

Six mineworkers — four blacks and two whites — were killed in an underground accident at Vierfontein Colliery, near Orkney, last night.

The accident occurred at about 9.30 pm at Vierfontein's south-east shaft, some 80 metres below surface.

Shiftboss Mr W J Botha and miner Mr S J Smith were supervising a normal practice of withdrawing timber supports when a

roof fall occurred. Both were married and lived at Vierfontein.

The names of the black mineworkers are being withheld until their next of kin have been told of the deaths.

Vierfontein Colliery supplies coal to the Vierfontein power station and employs some 2,200 workers of whom about 700 were on last night's shift when the accident occurred.

2127 711
**Six miners
killed** 7/1/35

Six miners were killed and 18 others were injured by a rockfall at General Mining's Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near St. Helena yesterday.

Rescue operations were completed last night, a spokesman for the General Mining and Finance Corporation said today.

He said the rockfall was caused by a small earth tremor.

GT. 11/2/78
Mud kills workers
PRETORIA Two
mineworkers have died in an
underground mud rush in
Cullinan's Premier mine
- They were working 500 m
underground early on Wed-
nesday when they were
engulfed by mud and rubble

212

Negligence caused Modder death blast

STAR 22/2/78
212

Two operators at the Modderfontein dynamite factory have been blamed for the January explosion in which two men died and 38 others were injured.

The men are Mr J J Bester, operator in charge of Nitration House A1, and Mr N J Oosthuizen, relief operator

Mr Bester died in the explosion and Mr Oosthuizen has been dismissed by AECL, the plant owners.

A commission of inquiry into the blast released its findings in Johannesburg today

It found that Mr Bester and Mr Oosthuizen deviated from normal procedures and contravened two rules of the Explosives Act.

CAUSE

They transferred (or allowed to be transferred) glycerine to the glycerine box above the nitrator while a charge was running from the nitrator, and closed (or allowed to be closed) the draining tap of the glycerine distributor long before the next nitration was due to begin

As a result, says the finding, it was possible for glycerine to enter No 1 Separator via the nitrator, causing the explosion

The explosion on January 7 was heard more than 20 km away. It destroyed Nitration House A1 and severely damaged neighbouring buildings

FOR DECISION

The finding of the commission has been referred to the Attorney-General, who will decide whether to prosecute, Mr H van Dijk, Commissioner and Deputy Chief Inspector of Explosives, said today.

A spokesman for AECL at Modderfontein said procedures were strictly laid down and if these had been followed the explosion would not have happened.

"The finding illustrates this point clearly," he said.

"On-going training continues at the plant and residents in the area can be assured every precaution is taken. The fact that there have been two explosions within four months does not cancel out our good safety record over a long period."

Five killed in Reef gold mines

NM 25/2/78

(212)

JOHANNESBURG — Four Black underground workers were killed and 10 were missing, presumed trapped under fallen rock, after a pressure burst at the Doornfontein gold mine near Carltonville yesterday, a mine spokesman said.

The burst occurred at 8 am in a stope 1 953m deep near the mine's number 1A sub-vertical shaft.

Thirty-six underground workers who were injured in the accident were admitted to Lesley Williams Memorial Hospital near Carltonville. Four are in a serious condition.

Rescue operations were continuing, the spokesman said.

In another mining accident yesterday a 52-year-old shaft foreman, Mr. Willem van Reenen, was fatally injured at the West Rand Consolidated gold mine in Krugersdorp after falling about 25m in A Section of the Monarch shaft.

Mr. van Reenen was inspecting a plumbline in the shaft just above 28 Level when he fell. He died instantly.

A widower, Mr. van Reenen leaves a son. —
(Sapa)

7 or 8

W/C ARKUS

still

25/2/78
212

trapped in mine

JOHANNESBURG. —

Only seven or eight miners are now believed trapped two kilometres underground after yesterday's pressure burst at the Doornfontein gold mine near Carletonville.

It is impossible to give an estimate of when we will reach the trapped men but we have a fair idea of where they are, a spokesman for Gold Fields, the mining house which administers the mine, said today.

Originally it was thought 12 miners were trapped, but the spokesman said today it had been determined that seven were trapped and possibly an eighth man.

Head count

A full head count of miners was being made to determine where the eighth man was.

Five men were killed in the rock burst and 38 injured. Rescue work is going on non-stop.

Mr Albino Zavila, a team leader, said today the working area had collapsed around his feet without warning.

When this came down, I was buried under the rubble, he said.

I was not afraid and if I had to die, I would have had to go.

Conscious

Mr Zavila said that he was not long underground and was conscious. His left leg was injured.

This was his first accident in six years of working in mines. He is married with two children.

Mr Thomas Vatscha, 25, a lashing aid, said that he was underground when suddenly the area collapsed around him. There were five in his team.

He has a leg injury and is now recovering at Leslie Williams Memorial Hospital near Carletonville.

25/2/78 212

Desperate bid to dig out miners

Labour Reporter

Rescue workers are struggling to reach 10 men trapped almost 2 km underground after a pressure burst which killed eight of their colleagues and injured 38 more in the Doornfontein Gold Mine near Carletonville yesterday.

"There is hope that at least some of the 10 missing men are still alive," said a spokesman for Gold Fields, the mining house which administers the mine.

The injured are in a serious condition in the Leshe Williams Memorial Hospital, serving Gold Fields mines around Carletonville.

One of these reached the surface at about 2 am today.

At 3 am the rescue teams freed the body of a dead miner.

All the dead, injured and trapped men are black miners who were at work in two panels covering about 60 m of working face 1 953 m under the surface near the mine's No 1A sub-vertical shaft.

SMALL BURST

They were busy with "early starting" preparatory work, awaiting the arrival of their white supervisors.

A small burst, which apparently did little or no damage, occurred at about 7 am and was followed by the severe burst at 8 am which caused the disaster.

The tremor was felt on the surface.

More than 50 of the workers escaped unharmed.

Those still trapped are difficult to reach because the working areas are only about 1 m high and the clearing work has to be done manually.

The mine has not yet compiled a list of identities of the injured men. The names of the dead are being withheld pending notification of their next of kin.

Mr Albino Zavila, a team leader, said today that without warning the working area collapsed around his feet.

"When this came down, I was buried under the rubble," he said.

"I was not afraid and if I had to die, I would have had to go."

A shaft foreman at the West Rand Consolidated gold and uranium mine at Krugersdorp, Mr Willem van Reenen (52), died yesterday after falling 25 m in a section of the Monarch Shaft.

He was reported to have been inspecting a plumb line when he fell. Mr van Reenen is survived by an adult son.

8 men
SUN TIMES
still 26/2/78
212
trapped
in mine

SEVEN or eight miners are still believed trapped 2 km underground after Friday's pressure burst at the Doornfontein gold mine near Carletonville.

"It is impossible to give an estimate of when we will reach the trapped men but we have a fair idea of where they are," a spokesman for Gold Fields, the mining house which administers the mine, said yesterday

Originally it was thought 12 miners were trapped

Five men were killed in the rock burst and 38 injured. Rescue work is going on non-stop. — Sapa

Stryd om RAPPOR 26/2/78 myners 212 te red.

REDDINGSPANNE werk strykdeur om die sewe swart mynwerkers, wat sedert 'n drukbars gister by die Doornfontein-goudmyn naby Carletonville 2 km ondergronds vasgekeer is, te bereik. Vyf swartes is in die drukbars dood en 38 beseer.

„Die reddingspoging vorder na wense, maar ons kan nie sê wanneer die vasgekeerdes bereik sal word nie,” het 'n woordvoerder van die myn gistermiddag laat gesê.

26/2/78 (2/2)
8 men
Sunday Times
still
trapped
in mine

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212 2/6/73
Sunday
Tribune

SEVEN MISSING

Tribune Reporter

SEVEN men were still missing late last night in the mine disaster at Doornfontein which claimed the lives of five miners early on Friday morning. A mine spokesman said rescue work would continue but no change in the situation was expected overnight.

A Cape Times 27/2/78 (212)

7 still trapped in mine

JOHANNESBURG — Rescue workers are still trying to reach seven miners trapped underground after a burst at the Doornfontein gold mine near Carletonville. Five miners were killed and 38 injured in the burst on Friday morning. About 50 escaped

Mine death toll rises ^{27/2/78 DD}

JOHANNESBURG — The bodies of two mineworkers were brought to the surface at the Doornfontein gold mine near Carletonville yesterday, bringing the death toll in the accident on Friday to seven.

A mine spokesman said last night five mineworkers were still trapped.

Rescue operations were proceeding on a round-the-clock basis.

The spokesman said rescue workers had managed to open up the gulleys leading to the area where the "strain-burst" had occurred, making the area more accessible and speeding up rescue operations — SAPA

212 27/2/28
Fight to

save

miners

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —

Rescue workers were yesterday still battling to reach seven miners trapped underground after a rock-burst at the Doornfontein gold mine near Cartonville.

Five miners were killed and 38 injured when the burst occurred in a stope 1 953m deep near the mine's Number 1A sub-vertical shaft early on Friday. About 50 escaped with only bruises and scratches.

All the victims are Black and no names have been released.

Rescue workers battle on in

Sieg Hannig
Labour Reporter

With only 10 cm clearance between roof and floor in some places, rescue workers inched forward all weekend in efforts to save the men trapped by Friday's pressure burst in the Doornfontein gold mine

The bodies of two black miners were brought to

3/27/78
1212
the surface yesterday. Four men are still trapped.

The rescuers advanced as little as "a foot an hour" in some areas, knowing only too well that an hour gained or lost might mean the difference between life and death for the trapped men.

Lying flat on the hard, abrasive rock, they fought on — eight white officials and 60 black workmen at

a time, toiling in six-hour shifts round the clock.

Where they were unable to advance, they widened the gap by prising loose the hanging (roof) or the footwall (floor) with pinch bars and pneumatic picks.

Every boulder that had been loosened had to be dragged out by hand in the warm, clammy atmosphere 1953 m below the

surface to make way for the next.

By midday yesterday the four gullies (access ways) had been cleared and the rescuers had penetrated roughly two-thirds of the 130 m of working face blocked by the rockburst at 8 am on Friday.

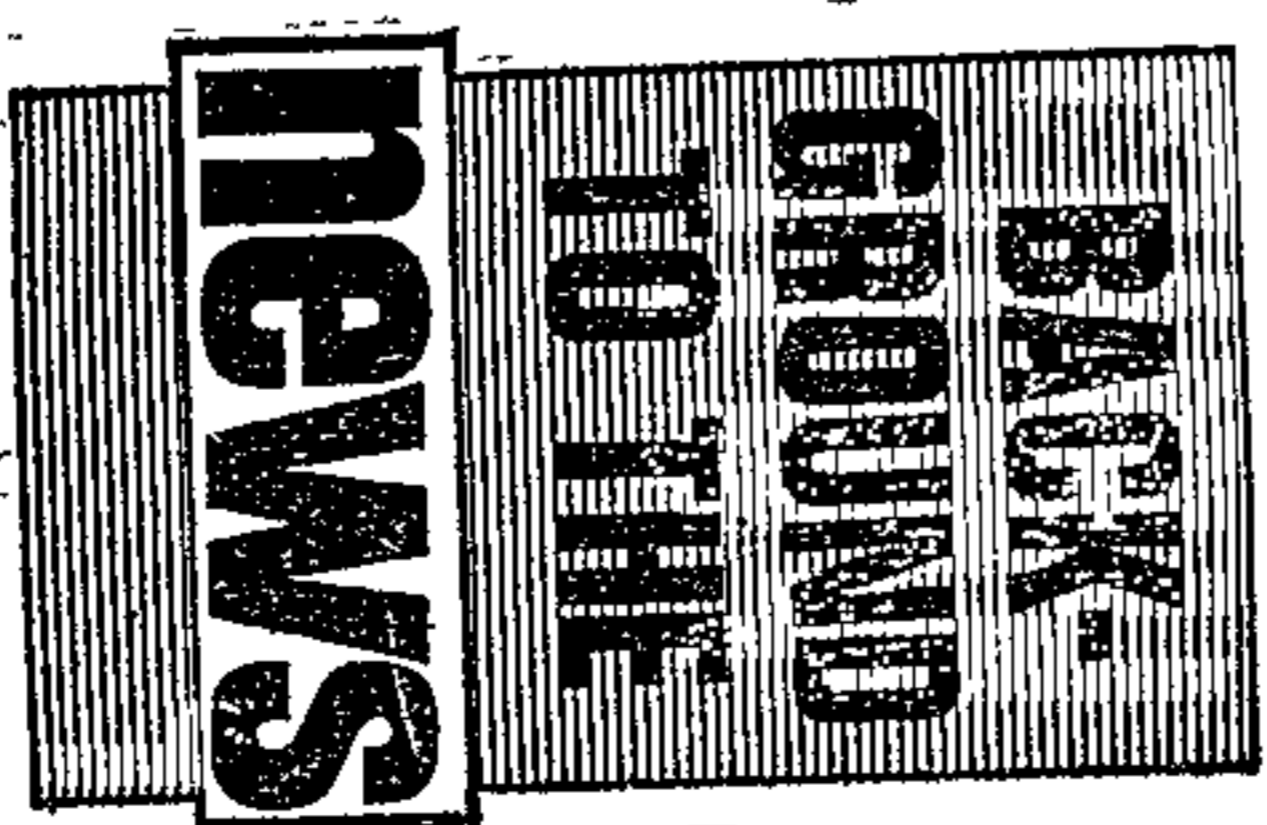
They concentrated their efforts on the areas where those who had es-

Search for trapped miners

caped alive had reported the presence of colleagues. But there was no certainty. One dead man was found in an extremity where nobody had been expected. Among the rescue workers were experienced hands such as Mr W 'Barney' Barnard, the mine's chief training officer, and

Mr E P 'Bossie' Boshoff, the planning officer. Both are former mine captains. Asked why they were taking part in the rescue, they said. 'In an emergency every official is involved.' The general manager, Mr Ray MacNaughton, was 'involved' too. After an on-the-spot inspection yesterday, he explained the situation to

The Star next to a map of the disaster area in the control room at No 1 Shaft. It was 53 hours after the disaster and about 26 hours after the last rescue of a trapped man, who was saved by an open space in the fallen rock. Perhaps some of the missing men were also clinging to life only a few metres away.



567 2712478

Miner tells of ordeal

Members of a rescue team return to surface after freeing the second trapped miner to have escape death in the pressure burst which killed at least eight men at the Doornfontein gold mine at 8 am on Friday. Four men were still missing today as the rescuers continued their round-the-clock battle.



Hopes for four mine workers trapped underground in the Doornfontein gold mine faded today, another miner told of his 24-hour ordeal of silence and darkness as he waited for rescue.

Mr Landile David, (35), a lasher on the mine near Carletonville, was pinned to the ground by a rock which lay across his legs after Friday's pressure burst.

As rescue workers entered the fourth day of arduous work in underground, it was thought likely that other survivors still trapped would have died of thirst.

Seven bodies have been recovered so far and an eighth was being freed from under tons of rock today.

Mr David said he was working on the 38th level when, without warning, "everything crashed around me."

He continued "There were quite a few people around me but I do not know what happened to them. Everything was dark around me I could not move my legs or arms and had difficulty in breathing."

"I was very scared I could do nothing, see nothing, and shouted myself hoarse calling for help."

"When I heard the resuers approaching me, I thanked my God that I had been saved."

Mr David suffered only abrasions on his arms and stomach. He said he would return underground to work, but first wanted to visit his wife and child in Transkei.

Mr Landile David, who was trapped underground for nearly 24 hours on the 18th level after the pressure burst on Friday.

Miner's ordeal in dark

JOHANNESBURG — As hope faded yesterday for three mineworkers trapped in the Doornfontein gold mine, another miner told of his 24-hour ordeal of silence and darkness.

Mr. Landile David (35), a lasher on the mine near Carletonville, was pinned to the ground by a rock which lay across his legs after Friday's pressure burst.

As rescue workers entered the fourth day of hard work in unpleasant heat almost two kilometres underground, it was thought likely that the miners still trapped would have died of thirst.

Nine bodies have been recovered so far.

Mr. David said: "I was very scared. I could do nothing, see nothing and shouted myself hoarse calling for help. When I heard the rescuers approaching me I thanked my God that I had been saved."

He had only cuts and scrapes on his arms and stomach.

He said he would go back underground but first wanted to visit his wife and child in Transkel. — (Sapa.)

Two still missing at mine

SEAR
23/2/78

(212)

Labour Reporter

The confirmed death toll from Friday's pressure burst at the Doornfontein gold mine, near Carletonville, stands at 10

Only two men remained missing as the rescue team entered their fifth-day effort after 8 am today.

It is believed that only a freak supply of water could have saved the lives of the missing men

"We've covered most of the working face now," said Mr Ray MacNaughton, Doornfontein's general manager.

He revealed that the only seriously injured man among the 23 workers still in hospital yesterday had improved and is now in a satisfactory condition.

All the bodies of the men confirmed dead have been recovered

Star
1/9/78
212

Last man out

Labour Reporter

The rescue drama after the pressure burst at 8 am on Friday in the Doornfontein Gold Mine, near Carletonville, ended today

The body of the last man trapped 1953 m underground was located early today. This brought the final death toll to 12

Star 9/13/74
3 miners
killed

Three black miners died in a pressure burst on the 52nd level of the Western Areas Gold Mine this morning, reports Sapa

Four men were slightly injured. Three are trapped 1422 m below surface where rescue operations continue

Names of the dead have not yet been released

Argus 14/3/78
Trapped

212

miners freed

WELKOM. — Three men who were trapped at an intermediate pump station in a shaft at the St Helena gold mine near here were brought to the surface unharmed, according to a Union Corporation spokesman.

The men had remained at the station after an accident had put the shaft out of commission.

There was no loss of life and nobody was injured. — Sapa.

15/3/78 N.M.
Miner killed

KRUGERSDORP - One Black mineworker was killed and five were injured in an underground strain-burst at the West Rand Consolidated Gold Mine near here early yesterday, General Mining and Finance Corporation reported - (Sapa.) (212)

Werkers

- (b) melk: hoeveelheid
 rys (as
 waarde aan boer
 waarde aan werker

- (c) ander kos
 (d) Weivlek toegelaat

Aantal van:	skape toegelaat	gehou
	bokke "	"
	heeste "	"
	ander	

Waarde aan boer

- (e) Grond

Oppervlakte verskaf gebruik

Waarde aan boer:

Water (jaarlikse koste aan boer)

Koste van ander dienste b.v. saad, gebruik van plaasmasjinerie

- (f) Klere: artikels verskaf deur boer (jaarliks)

Koste aan boer:

- (g) Bonus (jaarliks)

- (h) Geskenke (jaarliks: artikels

Koste aan boer:

- (i) Ontspanningsgeriewe verskaf:

Koste aan boer (jaarliks):

- (j) Gesondheidsdienste:

Jaarlikse koste aan boer van: doktersrekeninge betaal
 medisyne
 vervoer na en van geriewe
 ander

- (j) Totale mediese koste

- (k) Pensioenbydrae deur boer (jaarliks)

- (l) Versekeringsbydrae deur boer (jaarliks)

24-hour search for man in mine

ARGUS

23/3/78

212

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. —

Teams of 60 to 70 volunteers are working in seven-hour shifts round-the-clock to locate one miner still trapped after a pressure burst which killed seven at the Blyvooruitzicht goldmine, near Carletonville, yesterday.

The burst, described as a relatively minor one, occurred about 2400 m

below surface in the mine's No 4 shaft.

Last September, 32 men died in the same shaft in what was described as the highest death toll in a pressure burst in 49 years.

The general manager of Blyvooruitzicht, Mr J R Forbes, said 17 men escaped with scratches and minor injuries, but one had a fractured skull and another a broken leg.

He said several men were trapped by the fallen rock, but all but one were rescued.

They belonged to a team of 43.

Miner loses leg

2/4/28

R.A.M.
212

Staff Reporter

ONE of the 12 miners rescued from the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near Stilfontein last Friday has had a leg amputated.

A mine spokesman yesterday described his condition as very good.

Another 21 miners were still in hospital yesterday following the rockfall in the 29 haulage east of the Southern Shaft last Wednesday.

The rockfall followed an earth tremor. The spokesman said the men were also in a very good condition.

Sixteen men died in the rockfall. The four black miners still missing are presumed dead, buried under tons of rock.

The mine started sealing off the accident area with cement yesterday.

The mine spokesman said a memorial service would be held for the dead men at the Southern Shaft at the mine at 3 pm tomorrow.

Recovery of ^{Star}
100 ²¹³ miners ^{6/4/78}

The bodies of victims of an explosion in which 100 miners died last August in the Moatize coal mine in Mozambique are now being brought to the surface, according to Radio Mozambique

The radio said East German experts had drained flooding which had prevented rescuers reaching the bodies.

STAR 21/4/78

Mine burst

shakes

Boksburg

(212)

A severe pressure burst struck two shafts of the ERPM gold mine this morning. Several mine-workers were injured, the mine management said.

No one was killed, and as far as could be ascertained, there were no missing mineworkers, the spokesman said.

The burst occurred in the K and H shafts at 8.28 am. Sixteen working faces in K shaft and six in H shaft were affected by the burst.

Buildings shook and windows were broken.

The tremor was felt to rumble off towards Germiston where buildings shook from the force of the burst.

It registered 4.0 on the Richter scale at the Geological Survey in Pretoria and lasted five to six seconds.—Sapa

RDM.

21/4/78 (212)

Four die in mine rescue drama

By JUNE WOTHERSPOON and MIKE ENGELBRECHT

FOUR mine officials were killed in a rockburst and another critically injured when they went down Buffelsfontein gold mine near Silfontein early yesterday to rescue colleagues trapped in a rockburst.

Late last night rescue teams were still struggling to free an unknown number of men trapped 2,5 km underground after a severe earth tremor — the highest recorded on the Reef — shook the mine and caused the rock fall.

Twenty-four black miners and two whites have been brought the surface and are in hospital with minor injuries. One black was trapped for five hours before the rescue teams could reach him.

The four men who went down to investigate after the first rock burst were killed when the roof fell in. They were all from Silfontein. They were Mr H J P Olivier, 48, a shift boss and father of two of Buffelsfontein Road; Mr S W van der Merwe, 34, a mine captain and father of two of Jan van Riebeeck Avenue; Mr B J Smal, 40, a shift boss and father of three, also of Jan van Riebeeck Avenue; and Mr T P Ryan, a mine captain and father of three of Gerald Street

The critically injured miner is Mr J Meyer. The two whites who received minor injuries are Mr E Visser and Mr C Lambrecht

The dead men had gone down after an earth tremor had damaged a stope on the 27th level and workings on the 28th level of the southern shaft

When a second, more severe tremor rocked the mine the roof fell in on the men

Production could be affected, a spokesman of General Mining and Finance Corporation, said.

The seismic disturbance registered 4,6 on the Richter scale at 11 am which is a high as one gets for tremors on the Reef, according to Professor L Nicolay-sen, of the geological survey unit at the University of the Witwatersrand

"It is of the same magnitude as the tremor in Welkom in 1976 and usually a tremor this severe occurs only a couple of times a year," he said.

In February this year six black miners were killed and 18 were injured in rock falls after a

tremor The seismic movement in the area registered 2,7 on the Richter scale

In that tragedy the affected workings were on 21 level, about 2 000 m underground.

Among the accidents at the mine, recently was an underground fire which broke out more than 2 km underground on 25 level of the mine's Orangia shaft on January 12.

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Voices of trapped

'We're

27/4/78

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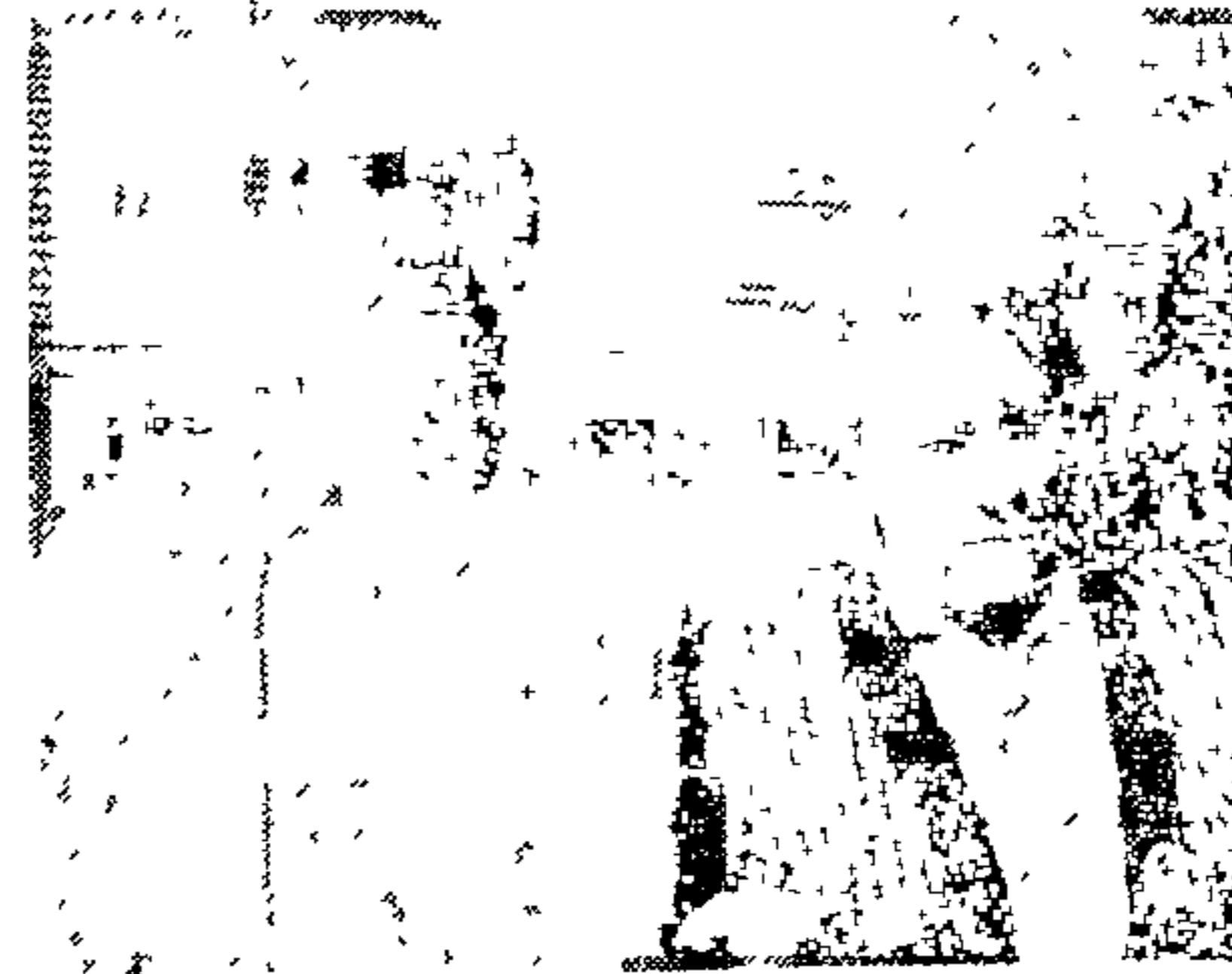
Staff Reporter

Stilfontein

Rescue workers battling in difficult, dangerous conditions have heard the voices of some of the 23 miners trapped by a rockfall in the Buffelsfontein gold mine.



Mr B J Smal (40), a shift-boss, one of the victims of the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine tragedy.



Grief-stricken Mr Andries Botha and his wife, Hester, step-parents of Mr Smal (40), one of the five victims of the Buffelsfontein disaster.

The rescue workers are having to worm through a confined space with rocks being dislodged all the time. A mine spokesman said two teams were working round the clock in shifts.

Five white miners have died after a severe earth tremor caused the rockfall at the 28 level of the mine at the southern shaft yesterday. The tremor measured 4,6 on the Richter scale.

A spokesman for the company said the men told rescuers through the pipe. "We are alive and OK."

Thirteen of the trapped men were safe.

The rescuers were trying to get water through to the men.

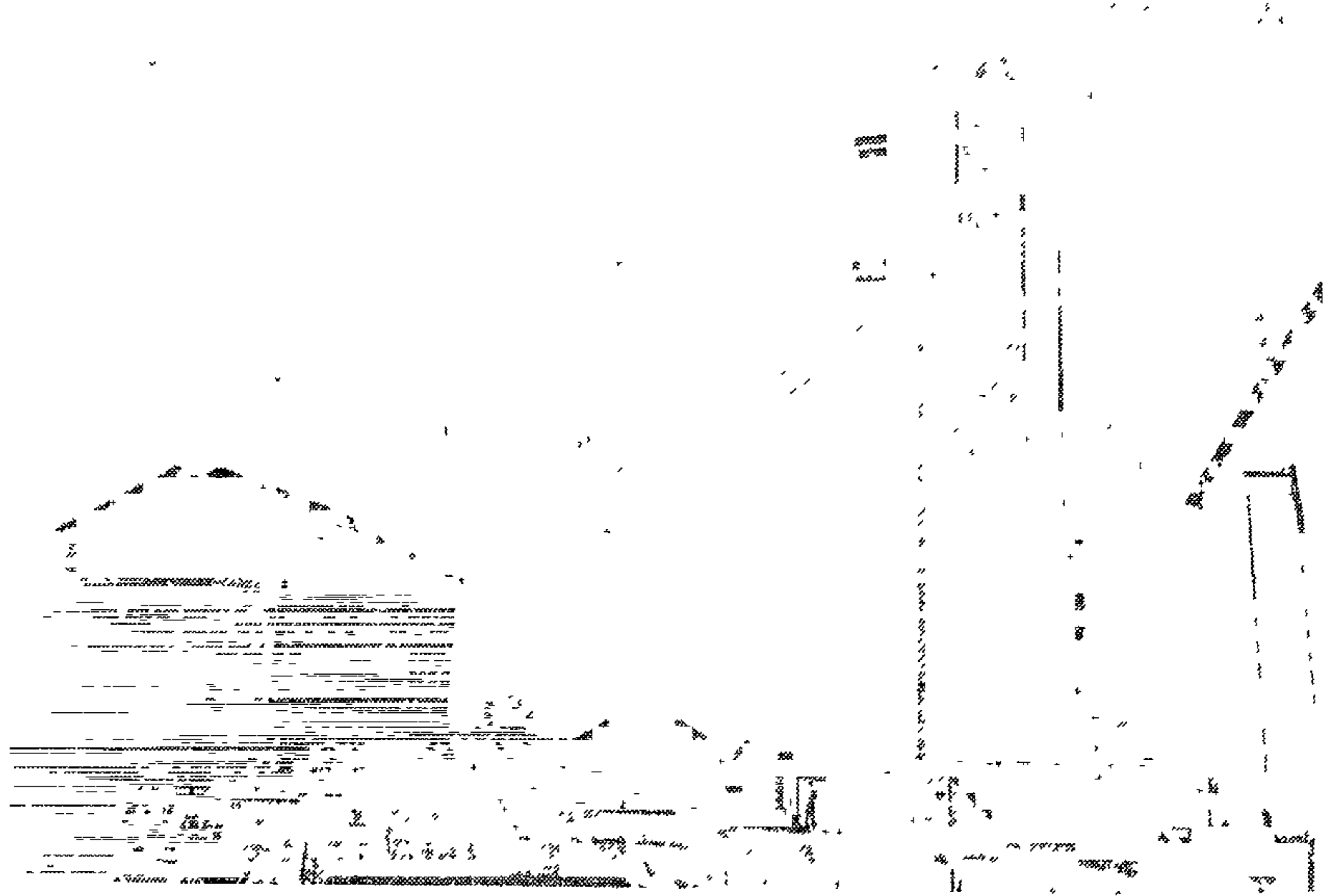
Mr J N Meyer (30), father of one child and with an expectant wife, died in the Chamber of Mines Hospital in Johannesburg last night.

Others who died were Mr H J P Olivier (48), a shift boss and father of two, of Buffelsfontein Road, Stilfontein, Mr S W van der Merwe (34), a mine overseer and father of two, of Jan van Riebeeck Avenue, Mr B J Smal (40), a shift boss and father of three, also of Jan van Riebeeck Avenue and Mr T P Ryan (37), a mine captain and father of three, of Gerald Street.

Two whites were slightly hurt in the rock fall. They are Mr C Lambrecht, a section manager, and Mr E Visser, who is employed by a contracting firm that works at the mine. Mr Visser is in

miners come through ⁽²¹⁰⁾ 27/4/78
stab

all right'



The headgear of Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near Stilfontein where five miners were killed by rock fall and 23 are still trapped more than 2 500 m underground



212

27/4/78 Sgar

Rumble

The mine official confirmed that there were no whites still trapped underground with the 23 miners.

"All of us in Stilfontein felt the bump and heard the rumble of the tremor for quite a while," said a relative of one of the dead who asked not to be named.

Professor L O Nicolaysen, director of the Bernard Price Institute of Geophysics at Witwatersrand University, said the tremor's intensity was the same as that of the tremor which caused the collapse of a block of flats in Welkom in 1976.

Mrs Adelaide Smal and her three children, Daleen (13), Kobus (11) and Hettie (9), were comforted by friends and four ministers yesterday and today at her home in Van Riebeeck Avenue, Stilfontein.

Stilfontein was rocked by three earth tremors yesterday at 6 45, 10 50 am and 12 45 pm. The last tremor was the worst.

Family overcome by grief

Mrs Adelaide Smal, wife of rock-fall victim Mr B J Smal of Stilfontein, was overcome by grief. With her are (left to right) her children Daleen (13), Kobus (11) and Hettie (9)

27/4/78
Voices of trapped miners come through

'Were all right'

Staff Reporter

Stilfontein

Rescue workers battling in difficult, dangerous conditions have heard the voices of some of the 23 miners trapped by a rockfall in the Buffelsfontein gold mine.



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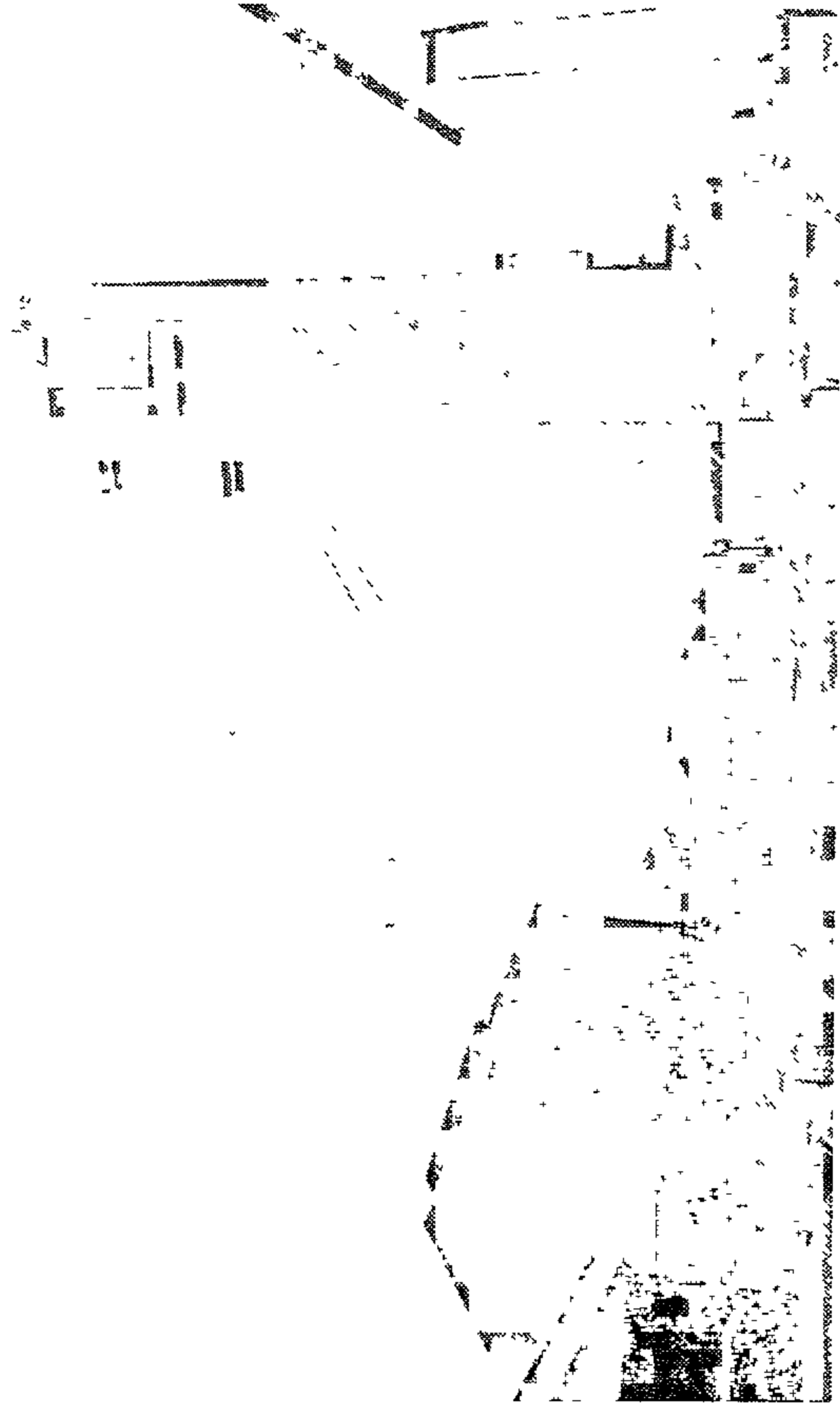
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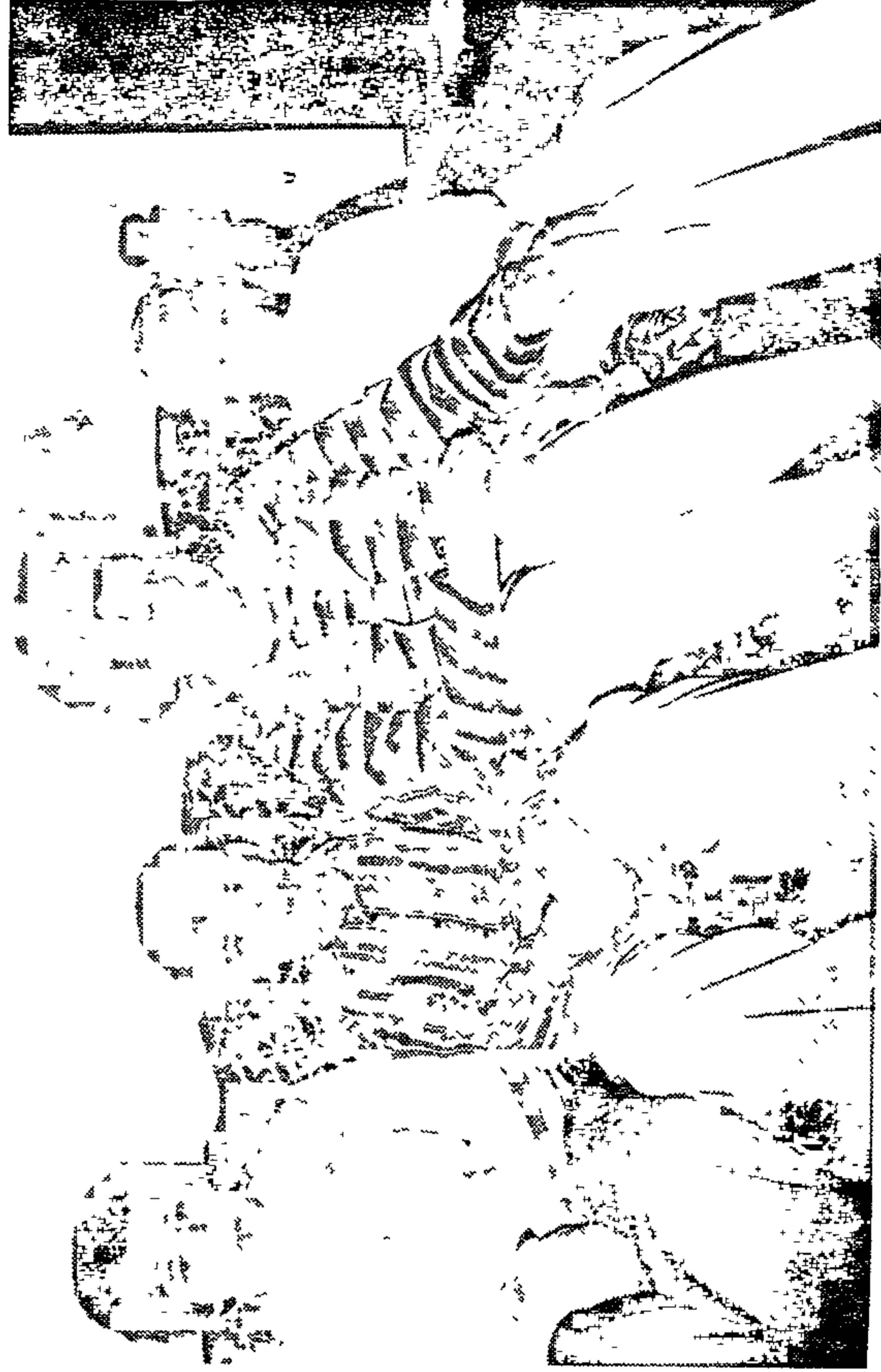
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The headgear of Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near Stilfontein where five miners were killed by rock fall and 23 are still trapped more than 2 500 m underground



DD, 27/4/78 (212)

Rock fall kills mine officials

JOHANNESBURG — Four mine officials were killed and another critically injured when they went down Buffelsfontein gold mine near Stilfontein yesterday to investigate a rock burst

Last night rescue teams were still struggling to free an unknown number of men trapped 2,5 km underground after a severe earth tremor — the highest recorded on the Reef — shook the mine and caused the rock fall

Twenty-six miners were brought to the surface and are in hospital with minor injuries

The four men who went down to rescue the trapped men were killed when the roof fell in. They were all from Stilfontein

They were Mr H J Olivier, 48, a shift boss and father of two, Mr S W van der Merwe, 34, a mine captain and father of two, Mr B J Smal, 40, a shift boss and father of three, and Mr T P Ryan, a mine captain and father of three

The critically injured miner is Mr J Meyer

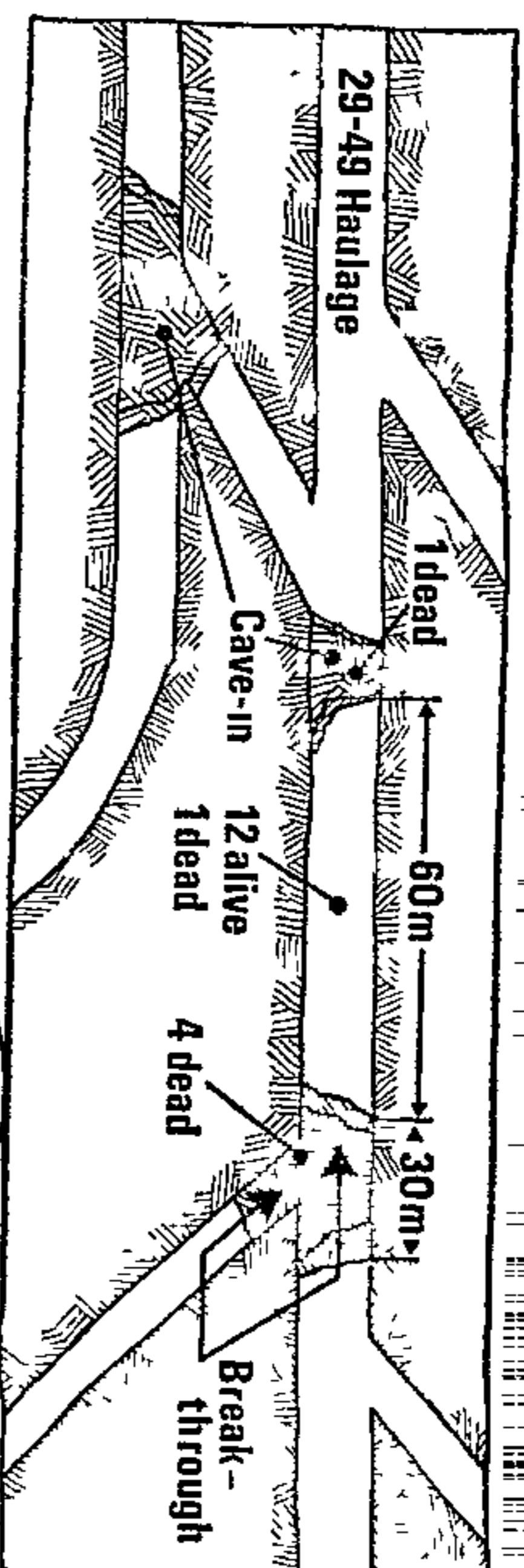
The dead men had gone down after an earth tremor had damaged a stope and workings

When a second more severe tremor rocked the mine the roof fell in on them

This tragedy brings to at least 28 the number of men who have died in various accidents at the mine since December 1976 — DDC

Rescuers break through underground rockfall

12 freed at least 1 mine



STAR 2814178

(212)

MR PRETORIUS

Robert Kennaugh

STAR 28/4/78

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his shoulders. A rope was tied round his ankle so he could be pulled back if he was in danger.

Mr Pretorius (37), who is the father of three, made the hazardous trip twice, speaking to some of the miners trapped since Wednesday.

Crushed

In his rescue crawl, Mr Pretorius, moving slowly along the pipe, near the centre rockfall, managed to worm his way 18 m along the pipe. He crawled 12 m into the air pipe which is penetrating the rockfall area where four white miners were crushed to death.

"The boss boy told me the men were all right. I tried not to upset them by asking questions. I said 'We are on our way, don't worry,'" said Mr Pretorius.

Rescuers also tried to pump water to the men through a narrow hose.

The rockfall, triggered by a series of severe earth tremors, killed five senior white miners.

"The trapped men we've made contact with are in good spirits, and we have high hopes of getting them out alive," the mine manager, Mr G Jacobs, said.

He said rescue workers are working in hazardous and confined conditions.

Mr Johan Wuid, a mine captain and one of the rescue work leaders, said last night that the three rescue teams were working in bad conditions and in a dangerous area.

"We will never give up," Mr Wuid said.

● Death mine survivor relives the horror. —
Page 19.

Stilfontein

Rescuers at Buffelsfontein Gold Mine, near Stilfontein, were this afternoon pulling 12 black mine workers to freedom through a small opening in the rockfall, 2 500 m underground.

A spokesman for the mine said two men had been pulled to safety through the rubble on the 29 East haulage and were not seriously hurt. Two doctors, who have already gone underground will give them emergency treatment.

Rescuers are working at full pressure to free 10 other men. A thirteenth black mine worker who was trapped with the others is feared dead.

A mine spokesman said a small opening was made in the rockfall and food and water, cigarettes and high protein liquid food were passed by hand to the black mineworkers who had been trapped for about 50 hours.

"The situation is very promising, but it will take some time to remove all rock and make the opening bigger," said the spokesman.

Torches have been passed through to the men.

Earlier today a miner squeezed through a narrow air pipe to reach the trapped men more than 3 km down.

Slightly built Mr Willie Pretorius pushed a torch ahead of him in the steel pipe with difficulty, the sides less than 1 cm from

Deathmine survivor relives the horror

Ventilation pipes and a hopper probably saved two men from being buried alive in the rockfall disaster at Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near Stilfontein on Wednesday.

The two survivors of the rockfall which has so far claimed the lives of 12 men are Mr Chris Lamprecht (35), a section manager, and Mr E Visser, a mine overseer employed by Rockgrout Construction Company.

Mr Lamprecht yesterday said rocks and material had caved in on the men and he had screamed to them to find out if they were still alive.

LUCKY

"I realised that I was lucky to live," he said. "What happened is something that can happen at any time."

Mr Lamprecht said that on Tuesday there was a rockfall at the 29th haulage at the mine. Men worked throughout the night to clear the fall of rock.

On Wednesday he, Mr S W van der Merwe (34) and Mr T P Ryan (37), two mine overseers who were both killed, went to the site to see what progress was being made. The work had almost been completed.

Mr B J Smal (39) and Mr H J P Olivier (48), two shift bosses who were also killed, were working there.

Mr Lamprecht said that Mr Visser was fitting additional supports in the haulage, Mr Ryan and Mr van der Merwe were busy on top of the service pipes.

"While I, Mr Visser, Mr Olivier and Mr Smal were standing at the apex of the crosscut and the haulage, there was a loud noise and rock and material tumbled on top of us from all sides," he said.

SCREAMING

"I was flung to the ground but fortunately my light stayed on. Mr Visser was lying trapped next to me and a black miner, also pinned down, was screaming."

Mr Lamprecht said he shouted to Mr Ryan and Mr van der Merwe but got no reply.

The section manager's legs were trapped by fallen rock as he struggled to free himself. He managed to get free and made his way upwards through a narrow passage between the rocks.

"Ventilation pipes and a hopper absorbed some of the pressure from the rockfall and probably saved my life and that of Mr Visser," he said.

Mr Lamprecht said 30 minutes after the rockfall on Wednesday morning rescuers came to free him. They battled for 45 minutes to get him out. Mr Lamprecht managed to climb through the passage.



Mr Chris Lamprecht (35), a section manager who survived a rockfall more than 2500 m underground at the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine, near Stilfontein, said yesterday "I realise I am lucky to be alive. What happened on Wednesday was something that could have happened to anyone."

Mr Captain M. Johan Wurd describes conditions down below while three teams are busy round the clock trying to save the lives of 12 miners. Pictures by Noel Watson.

Despoerate bid to
save 13 miners

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By BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

STILFONTEIN

RESCUE WORKERS last night began drilling a 38 m long supply-tunnel through tons of rock in a desperate bid to get food and water to 13 black miners trapped more than 2 km below ground at the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine in Stilfontein.

The death toll in the rockfall at the mine — triggered off by an earth tremor on Wednesday morning — last night rose to nine as one of the trapped miners reported that they had four dead men with them. Five mine officials have already died in the tragedy.

The rescue teams first discovered the whereabouts of the trapped men, trapped for more than 30 hours when they heard voices coming down a ventilation pipe on the 29th level.

The rescue team was searching for 25 miners reported missing after the rockfall.

The rescue workers are believed to be between 5 to 15m from the trapped men. The supply-tunnel is being drilled from below the trapped men.

The men are trapped in an area of about 60 m in the 29 East haulage in the southern shaft at the mine.

The earth tremor, at about 11 am on Wednesday morning, caused rockfalls in three places in the haulage.

The men are trapped between two of these falls and rescue workers are removing the fall rock by rock to reach them.

A mine spokesman said last night: "We are drilling a two-inch diameter hole through the rock from a parallel haulage and will devise a plan to get food and water through to them. Rods with wires attached can be pushed through the hole and used to get things to the trapped men."

Meanwhile three teams of 18 miners each are working round the clock in shifts to reach their trapped colleagues.

The exhausted leader of one of the rescue teams, Mr Johan Wuid, last night said: "Conditions are really bad and dangerous but we will not give up hope of reaching these men."

He said rescue workers first heard the miners' voices coming down a ventilation pipe from the stricken section of the haulage.

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Mr Chris Lamprecht, a section manager at Buffelsfontein Gold Mine, who was saved from death when ventilation pipes protected him from falling rock

DAVE BUCHE-PARRY

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"They didn't say very much. They said there were a few of them alive and that a couple of them were hurt. One of them told us there were four dead men with them.

"We tried to push torches, water and food through the pipe to them but it was too badly bent and buckled."

Mr Wuid said the rescue teams were digging with their bear hands.

"There's only room for one man at a time to dig and we are passing the rock back piece by piece."

The man digging at the front only has headroom of just over 500 cm to work in.

He said progress was slow because "the rock keeps closing up after you remove some and you have to start all over again.

At this stage there is no indication of where the six other missing black miners might be.

Rescue workers yesterday brought to the surface the body of one of the four white miners who died instantly in the rockfall.

He was Mr Ben Smal, 40, a shiftboss, and a former boxer.

His body was the first to be found. By last night rescue workers had reached the point where the other three bodies are buried beneath tons of rock.

Those who died in the rockburst included two proto team members, Mr "Flip" Olivier, 48, a shiftboss and father of two, and Mr S W van der Merwe, 34, a mine overseer with two children.

Also killed was Mr T P Ryan, a mine overseer and father of three.

One man who was brought to the surface critically injured died in hospital a few hours later. He was Mr J Meyer, a boiler-maker under contract to the mine

Survivor tells of screams in tunnel

By BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

STILFONTEIN. — A miner who survived the rock burst at Buffelsfontein Gold Mine told yesterday how he lay protected by ventilation pipes from falling rock and listened to the "horrible screaming" of a man trapped beside him.

Mr Chris Lamprecht, a section manager at the mine's southern shaft was one of seven white men working in the 29 East haulage on Wednesday morning when an earth tremor measuring 4.6 on the Richter Scale caused three rockfalls.

"We were in the haulage

repairing it after a rockfall the night before," he said.

Mr Ryan and Mr Van der Merwe were working on the service pipes, while Mr Visser, Mr Olivier, Mr Smal and I were talking about the work

"There was a loud explosion and rocks were caving in on all sides.

"I felt a blow on my face and next thing, I was lying on the ground with rocks and other material on top of me.

"When the dust settled, I looked around. I saw Mr Visser lying next to me with his legs trapped under a ventilation pipe.

"On my other side was a black man, also trapped under a pipe. He was screaming terribly

"I screamed myself for Mr Ryan and Mr Van der Merwe, but there was no answer. My legs were also trapped. I managed to free one leg fairly easily

"The pipes absorbed the impact and probably saved our lives."

The three were in the haulage for about half an hour before rescue workers reached them.

Mr Visser was admitted to Klerksdorp Hospital where his condition is said to be satisfactory.



Death toll in mine disaster rises to 12

The Argus Correspondent

STILFONTEIN.—The death toll in Buffelsfontein gold mine here rose to 12 today when three more black miners were found crushed 2,5 km underground.

Rescue workers are inching their way through the final 10 metres of rock separating them from 13 miners who have been trapped since a rockfall on Wednesday.

These trapped men have told rescue parties that they think the bodies of four miners are buried near them.

The mine manager, Mr G Jacobs, said it was hoped that all the survivors would be rescued.

THE BODY

Rescue workers yesterday brought to the surface the body of one of the five white miners, who died. He was Mr Ben Smal (40), a shift boss and a former Olympic boxer.

Ventilation pipes and a hopper probably saved two men from being buried alive in the rockfall.

They were Mr Chris Lamprecht, 35, a section manager, and Mr E Visser, a mine overseer.

The men who died 2 500 metres underground were Mr S W van der Merwe, Mr B J Smal, Mr T P Ryan and Mr H J P Olivier.

A fifth miner, Mr J Meyer, died in hospital later.

Mr Lamprecht yesterday told of how rocks caved in and how he screamed to see if the men were still alive.

'I realised that I was lucky to live,' he said. 'What happened is something that can happen at any time.'

Mr Lamprecht said that on Tuesday there was a rockfall and men were working to clear the rock.

On Wednesday he, Mr van der Merwe and Mr Ryan went to the site. Mr Smal and Mr Olivier were also there.

STAYED ON

Mr Lamprecht said that Mr Visser was fitting supports. Mr Ryan and Mr van der Merwe were working on top of the service pipes.

There was a loud noise and rock and material tumbled on top of us from all sides,' he said.

'I was flung to the ground, but fortunately my light stayed on. Mr Visser was lying trapped next to me and a black miner, also pinned down, was screaming.'

Mr Lamprecht said he shouted the names of Mr

Ryan and Mr van der Merwe but got no reply.

His legs were trapped by fallen rock, but he managed to free himself and crawl upwards through a narrow passage between rocks.

'Ventilation pipes and a hopper absorbed some of the pressure of the rockfall and probably saved my life and that of Mr Visser,' he said.

Mr Lamprecht said that 30 minutes after the fall rescuers came to help him. They battled for 45 minutes until Mr Lamprecht managed to climb through the passage to safety.

Mr Jacobs said today that the trapped men were in 'good spirits'.

Mr Johan Wud, a mine captain, said rescue teams were working in hazardous and confined conditions.

MINE captain Mr Johan Wud describes conditions underground while three teams work round the clock trying to save the lives of 13 miners.

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Cape Times 28/4/78 (212)

Rescue teams drill to feed 13 trapped miners

STILFONTEIN. — Rescue workers last night began drilling a 38-metre hole through rock in a desperate bid to get food and water to 13 miners trapped more than 2 km below ground at the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine.

The death toll in the rockfall at the mine — triggered by an earth tremor on Wednesday morning — last night rose to nine as one of the trapped miners reported that they had four dead men with them. Five other miners have died.

The rescue teams first discovered the whereabouts of the trapped men, who have been underground for more than 30 hours, when they heard voices through a ventilation pipe on the 29th level. They were searching for 25 miners reported missing after the rockfall.

The rescue workers are believed to be between five to 15 metres from the trapped men.

The men are trapped in an

area of about 60 metres in the east haulage in the southern shaft at the mine. The earth tremor, about 11am on Wednesday morning, caused rockfalls in three places in the haulage

The men are trapped between two of these

Meanwhile three teams of 18 miners are working round the clock in shifts to reach their trapped colleagues.

The exhausted leader of one

of the rescue teams, Mr Johan Wind, last night said: "Rescue workers first heard the miners' voices. They didn't say very much. They said there were a few of them alive and that a couple of them were hurt. One of them told us there were four dead men with them."

"We tried to push torches, water and food through the pipe to them but it was too badly buckled."

"It's difficult to know how the trapped men feel, but they must be scared," he said.

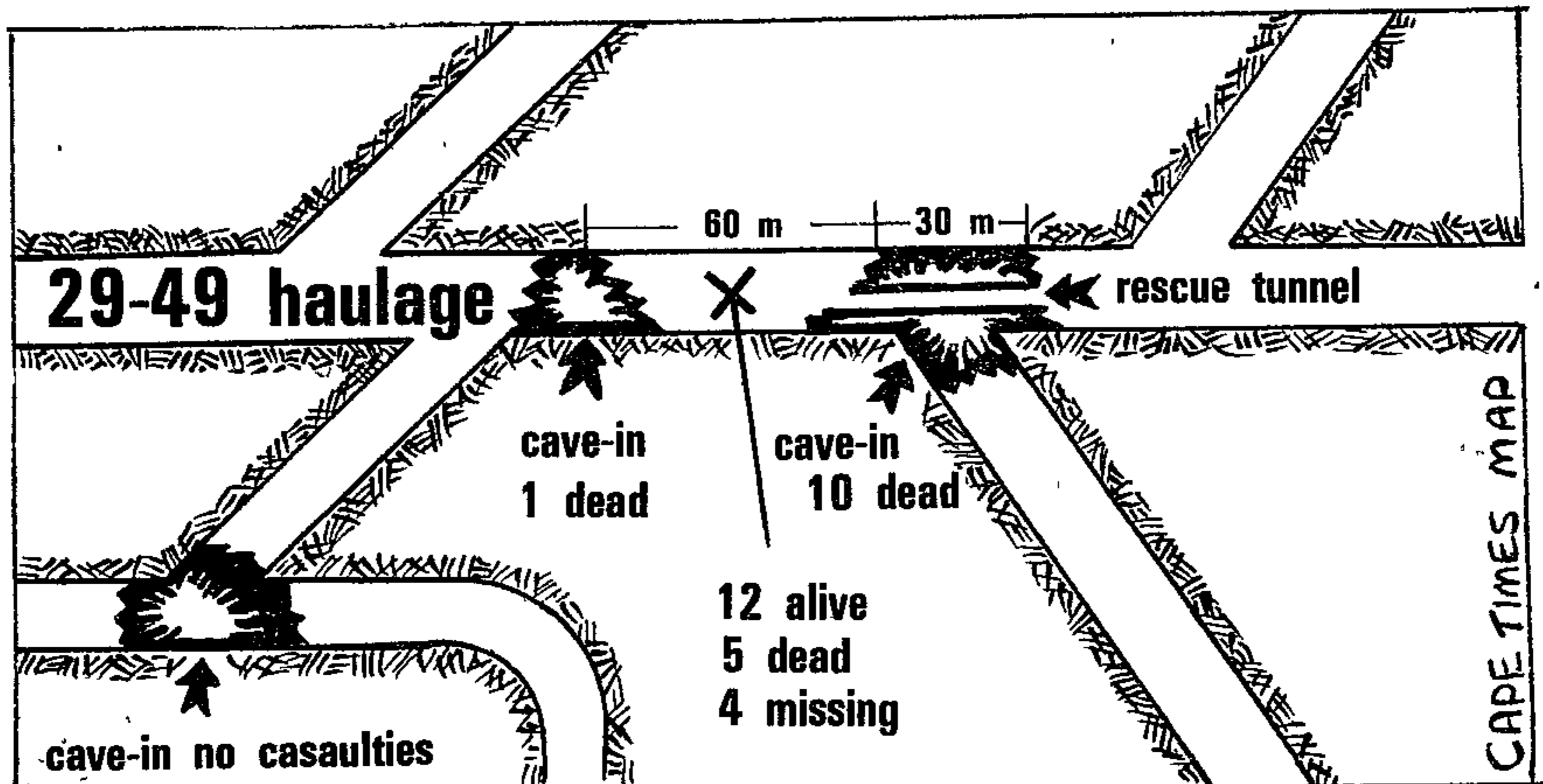
At this stage there is no indication of where the other missing miners are. Rescue workers yesterday brought to the surface the body of one miner who died in the rockfall.

He was Mr Ben Sal, 40, a shiftboss, and a former Springbok boxer who fought for South Africa in the Olympics in 1960.

His body was the first to be found. By last night rescue workers reached three other bodies, buried beneath tonnes of rock.

Cape Times 29/4/78 212

12 miners rescued from death



A Cape Times map of the Buffelsfontein mine disaster area shows the rescue tunnel which was completed yesterday and through which 12 miners were rescued. Most of the bodies found were trapped in the main landslide on the right and were by-passed in the desperate struggle to get to the living miners in the area marked "X". This area was initially thought to be intact but probe teams have found it filled with rock and debris which is hampering the search for the four miners still missing. A second rescue tunnel which was started to angle in at the present one from the other face of the cave-in was abandoned when rescuers failed to get beyond two metres into the fallen rock after almost 20 hours of tunneling operations.

29/4/18 R.D.M (212)

12 rescued mine mira cle

By BRIAN O'FLAHERTY and CHARLIE MOGALE

TWELVE miners were rescued yesterday after a 51-hour ordeal buried 2,5 km underground in the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Stilfontein.

Another four miners were still missing underground last night. Rescue operations to find them continued but a mine spokesman said: "There is very little hope for them."

The death toll at the mine rose to 16 yesterday as rescue workers discovered the bodies of seven black miners.

The first miner to be carried from the cage which brought him to the surface from the death-trap, Mr Mpili Ceza, said: "I didn't believe I could get out . . ."

"I am glad I did. . . I saw nine of my colleagues crushed to death"

Rescue workers first reached the men about 1 pm. They had tunnelled 60 m through fallen rock in dangerous conditions in the 29 haulage east in the southern shaft at the mine.

They opened a hole slightly bigger than a man's fist and passed water and high protein drinks to them. Until then the trapped men had been drinking drain water running through the haulage.

The hole was enlarged and about 2 pm the first six miners crawled along the tunnel to safety.

Doctors were on the spot to treat them and they were taken to the Duff-Scott Memorial Hospital.

A mine spokesman said: "The first six men to get out are in very good shape and have only minor injuries. Some of the others have broken limbs but nothing too serious."

Mr Casswell Fuma, 20, from the Eastern Cape, said: "It was very bad, I don't know what happened but I am not going back to the mine. I am going home."

"My waist was sandwich-

ed between rocks and pipes

"There was no food I was hungry

"The pipes were pressing on me all the time but now I feel all right," he said as he was lifted into an ambulance.

Mr Ceza, 18, from the Ciskei, described what happened in the haulage after an earth tremor rippled through the area causing the deadly rockfalls.

"I heard a loud bang and something hit me hard on the head. Rocks and rubble were falling from all sides.

"I tried to run out but the path in front of me was blocked. I turned around and saw that rock had collapsed on the other side trapping us.

"More rocks hit me.

"I don't know what happened after that.

"It was terrible down there but I am going back to the mine when I am well," he said.

Mr Moabi Masilo, from Botswana said: "I don't want to work in a mine again. I just want to go home."

Earlier yesterday a diminutive shift boss at the mine, Mr Willie Pretorius crawled up an air column in an attempt to reach the trapped men.

in cle

Trapped miners' 50-hour ordeal ends

29/4/78 (212) Star

'We won't go down again'

Robert Kennaugh
STILFONTEIN — Some of the black mineworkers rescued late yesterday after being trapped underground at Buffelsfontein gold mine for about 50 hours, swore never to go below the surface again.

Rescuers, who had worked round the clock since Wednesday morning, burrowed through 60 m of fallen rock and mining debris to reach the mineworkers who had been without food and fresh water.

Rockfalls in three places in 29 east haulage 2 500 m underground were caused by a severe earth tremor that rocked Stilfontein.

At midday yesterday the hopes of the entombed men were raised when rescuers made a small opening in the west-

tern rockfall in the haulage. Food, water, cigarettes and high protein liquid food were passed to the starving men.

About 2½ hours later the first two exhausted survivors were brought to the surface, carried on stretchers and wrapped in blankets. They had mine-dust on their faces and were sedated.

Throughout the afternoon men were carried from the shaft-head to waiting ambulances which took them to a mine hospital. At least three have leg or arm fractures.

Miner Giza (18) from Transkei said from his stretcher "I have nothing that hurts. I am very hungry. I want to go underground on Monday."

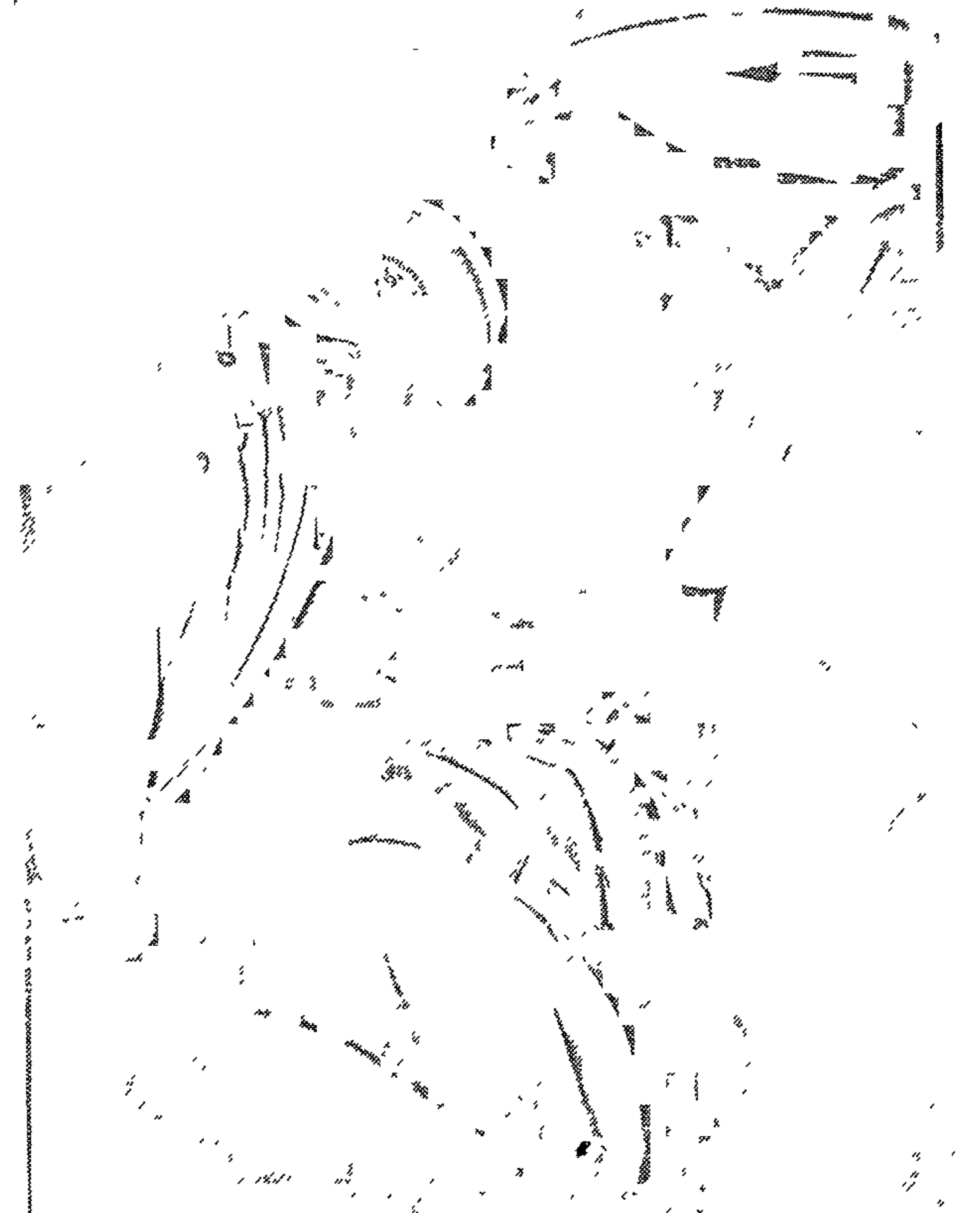
But not all of the men felt that way. Two of the

survivors that The Star spoke to said it was 'very bad' below and they would not go underground again.

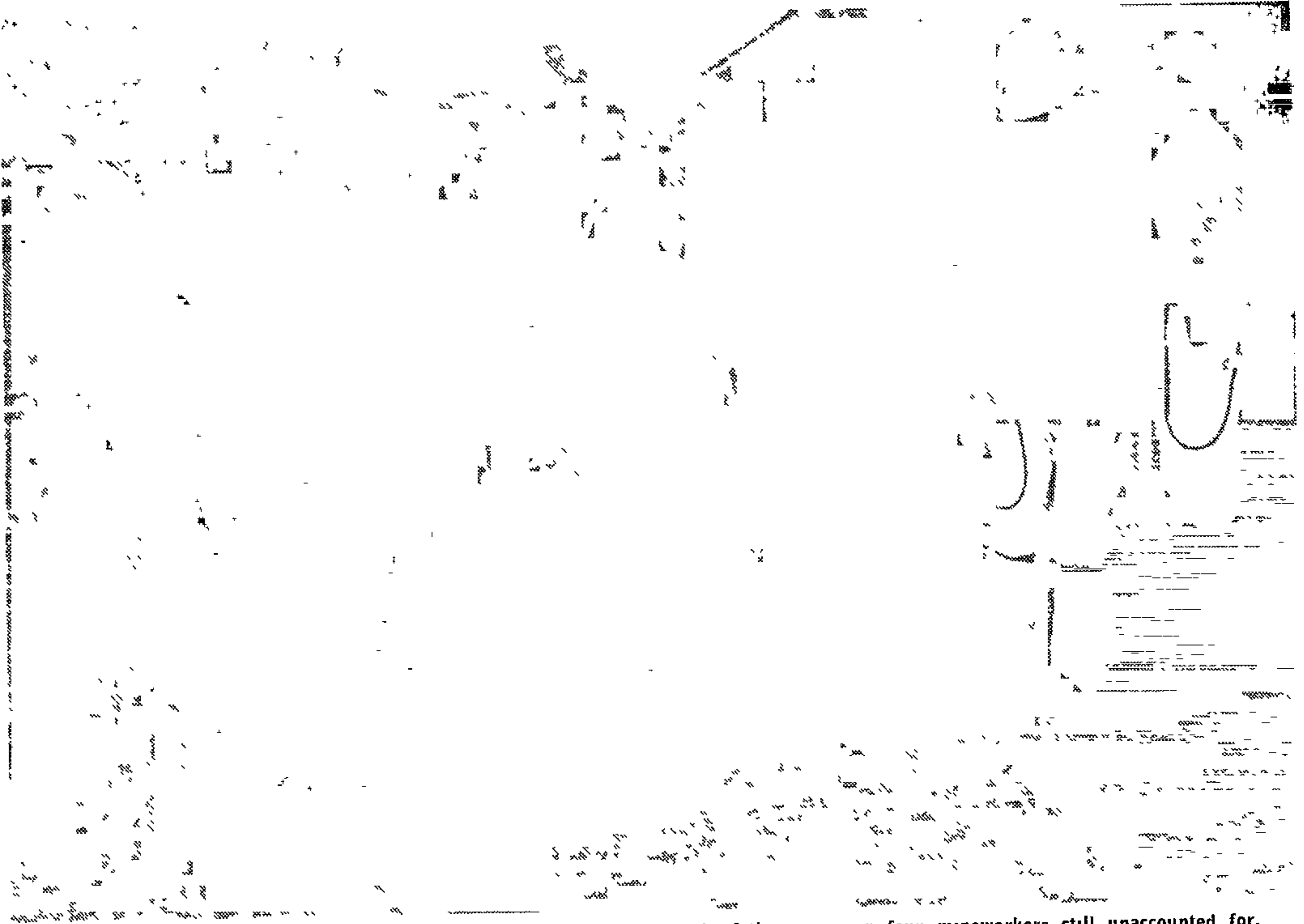
Mr I Bell, a senior mine official, last night described how white and black rescuers boled through 60 m of the 100 m of fallen rock that had sealed both ends of the haulage.

"They worked mostly one man at a time to break through large rocks, push past smaller ones and make areas safe. Trapped team leaders used their heads and instructed their men not to leave more than one helmet light burning at a time. They were never in total darkness."

Desperately thirsty, some of the men drank mine drainwater.



A rescued mineworker sees the light of day for the first time in more than 50 hours.



Rescue workers waiting at the shaft-head to go underground in search of the remaining four mineworkers still unaccounted for.

Never again—rescued miners

Weekend Argus Correspondent

STILFRONTEIN.—Some of the black mine-workers rescued late yesterday after being trapped underground at Buffelstontein gold mine here, for about 50 hours, swore never to go below the surface again.

Rescuers, who had worked round the clock since Wednesday morning, tunnelled through 60 m of fallen rock and debris to reach the miners, who had been without food and fresh water. Rockfalls in three places 2 500 m underground were caused by a severe earth tremor.

At noon yesterday the hopes of the entombed men were raised when rescuers made a small opening. Food, water, cigarettes and high-protein liquid were passed by hand to the men. About 21 hours later the first two exhausted survi-

vors were brought to the surface, carried on stretchers and wrapped in blankets.

Throughout the afternoon men were carried from the shaft, head to ambulances, which took them to a hospital. At least three have leg or arm fractures.

Mini Giza, 18, from Transkei, said on his stretcher: 'I've nothing that hurts. I'm very hungry. I want to go underground on Monday.'

But not all the men felt that way. Two said it was 'very bad' below and they would not go underground again.

Mr I Bell, acting-mine manager, said five whites and 10 blacks died. Twelve blacks had been rescued and five were missing.

He told how rescuers bored through 60 m of the 100 m of fallen rock that sealed both ends of the haulage.

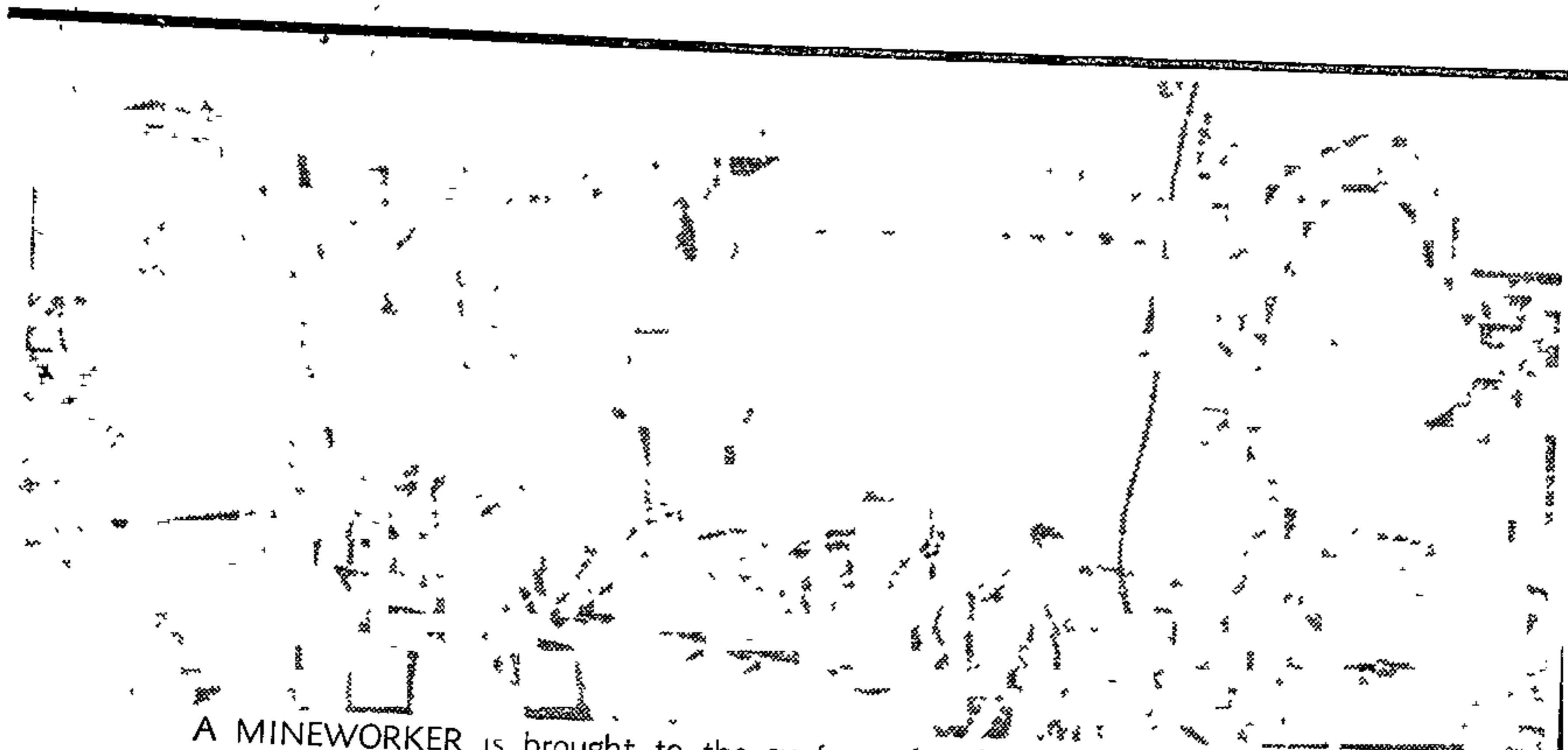
'They worked mostly one man at a time to break through large rocks, push past smaller ones and make

areas safe,' he said. 'Trapped team leaders instructed their men, not to have more than one helmet light burning at a time; they were never in total darkness. Desperately thirsty, some of the mineworkers drank mine drainwater.'

Mr Bell said six of the survivors crawled through the narrow tunnel unaided. The others were helped.

Ten survivors have been identified as: Mr Thobille Mqhayisa, 19, of Ciskei, Mr Sootho Mojapela, 32, of Lesotho, Mr Mini Ceza, 18, of Transkei, Mr Abel Giza-ba, 20, of Ciskei, Mr Nimzana Dyosi, 37, of Transkei, Mr Caswell Fuma, 19 of Transkei, Mr Moabi Masilo, 26, of Botswana, Mr Tatana Sigamanda, 44, of Transkei, Mr Malefetsane Mosele, 27, of Lesotho, and Mr Ntsoele Makaka, of Lesotho.

None is believed to be in a serious condition. The body of another black miner was found last night, leaving four unaccounted for. No real hope is held for their survival.



A MINEWORKER is brought to the surface after being trapped for two days.

Cape Times 29/4/78 (212)

'Very little hope' for 4 still trapped in disaster mine

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Twelve miners were rescued yesterday after a 51-hour ordeal buried 2,5 km underground in the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Stilfontein.

Four men died on the first day of the disaster, five bodies were recovered on Thursday and yesterday the bodies of seven more black mineworkers were found, bringing the death toll to 16.

Another four miners were still missing underground last night. Rescue operations to find them continued unabated but a mine spokesman said: "There is very little hope for them."

The death toll at the mine rose to 16 yesterday as rescue workers discovered the bodies of seven black miners.

The first miner to be carried from the cage which brought him to the surface from the deathtrap, Mr Mpih Ceza, said: "I didn't believe I could get out . . . I am glad I did . . . I saw nine of my colleagues crushed to death."

Rescue workers first reached the men about 1pm. They tunneled 60 metres through fallen rock in dangerous conditions in the 29 haulage east in the southern shaft at the mine.

They opened a hole slightly bigger than a man's fist into the area where the men were trapped and passed water and high protein drinks to them. Until then the trapped men had been drinking drain water running through the haulage.

The trapped men saw the lights of the rescue team as they inched their way towards them. The rescue team enlarged the hole and about 2pm the first six of the trapped men crawled along the tunnel to safety. Doctors were on the spot to treat them and they were taken to the surface on stretchers.

Rescue workers had to go into the area where the men were trapped and haul the other six men out and along the tunnel on stretchers. All the men were taken to the Duff-Scott Memorial Hospital on the mine.

212 29/4/78

12 freed in mine ordeal

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —
Twelve miners were yesterday rescued after a 51-hour ordeal buried 2,5km underground in the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Stlfontein

Another four miners were still missing underground last night

Rescue operations to find them continued unabated but a mine spokesman said. "There is very little hope for them"

The death roll at the mine rose to 16 yesterday as rescue workers discovered the bodies of seven Black miners.

The first miner to be carried from the cage which brought him to the surface from the deathtrap, Mr. Mpili Ceza, said "I didn't believe I could get out . . . I am glad I did . . . I saw nine of my colleagues crushed to death"

Rescue workers first reached the men about 1 p.m. They had tunnelled 60 metres through fallen rock.

They opened a hole slightly bigger than a man's fist into the area where the men were trapped and passed water and high-protein drinks to them.

Until then the trapped men had been drinking drain water running through the haulage

The trapped men had seen the lights of the rescue team as they inched their way towards them

Sixty hours of prayer saved

SUN. TIMES 30/4/78 212

By RENNIE BOTHA

us, says mine survivor

SIXTY HOURS OF prayer saved the lives of the 12 black miners trapped 2,5 km underground in Buffelsfontein Gold mine, according to Mr Piet Moabi, leader of the 12

By late yesterday it was clear the death toll would climb to 20 as the last glimmer of hope faded for the four black miners still missing. Officials said it would take a miracle to save them.

Speaking for the first time since the disaster, Mr Moabi told me from his hospital bed of the horrifying ordeal the 12 men experienced in the c

mine shaft

"Only the sound of rescuers' voices inspired us to keep praying," he said.

"On Wednesday, while working underground, there was a crash and we were pounded with rocks from all directions.

"We scattered and took shelter under the loco (the underground tram used for removing ore). I thought it was the end and that death had come.

"All that went through my mind was the thought of my parents. During the whole ordeal hardly a word

was spoken, all that could be heard was the continuous whisper of prayers until we were finally rescued.

"We knew we would be found, as once or twice a day we could hear voices in the distance and I kept reassuring my men that someone would find us."

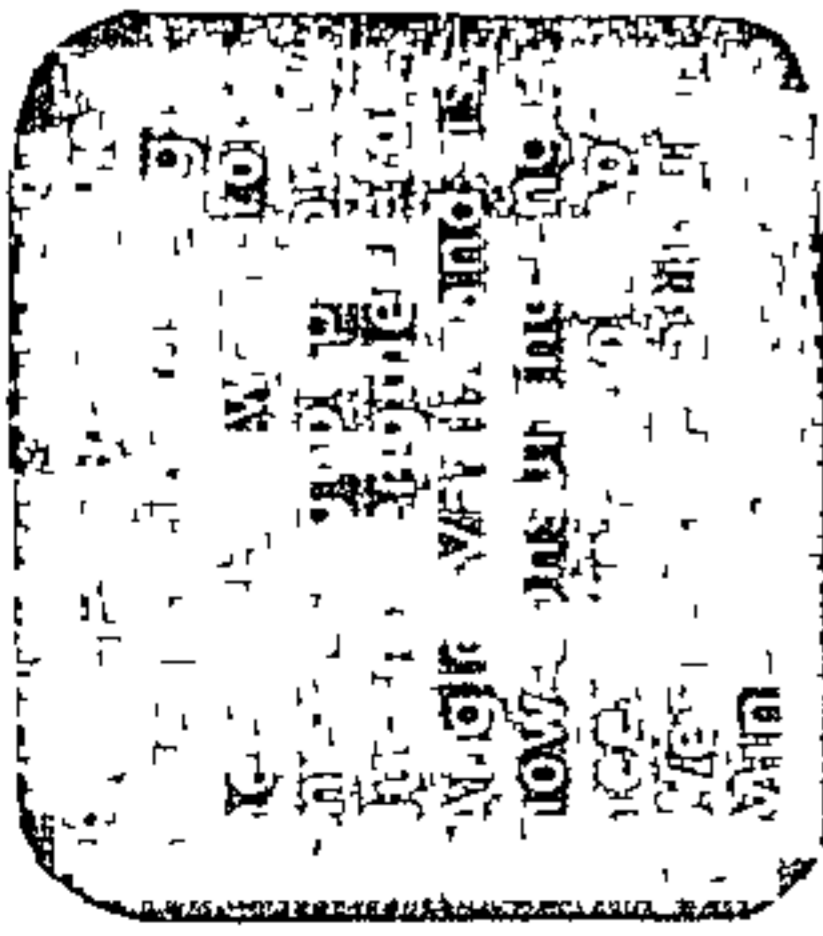
Mr Joseph Notsolle, 34, the most seriously injured survivor, who suffered a crushed left leg and chest injuries, said "I will go underground again. I don't believe my day is up yet."

"I felt the rocks crashing down on me and thought I

was dead. But later, I realised I was still alive and felt the pain in my leg. The four men who were not injured struggled for more than an hour to uncover me.

"My left leg was crushed and bleeding. All I could do was lie as still as possible, as the pain was almost unbearable. I prayed and thought of my wife and children."

A spokesman for the Duff Scott Mine Hospital said he was amazed at the general condition of the men after their ordeal. All were in a satisfactory condition.



Rockbursts the obstacle to mechanisation

See Times (Bus Times) 30/4/78 @ 212

MUCH emphasis has been placed on increased mechanisation in underground mining to increase productivity and to achieve the maximum output for the industry.

In the deep, hard-rock conditions of the South African gold mines profitable mechanisation will not be possible until there is an understanding of the cause of uncontrolled rockbursts, and a willingness to apply principles firmly established elsewhere in the control of rock stresses at the stope face.

The basic equipment required for mechanisation of stoping operations is similar to that used in collieries. It consists of a cutter or breaker and loader, a face conveyor combined with self-advancing face supports and a trunk conveyor to take the broken ore to the conventional ore haulage system.

In the past decade some progress has been made in the design and testing of

new equipment to meet the requirements of the higher stresses and harder and more abrasive rock of the gold mines. But because of the risk of exposing the high capital investment in such equipment (in the order of R10 000 per metre) to loss by rockburst, full operational use cannot be justified.

Exceeds

A rockburst is the release of stored energy after the fracturing of rock, which has failed under stress. As underground mining operations expand, the area of rock supporting the total load is reduced and the unit stress on the remaining rock is increased. When the unit stress exceeds the unit strength around the periphery of the excavation, rockbursts occur.

They invariably occur when blasting takes place and it is the resulting fractures that make mechanised mining a possibility. The

amount of fracturing is proportional to the newly blasted area, and it occurs simultaneously with the blasting, when no people or equipment are in the danger area.

Uncontrolled rockbursts, frequently catastrophic, occur at other times when, although the unit load is constant, the strength of the rock in the periphery of the stope is reduced. The fracturing and release of energy from such a rockburst could be 1 00 to 100 000 times greater than that caused by blasting.

Rockbursts of this kind can close up hundreds of metres of stope face, trapping men and equipment. More than 40 miners have been killed by rockbursts in the first quarter of this year, and it is not generally realised that the incidence of this type of mining disaster is increasing.

Fall-of-ground fatalities, predominantly due to rockbursts, remained constant at about 0,75 per 1 000 peo-

ple employed in the mines for about 40 years. But in the last two decades, fatalities increased from around 80 a year to more than 100. Last year, the rate was 1,4 persons killed for each thousand employed.

Implicit in the concept of mechanisation of stoping operations is the understanding that it will not be feasible until rockbursts can be controlled. A rockburst in a mechanised stope would mean not only the loss of hundreds of thousands of rands worth of equipment, but the loss of access to the work face because of the blockage of twisted steelwork and rock.

A single rockburst in a mechanised stope could easily mean a financial loss equal to the total compensation currently being paid yearly for all rockburst fatalities.

However, uncontrolled rockbursts are not inevitable. The explanation of rockbursts given briefly above has general acceptance

among mining engineers the world over. For reasons not known to me, it is not accepted, or at least not effectively acted upon, in South Africa.

Conditions in South African gold mines differ from those elsewhere in that the workings are generally deeper, the rock is stronger, virgin stresses are higher and the rock harder. But these conditions do not make the prevention of uncontrolled rockbursts impossible. They do require that the principles adopted in shallower mines be accepted, and equipment and methods modified to match the more strenuous conditions.

Mechanisation

The prerequisite of successful mechanisation in stopes is that the stresses on the rock face be controlled at a predetermined level. It is the high virgin stress level that makes possible

the mechanical (non-explosive) breaking of the hard rocks of our gold mines. To make mechanisation possible, the stress on the rock face must be controlled at a level fractionally below the rock strength so that the added stress induced by the breaking fractures the rock.

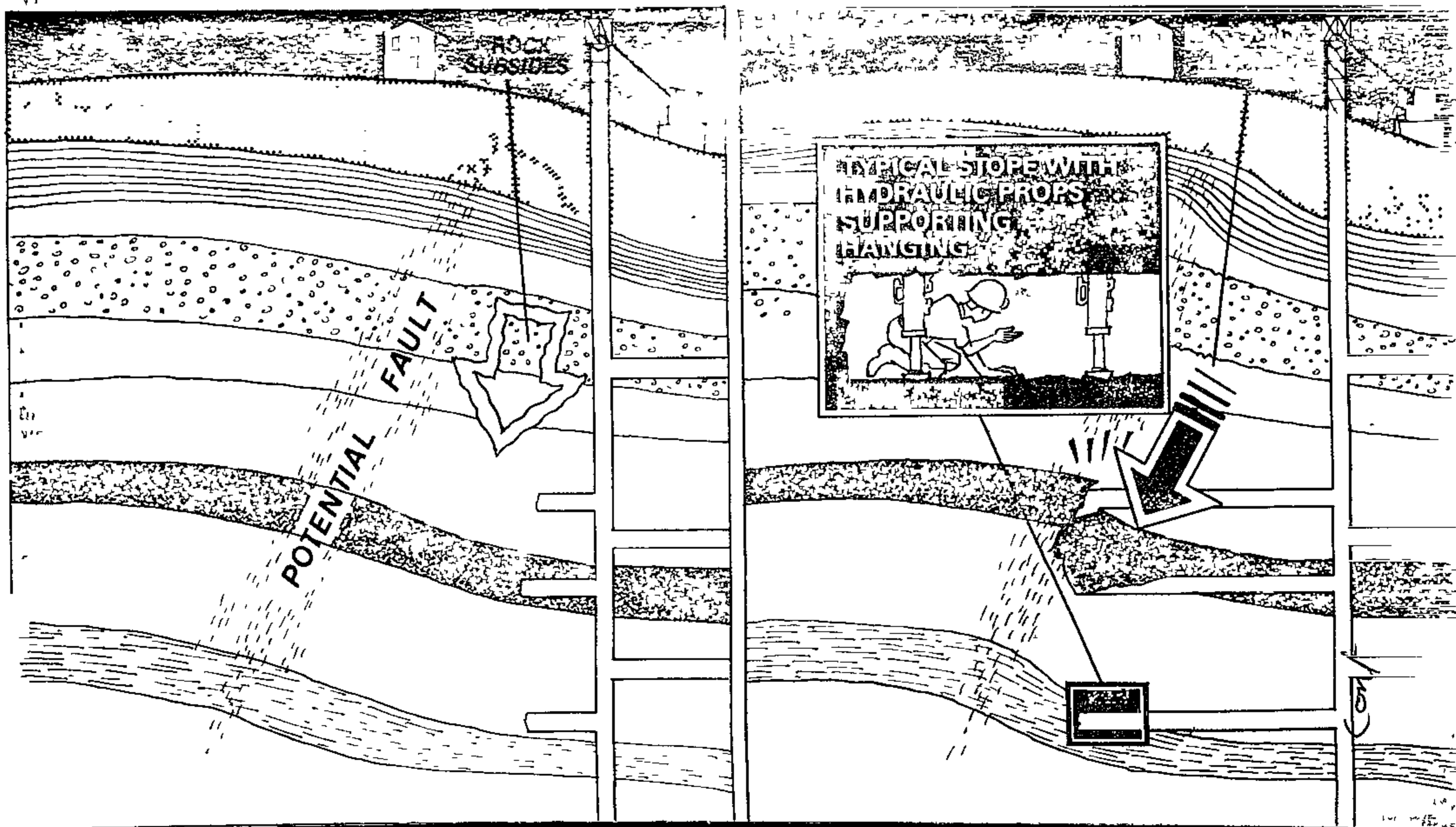
The factors that determine the stress at the rock face, other than geologic ones, are the configuration of the stope face and the measures adopted to control the stresses in, and the movement of, the fractured rock in the hanging and foot walls of the stope.

Proper design and implementation of these measures will enable the stresses in the rock face, both virgin and induced, to be harnessed to work for, not against, the safe and profitable exploitation of the ore body.

Given this approach economic mechanisation of stoping operations is possible.

RDM 1/5778.17

How mining causes a rockburst

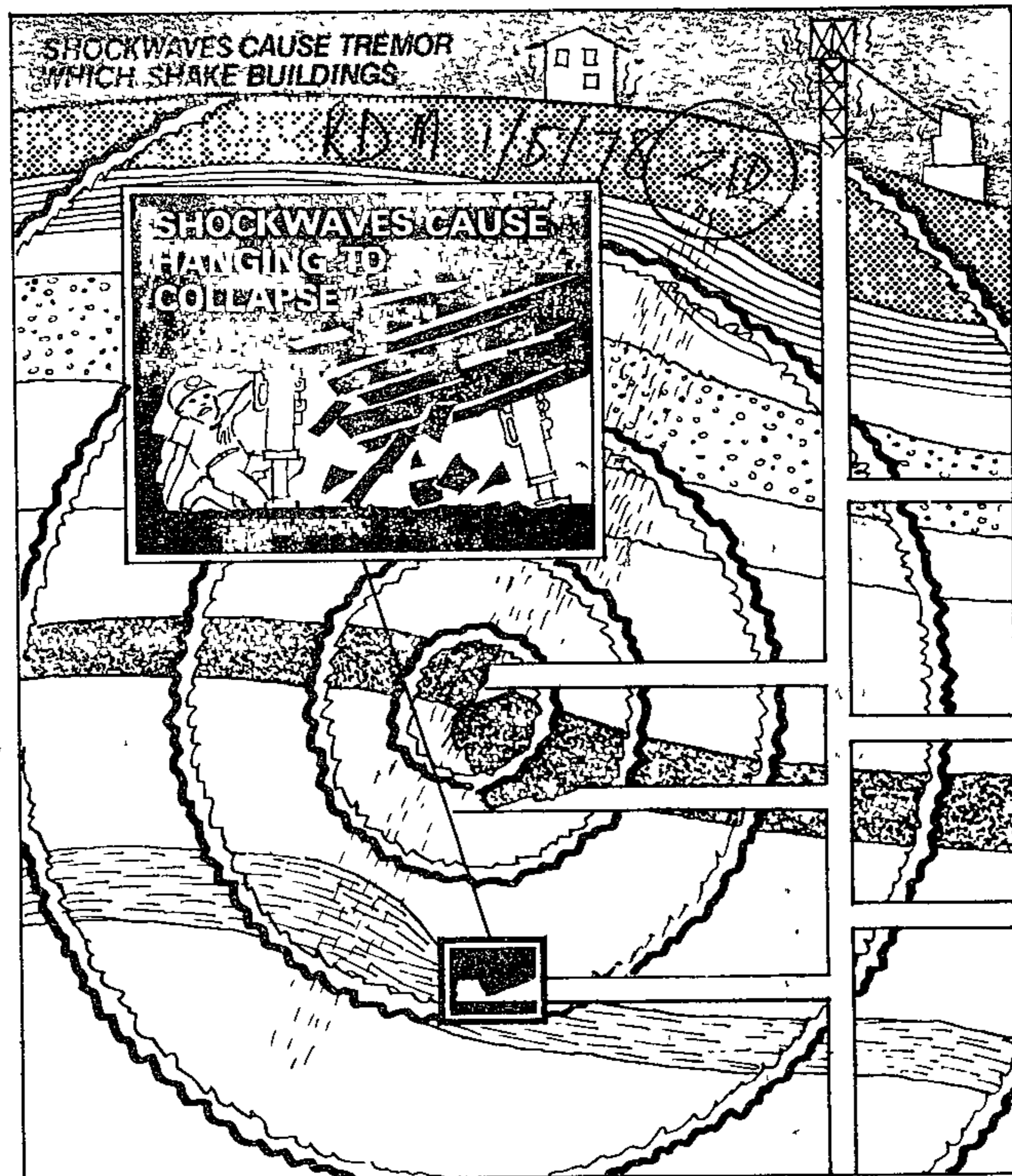


RDM 1/5/78 (212)

Above: Mining activity approaches a weakness in the rock (a potential fault) causing rock strata to subside.

Above right: As mining activity approaches, resistance in the weak area is overcome, causing a sudden slip.

Right: Shock waves generated at the point of the slip damage the mine workings.



ROCKBURST! Of all the hazards in gold mining, this is probably the most feared of all, arising as it does from the seemingly uncontrollable forces of nature, occurring suddenly and without warning and unleashing a destructive power which can render useless the protective works of man.

To the dwellers of mining cities a rockburst is an occasional unexpected tremor, a momentary fright. To a miner on the surface it means a missed heartbeat and an anxious thought for friends underground.

But for the miner below a nearby burst is a mixture of noise, violent movement, flying and falling rock and the squashing of roof supports.

For trapped miners, like those caught two km below in the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine at Stilfontein last week, a burst may mean injury or death.

What causes the rock to burst?

We know that at a depth of 2,5 km the rock surrounding any mining excavation is fractured, but this fracturing comes about, almost always, without violence and mining men the world over have learnt to support the rock which fractures gradually.

The difficult problem is to provide protection against unpredictable and violent events.

Mining results in the creation of cavities in the ground. As the cavities are made, the stresses in the rock inevitably change and the rock surrounding the cavities deforms.

If a fault exists in the vicinity of a mining excavation, it is conceivable that the rocks on the two sides of the fault would be subjected to deforma-

tion similar to that which would occur prior to an earthquake.

Just as many earthquakes are the result of a sudden slip along a fault plane, so a slip which mining men would call a rockburst, could result when mining starts a critical state along a fault plane.

Rockbursts, again like earthquakes, generate waves or vibrations in the rock. The wave front travels at a speed of about 6 km a second, so that soon after the slip occurs at the fault, the vibrations reach the mining excavations.

The size of the vibrations affecting the mining excavations differ greatly. They depend on the amount of energy involved and the distance from the centre of the original slip.

In more serious cases the vibrations may cause pieces of the fractured rock to dislodge and mine supports to disintegrate, allowing the mined out cavity to fill with rubble.

The severity of the destruction can be controlled to a degree by the quality of support used to secure the hanging wall. Hydraulic props have so far proved to be the most effective stope support because they are installed under pressure.

The unexpectedness of rockbursts however arises from the difficulty of detecting in advance the presence of faults and accurately predicting the onset of slip between two rough surfaces.

This is where further research is still necessary. In spite of tremendous progress, the rockburst hazard has not yet been eliminated. — From the Chamber of Mines April report.

Miners' grave is 2 km deep

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Eighteen of the 20 miners killed in the Buffelsfontein mine disaster at Stiffontein last week are to be entombed more than 2 km underground.

Senior mine officials made a perilous inspection trip of the accident site yesterday. The party, which included Mr. Ian Bell, the acting mine manager, Mr. Gert Jacobs, assistant manager and Mr. Kobus Olivier, section manager, decided it would be foolish to risk more lives trying to

recover the bodies.

They reported dangerous underground conditions with much loose rock and the rescue tunnel hanging in danger of collapse.

Fourteen bodies, including those of three White miners, have been identified. Four are still missing, buried without doubt under tons of rock, according to a mine statement.

Mr. Louis Grobler, general manager of the mine, said yesterday the bodies were entangled in pipes and rocks.

Funeral arrangements de-

pend on the next of kin. "If relatives would like an interdenominational service anywhere we'll fall in with their wishes," he said.

Approaches to the area where the bodies are trapped will be sealed off with concrete.

This is a long, dangerous job because of the loose rock and because the area must be approached from different directions. It will probably take two days, Mr. Grobler said.

The names of the 15 dead Black miners are being withheld until their next of kin have been traced by the

Chamber of Mines' recruiting organisation.

The three Whites buried in the mine are Mr. Tommy Ryan, a mine overseer and father of three, Mr. Schalk van der Merwe, a mine overseer with two children, and Mr. Flip Olivier, a shift boss and father of two.

The body of Mr. Ben Snaal, a shift boss, was brought to the surface last week. Mr. Nicko Meyer, a boilermaker died in hospital.

Twenty one miners, including the 12 rescued dramatically on Friday, are still in the Duff Scott mine hospital. They are all out of

danger, a hospital spokesman said.

Eight have fractures, one has a crushed leg and another had an operation last night because fallen rock cut off the circulation in his leg.

Mine officials have not yet decided on awards for the rescue teams who brought the injured to the surface.

So many people were involved that it would be easy to make recommendations that overlooked others equally deserving, Mr. Grobler said.

X 2 The Cape Times, Monday, May 1, 1978 Y

18 bodies will be entombed in mine

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JOHANNESBURG. — EIGHTEEN of the 20 miners killed in the Buffelsfontein mine disaster at Stilfontein last week are to be entombed more than two kilometres underground. Senior mine officials made a perilous inspection trip of the accident site yesterday. The party, which included Mr Fan Bell, the acting mine manager, Mr Gert Jacobs, assistant manager, and Mr Kobus Olivier, section manager, decided it would be foolish to risk more lives by trying to recover the bodies. Mr Louis Grobler, general manager of the mine, said yesterday the bodies were inextricably entangled in pipes and rocks. Approaches to the area will be sealed with concrete. Funeral arrangements

depend on the next-of-kin. The names of the 15 dead black miners are being withheld until their next of kin have been traced by the Chamber of Mines recruiting organization.

The three whites buried in the mine are Mr Tommy Ryan, a mine overseer and father of three, Mr Schalk van der Merwe, a mine overseer with two children, and Mr Fhlp Olivier, a shift boss and father of two.

The body of Mr Ben Snaal, a shift boss, was brought to the surface last week. Mr Nicko Meyer, a boilermaker, died in hospital.

Twenty-one miners including the 12 rescued on Friday are still in the Duff Scott mine hospital. They are all out of danger, a hospital spokesman said.

Dead ^{11/5/78} to be ^{R.D.M.} sealed ⁽²¹²⁾ in mine

By GRAHAM BROWN
EIGHTEEN of the 20 miners killed in the Buffelsfontein gold mine disaster at Stilfontein last week will stay entombed more than two kilometres underground.

Senior mine officials made a perilous trip to the accident site yesterday.

The party, which included Mr Ian Bell, acting mine manager, Mr Gert Jacobs, assistant manager, and Mr Kobus Olivier, section manager, decided it would be foolish to risk more lives by trying to recover the bodies.

They reported dangerous underground conditions.

Fourteen bodies, including those of three white miners, have been identified. Four men are still missing, buried without doubt under tons of rock, according to a statement.

Mr Louis Grobler, general manager of the mine, said yesterday the bodies were entangled in pipes and rocks.

"Funeral arrangements depend on the next of kin. If relatives would like an interdenominational service anywhere, we'll fall in with their wishes."

Approaches to the disaster area will be sealed off with concrete.

"This is a long, dangerous job because of the loose rock and because the area must be approached from different directions. It will probably take two days," Mr Grobler said.

The names of the 15 dead black miners are being withheld until their next-of-kin have been traced by Teba, the Chamber of Mines recruiting organisation.

The three whites are Mr Tommy Ryan, father of three, Mr Schalk van der Merwe, who has two children, both overseas and Flip Olivier, a shift boss and father of two.

AR 643 4/5/78

Thousands mourn ⁽²¹²⁾ for miners

STILFONTEIN. — More than 3 000 people of all races attended the shaft-head funeral of 20 miners, 15 blacks and five whites, who died in last week's seismic accident at the Buffelsfontein gold mine near here.

The bodies of 18 of the men were left buried at number 28 level, two kilometres underground, because it was too dangerous to try to bring them to the surface.

Twelve black miners were rescued after being entombed for more than three days. — Sapa.

Funeral ban on black priest

212
278
Sweet Times 7/5/78

By JILL McILRAITH

AFRIKAANS churchmen forced the exclusion of a Roman Catholic priest from last week's memorial service for 18 of the miners killed in the recent Buffelsfontein mine disaster

The mine withdrew its invitation to a black Catholic priest to take part after objections from the Hervormde and NG churches at Stilfontein

If the Catholic had been included, the Afrikaans churchmen would have withdrawn because of "doctrinal differences", a spokesman for the mine said

Five of the black miners were Roman Catholics — the largest single denomination among the 15 black and three white men killed

The minister of each of the white victims took part in the service — one each from the Hervormde, the NG and the Methodist churches. A black non-denominational evangelist, the Rev Daniel Marokane, said a prayer for the dead black miners

The Catholic priest at Stilfontein, Father Ligtvoet, said he had been "surprised and very disappointed". He had sent a letter of protest to the local newspaper and was also sending one to the mine management.

Objections

Mr Ligtvoet said he had been approached by mine officials on Tuesday morning, asking him whether a black Catholic priest would be prepared to take part in the service, to be held on Wednesday afternoon at the mine's southern shaft

"I agreed, of course, as five of the dead men were Catholics, and I phoned Father Monyai in Potchefstroom to ask him if he would take part

"He said he would be there, but then the mine management told me that, because of objections from the Hervormde and NG ministers, it would be better if no Catholic priest participated

"We were very disappointed."

Mr Ligtvoet said he attended the memorial service as a spectator.

"My impression was that the blacks were not considered as important as the whites. Each of the three white ministers present said prayers on behalf of his

own parishioner, but for the blacks it seemed good enough for an evangelist to say a prayer in Fanagalo

"There was not even a mention of the churches they belonged to or their names or where they came from. There was no prayer in their own language as a token of respect

"These people worked and died together and they share a common grave."

A mine spokesman said that the last two weeks had been "terrible" on the mine and every attempt had been made to organise a service acceptable to all.

He said that "various difficulties" had arisen and the mine management had decided to ask a non-denominational black minister to take part on behalf of the blacks killed

"We mean no offence to anybody and feel that the mine did its best to organise a wonderful service — which was attended by more than 2 000 blacks"

Dominee Bennie van As, of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk in Stilfontein, said it was not just a case of doctrinal differences

If the priest had taken part then ministers representing all the other denominations of the black victims would have had to be given the opportunity to participate. The service might have become unwieldy and lost its character

But Mr Van As said that his second objection had been on doctrinal grounds. There were dogma differences between the churches

Supplery Times
14/5/78 212

NGK men criticise disaster service ban on RC

By FLEUR DE
VILLIERS

LEADING NG churchmen and academics have spoken out strongly against the action of fellow Afrikaans churchmen who recently excluded a Roman Catholic priest from the memorial service for the 18 miners who died in the Buffelsfontein mine disaster

Professor Bernard Lategan, professor of Biblical studies at the University of Stellenbosch, and a fellow NG Church member, Professor A D Mueller, professor of industrial psychology at the University of the Western Cape, said this week that they had learnt "with dismay" of the incident

The Roman Catholic priest had been excluded from the memorial service because of objections "on doctrinal grounds" from NG and Hervormde ministers at Stilfontein

Common fate

"In those tense hours after the accident," Professors Lategan and Mueller said, "nobody inquired about the church affiliation of the brave rescuers before they were sent down. Neither was it a factor in deciding which survivors should be rescued first

"The victims shared a common fate and, as the Roman Catholic Church was the largest single denomination among the 18 men killed, it goes without saying that it should have participated in the joint memorial service"

Professor Lategan said "There is a time and a place where these differences can and should be discussed

"We are dismayed at the lack of sensitivity which prevented the ministers from realising that a joint memorial service is neither the time nor the place"

The mine withdrew its invitation to a black Catholic priest to take part in the service because of objections from the white Afrikaans ministers

Instead, a black non denominational evangelist, the Rev Daniel Marokane, said a prayer for the black miners

RAM
Miner dies

A BLACK miner died when struck by a falling rock in the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine on Tuesday, General Mining reported yesterday.

The dead man's name was being withheld until his next-of-kin had been informed. — Sapa

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'Supreme sacrifice' miners honoured

2/9/78
AS-
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WELKOM — Three black miners, killed in an accident at the Free State Geduld gold mine here in March, were yesterday posthumously awarded the Chamber of Mines Award for Outstanding Bravery.

The awards were made by the president of the Chamber of Mines, Mr P A Von Wielligh, to the men's widows.

Mr Khauhelo Makoa, Mr Mfiki Mngwazana, and Mr Mbuezeli Nongwe died after going to the aid of a white miner, Mr J Claasen who had been trapped in a rockfall on March 6.

Mr Makoa, a team leader, who went immediately to Mr Claasen's aid, was him-

self trapped by a fall of rock. Mr Mngwazana and Mr Nongwe tried to help the two trapped men but were killed in yet another rockfall

Mr Makoa and Mr Claasen were brought to the surface but the black miner died later of his injuries and Mr Claasen recovered

The three men are among a select band of 70 miners who have gained the award in the past 60 years.

"They went knowingly into conditions of extreme danger to rescue fellow workers and made the supreme sacrifice in the highest tradition of mining," Mr Von Wielligh said. — Sapa.

RDM 9/14/78

Gold mine fire under control

A FIRE on the 38-level of Westonaria gold mine has been contained, a spokesman for Johannesburg Consolidated Investments said yesterday

Full production will be resumed today but yesterday's output fell by 25%. The fire was located in the area of the north shaft on Tuesday evening. — Sapa

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RDM 2/12/78 (212)

Mine fire

Staff Reporter

MINERS were forced to scramble for safety after a fire broke out in an underground shaft at the Vaal Reefs gold mine in Orkney late yesterday afternoon

A mine spokesman said nobody was seriously injured. Several miners were treated for smoke inhalation and later released. Production was halted briefly.

(212) 2/11/78
Miners trapped by fire 2/12/78

JOHANNESBURG — Proto teams were making a desperate bid last night to reach several miners trapped more than 2 km underground by a fire at the Vaal Reef goldmine near Orkney.

The fire broke out in the number 8 shaft on the 73rd level late yesterday afternoon, forcing miners to scramble as the blaze roared through the stope.

Several hours after the blaze broke out, mine officials became aware people were trapped underground.

A mine spokesman said close to 100 mineworkers were taken to hospital after being overcome by fumes and smoke. — DDC

or African Studies,

Saldru is affil

ARDP -- Accelerated Rural Development Programme
 TGLP -- Tribal Grazing Land Programme

Glossary

Foundation, India for its generosity in seconding Dr. Reynolds to Saldru for three months, June - August, 1977. We are grateful too, to the Harry Oppenheimer Institute for African Studies at the University of Cape Town for a grant enabling Dr. Reynolds to travel through Southern Africa in order to undertake the research on which this paper is based.

Blaze traps miners 2 km down

Star

2/12/78

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By Kevin Murray

About 41 miners are trapped more than 2 km underground by a fire at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine, near Orkney

Although proto teams have the fire under control they are being hampered by flames and rock falls in the mine's Number Eight shaft

More than 220 miners were treated at Westvaal Hospital yesterday after being affected by fumes from the fire

About 16 of them were detained overnight but none was seriously injured.

"The fire is not spreading, and the proto teams are controlling ventilation and sealing off certain areas of 73 level, where the fire broke out

"Medical teams are standing by at the mine's hospital and four proto teams from adjoining mines have been brought in to help those that have been working throughout the night," the spokesman said.

"There is still some hope for the men. We don't know exactly where they are but it is not a huge area we have to search. We know who the men are but their names will not be released until next-of-kin have been notified.

It was not until several hours after the fire broke out that mine officials realised men were trapped underground.

The proto teams were working in searing temperatures and poisonous gas, the spokesman said.

The cause of the fire had not yet been established and it was difficult to judge how long it would continue to burn.

Fiery tomb for 41

By RAY JOSEPH

FORTY-one black miners trapped 2 km underground after a fire at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine, near Orkney, have been given up for dead

All attempts to reach them failed after proto teams were driven back by searing heat, non-stop rockfalls and dense smoke.

A statement from the mine's general manager, Mr R G Williams, said the decision to seal off the area where the men were trapped since a blaze broke out underground at noon on Friday, was made after it had been realised that the men had "no hope of survival".

"The decision was taken to avoid further risks to the lives of the proto team members and prevent the fire from spreading to other parts of the mine."

3/12/75
SUN. TIMES
Nine four-man proto teams — five from the death mine and another four brought in to assist with the rescue from nearby mines — battled almost non-stop to reach the men trapped in an area 200 m wide, 120 m long and a metre high.

"It was impossible to get near them," a mine spokesman said "As the fire burnt through the supports, rock falls kept occurring"

3/12/78 212 SUNEL EXPRESS

Smoke around us and the men were dying — mine survivor

THE area in which 41 Black miners were trapped by an underground blaze in the Vaal Reef Gold Mine near Orkney was yesterday sealed off when all hope was abandoned of saving their lives.

It was the most serious underground disaster in the mine's history

More than 80 miners scrambled to safety when the blaze broke out two kilometres underground. Later three of the ones who were rescued described the horror of the blaze to the Sunday Express.

About 27 hours after the fire broke out in number eight shaft a decision was taken to seal off the area in which the miners were trapped. Attempts by nine proto teams to rescue them throughout the night were hampered by the intense heat and fumes.

A statement issued by the general manager, Mr R G Williams, said "Every attempt has been made to reach the area with proto teams but they cannot penetrate because of the dense smoke, rockfalls and intense heat."

"The cause of the fire is not known. It was decided, that to avoid the risk of further lives and to prevent the fire from spreading the rescue operation be called off and the tunnel sealed."

The fire could take 10 days to burn itself out and there will be no chance of recovering the bodies until then. The names of the dead will not be revealed until their next of kin had been informed.

Three miners who were rescued from the area were among the 14 at the mine

who are
rescued
and free
black

AREA SEALED OFF, FIRE COULD STILL BURN FOR 10 DAYS

By ZANDI SIKWEBU
and NIC HENWOOD

hospital after the accident

Mr Moroping Kgorere, 32, from Boshoff, father of three, said the first thing he knew rock was exploding round the men.

"Smoke filled the whole place. Suffocating fumes surrounded us and the men were dying. I did not know what was happening. I ran to the next shaft and fell three times before I reached it. The next time I was conscious I found myself in the hospital bed."

Mr Zanemvula Nikasa, 21, from Umtata also said he heard a rock exploding and later saw the whole area engulfed in smoke.

"I and some of my colleagues ran away to the next shaft. I was grabbed and pulled by a White miner before I fell. He took me

outside and later I was taken to the hospital. I don't know what happened to those who were with me."

Mr Leukala Tom, 28, from Botsyana said that after he had heard the explosion he was approached by his senior who asked what was happening.

Before he could answer they found themselves engulfed in the smoke and fumes.

"I don't know what happened thereafter. I found myself at the hospital."

A spokesman for Anglo American Corporation said overall production was not expected to be seriously affected.

Vaal Reefs is one of the biggest gold mines in the world employing thousands of men.

Brand in SA myn

212

eis 41 ^{differt} 3/12/78

'N BRAND in die Vaal Reef-goudmyn naby Klerksdorp het die naweek 41 lewens gees. Ná 'n vergeefse soektog van meer as 24 uur moes die nege protospaanne hul reddingspogings staak sonder dat een van die 41 vasgekeerde swart mynwerkers gevind is.

Vuur, rookdampe en rotstortings het die reddingswerkers se taak byna onmoontlik gemaak en gistermiddag is besluit om die 73ste vlak van die myn te verseel.

Die brand — die oorsaak is nog onbekend — het Vrydag kort voor die middaguur uitgebreek. Hoewel die alarm dadelik gegee is, kon die protospaanne eers laat gisteroggend daarin slaag om die brand in bedwang te bring.

Altesame 223 mynwerkers van die brandende vlak is in die Wesvaal-Hospitaal behandel, maar net veertien moes die nag in die hospitaal deurbring.

D. RATES OF GROWTH PER ANNUM

	Wielligh 80/5-2000)	Actual output (1941-75)
	6,0	8,3
	7,4-8,3	9,4
	5,0	9,4
	5,1	11,9
	4,0	4,0
	n.a.	9,2
	n.a.	n.a.
	n.a.	1,7
	n.a.	16,9
Platinum	5,0	5,0
	2,8	17,0

Note: Source of column 4 is von Weilligh.⁵⁴ Much of the growth in diamonds production was concentrated in the period 1941-45: for those 5 years von Weilligh records average compound growth of 74,25 per cent per annum.

Copper, Chrome, Manganese

There is agreement between the projections that in the long-term output growth will be in the 5-6 per cent per annum range - in all three cases substantially slower than they are reported by von Weilligh to have grown in the 1940-75 period. All three are dependent - and will continue to be dependent - on world markets and in particular (for chrome, manganese) on the world steel industry. Long-term growth at 5-6 per cent per annum by selling to that market is not implausible but would seem to require some increase in share of world markets -if one is to take the view that global rates of growth of world mineral production are not likely to improve on the 1961-75 performance.

TABLE 40: RATES OF GROWTH OF WORLD PRODUCTION, 1961-75 (VON WIELLIGH)

(per cent per annum)	
Chrome	+ 3,73
Copper	+ 3,42
Manganese	+ 4,00
(Iron	+ 4,27)

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Proto teams at the Vaal Reefs Mine, Orkney, worked throughout yesterday to complete the sealing off of the stope 2km underground where 41 miners were trapped by fire on Friday

All hope that the trapped men might have survived the intense heat and poisonous fumes was abandoned after large sections of the stope fell in as the fire burnt away the timber support props

Mine officials have still not established the cause of the the disaster, the worst in the 41-year history of the mine. It is believed the blaze could have been started by an electrical fault, friction of a steel winch rope or even a discarded cigarette end

The cause of the fire may be established in the investigation by the Inspector of Mines

"There are 80 people here who were around when it happened," a spokesman for Vaal Reefs said

The blaze is thought to have started at the bottom of the

Cape Times 4/12/78
Survivors (212)
tell of mine
death blaze

stope, which follows the gold seam at an angle of 40 degrees. Smoke and fumes surged upward from the base of the stope towards the face where about 120 men were placing charges to blast loose the gold-bearing ore

The stope, a huge, unlit underground gallery about 200 m square but only a metre high, was quickly engulfed in dense smoke

"The chaps told me it was so thick you couldn't see a cap-lamp at a metre. The men who could move had to feel their way to safety," the spokesman said

Crawling up the steep incline,

with only their cap-lamps to see by, 81 of the face workers reached the safety of shaft eight. But 41 of their colleagues were marooned in the confined darkness of the stope, which then began to collapse as the fire burnt away the 0.6m thick timber props which supported the stope roof at 10m intervals

A senior mine official in charge of the proto teams said yesterday "Every single possible access into that area of the stope was examined as early as possible. Every way was found to be inaccessible and very dangerous"

It was decided to seal the place off because if rescue teams went into the area and there were rockfalls behind them, they would be trapped too

"All the proto teams going down now are risking their lives. We'll take risks, but not stupid risks," the official

The proto teams at the disaster area yesterday were double-sealing the stope with vermiculite bricks, which were easily moved to the fire zone

It was known yesterday that the fire was still raging

SOUTHERN AFR

TELEPHONE (9 853) (LINE 453 44)

RAM 5/12/78
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Mine's condolences

KLERKSDORP — The chairman of the Vaal Reefs gold mine, Mr D A Etheredge, has expressed the condolences of the mine's directors to the families and friends of the 41 mineworkers who were killed at the mine over the weekend.

"Despite the very great attention paid by the mining industry to safety measures and safety training, acci-

dents happen and men are killed and injured," he said.

"Strenuous efforts were made to rescue the men, but due to the intensity of the underground fire and the extent of the falls of ground, it was evident by Saturday morning that they had lost their lives.

"I should like to thank all those concerned for their unstinting efforts in trying to rescue them." — Sapa

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE OF PAPER</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
1.	Francis Wilson	International Migration in Southern Africa	R2,00
2.	OUT OF PRINT		
3.	Dudley Horner	African Labour Representation	R1,50
4.	OUT OF PRINT		
5.	Dudley Horner/ Alide Kooy	Conflict on South African Mines: 1972-1976	R2,50
6.	D.G. Clarke	Contract Labour from Rhodesia to the South African Gold Mines: A Study in the International division of a Labour Reserve	R3,00
7.	J.B. Knight	Labour Supply in the South African Economy	R2,50
8.	Mike Morris	Apartheid, Agriculture and the State: The Farm Labour Question	R2,50
9.	Nigel Bloch	The Demand for African Technicians	R2,50
10.	David Selvan	Housing Conditions for Migrant Workers in Cape Town	R3,50
11.	Sheila Niven/ Charles Simkins	A Study of Consumer Patterns in Hanover Park in Cape Town	R1,50
12.	Johann Maree/ Janet Graaff	Residential & Migrant Workers in Cape Town	R4,00
13.	Norman Reynolds	Rural Development in Botswana.	R1,50
14.	Johann Maree/ Judith Cornell	Sample Survey of Squatters in Unibell	R1,50
15.	Norman Bromberger (FORTHCOMING)	Mining Employment in South Africa, 1946-2000	

Cause of fire at mine probed

212
AD 5/12/78

KLERKSDORP — An investigation was being conducted into the cause of the underground fire at Vaal Reefs which killed 41 miners, the mines' manager, Mr R. G. Williams, said yesterday

The fire broke out on the 73-level of the shaft on Friday, affecting more than 300 workers.

"Burnt pillars causing rock-falls made the tasks of the nine rescue teams difficult," Mr Williams said. "Because of the dense smoke, excessive heat and poisonous gases, it became so unsafe that we've decided to seal off the affected area"

It had been a difficult decision, but there was "no chance of anybody surviving this disaster," he said

"I doubt if the area where the missing workers are will be entered within the next two weeks"

The chairman of the mine, Mr D A Etheredge, expressed condolences to the miners' families

"Despite the great attention paid by the mining industry and individual mine managements to safety measures

and safety training, accidents happen and men are killed and injured," he said

"Strenuous efforts had been made to rescue the trapped men, but due to the intensity of the fire and the extent of the falls of ground, it was evident by Saturday morning the men had lost their lives," Mr Etheredge said

"I should like to thank all those concerned, from the general manager through to the proto teams, for their unstinting efforts in trying to rescue these men" —
SAPA

RDM 5/2/78

Miners' families won't starve

By SIMON WILLSON (212)

THE BEREAVED families of the 41 miners killed in Friday's underground fire at the Vaal Reefs gold mine are to receive benefits proportional to the miners' earnings.

Widows and their children will receive 75% of the combined value of their husbands' wages and the free amenities to

which the miners were entitled

The money will be paid monthly as a life pension to the widows, and to their children until they reach the age of 18

The identities of the miners will be released as soon as the mine has established that telegrams sent to the families have been received

● See Page 4

1. Goldmi
It ap

easily into two main phases (with one possible further subdivision).
(See Graph 1 on page 10).

1.1 From 1948 to 1961 there is a sharp and unambiguous rising trend in employment. The average number of workers in service climbs from 341 324 (1948) to an all-time peak of 465 688 (1961), an increase of 36,4 per cent - though this does include declines during 1951-52-53 and in 1957.

1.2 After 1961 (and through to 1976) the trend is less sharp but unambiguously falling: however within this overall declining phase the downward trend is clearest to 1967 and thereafter there is some evidence of fluctuation about a relatively stable trend. (It is just possible that when the full 1977 figures are available they will be compatible with the view that during the last decade there have been increasing fluctuations about a slightly rising trend).¹

1.3 At present we lack a full explanation of why goldmining employment should have fallen into such clearly-defined phases, but there are a number of points that can be made.

1.3.1 It is worth remembering that employment has supply as well as demand determinants. Thus at any time employment may be below the levels that the industry requires. In fact during our period this appears to have been the case for most of the time (speaking very loosely) apart from the decade of the 1960s. However the labour shortfalls of the 1950s (put at 69 000 labourers in 1952)² do not really complicate the matter in hand. Employment was expanding from 1948 and the reported labour shortages merely tell us that the expansion would have been faster. Moreover by 1958-59 the shortages were disappearing (as Southern Africa moved into a longish recession), and employment was able to attain desired levels.³ The true trend is

5,6 per cent (and there are grounds for believing that decline is not primarily a decline in the demand for labour).

3.3 Employment projections, 1970-1980

As with Plewman's output projections we shall try to confront his short-run employment projections with the facts about what has happened in the field of mining employment during the last 6 or 7 years. We shall also notice briefly the aggregate mining employment "projection" made for the 1976-81 Economic Development Programme.

3.3.1 A comparison of employment projections, 1970-80, with actual employment data, 1970-76.

We present the material in the two following tables (34, 35): the first presents levels of employment (projected and actual) and the second average rates of growth per annum.

Inquiry into mine disaster *Cape Times 5/12/78*

KLERKSDORP — The cause of the underground fire at Vaal Reefs gold mine here at the weekend, which killed 41 mineworkers, was being investigated, the manager of the mine, Mr R G Williams, said yesterday

The fire broke out on Friday afternoon on the 73-level of the shaft, affecting more than 300 workers

"Burnt pillars causing rock-falls made the tasks of the nine rescue teams more difficult," Mr Williams said "Because of the dense smoke, excessive heat and poisonous gases, it became so unsafe that we've decided to seal off the affected area"

(212)

L. Times 11/12/78
5 killed, 86 injured in Welkom mine accident

Own Correspondent

WELKOM — Five black miners were killed and 86 injured in an accident at No 4 shaft of the Prèsident Brand gold mine, near Welkom, early on Saturday morning.
 A cage containing 120 miners was descending the shaft when it collided with a timber truck protruding into the shaft at 46 level 1 400m underground.
 Fifty of the injured men were discharged from hospital after

treatment. Three of the 36 men kept in hospital were said to be in a serious condition.
 Rescue teams recovered all the miners' bodies, but the names of the dead will not be released until their next-of-kin have been informed.
 A spokesman for the mine said yesterday that the shaft had been cleared and operations were back to normal. An investigation was under way to determine the cause of the accident.

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rate that will attract labour and yet be low enough to make labour-intensive rather as a minimum wage mechanism - makes it difficult to predict a wage law in Lesotho and by an Income Policy in Botswana which so far has worked full-time employment by a Government organisation - backed by minimum wage their units off the ground. The pressure for jobs and the expectation of of works. Both countries are likely to face the same problems in getting Lesotho has recently set up such an organisation as a part of the Ministry techniques in a pilot organisation that can be then be adopted nationally. benefit to the country. The aim is to develop labour intensive construction borrowed from South Africa this is a significant departure of great potential Given the history of capital intensive construction and maintenance methods Botswana has, on the drawing board, a Labour Intensive Construction Unit.

their stake in the rural economy.
 structure improvements by themselves will enable the poor majority to improve until that condition is met it is unlikely that technical and market infra- undoubted financial strength to carry them through periods of drought.
 of the top 5%, cannot afford to make the decision to rely on Botswana's families, particularly the 70% of rural households whose income equals that machinery that can come into play quickly and efficiently. As a result, encouraging. Nonetheless, there is no regular or standby drought relief and a beginning to economic management with the tribal Land Boards is capacity in local government to oversee building programmes, as in the ARDP, take levels, the destruction of pasture land. The demonstration of some a larger national herd and, accepting the apparent slight decline in off- The success story of beef exports to Europe hides the problems that accompany

side of rural poverty is not to spread into the towns and if Botswana's present reliance on migrant work in South Africa is not to remain a potential Achilles heel to her economic and social stability.

rdm 11/12/78
5 die in
mine cage
crash
212

Staff Reporter
FIVE BLACK miners were killed and 86 injured in an accident at No 4 shaft of the President Brand gold mine, near Welkom, early on Saturday morning

A cage containing 120 miners was descending the shaft when it collided with a timber truck protruding into the shaft at 46 level, 1 400m underground

Fifty of the injured men were released from hospital after treatment. Three of the 36 men detained in hospital were said yesterday to be in a serious condition

Rescue teams recovered the miners' bodies, but the names of the dead men will not be released until their next of kin have been informed.

A spokesman for the President Brand mine said yesterday No 4 shaft had been cleared and operations were back to normal

In these facts to do with the overall expansion and the shift geographical location of the industry (involving the absolute tions of historic centres of gold production) must lie the nental explanation of the shape of the graph of employment ics in the post-war period. In the year after the maximum oyment was reached (1962) the President of the Chamber of eferred to the attainment of 'full production' by the newer He said that a corollary of this was '... a decrease in ent', and continued, 'The industry appears, therefore, to sed its peak as an employer of labour ... it is likely that stry's requirements of labour will continue to fall from .'. His prediction was correct in general terms. To the explanation would require a technical description of ce of 'development work' (contrasted with work at the stope- contact with the gold reef) and (presumably) of the different 'development work' required when a mine is at different its development. However this is beyond us now.

There is also a good deal more that could be teased out of the data - since we have information on tonnage of ore milled, gold output, ore-grade, tonnage milled per worker per year and gold output per worker per year (apart from revenue, cost and profit variables). We shall not attempt to model the relationships between these variables in this paper but a few points of interest may be included here.

1.3.5.1 Gold output rose with only one interruption (1967) from 1952 to 1970 - though the real surge was over by 1965. Output climbed from 368 metric tons at the start of this period to 950 metric tons in 1965; it took the next 5 years to reach 1 000 tons (the all-time maximum).

1.3.5.2 Underlying this increase in production of course was the the development of the new fields and the increase in the number of productive mines (from 43 in 1950 to 60 in 1962). This showed up in increased tonnages of ore being milled and treated every year - tonnages which moreover were of average higher grade throughout most of the 1950s since the newer mines in general had a higher grade than the average of the established industry.

Proto team to search shaft for 41 bodies

By Kevin Murray

A special proto team will inspect the death shaft at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine next month to see if the bodies of 41 miners can be recovered

The miners were trapped by a huge blaze in the mine's Number Eight shaft early this month

A spokesman for the Anglo American Corporation said the proto team was waiting for the shaft

to cool after the blaze, which has been burning for 16 days

Production at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine, near Orkney, had not suffered because of the fire, he said

"Temperatures in the shaft are now at about 60-70 deg C, even though the fire is virtually out," said the spokesman

"It could be four to six weeks before the shaft is cool enough for the proto

team to explore it"

An inquiry into the deaths will be held next month

The miners were trapped in the shaft more than 2 km underground after the fire had broken out on December 1

More than 220 miners were treated at West Vaal Hospital after being affected by fumes

More than R1-million will be paid in compensa-

tion to the families of the dead miners

The Anglo spokesman said that the proto team would probably be greeted by a scene of desolation

"The shaft was gutted and when timber props were weakened by the flames there were extensive rockfalls," he said

It would be some time before the shaft could be reopened

management's attention.

Rather surprisingly, African members of the liaison committee did not participate in selecting the chairman of their committee in 81,9% of the participating organisations. On the other hand, 79,1% of the respondents reported that African members of the liaison committee were elected rather than appointed by management. However, in only 16,6% of the firms could candidates be nominated without any restriction, for example, as to age or seniority. A representational spread from different departments was required by 78,1% of the respondents, while 46,2% required service (seniority) qualifications and 27,3% required a certain age limit. Voting was usually by means of ballot papers (57,1% of the respondents) or by a show of hands (33,4% of the respondents).

About 63% of the respondents reported that their liaison committees were elected for a period of one year while nearly 28% recorded a two-year period of office. In most instances, 72%, regular monthly committee meetings were held, but a further 12% met every two months and 5% quarterly.

There were 284 organisations which responded to a question as to why they had preferred a liaison to a works committee. The majority of 147 (nearly 52%) gave as their reason that the liaison committee was an 'anti-polarisation' device conferring benefits such as better guidance by management and prompt solution of problems, thus serving both parties' interests and improving two-way communication. In a further 38 instances (about 13%) either the liaison committee

SA miners must fight 160 fires each year

South Africa's mines fight about 160 fires each year — an average of one every second working day — reports the Chamber of Mines in its latest news magazine

Although the mining industry has managed to cut its fire damage costs by millions of rands a year, underground fires remain one of the most serious and costly problems facing the industry

About 20 percent of the 160 fires each year are responsible for the major part of the damage, and occur in stopping areas where large amounts of timber are used for roof support

The most common causes of fire are

- electric cable or switch box failures
- cigarettes
- scraper ropes rubbing against timber and
- careless use of cutting torches

Year	White	Black	Asian	Coloured	African	Total
1977						
1976	2 357					13 186
1975	2 478					13 229
1974	2 739					13 423
1973	2 727					15 521
1972	2 671					15 744
1971	2 557					15 019
1970	2 388	9 017	0	1 875		13 0
1969	2 261	8 984	0	1 648	7 336	12 205
1968	2 204	8 864	0	1 647	7 217	11 245
1967	2 082	8 458	0	1 644	6 814	11 068
1966	1 947	8 367	0	1 596	6 771	10 540
1965	1 620	7 437	..	..	..	10 314
1964	1 446	6 925	..	..	..	9 057
1963	1 393	6 711	..	..	..	8 371
1962	1 406	6 775	..	..	..	8 104
1961	1 444	7 068	..	..	..	8 181
1960	1 384	7 142	..	..	..	8 512
1959	1 335	6 989	..	..	..	8 526
1958	1 303	6 722	..	..	..	8 324
1957	1 406	7 508	..	..	..	8 025
1956	1 370	7 355	..	..	..	8 914
1955	1 214	7 080	..	..	..	8 725
1954	1 127	6 945	..	..	..	8 294
1953	1 088	6 961	..	..	..	8 072
1952	1 054	6 947	..	..	..	8 049
1951	1 002	6 349	..	..	..	8 001
1950	944	6 085	..	..	..	7 351
1949	881	5 770	..	..	..	7 029
1948	803	5 437	..	..	..	6 651
1947	707	5 286	..	..	..	6 240
1946	665	4 993	..	..	..	5 993
						5 658

Mine victim had a premonition

Star 29/12/78

(212)

AFRIKA

West Rand Bureau

A Carletonville mine stoper and father of seven who told his family to be happy on Christmas Day because he had a feeling it was the last they would all spend together was reluctant to go underground on Wednesday. And within hours he was fatally injured in a pressure burst.

Mr George Rowan (40) died seconds after rescuers reached him in a stope at No 2 shaft, 2 100 m below the surface in

the Doornfontein gold mine.

His oldest daughter, Mrs Charmaine O'Brien (18), said yesterday that the family spent a "wonderful Christmas together" at the Robinson Lake, Randfontein.

"My father told us all to be very happy because he had a feeling it was the last the family would all spend together. He said my mother need not worry as we would be well provided for," said Mrs O'Brien.

"We did not take him seriously and thought he was joking, we told him not to talk nonsense and laughed."

His son Vincent (12) said his grandmother, Mrs Kotie de Bruyn (Mr Rowan's mother-in-law) also said she had a feeling something untoward was going to happen but she did not know what.

"When she heard the bump of the pressure burst at her home in Carletonville on Wednesday morning she gasped and said "Something has happened to George."

Mr Rowan's brother-in-law, Mr Sarel de Bruyn, said Mr Rowan had felt uneasy about going to work on Wednesday. He had said he would go to the mine but was not going underground. But he changed his mind and was fatally injured.

He leaves his widow Poppie (36) and seven children.

Mr George Rowan — he leaves a wife and seven children.



Bereaved family. At the back are Freddy (17) and his married sister, Mrs Charmaine O'Brien. In front of them are Vincent (12) and Maureen (13) and in the foreground is Sharon (7). Gerald (15) and Stephen (16) were out with their mother when the picture was taken.

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September 1978/
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Treasurer: Mr. J. Sang
(Vice: Miss P. le Roux)
ols' Secretary: Miss B. Keeson
available for reelection)
er, Mrs. M. Mezzabotta, Mr. Thom
ng, Dr. R. van Stekelenberg.

Coopted members: Mej. D.J. Blokbergen, and student representatives from U.S., U.W.C. and U.C.T., namely Messrs. M. Sahd and C. Yon and Miss J. Frater.

8. Any other business/Algemeen.

Star 29/12/78
**Three miners
still missing** (212)

CLA

Rescuers have recovered the bodies of three black mineworkers trapped 2100 m underground, at Doornfontein gold mine near Carletonville. Three men are still missing.

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114
wil
This brings to seven the total of men killed in a pressure burst.

The three missing black mineworkers are feared dead.

● Mine victim had premonition — Page 5

SOUTH AFRICA/DIE KLASSIEKE VERENIGING VAN SUID AFRIKA

CAPE BRANCH/WES-KAAPLANDSE TAK

attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING which will be held on 10 October 1978 at 7.30 p.m. in Beattie Building (Room 114) at the University of Cape Town. This business meeting will be preceded by a lecture by

PROF. DUBOW: Director of the Michaelis School of Fine Art, U.C.T.

Topic: The antiquities of JERUSALEM (illustrated by slides)

Professor Dubow originally trained as an architect but moved to the Michaelis School where he won renown for his lectures on the history of art, and became Director of the School in 1971. Under his leadership the School has been vibrant with new activities.

AGENDA for the AGM/SAKELYS vir die Algemene Jaarvergadering

1. Personalia
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 7th September 1977/Notule van die Jaarvergadering van 7 September.
3. Chairman's report/Verslag van die Voorsitter.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes and Chairman's Report/Sake wat van die Notule en Voorsitter se Verslag voortspruit.
5. Financial statement for the year ended 10th September 1978/Finansiële verslag vir die jaar geëindig 10 September.
6. Motion: The Western Cape Branch requests the chairman of the Classical Association to transmit to the biennial conference of the Association the proposal that the portion of the subscription remitted to the local branches for each registered member should be increased from 50 cents to R1.
Proposed: J.E. Atkinson; Seconded: Mr. J. Sang.
7. Election of office bearers and committee members for 1978-9/Verkiesing van ampsdraers en komiteedele vir 1978-9.

Huidige lede: Voorsitter/Chairman: John E. Atkinson

Sekretaris/Tesourier//Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. J. Sang
(Vice: Miss P. le Roux)

Sekretarisse vir die Skole/ Schools' Secretary: Miss B. Keeson
(not available for reelection)

Committee members: Dr. S. Bruwer, Mrs. M. Mezzabotta, Mr. Thom, Mr. P. Collins, Miss S. Armstrong, Dr. R. van Stekelenberg.

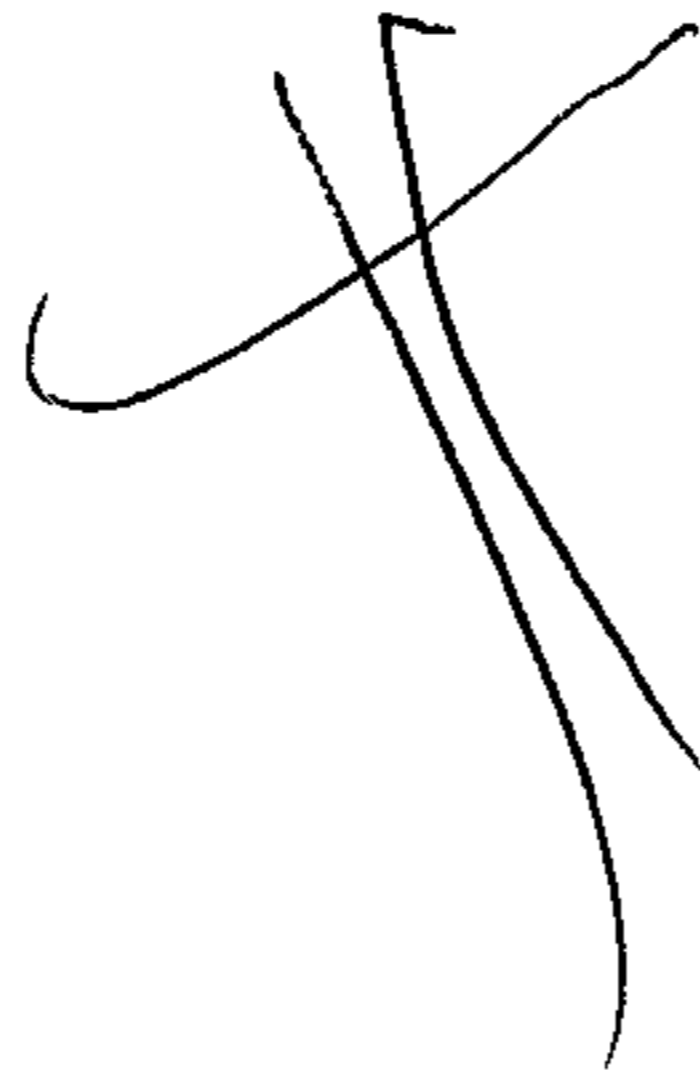
Coopted members: Mej. D.J. Blokbergen, and student representatives from U.S., U.W.C. and U.C.T., namely Messrs. M. Sahd and C. Yon and Miss J. Frater.

8. Any other business/Algemeen.

MINING - Accidents

19-1-79 - 1-11-79

212



Wellington Sloggs out... all 200 km

Own Correspondent

Mr Wellington Nobebe (60) walked 200 km from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria to seek redress from the Workmen's Compensation Fund. And although he didn't get much satisfaction, by one of those happy coincidences and the generosity of a Pretoria veterinary surgeon he returned home in comfort. The vet who earned the name in effect reasons, met Wellington in the first time in the city on

Tuesday when he asked the way to the Workmen's Compensation Fund office.

Sometime I knew I would not make myself clear trying to direct him so I took him to the fund's offices and left him there," the vet said.

On Wednesday the vet was driving along the Krugersdorp Pretoria highway. "For some reason I found myself scanning the side of the road and when I saw someone awkwardly trying to drink water from a puddle I knew it was the same man."

The vet stopped and took his chance. "I cleaned up, ate and spent the night. Along the way Mr Nobebe, told his story."

Nine years ago he was injured in a rockfall in the Welkom gold mine where he worked for more than two years, he was bed-ridden and eventually went to stay with his brother, Mr Nimrod Nobebe, and his family in Port Elizabeth.

According to a medical report from the hospital Mr Nobebe is 50 percent disabled. Since 1973, in spite of help from doctors at the various hospitals where he has been treated, Mr Nobebe has failed to get any compensation. Four days before Christmas he made up his mind to go to Pretoria. "I had no money so I walked," he added.

Only one motorist, a black, gave Mr Nobebe a short lift on his long slog. He begged for food along the way and slept by the roadside, reaching Pretoria on Monday.

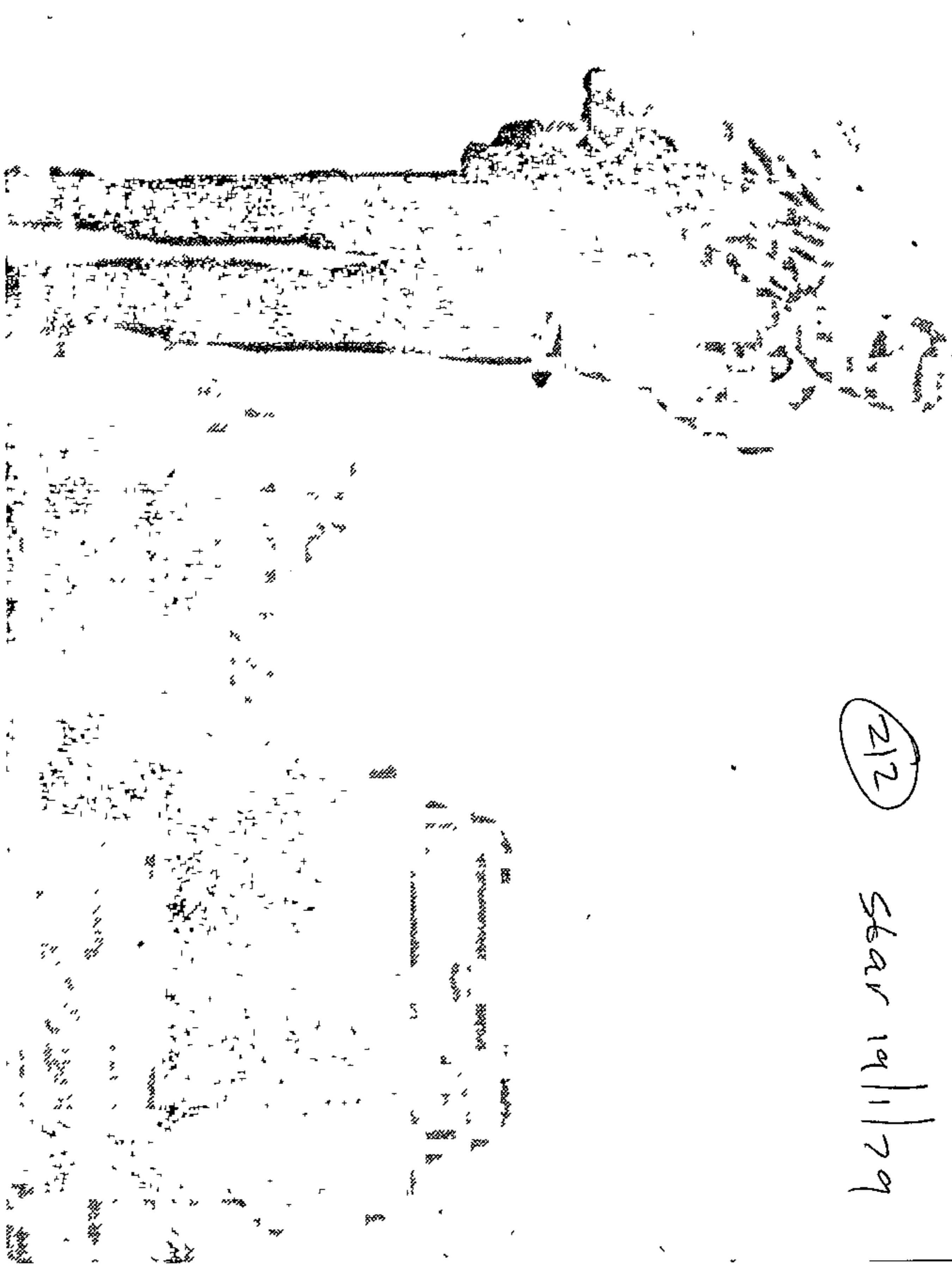
After listening to Mr Nobebe's story, the vet bought him a train ticket to Port Elizabeth and yesterday saw him out at the Pretoria station. "I think what this good man has done for me is a sign that my luck is turning, were Mr Nobebe's last words. 'I don't know how to thank him'."

The marathon walker has a bad living and it is doubtful whether he would have made it back home on his feet. Mr Nobebe did not have a reference book, passport or unemployment fund card with him when he called on the Compensation Fund authorities who were unable to take up his case as a result. He was told to report his case to the Rural Relations commissioner in Port Elizabeth.

Elizabeth

212

Star 19/1/79



Mr Wellington Nobebe trudges along the roadside with all his worldly possessions in a sack over his shoulder.

He had a temporary identification document issued by the and centric at New Brighton before he left.

A spokesman for the Chamber of Mines commented "The mining industry has its own insurance company, the Rand Mutual Limited which provides compensation for injury at work on at least the scale laid down in the Workmen's Compensation Act. It is inconceivable that a man with 50 percent disability should not have been compensated long ago for injuries received." The spokesman said the Chamber would investigate.

1 killed,

others

trapped

in mine

212

25/1/29

Star

A man has been killed in a rock burst at the Vaal Reefs gold mine at Orkney, in the Western Transvaal and men are still trapped.

A spokesman for the mine said the burst — at 12.15 am today — could be described as a major seismic event.

It came on the boundaries of the No 1 and No 2 shafts and the man killed, who has not yet been identified, died in a bump at No 2 shaft.

The spokesman could not say how many miners were trapped as a result of the burst.

The number of men trapped underground is feared to be high.

"A number of miners are trapped in No 2 Shaft," an Anglo American spokesman said.

22 CT 28/1/79

Three miners killed in burst

JOHANNESBURG — Twenty-miners who were trapped by a rockburst at the Vaal Reets gold mine near Klerksdorp yesterday have been rescued.

Three miners were killed in the pressure burst which occurred at noon

The trapped miners, brought to the surface by rescue teams, suffered minor injuries — Sapa

Three die, 20 hurt in Orkney mine rock burst

By Mike Cohen

Three miners were killed and 20 injured in a rock burst at Vaal Reefs gold mine at Orkney yesterday.

It came after a disturbance of an estimated 3.6 on the Richter scale

The burst happened on the boundaries of No 1 and No 2 shafts.

The injured were brought to the surface almost immediately. They were taken to the mine

hospital where they were all treated and discharged

The body of the last miner, missing for seven hours, was found last night.

He was changing after his shift when the section collapsed and had been sitting by himself

Mine overseers, Mr Willem du Plessis and Mr Christo le Grange, who led the rescue operation, said the miner would

have been saved had he been sitting one metre to his right. He was buried by the rubble

While rescue teams were looking for the last miner the area was shaken by another ground movement which, according to mine officials, was about the same strength as the first.

The rescue teams were at the 68th level during the second shake

Two months ago, at the No 8 shaft, 41 miners died in a blaze.

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(We do not

know the source of these diamond projections, nor of the projected platinum growth rate of output.)

2.1.3 For the 6 base-metals and base-non-metals that he distinguishes Plewman disaggregates the projections into exports and domestic requirements. For all six he derives export figures from the report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Export Trade of the RSA (Reynders Commission) tabled in 1972.³² Export figures were given in the report which Plewman interprets as export targets ("the Commissioners have included an estimate in money terms of the future rate of exports of minerals that is required if the Republic is to reach its targets for foreign exchange earnings"). These targets are taken as projections and "converted ... to physical units at 1970 prices".³³ To these export figures are added estimates of domestic requirements. In the case of coal two projections are made: the first assumes the domestic demand for coal will grow at 5 per cent per annum, the second at 8 per cent. In the cases of the other five minerals, the two alternative projections of the growth of domestic demand are based on 3 per cent per annum and 5 per cent.

2.1.4 In 1970, 85 per cent of total employment in base-minerals was covered by the listed six minerals. For the remaining minerals (tin, salt and quarrying in the main), Plewman assumes that output will grow at the same rate as the average rate for all minerals including gold, platinum, and diamonds.

41 mine

deaths: ^{Stat}

29/1/79

3 charged

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By Sieg Hannig
Labour Reporter

Three blacks have appeared in the Vierfontein Magistrate's Court in connection with an allegation of culpable homicide arising from the death of 41 black miners in an underground fire at the Vaal Reef's gold mine last month.

Two whites have been summoned to appear in the Viljoenskroon Regional Court nearby on February 12 in connection with the disaster.

This was disclosed today by Colonel M van der Merwe, CID chief for the Northern Free State.

REMANDED

He said the three blacks, who are in custody, appeared in court last week and were remanded to February 6.

They were two Ciskeians, Mr Patrick Mgqema (25) and Ml Mzawabantu Dyanaya (19), and a Transkeian, Mr Amos Sithole (34).

Details about the summonsed whites could not be released, the Colonel said.

RDM 8/21/79
Miner plunges to his death (212)

A MINER, Mr J H Burger, died in an accident at the Loraine Gold Mine in the Free State yesterday after falling down an ore pass in the mine's Number Three shaft area

Mr Burger, a stoper at the mine, leaves his wife
In the Western Areas Gold Mine yesterday, a fire raged in a small isolated area 2 000 m below the surface

Mr W D Rowe, of Johannesburg Consolidated Investments, said yesterday morning that the fire was on the face in the isolated area and he expected it to affect production — Sapa

41 mine deaths — two in court

12/2/79
Star
212

By Mike Cohen

VIJOENSKROON — Two employees of the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine in Orkney today pleaded not guilty to a charge of culpable homicide before the chief magistrate of Bloemfontein in a case which is a sequel to the death of 41 mine workers.

Mr Fredrick Christiaan Bossert Hurn, a miner and Mr David Johannes Bosch, a shift boss, are appearing in the Vijoenskroon Regional Court on one count of culpable homicide and five counts of contravening the Mine and Works Act.

Mr Hurn pleaded guilty to two of the charges under the Act, the first for allowing somebody not qualified to handle explosives and the second for allowing a person who was not the holder of a blasting certificate to press explosives into a shot hole.

He pleaded not guilty to all the other charges.

Mr Bosch pleaded not guilty on all counts.

WITHDRAW

One of the charges, that of allowing a person who was not the holder of a blasting certificate to place the fuse on a detonator, was withdrawn by the State.

The court heard that the two men were in control in their capacity as miner and shift boss respectively in the 73rd stope of the No. 8 shaft of the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine on December 1 last year.

A fire in the stope caused the deaths of 41 miners working in the area at the time.

Seventy four miners managed to escape the inferno through four different exits.

Mr Napoleon Mayer, production manager of the south section of the Vaal Reefs mine, was called to describe the workings of the shaft which was ravaged by the fire.

OPEN FLAME

He showed a scale model of how the men worked in the area. He said the height of the area was approximately 110 cm.

An open flame would have been enough to ignite the wooden stope, if it had the right temperature.

Mayer said he was

Mine death hearing

From page 1

not involved with the pro-to team sent down to rescue miners. But, he said, the leader of the team had told him on the telephone while he was underground that the roof section of the stope would soon be collapsing and he was withdrawing his team for their own safety.

The next day, December 2, when Mr Mayer and other members of the pro-to team went underground again, the roof had collapsed.

Mr Bosch admitted that he had been shift boss in control and that he had been in charge of the 41 men who died.

He admitted allowing a person to handle the explosive but denied that his action caused the deaths of the 41 miners.

(Proceedings)

RAM 14/2/79

Mine fire trial told of shooting threat

By INGRID NORTON

A WITNESS told the Viljoenskroon Regional Court yesterday that two employees of Vaal Reefs gold mine, charged with culpable homicide, had threatened to shoot one of his colleagues if he talked about the circumstances of the fire that killed 41 miners.

Mr Frederick Christiaan Bossert Hurn, a miner, and Mr David Johannes Bosch, a shift boss, have pleaded not guilty to the main charge of culpable homicide. They are also charged with five counts of contravening the Mines and Works Act.

Mr Patrick Ngqema, a mine assistant, told the Chief Magistrate of Bloemfontein, Mr G J V Jordaan, that he had been taught not to light a match near explosives unless experts were

around.

He had never had any practical experience in handling explosives. He had only been taught how to press the charge home with a stick and how to connect the igniting stick.

Another mine assistant, Mr Amos Sithole, told the court that the day the fire broke out, December 1 last year, he went underground for the first time since he had worked at the mine.

He said he had received instruction from Mr Ngqema only that day on how to handle explosives and that although he had had theoretical training from the mine he had never handled lighted explosives.

Mr Hurn and Mr Bosch had never been present when the mine assistants were handling the explosives.

Mr Sithole said that on the day of the fire he and Mr Ngqema argued about whether they should light a wet flex. Mr Ngqema said they should as it would not burn for long.

The flex caught fire and they failed in their attempts to put it out.

Forty-one miners were trapped and died in the blaze that followed.

A third mine assistant who witnessed the fire, Mr Mzwabantu Xulu, said that after the fire the assistants had gone to the mine station and reported the incident to the mine captain, Mr J van Zyl, of their own free will.

He said he had heard the accused tell Mr Ngqema not to tell anyone what had happened on the 73rd level or he would be shot.

The hearing continues

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15/2/79 Sta (212)
**Mine explosives
kept locked up
says accused**

Genas:

By Michael Cohen,
Staff Reporter

IN COURT

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3:

VILJOENSKROON — The only way four miners assistants could have been working with explosives on the fatal day in the No 8 Shaft of the Vaal Reefs gold mine on December 1 last year was by breaking the lock on the explosives box

and that they should send a learner miner with a blaster's certificate to help him.

cloud of light smoke moving up the centre gully towards them

"There is no way they could have regarded my request as a joke. They promised me the help but kept on saying Monday ... Monday .. Monday ...", Mr Hurn said

When the smoke turned thick and black he realised that something was very badly wrong

Difto

This evidence was given today by Mr Frederick Hurn, a miner, at his trial before the Chief Magistrate of Bloemfontein in the Viljoenskroon Regional Court.

On December 1 last year he had been sitting with his learner miner when he heard an explosion. At that stage he thought it was one of the ventilation doors slamming, but later saw a

He put his sweat scarf round his mouth and went to investigate

Visibility was almost zero and smoke and gas were starting to get to him when he met mine captain, Mr Jan van Zyl, who told him of the fire

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Mr Hurn and Mr David Bosch, a shiftboss, have pleaded not guilty before Mr G J V Jordaan on a main charge of culpable homicide resulting from the death of 41 mine workers.

Mr F A Bonthuis is appearing for the State. Mr P A Vorster, instructed by the Mineworkers Union, appears for Mr Hurn. Mr T Engels appears for Mr Bosch

SURPRISED

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Mr Hurn told the court that he could not see any way that the men under him, who were not scheduled explosive workers, could have been working with explosives. He said he had had the key to the explosives box and had never given it to anyone.

"I cannot see that these men would have done such a stupid thing as to light a roll of igniting cord. They have been properly trained by me and would not be so stupid. I am surprised," Mr Hurn told the court.

He told of a workload which he regarded as being excessive. He said he had six working faces and was required to work four of them.

Mr Hurn said that if he exceeded his monthly quota he got a bonus. There was also the chance of him winning the prize for the top miner in the shaft which he had done on several occasions.

He said he had informed management that his workload was excessive.

tjie

idjie

entjie

He concluded that ninety per cent of the houses there, damaged in dwellings that are unfinished, are unoccupied and no money is being spent on them. Even the houses completed and occupied are unoccupied. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates.

(S.C.M. vol. 1) The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates.

Accused miner 'good at his job'

By INGRID NORTON

A SECTION manager at the Vaal Reefs gold mine said in the Viljoenskroon Regional court yesterday that the two miners charged with culpable homicide were both reliable and competent.

Mr Walter Bassell, section manager of the No 8 shaft at Vaal Reefs, was giving evidence at the trial of Mr Frederick Christiaan Bossert Hurn, a miner, and Mr David Johannes Bosch, a shift boss.

The two are alleged to have been responsible, due to negligence of duty, for the deaths of 41 miners after a fire broke out on the 73rd level of the mine on December 1 last year.

They are also charged with five counts of contravening the Mines and Works Act.

Mr Bassell said it was the duty of the shift boss to observe regulations as far

as explosives were concerned and also his duty to satisfy himself that the necessary procedures and checks had been completed.

He said he had been very surprised to learn that Mr Hurn, who was neat and systematic, had, after the fire, entered in his log book that he had checked the explosives when he apparently hadn't.

Mr J Van Zyl, a mine captain at Vaal Reefs, agreed that Mr Hurn was good at his job.

On the day of the fire a miner had told him there was "big trouble" on the 73rd level.

"I rushed to the stoke concerned. There was just the smoke, the flames and myself. I went to the fire box but the connections for the hose was above the flames and out of reach. Mr Hurn was there. He said he did not know if the black workers had got out. The trial is proceeding.

at the Cape Peninsula Joint Council to wait on the... (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

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The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates. The houses are unoccupied because the owners have no money to pay for the rates.

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TUTORIAL EXPERIMENT

Burning cord led to 41 deaths

By Mike Cohen

A minei working under ground hit a short piece of igniting cord to show a colleague it was usable. Then neither could extinguish it. One threw a roll of the cord at the flame in an attempt to douse it. The roll ignited and 41 men died.

This was the story of how the disaster began at the Vaal Reets gold mine near Orkney on December 1 last year as told in the Valjoenskröön Regional Court this week.

A minei, Mr Frederick Hurn, and his shift boss, Mr David Bosch, appeared before Mr G. J. V. Jordaan. They both pleaded not guilty to a main charge of culpable homicide result

ing from the 41 deaths.

The court heard that to prove the roll of igniting cord was not wet a minei's assistant lit a small piece. He then attempted to douse the flame with a full roll of cord.

The resulting fire was in a stope on the Number 79 level of the Number 8 shaft of the mine. Thirty bodies were recovered but only 27 of them could be identified — by their name tags only.

The State called three minei's assistants, the mine captain and the section manager to give evidence.

In his defence, the minei, Mr Hurn, told the court that the load of work which he

had was too much to cope with. For that reason he was forced to break the mine regulations.

He allowed the minei's assistants according to them to handle explosives without him being present — which is required by law.

Evidence was led that a minei's assistant had the possession of the key to the explosives box every day. He said it was given to him by the minei.

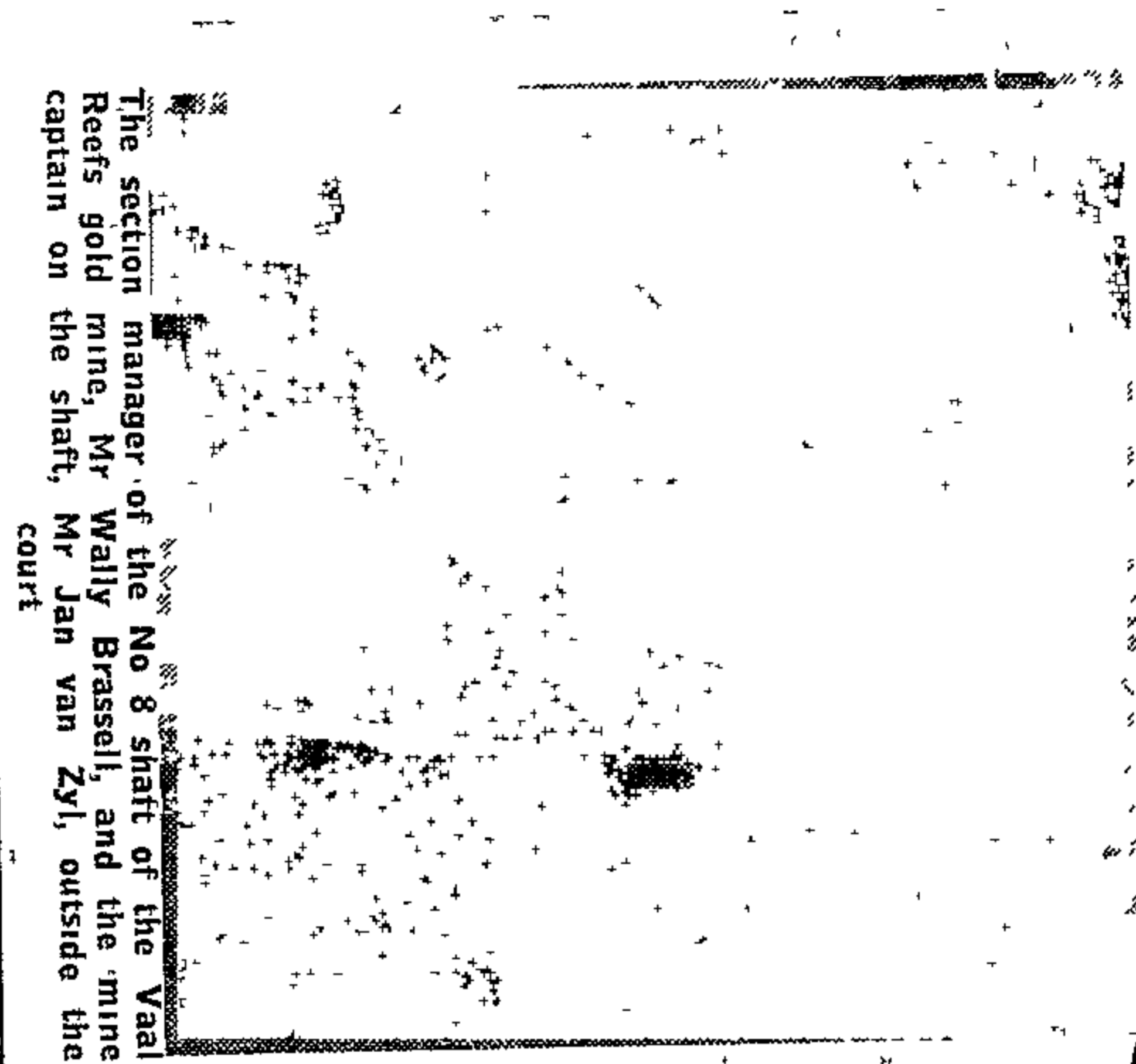
Both the State and defence have closed their cases in the trial and the Chief Magistrate of Bloemfontein granted a postponement until Monday to prepare argument.

A roll of igniting cord burns as it did when the fatal fire in the Vaal Reets gold mine near Orkney on December 1 last year killed 41 miners.

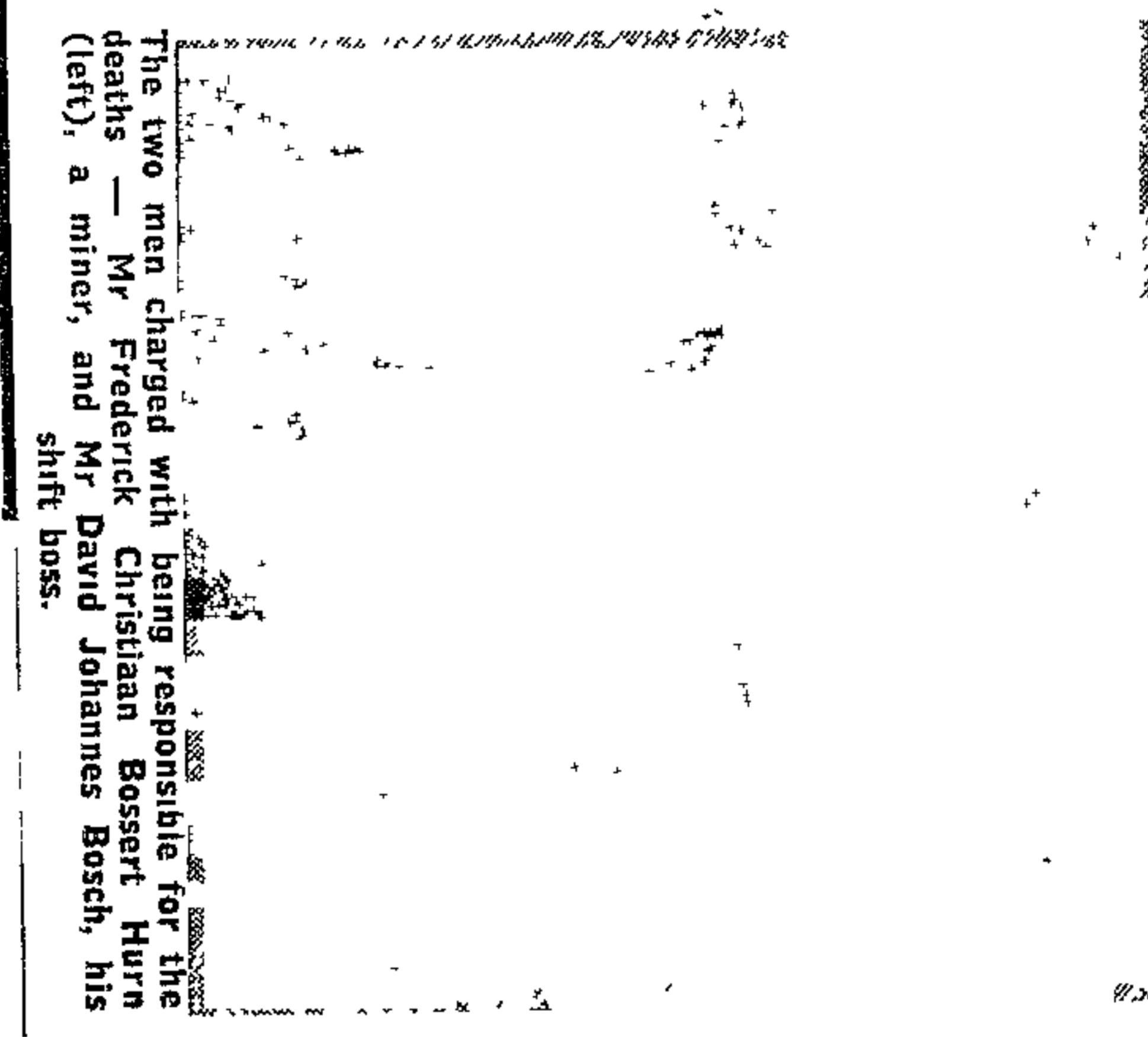
2/2

The Star Saturday February 17 1979

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The section manager of the No 8 shaft of the Vaal Reefs gold mine, Mr Wally Brassell, and the mine captain on the shaft, Mr Jan van Zyl, outside the court



The two men charged with being responsible for the deaths — Mr Frederick Christiaan Bosserl Hurn (left), a miner, and Mr David Johannes Bosch, his shift boss.

Miners

plunge to death

NM 13/3/79

(212)

GERMISTON — Two miners died here on Monday when the cable of the cage in which they were descending a mine shaft, broke

A third miner, Mr J. J Botha was rushed to hospital here with a broken leg He is in a satisfactory condition

One of the dead men has been identified as Mr R D Mels of Brakpan. The name of the other miner is not yet known

The accident happened at the Balmoral gold mine
— (Sapa)

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R20.0

Miner sentenced ⁽²¹²⁾ in death case ^{13/3/79 DD}

VILJOENSKROON — The Miner in charge of a shaft on Vaal Reefs gold mine where a fire killed 41 people last December was fined R700 (or 350 days' imprisonment) in the Regional Court here yesterday

Mr Frederick Hurn, 35, who has won several awards at the mine, was found guilty of culpable homicide and of contravening four regulations under the Mines and Works Act

A shift boss accused with Mr Hurn, Mr David Bosch, 47, was found not guilty on all charges

The chief magistrate of Bloemfontein, Mr G J V Jordaan, found Mr Hurn had been negligent in allowing unqualified assistants to handle explosives on No 73 level of No 8 shaft at Vaal Reefs mine near Orkney

He found that after supervising his shift of 116 people in No 8 shaft, Mr Hurn had gone to eat his morning sandwiches. While he was away two assistants were left to make up fuses. An argument developed between them in which one claimed

some ignitor cord was wet

His colleague lit a short piece of the cord to show it was usable and a fire started. When neither of them could extinguish it, one threw a roll of cord at the flame to douse it. The roll ignited and 41 men died in the resulting fire

Mr Jordaan fined Mr Hurn R600 (or 300 days) on the main count of culpable homicide and R100 (or 50 days) for contravening Mines and Works Act regulations

Mr P A Vorster (for Mr Hurn) said his client had won three awards as a miner at Vaal Reefs

"In 1975 he won a watch for having the safest working area on the mine and had also qualified for bonuses on more than 10 occasions for working accident-free shifts"

Mr Hurn, a father of three, had suffered from a nervous complaint and drinking problem since the incident. His contract had been terminated by the mine and, although he had not lost his job, he had suffered financial losses

— SAPA

Death of 41 miners: Hurn is guilty

212

KDM 13/3/29

Staff Reporter

A MINER was fined a total of R700 (or 350 days) in the Viljoenskroon Regional court yesterday after being found guilty of culpable homicide and of contravening four regulations under the Mines and Works Act.

Mr David Bosch, a shift boss appearing with him, under the same charges, was found not guilty.

Frederick Hurn, 35, had been employed at the Vaal Reef gold mine near Orkney as a miner for 12 years. On the morning of December 1 last year, a fire broke out in the mine, trapping and killing 41 miners.

The magistrate, Mr G J V Jordaan, found Hurn had been negligent in allowing unqualified blacks to handle explosives. On the morning of the fire he found Hurn had left 16 shift workers on the 73rd level and had gone to have his morning tea break.

While he was away, the three men who were in charge of fixing the fuses, noticed that the blasting flex was wet. One man cut off a piece of the flex and tried to light it. It caught fire and he attempted to put the flames out by hitting it with another roll of flex. That also caught fire and the detonators exploded.

The magistrate fined Hurn R600, or 300 days, on the main count of culpable homicide, and R150 or 50 days for contravening the Mines and Works Act.

In mitigation, Mr P Vorster for the defence, said Hurn had won three safety awards and had qualified for bonuses several times for his skill in handling fire.

He said since the fire Hurn had suffered from a nervous complaint.

Doctor hits out over slackness on mine hazards

STARS 22/1/71

219

By Sieg Hannig, Labour Reporter

A leading medical man has attacked shareholders, the Department of Mines, mine managers and the Mineworkers' Union for tolerating malpractices and omissions which aggravate mining hazards.

Dr J M Barry, acting head of the Department of Community Medicine at Witwatersrand University, who served the mining industry for 27 years, told a symposium of the Institute for the Study of Man in Africa last night that

● A mine manager, when asked about men working at a potentially fatal wet bulb temperature of 33 deg Celsius "just shrugged his shoulders and said 'we get away with it' — and the inspectorate (of the Department of Mines) was probably aware of this."

NOISE

● The Mines and Works Act made no mention of noise or dust or protective goggles — in spite of the widespread risk of hazards such as noise which made Dr Barry's brother 30 percent deaf in 15 years as a developer

● Pressures imposed by production targets sometimes led to workers' being pushed into hazardous situations.

● The average black miner had no change of underground clothing and washed this only once a week because it would not dry in time for the next shift.

He said shareholders should assume responsibility for the health of miners instead of looking only at their dividends.

It was strange that the Mineworkers' Union had seldom taken an interest in members' health and safety.

Lost in mine for 22 days

By Terry Baron

A miner is recovering in Impala Platinum's hospital in Rustenburg after spending 22 days lost and without food underground

A hospital spokesman said today Mr Frans Mysimini (35) was in "remarkably good shape" after his ordeal and would be discharged soon.

Mr Mysimini was brought to the surface by a team of miners who found him in a worked-out section of the mine. He was fully conscious and was taken immediately to the hospital where he was treated for shock. He complained that he felt weak but had no injuries

His ordeal began on February 27 when his miner's lamp failed while working on number three level. After groping around in the dark for hours he found a pool of water and kept himself alive on that for 22 days.

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nous avons (vécu)

es ai (vu) prendre

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que serait (livré),

avait ni (prévu) ni

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ngmente).

il y a

Des versions, je lui en ai (fait) faire pendant six mois.

beaucoup (plus).

7. J'aime les spectacles sans prétention; ces danses de village m'ont

6. Il avait déjà (abandonné) la barque quand elle a (commencé) à s'enfoncer.

5. Des compliments, il en a (reçu) de nombreux, certainement plus qu'il

4. Les reproches (mérite) que lui a (valu) sa conduite l'ont tout de même

3. Les matelots, (rassemblés) sur le quai, ont (embarqué) et nous les avons

2. Si vos amis avaient (voulu) venir, nous les aurions (reçu) avec plaisir

1. La petite fille que j'ai (vu) pleurer, (perdu) dans la foule, cherchait

ne leur avez pas (parlé);

8. Comment, vous les avez (re)heureusement (échappé).

7. Je n'oublierai jamais les dangers que nous avons (courus) pendant l'occupation, les (arrivé).

6. Vos tantes, je les ai (aperçus) et je suis bien

5. Soyez indulgents avec lui, ce soir, l'armoire que je

4. Je leur ai (téléphoné) et même (suspense).

3. Les croisades eurent des (sauvé) quatre.

2. La tempête faisait rage; n'avez pas (parté)!

Même exercice.

Faites accorder les participes passés entre parenthèses.

2/...

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Lost for 22 days in mine

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A mineworker is recovering in Impala Platinum's hospital in Rustenburg after spending 22 days lost and without food underground.

A hospital spokesman said today that Mr Frans Mysimini, 35, was in remarkably good shape after his ordeal and would be discharged soon.

Mr Mysimini was brought to the surface by a team of miners who found him in a worked-out section of the mine. He was fully conscious.

His ordeal began on February 27, when his miner's lamp failed while working on No 3 level.

After groping around in the dark for hours, he found a pool of water and kept himself alive on that for 22 days.

Officials first became worried when he failed to turn up for his shift on February 28. A search was conducted in the mine hostels and his family was approached in Pietersburg in an effort to find out if he had returned home.

212

22/3/79

211

Miner was lost underground

23/3/79

212

RUSTENBURG — A miner is recovering in the Impala platinum mine hospital here after spending 22 days lost without food underground.

A hospital spokesman said yesterday Mr Frans Mysimini, 35, was in "remarkably good shape" after his ordeal and would be discharged soon.

Mr Mysimini was brought to the surface by a team of miners who found him in a worked-out section of the mine. He was fully conscious and was taken to the hospital where he was treated for shock. He complained that he felt weak, but had no injuries.

His ordeal began on February 27 when his miner's lamp failed while working on number three level. After groping around in the dark for hours he found a pool of water and kept himself alive for 22 days.

Officials at the mine became suspicious when Mr Mysimini failed to report for duty on February 28. They checked the mine's hostels and questioned villagers nearby.

Letters were later sent to his family inquiring whether he was at home. — SAPA.

Centre for crippled miners

By MARILYN ELLIOTT

IN WELKOM, O.F.S., this week black and white basketball players crouched together in a sweaty do-or-die game while hundreds of pitted spectators looked on.

And while one orange-vested Welkom player passed the ball to his black team-mate for a goal, sport apartheid was squashed under the wheelchair of paraplegics in a game for dignitaries at the official opening of a new rehabilitation centre for Anglo American miners.

The centre — known as "Thyuseng" — that means "Help yourselves" in South Sotho — has been built by Anglo at a cost of R2-million for the rehabilitation of paraplegics and quadriplegics who sustained injury on Anglo American property.

Sir Lutting Guttman, founder of the National Spinal Injuries Centre at the Stoke Mandeville

Hospital in Aylesbury, England, who officially opened "Thyuseng", said it was one of the finest rehabilitation centres for paraplegics in the world.

Building started in September 1977 when senior executives of the corporation gave the green light for a centrally situated rehabilitation centre.

It is being built in four phases, and by 1981 the centre will provide accommodation, employment, recreation, and medical attention for 100 disabled blacks.

The patients work there from 8 am until 4 pm they paint warning signs for use underground in mines and make small appliances necessary for the gold mining industry.

They earn a monthly wage comparable with rates paid to surface mine workers. If they complete more than their quota, they get paid more. But sport is the paraplegic's

great escape. The centre will eventually be equipped with a sports field for field events and archery, a basketball court, a bowling green, and a swimming pool.

Other facilities include a beer garden, medical station, recreation and dining halls — and soon — a coin-operated laundrette.

Dr Ian Potgieter, superintendent of the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital and rehabilitation centre, said news of the centre has spread and inquiries have come from paraplegics throughout Southern Africa.

"The acid test of our rehabilitation centre is when one of our paraplegics returns to the centre after a long period at home. If he returns without any of the complications associated with his condition, his rehabilitation has been successful. This shows he has learned to look after himself," he said.

paraplegic patient earns his monthly wage by painting danger signs with the aid of a brace that separates his fingers.

① ZH
② Z12

SUNDAY TRIBUNE, MARCH 25, 1979

HUNGER STRIKES!

Miner lost underground for 21 days

WHILE the mine management fight the Press away from his bedside an emaciated Mr Frans Masemani is recovering from his 21 days lost underground

Union Corporation, owners of the Impala platinum mine at Rustenburg where the black miner survived for three weeks without food, said this week he had a memory blank about the period and so could not see the Press

All pressmen have been turned away from the black miners hospital on the Bafokeng South mine. But the Tribune got through to see the emaciated Mr Masemani (27) lying in a private ward with a drip feed in his arm

This was 36 hours after he had been brought up to the surface on Wednesday morning. He seemed well on the road to recovery.

Whether because he had just been woken or as a result of his experience, he seemed a little confused, but conscious of his surroundings

He politely sat up to speak after a black orderly explained the Tribune was there to see him. At that moment the white hospital supervisor rushed in and accused the reporter of trespassing, gave him 30 seconds to leave

The miner's emaciated condition confirms at least one fact in the confused story — that he was trapped a long while without food. Union Corporation has not even gone this far in its official statement which implies the mine itself was in no way responsible for the incident

They said the miner "last worked on the Bafokeng North mine on February 28, when he returned to the surface. This was confirmed by the mine's routine check system — his work card and lamp were handed in.

"It was assumed he left the mine after this date.

By Peter Fabricius

come up. Often miners took the wrong cards

According to this man, another black miner had been lost underground for three days about three weeks ago

He said all the miners had been called to the surface before a rock face was blasted

No-one noticed one black miner was still underground. The blast went ahead and it was only on Sunday that he was missed.

A search party went down and found him immediately — battered and bruised.

The white miner said it hadn't been established whether the black miner had sustained his injuries

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

CENTRE FOR AFRICAN STUDIES

presents a course of lectures for 1978

INTRODUCTION TO SOUTH AFRICA II

CURRENT PROBLEMS AND FUTURE PROJECTIONS

The course meets in Lecture Theatre 2, P.D. Hahn Building, 1:10 - 1:55 pm, usually on Mondays. This is not a credit course, there is no registration or fee, and ANYBODY MAY ATTEND, including the non-university public.

TENTATIVE LECTURE PROGRAM

Section 1 : BACKGROUND

- 1. March 6. South Africa in the African setting -- Mr. Robin Hallett, African History, UCT.

- 2. March 13. Interview with the Department of Press and Public Relations, UCT. Interviewed by Dr. Simon Bekker, University of Stellenbosch.

- 3. March 20. Political and Economic Background of Southern Africa -- Dr. Robert Schrire, University of Stellenbosch.

Section 2 : ECONOMIC

- 4. March 30 (THU) Development and Reconstruction in South Africa -- Dr. J. van der Merwe, University of Stellenbosch.
- 5. April 3. Inco and the Impala Mines -- Dr. J. van der Merwe, University of Stellenbosch.
- 6. April 10. African Economic Development -- Dr. J. van der Merwe, University of Stellenbosch.
- 7. April 17. Government and the Impala Mines -- Dr. J. van der Merwe, University of Stellenbosch.
- 8. May 1. The South African Economy -- Dr. J. van der Merwe, University of Stellenbosch.

Section 3 : EDUCATION

- 9. May 8. A history of the education system of South Africa -- Dr. E.G. Malherbe, Natal.
- 10. May 15. The crisis in African education -- Dr. B. K. Hartshorne, Pretoria (former Director of Planning, Bantu Education Department).
- 11. May 22. Can we survive on our education system until the year 2000? -- Dr. P.E. Spargo, Education, UCT.

CT. 30/3/79
**Mineworker tells of
underground ordeal** (212)

JOHANNESBURG — Mineworker Mr Frans Masemani, lost underground for 21 days in a Rustenburg platinum mine, yesterday tried to describe the experience.

At the Impala Mines hospital Mr Masemani, speaking through an interpreter, said he did not know what had happened to him but "something made me run back to the mine"

"Everything went blank after that and I walked and walked without knowing where I was going"

The small man felt his way in the dark along mine tunnels with a stick to avoid holes. It was only his second day underground and he had just come out of training school.

"I walked and tapped, walked and tapped, walked and tapped," he said. In the darkness, he made his way to a disused section of the mine about 700 metres from the main shaft — only 20 m from the surface.

He found a pool of water and lay there until he was discovered there by a rescue team.

According to a mine spokesman, he had heard the team talking over their walkie-talkie radios as they fanned out through the tunnels to look for him.

"Here I am. Come and get me," he had shouted — Sapa

New vaccine

is now ^{STAR} 4/4/79

available ① 89

② 212

in SA

MARAIS MALAN, Science Editor

A new United States developed vaccine against the pneumococcus micro-organism, main cause of an often deadly form of pneumonia, has been released in South Africa.

Doctors in South Africa have helped to establish the efficacy and safety of the vaccine — it confers at least 80 percent immunity — in a massive clinical trial on 12 000 black mineworkers, a group in which the pneumonia incidence is particularly high.

The vaccine is active against 14 strains of pneumococcus, including those strains that have lately developed resistance against some antibiotics.

"The belief that pneumococcal pneumonia is a killer disease of the past is a fallacy," says Prof Hendrik Koornhof, head of the Department of Microbiology at the SA Institute for Medical Research and the University of the Witwatersrand.

"It is a common cause of death, particularly in the elderly and certain other people who are at risk."

He does not recommend mass immunisation but lists several categories of people who should be protected against the organism:

① The elderly, particularly those with chronic heart or lung ailments

② People, though young and healthy, who are at risk on account of their way of life. This includes mineworkers who live in close proximity in compounds where pneumonia has been a serious problem at times. This applies to a lesser extent to the Defence Force, boarding schools, orphanages and other institutions where many people are herded together

③ Doctors and nurses who work in hospitals where resistant pneumococci have been isolated.

④ Children admitted to hospital wards where respiratory infections are treated, particularly if their stay is protracted

⑤ People with disorders of the spleen or whose spleen has been removed are particularly prone to serious pneumococcal septicaemia.

⑥ Children in developing countries who are prone to middle ear deafness caused by the organism.

The vaccine will not solve the problem of multi-resistant pneumococci. These infections are found mainly in babies and the vaccine is not as effective in them as in the over-two-year olds, says Prof Koornhof.

"But our experience is that it is a good vaccine which confers at least three years' immunity — and the indications are that as time goes on we shall find that this immunity is long-lived."

Pneumonia incidence figures are not available for South Africa but in 1976 a mining group reported a rate of 23,8 per 1 000 of its workforce with a 1,8 percent mortality rate among the cases reported.

In the United States more than 55 000 deaths from pneumonia were reported during the same years

Sweden, again, the nobility enjoyed great political importance. Not until 1809 was government office there made legally accessible to members of all classes.

The use of the words 'nobility' and 'nobles' is not to be taken as implying that a homogeneous social group is being discussed. There were vast differences between the nobilities of different countries. The Polish and Hungarian squares exacting of through manorial officials labour services from their peasants had not a resemblance to the aristocrats of England or Sweden, whose lands were for the most part leased to tenant farmers over whom they had relatively little control. The service nobilities of Russia and Prussia had little in common with the increasingly functionless aristocrats of Spain and Italy. There were also important distinctions between the different sec-

ARGUS 6/4/79
3 die in
mine after
tremor 212

JOHANNESBURG
Three black miners were killed and three others are trapped underground after a tremor at the Vaal Rand Gold Mine near Orkney, today, an Anglo American Corporation spokesman announced here

Several other miners are unaccounted for.

The spokesman said the tremor occurred at the No 2 shaft of the mine at 7.30 AM

Rockfalls caused by the tremor affected five stopes on the 73 and 74 levels

Rescue operations were in progress — Sapa

now being more... towards the grant of the *honours de la Cour* (prestige of female members of a family to the Queen and the bestowing of gas made members of a family in the King's coach) presupposed that conveying proofs of nobility had been given. From 1759 it required, at least in theory, that the family in question should have been noble since before the year 1400. Between a great noble who could obtain for himself and his protégés the appointments, honours and pensions which only court influence could secure, and the poor provincial squire, the *hobereau*, who might live and work in conditions no better than those enjoyed by many peasants, the gulf was wide indeed. Only in a purely legal sense can they be regarded as belonging to the same social class. The distinction between rich and poor nobles, between metropolitan and provincial, was in practice much more important than that between those of the

¹ F. Bluche, *Les Honneurs de la Cour* (Paris, 1957), vol. 3, p. 3.

'robe' and the 'sword'. Even the degree of influence which the French nobility could exercise over the provincial representative bodies, the Estates, in the areas where they existed varied widely in different provinces. In Brittany perhaps the nobles were more powerful than in the north, and it was normal for several hundred (many of them very poor) to put up an appearance in the *Manoir*.¹ Moreover, by contrast, only three nobles, the *gentry* of the north, wealthier than the Breton gentry, were members of the Estates.

Similarly in Spain, where in the census of 1787 half a million people (about 5 per cent of the total population) claimed to be of noble status, the difference between the *poor hidalgos* who made up the vast majority of this total and the group of great landowners at the apex of the social pyramid, such as the Dukes of Infantado and Medina-Sidonia, was immense. Within these major divisions of the Spanish privileged class, moreover, there were further subdivisions: the *grandees*, the highest stratum of the nobility numbering little more than a hundred in all, were classified, at least in theory, in three distinct groups. Contrasts of this type were equally sharp in Poland. There the privileged class, the *szlachta*, was before the partitions an enormous group of almost a million people, the vast majority of whom were poor and many of whom owned little or no land. Many of them, to the casual observer, were distinguishable from peasants only by their possession of the right to wear a certain type of hat and the fact that special seats were reserved for them in church services.

This type and the *szlachta* of the north were the only nobles in the country (in so far as it was ruled at all before the partitions) who could be no real equality. A Prince Radziwill, owning lands greater in extent than many of the German States, or a member of one of the other great Polish families, the Czartoryskis, the Potockis, the Sapiehas, was at a different being from the ignorant and impoverished squires who followed and depended on him. In the same way in Hungary, where legal privileges were also very widely diffused (it was said in 1787 to have three times as many 'noble' families as France though its population was only a quarter as large) the Esterhazys, Palfys, and other great families, wealthy, cultured, and influential at Vienna, moved in a different world from the semi-educated and bitterly conservative petty landlords of the Danube valley. Similar distinctions can be seen in Russia. There as early as the 1690s Prince M. Ya. Cherkasski, the greatest secular landholder in the country, possessed over 9,000 peasant households, while eleven other landowners each possessed over a

STAR 7/4/79 212

Rescuers tell of mine terror

By Iam Macdonald
Miners at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine at Orkney near Potchefstroom yesterday told of the panic and terror among trapped underground workers after a tremor-induced rockfall had killed seven black miners and injured 37.

Rescue teams are still searching for three missing miners. A mine spokesman said these were unlikely to be trapped alive. Either they had been killed, or they had reached the surface safely and had not reported.

The men had just come on shift at 7.30 yesterday morning when a tremor rippled through the rock and brought large boulders crashing down on five stopes between 73 and 74 levels of Number Two shaft.

Late yesterday afternoon, ambulances were still coming and going at the shaft entrance. Tense-faced mine officials pored over underground plans.

Mine manager Mr J Eplett said tersely "six

blacks are dead and 37 injured. Some others are missing, and some are trapped underneath rockfalls.

(Since then, one of the missing men has been found dead.)

"We're trying to get the rocks off the trapped men, but a number of travelling-ways are blocked, and we have to get those cleared first."

Some work was still going on in other levels of the mine yesterday.

A mineworker who was slightly injured and who

helped carry the injured out, Mr Tshakiso Moremi, said there had been "a tremor, a big vibration, then panic."

"We were battling for about three hours to rescue the men. I myself took three out."

"The shift-bosses were not down yet. My hand was cut by falling rocks," he said.

Another miner, Mr Boysie Rabi, said there was a big bang, and many people were hurt.

By JAYNE LA MONT

SIX mineworkers were killed and 37 injured when a tremor struck the number two shaft of the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Orkney yesterday morning, causing rockfalls which affected five stopes on two levels

A spokesman for the mine said last night the injured miners, all of whom are black, have been taken to the West Vaal Hospital. Some of them are in a serious condition

One trapped mineworker was brought out alive

The tremor, which measured 3.7 on the Richter Scale, occurred at 7.33 am

Miners die as tremor rocks mine

causing rockfalls on levels 73 and 74

Although a number of miners are still missing they are not thought to be trapped. Rescue operations are continuing, the spokesman said. All areas affected by the rockfalls are being searched.

A fire trapped and killed 41 workers in the mine on December 1 last year, bringing the total deaths for 1978 to over 100

Bokser vermis in myn

KAPPOET 8/4/79
EEN van Suid-Afrika se bekende Bushney-broers van boksaam, Andries, 59, word saam met twee swart mynwerkers ná 'n rotstorting in die Vaal Reefs-goudmyn naby Orkney in Wes-Transvaal vermis.

In dieselfde voorval is sewe swart mynwerkers dood en 37 beseer. Sommige van hulle is in 'n ernstige toestand in die hospitaal.

Gistermiddag het 'n woordvoerder van die Anglo American-groep gesê daar is nie veel hoop om die drie vermistes lewend te vind, nie. Reddingswerkers gaan egter voort met hul werk.

Mnr. Bushney sou die einde van die jaar afgetree het. Hy het 22 jaar lank by die myn gewerk. Hy en sy vrou het twee jaar gelede twee van hul kleinkinders aangeneem nadat hul seun, die kinders se pa, in 'n motorongeluk oorlede is en hul moeder aan kanker gesterf het.

Mnr. Bushney en sy ses broers het almal op hul dag vir Suid-Afrika geboks.

(212)

Hopes dwindle for three trapped miners

The slow
9/4/79.

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Hope of rescuing three trapped miners from the Vaal Reef mine, where they were buried by a rockfall on Friday morning is becoming remote, a mine spokesman said today

Seven miners died and 37 were injured in the rockfall

The missing men, one white miner and two blacks, are buried somewhere beneath tons of boulders between 73 and 74 levels of the mine

"We know in which stope they should be, but it is very dangerous to go in at present," the spokesman said.

Mine rescue teams are gingerly picking their way into the boulder-choked stopes, but "everything is loose in there and we have to move in very carefully," he said.

The missing white is 59-year-old Mr Andries Bushney, from the Bushney boxing family, who was due to retire from the mine this year. He is one of a family of seven brothers, and had recently adopted his son's two young children after his son was killed in a road accident.

17/4/79 C. Times (212)
Mine victim's body recovered

ORKNEY — The body of Mr Andries Bushney, 59, last victim of the rockfall which killed 10 miners and injured 37 at the Vaal Reefs gold mine near here more than a week ago, was brought to the surface on Saturday

Mr Bushney, who worked at the mine for 22 years and was due to retire at the end of the year, is survived by his wife and two grandchildren, whose guardian he became when their parents died a few years ago

The accident, precipitated by an earth tremor, happened as the men went on shift at 7 30 am on April 6 — Sapa

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No 825

20 April 1979

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED WORKS AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 73 of 1973) declared the following works to be a controlled works with effect from 1 June 1979

The works known as Consolidated Metallurgical Industries Limited, on the farm Towaalands of Lydenburg 31 JJ situate in the Municipal District of Lydenburg Province of the Transvaal which is at present being worked by Consolidated Metallurgical Industries Limited, P.O. Box 195, Lydenburg

The following work at the said works has been declared risk work by the Minister in terms of section 13 of the said Act with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 June 1979)

All work within the boundary fence of the works excluding work of a temporary nature performed by contractors or their employees, which shall be completed within a period not exceeding 12 months

No 825

20 April 1979

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE WERKE EN RISIKO WERK

Die Minister van Myne en Bergbou het in terme van die Wet op Bedryfslees in Myne en Bergbou, 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973) die volgende werke verklaar tot 'n beheerde bedryf met effek vanaf 1 Junie 1979 tot 'n beheerde bedryf met effek vanaf

Die bedryf bekend as Consolidated Metallurgical Industries Limited op die plaas Towaalands 31 JJ geleë in die Munisipale Distrik van Lydenburg, provinsie Transvaal wat tans deur Consolidated Metallurgical Industries Limited, P.O. Box 195, Lydenburg bedryf word

Die volgende werk by gemelde bedryf is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 Junie 1979) as risikowerk verklaar deur die Minister in terme van afdeling 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister verklaar

Alle werk binne die werke-omheining van die bedryf met uitsondering van werk van 'n tydelike aard deur kontrakteurs of hul werknemers verrig word binne 'n tydperk van hoogstens 12 maande af te maak moet wees

Coal ²¹² miner ^{24/4/79} killed ^{NIM}

Mercury Reporter

A MINE worker was killed and 18 injured in an underground explosion at the Balgray Colliery, Utrecht, yesterday afternoon

The medical superintendent of the Niemeyer Hospital in Utrecht, Dr P A van der Merwe, said he was "very worried" about four of the injured

Eight others — including one White man — were in a satisfactory condition and six were treated and discharged

Details of the explosion could not be established by late last night but it is believed mine inspectors from Dundee were investigating

Natal miners

still serious

DOM
27/11/79 (212)
Staff Reporter

TWO of four badly burnt miners flown to Johannesburg on Monday after a gas explosion in Natal are still seriously ill in the Wenela Hospital

Mr Khotso Mofokeng is in the intensive care unit and Mr Lenka Mosia is being treated in a surgical ward

Ground fall kills worker 22

RDM 27/4/79
A WHITE miner was killed in a ground fall accident at the Batokeng North mine in BophuthaTswana yesterday, a spokesman for Impala Platinum announced.
Mr Nicolaas, Jacobus Oosthuizen, 49, died after an accident in the mine's No 6 sh. ft. — Sapa

RDM 27/4/79

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sealed off

AN UNDERGROUND
which broke out at the Vent-14
post gold mine near Weston, Ia.
on Thursday was expected to
be sealed off late last night.
The mine, which started on the
22nd level, cut production to
less than 25% of Goldfield
operations and in Johannes
burg yesterday.

The spokesman added that
production, which has now re-
turned to 85% would remain
below maximum for some time
after the fire has been sealed
off. — Sapa

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Star 21/5/79
212

Five miners die in shaft disaster

One white and four black mine workers were killed yesterday when a cable of the stage in the ventilation shaft of the Matla No 2 mine near Delmas snapped, a spokesman for the mine said today.

The five workers fell about 90 m down the shaft.

The white worker killed was Mr Ernest Hendrik de Witt (36), a carpenter. Mr de Witt leaves his wife and four children. The names of the black workers could not be released until their next-of-kin had been informed.

Sana

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED WORKS AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), declared the following works to be a controlled works, with effect from 1 August 1979

The works known as East Rand Gold and Uranium Company Ltd, on the farm Witpoortjie 117 IR, situate in the Magisterial District of Brakpan, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by East Rand Gold and Uranium Company Ltd, P O Box 980, Brakpan

The following work at the said works has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act, with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 August 1979).

All work at the gold/uranium plant which is under a roof, and all work at the assay laboratory and the flotation plant, performed within the areas demarcated on plans of the works filed in the Office of the Government Mining Engineer, Johannesburg, excluding work of a temporary nature performed by contractors or their employees, which shall be completed within a period not exceeding 12 months

rmt

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE BEDRYF RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mynwese het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende bedryf met ingang 1 Augustus 1979 tot 'n beheerde bedryf verklaar.

Die bedryf bekend as East Rand Gold and Uranium Company Ltd, op die plaas Witpoortjie 117 IR, in die landdrosdistrik Brakpan, provinsie Transvaal, wat tans deur East Rand Gold and Uranium Company Ltd, Posbus 980, Brakpan, bedryf word

Die volgende werk by die genoemde bedryf is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 Augustus 1979) deur die Minister van Mynwese as 'n risikowerk verklaar.

Alle werk by die goud/uraanaanleg wat onder afdak, en alle werk by die essaieringslaboratorium en die assaieringsaanleg, wat verrig word binne die gebiede soos aangedui op planne van die bedryf wat in die Kantoor van die Staatsmyningenieur, Johannesburg, geliasseer is, met uitsondering van werk van 'n tydelike aard wat deur kontrakteurs of hul werknemers verrig word en wat nie langer as 'n tydperk van hoogstens 12 maande afgehandel kan word.

Nkope has occasional fluting and bevelling which has been used to tie it to the eastern stream, but as this feature was not common (Robinson, 1973; Table 2) and it would seem that Nkope probably belonged to a different tradition. Phillipson (1975, 1977) has suggested that the expansion occurred as a linear continuum with Urewe as the earliest and Silver Leaves as the latest group. The linear continuum is based on the flint analysis (Phillipson, 1975) and has marked differences from the reconstruction derived from pottery analysis which suggested that Urewe and Kwaale were related through a common ancestor (Soper, 1971b). The simulations were carried out over both possible reconstructions:

Simulation 1. Urewe → Lelesu → Kwaale → Silver Leaves
Simulation 2. Kwaale → Silver Leaves

RESULTS

Simulation 1. The discontinuous spread model produced a faster rate of expansion than the wave of advance model. Rates of less than one kilometer per year were generated by the wave of advance model (Table 1) and these were an order of magnitude lower than the rates from the discontinuous spread model (Table 2). The rate of spread for a culture in the discontinuous spread model was similar to the rate generated by the wave of advance model (Table 3). Different input populations had little effect on the rates for the wave of advance model (Table 4) but did affect the internal culture expansion rates for the discontinuous spread model (Table 5). The differences in the rates of spread within a culture, for the discontinuous spread model, resulted from high population inputs being spread over a large area. Only a relatively small area was colonised before fission occurred. Therefore the time taken to reach the critical population density was short and this produced fast rates of expansion.

Simulation 2. The rates of advance for the wave of advance model remained the same as in simulation 1. This was also true for the within culture expansion rates derived from the discontinuous spread model. Appreciable differences were found in the overall rate of expansion, with rates from Kwaale to Silver Leaves expansion being much faster (Table 6) than from Urewe to Silver Leaves (Table 2).

No 1316

22 June 1979

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED WORKS AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act 1973 (Act 78 of 1973) declared the following works to be a controlled works with effect from 1 August 1979.

The works known as Zandpan Crushers (Pty) Ltd, on the farm Zandpan 423 IP situate in the Magisterial District of Klerksdorp, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by Zandpan Crushers (Pty) Ltd, P.O. Box 210, Stoffontem.

The following work at the said works has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 August 1979)

- (a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place
- (b) where crushing, screening or classification of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water, and
- (c) on waste dumps, piles or ore piles, other than where the waste or ore has been or is being deposited in the form of slime, including the places where such dumps or piles have already been deposited

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frequency of inter-attrition contact would have increased and with it the probability of friction would have grown. The level of stress would have increased until fission occurred when groups would have moved away, settled and formed the nuclei of new cultures. Each of these nuclei could have acted in turn as a centre for fission and further expansion.

In this model, as was the case for the continuous spread model, carrying capacity has been defined as psychological tolerance and the problem of limiting resources remains.

A flow diagram and computer simulation of the discontinuous spread model were prepared (Fig.3; Appendix 1).

DATA

Quantitative data. The rates of population growth used in the simulations were two, three and a half, and four per cent per annum. The values were similar to those quoted by Birdsell (1957) for human groups colonising uninhabited areas. Four values for carrying capacity were used: one, five, ten and fifteen people per square kilometer. A value of five people per square kilometer has been used as the carrying capacity for simulations on subsistence agriculturalists (Ammerman and Cavalli-Sforza, 1973). The values coincide with low population known from African ethnography (Tew, 1950), but the possibility remains that the ethnographic values are too high since they may have increased as a result of European medical attention.

Both models were simulated with three different, arbitrarily chosen, input populations: 100, 500, and 1000 people. In the simulations space was conceptualised as a series of concentric circles. The perimeter of each circle was set at 10 km away from the previous circle.

Cultural data. The bevelled/fluted complex corresponds, at least in broad outline, to the eastern stream (Phillipson, 1977). However, there are a number of problems associated with the eastern stream. Nkope has been included in the eastern stream and has been used as a link between Early Iron Age cultures in eastern and southern Africa. Puffman (1978) has shown that some of the cultures included in the eastern stream, notably the Transvaal group, do not have a high relationship to either the Nkope-Gokomere axis or to Silver Leaves material and should be excluded from the eastern stream. Similarly,

No. 1316

22 Jun 1979

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE BEDRIJF EN RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mynwese het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Arbeid 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende bedryf en werke van 1 Augustus 1979 tot 'n beheerde bedryf en werke verklaar.

Die bedryf bekend as Zandpan Crushers (Pty) Ltd, op die plaas Zandpan 423 IP, geleë in die distrik Klerksdorp, provinsie Transvaal, wat deur Zandpan Crushers (Pty) Ltd, Posbus 210, Stoffontem bedryf word.

Die volgende werk by die genoemde bedryf is op 1 Augustus 1979 as 'n beheerde bedryf en werke verklaar deur die Minister van Mynwese kragtens artikel 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister van Mynwese.

- (a) Waar die verskuiving, oorsplasing of hantering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind,
- (b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind, uitgesonderd onder water geskied; en
- (c) op uitkothope, stapels of ertsstapels, uitsondering van die uitkothope of erts in die vorm van slane, insluitende die plekke waar sodanige stapels reeds gestort is.

olt in the night wakes thousands

4/11/1
glad

Three killed as tremor rocks Reef

By Sieg Hannig and Iain Macdonald

3 miners killed in tremor

212
6/7/79
Stok



without electricity when the tremor's vibrations tripped some of Germiston's big transformers. J Nortje, the city's electrical engineer.

The longest break was about an hour, said Mr G. "Glass merchants in the Germiston-Boksburg area were inundated with calls today as property owners began to assess and repair damage

"I have had 30 to 40 calls already," said one Germiston glass merchant at mid-morning. "Most of the damage seems to have been done in the Elsburg and Ravensklip areas"

"I got a shock awakening at about 5 am," said Mrs Amoret Beech, a control room operator at Benoni's fire station. "It seemed as if the whole flat was shaking"

In Brakpan, Mrs E R Bentinck, who lives in Anzac on the outskirts of the town, felt two strong tremors lasting several seconds one after the other.

A tenant in the High Rise apartment block in Berea said she was woken up when her bed started shaking.

"Several ornaments in the flat were shaking as well," she said.

Three miners were killed and 11 injured today by an earth tremor which shattered scores of windows, cracked walls and awakened thousands of people across the Witwatersrand.

An ERPM mine manager, Mr J A Tyser, said the tremor had triggered a burst at the 63 West level 19 East area of the South Western vertical shaft

Two black men died and 11 were injured by falls of hanging at a depth of 2 800 metres. Another two were trapped and one was later found dead.

"Rescue operations would continue, Mr Tyser said. "We know the missing man is under falls of hanging but the area is choked and rescue operations will be protracted."

"Production has stopped in the areas affected and we have had minor falls at other shafts, but nothing serious."

Of the injured two were stretcher cases, but they and the nine walking injured were all found to be in a satisfactory condition after being examined at the ERPM hospital, a mine spokesman said.

The Star's Science Editor, Marais Malan, reports that the tremor was felt all over the Johannesburg area and even as far as Pretoria.

It registered four points on the Richter scale at the seismograph of the South African Geological Survey in Pretoria

This is rated as a "moderate" tremor, a spokesman said.

Walls crack

The Star's East Rand Bureau reported that glass panes were shattered, walls cracked and burglar alarms were activated as Germiston trembled.

It was one of the worst earth tremors to hit the city and lasted about three seconds.

Mr Paul Habib of Weber Road, Klippoortje, was "convinced the house was going to collapse" His home had three

large panes and one smaller one shattered. Several large cracks were in his wall. He estimated the damage at R500

The wall of Mrs Claudette Mansour's home in Cachet Road also cracked

Rumbling

A resident of Craighall, Johannesburg, said he woke up from the tremor at exactly 5 am

The tremor "set things rattling and rumbling" and lasted about 10 seconds, he thought

An ERPM spokesman said there was no mine blasting at the time. Asked if present or past mining activity could have been responsible for the tremor, he said: "As far as we are concerned, the tremor did not originate on the mine"

Several thousand people and some factories went

To Page 3, Col 7

Hunt for miner as 3 die in rockfall

RAM 7/7/79
212
Staff Reporter

RESCUE teams at the ERPM mine on the East Rand were last night picking their way through falls of rock to try and reach a miner trapped by yesterday's earth tremor.

The rescue operation would take some time as "the men are working in complete darkness and they have to clear the way in front of them," a mine spokesman said last night.

The body of another miner was recovered during the day, bringing the death toll to three. Eleven other miners have been admitted to hospital in a satisfactory condition.

The names of the dead miners will not be released until their next-of-kin have been informed, the spokesman said.

The tremor, which occurred at about 5 am and woke thousands of residents on the Reef, registered more than four points on the Richter scale but lasted only a few seconds.

Miners names released

212
18/7/79
Post

THE names of the four black miners who died two weeks ago in Germiston as a result of a rockfall, were released yesterday by Group Editors.

The four are: Mr Sonboy Ntshalintshali, a Swazi from Hlatikulu. He was a labourer; Mr Joseph Zondo, a Zulu from Non-goma who was a loader-driver; Mr Elias Mboti, a Xhosa from Mount Fre-re, Transkei who was a labourer and Mr Jabulani Khoza, a Shangaan from Bushbuckridge who was a labourer.

The rockfall incident happened at the ERPM mines. Three black miners were killed, one was missing and 11 injured. The fourth body was found after two days by rescue operations.

A spokesman of the mine had told POST that extensive rockfalls had occurred in the area.

Yesterday a spokesman of the mine said two of the 11 injured were still in hospital.

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Mine blast bodies found

Staff Reporter

THE bodies of two men who went missing about 3km underground at the Western Deep Levels Gold Mine after a pressure burst on Tuesday, were recovered yesterday, bringing the final death toll to nine

Eight men, who were injured in the burst, are all in satisfactory conditions in the Western Deep Levels Hospital

Seven of the bodies were recovered on Tuesday night

The names of the victims — all black migrant workers — have been withheld until their next of kin have been notified

The miners were working 3 180m below surface in the No 3 shaft when the accident occurred.

A spokesman for the owners, Anglo American, said. "Rescue teams worked in four hour shifts and were prepared to go on until the two missing men

were found although they did not hold much hope that they would be found alive

"The accident happened because the level on which the miners were working was very deep. The hot gas built up pressure until, eventually, the rock split open."

The accident is the worst since May last year when 20 miners were killed in a rockfall at Buffelsfontein

8/1979

Star 29/8/79
8 miners (212)
**killed in
rockburst**

By Sieg Hannig
Labour Reporter

Eight men have been killed, eight injured and one left missing, feared dead, by a pressure burst in the world's deepest mine, the Western Deep Levels gold mine, near Carletonville.

Rescue teams are working in four-hour relays to remove tons of rock trapping the missing miner.

The injured men are in a satisfactory condition in hospital.

All of the victims are migrant workers whose names are being withheld, pending notification of their next of kin.

The bodies of the eight dead have been recovered.

The pressure burst occurred at 12 35 pm yesterday at a stope face of 111 Level in the mine's No 3 shaft, 3 180 m below surface.

Die Sentrum word beheer deur 'n Beheerraad waarvan die Prinsipaal van die Universiteit van Kaapstad, ex officio die Voorsitter is, en die Adjunk-Prinsipaal ex officio die Voorsitter is.

Die program van die Sentrum staan onder die toesig van 'n Akademiese Advieskomitee wat in 1978 bestaan het uit die Direkteur (Voorsitter), die Prinsipaal van die Universiteit van Kaapstad, Sir Richard Luyt, die Adjunk-Prinsipaal, professor M.F. Kaplan, professor W.H.B. Dean, professor G.F.R. Ellis en mede-professor D.J. Welsh.

AKADEMIESE ADVIESKOMITEE EN RAAD VAN BEHEER

Die hoofdoel van die Sentrum is om navorsing na die onderlinge groepsverhoudinge in Suid-Afrika te bevorder en te lei, in die besonder oor verhoudinge tussen rasse- en taalgroepe

van die personeel bestaan uit die Direkteur, professor Hendrik W. van der Merwe, M.A. (Stellenbosch), Ph.D. (Kalifornie), die Administratiewe Assistent, mev. H. Albertyn en 'n deeltydse sekretaresse, mev. B.J. Chapman.

Gedurende die jaar is mej. Norma Cornelli en Ruth Rutherford as tydelike klerklike assistente en mej. Judith Cornelli, B.A. (Universiteit van Kaapstad) as deeltydse navorsingsassistent in diens geneem. Twee ere-

kampus, waar ons gedurende die laaste vyf jaar gehuisves was, ontgroei. Daarom is ek besonder dankbaar vir die ekstra ruimte wat ons nuwe kantoor in die Leslie Social Sciences Building op die Grootte Schuur Campus aanbied.

Ek wil weereens die Carnegie Corporation en die Algemeen Diakonaal Bureau van die Gereformeerde Kerken van Nederland bedank vir hulle gulle ondersteuning van die konstruktiewe Program wat ons in staat gestel het om meer personeel aan te stel en om publikasies en werkgroepe te finansier. Ek wil ook graag weereens die ondersteuning deur plaaslike skenkers, firmas en trusts noem, kort nadat die Program gestig is. Hulle hulp het dit moontlik gemaak om etlike publikasies gratis te versprei onder almal wat in die bevordering van 'n oop samelewing belangstel.

Ten slotte is dit met innige genoeë dat ek my verpligting teenoor die ere-navorsingsbeampies van die Sentrum vir hulle bydraes tot die navorsingsprogram, boekstaaf en teenoor die personeel vir die wyse waarop hulle hulle pligte gedurende die jaar uitgevoer het.

Hendrik W van der Merwe
Direkteur

Desember 1978

GEI

Two miners killed in rockfall

212
7/9/79. lost

QUESTIONS

DEFERRED TAX

TWO black miners and conditions were
were killed and two back to normal
others injured after a Sapa

rockfall at the ERPM
Gold Mine in Boks-
burg following an
earth tremor on the
East Rand yesterday,
a spokesman for the
mine has said.

m of new plant for R60 000
is provided at 12½% p.a.
1 allowance is granted for
eing 20% on the reducing
in 19.6 and 42% in 19.7,
o R45 000 and R50 000
al years ended 31.12.19.6

A. Alpha Li
on 1 May
straight
tax purp
balance.
and taxab
respectiv,
and 19.7

The miners' names
are being withheld
pending notification
of their next of kin

ed tax account in respect
assuming

1. What is t
of the pl

The spokesman said
production at the mine
had not been affected

- a)
- b)

2. Show how the tax charge will be disclosed in the
income statement for the year ended 31 December 19.7,
assuming

- a) deferral method
- b) liability method

(assume there are no other items causing
timing differences)

3. How will the answer to 2. be affected by the existence
of an extraordinary gain on disposal of a division of the
company, amounting to R70 000, all of which was taxable,
in the 19.7 financial year?

4. How does the answer to 3. change if the R70 000 is now a
deductible loss, which can be set off against the taxable
income from other sources of R50 000? Draw up the
income statement assuming the deferral method is used.

5. Further to Note 4, assume now that the company has a set
profit before depreciation of R60 000 in 19.8.

Draw up the income statement for the 19.8 financial year
under a) liability method
b) deferral method

Assume the tax rate remains 42%

No 1979

7 September 1979

SKRAPING UIT DIE REGISTIER VAN
BEHEERDE MYNE

Hierby word ingevolge artikel 11 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), bekendgemaak dat die Minister van Mynwese verklaar het dat die myn bekend as Weskus Vergruisers (Edms) Bpk, ontgin deur Weskus Vergruisers (Edms) Bpk, Posbus 5, Laaiplek, 7370, op die plaas Uitvlugt 20/4, in die landdrostdistrik Vredenburg Kaapprovinsie, met ingang van 1 November 1979 ophou om 'n beheerde myn te wees

No. 1980

7 September 1979

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE BEDRYWE EN
RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mynwese het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende bedrywe met ingang van 1 November 1979 tot beheerde bedrywe verklaar

(a) Die bedryf bekend as Bleskop Stone Crushers (Pty) Ltd, op die plaas Waterval 303 JQ, gelee in die landdrostdistrik Rustenburg, provinsie Transvaal wat tans deur Hippo Quarries Ltd, Posbus 6810, Johannesburg, 2000, bedryf word, en

(b) die bedryf bekend as Hippo Quarries Transvaal (Pty) Ltd (Scoop Works), op die plaas Modderfontein 76 IR, gelee in die landdrostdistrik Brakpan provinsie Transvaal, wat tans deur Hippo Holding Company Ltd Posbus 6810, Johannesburg, 2000, bedryf word

Die volgende werk by die genoemde bedrywe is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 November 1979) kragtens artikel 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister tot risikowerk verklaar

(a) Waar die verskuiving, oorplasing of hantering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind,

(b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip rots, erts of minerale plaasvind uitgesonderd waar dit onder water geskied, en

(c) op uitskothope, stapels of ertsstapels, uitgesonderd waar die uitskot of erts in die vorm van slik gestort is of word, insluitende die plekke waar sodanige hope of stapels reeds gestort is

No 1979

7 September 1979

REMOVAL FROM THE REGISTER OF
CONTROLLED MINES

In terms of section 11 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), it is hereby notified that the Minister of Mines has declared that the mine known as Weskus Vergruisers (Pty) Ltd, worked by Weskus Vergruisers (Pty) Ltd P O Box 5, Laaiplek 7370, on the farm Uitvlugt 20 4, in the Magisterial District of Vredenburg, Cape Province, shall cease to be a controlled mine with effect from 1 November 1979

No 1980

7 September 1979

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED WORKS
AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), declared the following works to be controlled works with effect from 1 November 1979

(a) The works known as Bleskop Stone Crushers (Pty) Ltd, on the farm Waterval 303 JQ, situate in the Magisterial District of Rustenburg Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by Hippo Quarries Ltd, P O Box 6810, Johannesburg, 2000, and

(b) the works known as Hippo Quarries Transvaal (Pty) Ltd (Scoop Works), on the farm Modderfontein 76 IR, situate in the Magisterial District of Brakpan, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by Hippo Holding Company Ltd, P O Box 6810, Johannesburg, 2000

The following work at the said works has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act, with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 November 1979)

(a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place,

(b) where crushing screening or classification of stone rock ore or minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water, and

(c) on waste dumps, piles or ore piles, other than where the waste or ore has been or is being deposited in the form of slime, including the places where such dumps or piles have already been deposited.

No 1981

7 September 1979

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE BEDRYF EN RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mynwese het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende bedryf met ingang van 1 November 1979 tot 'n beheerde bedryf verklaar:

Die bedryf bekend as Eastleigh Crushers, op die plaas Nootgedacht 434 IP, geleë in die landdrostdistrik Klerksdorp, provinsie Transvaal, wat tans deur Keir & Cawder Crushers Ltd, Posbus 9893, Johannesburg, bedryf word.

Die volgende werk by genoemde bedryf is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 November 1979) kragtens artikel 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister tot risikowerk verklaar:

- (a) Waar die verskuiving, oorpasing of hantering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind.
- (b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip rots erts of minerale plaasvind, uitgesonderd waar dit onder water geskied; en
- (c) op uitskothope, stapels of ertsstapels, uitgesonderd waar die uitskot of erts in die vorm van slied gestort is of word, insluitende die plekke waar sodanige hope of stapels reeds gestort is

No 1981

7 September 1979

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED WORKS AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973) declared the following works to be a controlled works, with effect from 1 November 1979

The works known as Eastleigh Crushers, on the farm Nootgedacht 434 IP, situate in the Magisterial District of Klerksdorp, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by Keir & Cawder Crushers Ltd, P O Box 9893, Johannesburg

The following work at the said works has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 November 1979)

- (a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place.
- (b) where crushing, screening or classification of stone, rock ore or minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water, and
- (c) on waste dumps, piles or ore piles, other than where the waste or ore has been or is being deposited in the form of slime, including the places where such dumps or piles have already been deposited

Ore buries miners 1/1/77

THREE miners died when they were buried by ore accidentally discharged into a cross-cut at the Elandsrand gold mine near Carletonville at the weekend.

A spokesman for Anglo American said the accident occurred when the men were standing near an orepass in a cross-cut on the 19th level.

"The box which controls the discharge of ore apparently broke from the mounting and the sudden discharge buried the men," he said.

The names of two of the men have been released. They were the mine overseer, Mr Antonie Leon Vermeulen, 41, of Impala Street, Carletonville, married with two children, and Mr Ludewicus Britz, 24, a mine electrician from Elandsridge, married and father of a one-year-old son.

The third man, a Transkeian, will not be identified until his next-of-kin have been informed — Sapa

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No 2093

21 September 1979

VERKLARING TOT BFHEI RDE MYN EN
RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mynwese het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende myn met ingang van 1 November 1979 tot 'n beheerde myn verklaar.

Die myn bekend as Arnoldton Quarry, op gedeelte 29 van die plaas Cotterell's Farm 640, geleë in die landdrosdistrik Oos-Londen, Kaapprovinsie wat tens deur Quarry Sales (Border) (Pty) Ltd, Posbus 3077, Cambridge, ontgin word.

Die volgende werk by genoemde myn is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 November 1979) kragtens artikel 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister tot risikowerk verklaar.

1 *Uitgrawings*—In enige ondergrondse of oop delfplek

2 *Bogronde*—(a) Waar die verskuiwing, oorpasing of hantering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind,

(b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip, rots erts of minerale plaasvind, uitgesonderd waar dit onder water geskied,

(c) op uitkothope, stapels of ertsstapels, uitgesonderd waar die uitkot of erts in die vorm van slik gestort is of word insluitende die plekke waar sodanige hope of stapels reeds gestort is;

(d) in rotsboorslypwinkels of enige ander plek waar bore in 'n gebou skerpgemaak word, en

(e) by enige rotsboorwerk

No 2093

21 September 1979

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED MINE AND
RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), declared the following mine to be a controlled mine with effect from 1 November 1979.

The mine known as Arnoldton Quarry, on Portion 29 of the farm Cotterell's Farm 640, situate in the Magisterial District of East London, Cape Province, which is at present being worked by Quarry Sales (Border) (Pty) Ltd P O Box 3077, Cambridge.

The following work at the said mine has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act, with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 November 1979).

1 *Excavations*—In any underground or open working

2 *On the surface*—(a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place,

(b) where crushing, screening or classification of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water,

(c) on waste dumps, piles or ore piles, other than where the waste or ore has been or is being deposited in the form of slime, including the places where such dumps or piles have already been deposited;

(d) in rock-drill sharpening shops or any other place where drills are sharpened in a building, and

(e) at any rock-drilling work

Fortunately, the opportunity to take stock of the southern African framework comes at a time when the craft of typological analysis is itself experiencing important changes. Further opportunities exist, therefore, for pioneering the application of any of the experimental steps in Serial Classification. Again, smaller conferences can explore the most suitable combinations of analyses for each available piece of the continuum. Morphological classification will continue to play its part among these proceedings, but will no longer dominate them. We must also anticipate that to come of age a generally credible system of classification will be both slower and more expensive than those in use at present. As it matures, however, we can expect it to become a faster, cheaper procedure. It is both important and urgent that it achieve this status soon because there may be serious difficulties in keeping up with the pace of excavations. A fast, efficient, and credible system of artifact classification must be readied now before field archaeology in southern Africa begins to leave the Pure-Research phase of its history and enters its Rescue phase.

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the cost of raising the necessary funds has to be taken into account. The funds themselves are already justified by comparison with the alternative methods of provision, but there are additional costs involved in raising them: interest on loans, or administrative and incentive costs of raising taxation. These are normally insignificant for any given project, but may affect the overall amounts available for the health budget.

Where the methods of providing a given service use the same kinds of resources in different proportions, the decision-making can be simplified by means of Linear Programming, though health service choices cannot usually be presented in the simplified way required by this method.

2. CHOICE OF PROGRAMMES

So far, we have discussed methods of choosing means to obtain a given objective. But what tools are available to aid the choice of objectives themselves? Can anything be said on the question of the priority to be given to particular diseases or age groups, whether to allocate more to child welfare clinics or care of the aged?

Overall criteria are needed, and they have to be found in a way that they can guide these detailed questions. The problem is not only to relate resources used to objectives, but to relate the various objectives to each other.

There are various means of doing this; but all expenditure be accounted for by the ends it is e

2.1 Programme Budgeting

Programme budgeting, also known as budgeting by objectives, involves the presentation of expenditure data according to the objectives to which it is directed. Thus, projects to combat TB would be grouped together, geriatric problems, sanitation programmes, etc.

This is necessary:

- (a) to know the cost of pursuing each objective;
- (b) to group together activities with the same objectives which can be compared by cost-effectiveness analysis;

(c) to know the effectiveness of a given amount of money when spent on different objectives, so that choices can be formulated in terms of the alternatives we might afford - so many geriatric day care centres, so many child welfare clinics, etc.

Financial statistics are not traditionally arranged on this basis but in categories such as 'salaries', 'transport', 'medicines', etc. A separation, e.g. between expenditure on different disease groups or age groups cannot be made.

The grouping of expenditure into programmes is an art. Pole, an economist in the U.K. Department of Health, writes:

"Programme structure should, in my view, be mainly determined by the decisions to the taking of which one wishes it to contribute... One might suggest that where decisions are primarily a matter of political or moral judgement - of determining basic priorities - one would want the activities to be compared to those in different programmes - the mentally handicapped against the alcoholics, but where it is a more technical question of how particular objectives can best be achieved - drug therapy against behavioural therapy - one would want the activities to be compared to be within a particular programme. This distinction is made in an economic jargon of slighter vantage -

Miners gassed in rescue attempt

BY CHRIS OLCKERS

TWO white miners risked their lives in a bid to save five black miners overcome by gas at the Western Areas gold mine on the West Rand yesterday morning.

Three miners died as a result of gas poisoning and two others were admitted to hospital for observation.

The rescuers, Mr Wallie Usher, 38, and Mr J C Weber, 43, of Westonaria, rushed to their colleagues' aid when they were overcome by carbon monoxide on the mine's 68th level.

They managed to get the men out but were overcome by gas themselves and had to be admitted to the Cottesloe Hospital in Johannesburg for observation.

The accident happened in the south shaft when the black miners went through a barricade into a development raise where they were overcome by carbon monoxide.

Mrs Yvonne Usher, wife of one of the miners said:

He telephoned me and said he had been gassed but that he was OK. He never said a word about the rescue bid.

The names of the dead miners and the two injured black miners are being withheld.

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latter is

RDM
1/11/79

id fast
alues or
view, the

community is a technical one. Which is the cheaper way to fulfil whatever are the society's requirements for the treatment of this group? But community care requirements became fashionable as a good thing in itself. The practitioners are very apt to muddle the medical and economic arguments when it suits them, and the politicians and administrators equally so when it suits them, but the economist's concern is to keep them separate".⁹

Programme budgeting, then, entails the attempt at this separation, sorting out from the multiplicity of decisions those which can be made on the basis of administrative or economic, together with medical-technical criteria, and those in which the role of the public through political

2/2

MINING - Accidents

8-2-80 - 31-12-80

DEPARTEMENT VAN MYNWESE

No 250 8 Februarie 1980

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE MYN EN RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mynwese het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfslekties in Mynne en Bedrywe, 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende myn met ingang van 1 April 1980 tot 'n beheerde myn verklaar

Die myn bekend as Beisa Mines Ltd, op die plase Kalkoenkrans 225 en Palmietkuil 328, geleë in die land-drosdistrik Theunissen, provinsie die Orange-Vrystaat, wat tans ontgin word deur Beisa Mines Ltd, Posbus 61357, Marshalltown

Die volgende werk by genoemde myn is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 April 1980) kragtens artikel 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister tot risiko-werk verklaar

- 1. Uitgrawings
- In enge ondergrondse of oop delfplek

2. Bogronds

- (a) Waar die verskuiving, oorpasing of hantering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind,
- (b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind, uitgesonderd waar dit onder water geskied,
- (c) op uitskothope, stapels of ertsstapels, uitgesonderd waar die uitskot of erts in die vorm van silikgestort is of word, insluitende die plekke waar sodanige hope of stapels reeds gestort is,
- (d) in rotsboorslypwinkels of enge ander plek waar bore in 'n gebou skerpgemaak word,
- (e) in enge kleedhuis waar persone wat riskowerk verrig, hul verkleë,
- (f) in essasieringslaboratoriums, uitgesonderd in afsonderlik geventileerde dele daarvan, waar slegs nat essasierings en geen behandeling van droë klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind nie,
- (g) waar monsters van vergruisde erts in 'n droë toestand gegradeer word, en

(h) by eni e rotsboorwerk

GE 6840

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DEPARTMENT OF MINES

No 250 8 February 1980

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED MINE AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mines has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), declared the following mine to be a controlled mine, with effect from 1 April 1980

The mine known as Beisa Mines Ltd, on the farms Kalkoenkrans 225 and Palmietkuil 328, situate in the Magisterial District of Theunissen, Province of the Orange Free State, which is at present being worked by Beisa Mines Ltd, P O Box 61357, Marshalltown

The following work at the said mine has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act, with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 April 1980)

- 1 Excavations
- In any underground or open working

2 On the surface

- (a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place,
- (b) where crushing, screening or classification of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water,
- (c) on waste dumps, piles or ore piles, other than where the waste or ore has been or is being deposited in the form of slime, including the places where such dumps or piles have already been deposited,
- (d) in rock-drill sharpening shops or any other place where drills are sharpened in a building,
- (e) in any change-house where persons who perform risk work change their clothing,
- (f) in essay laboratories, except in separately ventilated parts thereof where only wet assays are done and no treatment of dry stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place,
- (g) where samples of crushed ore are graded in a dry state, and
- (h) at any rock-drilling work

RDM 27/2/80
Miners (212)
killed in
pressure
burst

Staff Reporter

THREE miners were killed and six injured in a pressure burst early yesterday at Western Deep Levels gold mine, near Carletonville.

Mr M. U. Fallon, a spokesman for Anglo American Corporation, which owns the mine, said last night the burst happened shortly after midnight.

The miners, all blacks, were working on 108 level, about 3 000m below the surface.

"As far as I know none of the injured men is seriously hurt. They were all admitted to the hospital at Western Deep Levels," Mr Fallon said.

The names of the men are being withheld until their next-of-kin have been informed.

Three miners killed

THREE black mineworkers died and six were injured in a pressure burst at Western Deep Levels gold mine, near Carletonville, early yesterday, according to a Western Deep Levels spokesman. The pressure burst occurred at the 108 level, about 3 000 metres below the surface.

The names of the dead are being withheld until their next of kin have been informed. —

Sapa.

post

28/2/80

(2/2)

EXAMINATION RESULTS IN FACULTY ARTS

STU13-9 AS AT 29 02 80 PAGE 2

13030 BACHELOR OF ARTS YEAR : 3

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL
133100Z	VILJOEN	ADELE	116317	DRAMA III	2- (63)
113116P	WANNENBURG	MOIRA MARIA	908307	GEOGRAPHY IIB (HALF COURSE)	(51)
090146R	WENGFOLE	CAROL TESSA	110301	HISTORY III	F (45)
096560G	WILLIS-SAITH	GRANT	906205	GEOGRAPHY IIB (HALF COURSE)	ABS
103278J	WYNGAARD	GAIL ESTELLE	110301	HISTORY III	F (43)
114065K	ZOELLER	CHRISTOPHER HANS	102101	AFRICANA'S	ABS

* TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS 29

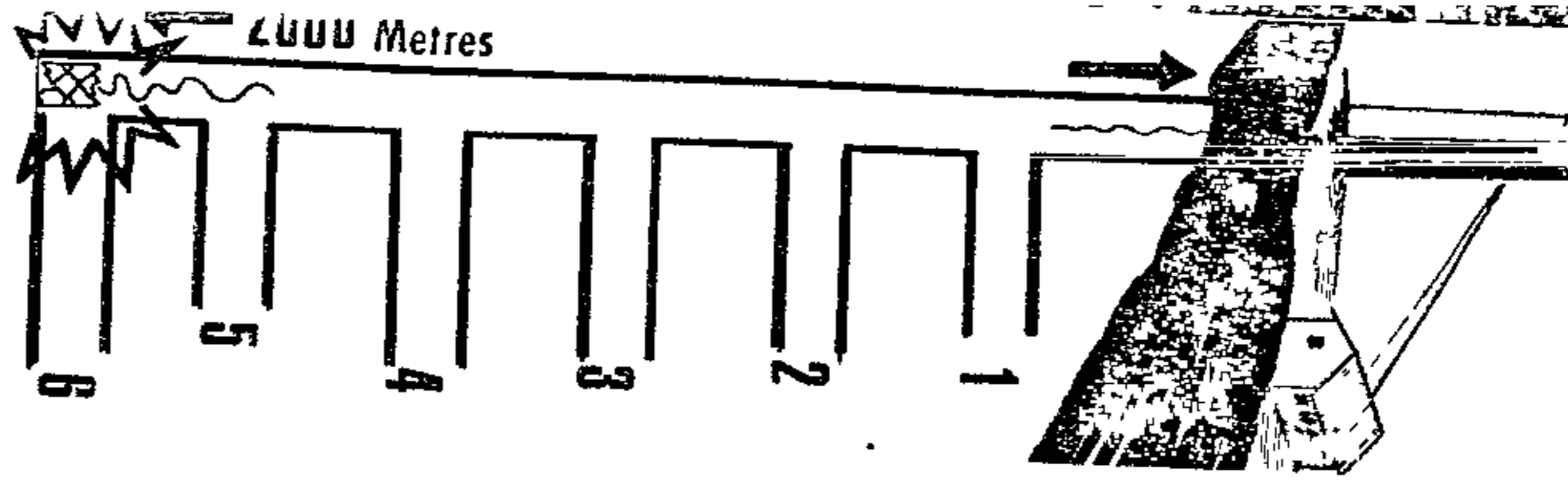
DEAN

REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC)

STAR 21/3/80
Five killed in mine burst
Five black mineworkers were dead and three missing after a pressure burst at Western Deep Levels yesterday, a spokesman for Anglo American announced today.

UCT

2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40 42 44 46 48 50 52 54 56 58 60 62 64 66

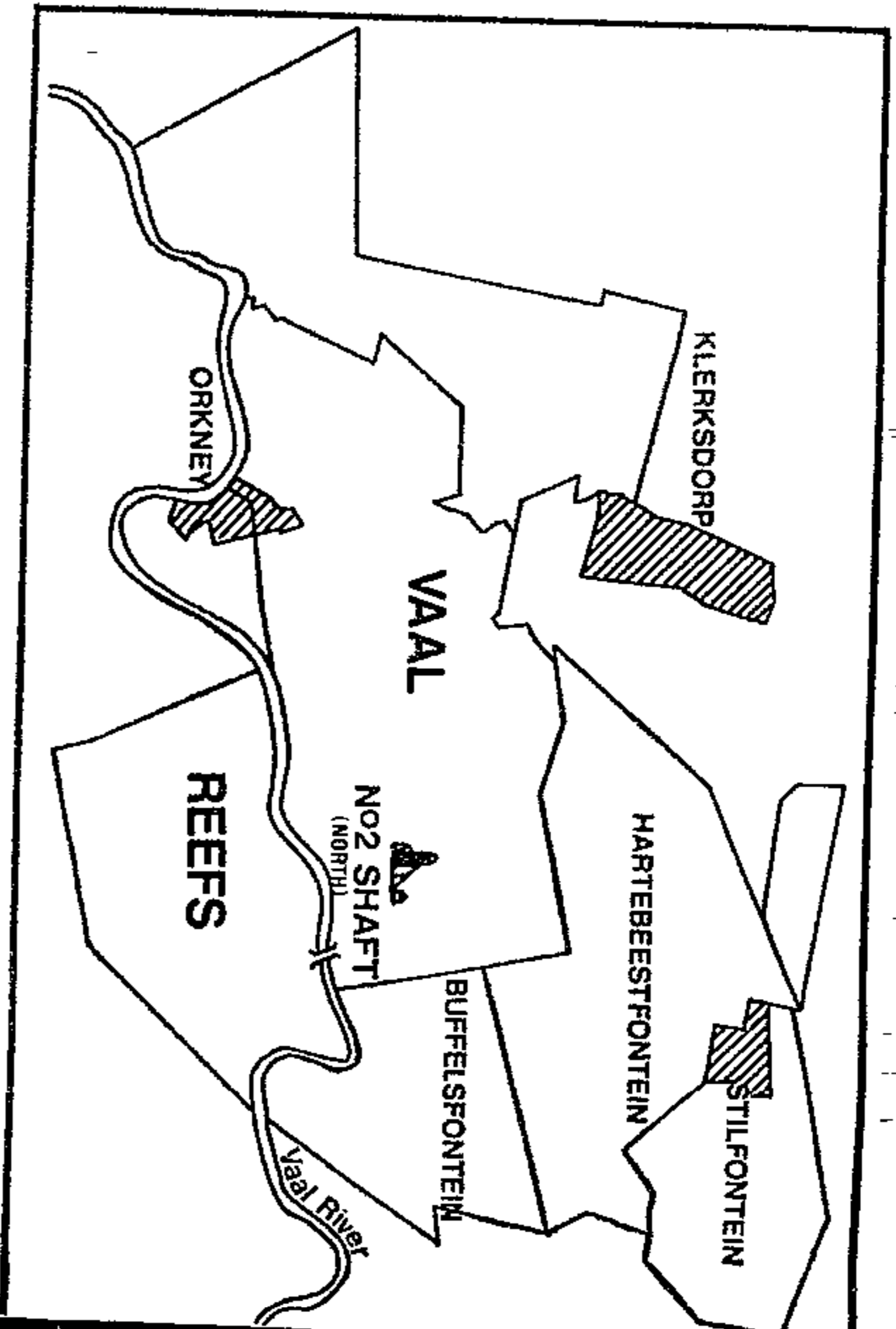


23 die

in 2km

minepoortjese

STAR 27/3/80 (212)



By Iain Macdonald

At least 23 miners plunged to death today when the cage taking them underground at Vaal Reefs Number 2 Shaft near Klerksdorp plummeted 2 000 metres.

After a fall of probably 30 seconds, the service cage, known as "Mary Anne" disintegrated on impact.

The sequence of events was such that all the "Mary Anne's" safety devices were left useless after the cage had begun its death drop.

Three white miners who died have been identified as M. Derrick Ixngman, of Ruskin Street, Orkney, Mr P. V. R. Oranje, of Stilfontein, and Mr J. Bronkhorst, of Orkney.

About 20 black miners who died in the accident have not yet been identified. They are migrant workers whose families live in far-flung rural areas.

Shortly after the "Mary Anne" began to move down just before 6 am today, it struck about 12 m from the top of the shaft.

Slack steel cable accumulated on top of the cage. Then the jammed cage freed itself and fell.

This fall broke the bridge — an eye-shaped beam above the cage — and the cage fell 2 000 m to the bottom of the shaft.

The manager of the Vaal Reefs, Mr John Eplett, said today that the cage "virtually exploded when it hit the bottom and the people in it are all dead.

"It dropped at tremendous speed and disintegrated.

"An inquiry under the Inspector of Machinery, Mr E. Creedy, has been opened into this most un-

Checked

"We went down the shaft to examine the situation just after 11 this morning. We found some damage to the shaft and the sub-vertical shaft was without power.

"We are now getting the underground shift out before we send down teams to bring up the bodies."

No production was done at the shaft today, Mr Eplett said. The cage had been used the day before and the attachments were checked every day, he said.

All three of the dead white miners were married.

This afternoon recovery crews were trying to cut the bodies from the wreckage of the cage to bring them to the surface.

Mine cage plummets down shaft

Argus 27/3/80

212

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Nine teams of rescue workers have started operations at the Vaal Reefs Mine No 2 north shaft, where a personnel cage plummeted to the bottom early today.

It could be some time before the bodies are reached, because recovery workers are moving down the shaft slowly, checking for damage as they go.

If care was not taken in this operation the rescue workers would endanger their own lives.

The capacity of the cage was about 40, but it was not full.

Mine personnel were not certain of the number of people travelling in the cage.

It was also not clear how far down the shaft the accident occurred, said the Anglo American Corporation.

900 M PLUNGE

In October 1978 14 men were killed, eight injured and 43 unhurt when a nine-ton bucket plunged 900 m down a shaft at the Saaiplaas mine in the Free State.

In 1978, 102 people lost their lives on Vaal Reefs during operations. Of these, 41 employees died in a fire in a stope on the 73 level of Number 8 shaft.

Many of the other accidents were due to rock-falls underground, according to the mine's annual report.

UJCT

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL
101834P	BRAN	GREGGIE	602101	PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW	ARS
115474N	HANPER	GREGORY MARK	602101	PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW	2- (67)
11437E	JACOBS	DAWISE ELLEN	604201	ROMAN DUTCH LAW I	1- (76)
103069G	LEAIV	LIANE	603202	ROMAN LAW & JURISPRUDENCE 13	4 (53)
100344V	LEAIV	BRIAN ANTHONY	603202	ROMAN LAW & JURISPRUDENCE IUP	5 (54)
094461C	AYO	HENRY	603202	ROMAN LAW & JURISPRUDENCE IUP	4 (50)
102255V	LEAIV	MICHAEL DAVID	603202	ROMAN LAW & JURISPRUDENCE IUP	4 (50)
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS 7					
DEAN					
REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC)					

EXAMINATION RESULTS IN FACULTY ARTS

YEAR : 3

AS AT 29 02 80

PAGE 1

15036

88 84 82 80 78 76 74 72 70 68 66 64 62 60 58 56 54 52 50 48 46 44 42 40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2

Prayers of miner's wife too late

ARGUS 28/3/80 (212)

JOHANNESBURG — Normally, Mrs. Joey Cronje of Stilfontein started her morning prayers at 10 am and ended them by praying for her family.

Yesterday, she prayed for her husband, Piet, at 6.30 am after something took possession of her.

She broke into uncontrollable weeping and prayed 'Oh Lord protect him for me. Bring him safely home and be with him underground and with those who work with him.'

But it was too late.

Ten minutes later a personnel officer knocked at the door to tell her there had been an accident.

Mr. Cronje was the second husband Mrs. Cronje lost in the Klerksdorp gold mines.

Her first husband died in 1973 following an accident which brought on thrombosis.

It had now been ascertained that 31 mineworkers including three whites, had been killed, Anglo American Corporation said at a statement today.

All the bodies had been

recovered. The names of the black workers would be released only after their families had been informed, the statement said.

The shift started normally today and the shaft was being examined and repaired.

A joint inquest inquiry is to be held by the local magistrate and a chief inspector of machinery of the Department of Minerals and Energy Affairs.

An emergency brake on the cage could have saved the lives of the miners.

But the cage had no braking device.

The emergency mechanisms all operate from the winding engine — and one of these safety devices indirectly contributed to the tragedy.

The double-decker 'Mary Ann' service cage was being lowered from the surface but was stopped by an obstruction.

The cage dislodged itself and tautened the steel rope after a brief free fall. Then the heavy steel beam on which the cage was suspended snapped.

Had the winding engine not been stopped by the safety device, the impact might have been less abrupt and a disaster might have been averted.

Argus Correspondent and Sapa.

Gold rises

GOLD rose 4.75 dollars to 490 dollars an ounce at the price fixing in London.

UOST

STUDENT NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL	MARKS	REGISTRATION	MARKS
1336490	PEARCE	CAROL SUSAN	114101	RELIGIOUS STUDIES I	3	(51)	1	1336490
1406390	PETERSEN	BERTRAND SYDNEY	102201 110201	AFRIKAANS EN NEDERLANDS II F AFRIKAAN HISTORY I	F F		1	1406390
133499H	PLAATJES	NAJCY	101105	AFRICAN LANG INENSIVE (SOT2-	ABS	(66)	1	133499H
137501H	PLAGIS	JOHN ACHILLES	101303	COMPANY LAW	ABS		1	137501H
139271G	REFURAN	BARRY GEORGE	105104	LATIN I	F	(36)	1	139271G
052892R	KUSS	SALLY MARY	105302 104202 110303	SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY II (PRE 2- AFRICAN HISTORY II	2- 2- 2-	(60) (70) (60)	1	052892R
121461Y	SANDGRUND	DAVID LEON	106202	ECONOMICS II	3	(53)	1	121461Y
133333C	SEKAMWOS	ALEXANDER GEORGE	107201	ENGLISH II	3	(57)	1	133333C
133031C	SHAPIRO	DEENA REBE	107101	ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)	3MX		1	133031C
137998Y	SHAPIRO	LEONARD STEVEN	114101	RELIGIOUS STUDIES I	F	(44)	1	137998Y
134302F	SULOVUN	IVOR DANIEL	004201	PSYCHOLOGY II	3	(58)	1	134302F
158778J	STIJLING	TERESA	004101 105302	PSYCHOLOGY I SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY II (PRE	ABS	(63)	1	158778J
		DEVON CLARE	101105	PSYCHOLOGY I	2-	(67) (25) (60) (61)	1	11532F
				ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)	2-			
				ABS				
				REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC)				



Aerial photograph of the No 2 shaft at the Vaal Reefs mine in Klerksdorp where 23 miners were killed yesterday when their cage plunged two kilometres down a shaft



23 die in 36 seconds of mine horror

CT.
28/3/80
212

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Twenty-three miners lived through 36 seconds of horror yesterday as they plummeted two kilometres to their death in a double-decker mine cage at a speed of 200 km/h.

The death cage, named the "Mary-Ann", at the Vaal Reefs gold mine, near Orkney hurtled 2 000 metres when it snapped its bridle in the No 2 shaft of the world's largest gold mine.

The cage, almost four metres high, smashed into the bottom of the shaft and crumpled into a height of less than one metre.

Of the 23 dead miners three have been identified: Mr Johannes Bronkhorst, a box controller from Orkney, Mr Pieter van Reenen Cronje, a developer from Stilfontein, and Mr Erich Jungman, a developer from Orkney.

Special inquiry

Early this morning miners working beneath a make-shift wooden protective platform at the bottom of the shaft were

struggling to retrieve the bodies of the victims.

A Vaal Reefs spokesman said late last night that the bodies of about half of the 23 miners had been recovered.

Mine officials were still trying to ascertain the precise cause of the freak accident, which will be the subject of a special inquiry headed by the inspector of machinery at Klerksdorp Mr E Creedy.

A shocked mine manager, Mr John Eplett, described last night how the men, after arriving slightly late for the day shift, had clambered aboard the main access shaft lift-cage, known to miners as the "Mary-Ann" before hurtling down the 2 150-metre shaft.

The cage was rung away and had moved about 40 feet when it suddenly stuck, said Mr Eplett. Whatever obstruc-

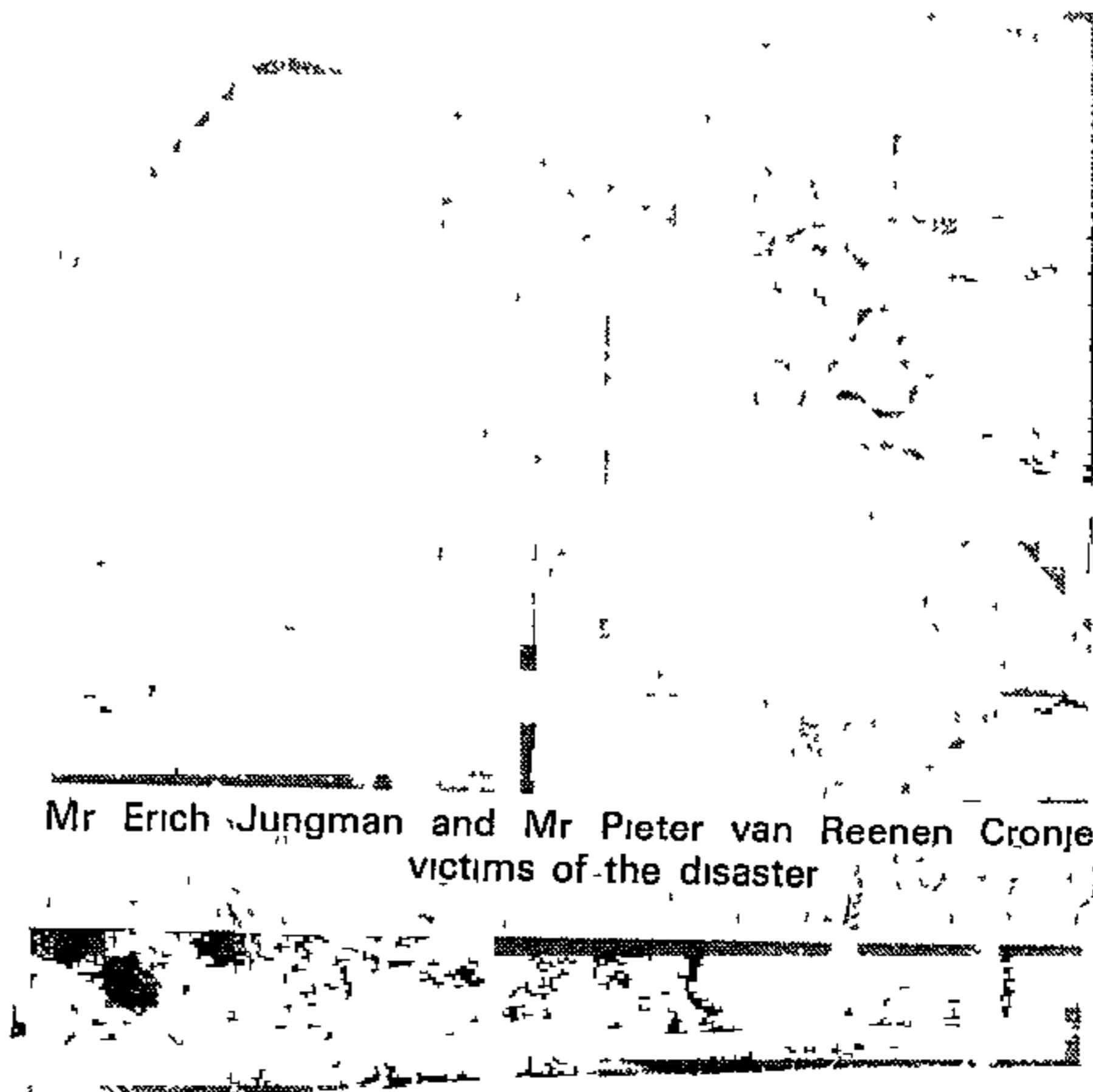
later that all the workers returned to the surface and the process of identification could begin.

During the plunge the "Mary-Ann" damaged an electric cable which provided power to a sub-vertical shaft, putting other lifts out of action.

With nearly 3 000 workers in the mine at any one time, identification of the workers presented a formidable task while mining families waited anxiously for news.

"We have three ways of identifying which men were in the cage," said Mr Ken Dicks, production engineer. "Each man wears a personalized wristband with a number on it. Otherwise if we still don't know who they were, we have to wait until the entire shift returns to the surface and the lamps are returned. We then find out

CT
28/3/80



Mr Erich Jungman and Mr Pieter van Reenen Cronje
victims of the disaster

tion was holding the lift gave way and it fell abruptly. When it reached the end of the slack, the force was so great that it snapped the bridle which attaches the rope to the top of the cage."

'Rushing sound'

Nearly 3 000 workers already in the mine were suddenly aware of a "rushing sound", accompanied by violent shaking and clouds of dust as the cage began to fall.

The section manager, Mr Anton Prinsloo, said that workers near the shaft at the bottom of the 70th level realized what had happened and scattered to avoid the explosion as the cage hit the ground.

When the lift stopped, about 1½ turns of rope was paid out before an automatic braking device came into operation," Mr Prinsloo said.

The driver realized that something had obstructed the lift and began moving towards the headgear to investigate. He was about halfway there when he heard the transom snap."

Production around the shaft was immediately halted, but it was not till nearly five hours

whose lamps are missing

Speed of 200 km/h

If any men are missing at the hostel, we check their rooms to see whether or not their underground clothing is there."

A Johannesburg physicist said the cage would probably have reached a free-fall speed of 200 km/h within a short distance.

"There could have been air drag. Air in the shaft would have compressed, but once it had reached its maximum velocity the cage would have retained it until impact. It would have hit the bottom in less than a minute."

A Johannesburg medical expert said the miners would have been conscious and aware of what was happening during the plunge.

"Nothing would have happened to them, they wouldn't have blacked out. It would be like travelling in a fast car. You are one with the car. Nothing happens to you until the car collides."

He said that even the high speed at which the cage was travelling would not have caused the men to black out.

"If you dive in an aeroplane you don't black out. It's only when you go up again fast and change your speed and direction of movement."



The sheared steel transom which ran across the top of the cage. When the cage eventually fell — after being obstructed — the strain was so great that it snapped the transom (which had attached the rope to the roof of the cage).



Mrs Anna Bronkhorst and her son Piet, 17. Mrs Bronkhorst's husband Johannes was one of the victims

By Iain MacDonald

and Colin Thompson

It took just 30 seconds for 31 men to die at Vaal Reefs goldmine yesterday.

Half a minute of horror beyond most people's comprehension

Nobody knows what happened inside that cage once it had begun its plunge of death. Probably, despite investigations, nobody ever will.

Certainly, today, the best anyone can come up with is an educated guess. One such is that very few of the men in that Mary Ann cage lived

STAR 28/3/80 (2/2) 30 seconds snuffed out lives of 31 miners

through the 30 seconds it took them to travel two terrible kilometres.

It would probably have taken the cage between five and eight seconds, after it had broken free, to reach its terrifying top speed.

Then, because the cage was designed to travel at about 20 km/h, and not at 160 km/h, and because of the friction set up by the rails there to guide it safely down, and because it has one wheel missing, the Mary Ann

would probably have been gun breaking up.

Certainly, some major part of it broke free, or else a door was battered open, because pieces of the men who had been inside it were found at various levels all the way down. Most of those pieces were not recognisable.

But the Mary Ann did not slow down simply because the men inside her were dying. Screaming, roaring, she plunged to the very depths of the earth.

And finally, after 30 seconds or so, when she reached her destination of death, well below sea-level, she disintegrated, exploded.

When the double-decker Mary Ann had finally settled, she was less than half a metre high.

Two kilometres above the crumpled wreckage, as the sun began to rise, the word spread.

People — women, many of them weeping — gathered. They collared

mine bosses and asked "Was my husband in that cage?"

Or "My brother?" Or "Where is my father? He was on early shift."

Nobody could answer their questions for no one knew how many men had set off in the Mary Ann, or who they had been.

All day women, many of them widows though they didn't know it then, kept asking the same questions.

Three of them, all white, had moved away before lunch time. They

went home, then Alone.

But many of the black women widowed by the Mary Ann still don't know of their husbands' fates. They live far away, in kraals and in kayas, and they are hard to find.

Recovery crews went down, inching their way, trying to make sure that what had caught the first cage didn't catch them.

The production manager of Vaal Reefs, Mr Ken Dicks, said "We'll never see that cage again in the history of the world."

Later, when it became known that the Mary Ann was making her final trip to the surface, people began to gather again at the minehead.

Many wept. But one boy, probably about 13, did not shed a tear. He sat at the side of a fishpond gazing into the water. Gently, we asked "Are you a relative?"

He did not say a word. He just kept gazing at the goldfish.

That evening, the beer-hall was busy as ever.

As we flew away from the disaster scene, the pilot of the light plane said "We're flying at about 700 m. Those men fell 2 000."

A shock for 574R 28/3/88 the men who stayed behind

By Jon Gwelane

The first Aaron Masiza knew of yesterday's Vaal Reefs disaster was when he saw rescuers 2 km down picking up pieces of flesh

Mr Masiza (23) does not know whether he is lucky to be alive or not, because he does not know whether he should have been in the cage that plummeted down, killing its entire crew of three whites and 28 blacks

He said there were times when he did the early-morning shift and missed the death cage, but for some reason he had not checked his shifts yesterday

Sindiso Petya is another Transkeian working at Vaal Reefs, the largest mine in the world

TEARS

"I was already on the floor of the mine when the accident happened. I didn't hear anything but when our boss — one of the three whites killed — didn't show up, runour read that an accident had claimed very many lives," he said

Michael Lepedi's eyes were filled with tears. He comes from Taung in Botswana and could not forget how happy he had been the previous day with his friend Steve Matla, also from Taung.

We were together for most of the time on Wednesday, and parted late in the afternoon. He went to the cage to report for his shift, and he will never come out. What is the name of the child? Steve is married. What future holds for them? I do not know," he said

The mood of some of the men near the shaft of death was one of gloom, while others excitedly repeated the story of the plunge to anyone who cared to listen

The headgear of the No 2 shaft — taller than a 10-storey building — probed the sky like a giant finger, swallows fluttering around its top, oblivious of the disaster and the rescuers far below

Officials said the speed of the plunging cage was so high that the death drop could have ended inside half a minute

THOUGHTS

Miners said they could not begin to imagine the thoughts of people in a cage gone mad

At the mine compound just behind the disaster area life went on as if nothing had happened

One miner, asked if he had had any friends in the fated cage, asked which cage had plummeted

Pat and Monde Mbele, closely related, were also in the cage, according to their friend Peter Nofame, who came from Umkata with them

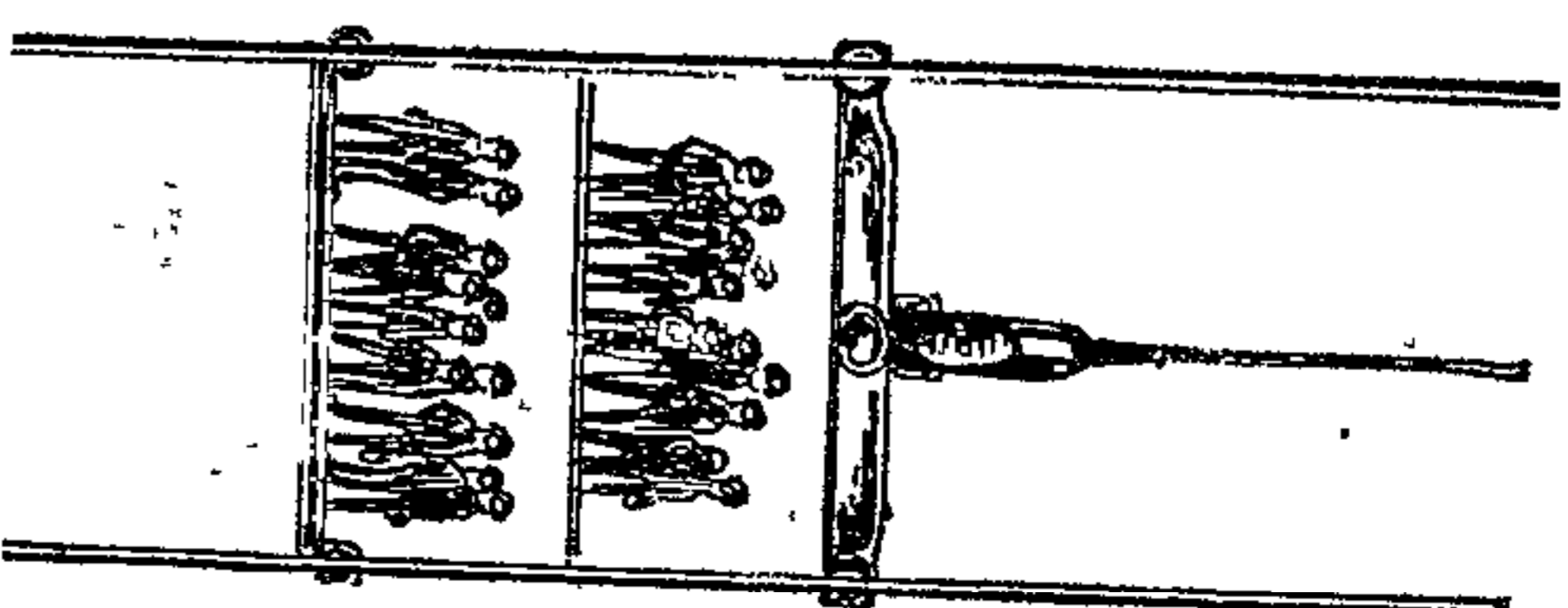
Mr L. Bruuns, public relations officer for Vaal Reefs, said it would be some time before the names of the dead blacks were announced because their next of kin would have to be notified first

A white security official said "There will be no bodies. The ambulance men down there are simply picking up the pieces"

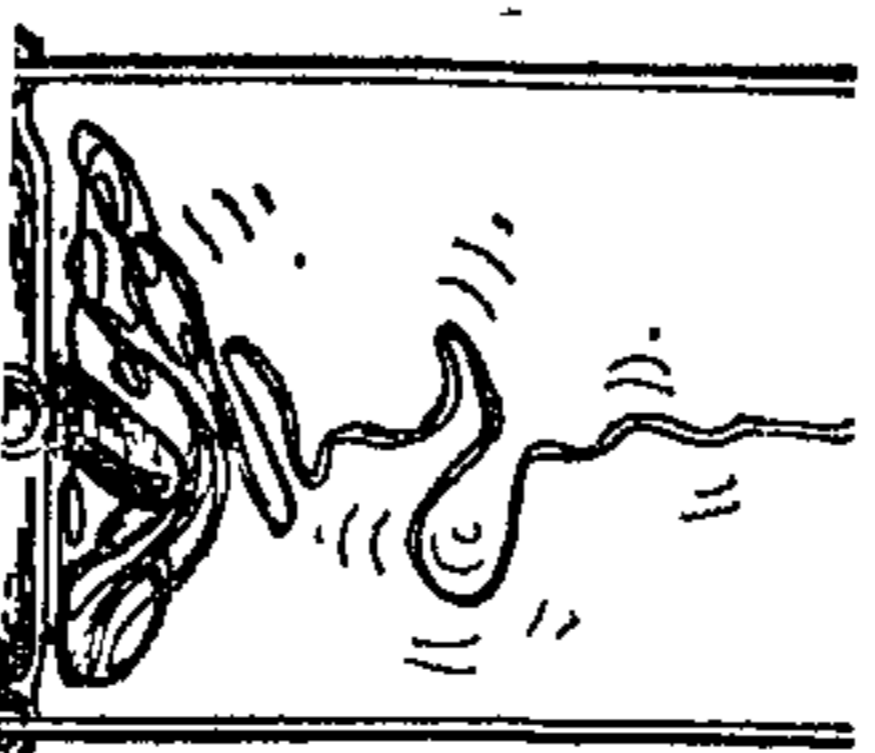
The mine closed. Production ceased, miners knocked off

It seems incredible that this massive piece of machinery should snap, but it did — and sent 31 men to grotesque deaths. It is a piece of the bridge that supported the cage.

Picture by Alf Kumalo.



The cage jams in the shaft.



CONT

MR PIETER
CRONJE

Wife's prayer in vain

by Sieg Hannig

Normally Mrs Joey Cronje of Stilfontein starts her morning prayers at 10 am and ends them by praying for her family.

Yesterday she started praying for her husband at 6:30 am after something took possession of her.

She broke into uncontrollable weeping and prayed: "Oh Lord, protect him for me. Bring him safely home and be with him underground and with those who work with him white and black."

But it was too late. Ten minutes later a personnel officer knocked at the door. "There's been an accident," he said.

She asked if the cage had simply run away or if the ropes had broken. But she was told that nothing was known. The men could not be reached.

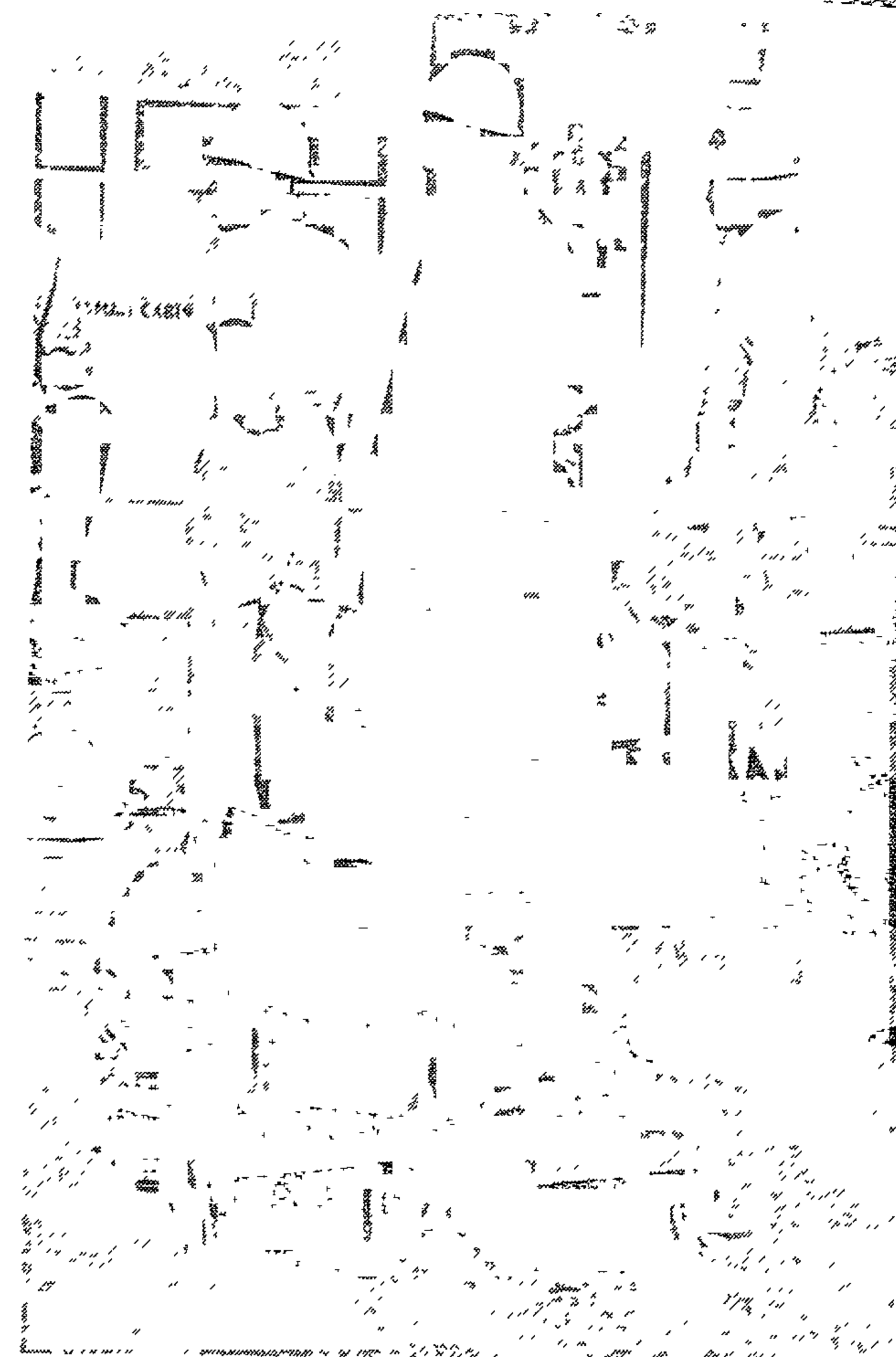
One or two hours later she was told of the death of her husband, Mr Piet Cronje (49), a developer. Mr Cronje was one of the three whites who lost their lives in yesterday's death plunge at the Vaal Reefs North No 2 shaft.

He was the second husband Mrs Cronje had lost to the West Rand gold mines.

Her first husband also died as a result of an accident which brought on thrombosis.

He died in 1973, 13 years after a rockfall in the Stilfontein mine. He had spent eight months in the Chamber of Mines Hospital and suffered from headaches for the rest of his life, Mrs Cronje said.

Mr Piet Cronje is survived by four children from his first marriage, the youngest aged 17.



The grim wait. Workers with unused stretchers are standing by with little hope of even recognising the men, possibly friends, who were killed in the 2 km death plunge.

Picture by Mark Peters.

For the Bronkhorsts it started as a happy day...

By Sieg Hannig

Yesterday should have been full of happiness for miner Johannes Bronkhorst of Orkney, his wife and their seven children.

The six youngest children were writing their last exams before the end of the school term.

Their eldest son, Johannes, named after his father, had a seven-day pass from national service on the border.

But Mr Bronkhorst (49), a box controller at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine,

was one of the miners who died in yesterday's disaster.

He had had a narrow escape once before when several of his co-workers were killed and injured in a rockfall at another mine.

"A miner's wife can never be sure her husband will return at night," said Mrs Anna Bronkhorst.

She did not know what would become of her and her large family.

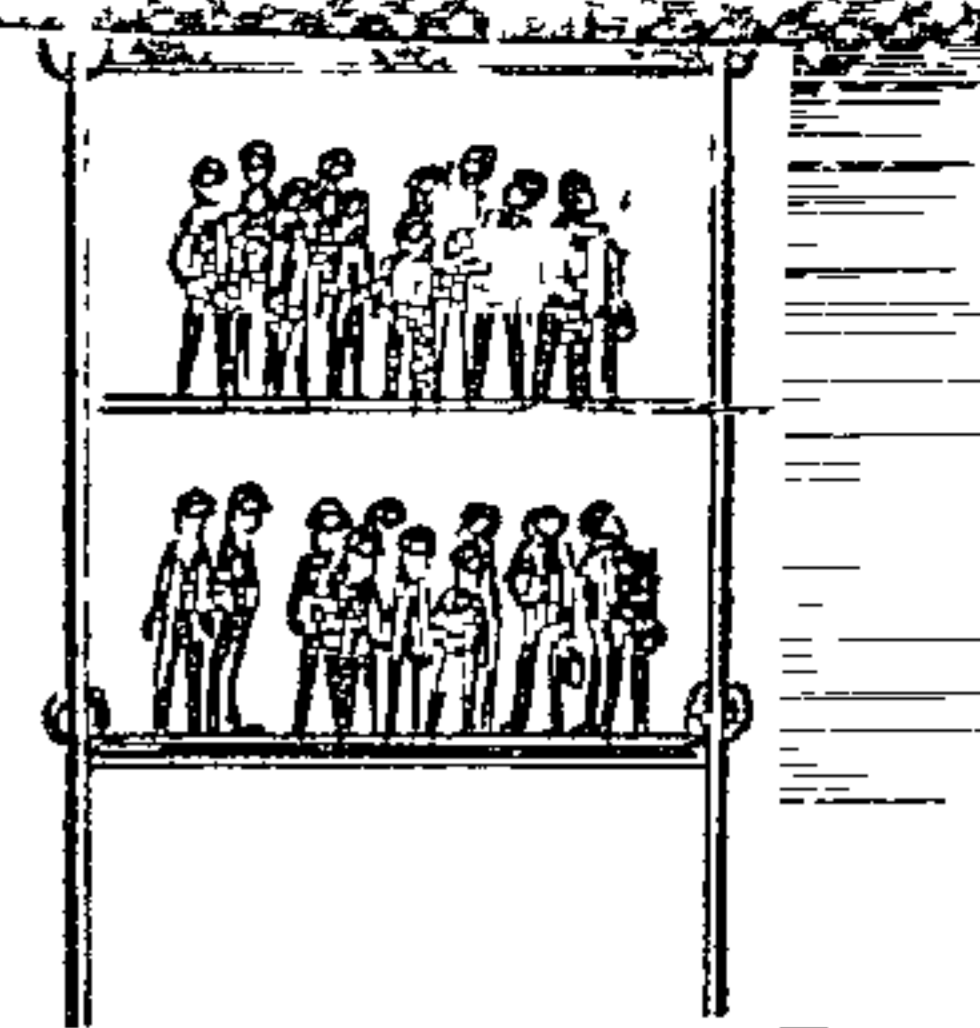
"A miner lives from hand to mouth," she said. "Many miners have financial problems here. Only

last night I told my husband that we would count our blessings."

She had just received news of her husband's death when her eldest son called her from Leshe where he was looking after his sick grandmother.

Johannes heard of the accident on the radio. He knew that the accident happened about the time his father was going underground.

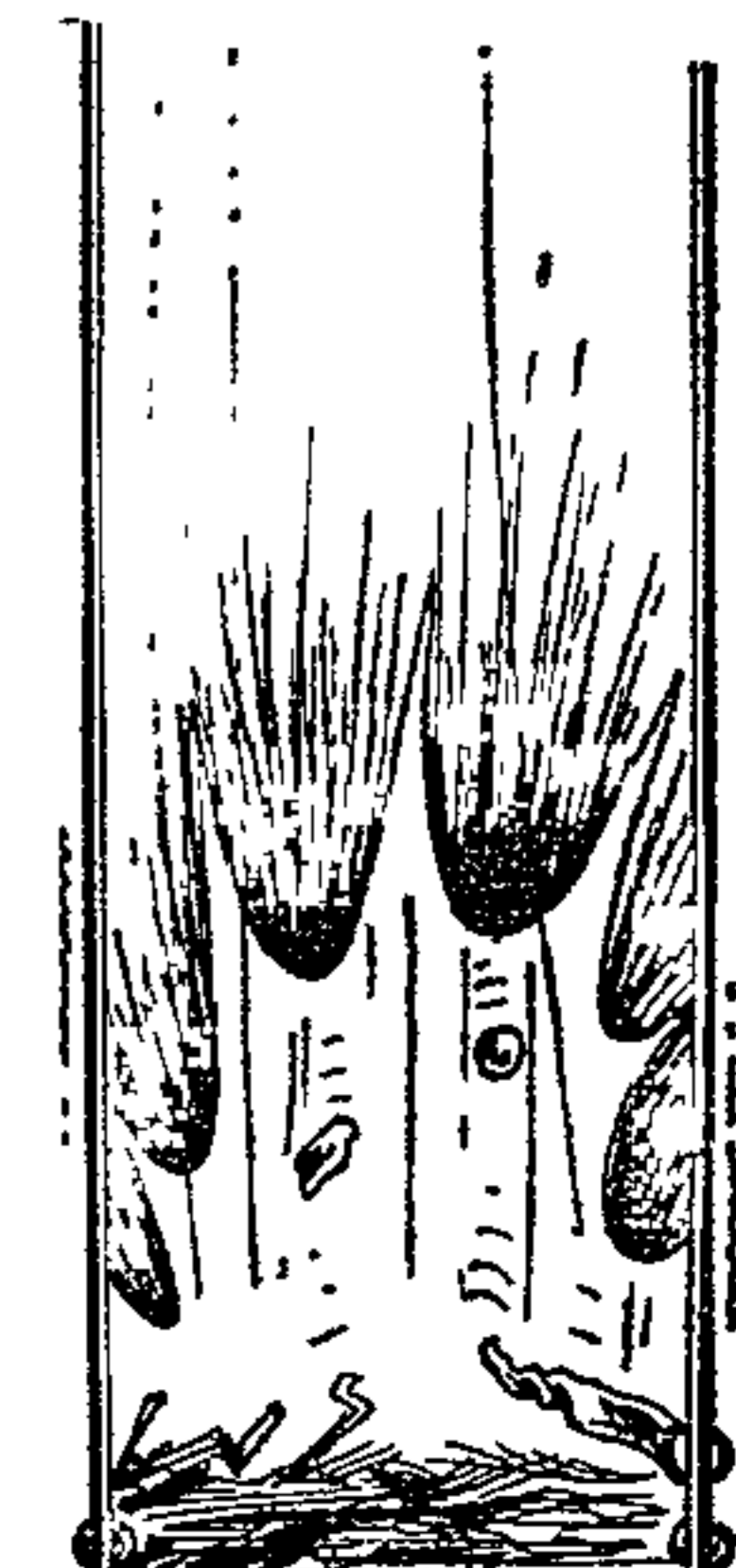
The younger children heard the news only when they came home from school — to start the Easter holidays.



The cable piles above it.



The bridle snaps as the cable tautens.



The plunge to destruction and 31 deaths.

Post 28/3/80 (212)

Disaster

TWENTY - THREE miners — 20 blacks and three whites — were killed at Orkney near Klerksdorp yesterday morning when a skip plunged to the bottom of No 2 Shaft at the Vaal Reefs Mine, the Anglo American Corporation said in a statement yesterday.

The dead included three white miners, Mr Johannes Bronkhorst, a box controller, mar-

SA PRESS ASSOCIATION

ried, from Orkney, Mr Pieter Cronje, a developer, married, from Stilfontein, and Mr Eric Jungman, a developer, married, also from Orkney.

The names of the 20 blacks would be released as soon as their next of kin had been informed

The two-tier 40-man conveyance began its descent of the 2300-metre shaft at 5.45 am and when it was about 300 m below surface, apparently jammed and came to a halt

A mine spokesman said that the possible sequ-

ence of events from this point onwards was that it suddenly freed itself. When the slack of the cable was suddenly taken up, the bridle attachment, which secured the cable to the top of the conveyance, snapped and it fell the rest of the way

Damage

The snapping of the bridle rendered the safety devices on the conveyance inoperable, the spokesman added

Units fell from the conveyance damaged part of the shaft area and also severed the cable bringing power to the subvertical shaft

Nine teams first had to inspect the shaft for damage before descending

to the shaft bottom, where an inspection showed that all the occupants of the conveyance were dead

At about 11.30 am the power cable was reconnected and shortly afterwards the other personnel conveyances in the subvertical shaft system came back into operation

At the time of the accident, part of the morning shift was already underground and it was decided to bring them to surface during the late morning

An inquiry into the causes of the accident was already in progress conducted by Mr E Creech, inspector of machinery from Klerksdorp, the statement concludes

Horriying experience

★ From Page 1

brought to the surface again We did not go down as workmen were busy clearing

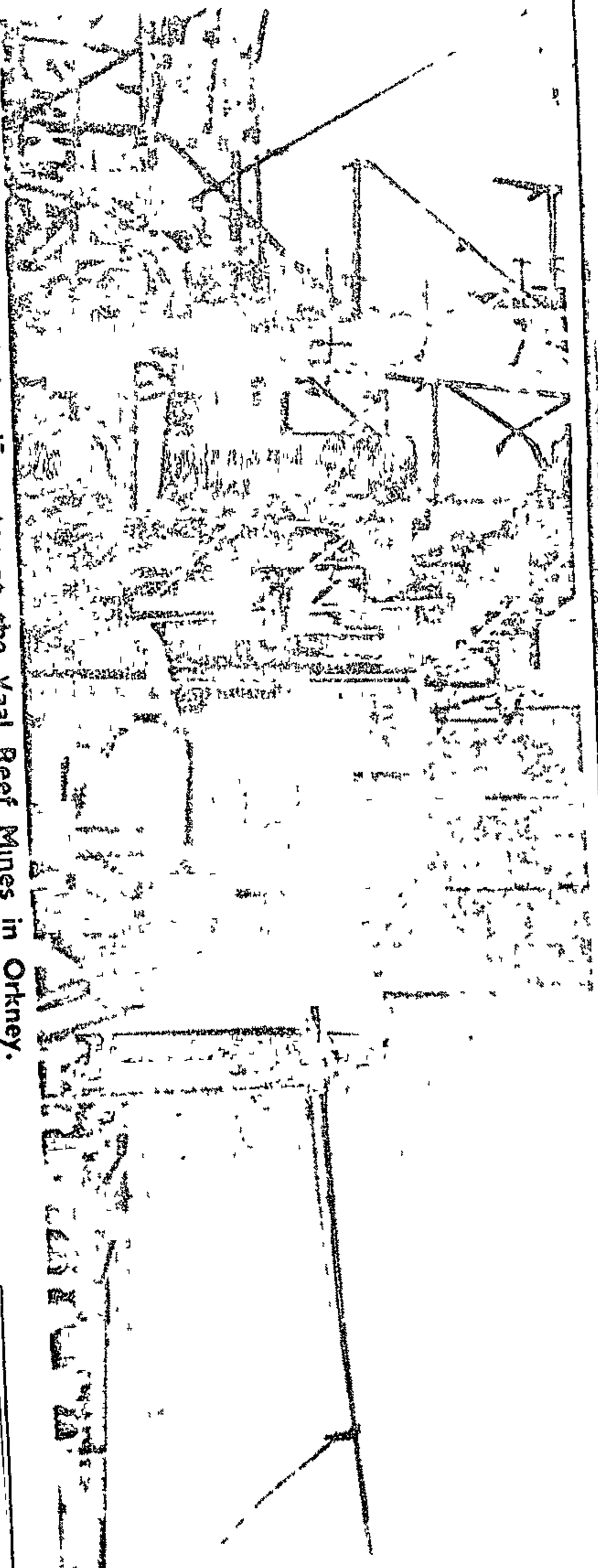
Mr Martin Mbongwe, who has worked for two years underground said "It all upsets my stomach " His group was brought back to the surface after going down at 7.15 am "I work on the 59 and 75 levels "

Officials of the mine said the Mary-Anne, the small side cage which has a capacity of 40, was carrying the men when it crashed They said there was strong possibility that

some of them might have died even before the cage crashed

The cage, a double-decker, was just leaving surface when it stuck Suddenly it slipped breaking off from the bridge, a steel structure connecting it to the ropes and crashed

The names of the dead black men will not be released until the next of kin have been informed The three white men were Mr Johan Pies Bronkhorst, Mr Eric Jungman, both married and of Orkney, Western Transvaal and Mr Pieter Cronje of Stilfontein



The scene of the disaster at the Vaal Reef Mines in Orkney.

Widely felt tragedy

By WILLIE BOKALIA

AN atmosphere of death hung over the Vaal Reef Gold Mine's No 2 shaft yesterday as scared workers stood about watching workmen prepare to bring up bodies of the victims of the cage crash

Twenty-three people (20 blacks and three whites), died underground when their cage snapped off the bridge and crashed more than 2 000 metres below surface

But workers, some of them working more than 3 000 metres underground everyday were still pre-

pared to go to work below surface Those interviewed said although the incident was a horrifying experience they would still go underground It would be our time if it happens to us,

When reporters arrived on the scene, just after midday yesterday workmen were busy pulling ropes and clearing the shaft The broken bridge was lying in front of the main lift with officials working overtime trying to keep pressmen away from the lift.

But in the workers' compound, a few metres away from the shaft's lift, workers looked relaxed with some of them listening to either music or friends relating how scared they were

Mr Victor Jack, who said he had been working at the mine since 1974 said he was terribly scared "But you understand that underground I must go He works the morning shift but went down in a later cage

Mr Jiyane Zaca, said he works on the 59 level, more than 2 000 metres underground His group was supposed to go down at 7 am, but because of the accident, went down at 9.30 am.

"The whole thing scared me stiff but I am here to work We were just a few minutes underground when suddenly we were

CTO PAGE 3

Half

212

a minute of terror, then death

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Twenty-three miners lived through 36 seconds of terror yesterday as they plummeted to death in a double-decker mine cage at 200km/h

The death cage, a 'Mary-Ann', at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine, near Orkney, hurtled 200m down

It went in a free-fall when it snapped its bridle in the No 2 shaft of the world's largest goldmine

The cage, almost 4m high, shattered at the bottom of the shaft and concertinaed to a height of less than 1m

Those who died were 20 blacks whose names have not been released and three whites. Mr Johannes Bronkhorst, a box controller from Orkney, Mr Pieter Cronje, a developer from Stilfontein; and Mr Erick Jungman, a developer from Orkney.

Last night miners, working beneath a make-shift, wooden protective platform at the bottom of the shaft, where struggling to retrieve the remains of the men.

Mine officials were still trying to find the cause of the accident which will be the subject of an inquiry headed by Klerksdorp's inspector of machinery, Mr E Creedy.

RESCUE workers at the No 2 shaft after the disaster

A shocked mine manager, Mr John Eplett, described how the men, after arriving slightly late for the dayshift, climbed aboard the main access shaft lift cage, known to miners as the 'Mary-Ann', before they fell to their deaths down the 2150m shaft.

At that stage, shortly after the accident, officials knew that the chances of any of the men surviving the plunge were 'very remote'.

Nearly 3000 workers already in the mine were suddenly aware of 'rushing sound' accompanied by violent shaking and clouds of dust as the cage began to fall.

The acting manager, Mr Anton Prinsloo, said that workers near the shaft at the bottom 70th level realised what had happened and scattered to avoid the explosion as the cage hit the ground.

'When the lift stopped about one-and-half turns of rope was paid out before an

automatic braking device came into operation,' Mr Prinsloo said.

'The driver realised that something had obstructed the lift and began moving towards the headgear to investigate.

'He was about halfway there when he heard the transom snap.'

Production around the shaft was immediately halted, but it was not until nearly five hours later that the workers returned to the surface and the process of identification could begin.

Accy Jasp. 28/3/80 (212)

Mine disaster: 23 die

Vaal sha ft skip plummets 2000 m

JOHANNESBURG — Twenty-three miners experienced half a minute of terror yesterday as they plummeted two kilometres to their death in a double-decker mine cage at more than 200 km/h.

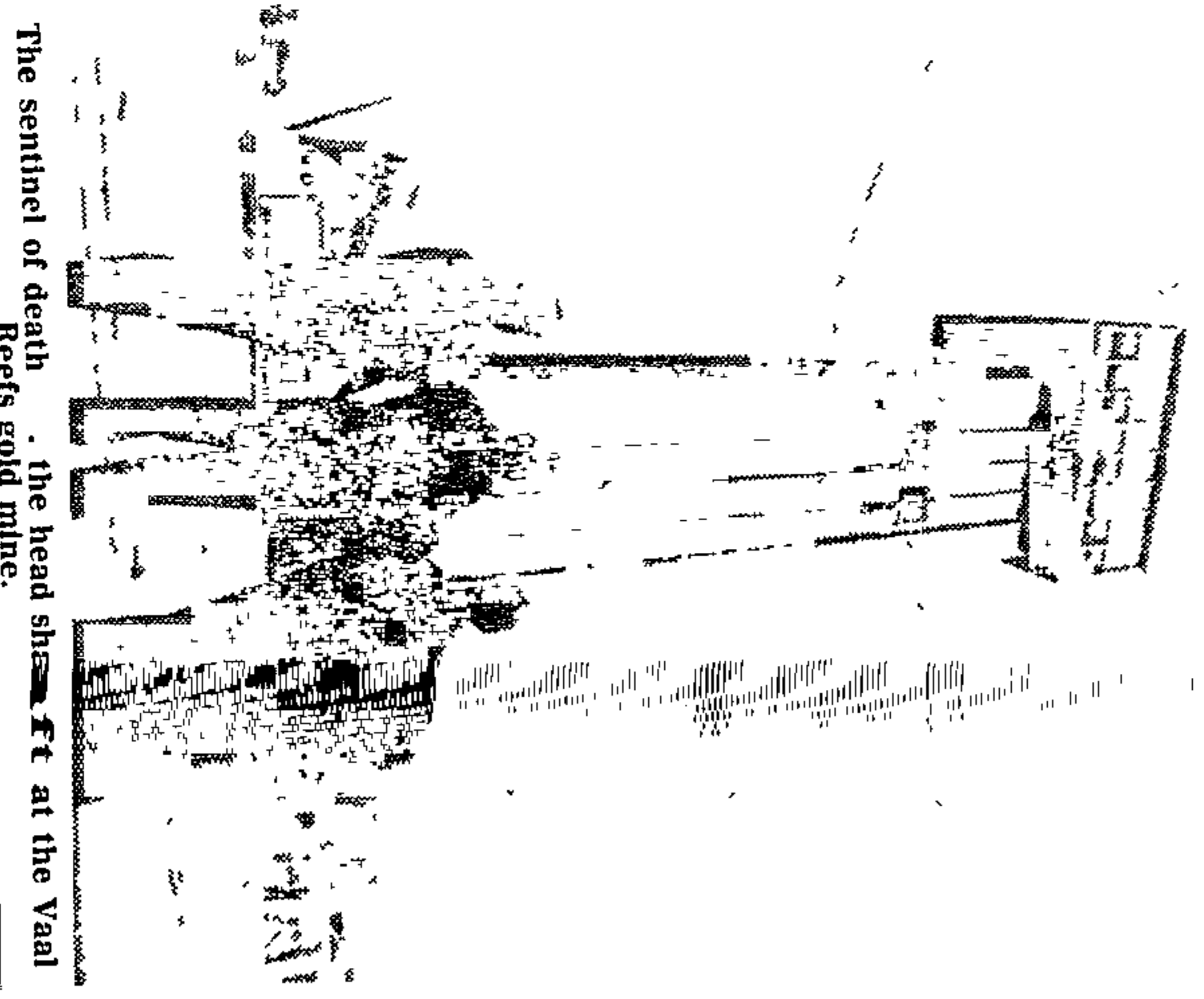
The death cage, at Vaal Reefs gold mine, near Orkney, hurtled 2 000 m in a free-fall when it snapped its bridle in the number two shaft of the world's largest gold mine

By
JEREMY BROOKS

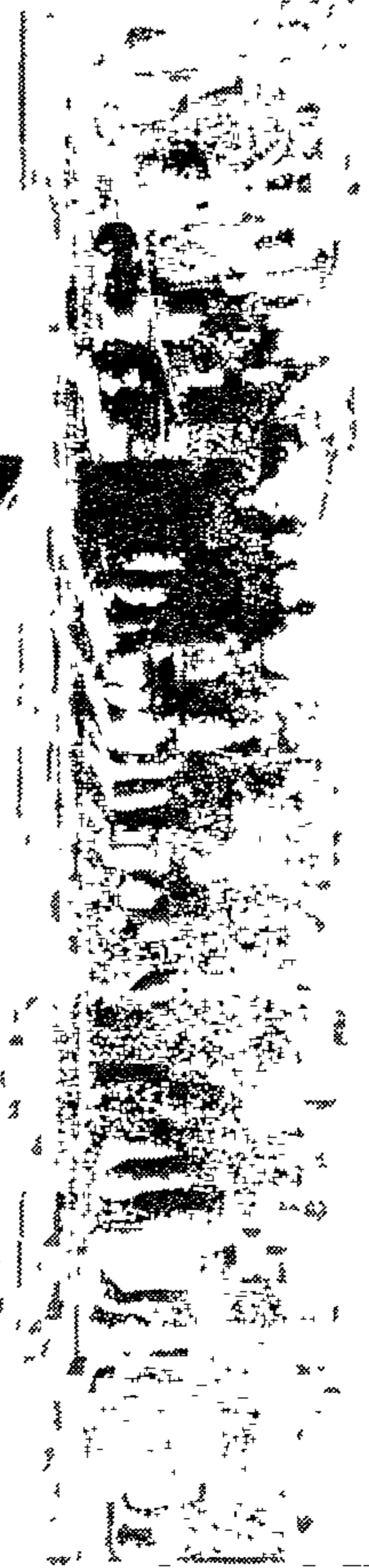
and
BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

The cage, almost four metres high, hit the bottom of the shaft and was compressed to a height of less than one metre

Those who died were 20 blacks whose names have not been released and



The sentinel of death - the head shaft at the Vaal Reefs gold mine.



A mute testimony of tragedy - the broken steel bracket that snapped off the cage in which 23 miners plunged to their death

Lift plunge was third disaster

JOHANNESBURG — The R200 million lift cage plunge at the Vaal Reefs gold mine, according to Vaal Reefs chairman

43 deaths during rockfall were a direct result of serious fatalities

The cage was rung away, and had moved about 40 feet (13 m) when suddenly, whatever obstruction was holding the lift, gave way, and it fell abruptly. When it reached the end of the slack the force was so great it snapped the bridle which attaches the rope to the top of the cage

Nearly 3 000 workers, already in the mine, were suddenly aware of a



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Bronkhorst, 49, a box controller from Orkney, Mr Pieter Cronje, 49, a developer from Stillfontein, and Mr Erick Jungman, 48, a developer from Orkney.

Last night rescue teams working with a death a.m. shift worked in protective platform at the bottom of the shaft were struggling to retrieve the remains of the men.

A shocked mine manager, Mr John Eplett, described how the men, after arriving slightly late for the day shift, climbed aboard the main access shaft lift cage, known to miners as the "Mary-Ann", before they fell to their deaths down the 2150 m shaft.

At that stage, shortly after the accident, officials knew the chances of any of the men surviving the plunge were "very remote".

Yesterday is the third serious disaster at the mine in 16 months.

In December 1978, 41 miners were trapped and killed by a blaze two kilometres underground.

The blaze was the worst disaster in the mine's 44-year history and the total death toll in 1978 was 102 people.

Last year a severe tremor caused the death of 14 miners.

Vaal Reefs produce almost ten per cent of South Africa's gold. Last year eight million tons of rock were hauled from the mine and the company showed a profit of about

Etheredge, in 1978 the mine was hoisting and milling nearly four times as much ore as any average South African gold mine and was producing more gold than Canada — ranked as the world's third largest producer.

The mine — a massive complex employing 41 000 people — is in the Klerksdorp mining area. The area has seen increasing seismic activity, which for miners means rockfalls.

A total of 66 people lost their lives at Vaal Reefs during 1979.

In the company's annual report released today, Mr Etheredge says 17 of the

Hess said one severe tremor had caused the death of 14 miners in 1971. To combat the danger from seismic activities the mine had introduced new safety measures, which had probably saved lives.

The last serious accident involving a mine cage occurred in June 1973 at the Buffelsfontein gold mine, also in the Klerksdorp area.

Sixteen miners were crushed to death when the cage — capable of travelling 1 000 m a minute — smashed into the steel bars in the mine headgear 58 m above the ground. DDC

rushing sound, accompanied by violent shaking and clouds of dust as the cage fell.

The section manager, Mr Anton Prinsloo, said before the lift stopped "about one-and-a-half turns of rope was paid out before an automatic braking device came into operation".

"The driver realised something had obstructed the lift and began moving towards the headgear to investigate. He was about halfway there when he heard the transom snap."

The driver was treated for shock and taken home shortly afterwards.

Production at the shaft was immediately halted, but it was not until nearly five hours later that the workers returned to the surface and the process of identification could begin.

Death toll now 31 in Vaal Reefs mine disaster

STAR 28/3/80

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By Sieg Hanng

The death toll from the 2 km plunge of a double-decker cage at the Vaal Reef Mine near Klerksdorp yesterday is now thought to be 31.

With the gruesome recovery of the unrecognisable bodies completed at 1 am today, the Vaal Reefs manager, Mr John Eplett, announced: "Instead of the 20 blacks originally estimated to be involved, it now would seem to be 28 in addition to the three whites already identified.

"We were not quite sure how many were in the cage. We are now double checking."

An emergency brake on the cage could have saved the lives of the miners in the North No 2 shaft.

But the cage had no braking device.

The emergency mechanisms all operate from the winding engine — and one of these safety devices indirectly contributed to the tragedy.

The double-decker "Mary Ann" service cage was being lowered from the surface at 5.45 am, but was stopped by an unknown obstruction.

The 45-cm-diameter hoisting rope uncoiled above the cage, possibly about 10 m of it.

The slackness triggered a safety device which brought the wind-

ing engine to a standstill.

The winding-engine driver rushed from his post.

He had covered barely half of the 20 m from the winding engine shed to the headgear when it happened.

The cage dislodged itself and tautened the steel rope suddenly after a brief "free fall."

Then with a loud crack the heavy steel beam on which the cage was suspended snapped.

Now, with nothing to brake the cage, it hurtled to the bottom.

The roar of the plummeting cage sent men at the lower shaft stations scrambling for safety.

Reports of a ripped out cage door and a severed leg indicate that the cage disintegrated even before hitting the bottom.

There the remains of the two-decker cage telescoped into a tangle of steel and bodies rumoured to have been only 50 cm high.

The mine, one of the richest in the country, earned R199,57-million in 1979 from gold and uranium production.

Sixty-six people were killed in accidents at the mine last year.

● More reports, pictures

— Page 3.

● Anglo Mines comment

— Page 24.

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SURFACE

1

Cage jams.

Cable slack builds up on top of cage.

12,5m



2

Cage dislodges.

2150m



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3

Cable tautens. Cage breaks away from transom bar.



4

Shatters at bottom of shaft more than 2km below.



The Vaal Reefs death plunge
how it happened.

Graphic GAIL IRWIN

Mary-Ann's

36 sec plunge

(212) RDM 28/3/80

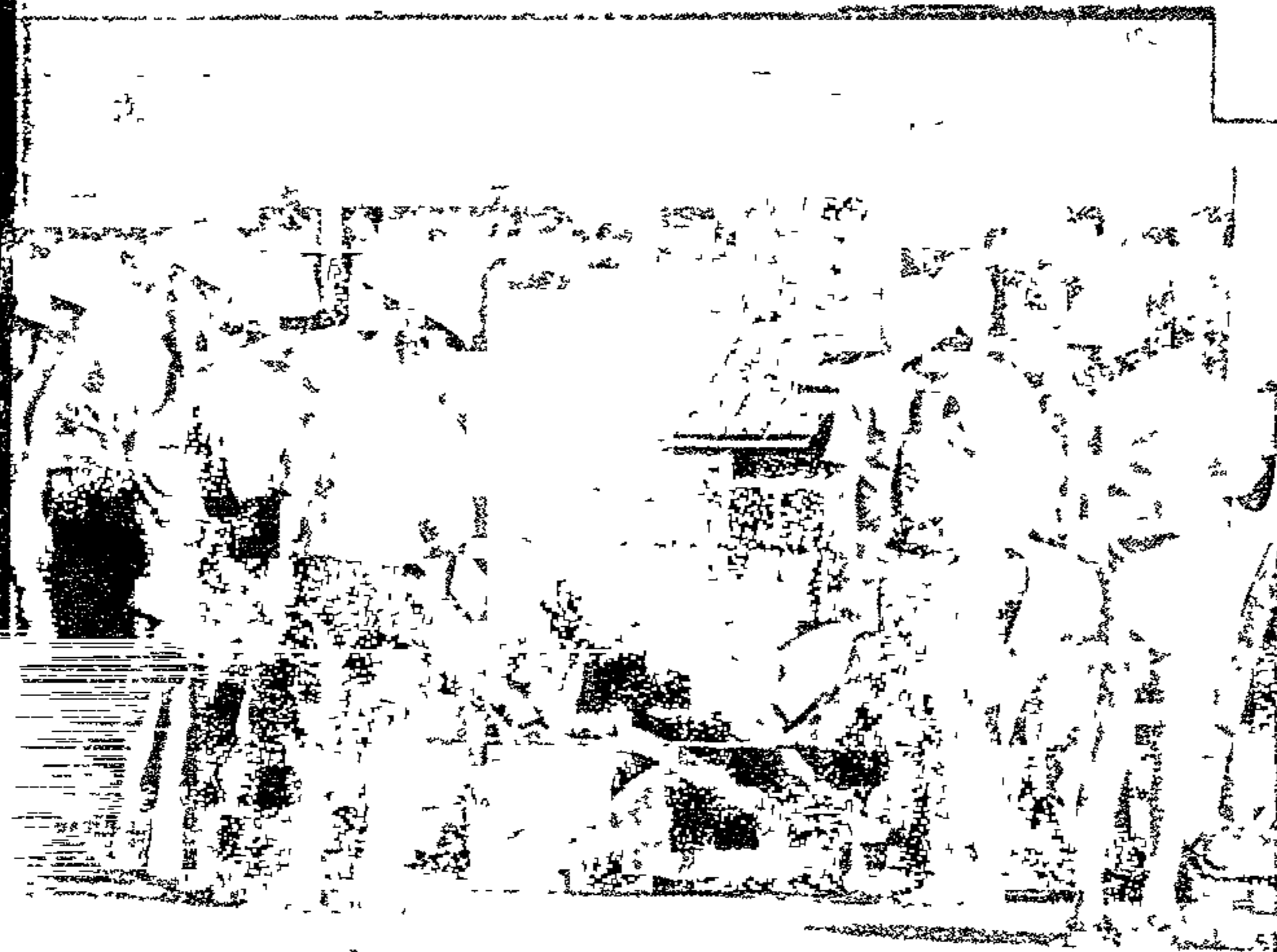
to death

By JEREMY BROOKS and BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

TWENTY-THREE miners plunged through 36 seconds of terror yesterday as they plummeted 2km to their deaths in a double-decker mine cage falling at about 200km/h.

The death cage, a "Mary-Ann", at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine, near Orkney, hurtled 2 000m down in free-fall when it snapped its bridle in the No 2 shaft of the world's largest gold mine.

The almost 4m-high cage shattered at the bottom of the shaft and concertinaed into a height of less than one metre.



Those who died were 20 blacks whose names have not been released and three whites

The whites were Mr Johannes Bronkhorst, a box controller from Orkney, Mr Pieter Cronje, a developer from Stilfontein, and Mr Eric Jungman, a developer from Orkney

Last night miners, working beneath a make-shift wooden protective platform at the bottom of the shaft, were struggling to retrieve the remains of the men

Mine officials were still trying to find the cause of the "freak accident" which will be the subject of a special inquiry headed by Klerksdorp's Inspector of Machinery Mr E Creed

A shocked mine manager, Mr John Eplett, described how the men, after arriving slightly late for the day shift, climbed aboard the 15m access shaft lift cage, known to miners as the "Mary-Ann", before they fell to their deaths down the 2 150m shaft

RAM (212)
28/3/80

Vaal Reefs mine officials examine the transom which snapped, sending 23 men plummeting more than 2km to their deaths

Witnesses describe death

By SOPHIE TEMA and STAN HLOPHE

LATE last night thousands of black mine-workers at the Vaal Reef No 2 shaft were anxiously waiting for news and names of 20 of their colleagues who died in yesterday's disaster.

At about 1 30pm the first batch of workers returned from the disaster shift and related gruesome details of the tragedy.

Aaron Masiza, a 23-year-old fitter, looked shocked and kept wiping his sweating hands on his overall as he described pieces of human flesh flying through the air.

He said, "I was busy at level 59 when I

heard screaming and screeching I looked down and saw an object plunging down hitting the walls of the shaft

"Before I knew what was happening I saw strange particles fly through the air, and later noticed that it was human flesh

"I also saw limbs but I cannot tell whether it was someone's hands or feet"

Tamsanqa Paulos Majali was on the verge of tears. One of the dead was his cousin Mathews Thami Majali

He said "My cousin joined the mine only two months ago after I had persuaded him to come and work with me. I never thought he would die in such a tragic manner"

"The cage was rung away, and had moved about 13m when it suddenly stopped — for some unknown reason," he said

"About 13m of rope then went slack and coiled on the roof. Suddenly whatever obstruction was holding the lift gave way and it fell abruptly

"When it reached the end of the slack the force was so great that it snapped the bridle which attaches the rope to the top of the cage"

The section manager, Mr Anton Prinsloo, said "When the lift stopped about one-and-a-half turns of rope was paid out before an automatic braking device came into operation" "The driver realised that something had obstructed the lift and began moving towards the headgear to investigate. He was about half-way there when he heard the transom snap."

The driver was treated for shock and taken home shortly afterwards.

Nearly 3 000 workers already in the mine were suddenly aware of a "rushing sound", accompanied by violent shaking and clouds of dust as the cage began to fall.

Mr Prinsloo said that workers near the shaft at the bottom 7th level realised what had happened, and scattered to avoid the explosion as the cage hit the ground.

Production around the shaft was immediately halted, but it was not until nearly five hours later that the miners returned to the surface and identification of the dead men could begin.

● Pictures Page 3

GENERAL NEWS



The No 2 shaft at the Vaal Reefs gold mine where 23 men fell to their deaths at an

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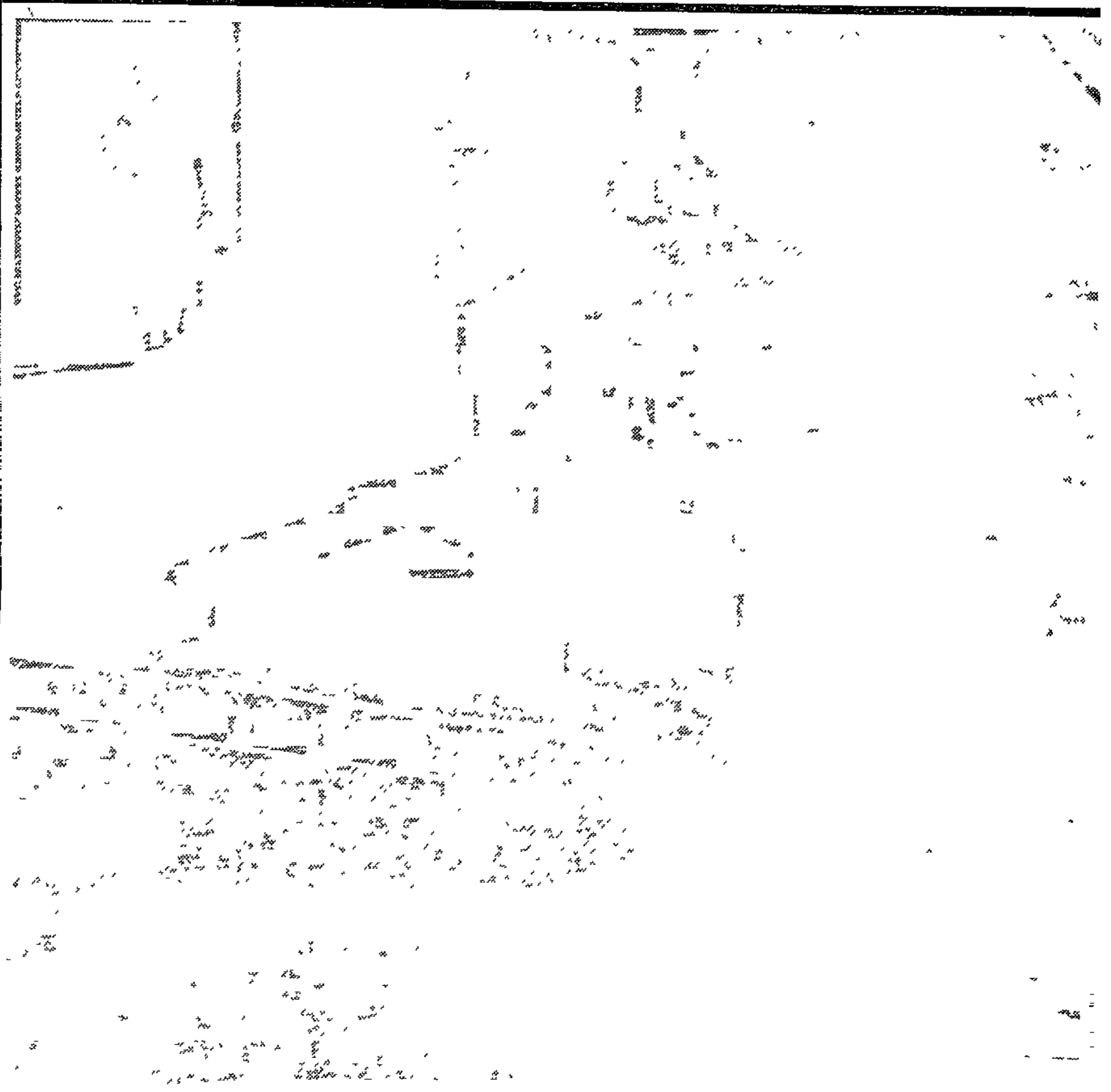
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RAND DAILY MAIL, Friday, March 28, 1980

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3



The metal of the transom, still attached to the rope which held the mary-ann cage, shows a clean break — "like torn-up piece of paper," as one mine-worker described it

CT- 29/3/80 (213)
Mine victims names

JOHANNESBURG — Anglo American Corporation yesterday amended the death toll of Thursday's Vaal Reefs mine disaster, announcing the final count to be 31

The names of another nine of the miners killed in the Vaal Reefs accident on Thursday were released by Boart Drilling, their employers, yesterday

They are Mr David Siletile, 39, of Mount Frere, Mr Tatumu Vundu, 45, of Umtata, Mr Siununu Tobana, 30, of Cofimvaba, Mr Thembilizwe Mgedezi, 21, and Mr Mpompi Mgambani, 39, both of Engcobo, Mr Mbuyiswa Juberwe, 24, of Butterworth, Mr Nzobo Dubase, 24, and Mr Mtukantu Tohi, 35, both of Tsomo, and Mr Mzwandile Mbambela, 22, of Matatiele

The names of three other victims — Mr Johannes Bronkhorst, of Orkney, Mr Pieter van Reenen Cronje of Stilfontein, and Mr Erich Jungman, of Orkney — were released on Thursday

The names of the other victims will be released once their next-of-kin have been informed — Sapa

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL	AS AT	29 02 80	PAGE	3
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160942M	FOLLETTI	MARGARET JANE	103202	SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY I (PRE-1980)	3NX	(51)	1	160942M	
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1502960	GARRIGH	SNAYIA IRENE	115107	FRENCH INTENSIVE	ABS	(50)	1	1502960	
158290E	GARNETT	DIANNE SYBELLE	905101 911101	CHEMISTRY I A CH. 102 MATHEMATICS I M102	ABS	(50)	1	158290E	
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154362K	GIANNAKAKIS	ASPASIA	115101	FRENCH I	UP	(55)	1	154362K	
153981W	GILL	CHRISTEL KAROLA	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP	(55)	1	153981W	
155173R	GILL	JUDITH MARY	197101	ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)	3NX	(55)	1	155173R	
159186D	GROSS	JOANNE ATHERSTONE	115101	FRENCH I	UP	(55)	1	159186D	
158211U	GRIEN	JANET FAY	004101	PSYCHOLOGY I	UP	(60)	1	158211U	
153855J	GRUSSE	KIRSTIN CHARLOTTE GERDA	106102	ECONOMIC HISTORY I	ABS	(55)	7	153855J	
142245X	HALLIER	SUZANNE COLLINGS	106103	ECONOMICS IA	UP	(50)	1	162285X	
161662V	HANCOCK	EDWINA ANNE	107101	ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)	3NX	(50)	1	161662V	
162109F	HARRIS	GWYNETH JULIA MARY	114101 115120	RELIGIOUS STUDIES I Drama I	F UP	(49) (50)	1	162109F	
		TIMOTHY JAMES GRAHAM	004101 107101	PSYCHOLOGY I ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)	2- 3NX	(65)	1	155641A	
		MARGARET JUANNE	911101	MATHEMATICS I M102	ABS	(50)	1	115954M	
		SUSAN MARGARET	102101 114101	AFRIKAANS RELIGIOUS STUDIES I	UP UP	(50) (65)	1	159604H	
		TREVOR RONALD	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	F	(48)	1	161491J	
		RONALD ALAN	115101	FRENCH I	F	(37)	7	152126E	
		UTE	115101	FRENCH I	ABS	(57)	1	155720L	
		SALLY	116120	Drama I	ABS	(57)	7	152889J	
		JOSEPHINE ALEXANDRA	004101 107101 115101	PSYCHOLOGY I ENGLISH I (PRE-1980) FRENCH I	3 3 3	(57) (59) (56)	1	155148P	

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Question mark over mine death plunge

212
RDM 21/3/80

By CHRIS MARAIS

WHAT caused Thursday's death plunge at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine?

The accident which, killed 31 miners who plummeted in a cage more than 2km to the bottom of No 2 shaft should never have happened

Elaborate safety devices and legal regulations dealing with the movement of people down a mine shaft should have made it impossible for anything to go wrong

And yet, at 5.45am on Thursday, a small two-deck cage - the Mary-Ann - not normally used for transporting labour, snapped its bridle and hurtled down the shaft

At first the cage was stopped 13m down the shaft by an obstruction

About 13m of steel rope went slack and coiled on the roof of the cage. The obstruction then suddenly gave way and the cage fell

The force on the rope once it tautened was so great that the bridle attaching it to the top of the cage snapped

Yesterday, as mining officials began the first leg of their inquiry into the horror plunge the Anglo American Corporation - owner of Vaal Reefs - remained tight-lipped on what could have caused the accident

Questions that the Rand Daily Mail put to Anglo American - and were not answered because of the pending inquiry - were

○ What was the obstruction that originally stopped the Mary-Ann cage on its downward journey and then suddenly released it?

○ What were all the safety devices used in the cage and its hoisting machinery?

○ When was the last time the Mary-Ann was used before the fatal plunge?

One of the regulations about the running of a winding plant, quoted from the Mines and Works Act is

'When winding in any compartment has been stopped for any purpose for a period exceeding one hour or when a conveyance has been changed, the winding engine shall not be used for the

raising or lowering of persons until the cage has been run at least one complete trip up and down such compartment or compartments

Professor Robert Plewman, head of the Department of Mining and Geology at the University of the Witwatersrand, said

One view could be that when this type of accident happens for the first time, it indicates that the safety precautions were not what they should be

'The regulations are, however, adequate to deal with normal events'

The cages in use were generally inspected once daily

He suggested that one of the possible causes for the initial obstruction could have been that the guide mechanism - by which the cage is steadied as it moves up and down the shaft - was faulty

'Routine checks, carried out with an inspector standing on top of the cage as it slowly descends, would normally bring out this type of fault - the cage would simply stop'

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Question mark over mine death plunge

212
RDM 29/3/88

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And yet, at 5.45am on Thursday, a small, two-deck cage — the Mary-Ann — not normally used for transporting labour, snapped its bridle and hurtled down the shaft

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EXAMINATION RESULTS IN FACULTY ARTS

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FIRST NAMES COURSE

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ROSEMARY KATHERINE 102101

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* TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS 1

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Ultimate price of gold

Millions of South Africans benefited this week from budget dispensations, made possible through record earnings from gold. Let them remember today the price in human lives that has been paid down the years to extract the precious metal from the earth's bowels.

This week's disaster at the giant Vaal Reefs mine, claiming 31 lives, has shocked the nation. It has underlined the risks of deep-level mining and agonising questions will probably be asked about improving safety.

How? South Africa is a leader in the world in mining technology. No country is more advanced in know-how. Safety precautions always take precedence in planning. All operations and all developments are keyed to the protection of the miners.

But the risks remain and will always be there because mining is dangerous. And the deeper miners dig the greater are the dangers.

Measured against the dangers, a value of even 800 dollars an ounce, hit earlier this year, is not too high. Not in terms of human effort.

Consider what has become routine at the ill-fated Vaal Reefs undertaking. To start their day's work, men are lowered two kilometres below the earth's surface. Only after making that breath-taking descent are they

positioned to go about their duties.

In the instance of Thursday's tragedy something obstructed the lift cage shortly after the start of its descent. When whatever was obstructing the lift gave way the transom connecting the lift to its cables snapped and the lift plunged at enormous speed to the bottom of the shaft.

The horror the 31 men experienced before they died on impact was long endured — half a minute. Thirty heart-thumping seconds of utter helplessness, then merciful oblivion.

We mourn today with our readers those 31 men. Our hearts go out to their families. Our sympathies go, too, to the mining company that employed them. It is the company's task to make good what went wrong, to reassure a work force numbering 41 000 people and to get everyone back on the job.

That job, as South Africans know more certainly now than ever before, is essential to this country's economic progress and prosperity.

Without gold and the brave men who bring it to the surface, we would all be poorer.

There should be a national monument in this country to the hundreds of miners who have died in search of this wealth.

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STAR 29/3/80
9 more ⁽²¹²⁾
mine dead
named

Nine of the dead at the Vaal Reefs mine tragedy were employees of Boart Drilling, working on a drilling construction operation underground and have been identified by their colleagues who remained on the surface.

A process of elimination is continuing to identify the rest of the 31 dead, said a spokesman for Anglo American this morning.

"Others will eventually be named merely by the fact that they are not at the hostels, but some occasionally go off for a break and we have to confirm who these are."

He said that the victims' families would be covered by the men's Compensation Act. According to a scale system so that a widow with three children would receive about 75 percent of her husband's earnings with benefits.

The names of the nine Boart employees identified were released by Sapa. They are Mr David Sibhe (39) of Mount Erere, Mr Tatumu Vundu (45) of Umtata, Mr Siyunu Tobana (56) of Coimvaba, Mr Themblizwe Mgedezi (21) and Mr Mpomp Mgambani (39) both of Engcobo, Mr Mbusiswa Juberwa (24) of Buterworth, Mr Nzobo Dubase (24) and Mr Mtukantu Toli (35) both of Tsomo and Mr Mzwandile Mbambela (22) of Matatiele.

● Page 3: Shaft deaths could be prevented.

Shaft deaths could be prevented, say experts

By Craig Charney

Many of South Africa's mining deaths — including "freak" accidents such as the Vaal Reefs disaster which took 31 lives this week — are preventable, say some experts

The 2 km death crash of the cage carrying 31 miners at Vaal Reefs was only one of a large number of mining accidents

The total number of men killed in the mines was 912 in 1978

The number of people injured in that year was 25 298

The accident at Vaal Reefs was "definitely preventable," says a mining engineer with more than 40 years' experience

"It's difficult to conceive of a circumstance where the conveyance could have stuck if it had been properly examined and properly maintained," he said.

Mr Neville Huxham, a spokesman for Anglo American, the mine's owners, said that he agreed with this, but could not agree to the claim that the accident was preventable

The immediate cause of

the accident, when the car broke free and snapped off the transom bar holding it to the hoist cable, lay either in a design flaw or corrosion missed in examinations of the car, said the engineer, who preferred not to be named

Mr Huxham could not comment on this, as he said the matter was under investigation

How safe are South African mines?

The retired engineer estimates that as many as 40 percent of deaths and injuries on the mines are preventable.

Mr Arrie Paulus, head of the Mine Workers Union, agreed that many unnecessary deaths occur

"You can't produce more every month and keep the standards up to date," he says

Chamber of Mines figures bear him out: accidents rise most frequently where output has risen most rapidly.

Statistics also show that the death rate per 1000 workers on South African gold and coal mines is significantly higher than on coal mines in Britain. In 1975 the rate was 1,33 on South African gold mines, and 1,3 on coal mines here, while a mere 0,27 on British coal mines.

It's not fair to compare deep, high pressure gold mines in South Africa to British coal mines, insists Mr E G Stokes, of the Chamber of Mines' Ac-

WORSE

sident Prevention Office. "The rate on British mines is improving, while the rate on South African mines is getting worse," says the retired engineer. Besides, he adds, the South African coal mines are shallower than British ones, so they should be safer

'SA mines are among safest in the world'

South African mines are among the safest in the world, Mr D A Etheredge, president of the Chamber of Mines in South Africa said today

He was commenting on the address by the president of the Association of Mine Managers at the annual meeting of the association

Mr Etheredge said South Africa was the only country to have mines with five-star ratings on the safety scale, and that seven gold and platinum mines had achieved a million-fatality-free shifts last year.

"One aspect of achievements in safety has been the conducting of courses in loss control by the Prevention of Ac-

cidents Committee," he said

"These are clearly making a very positive contribution to the safe running of our mines"

He said the figure of 430 proto teams used in 1979 for the prevention of mine fires had been the lowest for the past eight years

This was an indication of the state of preparedness of mines in the early detection and prevention of fires

"It is hoped that as new training facilities become available at the station, being built at Carletonville, and as they are now available at Welkom, more mines will see fit to establish teams of rescue assistants," Mr Etheredge said

Mr Etheredge referred to the dramatic rise in

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mining working costs which had posed critical problems for mines

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"Today the capital cost of bringing a gold mine to the production stage can range up to R500-million and more, depending on size and other factors," he said

"Such high capital costs obviously act as a deterrent to the expansion of existing mines, particularly those mining lower grade ore

Mr Etheredge also stressed the urgent problem of the shortage of trained manpower

He described it as "the most critical constraint on development"

"The high wastage rate among learner miners at the Government Miners' Training College and newly qualified miners among learner miners at the college has been a source of concern for a number of years.

He said that in December last year the industry requirements for over 360 men with blasting certificates could not be met

"In the same month, the industry had a total shortfall of more than 1 000 skilled personnel, of which about 40 percent were artisans

"The overall shortage is increasing gradually month by month as a result of increased mining activity and other developments in the economy"

The major reason, he says, are that South African mines blast ore instead of cutting it mechanically, use less adequate supports, and have coal pillars or long walls of gold ore shoring up ceilings rather than letting them crumble behind the working areas to relieve stress.

Such stress causes rock bursts, which account for more than half of all accidents

Mr Stokes admits that coal mines could be mechanised, but says nothing else can be done in gold mines

Explosives create instability, he says, but to his knowledge, technology has not yet supplied the answer

Apartheid is another factor, says the retired engineer. Because skilled jobs have been restricted to white miners, whose numbers are limited, unskilled blacks often do their work, causing accidents in the process, he says

In support of this, he claims black miners die four times as frequently in accidents as one would expect, compared to white miners.

Mr Paulus, whose union is composed exclusively of white miners, disagrees. So does Mr Stokes, but he admits that Chamber of Mines figures put the death rate on the job for black miners at roughly twice that of their white counterparts

UJET

Vaal dips after mine deaths

JOHANNESBURG — Gold shares closed easier in active trading, although select counters firmed on the higher London bullion price, dealers said

Shortly before the close, 26 gold counters were lower and 13 higher. Buffels fell 200 cents to 3 000 cents, Harmony 100 to 2 100 after 1 850, P Steyn 100 to 3 525, P Brand 150 to 3 475, and St Helena 125 to 3 725

Vaal Reefs, where 31 miners were killed yesterday, fell 125 to 5700, but production was little affected. Despite annual reports yesterday from some Anglo mines, they followed the easier trend

Platinums and coppers eased, and Collieries firmed, dealers said. Implats fell 10 to 630, Rusplats 10 to 500, and Lydplats 20 to 300. Messina fell 15 to 410, Palamin 25 to 1575, while Vryheid rose 10c to 300 and Clydsdl five to 715

Antimony counter Cons Murch fell 10 to 950 after 940

In London, the market closed mixed, overshadowed by anxiety over United States silver contract problems, dealers said. At 1500 the FT index was down 1,8 at 421,3

Gold shares ended up to \$1½ on either side of overnight levels. Government bonds showed closing falls ranging to ½ point amid speculation of higher United States prime rates. Oils were mixed after early strength while banks also pared opening gains

In Salisbury, the market closed the week's trading on a quiet note in extremely low turnover.

The industrial index remained virtually unchanged at 386,88. SPC added 10 cents to trade at 240 whilst small improvements were seen in CIH, Clan Gullivers and Hippo Valey.

The mining index closed at 263,95 (263,62) — SAPA-RNS

Mutual funds

JOHANNESBURG — Yesterday's quotations for Unit Trusts (under headings buyers, sellers, yield) were

Old Mutual	319,47	298,32	3,58
NGF	193,72	180,82	3,81
Sage	332,84	308,78	4,88
UAL	327,67	309,22	4,45
Sats	139,80	130,41	4,29
Santrust	307,18	287,00	4,30
Trust	96,32	89,87	4,48
Santam	135,88	128,82	4,27
Syfrets	94,32	88,97	5,45
Guardbank	297,10	297,57	4,28
Standard	205,77	195,47	4,47
Stand Inc	103,02	100,49	9,23

— SAPA

JOHANNESBURG — At least nine of the 28 black miners killed in the Vaal Reefs accident on Thursday were Transkeians.

They were Mr David Silelle, 52, of Mount Frere, Mr Fatumu Vundu 45, of Umtata, Mr Situdu Tobana, 36, of Cofimvaba, Mr Thembilizwe Mgedezi, 21, and Mr Mpompi Mgamhani 39, both of Engcoco, Mr Madyiswa Tuberwe, 24, of Butterworth, Mr Nzobo Dubase, 24, and Mr Mnkantso Toli, 35, both of Tsomo and Mr Mzwandile Mhambela, 22, of Matielvale.

2 Dead miners maimed

The names of three other miners killed in the accident were released earlier.

The names of the other 19 dead black miners will be released once their next of kin have been informed.

Mr H K Davies, the chairman and managing director of Boart Inter-national, — the company that employed the men — said his day extended his

Sympathy to the wives and relatives of the victims.

"We are all deeply shocked by this tragedy involving the loss of so many lives," he said.

A spokesman for Anglo American Corporation said the final death toll was 31.

The new figure, which overtakes the original estimate by eight, was reached after officials checked

the number of mine lamps issued to the crew riding the horror cage which plunged them to their deaths 2km down the shaft.

The families of the dead men will receive 75 per cent of the miners' annual salary and benefits for life, the official announced.

Yesterday's shift went down while the shaft was being examined and

repaired.

The new Mary-Anne cage will be installed to enable checking of the shaft, and after today's shift the shaft will be closed down for the weekend and repairs will be carried out," he said.

It was reported last night that a black mineworker was killed yesterday after a rockburst in a stope on the 1998 level of the Elandstrand gold mine near Carletonville — DDC-SAPA

Editorial opinion, page 8.

See Times 30/3/80 (212)

By GHERHARD PIETERSE

NO SAFETY mechanism on earth could have saved the lives of the 31 Vaal Reefs miners who were crushed to death when a cage plunged more than 2 km to destruction.

The mine manager, Mr John Eplett, said this yesterday, adding: "I know of no system that can stop a cage once it is in free fall.

"All our safety mechanisms are attached to either the rope or the hoisting mechanism.

"There is no system available anywhere in the world that will stop a cage once it is no longer attached to the rope."

Three whites and 28 blacks plunged more than 2 km to their deaths in the double-decker mine cage after it snapped its bridle in the No 2 shaft of the world's largest gold mine.

□ □ □

The whites who died in the accident were: Mr Johannes Bronkhorst, a box controller from Orkney; Mr Pieter Cronje, a developer from Stillfontein; and Mr Eric Jungman, a developer from Orkney. A full list of the dead blacks will not be released before their next of kin have been informed.

Mr Eplett said he hoped the exact cause of the accident would become clear during the investigation.

"It was that one in a million accident," he said. "I still find it inconceivable that it actually happened.

"We will do everything within our power to prevent it from happening again.

"The fact remains, however, that there is no emergency system known to man that will stop a cage once it has broken free."

A spokesman for the mine said a full investigation was being made.

Nothing could save miners

The death cage, known to miners as a Mary Ann, hurtled down the No 2 shaft at more than 200 km/h early on Thursday morning.

The trapped men fell for nearly 30 seconds before their bodies were shattered beyond recognition when the cage hit bottom.

The tragedy was probably caused by a cable that had coiled on the roof of the cage after it had stopped — for no reason — about 13 m from the surface.

□ □ □

The obstruction that had stopped the cage suddenly cleared and the Mary Ann fell abruptly.

When it reached the end of the slack, the force was so great it ripped the bridle off the top of the cage and sent it on its path of death.

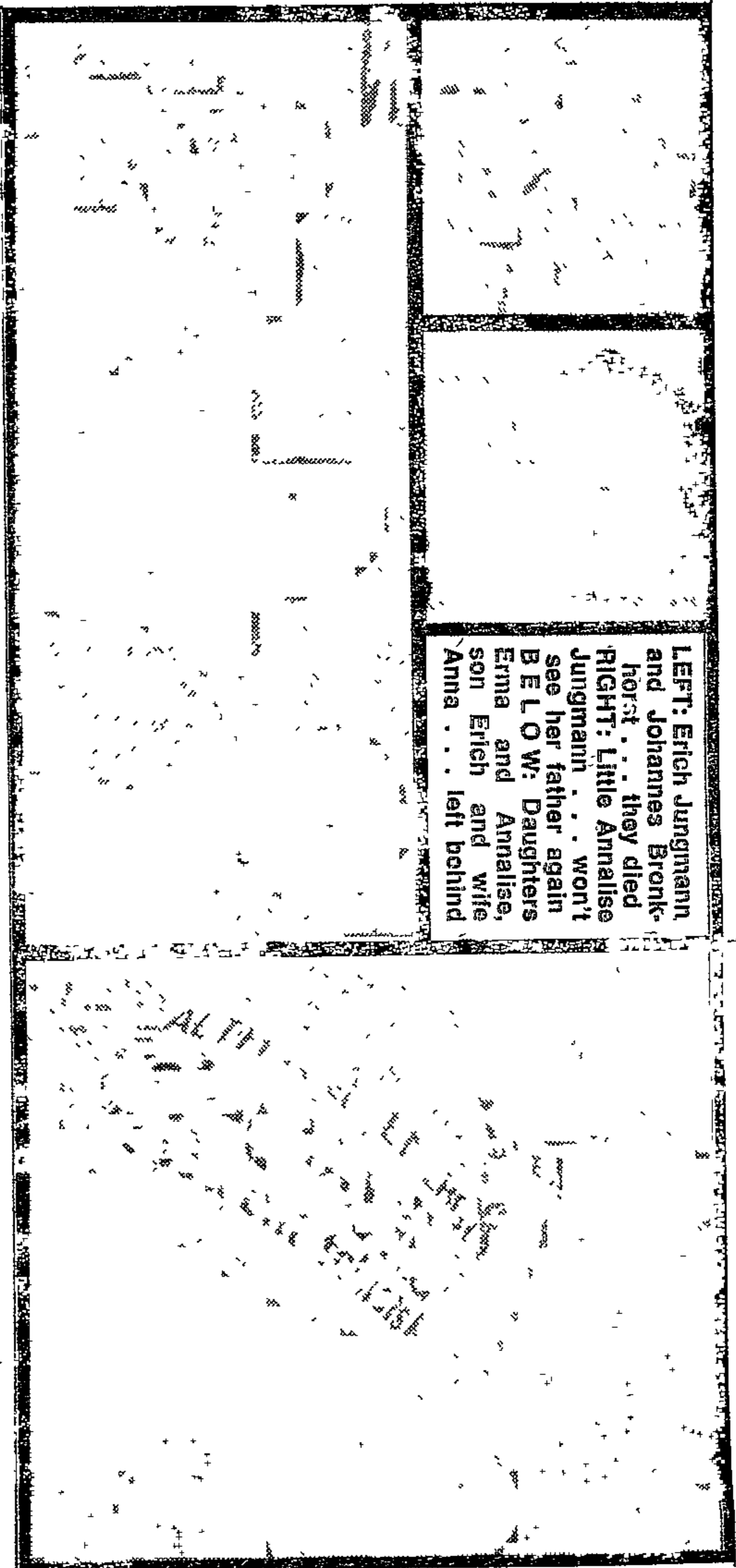
The death cage had transported nearly half a million miners during its lifetime and was due for replacement, the spokesman said.

"The Mary Ann is replaced every six months, irrespective of its condition," he said.

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DISASTER IN UNDERGROUND: SCREECHING TERROR IN 36-SECOND DEATH PLUNGE

The Gann Shift



LEFT: Erich Jungmann and Johannes Bronkhorst . . . they died
 RIGHT: Little Annalise Jungmann . . . won't see her father again
 B E L O W: Daughters Erna and Annalise, son Erich and wife Anna . . . left behind

Who The men who died . . . and The families they left behind

Went to die

WHEN 31 of about 3 000 day-shift miners at Vaal Reef stepped into a double-decker cage to be lowered to their working level early on Thursday morning, they had less than five minutes to live.

And for each of the doomed men the last 36 seconds were filled with a mindless, screeching terror as their cage fell two kilometres down the shaft at about 200 kilometres an hour, smashing to pieces when it hit the bottom.

Only a few of the death-cage's occupants — all mutilated — have been named.

Erich Jungmann had 28 years of unbroken service, 18 of them at the Vaal Reef's gold mine at Orkney, when he hurried along the 200-metre tunnel from the miners' clock-in gate to the three cages that run down No 2 shaft to the working levels.

It was about 5.45am and he was slightly late.

Three months earlier he and his family moved into their own house at Orkney, where Erich and his wife, Anna, planned to live when he retired in 13 years.

He knew his work was dangerous but was proud that his only son, also Erich, had become a miner too and worked on the same mine.

Arriving at the cage at the same time as him was another developer, Pieter Cronje, who lived at Stilfontein.

Pieter was a reserved, rather shy man of 49. Widowed some years before, he re-married four years ago and his life took on new meaning when, as a member of the Pentecostal Church, he found

Report by Warren Griffin

Christ two years later

The night before Pieter read to Joey, his wife, from their beloved Bible.

Also at the cage was Johannes Bronkhorst, 48, father of seven. He and his wife, Anna, had been married for 20 years and with their children lived in a mine house at Orkney. He worked as a box controller at Vaal Reef's and was proud of his accident-free record and the many silver presentations he received in acknowledgement of his safety-consciousness.

He had had premonitions of events concerning his family and before leaving home that morning turned back at the bedroom door to kiss his wife a second goodbye. When she wished him a happy day, his only reply was "We'll see."

The three men and 28 black miners boarded the cage.

Only nine of the black miners have been named so far. They were Mr David Silette, 39, of Mount Frere; Mr Tatumu Vundu, 45, of Umtata; Mr Sununu Tobana, 36, of Colimvab; Mr Thembhizwe Mgedezi, 21, and Mr Mpompi Mganbani, 39, both of Engecho; Mr Mbuyiswa Juberwe, 24, of Butteiworth; Mr Nzobo Dubase, 24, and Mr Mtukantu Toli, 35, both of Tsomo; and Mr Mwandile Mboambela, 22, of Matatiele.

When the lift began to move the men embarked on the last five minutes of their lives.

About 60 metres away from the shaft in the winder house the

operator heard a hooting noise that warned him the cage had stopped about 13 metres down the shaft. He left the winder house and headed for the shaft. He was half way there when a tearing, crashing sound stopped him in his tracks.

It was the sound of steel rupturing and could be heard about 100 metres away.

The cage carrying the 31 men had torn away from its steel bit-die and was hurtling down the shaft at 200 kilometres an hour, its occupants screaming in terror.

This is what happened. After the cage was rung away and had moved 13 metres down the shaft, it stopped. The reason why it jammed is not yet known.

Free fall

About 13 metres of cable went slack and coiled on the roof of the cage. Then whatever was obstructing the lift gave way and the double-decker cage suddenly dropped fast.

When it reached the end of the slack, the force of the drop snapped the bridle that attached the cable to the top of the cage.

With the transom bar ripped away from the top, the cage went into a free fall. It exploded at the bottom 36 seconds later.

The day after the disaster the mine — part of the Anglo American Corporation — published its annual report. It highlighted last year's safety record.

"This year's injury and fatality frequency rates improved considerably when compared with

1978. Regrettably, however, 66 people lost their lives on the mine during the year."

Some of the families of the dead have still to be told. Some live in countries on South Africa's borders, others further afield.

They will not be asked to identify their men. They are mutilated beyond recognition.

"It was such a gruesome death," said Mrs Anna Jungmann, whose husband's family in Germany have been told the news after hearing part of it on television.

"Johannes had no insurance," said Mrs Anne Bronkhorst, "and we will have to move out of this mine house now that he's gone. I haven't thought yet where we will go."

Mrs Joey Cronje said "The way Pieter died was horrible, but his soul is untouched. It is free and with God."

Funeral arrangements have not been made yet.

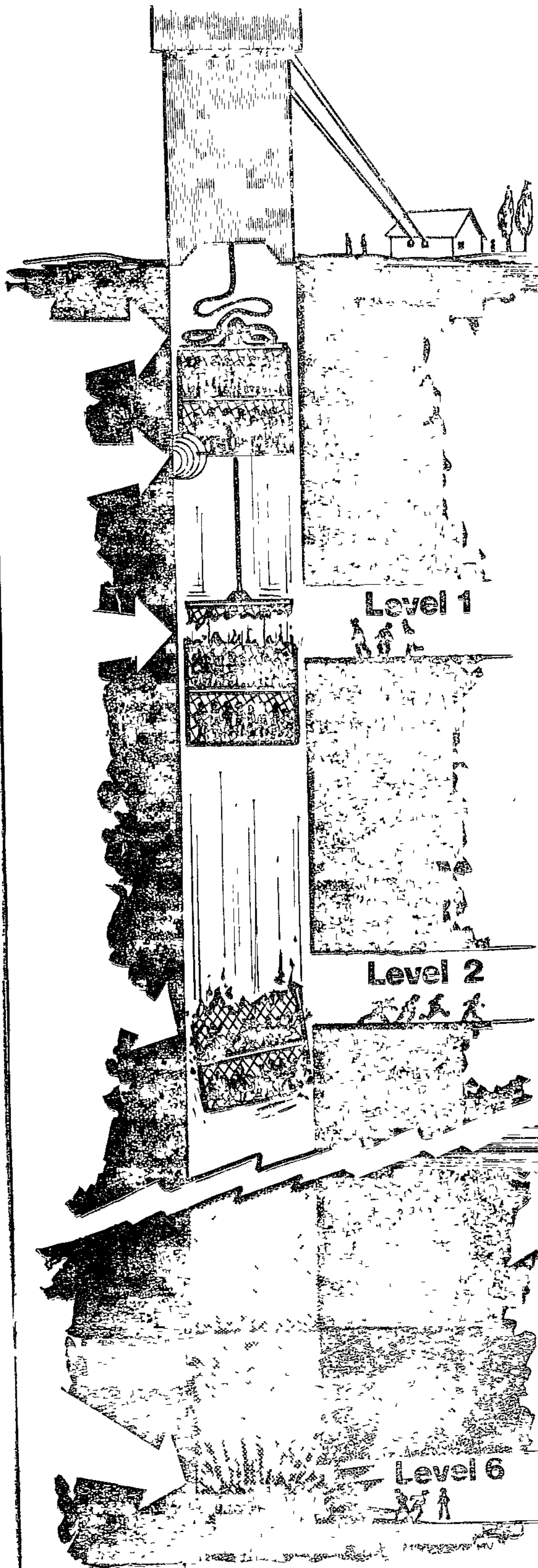
Nine officials described the accident as a freak. Klerksdorp's inspector of machinery, Mr E. Creedy, will head a special inquiry.

The disaster has left a number of question marks hanging over the cause of the plunge.

Elaborate safety devices and regulations govern the movement of people down a mine shaft.

Among the questions that will be uppermost in the minds of the investigators — and all miners — are the cause of the obstruction in the shaft that stopped the cage and then suddenly released it; the safety devices used in the cage and its hoisting machinery; and when the cage was last used before the disaster.

200 kilometres an hour



DEATH STALKS MINERS

SUN POST 212

3/13/80

MINE accidents occur every month in South Africa and gold mines in particular account for 90 per cent of the deaths.

In 1978 alone 877 people died in mine accidents — an average of 7 per month — according to the Department of Mines' annual report tabled in Parliament last year.

There were also 24 772 people injured in mine accidents during that period.

The double-decker cage incident at the Vaal Reefs mine in Orkney near Klerksdorp this week in which 31 people died when the cage plunged more than two kilometres down a shaft was the third major accident at this mine within 12 months.

In April last year ten people were killed and 37 injured in a rockfall at the mine.

And in December last year 41 miners were killed when they were trapped by a blaze more than 2 000 metres underground.

According to unconfirmed reports 41 people died in mine accidents this month, eight of them at the Western Deep Levels near Carletonville when a pressure burst occurred.

In February this year three people died in a pressure burst at the Western Deep Levels, which suggests rock falls and pressure bursts account for most of the minor accidents in mines.

In 1977 alone 654 people died in mine accidents while 20 781 were injured according to the Department of Mines report.

The accident death rate in 1978 was 1,28 per 1 000 workers.

The department said then that the high death rate showed that accident prevention efforts had not come up to expectations and that there was a need to step up the prevention efforts if deaths in mines were to be reduced.

A day after the Vaal Reefs cage crash this week another miner died and ten others were injured during a rock blast in a stope about 2 000 metres below surface at the Elandsrand Gold Mines near Carletonville.

The incident occurred on Friday at ten in the morning. Officials of the mine said the ten injured were not seriously hurt.

Officials also said a Government inquiry into the Mary-Ann, the double-decker 40-capacity cage which plunged two km at the Vaal Reefs No 2 shaft, was taking place to ascertain the real cause of the accident.

The inquiry is headed by Mr E Creedy, inspector of machinery in Klerksdorp.

The Mary-Ann, a side cage running next to the main cage, went down with 31 people in it on Thursday morning.

The cage was said to have stuck just after leaving surface and later snapped off the bridle and plunged more than 2 000 metres to the bottom of the shaft.

Second tragedy in mine since 1978

CAPE TIMES 31/3/80

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By SARAH HETHERINGTON

THE Vaal Reefs gold mine where 31 miners plunged to their death in a lift cage last Thursday was hit by an even bigger tragedy in December 1978 when 41 miners died in an underground blaze.

And last year 66 miners died on the Vaal Reefs mine, according to the annual chairman's report published on Friday.

The largest gold mine in the

world, Vaal Reefs has a workforce of 40 000.

"Mining is a dangerous business and there is always an element of risk," Mr N B Huxham, a public relations spokesman for the Anglo American Corporation, said.

"Vaal Reefs — one mine — produces more gold than Canada, the third-largest gold-producing country in the world. Sixty-six people dead in a year sounds a lot, but if you think of

Canada, the figures would be for the whole country," he said.

"I'm not trying to gloss over the deaths, all deaths are to be regretted."

The majority of deaths on the mine in a given year usually result from rockfalls and other seismic activity.

In 1979, of the total 66 deaths on the mine, 43 were a result of earth movements and falls of ground. The rest were the result of accidents.

The 41 miners lost in the underground fire in December 1978 brought the figure for that year to 102 dead on the mine. The fire was the worst disaster in the mine's history.

According to a report tabled in parliament, 654 people were killed and 20 781 injured on the gold mines in 1978.

Mr Huxham said mining was a labour intensive industry, and inevitably a percentage of the work force would be involved in accidents.

"Inquest courts usually find that the deaths should not have happened, but we are dealing with people and there is a human element that causes accidents."

"The company spends a great deal on safety measures, and research aimed at the prevention of accidents."

Mr Huxham said Thursday's accident and the death of the 31 people was to be regretted.

"It is a complicated and dangerous exercise moving 40 000 people around underground in what is already a dangerous business."

The accident occurred when the cage was initially obstructed, then, when cleared, the force of the cage falling while taking up the slack on the cable broke the transom across the top of the cage, breaking it away from the cable.

The precise cause of the accident will be the subject of a special inquiry.

Mr D A Etheredge, chairman of Vaal Reefs, said in the Anglo American chairman's reports, published last week, that "everything possible was being done to minimize the threat to life and production posed by seismic events."

More sensitive seismic recording equipment had been installed and radon gas emission was being monitored as a possible early-warning signal. Support would be improved, and mining patterns were being changed to leave pillars, which would increase stability.

Mr Huxham said there would always be accidents in mines. It was an ongoing process.

• One person was killed and 20 injured on Friday in a rock burst at the Elandsrand gold mine near Carltonville.

All the (2/2)
mine 1/4/80
dead named DD

JOHANNESBURG — The names of all 28 black mine-workers killed in a 2 000-metre death plunge in the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Orkney last Thursday, have been released by the Anglo American Corporation.

They are: Mr Johannes Kotingu, Mr Ohoboi Tumo Mosotho, Mr Sizwe Majamani, Mr Naftal Munguambe, Mr Rseliso Sefako, Mr Edwin Sebitloana, Mr Zandisile Poswa, Mr Elias Mkulisi, Mr Adriano Mabuzane, Mr Sivuyile Vokwana, Mr Silulu Magenu, Mr Mazantsana Msintsana, Mr Aaron Gebenga, Mr Liphapang Moselana, Mr John Selete, Mr Maxwell September, Mr Zamile Ngcolomba, Mr Ngcolomba, Mr Mzawunyangwa Mankahla, and Mr Antonio Tivane

Earlier the names of the following eight Transkeians were released: Mr David Siletile, Mr Tatumu Vundu, Mr Siununu Tobana, Mr Thembilizwere Mgedezi, Mr Mpopi Mgambani, Mr Mouswa Juberwe, Mr Nsobo Dubase and Mr Mzwardile Mbambela —
SAPA

all names

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Budget or Strategic Policy

No race barriers down mines in times of trouble

Star (212)
1/4/80

(2)

By Margaret Flood
West Rand Bureau

Deep in the bowels of the earth miners know no racial barriers when lives are endangered. This was shown by three men at the Kloof gold mine, near Westonaria, who received

bravery awards recently. For their valour each was presented with a gold watch and a citation by the Chamber of Mines. The first went to Mr Charles William de Bruin, a ganger who saved the life of a fellow mineworker, Mr Sepidna Sepombo, who fell down a 55-degree inclined orepass 32 metres underground.

Mr de Bruin lowered himself down the hot airless orepass on a length of scraper rope.

He found Mr Sepombo barely conscious with serious injuries to his back, arms and head. He realised it would be impossible to move the injured man safely through the orepass chute to the surface.

He would have to be carried but first the injured man needed attention. Mr de Bruin climbed back up the orepass to get help. On his return, he gave first aid.

He strapped Mr Sepombo to his back and once again climbed out up the dangerous orepass. The injured man recovered.

In another accident Mr Moleng Pheto and Mr Kenamaling Keabaitse stayed behind when all the other workers had fled to safety to save Mr Ben Chambers, a ganger who was trapped up to his shoulders in rubble after a rockburst underground.

They groped and grappled in the dark for 20 minutes until Mr Chambers was freed. They had just taken him to safety when there was another rockburst which would probably have killed Mr Chambers if he had still been trapped.

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(212)

Dead miners one named

Post 11/4/50

THE names of the black mineworkers killed in a 2 000-metre death plunge in the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine near Orkney last Thursday, have now been released by the Anglo American Corporation.

They are Mr Johannes Kotingu, Angolan, Mr Ohobo Tumo, Mr Sizwe Majamani, Mr Naftal Munguambe, Mr Seliso Sefako, Mr Edwin Sebitloana.

Mr Zandisile Poswa, Mr Elias Mkuisi, Mr Adriano Mabuzane, Mr Sivuyile Vokwana, Mr Silulu Magenu, Mr Mazantsana Msinisaana,

Mr Aaron Gebenga, Mr Liphapang Mose-lana.

Mr John Selete, Mr Maxwell September, Mr Zamile Ngcolomba, Mr Mzawunyangwa Mankahla and Mr Antonio Tivane.

EARLIER

Earlier the names of the following eight were released Mr David Siletile, Mr Tatumu Vundu, Mr Sinunu Tobana, Mr Thembilizwere Mgedezi, Mr Mpompi Mgam-bani, Mr Mouiswa Juberwe, Mr Nsobo Dubase and Mr Mzwa-ndile Mbambela. —

a country produces some pattern of a commodity and imports the rest. There are also more than 1 factor of production - so the P.P.F. is bowed out. Costs increasing as a greater quantity is needed.

(212) 24/80 AD

28 miners buried
JOHANNESBURG — The 28 black miners killed in the accident at Vaal Reefs on Thursday were buried at a private funeral at the mine yesterday. — SAPA.

I. J. LAMBRICHTS

35. It should be kept in mind that the average load factor of a group of consumers (say Tariff A) in an undertaking is lower than that of the specific undertaking. This results from the diversity in demand which causes a lower maximum demand for the undertaking as a whole. The average monthly load factor of Tariff A consumers in 1976 was as follows for the relevant undertakings: Cape Western (0,61); Eastern Transvaal (0,70); Natal (0,64) and Rand and OFS (0,72). The lower load factor in the Cape Western Undertaking compared with the Rand and OFS Undertaking results in an increase of about 10 per cent in the costs per kWh for large consumers in the Cape Western Undertaking.

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Cape Western	0,71	0,72	0,69	0,72	0,70
Eastern Transvaal	0,79	0,82	0,83	0,82	0,77
Natal	0,71	0,73	0,72	0,74	0,74
Rand and OFS	0,76	0,77	0,74	0,76	0,75

32. The differences between the load factors of the Cape Western Undertaking compared to certain other undertakings for the period 1972 - 1977 are clear from the following figures:

Miners' 212

service

THE chairman of the Anglo American Corporation, Mr Harry Oppenheimer, and Mr Dennis Etheredge, president of the Chamber of Mines and chairman of Vaal Reefs Gold Mine, extended their sympathies yesterday to the relatives and friends of the 31 miners who died in the shaft accident at Vaal Reefs near Klerksdorp on March 27

Conveying this to several thousand mine personnel who attended a memorial service at the mine yesterday, Mr Gerald Langton, a director of Vaal Reefs said

"Shaft accidents of this type are rare and this one will inevitably lead to the development of a new type of safety device," — Sapa.

Mine cage - no one on board - plunges to bottom

212

Star 3/4/80

East Rand Bureau
Only a few hours before 72 men were due to get into it, a lift cage containing mining material plunged more than 700 m down a shaft at the ERPM gold mine in Boksburg today

Nobody was on board and if there had been people in the lift, the accident would not have happened, a mine spokesman said.

This was the second mine cage to plunge down a shaft in South Africa in

the past week. Last week 31 miners died at the Vaal Reefs mine in Klerksdorp after a lift fell 2 km down a shaft.

"Had there been people on board the operation that was being carried out at the time could not have been undertaken. There are mining regulations to prevent this from happening," the spokesman said.

When the accident happened, one of two cages that run simultaneously was held on a brake while

the other was being brought into line with the lip of a shaft.

The cage on the brake started to move and burnt out its brakes. The operator tried to stop it by using the reverse power braking system, but the power tripped out.

There was nothing then to stop the cage and it fell to the bottom.

This was a different accident from the one at Klerksdorp, where a cage jammed, then broke free.

Apartheid lives on

5 Post
6/1/80
R/R
A

APPARENTLY the bodies of the 31 miners killed in last week's mine shaft plunge at Vaal Reefs were so badly mutilated that victims could only be identified by the arm bracelets they wore

It proved so difficult to piece together their remains that the 28 black miners were buried together in a mass grave

The three white miners, however, were buried in separate ceremonies

Those men worked together, died together — and will spend the rest of eternity in racially-segregated cemeteries.

In the dark

I'M TOLD (since I don't go to these things myself) that at the launching this week of the Government's Manpower 2000 programme (which is their way of making labour exploitation sound modern) the organisers had set up a screen and movie projector to show a film on what a great economy the country has

Waiting expectantly for new and stirring insights were, amongst others, the State President, the Minister of "Manpower", bantustan government officials and their businessmen buddies, and some foreign newsmen.

The film began to roll . . . a pretty girl standing beside a row of gold bars adorned the screen and a voice began:

"South Africa has one of the healthiest economies in the world and with the 1980s come conditions for a boooooaaaaprrprprbbb "

The sound died, the projector rolled gradually to a halt and everyone was left in the dark

Someone apologised to the State President and distinguished guests and that was the end of the movie

There must be a moral in that somewhere

Miners' families get compensation

THE payouts for the 23 black miners who died at the Vwal Reef gold mine last week will be made according to the size of the victims' families.

The 23 miners, most of whom were from Transvaal, were buried on the mine's premises this week and were not taken home for burial because of the state of their bodies.

A spokesman for the mine said the dead miners would be paid in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act and widows of the men would be paid a certain amount until they died.

"The widows will be paid an amount for as long as they live and their children will also draw a monthly amount until they reach 18 years," the spokesman said.

The dependants of miners who were not married would be paid a lump sum.

The amounts would be paid out as soon as the

dependants had made their claim, the spokesman said.

The families will get 75 percent of the victims' annual earnings and benefits. Of this amount, 30 percent will go to the widow, and three children each will draw 15 percent until they turn 18 years.

In cases where the family has more than three children the percentage to be drawn will increase but will not exceed the miners' annual earnings," said the spokesman.

In instances where the miner was not married but had dependants, a payout of two thirds of four years' earnings will be made to the family.

Black miners do not have a life insurance cover — they are covered only under the Act.

On April 10 a memorial service for the dead miners will be held at the mine. Families of the miners will be transported to attend the service.

The future looks bleak for the dependants of the blast victims at the Industria metal firm.

The families of the 12 dead people will be paid only twice their annual pay. This means if a person earned R100 a month, his family will get R2400.

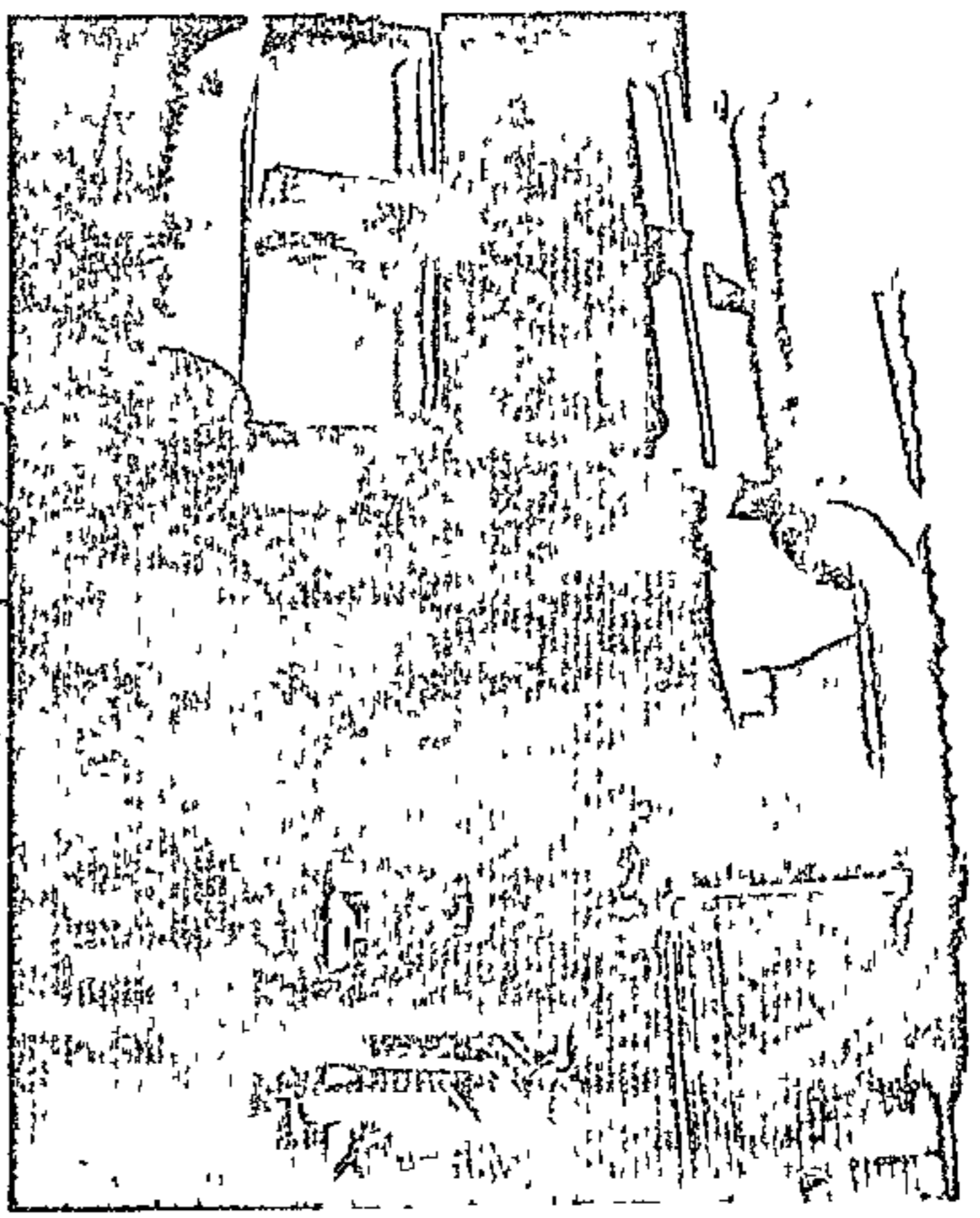
Mr S F Malan, managing director of the company, said this was the normal compensation for families of people who died at work.

He said the money was from the pension fund which also covered death. Asked if there was no insurance for the men despite the type of work they did, he replied that a person who was not well informed should not ask such questions.

While the company spent R10 000 for funeral expenses of all the dead, the news that the dependants will receive only a meagre payout will certainly come as a shock.

Many of the dead men were the breadwinners of their families.

Mr Malan said some money from the work-



At the scene of the blast — an exploded furnace.

Fund was to be paid out to the families. He could not give details of the amounts.

Those who survived the blast on March 17 but were injured will benefit from the Workmen's Compensation scheme and are to receive their full wages while they recuperate.

All the dead men have been buried, some in their homelands and the others in Soweto.

Workers are working feverishly to repair the furnace which exploded.

When the first furnace — operated by Mr Joseph Masina — exploded the others followed like bombs throwing the workers all over the place.

— SUNDAY POST Reporters.

Beneath the surface and behind the factory walls

212

20

131

By ZWELAKE SISULU

SOMEONE dies in a South African factory or mine every 3 1/2 hours on average, according to figures released this week by the National Occupation Safety Association and the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner.

And every hour of every day 40 people are injured. Of those, about four are permanently disabled.

This week's figures show that at least 2 500 people die a year in South African industrial accidents.

The figures are for 1975 and because of the long procedure involved in processing them, the 1976 figures are only expected to be ready in July.

A total of 349 000 injuries were recorded and 30 000 cases of permanent disablement. The injury figures represent more than 2% of the entire South African workforce.

An amount of R45 million was paid out under the Workmen's Compensation Act for the injuries, permanent disablements and deaths at work.

The managing director of the Safety Association, Mr Bunny Matthysen, said in the majority of cases accidents occurred 'as a result of the worker's ignorance'.

"I think the record of the industry in South Africa is good and I am not aware of a lower rate of industrial accidents anywhere in the world," he said.

A STORY OF DEATH AND OF AGONY

In all the various accident categories black workers were affected most but that was because they involved job done mainly by black people, Mr Matthysen said.

The mining industry accounted for a large percentage of the deaths. In 1977, 654 people died in mine accidents, and in 1978 at least 877 died.

The overall injury figures for 1975 and 1974 were 354 000 and 355 000.

Mr Matthysen was adamant that workers in South Africa had enough protection against accidents. "Legislation safeguards the protection of work-

ers through the Factory Act and various inspectorates in mines and industry."

His organisation, he said, had initiated training courses in safety.

He added "We have a better record than the United States with an average injury rate of 2.6% of the workforce and Canada with a rate of 4%. However the South African figure of 2.2% excludes the mines — one of the major causes of death."

A spokesman for the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner said the figures for 1976 would be available in July.

... horror ... are still alive, but they could so easily be the list of people killed in industrial

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Mary Ann

mine ^{STAR} 30/4/80

mystery (212)

unsolved

West Rand Bureau

The Vaal Reefs Mine disaster, in which 31 men died when their lift cage plunged 2 km down a shaft, remains shrouded in mystery.

A joint inquest and inquiry court sat for eight hours yesterday and returned a verdict of "cause unknown"

But sabotage and negligence were ruled out by the presiding magistrate, Mr G J Schoeman.

He found it was most likely that a small stone or rock had caused the Mary Ann cage to jam on its way down while 13 m of rope uncoiled in the shaft above.

SNAPPED

When subsequent pressure dislodged the object, the cage fell free and the shock snapped the heavy steel transom suspending the Mary Ann.

The last moments of the Mary Ann and her crew were sketched in evidence yesterday. This is a reconstruction of what happened early on March 27.

At Shaft No 2, banksmen Mr Johannes Combrink loads 28 blacks in the top deck and three whites in the bottom deck of the Mary Ann. He signals engine winder-driver, Mr Dennis Jolley, to lower the 5.45 am shift.

Mr Jolley lowers the Mary Ann and sees it is moving smoothly. Then the slack rope alarm begins to sound. Mr Jolley instinctively applies brakes and trips the safety circuit as warning lights flash.

SCREAM

As Mr Combrink writes "5.45 am" in his log-book, he hears Mr Johannes Bronkhorst scream from the cage "Hannes, maak oop, maak oop"

Mr Combrink signals six times, indicating "Don't move" He then triggers the emergency signal to stop the shift. He runs to the sub-bank gates, but knows there is nothing he can do to save the men.

Mr Jolley checks the slack rope. There is a sudden whip followed by a loud bang. Mr Jolley peers down the shaft to find the rope dangling and the Mary Ann missing.

A chief witness, Acting Engineering Manager Mr Ronald McKechnie suggested sabotage may have been a possible cause of the accident.

212
No blame for
mine disaster

JOHANNESBURG — No blame was found in the Vaal Reefs mine disaster, which claimed the lives of 31 men when their lift cage plunged 2 km down a shaft, an inquest court heard on Tuesday.

Sabotage and negligence was ruled out by the magistrate, Mr. G. J. Schoeman. He said the most likely cause of the accident was that a stone had caused the cage to jam on its way down. The cage then fell free and the shock snapped the steel transom holding it —
DDC

Mine lives not covered

By JOE THOLOE
THE LIVES of the people largely responsible for the country's present prosperity, the black miners, are not insured.

All their families get if they die in accidents on the mines — as happened when 31 plunged to death at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine recently — are payouts in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act. Whites are also paid out

in terms of this Act and get an additional R10 000 life cover

And a Chamber of Mines official told **POST** this week that the average payout to white miners in terms of the Act is five times that paid out to black miners

POST investigations followed the announcement that the families of the 28 blacks killed in the shaft accident on March 27 would be paid in terms of the Act

The Rand Mutual Assurance Company is the Chamber of Mines' com-

pensation agency under the Act and covers 584 000 blacks and 68 000 whites

There are 652 000 miners in the companies in the chamber, which represents 90 percent of the mining industry

According to a Department of Mines report last year, 877 people died in mine accidents in 1978 and 654 in 1977.

In 1978, 24 772 people were injured and 20 781 the year before

The manager of Rand

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Miners' lives not insured

Continued from Page 1

Mutual, Mr W Moltano, said compensation was related to earnings and the size of the family of the victim

If a miner with three children died in an accident at work the family would be paid a monthly pension of 75 percent of the victim's monthly salary

The salary includes earnings in cash and in kind

The family also gets R400 towards funeral expenses and the widow gets a lump sum of two months' salary, or R300, whichever is smaller

If the man's family is smaller, the pension is smaller, and if the family is bigger the pension is bigger, but not more than 100 percent of the victim's monthly pay

In the case of disablement, the pension depends on the degree of disablement

This compensation is for both blacks and whites

Mr Moltano said the present wage gap — "in fact, we should call it the skills gap" — in the mines is 7-to-1 in favour of whites

The average cash wage for black underground workers is R150. They get another R60 a month in kind

MARRIED

"Besides this, we find that most whites killed or injured in the mines are married and have families, while the blacks are single," Mr Moltano said

These are the reasons for the disparity between white and black compensation

White miners, however, have a life cover of R10 000, according to another chamber official

"The miner contributes R4,80 and the company another R4,80 a month

for the premium," said Mr Chris Cairncross of the chamber's public relations office "This covers the miner for R10 000."

Mr Cairncross said the chamber did not have a group life cover for the miners, but believed some companies might have. He said we could check this with the various members of the chamber

But when we phoned the public relations department of Vaal Reefs, Mr Les Bruns said his company did not have such group cover

"As far as I know, you will not find it at any mine," he said.

Workers in other industries generally have pension benefits which are tied to life cover

Most black mine workers are contract labourers and do not have pension benefits.

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- 4 All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

SA mining deaths dropped in 1979

212

ADM
13/5/80.

CAPE TOWN — Though 832 people were killed on South Africa's mines last year, the toll was less than in 1978 the Department of Mines said yesterday.

In 1979 there were also 22 997 people injured the department said in its annual report tabled in Parliament.

The death rate was 1.16 a thousand and the injury rate 32 a thousand. The rates for 1978 were 1.28 and 36.1.

Since 1973 the death rate has shown a yearly deterioration, the only exception being 1976.

The indications are that the improvements this year should be seen as the first sign of a reversal of this trend.

Provided that the loss control programmes are pursued with vigour and dedication

there is no reason why the rates should not follow this trend and again equal or surpass the record low levels achieved in 1968 and 1973.

The same applies to the accident rate figures the department said. On coal mines the death rate increased although the injury rate showed a decrease. The department said this could probably be ascribed to the increased use of mechanised equipment.

Five gold mines, two coal mines, and two platinum mines recorded more than a million consecutive man shifts underground without fatal accidents.

The report revealed that 563 of the people killed — 67.7% — were on gold mines.

The largest number of casualties on gold mines were caused by falls of ground and

accounted for 58% of the fatalities (or 326 deaths) while trucks and tramway accidents caused 93 deaths.

On coal mines where 112 people died 40.2% of the fatalities were caused by falls to ground and 23.2% were due to trucks and tramways.

The department said the office of the Government Mining Engineer conducted 3 650 underground and 2 258 surface inspections. These included 819 surprise inspections where no warning was given. There were also 3 088 official visits by inspectors.

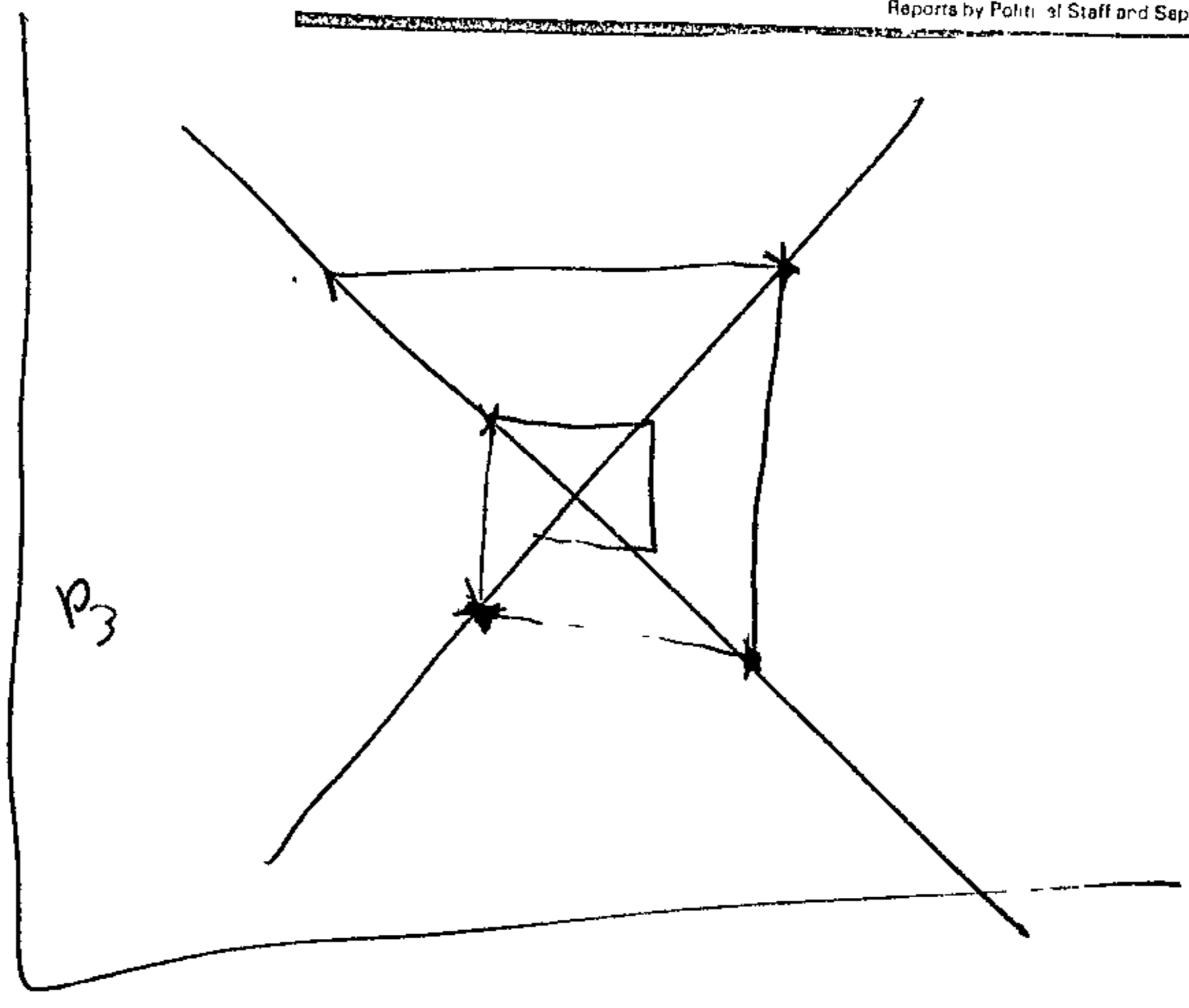
Apart from disciplinary action taken by management in case of minor infringements, 978 people faced charges in courts of inspectors of mines and 98 in magistrates courts. — Sapa

1 (212) (202) RDM 15/5/30.

Miners warned on death compensation

THE Medical Bureau for Occupational Diseases has warned miners that compensation for death during service was not automatic, and has urged them to take out life assurance to provide for their widows. According to the bureau's annual report, tabled in Parliament this week, some miners regarded it as certain that compensation would be awarded to their widows. In fact about 25% of miners with long underground service do not show any sign of compensable disease at postmortem examinations and in these cases no compensation is payable.

Reports by Political Staff and Sept



212
22/5/87
Injured Welkom
miners named

Staff Reporter

THE names of 10 miners — six blacks and four whites — injured in a methane gas explosion at Free State Saaplais mine No 3 shaft in Welkom at the weekend have been released.

The four white miners, all from Welkom, are Mr Lucas Strydom, Mr Kenneth Potter, Mr Dawid Griessel and Mr Henry Moran.

They are all in satisfactory conditions in the Cottosloe Chamber of Mines Hospital in Johannesburg. Hospital officials yesterday refused to allow the men to be interviewed or photographed.

The black men, all in satisfactory conditions in the Ernest Oppenheimer Mine Hos-

pital in Welkom.

They are Mr Mtana Lawu, Mr Lungile Matutu, Mr Khweli-donki Makedent, all from the Trausker, Mr N'lama Shokhoe of Maseru, Mr Sekoele Mankoe of Lebowa, and Mr Mthekiseni Mpanza of KwaZulu.

Details of the explosion have not yet been released, but a spokesman for Anglo American Corporation said in Johannesburg yesterday the incident was being investigated by an inspector of mines in Welkom.

The whites were transferred to the Cottosloe Hospital early this week after initially being treated at the Provincial Hospital in Welkom.

Two black miners were killed and two others injured in an underground explosion at the same shaft last week.

Six die, 11 injured in mine blasts

28/5/80 (2/2)
Argus Africa News Service
WINDHOUK — Six people
— four adults and two
children — have been
killed and another 11
people injured in two
separate landmine inci-
dents in Ovamboland
northern SWA

The six who died have
not yet been identified.
All died in a single inci-
dent when their vehicle
struck a mine near Oshi-
gambo, about 20 km north-
east of Ondangwa. They
all lived in the area.

INJURED

In the same incident
another three people were
seriously injured and
taken to Oshakati State
Hospital for treatment.

The latest deaths mean
that more than half the
civilian casualties in
Ovamboland so far this
year have been through
landmine incidents.

In a second landmine
blast about 40 km south
of Ruacana on the Kaman-
jab road in north western
Ovamboland eight local
people were injured five
seriously.

UCT

Kloof fire hit 20pc of output area

~~374~~
212
KDM
27/5/80

Financial Reporter

THE AREA affected by an underground fire at the end of last week in Kloof gold mine was opened up during the weekend and it was found that the fire had burnt itself out

The fire affected about 20% of the mine's production area

Small areas of localised high rock temperatures and some pockets of gas remain. Steps are being taken to cool these areas and to blow out the pockets of gas

Stopping in the upper levels of the longwall is expected to resume today, and production in the remainder will be resumed gradually over a fairly short period

The fire broke out in the 55 longwall stope on Thursday night and was promptly sealed off

FEWER fires are occurring on South African gold mines because of greater attention to loss control procedures

The Chamber of Mines' rescue training service reports that there were 138 fires last year, a 23% reduction on the number reported in 1978

The number of times on which staff of the rescue training service were called out to help in extinguishing a serious blaze dropped by about 25%

The RTS believes that this improvement can be attributed to a greater awareness of the financial losses involved, which, in turn, has led to greater efforts being made to adhere to strict loss control procedures and to the elimination of the common causes of serious fires

During 1979 electric cable or switchbox failures and faults, probably often the result of falls of hanging, were responsible for a large proportion of the fires

The next most important causes were accidents involving the use of cutting torches

and carelessness in using igniter cord

It is estimated that about 50% of the known causes of fires was a failure to adhere to mines' safety standards while 40% were electrically orientated

The human element or error is responsible for about 70% of all mine fires

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DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED MINE AND
RISK WORK

The Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), declared the following mine to be a controlled mine, with effect from 1 July 1980

The mine known as Saldanha Quarry (Pty) Ltd, on the farm Besaansklip 970, Remainder of Portion 2 of the farm De Yzervarkenstug (O530) (No. 127) situate in the Magisterial District of Vredenburg, Cape Province, which is at present being worked by Saldanha Quarry (Pty) Ltd, P.O. Box 200, Vredenburg 7380.

The following work at the said mine has been declared risk work by the Minister, in terms of section 13 of the said Act, with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 July 1980)

1 *Excavations*

In any underground or open working

2 *On the surface*

(a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place

(b) where crushing, screening or classification of stone, rock, ore or minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water,

(c) on waste dumps, piles or ore piles, other than where the waste or ore has been or is being deposited in the form of slime, including the place where such dumps or piles have already been deposited,

(d) in drill sharpening shops or any other place where drills are sharpened in a building,

(e) where crushed samples are graded in a dry state, and

(f) at any rock-drilling work

DECLARATION OF CONTROLLED MINES
AND RISK WORK

The Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs has, in terms of section 10 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act 78 of 1973), declared the following mines to be controlled mines with effect from 1 July 1980

(a) The mine known as Duvha Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, on the farms Boschmanskrans 22 IS, Driefontein 338 JS and Vlaklaagte 21 IS, situate in the Magisterial District of Middelburg, and the farm Wolvekrans 17 IS, situate in the Magisterial District of Witbank, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by Duvha Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, Private Bag 7217, Witbank, 1035,

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE MYN
IN RISIKOWERK

Die Minister van Mineraal- en Energiesake het kragtens artikel 10 van die Wet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, 1973 (Wet 78 van 1973), die volgende myn met ingang van 1 Julie 1980 tot 'n beheerde myn verklaar

Die myn bekend as Saldanha Quarry (Pty) Ltd, op die plaas Besaansklip 970, restant van Gedeelte 2 van die plaas De Yzervarkenstug (O530) (No. 127) geleë in die landdrostrik Vredenburg, Kaapprovinsie, wat tans deur Saldanha Quarry (Pty) Ltd, Postbus 200, Vredenburg, 7380, ontgin word

Die volgende werk by genoemde myn is met ingang van dieselfde datum (d.i. 1 Julie 1980) kragtens artikel 13 van genoemde Wet deur die Minister tot risikowerk verklaar

1 *Uitgrawings*

In enige ondergrondse of oop delfplek

2 *Bogronde*

(a) Waar die verskuiving, oorplasing of hantering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind,

(b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip, rots, erts of minerale plaasvind, ongevoerd waar dit onder water geskied,

(c) op uitkothope, stapels of ertsstapels, uitgesonderd waar die uitkots of erts in die vorm van slijk gestort is of word, insluitende die plekke waar sodanige hope of stapels reeds gestort is,

(d) in boorslypwinkel of enige ander plek waar bore in 'n gebou slerp gemaak word,

(e) waar vergruisde monsters in 'n droë toestand gegradeer word, en

(f) by enige rotsboorwerk

VERKLARING TOT BEHEERDE MYNE
EN RISIKOWERK

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(a) Die myn bekend as Duvha Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, op die plase Boschmanskrans 22 IS, Driefontein 338 JS en Vlaklaagte 21 IS, geleë in die landdrostrik Middelburg, en die plaas Wolvekrans 17 IS, geleë in die landdrostrik Witbank, provinsie Transvaal, wat tans deur Duvha Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, Privaatsak 7217, Witbank 1035, ontgin word,

(b) the mine known as Natal Iron Ore and Coal Mines (Pty) Ltd (Heritage Mine), on the farms Geluk and Weltevreden 300 situate in the Magisterial District of Vryheid, Province of Natal, which is at present being worked by Natal Iron Ore and Coal Mines (Pty) Ltd, P O Box 837, Vryheid, 3100,

(c) the mine known as Rietspruit Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, on the farms Hartbeesfontein 39 IS and Roodepoort 40 IS, situate in the Magisterial District of Bethal, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by Rietspruit Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, P O Box 93, Ogies, 2230 and

(d) the mine known as South African Coal Estates (Witbank) Ltd (Kleinkopje Colliery), on the farms Kleinkopje 15 IS and Klippan 332 JS, situate in the Magisterial District of Witbank, Province of the Transvaal, which is at present being worked by South African Coal Estates (Witbank) Ltd, P O Box 200, Witbank, 1035

The following work at the said mines has been declared risk work by the Minister in terms of section 13 of the said Act, with effect from the same date (i.e. 1 July 1980)

1 *Excavations*

In any underground or open working

2 *On the surface*

(a) Where moving, transferring or handling of stone, rock, coal or other minerals takes place,

(b) where crushing, screening or classification of stone, rock, coal or other minerals takes place, except where this is carried out under water,

(c) on waste dumps, piles or mineral piles, other than where the waste or minerals have been or are being deposited in the form of slime, including the places where such dumps or piles have already been deposited,

(d) in drill sharpening shops or any other place where drills are sharpened in a building,

(e) in any change-house where persons who perform risk work change their clothing,

(f) in coal laboratories, except in separately ventilated parts thereof where only wet analyses are done and no treatment of dry stone, rock, coal or other minerals takes place,

(g) where samples of crushed coal or other minerals are graded in a dry state, and

(h) at any rock-drilling work

(b) die myn bekend as Natal Iron Ore and Coal Mines (Pty) Ltd (Heritage Mine), op die plase Geluk en Weltevreden 300, gelee in die landdrostdistrik Vryheid, provinsie Natal, wat tans deur Natal Iron Ore and Coal Mines (Pty) Ltd, Posbus 837 Vryheid 3100, ontgin word,

(c) die myn bekend as Rietspruit Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, op die plase Hartbeesfontein 39 IS en Roodepoort 40 IS, gelee in die landdrostdistrik Bethal provinsie Transvaal wat tans deur Rietspruit Opencast Services (Pty) Ltd, Posbus 93, Ogies 2230, ontgin word, en

(d) die myn bekend as South African Coal Estates (Witbank) Ltd (Kleinkopje Colliery), op die plase Kleinkopje 15 IS en Klippan 332 IS, gelee in die landdrostdistrik Witbank, provinsie Transvaal, wat tans deur South African Coal Estates (Witbank) Ltd, Posbus 200, Witbank, 1035, ontgin word

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(b) waar die vergruising, sif of klassifisering van klip, rots, steenkool of ander minerale plaasvind, uitgesonderd waar dit onder water geskied,

(c) op uitskothope, stapels of mineraalstapels, uitgesonderd waar die uitskot of minerale in die vorm van slied gestort is of word, insluitende die plekke waar sodanige hope of stapels reeds gestort is,

(d) in boorslyp winkels of enige ander plek waar bore in 'n gebou skerpgemaak word,

(e) in enige kleedhuis waar persone wat risikowerk verrig, hul verkleed,

(f) in steenkoollaboratoriums, uitgesonderd in afsonderlik geventileerde dele daarvan, waar slegs nat ontledings en geen behandeling van droe klip, rots, steenkool of ander minerale plaasvind nie,

(g) waar monsters van vergruisde steenkool of ander minerale in 'n droe toestand gegradeer word, en

(h) by enige rotsboorwerk

212
ADM 10/6/80

More for mine disease victims

THE SENATE. — The Minister of Energy and Mineral Affairs, Mr F W De Klerk, yesterday announced a 10% increase in benefits payable in terms of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act.

Introducing the Second Reading of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Amendment Bill, he said the increase would be effective from July 1.

The Minister said a similar increase had been granted on October 1 last year which brought the total increase since September last year to 20%.

The maximum monthly pension of R183 payable up to September 30, 1979, would be increased to R223 from July 1 this year, while the previous lump sum payment of R13 200 for first grade certification was increased to R15 972

People certified after July 1 this year in the second grade would receive a lump sum payment of R23 958 instead of the previous R19 800

The Bill was taken through all its stages and read a third time with Opposition support. — Sapa.

STAR 12/6/80 (212)

Miner trapped by fall after tremor

A Stilfontein miner is trapped underground after a rockfall caused by a severe earth tremor, registering 4,8 on the Richter Scale which shook the Reef and Pieteria early today

A Buffelsfontein Mine spokesman said several black miners had been taken to the Duff Scott Hospital in Stilfontein after the rockfall

One man is seriously injured and three others are in a satisfactory condition, but one trapped miner still has to be rescued from the shaft

The tremor lasted for 14 minutes in Pretoria and for two in Stilfontein, the head of the seismological unit at Buffelsfontein Mine, Mr P van den Heever, said today

In Johannesburg, 155 km away, a Wits University seismological recorder was saturated because of the energy released by the tremor and did not make a reading

Miner hurt, another missing in rockfall

213
KDM 13/6/80

SEVERAL earth tremors were recorded in the Transvaal and Free State yesterday morning

The most severe which registered 4,8 on the Richter scale was at Klerksdorp

The most severe tremor recorded in South Africa — in the Transvaal — measured 5,2 on the Richter scale

The Klerksdorp tremor

caused a rockfall at Buffelsfontein Mine. A black miner was seriously injured and another is missing. Production at the mine was not affected and there was no surface damage, the SABC reported.

A tremor was felt in Pretoria, and one at Vredefort in the northern Free State. At Welkom a light tremor was felt — Sapa

Five miners presented with bravery awards

STAR 26/6/80 (217)

A drum of steel winding rope — 26 tons of it — plunged down No 3 shaft

Beneath it four men worked at the 2-7 pump station

But the drum stopped before it crushed them and balanced precariously 1409 m below the surface.

Deep in the Kloof Gold Mine the four were trapped

Many attempts were made to reach them but without success

Then five men — Mr C G Wheeler, Mr J J Haviga, Mr J J Viljoen, Mr J

C Joubert and Mr B Cawood — volunteered to try again in a bucket-type elevator

They started, only to discover that sections of the shaft had been damaged by the drum and loose steelwork stuck out. So they moved the bucket from side to side to keep going. Eventually they reached the rope — tangled and knotted — and forced their way past it

Water spouted from the sides and soaked them. Nine gruelling hours after leaving the surface the five in the bucket reached the trapped men

to find all of them unharmed

Now each of the five rescuers has received an inscribed gold watch, an honourable tie, a certificate for bravery, a cheque for R500 and a framed photograph of the presentation for their brave action

Mr D A Etheredge, premises, presented the men with their awards at a special ceremony in their honour and said "While we have men of the calibre of these five we have nothing to fear"

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11

Two dead, 11 injured in mine ^{STAR} blast ^{10/7/80} (212)

West Rand Bureau

Two men died and 11 were seriously injured in a methane gas explosion which shook the Elandsrand Gold Mine near Carletonville yesterday

Shift boss Mr Herman Vrey (44) and a black miner whose name has not yet been released, were killed 1 920 m underground when the gas leaked into a working area

One of the injured miners, M1 C H Labuschagne (28) was admitted to Cottesloe Hospital in Johannesburg. The others were treated for burns at the Western Deep Levels Hospital

A spokesman for the mine said today the explosion occurred in an isolated section, and production would not be affected

212 RDM 11/7/80

Hurt miners serious

Staff Reporter

A SPOKESMAN for the Elandsrand Gold Mine near Carletonville said yesterday the 11 miners injured in a methane gas explosion at the mine on Wednesday were still in a serious condition in hospital.

Mr C H Labuschagne, 28, is the only injured miner who has so far been named.

Two men died in the explosion, which occurred nearly 2km underground. They were Mr H Vrey, 44, a Carletonville shift boss, and a black man.

The spokesman said the names of the blacks killed and injured could not be released because he had not had confirmation that their next-of-kin had been informed.

GOLD QUARTERLIES *fm* *212*
Cost/grade squeeze *11/7/80*

If June quarter results announced by GFSA's gold producers prove to be characteristic of the industry as a whole, mine managements appear to be taking an ultra-cautious view on near-term gold price movements and unit cost trends

Several of GFSA's mines face relatively heavy capex over the next couple of years. But, from an investor's point of view, that is not a compelling reason for recent profit retention levels unless profits are due to be squeezed by a combination of weakening gold prices, soaring costs and falling average recovery grades

On the first of these — gold prices — there are probably as many views as there are investors. On costs, however, there is little doubt that developments in the wake of bullion's rise point to significant cost rises this year. Back in 1974, when gold almost doubled to a then stratospheric \$200, the industry's average unit costs rose almost 30% to R13,18, helped by wage and stores increases and additional development as previously unpayable ground was opened up

It took five years for cost escalation to return to what are, by now, acceptable levels. With percentage increases in the upper-teens and early-twenties until 1978, it was not until 1979 that the industry cut the rate of increase to 12,6%

Hopes of further improvement have long since disappeared. If anything, we could see average unit costs some 25% higher over the next 12 months. Last quarter, for example, West Drie, whose costs were not affected by special events or increased mill throughput, reported a unit cost increase of almost 6%. That took into account only the partial effect of higher pay for union men and officials — the increases granted to black workers in

June have yet to be reflected in working costs. At the same time, price rises for stores and power are unlikely to abate

Link this with rising development rates as the mines open up lower-grade ore zones and a 25% cost hike scenario becomes increasingly likely

That, however, is not the end of the matter. Mines cannot quickly switch mining grades to suit gold price changes. And while they are obliged to mine to the average of their ore reserve grades, there is an inevitable lag during periods of major gold price movements before the full effects are felt. In other words, though gold recovery grades have been falling, further significant cuts are in prospect over the next few quarters.

If this appears to be an unduly pessimistic outlook, do not forget that 1979's average unit costs were three times the 1973 level, while the industry's average recovery grade was 8,44g/t, compared with 1973's 11,42g/t

Last year, gold revenues were based on an average price to the mines of R9 269/kg. During the June quarter this year, the average was some 50% higher. So unless there is a catastrophic gold price collapse, the prospects for further grade cutting are obvious

West Drie: Management is non-committal on the possibility that West Drie will be used as the vehicle for developing "North Drie". Though parent GFSA has completed drilling in the area and knows reef tonnages and grades underlying its mineral rights, a start-up decision probably has to await completion of drilling by the area's other mineral rights holder Texas Gulf. A decision on the area would, however, be speeded up if GFSA disclosed its drilling results to its potential partner in the project

Meanwhile, West Drie has retained R25m from earnings in the past 12 months. And as I have said before, retentions of that size (they are equivalent to 176c a share) do not seem warranted by likely capex in the mine's present lease area

Though recovery grades have been falling steadily, they should be seen in the light of difficulties in quickly adjusting mining to the lower cut-off grades possible at current gold prices. As the programme of shifting operations into lower grade areas gathers momentum, recovery grades could be set for an even more rapid decline. The mine has considerable tonnages of low grade Carbon Leader reef and VCR which are now payable, while, in addition, Main reef ore has yet to make a significant contribution to the mining mix

On a maintained mill throughput for the quarter of 675 000t, the mine recorded a 5,9% unit cost advance to R37,11/t. And until operations are fully established in lower grade areas, the mine could well be among the industry leaders in the cost advance stakes

Deelkraal: The next couple of quarters could be the acid test for the mine. Development sampling has until now been confined to the upper levels of the VCR in an area of known low grade. But as development moves away from the No 1 sub-vertical shaft, the higher grade ground indicated by initial surface drilling will be tested.

Meanwhile, the mine is overcoming some of its initial ore dilution problems, partly reflected in the June quarter's recovery grade improvement to 3,7g/t (3,4g/t). But until significant tonnages are drawn from the deeper levels, a recovery grade advance to the 10,4g/t indicated by drilling is unlikely.

The mine has acquired a prospecting option from GFSA over 107 ha to the north of the existing lease area. Limited sampling of the VCR in the option areas has revealed average ore grades of 9,4g/t over a width of 193 cm. However, it seems unlikely that moves will be made towards mining the area for several years.

Major capex has to all intents and purposes ended, and the mine might just squeak home with a token maiden dividend this year. However, the chances of that are slim, and the main thing investors will be watching for will be an improvement in sampling grades.

East Drie: Unit costs were well contained by squeezing 15 000t more through the mill than its rated 630 000t quarterly capacity. Further economies from that source are, however, unlikely. The pattern of the next few quarters is likely to be cost rises in line with industry averages coupled with further recovery grade drops. Within a year, provided bullion does not fall out of bed, it will not be surprising if recovery yields are in the 12g/t range.

Capex will be relatively heavy for the next couple of years. Site preparation is in progress for the new No 5 shaft with plans to develop underground to the shaft's location to speed eventual commissioning. Once the No 2 sub-vertical shaft is completed, the sinking team will be transferred to No 5 shaft.

R34m (62,1c a share) has been retained from the first two quarter's distributable profits, which seems somewhat excessive despite near-term capex liabilities. Last quarter no development was done beyond the mine's effective boundaries. In other words, no underground evaluation was made of "North Drie".

Kloof: Because of its mining methods, the mine is relatively insensitive to pay limit changes. As such it is one of the better income stocks no matter which way gold prices move provided, that is, there are no production upsets. Last quarter's two-week fire cut the quarter's mill throughput by 20 000t to 500 000t and helped boost unit costs by 15% to R43,21/t. This quarter unit costs should be lower.

In the year to end-June, R11,3m (37,2c a share) was retained from distributable

earnings, partly in anticipation of a relatively heavy rate of capex. At end-June the mine had an outstanding capex balance of R66,3m, compared with a June quarter profit before tax and lease of R82,4m. As the June quarter's revenue was based on average gold price of about \$560, this year's distributions need not be unnecessarily restrained by capital spending.

Though there is no need for the mine to exploit the Kloof reef in the Elsburg series for many years, sampling results on the horizon remain satisfactory.

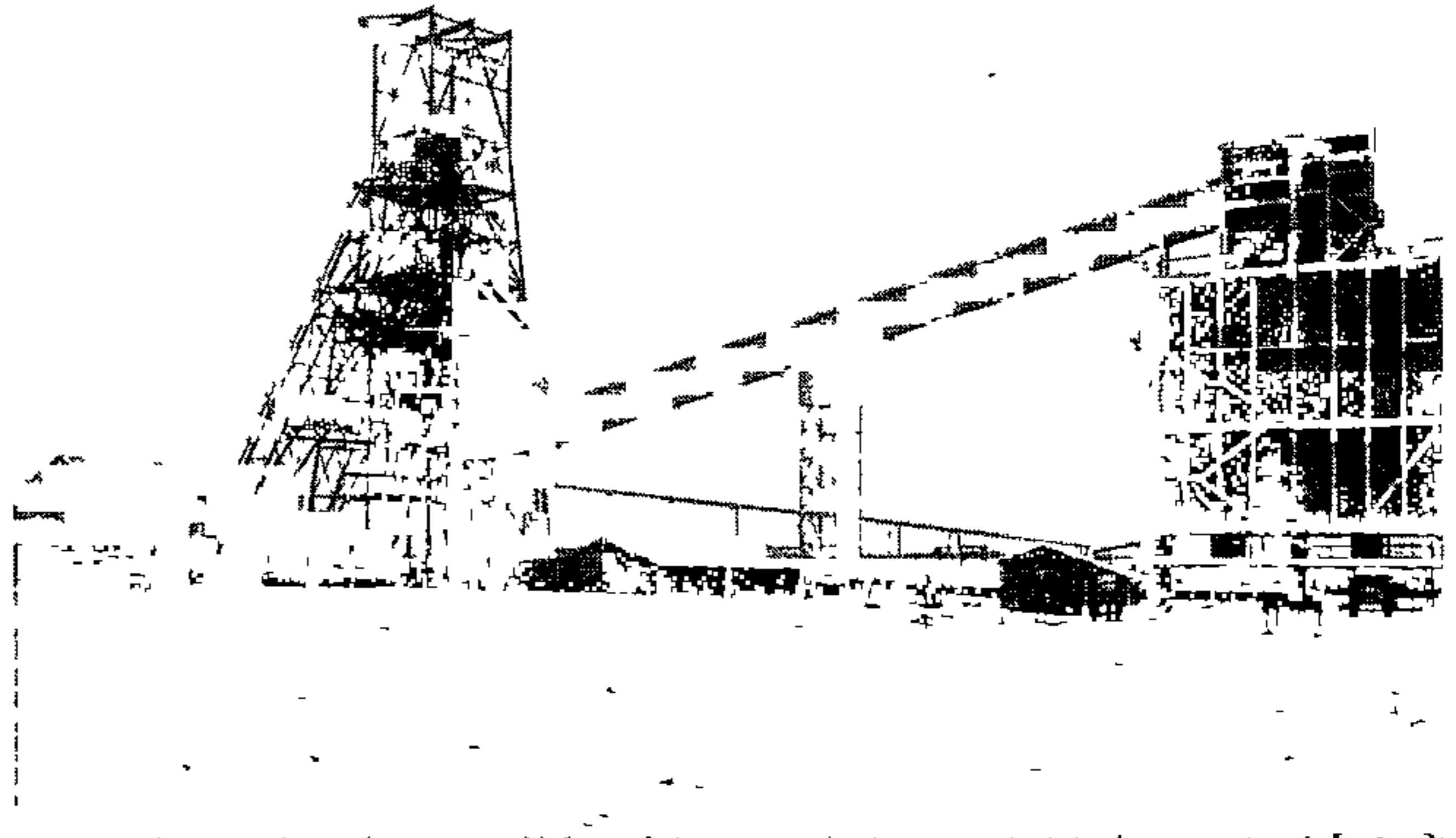
Doornfontein: Higher gold prices have allowed greater flexibility in planning the mine's future. It is now no longer necessary to accelerate development into the new southern addition to the lease area as significant tonnages of lower-grade ore have become payable in the old mine. Its life has been expanded beyond the four or five years previously expected. In addition higher revenues have lessened capex constraints.

the new lease formula should lessen distribution constraints in the near term, but the mine is probably four years away from its full dividend potential.

Venterspost: Higher gold prices have allowed the mine to exploit larger amounts of lower-grade ore and the mine's previous tonnage problems appear to be well behind. At the same time, higher mill throughput resulted in lower unit costs during the June quarter, though the limits of cost containment through higher throughput have probably been reached.

Over the next couple of quarters recovery grade could drop below 4g/t. Coupling that with plans for sinking a new shaft to serve the southern part of the mine, dividends could be under restraint for a few years unless the gold price goes into orbit.

Management has been ultra-cautious in its retention policy. In the year to end-June, R6,3m was retained from a profit of R16,4m after tax and capex. That policy is likely to persist particularly if a decision is taken to extend operations into the



Gold mine costs are on the way up . . . while grades are falling

The plan now is to exploit the new ground through a vertical shaft from surface, coupled with a sub-vertical shaft and one sub-incline shaft. Previously, the idea was to open the ground with two sub-inclines.

As I said last week, grades in the south are expected to approximate those of the Carbon Leader in the southern part of the old mine — recoveries of 7g/t to 8g/t. Despite the mine's relative insensitivity to pay limit changes, over the next few quarters mining of lower grade Carbon Leader and Main reefs should cut overall recoveries from the current 8,4g/t. And though management has not finally costed the proposed shaft sinking programme, it is safe to assume that capex will exceed R100m over the next couple of years.

Last year R21,8m was retained from distributable earnings. Tax savings and

Middelveler area and a further shaft is needed for its exploitation.

Libanon: Retentions for the mine's R200m-odd up-coming capex programme have yet to bite fully. In the year to end-June from taxed earnings of R46,5m, R14,1 was spent on capital projects, R15,9 was distributed and R16,5m retained. Effectively it means distributions will become increasingly gold price sensitive over the next few years, though management could decide the safest policy is to hold back more than may seem necessary to shareholders.

Though recovery grades have held up reasonably well over the past few quarters, a drop to 6g/t or less is probably on the cards in the near future. Meanwhile, there is probably little near-term scope for increasing mill throughput and unit cost advances are likely to continue at the

June quarter's 4,2% clip
Vlakfontein: Operations were varied and recovery grade increased last quarter with the milling of a larger tonnage from outside sources. A 10c capital repayment is scheduled for mid-August, while 20,7c a share has been retained from the first half's distributable profit. *Jim Jones*

UNIT TRUSTS

ROM (120) (212) (214)
Blast victim named 12/7/80

Staff Reporter

THE name of the other miner killed in a methane gas explosion at Elandsrand Gold Mine near Carletonville on Wednesday has been released

He was Mr Mtuzelo Gcava, of Thabankulu, Transkei. He is survived by his wife

A spokesman for the mine said the 11 miners who were severely burnt in the explosion

were all still in a serious condition in hospital

Mr C H Labuchagne, 28, who is in the Cottesloe Hospital in Johannesburg, is the only injured man who has been named

The 10 black miners injured are all in the Western Deep Levels Hospital. Their names are being withheld until their next-of-kin have been informed

STAR
14/7/80
Fire at gold mine (212)

A fire more than two km below surface was reported today from the Venterspost gold mine near Westonaria. The Gold Fields Group said the fire was detected late last Saturday and was still burning today 2 300 m below surface. There were no casualties.

Production was being reduced by 85 percent because of noxious gases seeping into working areas. The mine was covered by insurance for 30 days for loss of profit and damage to equipment — Sapa.

212
**Venters
 IS hit
 by blaze**

RDM 15/7/80

By Financial Reporter

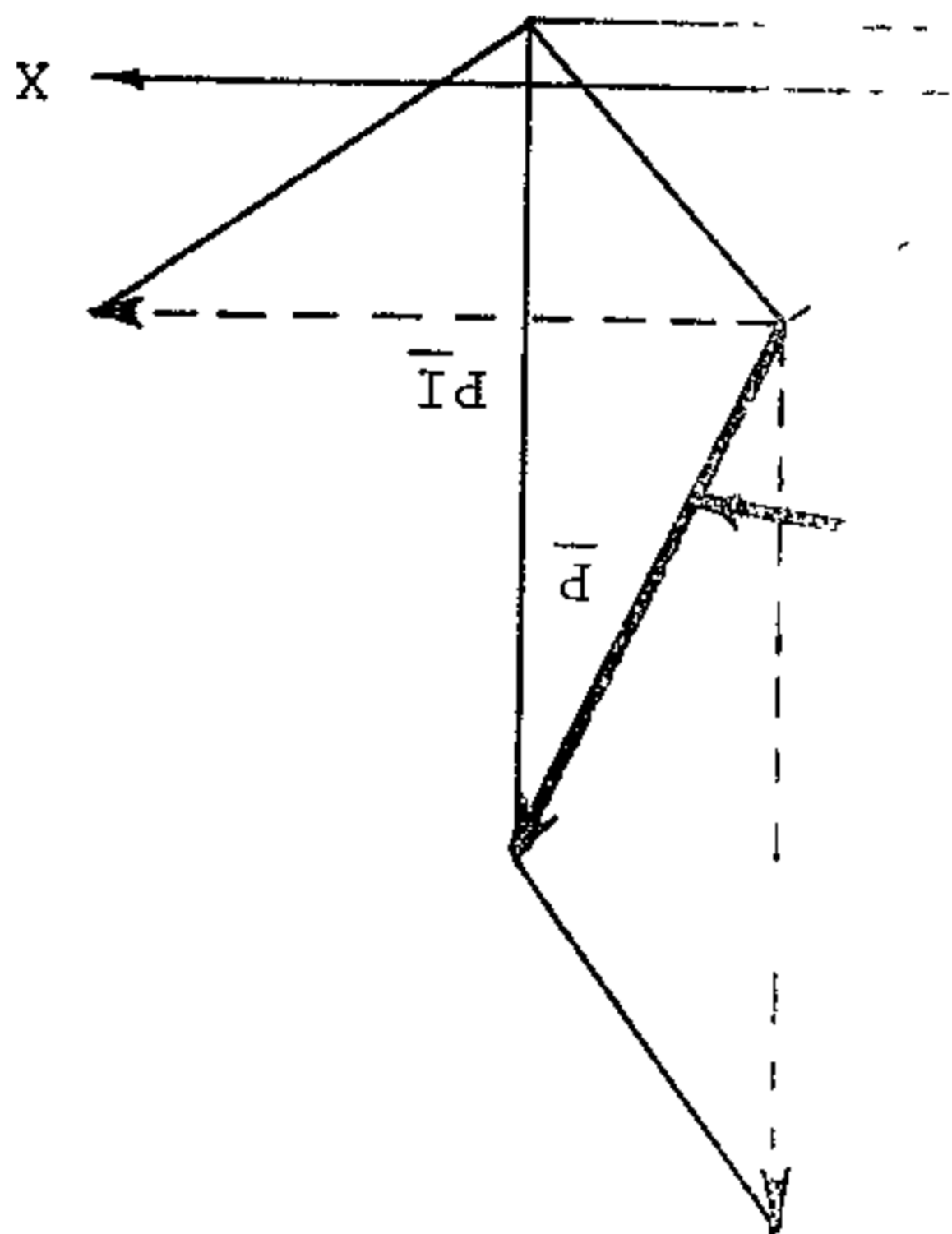
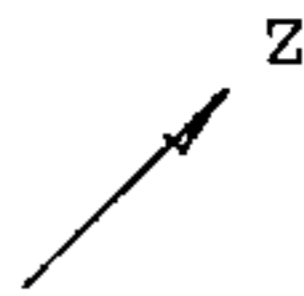
PRODUCTION at Venterspost gold mine, on the West Wits line, will be reduced by 85% because of a fire which started on Saturday night and was partially sealed off

Although the area where the fire is burning comprises only 15% to 20% of the mine's production areas, production will be reduced by 85% because of noxious gas being released into the mine workings while the fire remains completely sealed off

All seals are in position and leakages are being eliminated. It is expected that this work will be largely completed within the next 24 hours

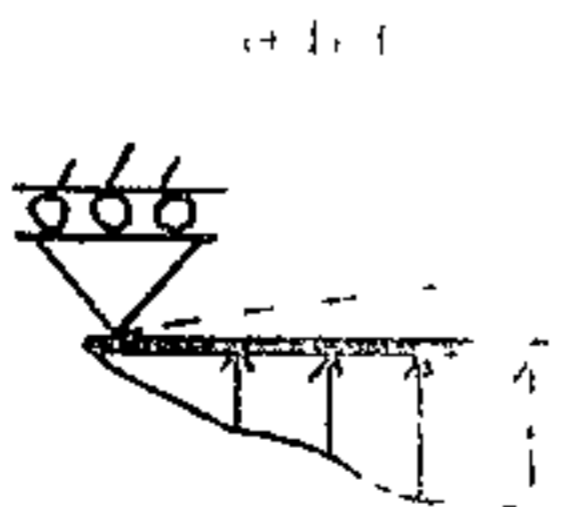
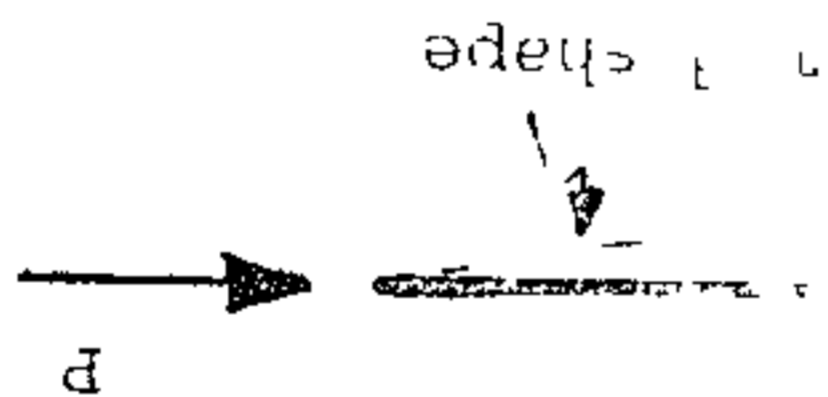
The mine is covered by insurance for 20 days for loss of profit and damage to equipment due to underground fires. The fire is at a depth of 2 300 m

Figure 2.4 . For



inverse loading; b) axial loading.

Figure 2.3



12
RD 15 7/8

Mine fire may last 6 months

By ROB TAYLOR

THE fire at the Venterspost Gold Mine near Westonaria could take anything between 24 hours and six months to extinguish, a spokesman for the Gold Fields group said yesterday.

A night fire patrol detected the fire — more than 2km below the surface — last Saturday. There were no casualties.

The spokesman said the area where the fire was burning — comprising between 15% and 20% of the mine's production areas — was sealed off.

He said the sealing operation was expected to be completed today, but the fire could only be extinguished once the supply of air was completely cut off.

"It could take anything from 24 hours to six months to end," he said.

Fire in mine

STAR (212)
15/7/80

An underground fire has been detected 2300 metres below surface near Venterspost's number three tertiary shaft and though the area where the fire is burning comprises 15 to 20 percent of the production area, production will be reduced by 85 percent due to noxious gas being released into

the mine workings while the fire remains incompletely sealed off

Goldfields said it is expected that the work of sealing off and containing the noxious gases will be completed within the next 24 hours. The mine is covered by insurance for 30 days for loss of profit and damage due to underground fires

Computer ²¹² beats the ^{MDM} rockfalls

22/7/80
Financial Reporter

THE prevention of rockfalls and the control of the disintegration of strata are of vital importance to mining safety and productivity — particularly in the deep gold mines of the Witwatersrand and the West Wits Line.

Dr Steven L Crouch, an American authority on the use of the computers in predicting where rockfalls will occur as a result of underground pressure, will conduct a workshop on "Rock Mechanics and Related Computer Programmes" in Johannesburg on July 30.

Dr Crouch, of the University of Minnesota, has extensive knowledge of mining in South Africa. The computer programmes he has written on rock mechanics are widely used internationally, including South Africa.

The workshop on July 30 is being organised by the mining services division of Control Data and will be held at the company's offices in Mutual Gardens, Rosebank.

Dr Crouch was a mining research officer at the Chamber of Mines Research Laboratories in Johannesburg from 1968 to 1970 and was visiting lecturer in the Department of Applied Mathematics, at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1976 and 1977.

2 miners die in a rockfall

Stow 20/7/19
212

Two mineworkers were killed in a rockfall at the Hartebeestfontein Gold Mine yesterday morning, it was announced today

A spokesman for Anglovaal said the men, a white stoper and a black mine-worker, died in a fall of hanging rock in a stope in the number seven shaft at the mine

The stoper was Mr Ferdinandes Jacobus Swanepoel, of Klerksdorp, who leaves his wife and five children

14 hurt in explosion

Staff Reporter

FOURTEEN black mineworkers were injured in a gas explosion at the Elandsrand gold mine near Carletonville yesterday

They spent last night in the Western Deep Hospital under observation. Nine men who suffered minor burns are expected to be discharged today.

The others, who received more serious burns, are still in need of treatment.

The explosion occurred on a stope on the mine's 19th level about 2 000m underground.

Mine officials believe the explosion was caused by a build-up of natural gas seeping from the rock.

Production was not affected and workers were back on the stope late yesterday.

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14 miners

feared

dead in

lift fall

1/10/90

ARGUS
8/12

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Mine officials fear that all 14 men in a lift cage that plunged to the bottom of a shaft at the Balmoral gold mine have been killed

The manager of the mine, Mr J Krige, said four bodies had been recovered, and rescue teams were working to recover the rest

Mr Krige said the cable snapped as the cage was lowering the men to the 19th level of the mine

All 14 men in the cage were black mineworkers

The accident occurred at about 6 am when the first shift of 14 workers went underground

Mr Krige said that it was possible that all the men had died and that their bones had been crushed when the cage smashed to the ground

PROTO TEAMS

Proto teams totalling 30 mineworkers were sent underground at 7.30 am and the first body was brought to the surface at 10 am

Later three more bodies were recovered. They were taken to the mortuary in ambulances which were on standby

Hundreds of worried mine workers stood around the top of the shaft waiting for their colleagues to be brought to the surface

Some helped load the bodies into the ambulances

Mr Krige said it was the worst accident to have

occurred in the group of three East Rand gold mines

He said a full investigation into the causes of the accident would be launched

I feel very bad about the accident but it is one of those things which can happen in the mining world, Mr Krige said

The mine, which produces a small amount of gold, is 700 metres deep. It is not known whether the cage plunged right to the bottom

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LINDY WILSON

Best wishes

to look forward to

AFRICAN COMMITTEE

ATION

Men crushed to death as cage plummets more than 200 m

5 MAR 11/10/80

212

17 die in mine tragedies

Staff Reporters

Fourteen mine workers died after a mine cage plunged more than 200 m at the small Balmoral Gold Mine outside Germiston today.

The accident happened at about 6 am when the first shift of 14 workers went underground

According to the mine manager, Mr G J Krige, the cable which lowered the single cage snapped

Mr Krige said all the men were crushed when the cage smashed to the bottom of the shaft

Proto teams of 30 mine workers were sent underground at 7.30 am and the first body was brought to the surface at 10 am. Seven bodies had been brought to the surface by 2 o'clock

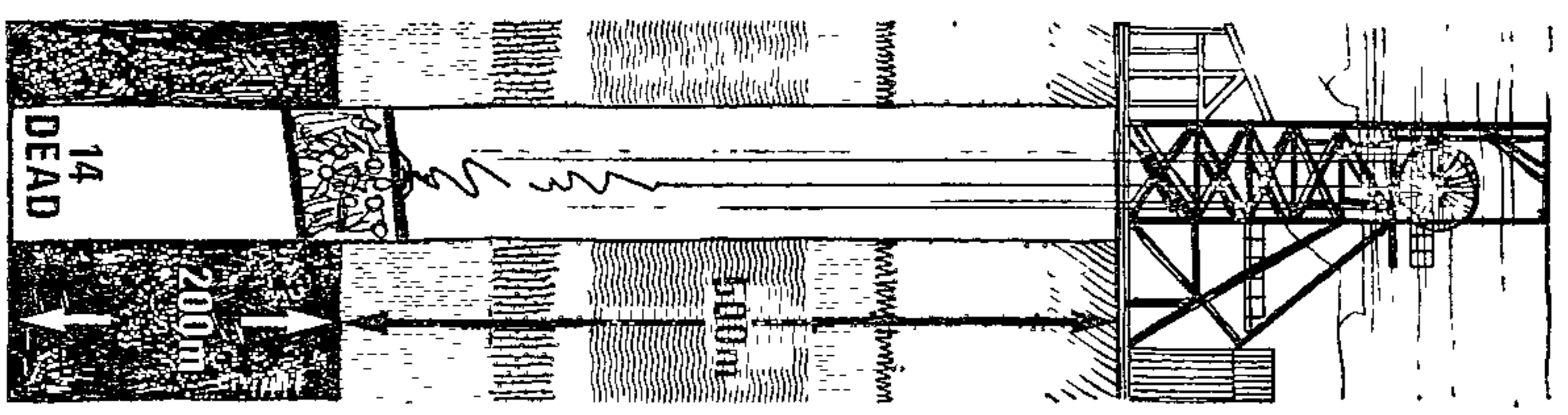
Mr Krige said it was the worst accident in the group of three East Rand gold mines

He said a full investigation into the causes of the accident would be launched as soon as the bodies had been brought to the surface

"I feel very bad about the accident. It is one of those things which can happen in the mining world," Mr Krige said as one of the bodies was brought up

Three more miners were killed and five slightly injured at the Elandsrand Gold Mine near Carletonville, an Anglo American spokesman announced. The cause in this case appeared to be a localised movement of rock

The Balmoral Mine, which produces a small amount of gold, is 700 m deep. It is not known whether the cage plummeted to the bottom. The mine is one of the



Full details of today's mine tragedy will not be known until it has been officially investigated



Mine workers look on as the bodies of their colleagues are taken away

three operating mines in the Boshoff group. The other two are Primrose and Johannesburg Stock Exchange and Stanhope

Balmoral has a work force of roughly 350 blacks and about 20 whites, excluding management

The mine started operations in 1949, and is still producing gold. At the site of its last annual report, Balmoral was still

classified as a State-assisted mine

Mr Krige told share holders in his last report that sufficient black recruited labour for the mine's operations was available from Maputo, Swaziland and locally

The accident is the third involving the fall of a mine cage, though only the second in which lives were lost

The worst mine cage accident took place at

Vaal Reef's number two shaft on March 27 when 31 miners lost their lives

The recovery of the 14 bodies today was slowed down by the size of the cage which could only accommodate one body on a stretcher at a time

The bodies were brought to the surface strapped to metal rescue stretchers and covered with blood-soaked blankets. Colleagues gathered round to help with the

stretchers as they reached the surface in the small cage

As the blankets were taken off the bodies, workers gathered around to identify the dead

The bodies which had been brought to the surface — nine of them after more than three hours — were badly mangled and covered with dirt

A four-stage four ambulance were standing by to remove the bodies

The proto teams, headed by the mine captain, halted for more than four hours underground to remove the bodies from the wrecked cage to strap them to the stretchers and send them to the surface

A mine inspector of the Department of Mines is present at the scene and investigations will begin once the bodies have been brought to the surface. Productivity at the mine will resume tomorrow

17 die in ²¹²
CAPE TIMES 21/10/80
Reef mine
accidents

JOHANNESBURG — Seventeen miners died in two accidents yesterday morning — one of the East Rand and one near Carletonville

Fourteen died shortly after 6 am at the Balmoral Gold Mine — one of three in the Boshoff group of mines — when the cable which lowered the cage snapped. The mine is near Germiston.

In the other accident, three mineworkers were killed and five injured following a pressure burst at the Elandsrand Gold Mine about 8 am. Some stopes in the mine were also damaged but the effect on production is not yet known.

Mr J Krige, manager of Balmoral, said seven bodies had been recovered so far.

He said it was the worst accident at the Boshoff mines.

A spokesman for the Elandsrand Gold Mine said the pressure (or rock) burst — a minor earth tremor — had also caused several miners to be treated for shock after they had lost three of their colleagues.

Two levels — 1920 and 1998 — had been affected but the extent of damage would only be known later.

No names were released yesterday — Sapa

Third mine plunge this year... yet safety precautions are rigorous

5 MAR 2/10/80

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By Geoff Shuttleworth
Mining Correspondent
The accident, which claimed the lives of 14 black mineworkers at the Balmoral Gold Mine near Germiston in the early hours yesterday is the third of its kind this year, but only the second in which there has been a loss of life.

The most serious accident this year claimed the lives of 31 miners when the skip in which they were being lowered at the Vaal Reefs number 2 shaft fell over 2 km.

The cage is estimated to have reached a speed of around 200 km/h and is believed to have broken up under the strain. At Balmoral, the fall was much less severe.

The accident at Balmoral broke the record for the 700 m shaft, and there were no survivors.

In May this year a skip carrying timber props at the ERPM mine snapped its rope and plummeted to the bottom of the shaft. A spokesman for the mine said that had miners been carried in the skip, a different procedure would have been adopted and the ac-

cident would have been avoided.

Mine winders are not allowed in the declutched position when there are men aboard. Declutching means that the twin drums, which are usually connected to one power source, are disengaged from the normal running in tandem position. This is usually done in order to alter the running distance between the two skips and means that one skip is held in position by its brakes while the other is lowered or raised to change the running distance between them.

In the case of the ERPM accident, the brake systems in the ordinary skip failed.

In the case of the Vaal Reefs accident, the skip being lowered snagged against an obstruction and

cable coiled on top of the skip which under the increasing weight dislodged itself and fell free. The subsequent strain when the cable pulled taut was so great that it ripped off the gear attaching the cable to the skip.

At an official inquiry it was held that nobody was to blame for the accident.

The Chamber of Mines technical adviser Mr Gordon Grange says it is regrettable that the accident took place so soon after one another. He said that about 400 000 miners are lowered and hoisted to the surface every day and when one includes the additional travelling on sub-vertical or sub-incline shafts this means that over 1-million man trips are made every day on gold mines.

He said that it is more

dangerous for a mine to overwind, that is hoisting the skip too far so that it crashes through the mine headgear. Such an accident happened at the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine on the Far West Rand in 1974 killing 16 miners. The skip in this case crashed through the crash bars of the headgear 58 m above surface level.

TIGHTLY

He noted that safety regulations are extremely strict and in the case of a weekly hoist, a Saturday or Sunday hoist has to be undertaken.

In addition to this there are several mandatory safety requirements which include cable inspections and the keeping of a cable log. Every six

months a portion of the cable must be submitted to a testing station and a Government Mining Engineer certificate obtained.

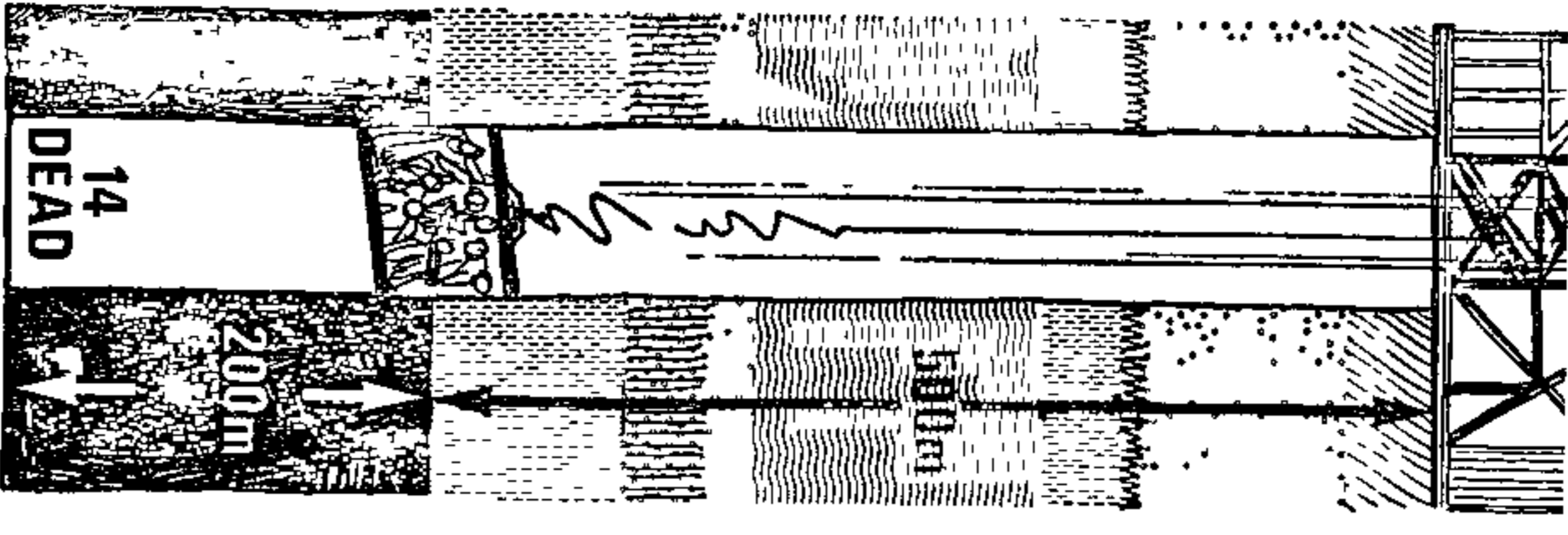
The cable, which in itself constitutes a major weight factor when fully extended, has to be of such a strength that it can withstand 4½ times the weight of a fully loaded skip and the combined weight of attachment.

EFFECTIVE

The most effective safety features are usually situated at the top portion of the shaft to prevent the hoist from falling too far. A hoisting device is a "humble hoo" which is a mandatory feature, which will detach the rope and the skip will be held in position by this hook attached to the stationary spectacle plate. In addition, jack catches, resembling giant dog ear ratchets, are acti-

rated and prevent the skip from falling. In the case of the humble hoo, a gives the hoist a safety device which, in the event of a cable being lowered but blocked by an obstacle, the hoist is automatically stopped. The limitation of this, as proved at Vaal Reefs, is that the weight of the cable after a certain depth prevents a slack device from operating. In addition there is an automatic brake device which slows the skip as it approaches stations down the shaft or as it approaches the surface.

At the end of the Balmoral accident an inspection in the mine will take place to reconstruct the events. This is followed by a court of inquiry presided over by a senior GME official. If necessary, the case can be passed into the control of a civil magistrate. A report will be made public only if the GME official decides for it.



Yesterday's accident at the Balmoral Gold Mine outside Germiston

Miners

plunge

to their

death

2/10/80

from

(12)

By SUE DENNY

A PACKED mine cage plummeted down a Balmoral Gold Mine shaft near Germiston yesterday after its cable snapped, hitting the bottom at 200km/h and killing the 14 miners on board.

And at the Elandsrand Gold Mine near Carletonville four miners were killed and 31 injured in a rockfall sparked off by an earth tremor.

The cage at the Balmoral Gold mine was carrying 14 miners underground to work at 6am when the 25mm-thick cable snapped at a depth of 200m.

In 4½ seconds the cage plunged 200m hitting the bottom of the shaft "with the impact of a high-speed car crash"

The cage driver alerted mine officials when he saw the snapped cable speed to the surface and come to a standstill at the top of the shaft

Mine officials said the cable had been checked on Monday and had already carried 13 shifts underground early yesterday before the tragedy

Yesterday's tragedy was the worst accident the Balmoral mine has had in its 43-year history

This is the second time in about six months that miners have died in accidents involving a mine cage — one of the less frequent mining accidents

In March this year 23 miners died at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine near Klerksdorp when a Mary-Ann mine cage plunged 2km to the bottom of a shaft after it broke its bridle

A Johannesburg mathematician said yesterday the cage at the Balmoral Gold Mine would have been travelling at a speed of 200 km/h when it hit the bottom of the shaft

He said the fall would have taken 4½ seconds and the impact would be like a car crash at 200km/h

A 24-man rescue team was sent down the

shaft at 7 20 am to recover the bodies

Throughout the day the team sent the mud-spattered bodies to the surface in the remaining cage

Only one body could be sent at a time because the large stretchers to which the dead men were strapped had to be placed at an angle in the small cage

The last body was brought to the surface at 2 25 pm and the exhausted rescue team walked blank faced out of the cage 30 minutes later.

One of the miners — asked why both white and black miners had been sent down to bring the bodies to the surface — said "it is not a matter of black or white they are just my people"

Work at the mine which employs 350 miners was stopped after the accident

During the day about 80 miners sat and stood silently in the hot sun at the entrance to the shaft, waiting to carry the dead to ambulances

When the bodies were brought to the surface, they uncovered the faces of the dead to check on their identities and then gently lifted them into the ambulances

There was a hushed silence every time a body was brought to the surface — the only sound to be heard was the clicking of camera shutters

Mr G J Krige general manager of the Boshoff Mining Group which includes the Balmoral Primrose and Stanhope Gold Mines said the dead men who were from Transkei and Mozambique, would be identified when their next-of-kin had been informed

This is the most serious accident since the mine opened 43 years ago

I have been general manager for seven years and am horrified by this disaster

The mine has one shaft and its two cages are tested by the Government every six months

The last test was done three weeks ago and our maintenance staff do checks every Monday so the last time the cable was checked was two days ago Mr Krige said

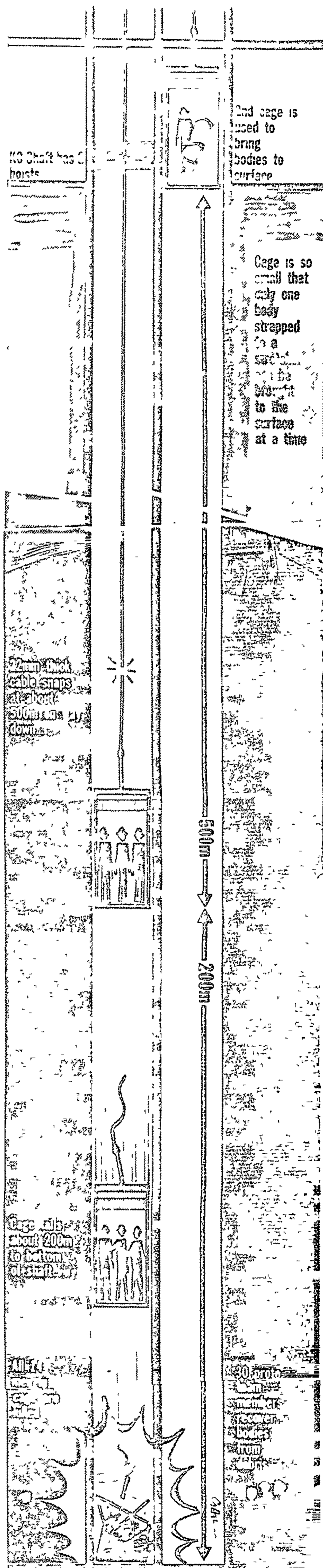
MARJA TOIT reported an Anglo-American spokesman as saying that the Elandsrand Gold Mine accident happened about 8am between 1920m and 1938m underground

An earth tremor, which is a natural hazard caused a pressure burst

The 31 injured miners were taken to the Western Deep Levels Mine Hospital None were seriously hurt

A hospital spokesman said 13 were admitted for treatment and their condition was reported to be satisfactory

The names of the dead have been withheld until their next-of-kin have been notified



Miners look on in gloom

ROOM
2/2
2/12/90

Staff Reporter

SCATTERED in groups about 80 miners sat in silence at the pithhead of the Balmoral Gold Mine yesterday waiting anxiously to see if friends were among the 14 men killed in the mine cage plunge.

Some had travelled underground earlier yesterday morning in the same cage.

They were already at work underground when they heard of the accident, and were told to go back to the surface.

Those miners interviewed said they were shocked when told colleagues had been killed in the accident.

One of the waiting miners, Mr. Makharo Monametshe, a father of two from Zeerust, said: "I was frightened when we were told we should evacuate immediately because an accident had just happened."

"Later I was shocked and horrified when I saw bodies being brought to the surface."

Mr. Monametshe said he had been working underground for more than 14 years.

"I am still prepared to work underground despite the accident," he said.

Another miner, Mr. Joseph Chauke, from Maputo, said he felt sorry for the families of the dead miners.

"These miners came to work for their families unaware that they would die untimely deaths," he said.

An atmosphere of sadness prevailed outside the shaft when rescue workers emerged from the shaft after the bodies had been removed in ambulances.

A rescue team worked without rest to bring the bodies of the dead miners to the surface after yesterday's accident

Picture ROBERT SHABALALA



Sad and dejected faces of colleagues waiting for their friends to be brought up the surface at the Germiston mine disaster. See story on Page 1. POST 2/10/80 (212)

DEATH: The body of a mine worker at Balmoral.

17 plunge to death

2/10/80
BSE
2-17.5

SEVENTEEN miners were killed in two separate accidents yesterday.

Fourteen men were killed in Balmoral mine, Germiston when a lift cage plunged to the bottom of a 700 m shaft.

Three more miners were killed and five injured at the Elandsrand Gold Mine, near Carletonville

The Balmoral tragedy happened at 6 am when the rope holding the cage snapped and the cage, carrying 14 shift workers plunged from about 200 m. The

By LEN KALANE

cage was lowering the men to the mine's 19th level, according to Mr J G Krige, general manager at Balmoral.

The cause of the other accident, at Elandsrand, appeared to be a localised movement of rock, an Anglo American spokesman said.

At Balmoral hundreds of sad-looking miners stood worried around the head gear waiting for their colleagues to be brought to the surface.

One by one the bodies were brought up and loaded into ambulances. The first body was brought to the surface at 10 am and the last at 2.30 pm. Ambul-

ances were on standby to rush the bodies to the mortuary.

Mr Krige said it was the worst accident to have happened at this group of three East Rand mines.

An investigation would be launched, Mr Krige said.

The rope that caused the tragedy was checked every Monday by mine authorities and every six months by government inspectors. The government inspection had been carried out three weeks ago.

The leader of the 24-man rescue team — six whites and 18 blacks — said they had no difficulty getting the bodies out.

"There is not much damage underground," he said.

Production of Balmoral has been halted.

NO NAMES UNTIL NEXT WEEK

POST
3/10/50
212

THE names of the 14 miners who were killed in Balmoral Gold mine, Germiston on Wednesday when a lift cage plunged to the bottom of a 700 meter shaft, will only be released early next week.

Mr G J Krieger, general manager at Balmoral, said yesterday that the police first have to contact the relatives of the dead men before their names can be released to the Press.

He said "The earliest we can release the names is next week. The men came from Transkei and Mozambique and contacting their families will take us a long time."

The Balmoral tragedy happened at 6 am, when the rope holding the cage snapped and the cage, carrying 14 shift workers, plunged from about 200 metres. The cage was lowering the men to the mine's 19th level.

The rope that caused the tragedy was checked every Monday by mine authorities and every six months by Government inspectors. The Government inspection had been carried out three weeks ago.

Mr Krieger said it was the worst accident to have happened at this group of Three East Mines Production at the mine has been halted.



Another body taken out at Balmoral.



Sad faces watch death pass by

10 miners trapped after ^{STAR} 11/10/80 burst (212)

Ten miners are trapped nearly 3 km underground after a pressure burst at ERPM in the Boksburg-Germiston area.

A statement by Rand Mines says the burst occurred 2 700 m below the surface at 11 am yesterday.

Eleven black miners were slightly injured in the burst.

Rescue operations began immediately and will continue around the clock until all the missing men have been accounted for, the statement added.

A spokesman for the mine said today: "Three stope tunnels were affected, two of which have already been cleared. We are now clearing the third tunnel."

He said that judging from the state of the area, rescue operations were likely to be protracted.

SAN TRIB

12/10/80

Hope

212

for 10

trapped

miners

Tribune Correspondent

RESCUE workers at Rand Mines are still "hopeful" that the ten miners trapped underground since Friday will be brought out alive.

The head of rescue services at the south west shaft, Dan Jordaan, said rescue teams had worked around the clock since lunchtime on Friday when a pressure burst trapped the miners behind a wall of fallen rock.

No contact had been made with the trapped miners by late yesterday. Mr Jordaan said they would keep working until they reached the men — dead or alive.

The miners are trapped some three kilometres underground in the 66 east long wall.

Ten men trapped in mine horror

SEVEN Black miners were slightly injured and ten Black miners are trapped some three kilometers underground after a severe pressure burst on Friday at East Rand Proprietary mines in the Poplar/Chester area, Rand Mines announced yesterday.

A statement said the burst occurred 2100m below the surface in the G East Longwall at 11.30 am.

Rescue operations began immediately and will continue around the clock until all missing men had been accounted for, the statement said.

A spokesman for the mine said yesterday that the workings affected by the burst were off the C incline shaft, which is served by the south west vertical and south west sub-vertical shafts.

"The workings were affected, two of them are already cleared," said the spokesman. Rescue operations were likely to be prolonged. — Sapa.

Mine plunge victims named

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE NAMES of the 14 miners who were killed at the Balmoral Gold Mine in Germiston last Wednesday, when a lift cage plunged to the bottom of a 700 m shaft were released this week.

Ten of the victims were from Mozambique. They were Lorenzo Obisi, Vernando Mochanga, Gabriela Sambo, Josi Chiva-

157
212
80
Savelle, Xavier Chilenewe, Enesto Manga, Catini Manhise, Vrenacesco Chambal, Jaime Chamba and Lazero Ndhlovu

The other victims were Peter Nqxitso, Kotyo Magwebu and Ellio Mcabayi, all from Transkei, and Piet Nokeri from Giyani, Venda

A spokesman at the Balmoral Gold Mine said this week that all the relatives of the dead men had been contacted.

The tragedy at the mine occurred at 6 am when a cage was carrying 14 shift workers to the mine's 19th level. The cable holding the cage snapped and the cage plunged to the bottom of the shaft.

The cable that caused the tragedy was checked every Monday by mine authorities.

STAR 13/10/80

Time runs out for trapped miners as rescuers battle on

By Deon Delpont

Bright as the blue sky, the orange headgear at ERPM's south-western shaft keeps busy transporting 3 400 miners a day. It gives no hint of the desperate human drama being played out 2 700 metres below ground.

There, rescue workers are battling their way through a narrow tunnel blocked by many tons of fallen rock towards six miners trapped since 11 am last Friday.

The explosion of rock caused by a pressure burst has killed at least four miners, whose bodies have been found and brought out. There is no indication whether the other six are alive or dead.

But until they know, the rescue teams will continue their round-the-clock struggle in shifts, using their hands to move the rubble.

"They have advanced 16 metres in three days and they have another 20 to go," a mine spokesman said today.

Once the rocks have been cleared from the immediate working area it is scraped away mechanically.

Rescue teams, normal production workers on the mine, are working in six-hour shifts.

Rescuers travel 1 510 metres down the south west shaft then 300 metres to a sub-vertical shaft that takes them another 944 metres underground.

Thereafter they travel 1,3 km by tram to an incline shaft which takes them a final 302 metres to the area of the accident. The entire journey from surface to the rockfall takes almost an hour.

The men they are trying to rescue have been trapped for over three days in a 20 metre area. The four dead and six trapped miners are understood to come from Mozambique, Malawi, Transkei and South Africa.

17/10/80 (212)

Nine feared dead after mine disaster

THE BODY of a miner has been brought to the surface after the disaster at the East Rand Proprietary Mines, where

mine black miners are still entombed under piles of rock and rubble.

A pressure burst occurred at the mine, in the Bokburg/Germiston area on Friday, the third mine disaster on the Reef in only a month.

Nine miners are still trapped, and are feared to be dead. A 30-man rescue team is working round the clock to recover the bodies.

The pressure burst occurred 2 500 m below the surface in the 66 East Longwall at 11 am on Friday, trapping the ten miners. Rescue teams went into action at once, but only recovered the first body yesterday after nearly 48 hours.

Although the still trapped miners are now feared dead, an official said: "We never give up hope. There is a lot of rubble down there. Rescue teams have to clear it before reaching the men."

During August this year, two miners were killed following a similar pressure burst.

And Friday's incident at the mine is the second tragedy to hit East

Rand Mines in a matter of two weeks. At the beginning of the month 14 men were killed in the Palmour mine in Germiston when a lift cage plunged to the bottom of a 200 m shaft.

Yesterday there were no signs of death at the South West shaft where the nine are buried. Life was back to normal at the entrance of the compound. They seemed unaware of the recent tragedy.

Said Mr David Mkhize from Lesotho, "Mine tragedies are so frequent that we are used to this sort of thing. In fact, I was on the 58th level when the accident occurred on Friday. I heard a thunderous sound and there was a massive shake. They told us people were trapped on the 66th level, but we continued working."

A mine official said work on the 66th level had to be stopped when the accident occurred. The working areas affected were those off the C incline shaft, which is served by the south west vertical and the south west sub-vertical shaft.

Hope dwindling for 7 trapped ERPM miners

2011 12/14/84

212

By MARJA TUIT

RESCUE workers were still digging away at tons of rock and rubble last night to save seven miners who have been trapped 27km underground for 53 hours at the East Rand Proprietary Mine near Boksburg.

But a mine spokesman said yesterday that hope of finding the men alive was dwindling.

In 53 hours of gruelling digging, rescue teams had only managed to advance 10m into the fallen rock trapping the men.

Rescue workers can only use their hands to remove the rubble because blasting devices would endanger the lives of the trapped men.

By yesterday rescue workers had recovered the bodies of three miners who were killed in the rockfall — the worst in the mine's 80 year history.

The miners were trapped in an area of about 27 metres in a collapsed section of the 66th level after a pressure burst at 10.45am on Friday caused a rockfall at the mine's 66th East Longwall.

Eleven miners were injured in the fall.

Four were taken to the

ERPM Hospital. Only one was still in the hospital yesterday. His condition was satisfactory.

The body of one trapped miner was recovered at 8am yesterday. Two others were found side by side at 4pm.

The mine's spokesman, Mr Greg Kukard, said rescue workers were working around the clock to reach the other seven men but they are working under very bad conditions and tons of rock and rubble have to be moved to get to the area where the miners are trapped.

Mr Daniel Jordaan, manager of the Western Section of the mine, went underground on Friday afternoon to assess the situation.

He said conditions were very bad and although we never give up hope does decrease as the time goes by. We cannot say whether the people are crushed.

"We have been working around the clock and will keep on looking until we find them. Although we have not heard any signs of life we never say that people are dead until we find them."

Rescuers dig for miners

BOKSBURG — Rescue workers were still digging away at tons of rock and rubble last night to save six miners who have been trapped 2.7 km underground for 53 hours at the East Rand Proprietary Mine near here.

But a mine spokesman said yesterday that hope of finding the men alive was dwindling.

In 53 hours of gruelling digging, rescue teams had only managed to advance 10 m into the fallen rock trapping the men.

Rescue workers can only use their hands to remove the rubble because blasting devices can not be used as they would endanger the lives of the trapped men.

The miners were trapped in an area of about 27 m in a collapsed section of the 10th level after a pressure burst at 10:45 am on Friday caused a rock fall at the mine's south east longwall.

Eleven miners were injured in the fall. Only one was still in hospital yesterday. His condition was "satisfactory".

The body of the trapped miner was recovered at 3 am yesterday. The others were found side by side at 4 pm, and another at 9 pm.

DDC

(Picture — page 13)

Body of 212 5th miner found ^{STAR} 14/10/80

By Deon Delpont

The death toll at ERPM has risen to five, after rescue workers found the body of another miner this morning. Little hope is now held out that five miners, still missing, are alive.

"Considering the conditions the rescue teams have encountered in their four-day search for the men, they think it highly doubtful that they could still be alive," a mine spokesman said this morning.

"The teams made good progress during the night, clearing another 10 m and now have 10 m to go," he said.

Depending on the conditions at the rockface the team might find the missing miners today.

They have been trapped in a 27 m area, 2700 m below ground in the southwestern corner of the mine for the past four days after a pressure burst caused a rockfall last Friday.

Teams of miners working around the clock recovered the bodies of four miners on Sunday.

2 more ^{SAR}
15/10/80
bodies (212)

The bodies of two more miners, trapped 2700 m underground at ERPM since a rockfall on Friday, were found and brought to the surface this morning by rescue workers

This brings the death toll in the accident to seven, with three miners still missing

A mine spokesman said the bodies of the two latest victims were found at 1100 am and brought to the surface an hour later. He said the rescue workers had less than 10 m to go before reaching the end of the stope.

The chances of the three missing men being alive was regarded as minimal, he added.

Germiston disaster: all bodies now found

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

ALL the bodies of the miners entombed at the ERPM near Germiston (the East Rand) were brought to the surface after the disaster at the mine last Friday.

A spokesman for the mines said yesterday that the last body was brought to surface at 12 noon yesterday.

Eleven miners were slightly injured and 10 others trapped almost 3 km down after a pressure burst at the mine.

The pressure burst occurred 2700 metres below at 11 am on Friday, trapping the 10 men.

The first body was brought to the surface at 8 am on Sunday after nearly

48 hours by the rescue team

The 30 men rescue team which was working round the clock to recover the bodies found the last three yesterday.

The rescue team had to clear about 55 metres of piled up rock and rubble with their own hands to reach the 10 trapped men. The whole process took the rescue team 7 days.

The spokesman further said that the names of the ten miners will only be released to the press after their relatives have been contacted.

The Friday incident at the East Rand Property Mines (ERT) is the second tragedy to hit East Rand Mines in a matter of two weeks. At the beginning of the month 14 men were killed at the Balmoral Mine in Germiston.

POST 17/05/00 (212)

Last mine bodies ⁽²¹²⁾ found

DD 17/10/90

JOHANNESBURG —

Rescue workers yesterday recovered the last of the bodies of ten mineworkers who died in a rockfall at the East Rand Proprietary Mines last week.

A spokesman for ERPM said the last three bodies had been found yesterday morning.

Rescue teams at the mine dug through tons of rubble around the clock after a pressure burst caused a rockfall 2,7 km underground last Friday morning, trapping ten miners in an area of 27 metres of collapsed rock.

The rockfall was the worst in the mine's 80-year history. — SAPA

Five stars for mine

JOHANNESBURG—Randfontein Estates Gold Mine has become the fourth gold mine in the world to be awarded a five-star rating in terms of the International Mine Safety Rating scheme, the Chamber of Mines announced yesterday.

Since the scheme, the brainchild of an American loss control expert, was launched in mid-1978, South African gold mines have led the way.

In 1979, two South African gold mines — Western Areas gold mine and President Brand gold mine — became the first in the world to receive the top rating in the system, aimed at loss control within the industry.

Since then President Brand has been similarly rated, and now Randfontein Estates. No other mines in the world have achieved this rating.

NM 21/10/80

212



Mine fire is still burning

RM 25/10/80 Staff Reporter 212

PROTO teams are working non-stop to extinguish a fire in the south shaft of the Western Areas gold mine

Although a number of packs propping up the hanging face are still burning in a stope on 83 level, 2-300m beneath the surface, a mine spokesman said the fire, which started on Thursday, "would appear to be contained"

Mine blaze still raging

RDM
28/10/86

212

Staff Reporter

THE fire which broke out at the Western Areas Gold Mine last week is still raging and proto teams are working round the clock to extinguish it

A spokesman for the mine said it was not known how the fire started, nor how long it would be before it was brought under control

The fire was raging in the south shaft. Although the area has been sealed off, production would be maintained because labour units had been transferred to other parts of the mine

"The fire appears to be contained and there have been no injuries or casualties," the spokesman said yesterday.

A number of packs propping up the hanging face were still burning in a stope on 83 level, which is 2 300m beneath the surface, but there was no danger of the fire spreading to the other levels of the mine

Fire-fighting foam was being used to combat the blaze, the spokesman said.

Names of ten mine victims are released

POST
28/10/80

212

By Mzikayise Edom
THE names of the 10 miners who were killed three weeks ago at the East Rand Proprietary Mines (ERPM) after a pressure burst, had occurred, were released yesterday.

They are: Mr Gabriel Malungane, Mr Captain James, Mr Danger Jolosati, all timbering assistants from Malawi and Mr Matthew Dlamini, a driller from Swaziland.

Others are Mr George Haston from Malawi; Mr Nkosingani Fithshetu from Transkei; Mr Micas Covele from Chibuto, all team leaders; Mr Nqupile Mfuteni from Transkei; Mr Isaac Chikotosi from Gokwe, all machine operators and Mr Nepiyala Chabadzaminga, lasher from Malawi.

A spokesman for Group Editors said yesterday that the relatives of the 10 miners have been contacted.

Eleven miners were slightly injured and 10 others trapped some 3 km after the severe pressure burst at the mine.

The 10 bodies were brought to the surface after a seven day search by a 30-man rescue team, which worked round the clock and had to clear 55 metres of rock and rubble. The pressure belts occurred 2700 metres below the surface in the 66 East longwall, trapping

the 10 men.

The incident at ERPM is the second tragedy in the East Rand in a matter of two weeks. At the beginning of the month, 14 men were killed at the Balmoral Mine in Germiston when a lift cage plunged to the bottom of a 700 metre shaft.

RDM 30/10/80 (2.12)

Mine is still blazing

Staff Reporter

THE underground fire at the Western Areas Gold Mine continued to burn for the seventh consecutive day yesterday

But a spokesman for the mine said the fire was under control in a sealed off area 2 300m underground on the 83rd level

He said the fire had not

spread since it was discovered on Thursday in the SV2 shaft, and there appeared to be no danger of it doing so

Firemen were now fighting the blaze with water because they found they could not get near enough to the fire when they were using foam

The spokesman said the cause of the fire was not known

4 miners killed in ore skip crash

Staff Reporter

FOUR miners were killed 590m underground at an Oden-daalsrus gold mine yesterday when a runaway ore skip crashed into them at 59

others were injured in the accident

A spokesman for Anglo American said an ore skip at the Gold Mine apparently derailed while on an incline. The men were killed

instantly. The injured were admitted to hospital and one man was later discharged.

One of the injured men is in a critical condition, four are seriously injured and two suffered minor injuries.

The identities of the victims will not be released until their next of kin have been informed.

The Government Mining Engineer is investigating the accident. Production at the mine was not affected.

MINING - Accidents

7 Feb. 1981

← 3 Nov. 1981

preceding section, nearly everybody would agree that medical need and not economic status should govern access to medical care. But in practice, as medical economists point out ad nauseam, hard choices have to be made because resources are finite. In the absence of the price mechanism, and given our limited capacity to devise institutions capable of efficient altruism, the rationing of medical care is done either by the provider (hospital or doctor) on the basis of evaluations of competing need, (8) or by the payment of time: the opportunity cost of waiting for service.

Two comments are needed here. Taking waiting time first, it has to be traded off against excess capacity and would appear to be peculiarly sub-optimal ^{because} a zero-sum phenomenon. A cost to the buyer (patient), time is not necessarily income to the seller (doctor). It is also a function of the level of productive forces in the economy. With a labour surplus as in South Africa output foregone in waiting time may be low, although subjective cost may be high. Second, the autonomy of medical personnel in rationing care is highly constrained. They can of course influence their own numbers but the capacity of other complementary components of the delivery system is the outcome in net terms of a political process of which they are only one part. Who actually does the rationing is a question with multiple dimensions.

Lastly there is the status of health care as a "primary good". In Rawls' definition they are "things every rational man is presumed to want... [primary goods] have a use whatever a person's rational plan of life" (Rawls 1971: 62). Examples are rights and liberties, powers and opportunities, income and wealth - "social primary goods" - in contrast to health and vigour, intelligence and imagination, the "natural primary goods". The concept of a set of basic needs that defines and measures a social minimum falls into the same category, and no doubt shares a common philosophical ancestry.

The important consequence following on from the conception

as health care as a primary good satisfying a basic need is that it must then be accorded a certain ranking over other needs and other goods. How high in the social ordering and therefore how extensive and complete the dispersion of such care is to be across the base of the social pyramid is the key strategic question. It would be highly naive to assume that policy decisions can be reached at this abstract level. But it is along such lines of thinking

can be reached in occupational choices.

Mine sets safety record

By Bob Davis

A platinum mine which had 14 deaths in 1974 yesterday became the first of its kind in the world to receive a five-star international award for safety

The Bafokeng South platinum mine near Rustenburg was given the international award yesterday after it had scored consistently high on 21 factors

It is the only platinum mine in the world to have achieved the five-star status which is the highest international rating for mine safety

Making the award, Mr R S Lawrence, president of the Chamber of Mines said only four others — all South African — had achieved the same status

He said Bafokeng had also achieved more than

two-million fatality-free shifts It would probably pass the three-million mark later this year

RECORD

The world record was 3 030 029 fatality-free shifts, achieved in 1964 by West Rand Consolidated

Mr Lawrence warned mines with high safety standards that the qualification for rating would be difficult to maintain

Mines are tested once a year for star ratings

The originator of the international rating scheme for mine safety, an American, Mr Frank Bird, said yesterday the highest rating achieved outside of South Africa was a three-star by a Canadian mine which had a South African manager

Mr Bird is in South Africa to lecture on mine safety

suspect this broad description needs qualification - 101
example, lower income groups do purchase significant amounts of medical care through fee-for-service channels - it is accurate in essentials. Given the great distances that separate the resource bases of groups in the population, it would be surprising to find a homogeneous system of health care.

Hans 4 Asbestosis
 183 Mr N B WOOD asked the Minister
 of Statistics

How many deaths attributable to asbestosis were reported in the Republic in each of the last five years for which figures are available?

212 187 15/2/81

The MINISTER OF STATISTICS

1978
1979

ml
1

Prior to 1978 data not available

Agricultural Credit and Land Tenure

186 Mr P A MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries

- (1) (a) How many loans were granted by the Department of Agricultural Credit and Land Tenure in the financial years 1978-79 and 1979-80 respectively, and (b) what was the amount of the assistance for each of these years.
- (2) what was the (a) outstanding capital, (b) capital in arrears and (c) interest in arrears at the end of each of these financial years?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

(1) (a) 1978/79	1 704
1979/80	3 513
(b) 1978/79	R18 636 416
1979/80	R54 446 831
(2) (a) 1978/79	R139 032 043
(b) 1979/80	R158 593 603
(b) 1978/79	R17 144 755
1979/80	R30 470 028
(c) 1978/79	R5 455 697
1979/80	R5 861 385

Very grim, says proto team leader after battle to free bodies at Buffelsfontein

Rockfall kills 4, traps 17 miners

By Tony Duigan and Mike Cohen

Four miners died and 17 others were trapped for several hours after a massive rockfall at the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near Orkney yesterday.

Throughout the night proto teams battled to free the bodies of three of the dead men. One body was brought up last night.

The rockfall occurred yesterday morning after a huge tremor measuring 4.8 on the Richter scale shook the area.

The tremor was the worst experienced in the area for many years according to assistant manager Mr I Bell.

At 10.32 am yesterday the seismic shock shook buildings temporarily cut power at the minehead and brought down hundreds of tons of rock — 2500 metres below ground — at the 19th level of Pioneer shaft.

Teams were immediately sent underground to search for bodies. 17 miners were trapped.

By yesterday afternoon 17 miners were brought to the surface.

Ten were admitted to hospital.

Next of kin

Proto teams had to work in dangerous conditions with fears of further rockfalls as they battled to bring up the injured men and to dig out the dead.

It was very grim, said Mr Arthur Barlow, leader of one of the proto teams who spent more than 13 hours underground.

A worker on the mine said that the tremor severely shook buildings and loosened ceilings in some places.

It scared a lot of people and I heard that one girl who was standing up against a window fixing curtains, fell through it because of the severity of the tremor.



Mr Arthur Barlow (foreground) leads his weary rescue team out of the Pioneer Shaft at the Buffelsfontein Mine near Orkney early today. Pictures by Alf Chapman.

19/2/87

By mid-morning today all the bodies had been brought to the surface and efforts were underway to identify the men and inform their next-of-kin who are living in various homelands and black states

The names of the dead will not be released until their next of kin have been informed

Mr Bell said today that production at the mine would not be severely affected but the section in which the fall took place would probably be permanently closed

Eight months ago a similar tremor shook the Buffelsfontein mine and caused a rockfall which seriously injured

To Page 3, Col 1

Two members of a proto team sign off at 2 am this morning after spending more than 13 hours underground trying to rescue mine colleagues.

For 13 hours they fought against the clock to reach trapped men

By Tony Dugan

At 1.30 am today Arthur Barlow led his weary pro- to team out of Buffelstontem's Pioneer Shaft. For more than 13 hours he and his team and shifts of miners had battled against time and the threat of further rockfalls to try to save 21 trapped men

The calm, matter-of-fact attitude of the men who poured out of the cage at the head of the shaft belied the underground drama.

Miners don't see themselves as heroes. "We're just doing our job," they say

But the assistant manager, M I Bell, says that there is never a need to call for volunteers when an accident happens underground

All the men are willing to go down immediately to help if there is an accident, said Mr Bell. It is a phone call to the family to say "I'll be

late." Then it's into mine overalls and to the section manager's office for the briefing before waiting at the shafthead for the other shift to come up

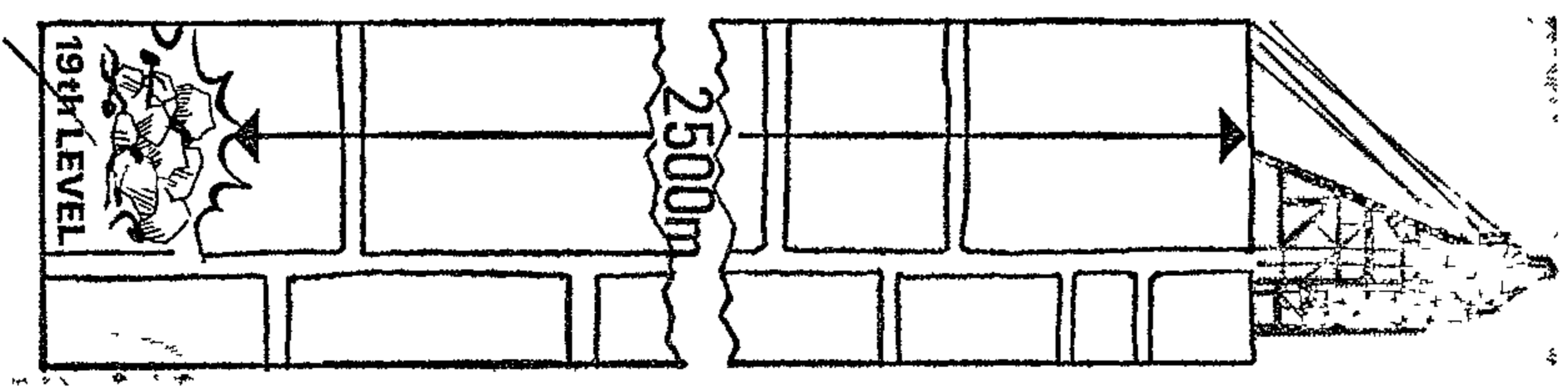
And so it continues, night and day, until all the accident victims are brought to the surface

But in every tragedy there are the poignant details. As in the case of one of the dead miners. He was helping out for

the day, filling in for someone else

Now the mine management is busy tracing his family in one of the homelands to tell them

'It is very grim down there,' was Arthur Barlow's only comment as he headed for the showers and a bite to eat before catching some sleep and returning for further duties at the shaft head



NEWS

Sudden death for 12 miners

20/2/81

Adult
inclu
commu
nins

By Jasper Mortimer

Twelve men were killed instantly and another slightly injured when a runaway trailer broke away from a skip 1700 m underground at the Winkelhaak Gold Mine, Eindhoven, yesterday

The miners were erecting a loading station at the bottom of an incline shaft at about 6.45 am in this Eastern Transvaal

mine owned by Union Corporation

When the 4-metre-long trailer broke loose from the skip, it sped down the shaft, crashed through a barrier of steel girders and killed all but one of the 13-man construction team

The thirteenth man escaped death by diving under the rails a split second before the trailer struck

Apart from a cut nose, he needed only treatment for shock. The rest of the team died instantly.

Mine manager, Mr P T Huckleby, described the accident as "grave" and was surprised that the trailer — which normally carries equipment such as packs and sticks — could have smashed through the barrier. He said the barrier, called a penthouse, was

"meant to withstand a blow like that" and had been put up to protect the construction team

It is thought the trailer broke loose when the cable attaching it to the skip snapped. Work was held up in Number 2 shaft while the Department of Mines investigated the accident. Mr Huckleby said this kind of accident was "reasonably rare — you

hear of it once in five years". The names of the dead will be released once their families have been informed.

This is the second accident in two days on a mine belonging to the General Mining group. On Wednesday an earth tremor triggered a rockfall which killed four men at the Buffelsfontein Mine near Orkney

Using whatever land is available to grow food.

Vegetable gardening must be seen as a priority. Community education with regard to improved farming techniques must be intensified. Groups should be encouraged to form agricultural co-operatives for the purchase of seed, fertilizer etc. Properly organised markets should be established.

11) The improvement and protection of water sources can best be effected by co-operative community action and this will only come about when the need for a safe, protected water supply is thoroughly understood.

12) The establishment of consumer co-operatives, especially in the remote areas not served by trading shops.

13) Community awareness programmes pertaining to social problems such as alcoholism, illiteracy and delinquency.

14) Health and nutrition education programmes.

15) The establishment of "vigilante" committees to ensure that action is taken against persons or groups who endeavour to exploit rural communities. Attention could then be paid to shopkeepers who disregard price control regulations, civil servants who demand bribes, and school authorities who embezzle funds.

Many other projects are feasible but the essential ingredient of every one of them should be that they have been

Industrialists have yet to acknowledge that they have a very heavy debt to pay off in the rural areas from where the bulk of their labour force comes.

Very definite steps need to be taken to counteract the host of problems that the migrant labour system precipitates at family level.

Every company employing large numbers of migrant workers must establish a division in their personnel section that deals specifically with migrant labour issues.

This division should undertake projects aimed at:

1) Helping the migrant worker adjust to urban life.

Orientation lectures covering all aspects of life in urban areas should be arranged.

12) Consolidating the migrant worker's position as a responsible head of a family unit.

Workers should be encouraged to consider 'home improvement projects', whether they are related to agriculture, animal husbandry, type of dwelling etc. They should be assisted to make the necessary savings and acquire the necessary knowledge while in the urban area. Perhaps each year a different project could be undertaken. Essentially, this would necessitate the organisation of adult education groups in hostels etc.

16 dead in two mine accidents

212

20/2/81

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG— Sixteen miners have been killed in separate accidents within 18 hours of each other, at two Transvaal mines.

Twelve of the men were killed and another seriously injured yesterday morning when a runaway trailer jumped the tracks more than 1700 m underground and crashed into them at the Winkelhaak Gold Mine in Evander, eastern Transvaal.

The other four were killed in a rockfall at the Buffelsfontein mine, near Orkney, in the western Transvaal.

At the Winkelhaak mine, one miner, whose name has not been released, sustained serious injuries and Mr. Willem Gross, of Alberta Road, Evander, was treated for shock at the Evander Hospital and released.

Mr. C. N. Netscher, chief consulting engineer for Union Corporation which own the Winkelhaak Mine, said the trailer broke away from a skip at the mine's No 2 sub-incline shaft.

The accident occurred at 6 a.m. — just 18 hours after a rockfall at the Buffelsfontein mine had claimed the lives of four miners and injured 22 others.

The tremor which caused the rockfall — measuring 4.8 on the Richter scale, also caused a rockfall at the nearby Haartesbeesfontein Gold Mine where two men were injured.

Mr. Netscher said the skip and trailer, which are used to transport timber and other materials underground, were being wound up the 25 degree slope by a winding engine situated at working level 1240 m underground.

"The trailer must have broken away near the winding station. These vehicles run on tracks down the various shaft but instead of turning on to the tracks leading to the lowest operating level at a depth of 1740 m, the trailer jumped the tracks," he said.

The trailer careered down the 1184 m shaft, jumped the tracks and crashed through a protective barrier. The miners were crushed in the impact.

At Buffelsfontein Gold Mine, eight miners were trapped for more than 13 hours while proto teams battled to free them.

A spokesman for the mine's parent company, General Mining, said yesterday the names of the four dead miners and the 22 injured men would be released once their next of kin had been informed. All the men involved were black.

20/2/81

16 die in two mine accidents

JOHANNESBURG — Sixteen miners have been killed in separate accidents which occurred within 18 hours of each other at two Transvaal mines

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The other four were killed in a rockfall at the Buffelstontein mine, near Orkney, in the Western Transvaal

Mr C N Netscher, chief consulting engineer for Union Corporation, which owns the Winkelhaak Mine, said the names of the dead would be released after their next of kin had been informed

The accident occurred at 6.30 a.m. — just 18 hours after a rockfall at the Buffelstontein mine claimed the lives of four miners and injured 22 others.

The tremor which caused the rockfall measured 4.8 on the Richter scale

A spokesman for the Buffelstontein mine's

parent company, General Mining, said yesterday the names of the four dead miners and the 22 injured men would be released once their next of kin had been informed

Reporters were refused permission to speak to the injured men who were admitted to the mine hospital in Stilfontein

An aftershock of the main tremor also caused a rockfall at the Mariesbeesfontein Gold mine, a few kilometres away.

A spokesman for Anglo Transvaal, owners of the mine, said only two miners were injured. One man sustained cuts on his back and the other was being treated for a suspected spinal fracture. Both were in a satisfactory condition — DDC

Teams fight to control mine blaze

West Rand Bureau

Seventeen fire fighting proto teams from the Durban Roodepoort Deep Gold Mine have been battling since early yesterday morning to control a huge underground blaze

The fire broke out at a depth of 2800 m in the number six shaft. The fire-fighting teams went to work immediately and by early today the fire was virtually under control.

A mine spokesman said there was no danger of the blaze spreading any further. The cause of the fire is not yet known and the effect on production still has to be determined.

Man killed
in mine fall

CARLETONVILLE — A black employee of Boat Drilling was fatally injured yesterday when he fell from a drilling rig at the Western Deep Level's No. 1 shaft site near Carletonville.

His name will be released when next of kin have been notified — Sapa

15 Feb 51

Four killed in mine accident

SAPA

RUSTENBURG — Four people died and one was seriously injured in an accident at the Ivan plant, Rustenburg Platinum mine yesterday

(212)

One of the dead men, Mr Ivan Steenbergen, was employed by a specialist engineering firm. The names of the other three, all black, are being withheld until the next of kin have been informed, a mine spokesman said.

~~(SAPA)~~

Mr T Paddy, an operator at the plant, was seriously injured and flown to Johannesburg

The accident reportedly took place when an ore-crusher was accidentally turned on during an inspection — Sapa

Four die in mine's giant ore crusher

76/4/81 (212)
Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG—Four people died and one was seriously injured when a giant ore-crusher they were inspecting at the Ivan Plant, Rustenburg Platinum mine, was accidentally switched on

A spokesman for the mine said yesterday the accident happened on Tuesday.

The men had gone to the mine, to inspect one of the crushers — each of which carries between 15 and 20 tons of ore

While they were inspecting one machine which was giving trouble, it was accidentally switched on.

One of the dead men, Mr J van Steenberg, was an employee of a specialist engineering firm on the Reef.

The names of the other three dead men, all black, will not be released until the next of kin have been informed, a spokesman for the mine said today.

3 killed in mine accident

STW

212
21/4/67

Three miners were killed and three slightly injured in a mining accident on the ERPM mine at the weekend

The name of only one of the dead men, Mr Thomas Jefferson Thomas, who was an onsetter, has been released.

Details of the accident were made available to The Star this morning by Rand Mines only after several inquiries had been made.

The Star has learned that the men were killed after a welding machine being carried in a skip had fouled the timbers of the Hercules Tertiary incline shaft.

It was alleged that part of the machine had protruded from the skip and that it had overturned and crushed the three miners

theoretical perspective differs from that of others in this broad category of views in that its fundamental economic determinism is reminiscent of some Marxist thought. Using the general theory of the stages of growth, he has attempted to date the probable stages of political change. His argument is more complicated than the model sketched above, because he also grants a role to Black actors and so to revolutionary unrest. However, most of those who adopt this position stress mainly the role of the Whites.

2.2. The 'Revisionist' Thesis

The term 'revisionist' is one that has come to be used to indicate a school of thinking which is basically at variance with the older conventional view. The term itself is not intended to have ideological or political connotations (i.e. it is not to be confused with 'revisionism'). However, the broad theoretical perspective most commonly associated with the revisionist school is that of 'conflict theory' in sociology and the 'political contributors to the debate' in the introduction of this introduction. Here the economic exploitation of the Black population in Africa is seen to be the economic exploitation of the Black population in Africa. It is seen to be the African economy is not a commodity economy solely by the forces of capitalism (see Trapido, 1971) but the high standard of living of the working class is made possible by the political machinery of repression which assures the continued subservience of the Black workers. The tendency in such a labour repressive society is for an increasing concentration of power. The fruits of economic growth will be concentrated in the hands of those who control the economy, thus both increasing their relative domination of the economy, and at the same time providing the wherewithal for strengthening the machinery of political and military repression. Sophisticated weaponry and surveillance systems can be acquired to compensate for deficiencies in manpower. White prosperity and White supremacy mutually reinforce one another (Johnstone, 1970). If capitalism has any rationalising tendency, it is towards the rationalisation of domination, rather than towards the removal of racial prejudice. Blumer (1965) argues that in any event it is rational for the capitalists to take account of the prejudices of their influential White employees at the expense of their relatively powerless Black workers. Johnstone argues that the principles of apartheid are in fact bent whenever

30/4/81 SIM
3 injured in
factory blast
East Rand Bureau 2/2

Three men were injured in a Springs platinum factory explosion yesterday. Mr G Lategan, a senior operator at Impala Platinum in East Geduld, had leg burns and was taken to the Chamber of Mines Hospital in Johannesburg. The other two, Mr P Pretorius, an operator, and Mr L J van Vuuren, a fitter, were treated at the factory and sent home. According to the managing director of Impala Platinum, Mr Bob Bovell, the explosion occurred at about 11 am during a routine operation in the smelting section of the refinery. He said damage was minor and there had been no loss to production.

the high standard of living of the working class is made possible by the political machinery of repression which assures the continued subservience of the Black workers. The tendency in such a labour repressive society is for an increasing concentration of power. The fruits of economic growth will be concentrated in the hands of those who control the economy, thus both increasing their relative domination of the economy, and at the same time providing the wherewithal for strengthening the machinery of political and military repression. Sophisticated weaponry and surveillance systems can be acquired to compensate for deficiencies in manpower. White prosperity and White supremacy mutually reinforce one another (Johnstone, 1970). If capitalism has any rationalising tendency, it is towards the rationalisation of domination, rather than towards the removal of racial prejudice. Blumer (1965) argues that in any event it is rational for the capitalists to take account of the prejudices of their influential White employees at the expense of their relatively powerless Black workers. Johnstone argues that the principles of apartheid are in fact bent whenever

they threaten economic growth. Adam (1971: 181-2) argues that rationalisation produces an increasingly competent technocratic oligarchy which is even capable of deracialising the society if that would be in the interests of maintaining supremacy. Like the 'conventional' viewpoint, the 'revisionist' thesis also stresses the role of Whites, but whereas in the first case they are seen as more or less inevitable agents of change, in this second argument, they are seen as more or less irremovable obstacles to change.

3. Basic issues

The two major positions have inevitably had to be stated in rather oversimplified terms and in a somewhat overpolarised form. Perhaps the most crucial difference in the two viewpoints outlined above turns on the distinction between a market economy and a labour repressive economy. According to Barrington Moore (1966: 434) the distinction is between 'the use of political mechanisms (using the term political broadly...) on the one hand and reliance on the labour market on the other hand'. That is, it is the distinction between an economy in which workers come voluntarily on to the labour market and enter into an equitable contract with employers, and an economy in which workers are constrained by some other political mechanism to work for their employers, and so are not in a relation of contractual equality with them.

Now this distinction is in some ways highly suggestive, but it also obscures an important fact by implying that it is possible to have a market system which operates quite independently of political factors. A market is always embedded in a political matrix which defines the rules governing the use of property within that market. Property is a politico-legal category. Who may control property and how it may be used is a function of the power of various individuals and groups, and of the way in which that power is institutionalised in convention and law. The very existence of a labour market assumes the presence of people who have no direct access to the means of production, and who, therefore, have to sell their labour in order to survive. This condition does not arise of its own accord, and nor is it a fundamental inevitability.

It has usually required the use of power by some group or stratum to acquire sole rights in the means of production, and this use of power becomes institutionalised in a politico-legal framework which defines the rights of the various groups, and so provides the parameters in which the market forces of supply and demand operate. These parameters may be altered by, for example, the extension or limitation of the workers' rights to organise, but also by less obvious factors, such as the way in which a dominant group might use its power over key resources to further strengthen its position within the market.

Star 7/5/18
Eleven miners die 212

Own Correspondent
MARITZBURG — Ten
mineworkers were killed
in a methane gas explo-
sion in the Newcastle-
Platberg Colliery at
Elandslaagte, about 20 km
north of Ladysmith, yes-
terday

It will be several days
before their next of kin
will have been informed
so the names of the dead
men have not been
released

The Inspector of Mines
has gone to the scene to
conduct an inquiry

A mineworker was killed

and six others injured
in an earth tremor at the
Hartebeesfontein Gold Mine
near Klerksdorp today

The injured men were
trapped in the Number
Four shaft area of the
mine but an Anglo Vaal
spokesman said they had
been freed by mid-
morning and taken to the
surface. None had suf-
fered severe injuries

The name of the dead
man will be released only
after his next of kin have
been informed

ARGUS 7/5/81

10 die in Natal coal mine blast

Argus Correspondent

MARITZBURG. — Ten black mineworkers were killed in a methane gas explosion yesterday in the Newcastle-Platberg colliery at Elandslaagte, about 20 km north of Ladysmith.

Seven bodies were brought to the surface yesterday and three early today. It will be several days before their next-of-kin are informed and the names of the dead men released.

The Inspector of Mines has gone to the scene to conduct an inquiry.

A statement issued by the owners of the mine, Kangra Holdings, said there had been a flash ignition of methane gas. Ten black miners in the immediate vicinity of the ignition had lost their lives.

Work at the mine was back to normal and had returned to full production. No fire had followed the explosion.

Milner's letter killed

At a meeting of the committee on the subject of the letter which had been written by the late Mr. Milner to the Secretary of the War Office, the following resolutions were passed:—

1. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the committee.

2. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the public.

3. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the press.

4. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the House of Commons.

5. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the House of Lords.

6. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society.

7. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Academy.

8. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Institution.

9. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Arts.

10. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Medicine.

11. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Music.

12. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Sciences.

13. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Letters.

14. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Education.

15. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Agriculture.

16. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Commerce.

17. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Industry.

18. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Arts and Crafts.

19. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Design.

20. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Architecture.

21. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Engineering.

22. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Medicine and Surgery.

23. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Law.

24. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Theology.

25. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Philosophy.

26. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Literature.

27. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Music and Drama.

28. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Fine Arts.

29. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Natural Sciences.

30. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Physical Sciences.

31. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Chemical Sciences.

32. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Biological Sciences.

33. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Earth and Planetary Sciences.

34. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Atmospheric Sciences.

35. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Oceanographic Sciences.

36. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Geographical Sciences.

37. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Historical Sciences.

38. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Linguistic Sciences.

39. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Anthropological Sciences.

40. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Archaeological Sciences.

41. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Palaeontological Sciences.

42. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Prehistoric Sciences.

43. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Ethnological Sciences.

44. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Sociological Sciences.

45. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Psychological Sciences.

46. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Educational Sciences.

47. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Pedagogical Sciences.

48. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Psychological and Educational Sciences.

49. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Psychological and Pedagogical Sciences.

50. That the letter should be printed and distributed to all members of the Royal Society of Psychological, Educational and Pedagogical Sciences.

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PDM 8/5/81 (2) (2/2)

Ten miners killed in Natal gas explosion

Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG - Ten miners were killed instantly when methane gas exploded in an Flandsligte mine shaft near Ladysmith.

The men working in a new shaft on the Platberg Colliery died when a pocket of methane gas ignited and exploded as they were working with other miners near the face. All 10 bodies have been recovered by rescue teams.

Conflicting reports from the scene said other miners may have been injured in the blast. No official comment could be obtained from local management however as they refused to talk to reporters.

A spokesman for the com-

pany's head office in Johannesburg said a flash ignition of methane gas had occurred at around lunchtime on Wednesday killing the 10 men.

He denied that some other miners had been taken to hospital after being injured in the accident.

An investigation was under way to try to determine the cause of the blast, he said.

An inspector from the Department of Mines in Dundee visited the scene on Wednesday but has not been available for comment.

None of the dead men have been officially identified. Police expect it to be some time before the next of kin have been notified about the accident.

RDH 9/5/81
Groundfall
 (212)
kills miner

A BLACK mineworker was killed in a fall of ground at Vaal reefs no 9 ventilation shaft yesterday at about 18h20 his name will be released when next of kin have been notified
 - Sapa

F 18666

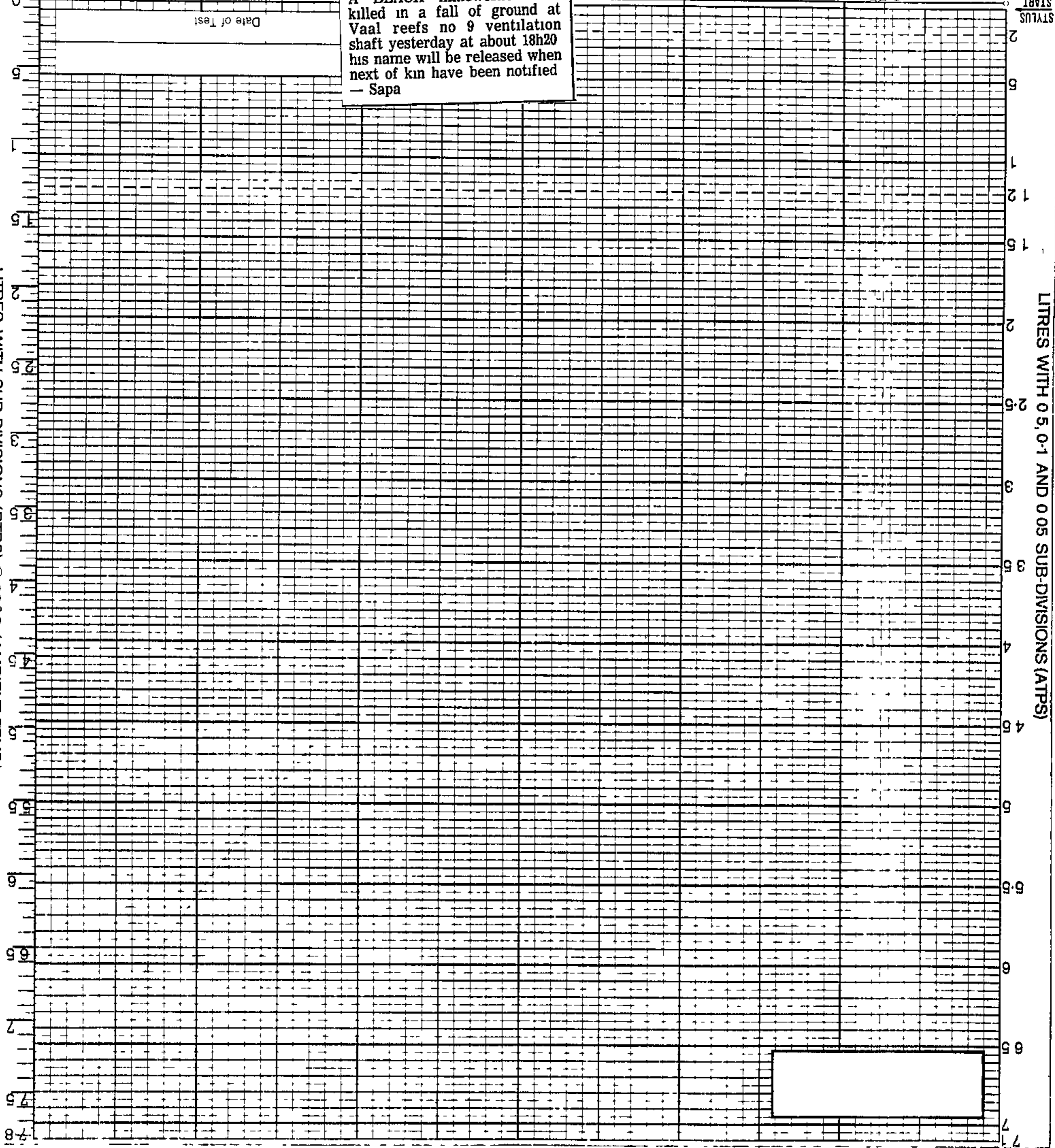
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LITRES WITH SUB-DIVISIONS (BTSP) @ 20 °C (AMBIENT TEMP)

LITRES WITH 0.5, 0.1 AND 0.05 SUB-DIVISIONS (ATPS)



[Redacted box]

LT 27/5/81 (212)

Rand gold miners in underground protest

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Labour unrest broke out at the Buffelsfontein gold mine outside Stilfontein yesterday when about 1 600 black mineworkers stayed underground in protest against long working hours

Riot police with dogs were standing by at the mine last night as management representatives negotiated with the workers, who had not yet returned to the surface by 9pm

By then, they had been underground for about 18 hours

A spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Potchefstroom said last night that mineworkers at the Oranje shaft had started their shift at 3am yesterday and were due to have come off shift at 2pm

However, the workers refused to come to the surface and management was negotiating with them underground

Police had started to go to the mine about 7 30pm but he had not been informed of any incidents. The police contingent included riot police and dogs. About 50 policemen were at the mine and more were being sent out, he said

A spokesman for General Mining confirmed last night that negotiations were in progress

Management could not be reached for comment

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Unrest at gold mine

RDM 27/5/8,
2/2

Labour Correspondent
LABOUR unrest broke out at the Buffelsfontein gold mine outside Stilfontein, yesterday when about 1 600 black mineworkers stayed underground in protest against long working hours
Riot police with dogs were

standing by at the mine last night as management representatives negotiated with the workers, who had not yet returned to the surface by 9pm
By then, they had been underground for about 18 hours
A spokesman for General Mining confirmed last night that talks were in progress

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PLEASE CIRCLE ITEMS REQUIRED

1 600 protest miners fired and sent home

By RIAAN DE VILLIERS
Labour Correspondent

THE giant General Mining Corporation yesterday fired all 1 600 black mineworkers involved in protest action at its Buffelsfontein gold mine and started sending them back to their homelands

The workers were being taken by bus from the mine outside Stilfontein to special trains late yesterday afternoon while a police force of about 80 men stood by

General Mining said it had decided to fire the men "due to their irregular behaviour lack of co-operation and the necessity to maintain discipline"

At the same time, police said yesterday that despite minor incidents, the workers had been "well-behaved" throughout the

dispute
The unrest at the mine started on Monday afternoon when 1 600 black workers at the Orangia shaft who had started their shift at 3 am refused to come to the surface at 2 pm

Initially it was thought the men were protesting against long working hours

But a police spokesman said yesterday it was believed they were protesting against delays in bringing them to the surface after their shift

This is a common grievance which has often featured in previous mine disturbances

The workers stayed underground for most of the night in spite of attempts by management representatives to negotiate with them

General Mining said yesterday

the men were eventually brought to the surface early yesterday

"Minor disturbances" followed when they they arrived at their hostels and mine property was damaged

Disturbances were also said to have taken place at the mine's east shaft hostel on Monday night Workers were said to have caused slight damage to property before being dispersed

Earlier yesterday, General Mining said the workers had refused to communicate with management and the reason for the disturbance was still unknown

Due to stockpiling of ore the disturbances would not affect production, it added

18 Van der Horst, Women as an Economic Force in Southern Africa.

Star 17/6/81

7 miners die at Kloof

Seven black mineworkers died in a rockfall at the Kloof gold mine near Westonaria last night, a spokesman for the gold mine said today. All the victims are Basotho. Names and addresses of the deceased are being withheld pending notification of next of kin. The accident occurred at about 8 pm near the mine's No 3 sub-vertical shaft at a depth of 2 446 m.

2. cont...

(1) P1
9F

ossible, preferably using

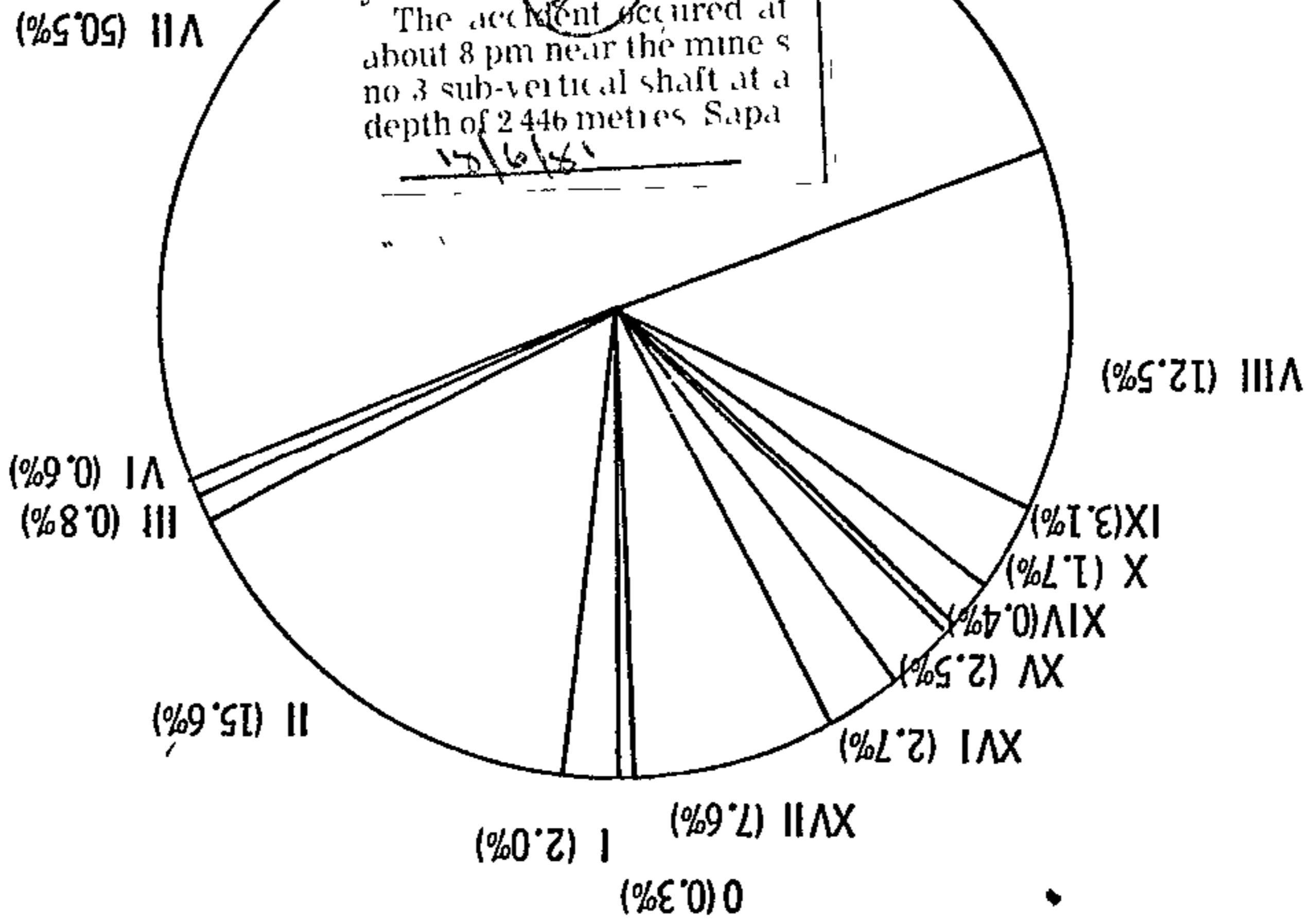
- (2) Now suppose that over a period of ten successive years the annual "crop" amounted to outputs of 80, 60, 70, 40, 50, 80, 60, 50, 40, and 70 million bushels respectively. Calculate and tabulate the gross value of the crop in each of these years, if the demand curve scheduled above was the demand curve of each of the ten years.
- (3) Calculate the average annual gross value of the crop over the ten years, and the output and price which would yield this value.
- (4) Construct a schedule showing what price would have to be received for each of the outputs in the demand schedule in order to make the gross value of the crop in each year equal to the average annual gross value. Plot this schedule on the same paper as the demand curve. (It will be a curve of unit elasticity).
- (5) From the demand curve find the total amount which must be offered on the market in order to fetch the prices discovered in part (4). From these amounts make a schedule showing how much the government would have to buy or sell for each total output.
- (6) Draw up a schedule showing how much the government would have to buy or sell in each of the ten successive years of part (2). Would the government have to sell a total greater than the amount it would have to buy over the ten years? Does the answer mean that stabilization of the gross value of a crop is impossible?

* * * * *

Seven miners die

SEVEN black mine-workers died in a rockfall at the Kloof Gold Mine near Westonaria on Tuesday night a spokesman for the gold mine reported yesterday.

The accident occurred at about 8 pm near the mine's no 3 sub-vertical shaft at a depth of 2 446 metres. Sapa



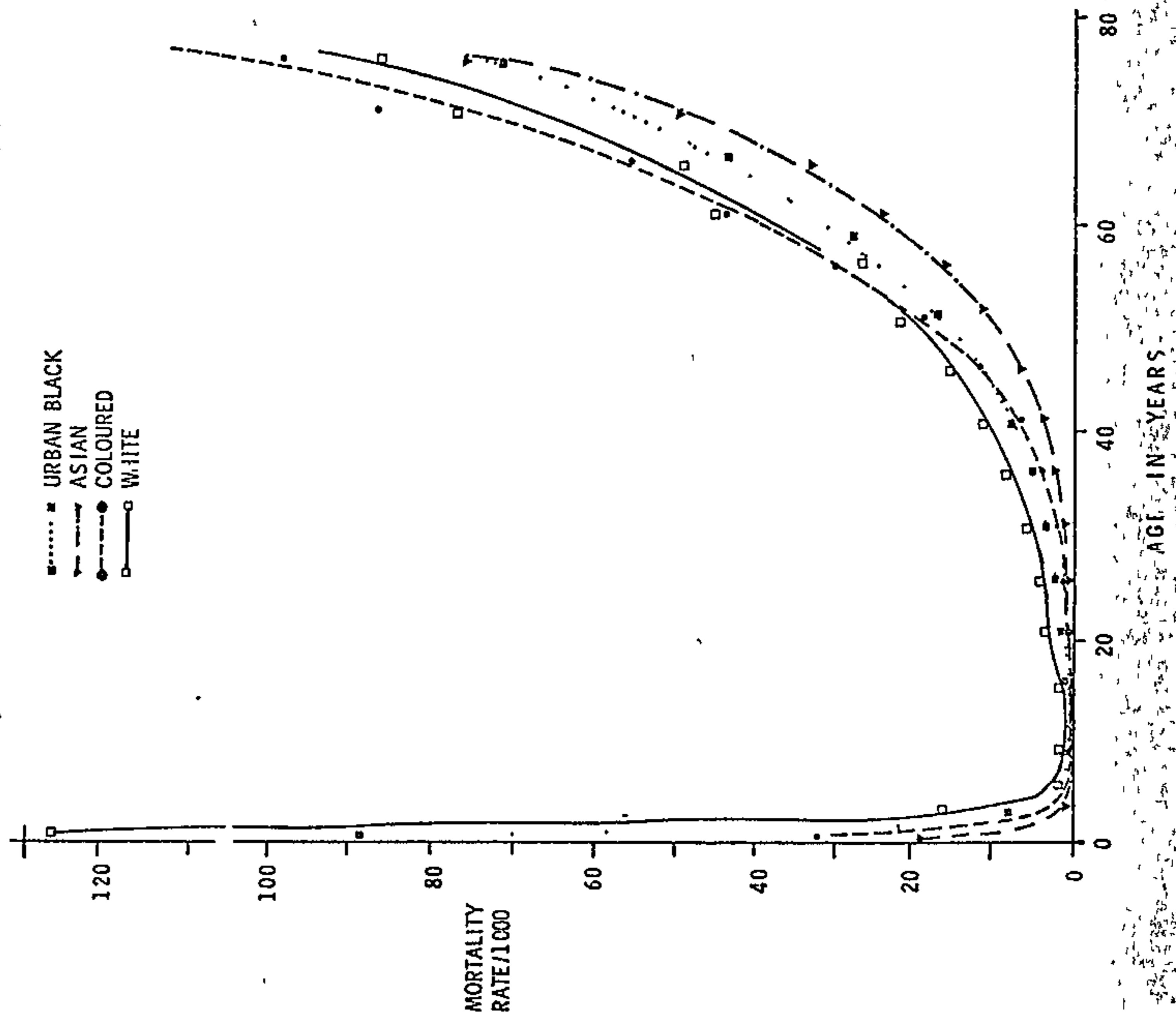
PROPORTIONAL MORTALITY

WHITE

Fig. 5 (a)


- 34 -

Fig. 4 AGE SPECIFIC MORTALITY RATES: 1974



The Cost of an Accident

- How it Affects Profits



NOSADATA
4 13.02

NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 26434, ARCADIA 0007

Management's Responsibility

these profits, minimise the losses and see to the continuation of the business. In order to carry out these functions he must reduce industrial waste to a minimum, industrial waste meaning any avoidable waste of the productive resources.

An accident is avoidable waste in that it means that productive time is lost by the worker who suffers the accident. The labour force may be depleted by fatal or permanent disabilities and there may be spoiled material and damaged equipment.

When determining the cost of the commodity that is to be produced, then cognisance must be taken of variable costs and fixed costs.

The variable costs consist basically of raw material, labour, packing material and power and water.

These costs vary in direct proportion to the number of units produced and in our example let us assume that the variable costs are R1,00 a unit. In consequence, if 100 units are made, they will cost R100,00 to produce.

In contrast, the fixed costs do not vary in terms of output but are incurred whether 500 units or 50 units are made. These costs consist basically of Management salaries, rates and taxes and depreciation - and are a function of time - not a function of output. In the example we have set the fixed costs at R300,00 a week.

If we look at the break-even graph no. 1 set out below, we will see that in this simple example the cost per unit reduces as the number of articles produced increases. If we produce 400 articles they cost us R1,75 each, but if we produce only 300 articles they cost us R2,00 each. Selling them at R2,50 each then the profit is 75c a unit if we produce 400 articles, but with the lower production (300) the profit drops to only 50c a piece. So in our example, if the firm produces and sells 400 units a week, the profit is R75,00 a week.

A drop in profit from R300,00 to R75,00 a week any manager call himself a professional, as he has industrial accidents are costing South Africa about 2 000 people are killed and 30 000 are permanently disabled in terms of a fall in production and the above graph, the real costs before and after measured in terms of a fall in production and

expenses required to maintain production levels. The effect on profits is dramatic, with a drop from R300,00 to R75,00 as a result of inadequate safety precautions.

FIRST ICEBERG EFFECT

The costs already referred to constitute only half the story. There are many hidden costs which are unfortunately not reflected in accounting systems. The two main types of costs which arise after an accident takes place, can broadly be classed as Insured Costs and Uninsured or Hidden Costs.

The INSURED COSTS which are covered by the Accident Fund are:

- 1 Transport to hospital
- 2 Medical attention
- 3 Hospitalisation
- 4 Rehabilitation, and
- 5 Compensation

Other INSURED COSTS are sometimes covered by commercial insurers and could cover for example:

- 1 Damage to property
- 2 Fire losses
- 3 Loss of profits due to 1 and/or 2 and
- 4 Extra compensation (stated benefits)

The UNINSURED COSTS could take the following forms

But then it happens Joe catches his finger in the machine stops, equipment and product are damaged. has taken place, injury and damage have resulted.

1 The output falls to 300 units for the week - a break-even graph no. 1. The cost price goes up the profit falls.

2 Overtime has to be worked to maintain the 300 for the week. This will result in a higher variable and a further reduction of profit to a mere R75,00 even graph no. 2.

A drop in profit from R300,00 to R75,00 a week any manager happy, let alone the shareholder. Any manager call himself a professional, as he has industrial accidents are costing South Africa about 2 000 people are killed and 30 000 are permanently disabled in terms of a fall in production and the above graph, the real costs before and after measured in terms of a fall in production and

Loss of production was likely to be minimal. — Sapa

The names of the dead miners would be released after their next-of-kin had been notified, the spokesman said. R185,25 a month for a temporary total disablement, injured worker. Therefore we are paying something for standard practice for the employer to make up the loss of a broken machine.

The burst happened yesterday morning in a stope on the 76th level about 3 300m below the surface.

Three of the miners were admitted to hospital with slight injuries.

FOUR black miners were killed and 10 injured in a rock burst yesterday at the East Rand Proprietary Mines in Boksburg, a spokesman for Rand Mines said in Johannesburg.

212
**Four miners
killed in
Boksburg fall**
19/6/8

ent to Safety Management, muscles involved require training again. But is decreased on account of a bandaged finger or possibility that when the injured employee returns to output.

obsolence of the machine before the accepted time.

Tear Out and File Skaur Ut en Liaaer

Mine lift
RDM 2/7/81
cage hooks
in cable

212

Staff Reporter

THE No 1 shaft of the General Mining Group's Leslie gold mine is expected to be out of operation for more than a week after a material car jammed the shaft's lift cage 600m below the surface on Tuesday

An ascending skip car loaded with rock became snared in the slack rope hanging below the cage, further damaging the shaft.

According to a spokesman, nobody was injured in the accident which would cause "some production loss" However, the continued operation of the neighbouring No 1A shaft would reduce the financial loss, he said yesterday

rs Award
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ear.

URBAN &
REGIONAL
PLANNING

K Strong

For the second best student in the
subject of Building Construction.

C W von Düring

For the best student in the
subject of Building Construction.
S A Brick Association Prizes

III: No award

II : A R Low Ken

I : N D G Sessions

For the best student in each of
the courses of Building Economics I,
II and III in the third, fourth &
fifth years respectively.

LTA Prizes

P R Swift

For the student obtaining
the highest marks in
Professional Practice.

Surveyors' Prize

Cape Chapter of Quantity

The Committee of the Western

P C Key

For the best all-round student
in any year of study.
Bell-John Prize

QUANTITY
SURVEYING
(Continued)

RDM 5/7/81
Miner killed
 (20) (12)
 A BLACK miner was killed by a rockfall at Hartebeesfontein Gold Mine on Monday a mine spokesman said yesterday
 The man was killed by a fall of hanging in a stope in the number five shaft area
 His name will be released after his next of kin have been informed - Sapa

M P Morkel
 of the first year.
 greatest promise at the end
 For the student who has shown
Student Planners Award

URBAN &
REGIONAL
PLANNING

K Strong
 subject of Building Construction.
 For the second best student in the

C W von Doring
 subject of Building Construction.
 For the best student in the
S A Brack Association Prizes

III: No award
 II : A R Low Keen
 I : N D G Sessions
 fifth years respectively.
 II and III in the third, fourth &
 the courses of Building Economics I,
 For the best student in each of
LTA Prizes

P R Swift
 Professional Practice.
 the highest marks in
 For the student obtaining
Surveyors' Prize
Cape Chapter of Quantity
The Committee of the Western

P C Key
 in any year of study.
 For the best all-round student
Bell-John Prize

QUANTITY
SURVEYING
 (Continued)

NY
 9/7/37
 Miners killed (2/2)
 CARLETONVILLE—A rock burst at No 3 shaft, Western Deep Levels gold mine near Carletonville on Tuesday killed three mine-workers. The names of the dead will be released when their next-of-kin have been notified — (Sapa)

CHEMICAL

A E & C I Prize
 For the first year student
 obtaining the highest average
 mark.
 G L Cragg

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize
 Awarded to the student with the
 best classwork in Engineering
 Drawing.
 L Menegaldo

Professor George Menzies Prize
 Awarded on results of final
 examinations to the best male
 student in Land Surveying or
 Civil Engineering.
 J H Rens

Corporation Medals
 For the best student in each
 of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.
Second Year (Bronze Medal)
 Miss G C Littlewort
Third Year (Silver Medal)
 Miss N C Davidson
Fourth Year (Gold Medal)
 P M Salmon
 T J Cumming
 D P Weeks
 J H Rens
 B F McClelland

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Setback for Leslie mine

An accident at the Leslie Gold Mines' No 1 shaft could result in some production loss, a spokesman for the General Mining Union Corporation group said in Johannesburg.

A material car moved out of the lower deck of the cage in which it was being lowered, and jammed the cage about 600 m below the surface, causing a slack rope. An ascending skip loaded with rock then hooked the slack rope and caused further damage in the shaft. No one was injured.

— Sapa

or student
ghest average

CHEMICAL

L Menegaldo

Drawing.

Awarded to the student with the best classwork in Engineering
Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize

J H Rens

Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or Civil Engineering.
Professor George Menzies Prize

B F McClelland

J H Rens

D P Weeks

T J Cumming

P M Salmon

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.
Corporation Medals

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

65 down with typhoid at mine

5/6
20/7/81
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Sixty-five people were taken to hospital after an outbreak of typhoid fever at the Kloof gold mine near Westonaria

typhoid fever would be unpurified water from the Vaal which is used underground as service water

Doctors say the disease was prevented from spreading

While clean drinking water was provided at all levels on gold mines it was not unusual for workmen to drink the service water because it was more easily available, they said

Goldfields's public relations officer, Mr Joe Moller, told The Star "The outbreak started at the beginning of this month but has been brought under control and the source of infection has been removed"

Although chlorinated the service water was not sterilised and germs could find their way into underground working places

Mr Moller declined to name the source of infection but said 18 of the 65 people had since been discharged from hospital

Doctors at the mine said the disease was prevented from spreading because it was contained within the mining compounds and the hospital

Mining sources said the most likely source of ty-

**Typhoid at
mine in check**

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Typhoid fever which broke out at the Kloof Gold Mine near Westonaria has been contained and the source of infection eliminated according to a Gold Fields spokesman

Of the 65 people taken to hospital with the fever at the end of June, 18 have already been discharged as cured a spokesman for the mine said yesterday

A spokesman for Westonaria municipality said no typhoid cases were notified outside the mine compound and the medical director of the mine was screening all inhabitants

Heart and back top hazards

LONDON — Heart disease and back injuries have replaced pneumoconiosis as the main health hazards of the mining industry, according to the National Coal Board's South Wales Area Health Service

The board's annual report shows that pneumoconiosis has been virtually wiped out among miners below 35, and is rapidly falling in other age groups, as steps to cut dust hazards take effect

Coronary heart disease and back injuries are now having a greater part to play in miners' health — Financial Times

Plum make / X / 10/11/53

25/11/53

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Rockburst hazard is being tamed in R150-million project

By Bob Davis

Chamber of Mines researchers have made "considerable progress" towards taming one of the major killers of the mining industry — rockbursts.

In cold scientific language the hazard which kills upwards of 100 men each year is damage to underground mine workings caused by uncontrolled disruption of rock associated with violent release of energy.

To mining men, it is the most feared occurrence of their job conditions and even old timers have said they did not become accustomed to the vibrating sound of falling rock which precedes a major rockburst.

Frequently the striking sound is a delayed phenomenon with little more than fragments of rock falling from the working face but when a rockburst does occur, the result is violent movement flying and falling rock and crushed roof supports.

Apart from deaths, rock bursts have a detrimental effect on employee morale and South African mines have been accused of callousness in regard to loss of life by apparently weighing fatality cost against prevention cost.

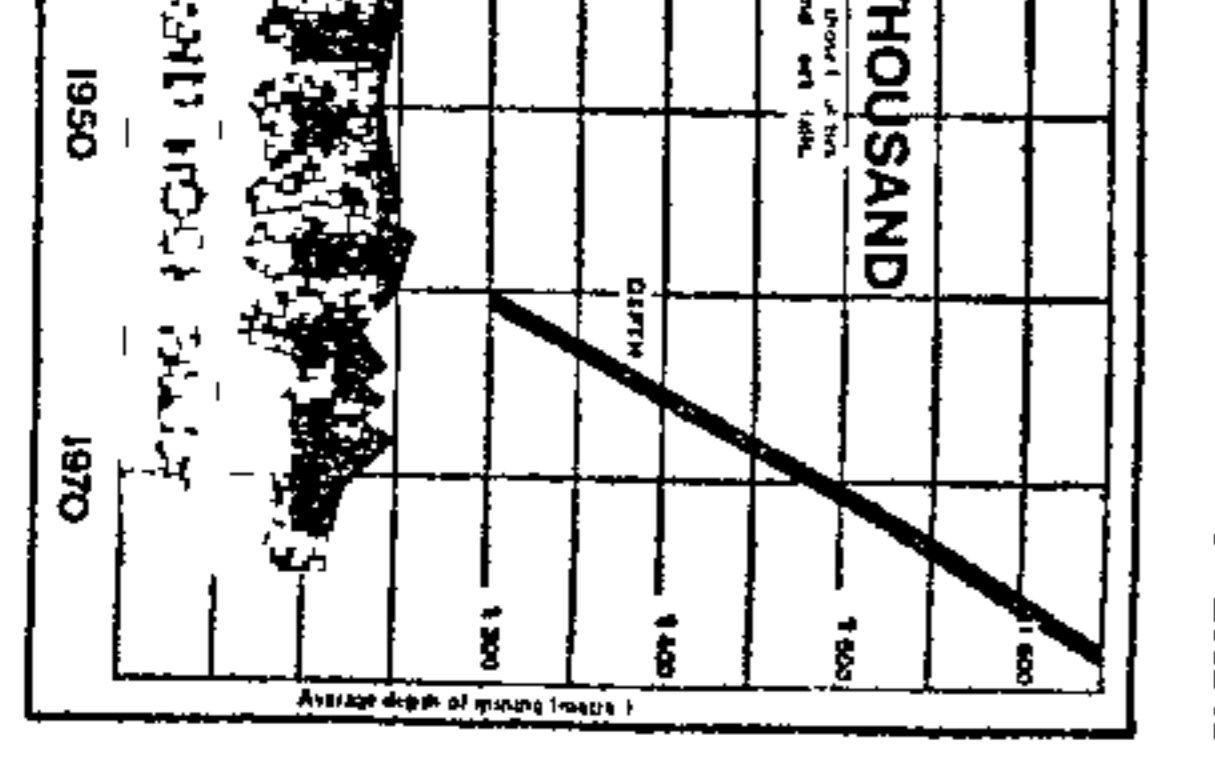
Critics have alleged that the death rate could be reduced by higher degree of mechanisation which would result in immediate amortisation of equipment but no loss of life.

They also say the mining industry finds it cheaper to compensate families of victims than to pay for the loss due to collapse of a fully mechanised slope.

At R10 000 per life, 100 lives would cost R1-million while the equipment loss in a fully mechanised slope would total three times as much.

A paper by a consultant mining engineer, Mr Jack Curtis, is to be published on the subject in October by the London-based Institution of Mining and Metallurgy.

Although details of the paper are subject to copyright, it has aroused considerable interest among mining men in South Africa and has brought the assurance from the South African Chamber of Mines that "considerable progress towards controlling the rockburst hazard has been made by our research unit".



The chamber has also vehemently denied allegations of callousness in regard to the lives of employees and engineers have said that mechanisation has not yet reached that stage where machines can be left alone to perform the work of men.

As part of a R150-million research project, the rockburst phenomenon is being approached by the Chamber of Mines Research Unit in regard to both prevention and early warning.

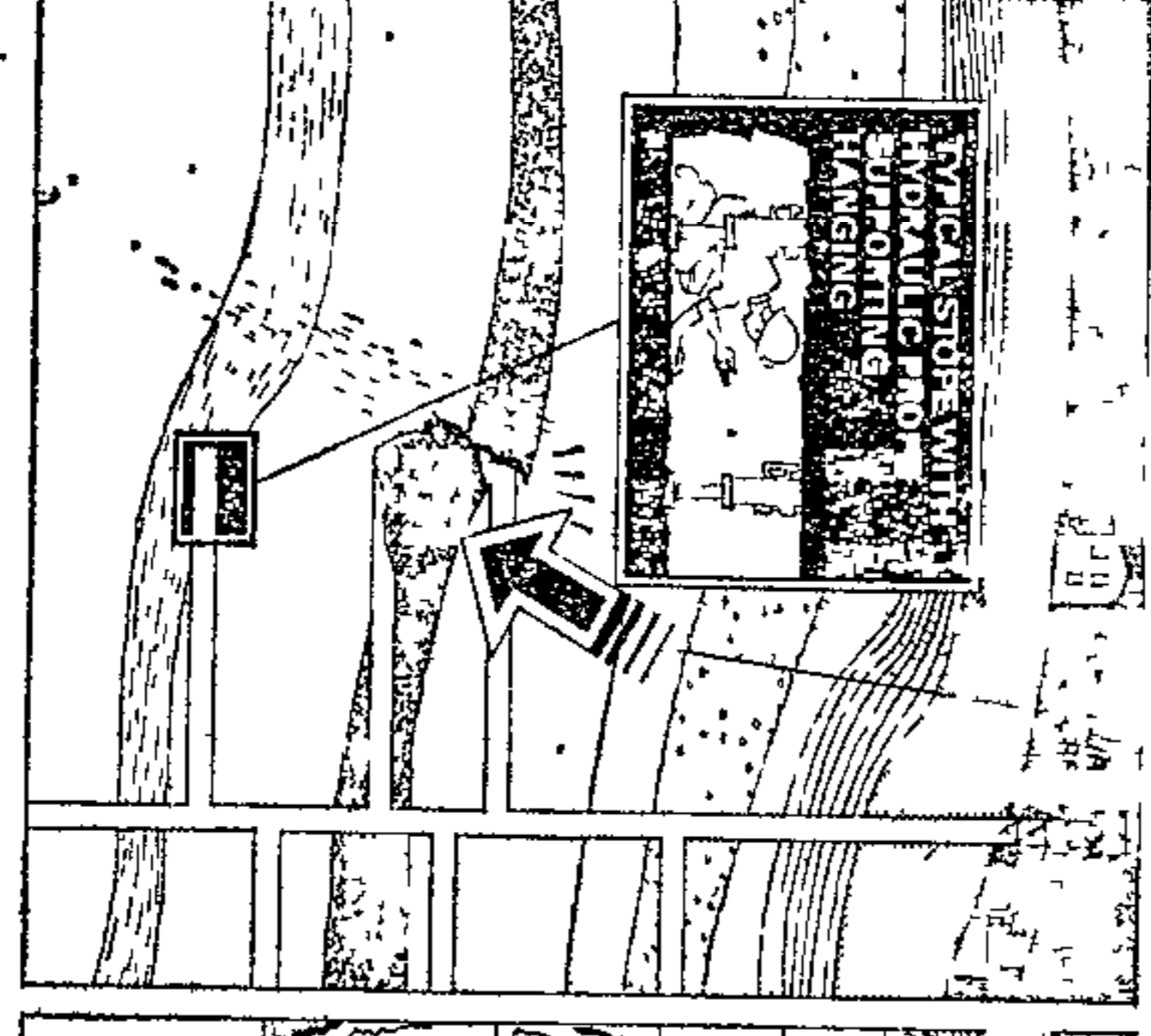
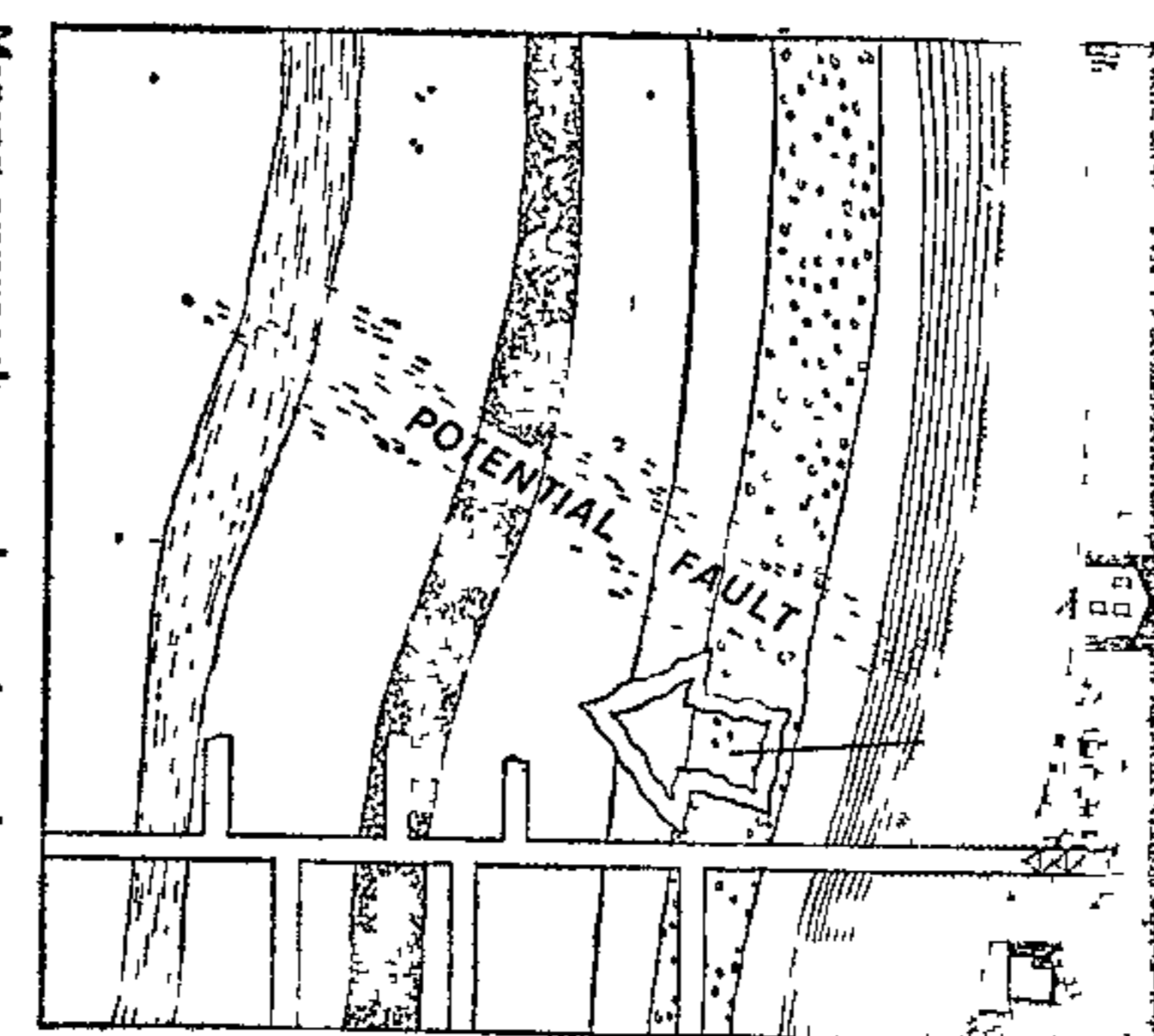
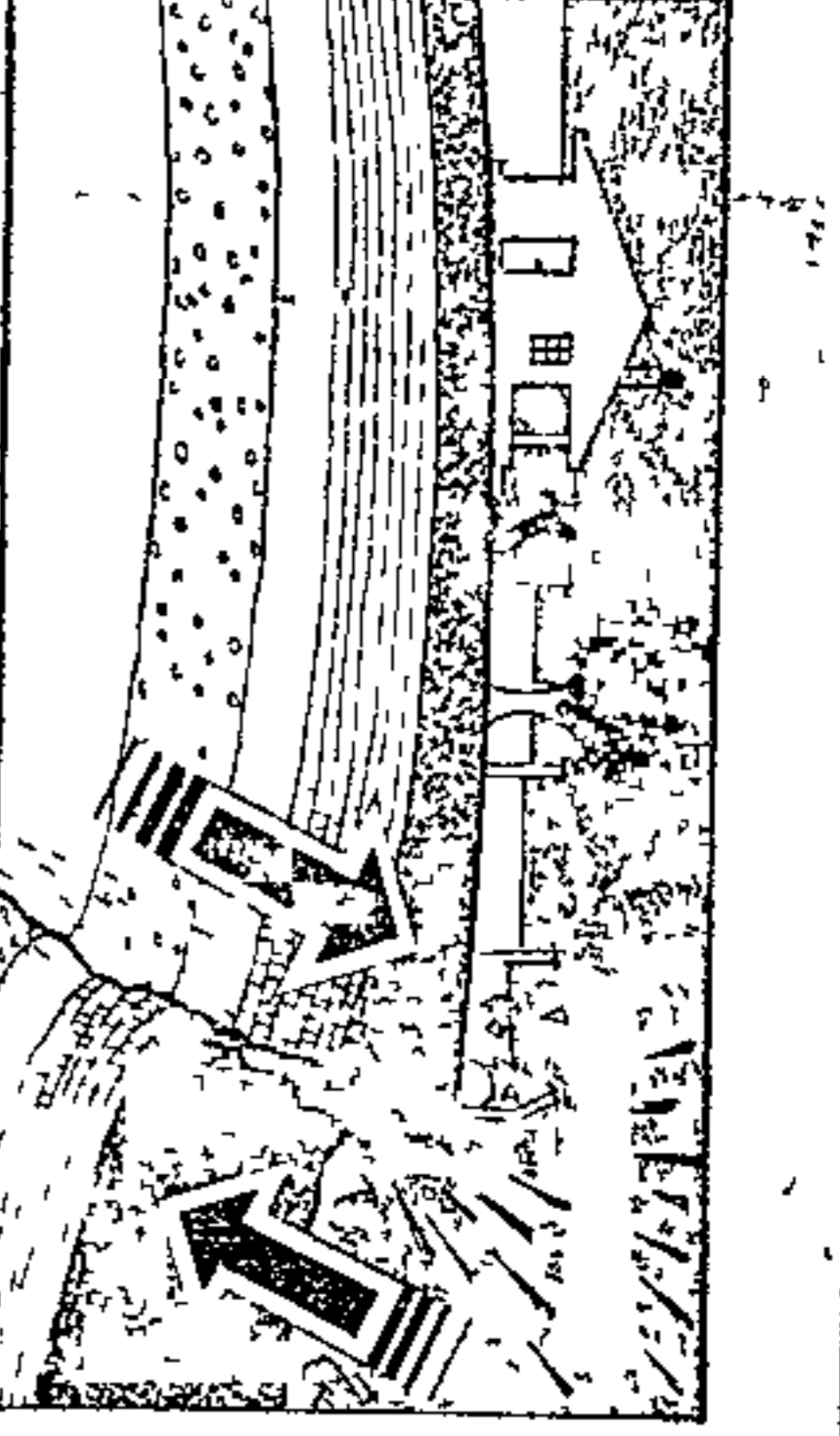
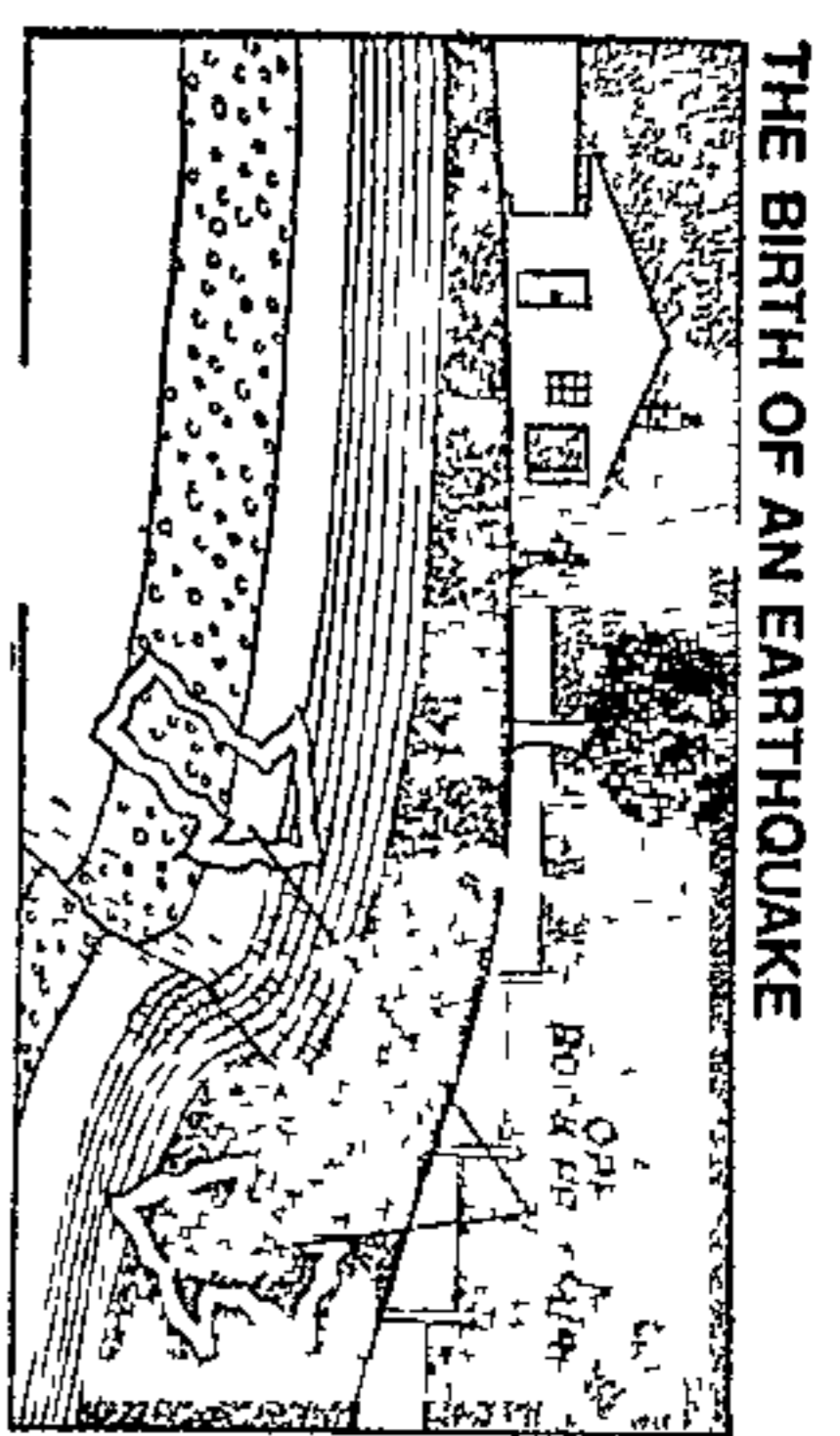
The method adopted has been the use of backfilling and stabilising pillars to reduce the space between hanging and footwall (ceiling and floor) in a slope in order to minimise potential energy change.

The most effective stope support so far invented has proved to be the rapid-yielding hydraulic prop which has the major advantage of supporting the fractured hanging wall strata as soon as it is put in place.

An essential feature is that rapid-yielding hydraulic props maintain support action even during the vibrations caused by most rockbursts.

Minning approaches closer, resistance in weak area is overcome, inducing sudden slip.

Shockwaves generated at the point of slip damage mine workings.



212
13/1/81
S.M.V.

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Mine fire sealed off

AN underground fire, detected at the West Driefontein Mine near Carletonville on Friday night, has been sealed off from the rest of the mine and will be left to burn out

A spokesman for the Gold Fields Group said in Johannesburg yesterday that there had been no casualties

It was not possible to estimate how long the fire, burning 2 000m down the No 5 West shaft, would take to burn out

He said workers had been allocated duties elsewhere in the mine and it was estimated that about a 10% production loss would occur for the duration of the fire — Sapa

GENE

SW *GW*
**Mine blaze
at Kinross** *20/8/12*

An underground fire was detected at Kinross Mines in the eastern Transvaal this morning

According to a spokesman for the mine's parent company, General Mining Union Corporation, no one has been injured.

The smoke from the fire is being redirected in such a way that production will be only slightly affected.

Attempts to extinguish the fire are continuing

FOR A SAFER MINING

Of all the hazards in the mining industry, the most feared is the phenomenon known as rockburst. In the early part of the century, rockbursts were regarded as being almost uncontrollable and

unpredictable, but dedicated scientists have gradually won the day and this major killer is about to be conquered by a team of Chamber of Mines researchers. Report by BOB DAVIS.

Controlling the numbers and intensity of rockbursts has been a major research objective in the mining industry for several decades — and there have been three worthwhile achievements. The more sophisticated has been the ability

to predict where and when a rockburst will occur, but almost as important has been the breakthrough in regard to support systems — and where to put them

It became clear in the '70s that South African technology had achieved the situation at deeper levels without significantly increasing the incidence of fatalities.

The achievement was hailed as a net gain by Chamber of Mines President, Mr L. W. van den Bosch, but it has been improved on

While the dream of an early warning system appeared to be beyond reach, greater stability of the hanging (ceiling) by means of injecting concrete into the walls known as woodem packs presen-

ted the first real hope several years ago

The problem was that the concrete which packs — were known as sand-which packs — were unpredictable and failed to yield in such a manner that support remained firm.

What was needed was a support system that would yield rapidly without collapsing

The research team, led by authority on rockbursts, Dr Miklos Salamon, discussed the problem with a number of South African manufacturers, one of whom finally produced a prototype of a rapidly yielding hydraulic prop.

It worked. The local by produced prop proved to be able to take a shock load without buckling and it could yield at the rate

of 1 in 1 second. Recent estimates put the number of props in use at 160 000 at a unit cost of R330.

But it has also been improved on by means of a rapid-yielding barrier cloth which is now being introduced

Unit cost is R1 500 to R2 000

While the support systems were being developed, a further problem connected with rockbursts was being studied — where to put the supports

Surprisingly, computer programmes provided the answer. The trick was to compare the potential stresses and displacements of various mining approaches in a given area by means of a computer analysis and then to select the one offering optimum safety and efficiency.



A barrier choc, said to be the best support system for deep level mining in the world. They cost up to R2 000 each and are now being introduced into the industry as part of an effort to make mining safer

Science may soon tame this killer

Star 2/9/81

212
2/9/81

The major killer of miners may soon be tamed. Scientists are close to being able to predict where and when rockbursts are likely to occur.

Some of the finest minds in the mining industry have been battling for years to solve the hazard which grows worse as the mines grow deeper.

Since 1910, when the mining industry began keeping meaningful records of deaths due to underground accidents, more than 7 000 miners have died from rockbursts and rock falls.

While the industry successfully reduced the death rate for other types of accidents, the decline in

regard to this major killer remained almost unchanged into the 1970s at the rate of about 100 a year.

The effect on the morale of both white and black miners has made the skills shortage in this industry which depends to an overwhelming extent on its manpower, even worse.

In its 1980 report, the Chamber of Mines' Research Organisation noted that "It is expected that one of the benefits of investigations into rock behaviour will be an improvement in safety standards brought about by a better understanding of unstable rock fracture and hence the control

of the numbers and intensities of rockbursts"

The prospect of an improvement in safety standards was welcomed by miners, but the question of predicting the where and when of rockbursts remained a major research target.

The breakthrough came as a result of meticulous research into rock movement hundreds, sometimes thousands, of metres below surface.

Sensors placed down boreholes are monitoring the rock movements which are sometimes only about 100 m apart in the mining areas.

The sensors are lin-

ked to a computer and, by gathering data from hundreds of points over an area, scientists are able to make the life-saving predictions that the mining industry has waited so long for.

But the man mainly responsible for the breakthrough, Professor Miklos Salamon, said "At this stage I cannot say more than that I am hopeful."

"Prediction is not an exact science and I am basing my hope on the results obtained to date in our tests."

"We have been right often enough in our tests for me to be able to say that our predictions appear to be meaningful."

5101
437

Scout 2/21/81

212

Mr Wolfaardt, 38, is survived by his wife Annetjie two daughters Natasha 13 and Wanua 11 and his four-year-old son, Gaillonne

Mr De Vries also left a wife and three children

Contained

Mr Wolfaardt's sister, Mrs Juliana van Niekerk, said last night the family was still confused over his death.

'We received a phone call from someone who told us 'Boetie is dead', she said 'I still cannot believe it

'Boetie started to work on the mines shortly after he left school'

The names of the other miners who were blacks, were not released

Production at the mine was not affected

The water apparently rushed down drains in the mine and was contained in dams situated at the bottom levels. It will eventually be pumped out.

There was a tragedy at Vaal Reefs the world's largest gold mine in March last year when 31 miners plummeted to their deaths in a double-decker mine cage - known as a Mary-Ann - down the No. 2 shaft

Plunge

The cage was rung away to descend but stopped about 13m down, its cable coiling on top. The obstacle suddenly gave way and the cage plunged.

The sudden jar as the slack was taken up ripped the bridle off and the cage went into a 36-second plunge nearly two kilometres into the earth.

All the occupants were killed.

An inquest four weeks later found nobody to blame for the accident. After listening to expert evidence the magistrate, Mr G J Schoeman, said the most likely cause of the lift's sudden stop was a small stone or rock.

⊗ In 1978, 41 miners were trapped and died in a blaze two kilometres underground at Vaal Reefs and in 1979 an earth tremor caused rockfalls which killed 14 more.

Vaal Reefs produces almost 10% of South Africa's gold

Cause of mine flood not known
 8/19/81
 2/12

Rules:

- (1) An intrinsic function is referred to by name and list of actual arguments and order with the specified type. Note, however, that the type of the function is variable.
- (2) The intrinsic functions AMOD, MOD, and SIGN are not defined when the value of the second argument is zero.
- (3) It is not necessary to declare a function that contains a reference to an intrinsic function in a program unit where the function is used as a processor.
- (4) For a valid intrinsic function reference:
 - (a) The symbolic name must appear as specified in the list of actual arguments, also specified in parentheses, also specified in the list of actual arguments.
 - (b) The symbolic name must not appear in an EXTERNAL declaration in a program unit where the function is used as a processor.
 - (c) The symbolic name must not appear in any type declaration different from the implied type declaration of Table 8-2.

Officials at the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Klerksdorp, have yet to ascertain the reason for a valve failure which caused the deaths of five mine-workers when a high-pressure flood of water was released from an underground dam yesterday.

Six-million litres of water streamed through the 64 level of the mine's number five shaft, crushing a boilermaker, a fitter and three assistants.

The names of three of the dead men, black workers from the homelands, are being withheld until next of kin have been informed.

The boilermaker who died in the accident was Mr G I Wolfaardt (35) of Hartbeesfontein.

Mr J H de Vries (39), a Klerksdorp fitter, also died.

arithmetic or relational expression, must agree in type, number, and any expression of the specification of the MAX and MIN intrinsic functions.

AMOD, MOD, and SIGN are not defined when the value of the second argument is zero.

It is not necessary to declare a function in the program unit that contains a reference to an intrinsic function if the function is already known to the processor.

For a valid intrinsic function reference, the symbolic name must appear as specified in the list of actual arguments, also specified in parentheses, also specified in the list of actual arguments.

The symbolic name must appear as specified in the list of actual arguments, also specified in parentheses, also specified in the list of actual arguments.

The symbolic name must not appear in an EXTERNAL declaration in a program unit where the function is used as a variable or array element.

- (5) If a particular intrinsic function is not referenced in a program unit, its symbolic name may be used for any valid purpose in that program unit.

Examples:

- (1) This series of statements reads in the six complex type elements of array VCTR, then prints the conjugate of each array element, using intrinsic functions CMPLX, REAL, and AIMAG.

```

C O M P L E X   V C T R ( 6 )
R E A D ( 1 , 1 0 )   V C T R
1 0   F O R M A T ( . . . )
      D O   2 0   K = 1 , 6
2 0   V C T R ( K ) = C M P L X ( R E A L ( V C T R ( K ) ) , - A I M A G ( V C T R ( K ) ) )
      W R I T E ( 3 , 3 0 )   V C T R
3 0   F O R M A T ( . . . )
    
```

of funds because it involves a reduction of distributable profit. The matching principle requires that a reduction in profit. (20). In most cases, a reduction in depreciation as an item not deductible for tax purposes and will thus have to adjust the source of funds is the operations, while the matching amount considered to be Where an associated company share therein is considered a matching source is the a write down in the carrying that in the interests of articulation:

FIVE DIE IN MINE ACCIDENT

FIVE men were killed in an underground mine accident at Vaal Reefs near Carletonville yesterday. (24) Sowetan

A spokesman for the mine said the accident had occurred on the 64th level of Vaal Reefs' number five shaft. "An operating valve, controlling the flow of water from an underground dam, collapsed close to where the men were working," he said. He said a white boilermaker, a fitter and their three black assistants died in the accident. Their names were being held until their next-of-kin have been informed.

Sapa

a reduction in earnings from the investee. the investor's contribution and the investee, i.e. the reader should note statement articulation:

"The amount to be included in the profit and loss statement of the entity applying the equity method." (21).

6. ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES.

Reference to the expanded fundamental objective of corporate reports immediately highlights that the equity method is deficient in certain respects. This inadequacy has been given recognition in the S.S.A.P. 1 and was re-affirmed in E.D. 25, which states:

"More detailed information about associated companies tangible and intangible assets and liabilities should be given if the interests of the associated company are material in the context of the investor group accounts." (22).

Ice-cool

deep ^{8/9}
down 9/9/81
plan (212)

One advantage of this decision problems can be ill that there are not too many

sequential way (provided the combinations)

Consider again Exam possible actions - market There is however also an "index" which can provide further if we wish to observe x_k , initial decision then has to the R10 000 to improve our

Chamber of Mines' scientists who devised and developed a unique chilled water cooling system for gold mines in the early 1970s are now planning to pipe ice into mines to counteract the tremendous heat which occurs at the great depths reached today. The breakthrough in cooling mines pioneered by the late Dr Austin Whillier and his team at the Chamber of Mines environmental engineering laboratories now goes a step further with the ice concept, according to a Chamber statement. It says large quantities of ice may in future be piped underground from the surface of many gold mines. The resulting economic and practical benefits could prove important in deep-level mining in the future according to environmental engineers who have been working on the concept.

there are two (a2) a product. attribute, x_k , Now assume that R10 000. An then or not to pay case.

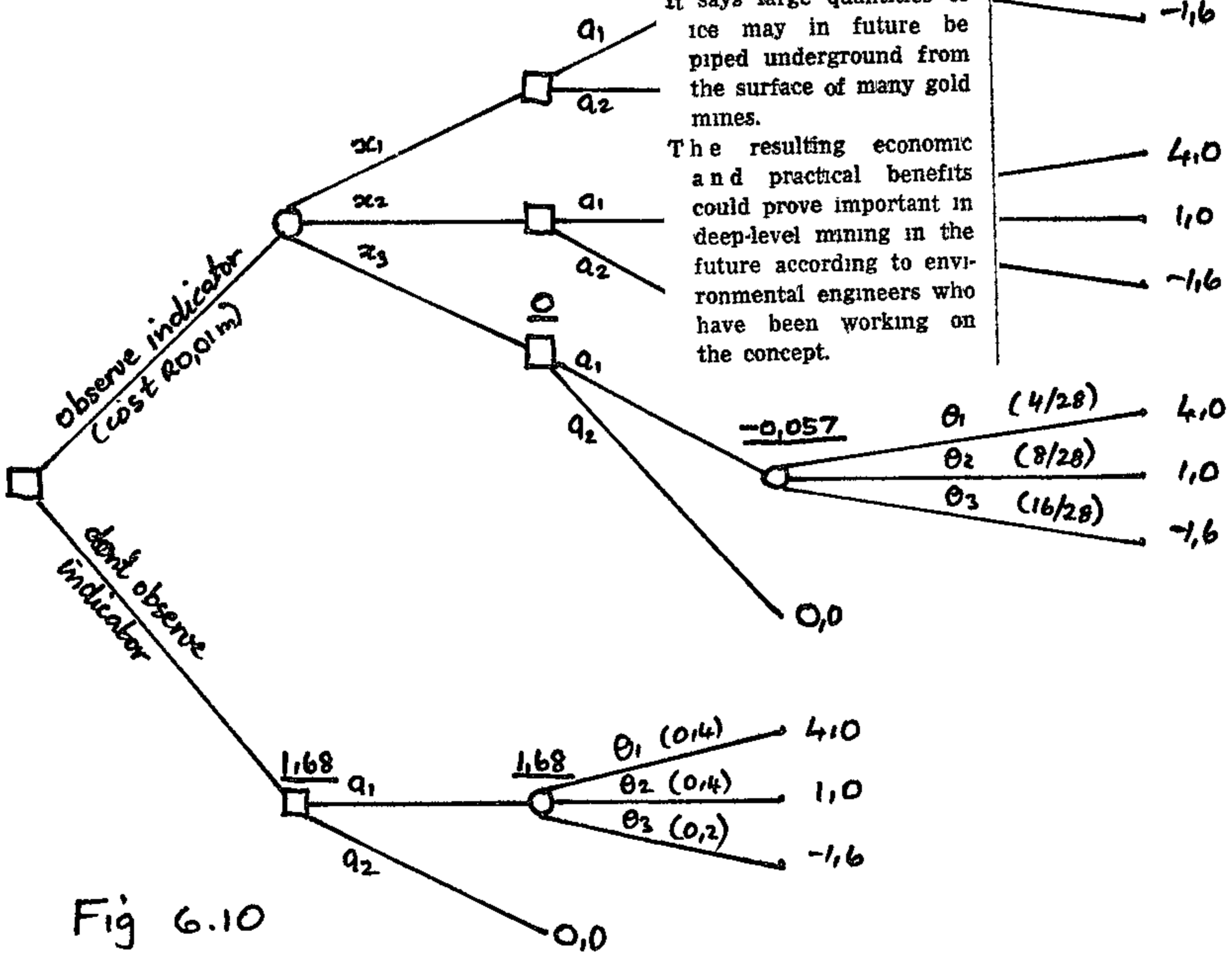


Fig 6.10

We can illustrate the problem with its five decision nodes in Figure 6.10. Here all previously calculated

Accident causes a puzzle

Answer 9/1/16 (212)

OFFICIALS at the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Klerksdorp have yet to ascertain the reason for a valve failure which caused the deaths of five mine-workers when a high-pressure flood of water was released from an underground dam on Monday.

streamed through the 64 level of the mine's number five shaft, crushing a boiler-maker, a fitter and three assistants

The names of the three black workers from the homelands are being withheld until their next-of-kin have been informed

a unit which provided compressed air to power underground machinery. The shaft from which the water escaped was 140 metres high and it was under very great pressure

The last disaster at Vaal Reefs occurred in March last year when a mine cage fell down a shaft, killing 31 miners

Six million litres of water

The reservoir was part of

SECTION C: Women in the Economy
 Erica Boddington
 Ginny Volbrecht
 In a separate book, answer ONE question, allowing 1 1/2 hours.
 9. From your understanding of the process of industrialisation in Europe, explain what insights this offers for a theoretical understanding of the position of women in wage labour.

8. (a) 'Conflict seldom arises because the man in the street or the man on the assembly line responds to pressure from agitators. It arises from the nature of the work environment itself and from external factors such as rising expectations.' (Jowell, 1980). How far do you think this applies to South Africa with special reference to recent strikes?
 OR
 (b) There is a view in historical labour theory that the migrant worker is the most exploited in South Africa. Do you agree or disagree?
 7. It has often been the view of management that in order to understand the black worker one should employ a black personnel officer. How do you think his role involves conflict between commitment to black workers and to management?
 6. Many studies have concentrated on the motivation of workers. How far do they apply to black industrial workers in South Africa?
 5. Should management pay attention to the distinction between the so-called tribal-oriented and western-oriented blacks in industry? Discuss.
 In a separate book, answer TWO of the following questions.

SECTION B: Managerial Perspectives on Black Relations in South Africa
 Hector Njokweni
 SOCIOLOGY (INDUSTRIAL): COURSE II (continued)

Five miners killed at ^{RPM} 18/9/81 ERP M 212

Staff Reporter

FIVE mineworkers were killed and seven injured — one seriously — in a pressure burst 3 200m underground at the ERP M Gold Mine, Boksburg yesterday

According to a spokesman for the mine, rescue work was continuing last night as one miner was still missing

The spokesman said the burst occurred at about 8am near the L sub-incline shaft — which is served by the south-east vertical shaft.

The names of the dead and injured — all black workers — will not be released until next of kin have been informed

The spokesman said that, of the seven men injured, only one had been admitted to hospital where he was in a serious condition

Rescue teams were working around the clock to locate the missing miner.

Production at the mine was only "marginally" affected

14

Mine burst Star. 18/9/81 toll rises to seven (2/2)

By Lynne Cornfield
East Rand Bureau

The death toll in the ERPM mine accident at Boksburg yesterday has risen to seven — with one miner still missing

Five men were killed in a pressure burst 3200 m below the surface, a depth nearing the deepest point on the mine.

Rescue workers brought up a seriously injured man who died at 3 am today. They saved six other men who were slightly injured

The teams worked through the night and recovered a body at 530 am.

SEARCH

Rescue workers are continuing the search for another missing man. At the time of the burst it was not known he was in the area

The names of the dead will not be released until their families have been informed.

The burst occurred in the vicinity of the L sub-incline shaft, which is served by the south-east vertical shaft.

A spokesman for the mine and production mine said production affected" — Sapa

Gold mine death toll reaches eight

Research Bu.

able until

ally profit-

212 (15) RDM 19/9/87
Mail Reporter
THE bodies of two miners reported missing after a pressure burst at the ERPM gold mine at Boksburg on Thursday have been found.

In the second and third decades of the century, many more writers advocated that capital be recorded as a cost. He emphasised the importance of all capital in pricing decisions and investments. He wrote:

"Businessmen are likely to be concerned in the future, as they have stated in their financial statements of account, that the cost of capital is involved in pricing decisions."

The death toll at the mine is now eight, after another man, seriously injured in the burst, died last night.

Initially it was believed that five miners had been killed in the burst - 2 300m below ground - and seven injured and only one was still missing.

But an ERPM spokesman said yesterday that when the shift was checked last night, it was found another miner was missing.

His body was found by ERPM rescue teams about 5.30am yesterday.

The body of the other missing miner was found at 3pm yesterday.

Six miners were injured in the pressure burst which occurred about 8.30 on Thursday morning.

The ERPM spokesman said the names of the dead and injured could not be released as their next of kin had not been notified.

At present in the United States, public utilities include interest on both debt and equity as a cost of plant constructed (using a "reasonable rate"¹² on the utilities' own funds when used), whereas other companies do not recognise this imputed interest charge. They are merely concerned with whether or not to include interest on debt capital as an element of cost of an asset.

5.3 Evaluation of Proposals

The proposal of capitalising interest imputed on equity funds is essentially an economic one. Economists speak of three factors of production - natural resources, labour and capital - and associate a cost to each (rent, wages and interest). Capital here includes all capital, whether debt or equity, and therefore a cost must be incurred for

25/9/81

M.
~~131~~ (212) (131)

Occupational Diseases in Mines &
Works Amendment Bill - 2nd reading

Hours 8 21 - 25 Sept 1981

col 4913

PDM 9/10/81
**Miner killed
in rockfall** (212)

A MINEWORKER was killed in a rockfall in the No 2 shaft of Vaal Reefs Gold Mine near Orkney yesterday, according to an Anglo American spokesman

The spokesman said no other mineworkers were involved in the accident. The dead man's name would be released once his next-of-kin had been informed.

— Sapa

Mines set safety record

THE South African mining industry set a new safety record yesterday when Bafokeng South mine became the 13th mine this year to record one million consecutive fatality-free underground shifts

This betters the record set in 1968 when 12 mines achieved the feat

This is the fourth time Bafokeng South, near Rustenburg, has recorded one million consecutive fatality-free shifts, and in addition, it is one of seven mines to have recorded two million consecutive fatality-free shifts — Sapa

Wa Safety
15/10/81
record set
in SA mining

The South African mining industry set a new safety record this week when Bafokeng South mine became the 13th this year to record one million consecutive fatality-free underground shifts.

The previous record was set in 1968 when 12 mines achieved this feat

This was the fourth time Bafokeng South mine, in the Rustenburg area, has recorded one million consecutive fatality-free shifts

It has the distinction of being one of seven South African mines to have previously recorded two million consecutive fatality-free shifts — Sapa

15/10/81
Safety
millionaire 2/2

WEST Driefontem gold mine near Carletonville recorded a million fatality-free shifts at the weekend, making it the 12th mine in South Africa to achieve a million fatality-free shifts this year. This equals the record set in 1968. This is the seventh time West Driefontem has recorded a million consecutive fatality-free underground shifts.

Blacks' cost of living climbs 12% in Joburg

THE household subsistence level (HSL) for an Indian family of six in Durban is R259,98 a month, the University of Port Elizabeth's Institute for Planning Research reported yesterday

Including Indians for the first time in its half-yearly survey, the institute said this was done because of many demands for data about Indians in many parts of the country

Regarding blacks, the institute said that since the previous survey five months ago — when it was found there was an increase of less than 5% in 15 out of the 22 centres surveyed — the picture had changed remarkably in that the lowest increase for the current figure was found to be 7.1% in Windhoek

It was found that in nine centres there was an increase of 10% or more, varying from 10% in Germiston to 11.5% in Durban, 12.1% in Johannesburg and a

high 14.5% in Peddie

The average increase for 13 comparable surveyed centres over the past six months was 10.7% and 14.5% for the 12-month period

This increase for both a six-month and a 12-month period is the highest recorded since the start of the institute's surveys in 1972

For the eight surveyed urban centres, the HSL for blacks of households consisting of six members was lowest in Kimberley (R217,43), Pretoria (R218,23) and R219,45 a month in East London. It was highest in Johannesburg at R242,49 a month and Cape Town with R231,64

Windhoek, however, remained the most expensive city where the HSL was calculated at R250,44

A socio-economic survey had just been completed among households in Port Elizabeth's black townships

From preliminary results it was interesting to note that while the HSL for a six-member household was R219,46 the average actual household income was R226 a month

It was estimated that by 1985 — provided the current rate of inflation remained more or less unchanged — the average HSL for a black household in the five major urban centres of Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth could reach R338 a month

Coloureds

Regarding coloureds, the average increase for the 10 comparable surveyed centres since the April survey was 7.7%.

The lowest percentage changes were found in Queenstown, Kimberley, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth

In Cape Town, Pretoria and East London the percentage increase varied between 8.1% and 8.6%, which was more or less on a par with the Consumer Price Index increase over the same period

Of the surveyed urban centres — excluding King William's Town and Queenstown — the HSL for a five-member household ranged from R216,74 a month in East London to R237,81 in Johannesburg. Both these areas retained their respective positions as the "cheapest" and "most expensive" centres to live in — Sapa



Miners rejoice when the million mark is reached in regard to fatality-free shifts and morale is boosted. This was the great day for Randfontein Estates.

STAR 21 10 81

13 mines hit millionmark SJK 212

By Bob Davis

Thirteen South African mines have reached the coveted million mark in fatality-free shifts so far this year, a record for the industry.

In 1968 12 mines achieved the million mark, but in the 70s our performance was very poor" said Mr Guy Stokes, manager of the Chamber of Mines safety division.

Mining was taking place at deeper levels and there was no co-ordinated safety plan to adhere to.

The adoption by South African mines of the International Safety Rating System had changed the picture, however.

"We weren't getting any better at safety

performance and matters were becoming worse in the '70s," Mr Stokes said.

But in 1977 a small number of mining men went to Atlanta Georgia in the United States to attend a seminar on industrial safety presented by Mr Frank Bird who fathered the International Safety Rating System.

The method centred on loss control management and Mr Stokes said in spite of the greater depths to which the mines were going safety standards improved in the ratio to which senior managements were trained in the required skills.

The decision to train senior management as opposed to workers at grass roots level was taken because produc-

tion was seen as a management discipline.

"Loss control is part of production and safety is an integral factor of production," Mr Stokes said.

Managements were sceptical at first but it was soon proved that safety and productivity went hand in hand.

"The safer a mine is to work in the more productivity increases."

Mr Stokes said in terms of the international rating system mining functions were divided into 22 elements and a team of auditors visited participating mines each year to rate them on each of the 22 elements.

"We give them stars to indicate the level of achievement, the highest being five stars."

The only mines in

the world to have achieved the top level of five stars were in South Africa where seven mines had been rated at that level this year.

Mr Bird said the 22 elements involved in safety rating even included one pertaining to safety in a miner's home and mining wives were trained in safety procedures, "because if a man or a member of his family

is injured at home, it may result in a production loss."

The training given to top management had gradually filtered down to all levels of work in the mines and the result was that in terms of injuries per thousand workers the first six months of this year had proved to be the lowest since mining began in South Africa in the late 1800s.

"That is why we are certain of setting a new record this year in regard to mines with a million fatality-free shifts."

Mr Stokes said in 1964, 1968 and 1970, when a large number of mines had scored a fatality-free shifts, four million or more had done so in the last four months of the year.

The record holder for the largest number

of fatality-free shifts at a single mine was West Rand Consolidated which had achieved 3 030 029 fatality-free shifts in 1964.

This year, Wildebeestfontein was in the lead with more than two-million fatality-free shifts.

Harmony had scored the million mark early this year and then had a fatality but had come back to score the million mark again.



X2

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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Vol. 196]

CAPE TOWN, 21 OCTOBER 1981
KAAPSTAD, 21 OKTOBER 1981

212

[No 7845

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

KANTOOR VAN DIE EERSTE MINISTER

No 2194

21 October 1981

No. 2194

21 Oktober 1981

It is hereby notified that the State President has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information —

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Staatspresident sy goedkeuring geheg het aan die onderstaande Wet wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word —

No 85 of 1981. Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Amendment Act, 1981

No 85 van 1981. Wysigingswet op Bedryfsiektes in Myne en Bedrywe, 1981

**Miner killed
in fall**

~~8/25~~ 27/10/97
(212)

A white mineworker, Mr J W F Labotske was killed at the West Rand Consolidated Mine on Sunday when he fell down a shaft

Mr Labotske was doing repair work to the shaft timbers at the time of the accident

Chamber honours 2 brave miners

RDY
29/10/07

2/2

TWO MINEWORKERS who disregarded the dangers of fiercely burning timber and falling rocks to douse an underground fire, have received the Chamber of Mines award for bravery at a ceremony at West Driefontein Gold Mine.

In making the presentation, the Chamber's general manager, Mr D N Stuart stressed that the men, Mr Petrus Pelsler and Mr Edwin Goosen, had by their "speedy and selfless action prevented what could have been a major disaster involving possible loss of life".

The incident occurred in the No 2 Shaft of West Driefontein near Carletonville.

Mr Stuart said that on March 20, Mr Goosen discovered a fire on the 18th level and immediately informed the shaft overseer, Mr Pelsler, by telephone.

He then returned to the fire and tried to extinguish it. He was joined by Mr Pelsler.

Reading from the citation which he presented to the men, Mr Stuart said "The strong ventilation current was causing pieces of burning timber to be torn from the hanging wall and tossed as much as five metres ahead of the fire. Pieces of hanging wall, which had been supported by cribbing, had also been falling.

Threat

"Conscious of the threat to people working in the 18/4 and 18/6 stopes, as well as to the mine itself, and disregarding the great danger to themselves, Mr Pelsler and Mr Goosen ran through under the burning timber to a position ahead of the fire, where they created a fire break. Having prevented the further spread of the fire, they proceeded to douse it with water from the drain.

"In putting the safety of their fellow-workers and of the mine itself above their own, Mr Pelsler and Mr Goosen acted in the finest traditions of the mining industry."

What the citation did not mention, said Mr Stuart, was that "these men doused the fire with their hard hats, using them to scoop up water from the drain, or that if it had not been for a warning shout from Mr Pelsler, Mr Goosen might have been crushed by a huge piece of rock."

— Sapa

SUN TRIO 1/11/81

13 die

212

as cage

plunges

200m

THIRTEEN miners were killed and another 35 injured when a full cage at the Western Deep Levels goldmine near Carltonville plunged nearly 200 metres yesterday.

The identities of the dead men, all black migrant workers, have not yet been released.

The condition of the three unnamed white survivors admitted to the Cottesloe Chamber of Mines Hospital in Johannesburg was satisfactory, a spokesman said.

Spokesmen at Western Deep Levels and J. B. Strijdom Hospital said they could not comment on the condition of the injured admitted.

The men were coming off the morning shift at 11.30 in a cage in the No. 3 service incline shaft when the winding machinery failed at a depth of about 350 metres.

The cage fell another 200 metres. Rescue workers from Western Deep's own team brought the bodies and survivors to the surface.

Mr. Brendan Ryan, Press officer for Anglo American, said there would be an investigation by both the mine and the government mining engineer into the failure of the winding mechanism.

Thirteen miners die as cage falls

S. Times 1/11/81

By KEN SLADE

THIRTEEN miners were killed and 35 injured at Western Deep Levels gold mine near Carletonville yesterday

Winding machinery failed at the end of a work shift and plunged the miners to the bottom of a shaft

The accident happened at 11.30am when the men were coming off duty at the No 3 incline shaft

A spokesman for Anglo American Corporation Mr Brendon Ryan, confirmed the miners were killed when the cage plummeted after the winding machinery failed

He said although the shaft was 3 666m deep the cage had only

been hoisted about 166m when it plunged to the bottom

First aid teams and workers from other shafts were rushed to the disaster area and within minutes the wreckage was cleared Mr Ryan said

The 13 dead miners, all blacks were brought to the surface by 6pm yesterday

Mr Ryan said some of the injured were in a serious condition, but others had been only slightly hurt

The injured were admitted to Cottage Hospital near Johannesburg and the Sybrand van Niekerk Hospital near Carletonville

The names of the dead will not be released until their next of kin have been informed

University of the Western

FRENCH DEPARTMENT

1 Jan Smuts Avenue, Johannesburg, 2001
Telephone 29 4011, Telegrams 'University'

16 killed in mine shaft ^{C. Times} ^{2/11/81} disaster ²¹²

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG - The death toll in the mine disaster on Saturday at the No 3 shaft of the Western Deep Levels Gold Mine near Carletonville has risen to 16

Thirteen of the 48 mineworkers in the cage were killed instantly as the winding machine broke and the cage plummeted 170m to the bottom of the No 3 service incline shaft

Three workers died later, while the condition of five more in the Western Deep Levels Mine Hospital was described by a spokesman for Anglo American Corporation as 'serious'

The names of the dead will be released as soon as their next-of kin have been informed

Among the injured were the shiftboss, Mr Gerrie Grove a stoper a Mr Kruger and a developer a Mr Jooste. They are in a satisfactory condition in the Chamber of Mines Hospital at Cottesloe

The accident happened on Saturday at 11.45am as the miners came off shift. The cage was 170m up the 333m shaft when the winding machine broke and the cage fell back

It was the second accident involving a mine cage in two years. In March 1980, 23 miners were killed when a cage broke loose in the No 2 shaft of the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine and plunged 2 000m. There were no survivors

'It is difficult to say why some survived Saturday's accident and others not. Perhaps it was just a matter of luck,' the spokesman said yesterday

REPORT ON THESIS SUBMITTED

TITLE : Le sens de la desti

The problem of this type of of an M.A. at a South Africa to be dealt with entirely ac of synthesis indeed to be al given framework. (Remarks n not unaware of this difficul is obviously intended to pul remains too slight and incon manner. The examiner consic though partial and that the her, but certainly without d

The only way to tackle such points from which the subject done without perhaps success into a whole : the thesis re of related (and convergent) aspects selected for analys far enough for the essential themes as dream, woman, (whi adds such topics, dealt with more incidentally, as Gérard de Nerval's madness, his attitude to love, his style, his use of archetypal images. In this last mentioned strand of her study she has recourse to the writings of the psychologist Jung with wich she is well acquainted, a knowledge which she puts to good use, drawing interesting parallels and highlighting a number of symbols with a certain degree of originality. Here and elsewhere she shows feeling for poetry and perhaps even more for the materials and the aims of poetry. The distinction which is being made here is intended to convey a certain feeling of disappointment with the focus, which is more psychological and metaphysical than strictly speaking literary, though it must be recognized at once that literature embraces many fields and that an esoteric, occultist poet like Gérard de Nerval lends himself to such a treatment.

The general impression given by the thesis is one of genuine feeling and enthusiasm accompanied by a certain naïveté and amateurishness in the

Johannesburg

telephone ext 8535/8531

your reference OM-gm

our reference 131/FD/MJW/80

date 28 May 1980

BY ALETTA M SIENAERT

rval

In relation to the dimension object is perhaps too wide require very strong powers e to such a theme within the on p. 2 show that she is st part of Chapter 4 which together in some such synthesis an entirely satisfactory ent of the subject is adequate o have the degree awarded to

e to select certain vantage This A.M. Sienaert has lding the different parts ession of essays on a series ontinuous development. The er and take the candidate e treats successively such (which give their titles to two chapters) and then adds such topics, dealt with more incidentally, as Gérard de Nerval's madness, his attitude to love, his style, his use of archetypal images. In this last mentioned strand of her study she has recourse to the writings of the psychologist Jung with wich she is well acquainted, a knowledge which she puts to good use, drawing interesting parallels and highlighting a number of symbols with a certain degree of originality. Here and elsewhere she shows feeling for poetry and perhaps even more for the materials and the aims of poetry. The distinction which is being made here is intended to convey a certain feeling of disappointment with the focus, which is more psychological and metaphysical than strictly speaking literary, though it must be recognized at once that literature embraces many fields and that an esoteric, occultist poet like Gérard de Nerval lends himself to such a treatment.

Death toll in mining accident now 16

RDY
2/4/81

212

By MAURITZ MOOLMAN

THE death toll in Saturday's mining accident at the No 3 shaft of the Western Deep Levels Gold Mine near Carletonville has risen to 16.

Thirteen of the 48 mineworkers in the cage were killed instantly as the winding machine broke and the cage plummeted 170m to the bottom of the No 3 service incline shaft.

Three more workers, all of them black, have died since Saturday night while the condition of five more in the Western Deep Levels mine hospital was described last night by a spokesman for Anglo American as "serious".

The names of the dead will be released as soon as their next-of-kin have been informed. Three whites, the shiftboss, Mr Gerrie Groye, a stopper, Mr Kruger and a developer, Mr Jooste, are in a satisfactory condition in the Chamber of Mines hospital at Cottesloe near Johannesburg.

The accident happened on Saturday morning at 11 45 as the miners came off shift. The cage was 170m from the bottom on its way to the top of the 333m shaft when the winding machine broke and the cage plummeted.

All the injured miners had been brought to the surface by Saturday afternoon and by 6pm on Saturday all the bodies had been recovered, the spokesman said.

Second time

This was the second accident involving a mine cage in less than two years.

Twenty-three miners were killed in March 1980 when a double-decker cage broke loose in the No 2 shaft of the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine and plummeted 2 000 meters to the bottom of the shaft. There were no survivors.

"It is difficult to say why some survived Saturday's accident and others not. Perhaps it was just a matter of luck," an Anglo American spokesman said yesterday.

He said this weekend's accident was different to that at Vaal Reefs in that it occurred on an incline shaft and the winding gear broke.

A transom on the cage at Vaal Reefs broke near the top of the shaft allowing the cable to snap. The safety back-up system failed.

He could not say whether back-up or safety systems had failed on Saturday as this was still being investigated.

"The winding machinery, however, is regularly checked and serviced," he said.

16 killed in mine accident

212 132
Soweto
Hills

A TOTAL of sixteen mine workers were killed and 27 injured in an accident on Saturday at the Western Deep Levels Gold Mine near Carltonville.

A spokesman for the mine told Sapa the men were coming off shift in the number three service incline shaft when the winding machinery failed and the cage fell out of control to the bottom of the shaft.

The shaft was at a depth of about 3500 metres when the accident occurred. The shaft is about 3700 metres deep. The cage fell 170 metres, said the spokesman.

The injured men, three of whom were white, were brought to the surface by rescue teams from Western Deep Levels and have been admitted to the Western Deep Levels hospital, the Cottesloe Hospital near Johannesburg and the Sybrand van Niekerk hospital near Carltonville.

The names of the 16 workers who were killed will be released when their next-of-kin have been informed. All the dead were blacks — Sapa

Mine deaths probe today

By Andrew Walker

A Government official will today investigate the Western Deep Levels gold mine disaster which killed 16 men and injured 32.

Five of the injured are in a serious condition in the mine hospital near Carletonville, an Anglo American spokesman said today.

Thirteen of 48 mineworkers being hoisted to the surface of the mine's No 3 shaft were killed instantly

on Saturday when the cage fell about 170 metres to the bottom of the shaft. Three more died of their injuries during the weekend.

The names of the dead and injured will be released after their next of kin have been told. The Anglo spokesman said this was taking time because many of the workers came from outlying districts.

But he named three of the injured as a Mr

Kruger, a Mr Jooste and a Mr Grove who are in a satisfactory condition at the Chamber of Mines Hospital at Cottesloe.

The cage bringing mineworkers to the surface fell after the winding plant failed, said the spokesman.

The cause of the tragedy "will be investigated today by the Government engineer," he said.

RPM 3/11/88 (212)

State probes fatal mine accident

Mail Reporter

AN INVESTIGATION has been started by the Government mining engineer into the cause of last weekend's accident at the Western Deep Levels Gold Mine near Carletonville

Thirteen miners died and 35 were injured on Saturday when a mine cage fell about 170m to the bottom of the shaft after, it is

alleged, the winding machinery broke

Three more miners died in the mine's hospital during the weekend

A spokesman for the Government Inspectorate of Mines said yesterday the accident was sub judice. He said all mining accidents are investigated by the inspectorate and the outcome made public

The condition of three injured workers was described yesterday by a spokesman for the Cottesloe Chamber of Mines hospital as "fine, under the circumstances"

The shift boss, Mr Gerrie Grove, sustained neck injuries. Two others, described only as Mr Jooste and Mr Kruger, have chest and other injuries

10 -

27
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Five

Killed

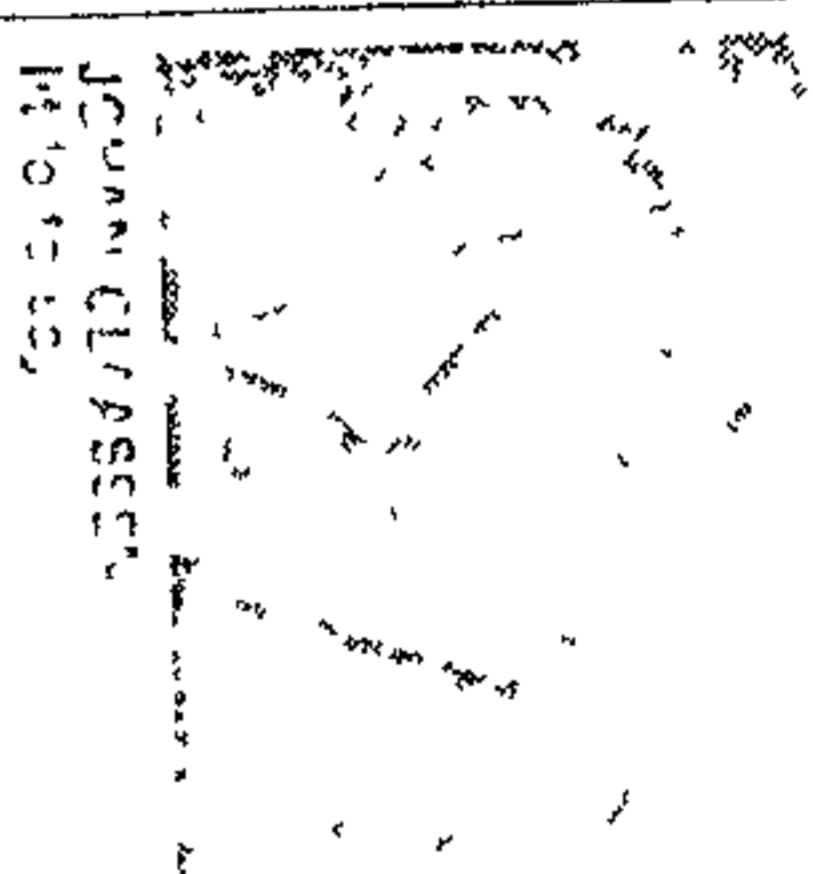
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RICHMOND 2/9/81

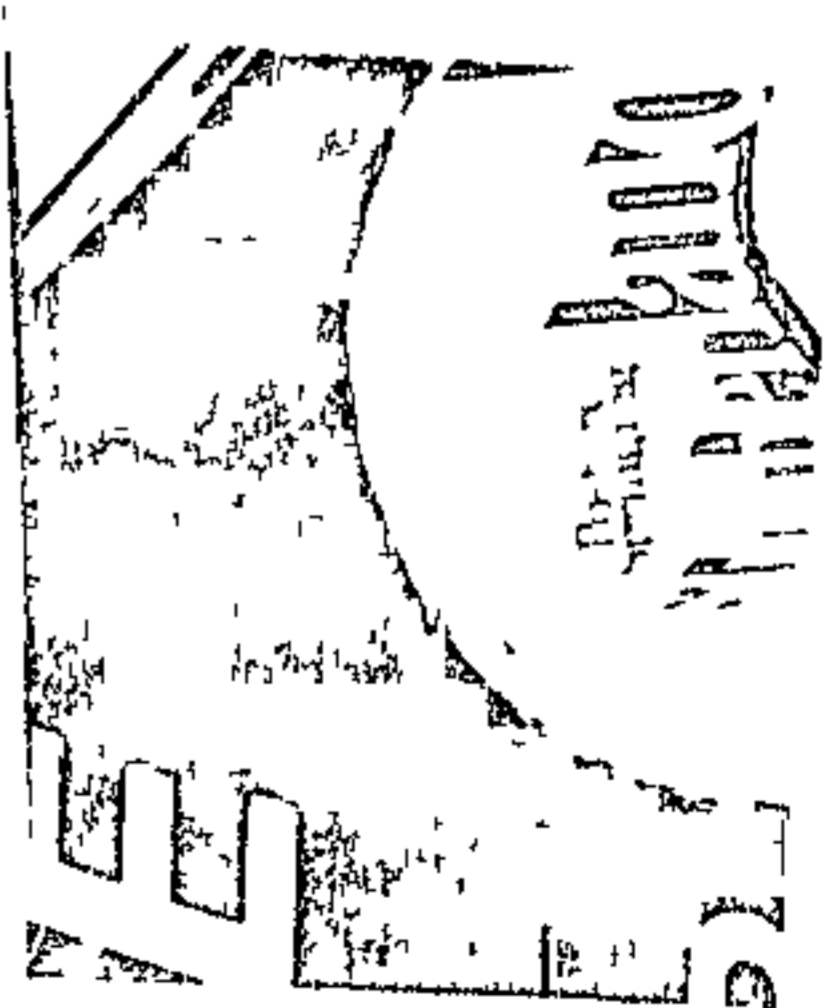
Boks 'sc

By JOHN RIAN
MILWAUKEE, Wis. (AP) —

WISCONSIN — The death toll from a mine explosion yesterday in the town of Boksburg, about the size of a small town, caused by the explosion of a dynamite charge.



JOHN CLIPPER
AP/WIDE WORLD

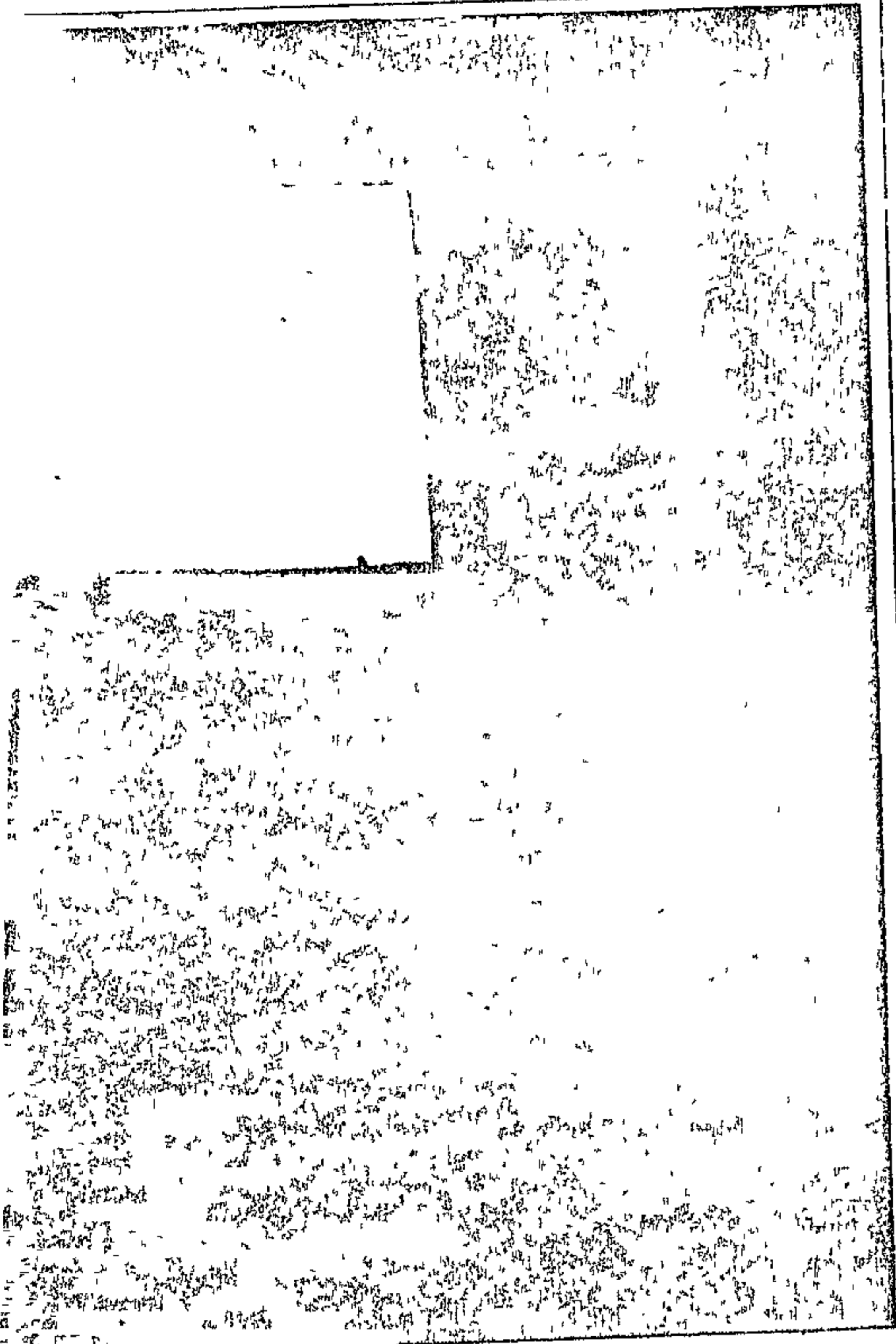


AP/WIDE WORLD

Heath says SA unwise to hold up fuel

By DAVID FORRETT

SULLY — F. Heath, British Prime Minister, yesterday said he would not hold up fuel supplies to the South African government.



By NORMAN PATTERTON

FIVE mineworkers died in a deluge of water which burst from an underground dam at Vaal Reefs mine, near Carletonville, yesterday when a bottom valve collapsed.

Six-million litres of water rushed down the 64th level of number five shaft where a boilermaker, a fitter and three assistants were working.

A mine spokesman said last night the men's bodies had been recovered but it was not known whether they had drowned or been crushed by the water.

The water escaped from a shaft 140m high and was therefore under very considerable pressure, the spokesman said.

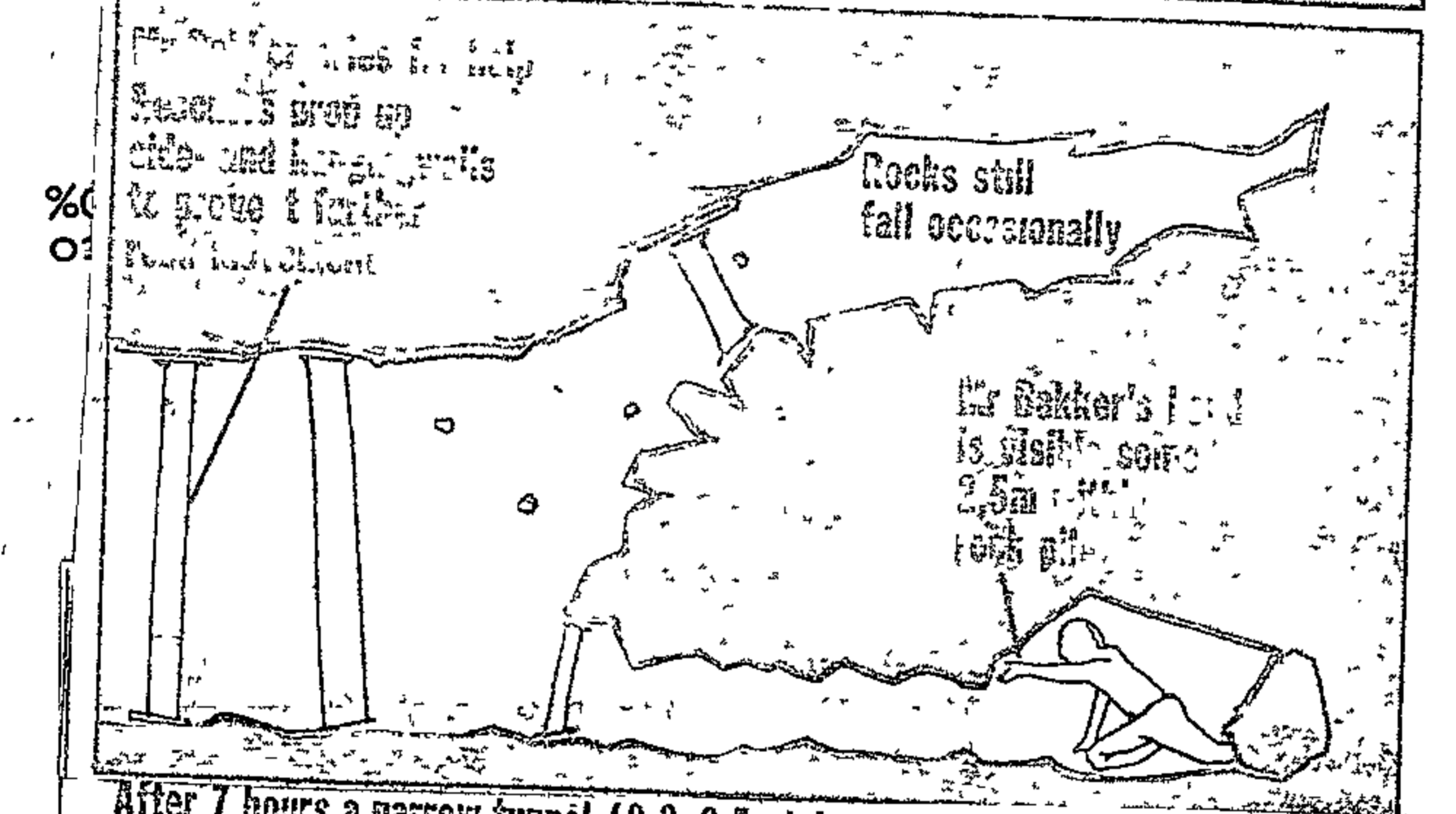
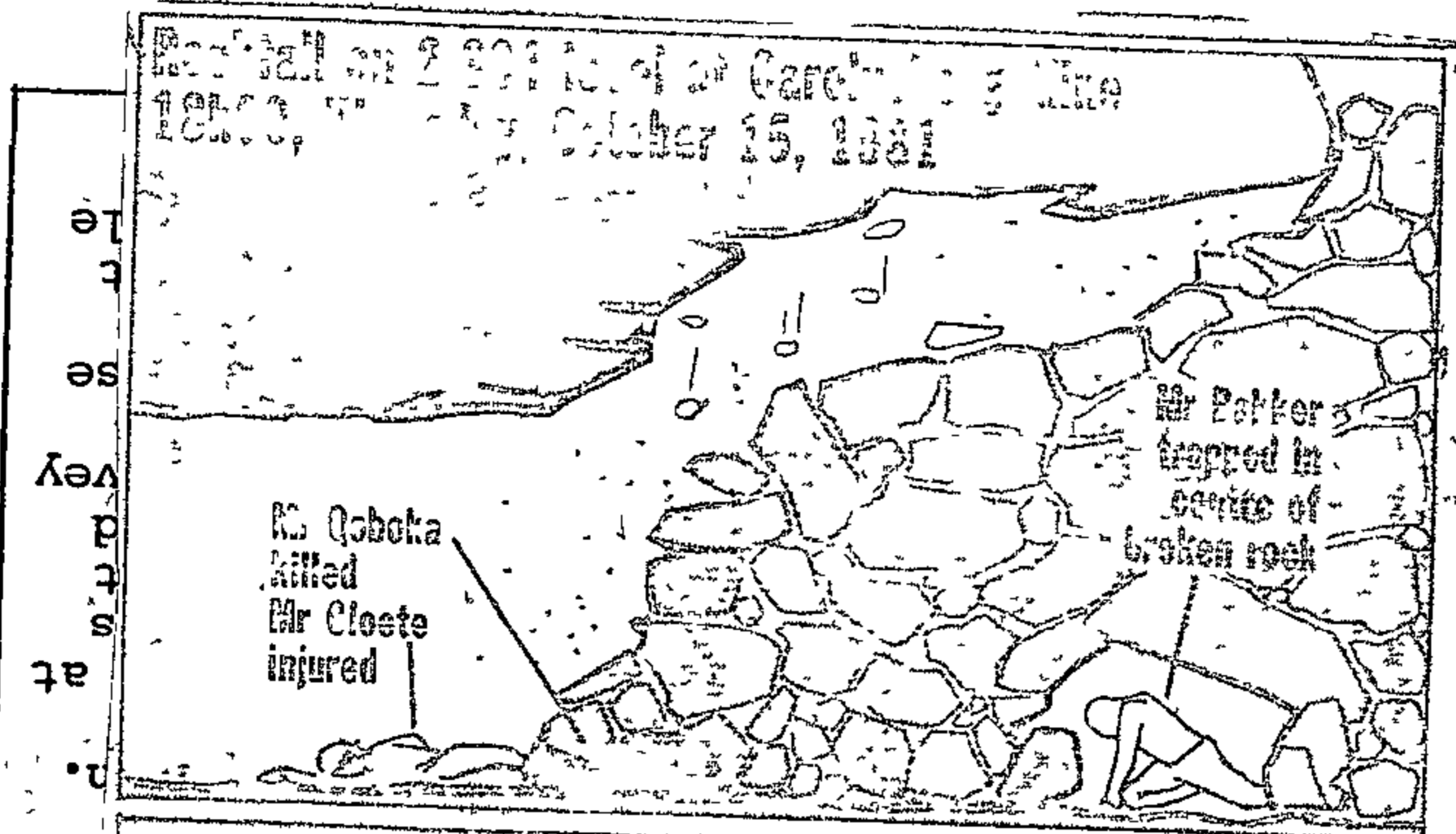
Those killed were Mr G J Wolfhardt, 38, a boilermaker from Hartbeesfontein, and Mr J H de Vries, 39, a fitter from Klerksdorp.

P70

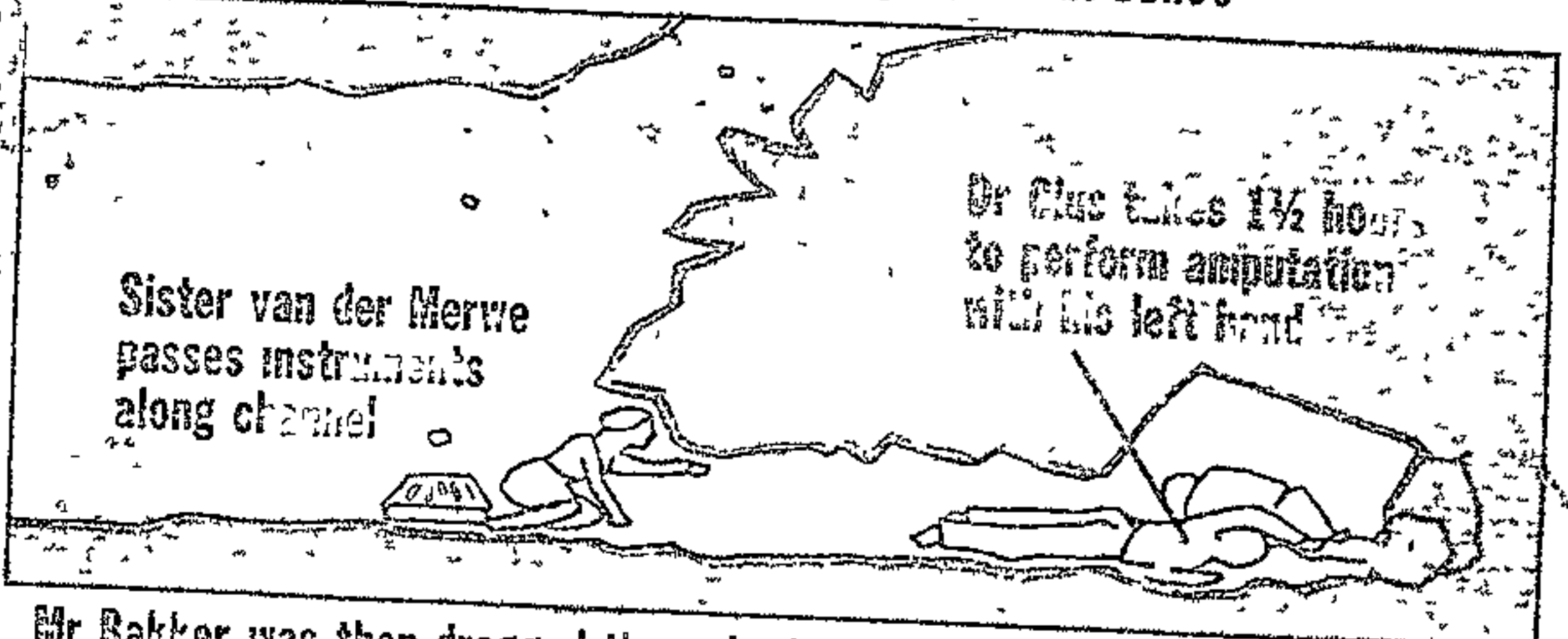
MINING - Accidents

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After 7 hours a narrow tunnel (0,3x0,5m) is excavated by hand for 3,5m to reach Mr Bakker. His leg is pinned by a rock and he is given first aid. Dr Clus goes underground to give medical aid but after several hours Mr Bakker's leg is still trapped and the doctor returns to the surface. Dr Clus volunteers to amputate leg in situ and theatre sister Ms Van der Merwe insists on helping him. The operation starts at 11h00



Mr Bakker was then dragged through channel by rope

The graphic shows how Mr Bakker's life was saved, 700 metres below the surface.

Doctor and nurse get bravery awards

A DRAMATIC 20-hour rescue operation to save a man buried under a pile of rock after a rockfall at the Okiep copper mine in Namaqualand last year had a happy sequel in Johannesburg yesterday when the Chamber of Mines made bravery awards to 12 people.

Dr P J le Clus and Sister J C Van der Merwe were presented with the chamber's award for outstanding bravery

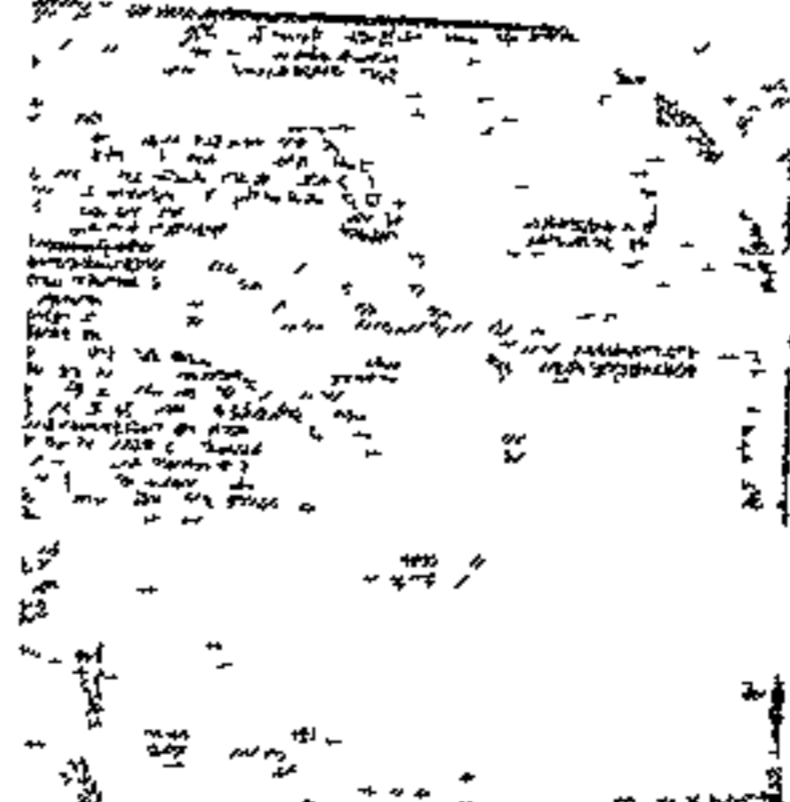
Working in dangerous and difficult conditions, they successfully amputated the leg of mine ganger Mr W Bakker in a two-hour operation underground

Dr Le Clus performed the amputation lying on his side and with his left hand as this was the only way he could reach Mr Bakker's leg

Others to receive the outstanding bravery award were Mr H A Dippenaar, Mr T S Brand, Mr G. Gooßen and Mr M Nyekulen.



DR P J LE CLUS
Difficult operation



SISTER VAN DER MERWE
Outstanding bravery

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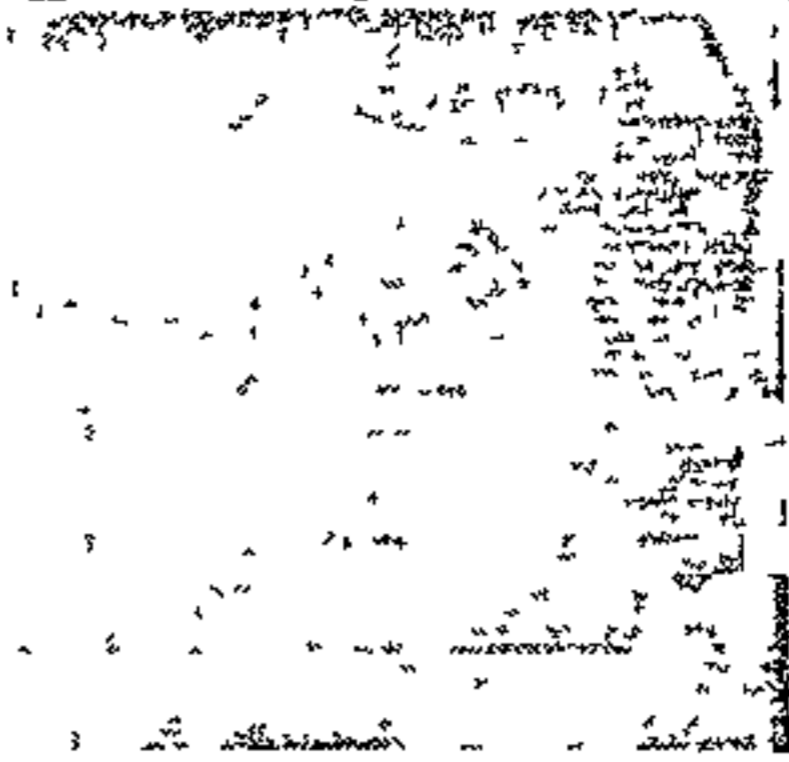
DR P J LE CLUS
Difficult operation

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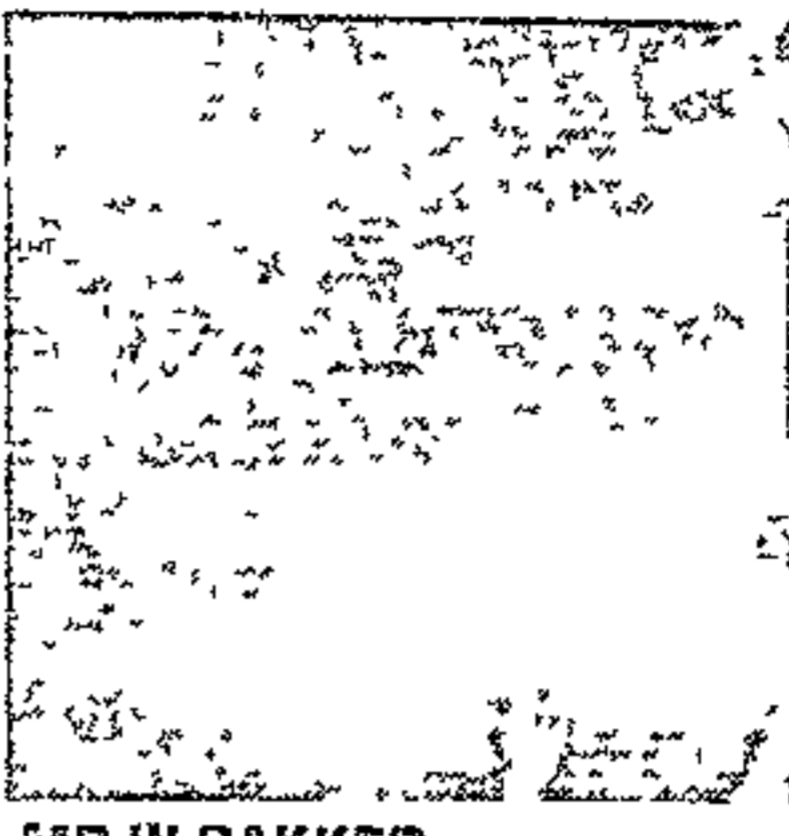
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Others to receive the outstanding bravery award were Mr H A Dippenaar, Mr T S Brand, Mr G Coosen and Mr M Nyekalen

The chamber's award for bravery was presented to six men involved in the rockfall: Mr M Dan Her, Mr M J Dippenaar, Mr J S Coetzee, Mr S Sibamba, Mr Z Funda and Mr W Macingwana - Sapa



SISTER VAN DER MERWE
Outstanding bravery



MR W BAKKER
Pinned by rockfall

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separation measures forced on us could well lead to rationing and other greater inconveniences. At the same time, considered planning could well lead to increased efficiency and consequential benefit.

As a matter of policy the firm is also looking at the fuel consumption of the vehicles it owns in order to review our replacement policy in regard to timing and vehicle. There will be a definite trend towards smaller engines in new vehicles that we acquire.

Our private travellings is the other area for effecting fuel savings, and here we would recommend that those of us who commute by car, give consideration to the formation of flexible lift clubs. If you only use your own vehicle four days a week instead of the current five, this is an immediate 20% saving on that particular usage. A flexible lift arrangement could well rest our cars for more days in the week with very little inconvenience to ourselves.

A chart has been prepared of the routes travelled by the firm's cars used for commuting, and this indicates a fruitful area for co-operation and fuel saving. The users of these vehicles are encouraged to give consideration to this sharing of travelling and the chart is available for this purpose.

A similar approach is recommended for those who commute in their private vehicles and the Administrative Department would be happy to act as an agency for putting those who wish to pursue this idea in touch with each other.

In summing up may we adopt the hackneyed old phrase: "Is your journey really necessary?"

Awards for amputation

CAPE TOWN 16/2/82

OWN MINER

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG

Working under falling rock in a tiny dusty, enclave hundreds of metres underground, a doctor and a nursing sister last year carried out an intricate operation to amputate the leg of a trapped miner and saved his life.

Last night at a ceremony in Nababeep, Northern Cape, Dr P Le Clus and Sister J C van der Merwe received awards for outstanding bravery. The story of their heroism was described as one of the most stirring in the history of the mining industry.

The drama occurred on October 15 last year at a hot dark night. A copper mine, Mr Bakker's, collapsed under a heavy load of tons of rock after a rock fall on the 234 level of the O'Keefe Corner Mine Company's Carousberg Mine.

But he could not be cut through the rock and was unable to be rescued.

Copy

Mr Bakker was one of three victims of the rock fall, or, in miner's language, the collapse of a large section of scapitram drawpoint brow.

A labourer, Mr T Ooboka, was killed instantly when a piece of rock weighing 20 tons crashed down on him.

The story of Mr Bakker's rescue was recalled at the gathering in Nababeep last night when the President of the Chamber of Mines, Mr L W P van den Bosch, made the Chamber of Mines' Bravery Award to Dr Le Clus, Sister van der Merwe and several mine officials.

After the rockfall about

733 metres underground, the cloete was removed to Nababeep Hospital. Mr Bakker, however, was trapped.

Gangers and officials then set up timber props against the rockpile in an effort to prevent further movement which could kill the trapped man.

Upper rock, needed to be drilled and split to bring them to manageable size. Some of these large rocks provided critical support to the mass of rocks over the miner's head - and the rescuers had to be perfectly installed before any rock was moved.

Procedure

After some hours, a narrow channel through the base of the rock pile was established and Mr Bakker was given sustenance by a tube and a painkiller injected into his leg.

Dr Le Clus, who was at the Nababeep Hospital, came to accompany the team to the scene.

It was found the only way to save Mr Bakker's life would be to amputate his leg "in situ".

Sister Van der Merwe insisted that he allow her to go down with him.

One hand

Dr Le Clus performed the operation - with only one hand - while lying on his side inside the rock pile. Sister Van der Merwe sat in the entrance to the channel in which Dr Le Clus was lying.

The operation took nearly two hours. At the end Mr Bakker was dragged through the channel by a rope team.

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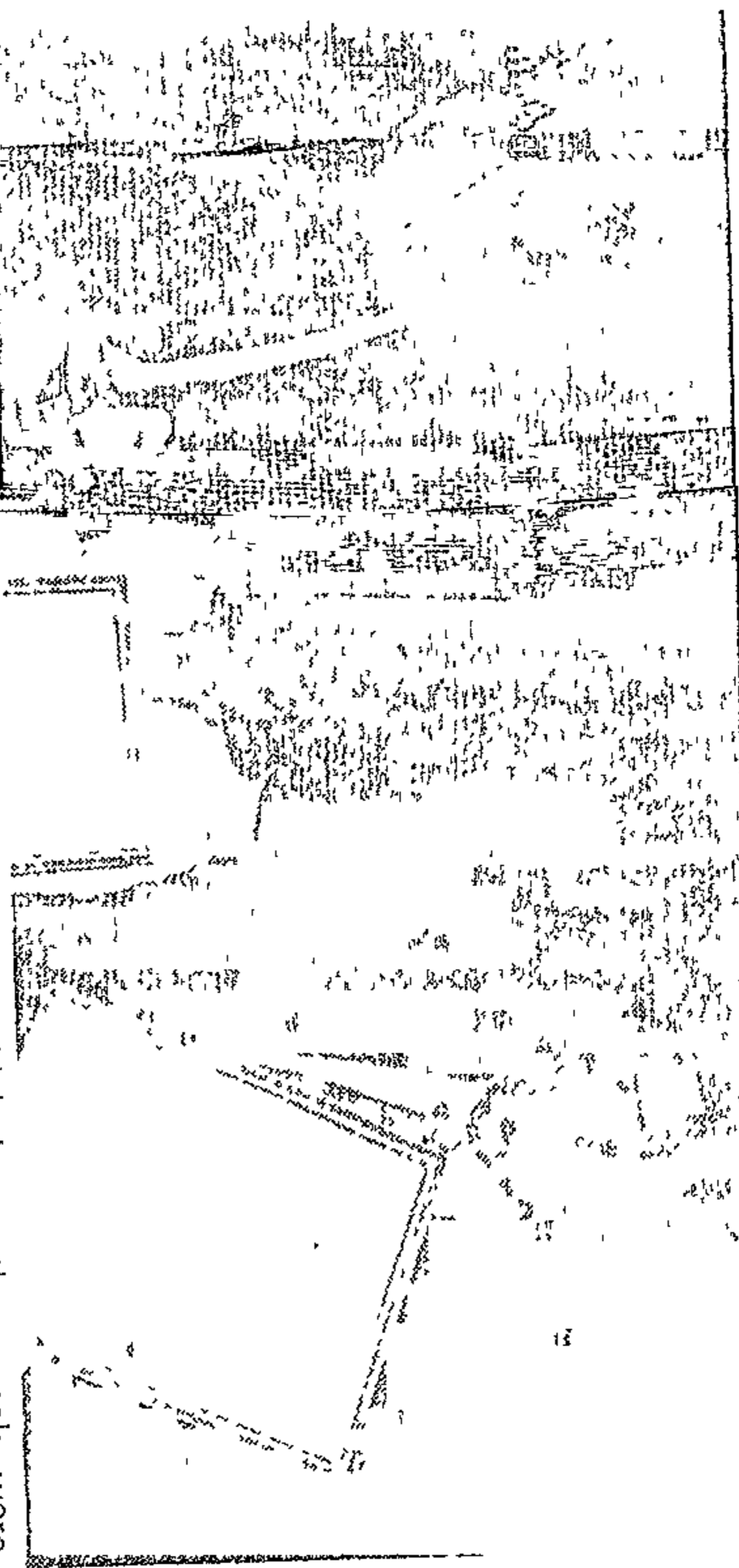
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W. B. ARGUS 20/2/32 (212)

Weekend Argus Reporter



AT THE Chamber of Mines ceremony at Nababeep this week were Mr L W P van den Bosch chamber president, left, who presented citations for outstanding bravery to Sister Johanna van der Merwe and Dr Piet le Clus.

MINERWORKER Willem Bakker will never forget the day when tons of broken rock buried him underground in a Namaqualand copper mine

It was the day the courage of a young doctor and a nursing sister saved his life

They risked their lives to perform emergency surgery to amputate his leg in a cramped and dangerous cavern, with the constant threat of loose rock crushing the rescuers

It was the first trip underground for 31-year-old Dr Piet le Clus, who

took two hours — lying on his side — to perform the operation in the early morning of October 16 last year at the Carolusberg copper mine in the Namaqualand town of Nababeep

GANGER

This week the courage of Dr le Clus and Sister Johanna van der Merwe, the Chamber of Mines, which presented the pair with awards for outstanding bravery

And 30-year-old Mr Bakker, a mine ganger,

usually, threatening another rockfall

I was so busy with what I had to do that I didn't have time to feel any fear,' Dr le Clus told Weekend Argus after the awards ceremony

'BRAVE'

Sister van der Merwe, a theatre sister at the O'Keap Copper Company hospital in Nababeep and the first woman to receive the award, was reluctant to discuss her part in the dramatic rescue

But, says Mr van den Bosch, she volunteered to assist Dr le Clus. 'The whole team was very brave. Our work was more important than our feelings,' she said this week.

After the underground operation, Mr Bakker was carried to the surface. Dr le Clus finished the surgery at the mine hospital

THREATENING

Dr le Clus a general practitioner in the town, had to anaesthetise Mr Bakker before amputating his trapped leg with a surgical knife — there was little space to use a surgical saw

The two-hour operation followed a sleepless night for Dr le Clus who had been attending to the other injured miners at the surface

Dust and small rocks fell from the roof continu-

Although Mr Bill Dutton, personnel manager of the mine company, hoped Mr Bakker would be able to return to his underground job, Dr le Clus thought it was more likely that he would get a surface job. Mr Bakker has been kept on full pay by the company

Neither Dr le Clus nor Sister van der Merwe expected the awards which, they said, came as a super surprise.

AWARD FOR HEROES

2125
Tribune
2/12/82

Tribune Reporter

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And 30-year-old Mr Bakker, a mine ganger, was there to see the honoured. He is learning to walk again with an artificial leg.

Presenting the awards at a ceremony in the small mining town, Chamber of Mines president L. W. P. van den Bosch said "The story of this rescue is one of the most stirring in the history of mining. Words can never really do justice to an incident of this kind or fully describe the horror and danger involved."

The rockfall at the mine killed one mine-worker, Mr T. Qoqa, seriously injured another, Mr D. M. Chte, and buried Mr Bakker, who was partly unharmed after his faint cries were heard.

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Mines honour brave doctor and nurse

(212)

Star
17/2/82

A nursing sister and a doctor who amputated the leg of a trapped miner underground were among 12 people who received awards for bravery from the Chamber of Mines this week.

Sister J C van der Merwe is the first woman to receive an award for bravery connected with mining in South Africa.

Neither she nor Dr P le Clus had been down a mine before last October 15, when they amputated a ganger's leg so that he could be freed from under a pile of rocks.

In the citation, Mr L W P van den Bosch, president of the Chamber of Mines, said that a section of the roof at 2384 level of the Carolusberg copper mine at Okiep collapsed on the

ganger and two workmen.

Mr T Qoboka was killed instantly and Mr D M Cloete injured seriously.

Ganger Mr Willem Bakker was trapped under a pile of rock.

It took seven hours to tunnel through the rock to reach Mr Bakker, who had been given a pain-killing injection, but one of his legs could not be freed.

Dr le Clus and Sister van der Merwe went down the mine to amputate the leg.

There was another rockfall during the rescue, and the danger of the rescuers also being trapped.

Mr van den Bosch said the doctor performed the operation lying on his side in a tunnel while the sister passed instruments

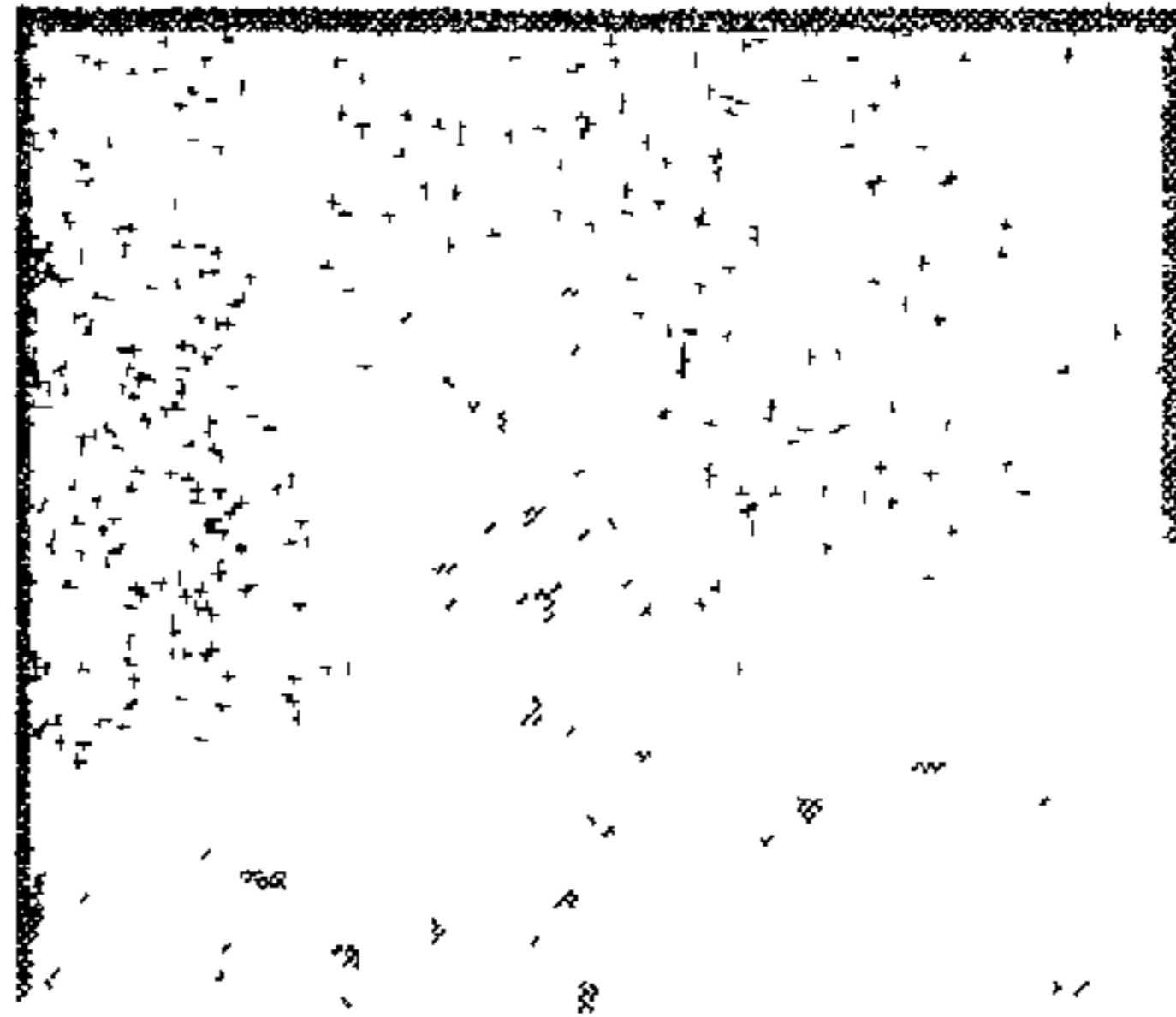
from the entrance.

Other rescue workers also received awards. They were Messrs H A Dippenaar, T S Brand, G Goosen, M Nvekileni, M Daniller, M J Dippenaar, J S Coetzee, S Sihamba, Z Funda and W Macingwana.

Mr van den Bosch said the rescue was one of the most stirring stories in mining history.

UJGT

Dr Piet Le Clus (above) and sister Johanna van der Merwe at this week's ceremony



AWARD FOR HEROES

2125
Tribune
2/2/82

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Pinned under a teetering rock, a doctor cut a trapped miner free.

21/2/82
S. Jones

A SHY doctor told this week of his amazing underground surgery to save a trapped miner while tons of rocks threatened to crush him to death.

Using a knife, hammer and chisel, Dr Piet le Clus of Nababeep in the Northern Cape, worked laboriously for two hours to amputate miner Willem Bakker's leg which had been rapped in a rockfall.

The right-handed Dr le Clus had to perform the operation with his left hand only, while lying on his side. This week, Dr le Clus was one of 12 people to receive a medal for extraordinary bravery from the Chamber of Mines. He is also the first person in South Africa

BY BENNIE VAN DELFT

outside the mining industry to receive such a medal from the chamber.

Among the other recipients were nursing sister Johanna "Kees" van der Merwe, and two mine overseers, Mr Henrie Dippenaar and Mr Theuns Brand.

They performed their heroic deeds on October 15 and 16 when a part of a roof 630m underground at the Carolusberg Mine near Springbok collapsed onto four miners.

One of the labourers died instantly, while another, Mr Dirk Cloete, sustained multiple injuries and is still in hospital.

Mr Bakker, 31, the production ganger in charge of the group, said the roof came down without warning.

Dr Piet le Clus, Mr Willem Bakker and Sister Johanna van der Merwe after their ordeal.
Picture Ambrose Peters



When duty calls

count

on Kees

SISTER Johanna "Kees" van der Merwe who risked being crushed to death while saving a miner underground, is still bewildered at all the honours heaped upon her for her part in the rescue operation.

"I simply did my duty. In fact, I played only a very small part in the whole operation," she said.

Sister van der Merwe was a member of the team which saved the life of Mr Willem Bakker after he had been trapped in a rockfall at Carolusberg Mine near Springbok on October 15 last year.

For risking her life to save the miner, Miss van der Merwe became the first woman to receive a medal for extraordinary bravery from the Chamber of Mines this week.

She will also receive a gold medal from the South African Nursing Association on April 30 for representing the nursing profession in the "highest tradition".

This is the association's top honour and has been granted so far to only 14 nurses.

For Sister van der Merwe, better known as "Kees", all the "fuss for doing my duty" has taken her by surprise.

"I had already forgotten about the mine rescue operation, when a mine official phoned to say that they were going to give me a medal.

"I argued with him and tried to make him understand that I did not deserve it.

"I pointed out that anyone with a little bit of knowledge on first-aid could have done the same, but he said that the medal was not so much for what I did but for what I was prepared to do.

"They said that I put my life on the line to help Mr Bakker," but I still regard it as doing my job.

Sister van der Merwe, who has nursed since 1961, accompanied Dr

Piet le Clus down the mine to help him in performing an amputation on the trapped Mr Bakker.

"I decided on the spur of the moment to help Dr le Clus with the operation.

"I never actually had the time to think about the risk involved as I was too busy packing the necessary instruments.

"It was quite eerie feeling going down the mine in the lift. Only once before — as a visitor — have I been down in a mine."

During the operation, she sat behind the doctor and passed on the instruments as they were required.

"I knocked my head a few times against a rock while reaching for the instruments, until a miner told me to be careful as the slightest bump might cause further rock falls."

"I thought he was joking, but when I looked at his face I could see he was dead serious.

"It was only then that I realised that the rest of the roof could collapse onto us. Sand and pebbles kept falling on me.

"I prayed and this definitely helped me to concentrate on my work and not to think about the possibility of being buried alive.

"I am only a simple person and not a heroine. I came to Nababeep from the Transvaal 12 years ago, because I liked the quietness around here.

"And now I find myself in the limelight for doing my duty as a nurse," she said.

Sunday Times

21/2/82

Hammer

"There was not even enough room to use a saw. To make matters worse, the leg could not be moved and I had to cut through the knee.

"After initially using a scalpel, I eventually had to resort to the surgical hammer and chisel to get through the bones

"I managed to turn my body in such a way that I could hold the chisel with the right hand and the hammer with the other.

"With sand and small rocks still falling down at times, there was no question of sterility."

The operation lasted two hours.

After the amputation, Mr Bakker was taken to the O'Kiep Copper Mine Hospital at Nababeep where Dr le Clus tidied up his emergency surgery.

"A rock pinned down his right leg, but also provided just enough space for Mr Bakker to escape being crushed

Mr Bakker never lost consciousness

When the mine overseer, Mr Hennie Dippenaar, arrived, Mr Bakker assured him he was in no pain

But it took more than 12 hours to make a hole big enough to reach him.

According to Mr Dippenaar there was always the danger that more rockfalls would occur, crushing survivors and rescuers

"We had to be very careful. Mine props first had to be placed into position to stabilise the roof, but even this was no guarantee against further rockfalls," Mr Dippenaar said

Only solution

"We could not use dynamite to reach Mr Bakker

"With the aid of drills and a rock splitter we managed to make a hole three metres long, one metre high and half a metre wide.

"There was no way we could remove the rock trapping Mr Bakker as the rest of the roof would collapse.

"The only solution was to amputate the trapped leg to free the miner," said Mr Dippenaar

For Dr le Clus it meant going underground for the first time in his life

"I asked Sister van der Merwe to prepare the amputation kit and the necessary drugs

"She offered to come down with me, but I thought it was too dangerous for her

"But she was adamant

"The mine management didn't like the idea either.

"I was not really worried about going underground — I was more concerned over whether I had all the necessary instruments for the operation

"Looking back, I am very glad that Sister van der Merwe accompanied me. I doubt whether I could have done the amputation without her assistance"

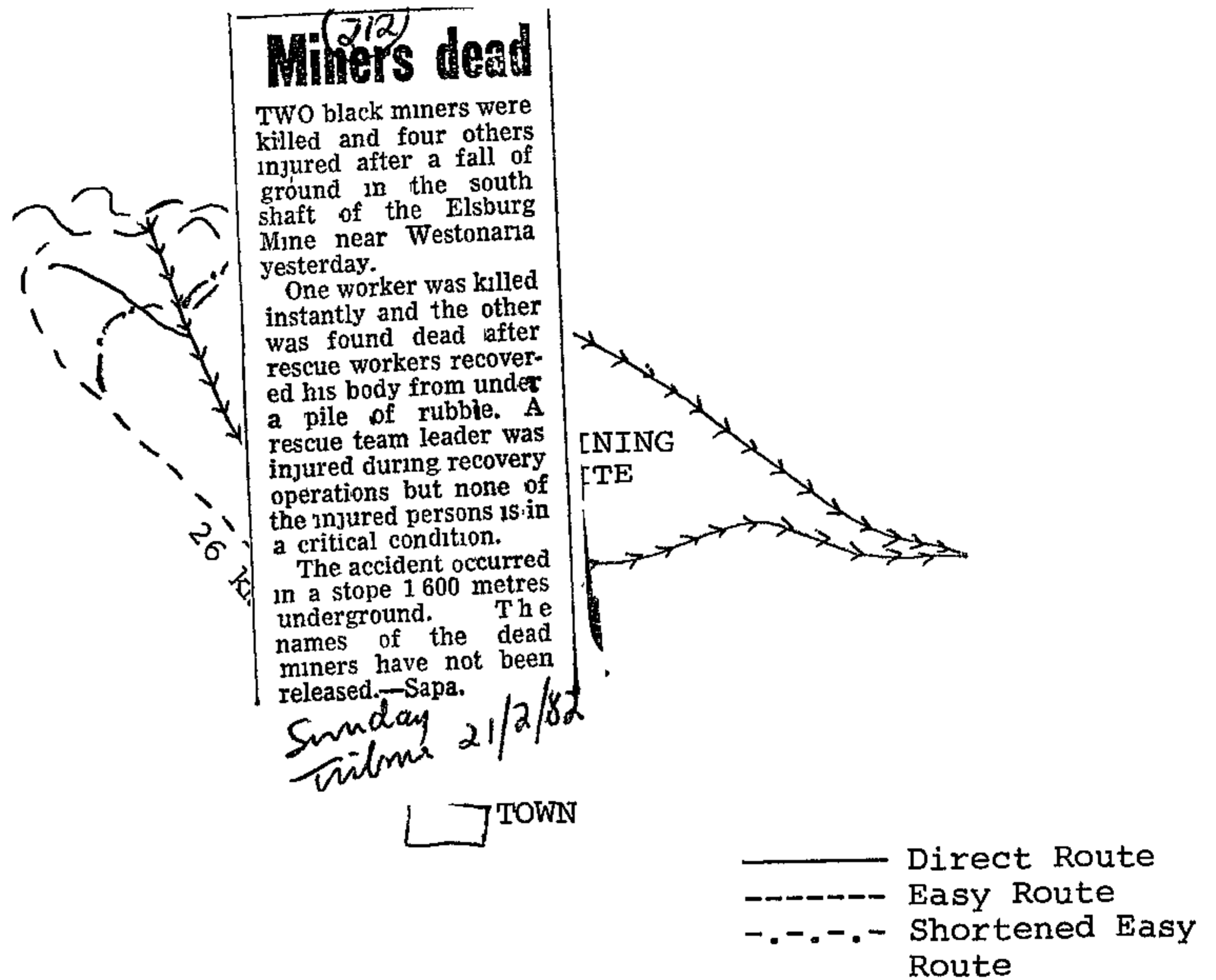
After setting up the lights and crawling into the hole, Dr le Clus found a very calm patient

Mr Bakker had accepted the fact that he would lose part of his leg

"Mr Bakker cut off his own trousers with a knife and helped me tremendously in preparing for the operation

"When everything was ready, I gave him two anaesthetic injections

There was so little space to work in that I had to lie on my right side. I also had to remove my hard hat



Write the report of your investigation and make recommendations.

5.3.2 Chemical Engineering

Working as a chemical engineer for the Cape Town City Council, you have been asked to investigate complaints received from the public about the proposed new nuclear power station/fertiliser plant/oil refinery to be erected soon. These complaints include:

(a) Power Station

- Claims by conservationists that the power station will cause thermal pollution and that once this starts, it is difficult to control.
- Claims that there is the danger of explosions, and that the site of the proposed power station is too close to large residential suburbs.
- Claims that the waste products would not only be difficult to dispose of, but are also hazardous to health.

(b) Fertiliser Plant

- Claims by conservationists that the dust pollution may be difficult to control.
- Claims that the nitric and sulphuric acid fumes will attack and erode metal such as window frames and cars.
- Claim by the health representatives that these fumes will cause an increase in the incidence of bronchial problems in children.

211 10/11
**Ground fall
kills miners**

CR/2/102

Mail Reporter

TWO miners were killed and four injured on Saturday after a fall of ground in the south shaft of the Westonaria Gold Mine at Elsburg

One miner was killed instantly and the other was found dead by rescue workers. The accident occurred 1 600m underground

Sapa reports a rescue team leader was injured during recovery operations, but none of the injured is in a critical condition

The names of the dead have not been released

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MATTER OF

Miners killed

JOHANNESBURG — Two miners were killed and 14 injured in a rock burst in Harmony Number Two shaft at the Harmony gold mine near Virginia in the Orange Free State on Tuesday ²¹²

None of the injured men was badly hurt —

Sapa

CAPE TIMES 4/3/82

Mercury
14/4/82
712

Quake traps 7000 down mine

By GRANT COLLARD
AT LEAST seven miners are believed dead and seven thousand were trapped deep underground for many hours in the Free State Geduld gold mine, near Welkom, yesterday when an earthquake measuring five on the Richter scale hit the area.

The tremor caused shafts one and four to subside and rescue workers devised a plan to transport the trapped miners, underground, to neighbouring shafts two and three, from which they were brought to the surface.

Recovery of the living, dead and injured proved to be a massive task, with the earthquake striking at 1.30 pm and mine captain Viljoen telling the Mercury eight hours later that 'not everyone has been brought up yet'.

Although Free State Geduld's general manager, Mr Opperman, said earlier in the evening that as far as he knew no loss of life had been suffered, Mr Viljoen told the Mercury from his post in Shaft Three at 10 pm that 'at least seven bodies have been recovered, but I must emphasise that that figure's an approximation at this time'.

Impossible

Mr Viljoen said it was 'impossible' to give even a rough estimate of the number of injured.

When asked if he could give a first-hand account of the tremor and its aftermath Mr Viljoen said he didn't have the time 'because there's still too much going on here, although I must tell you there's no state of emergency here'.

Free State Geduld's engineering manager, Mr Ivan Basson, was still involved in the recovery programme when the Mercury telephoned his home last night but his wife said that when the quake hit no one thought it was going to have the effect it did.

'We were sitting having lunch and all of us jumped from our chairs. I looked at my watch and noticed it was 1.30 exactly. My first thought was that the tremor wasn't as bad as the one we had in December 1976.'

212
Man dies
in mine
rockfall

JOHANNESBURG — One miner was killed and 20 injured in a localised rockfall caused by an earth tremor that shook the Free State Geduld mine near Welkom

An Anglo American spokesman said about 2 000 mineworkers were involved

He said the tremor damaged the hoisting mechanism at Number One shaft and part of the shaft lining of Number Four shaft.

As a result, underground workers could not be hoisted to the surface in these shafts and had to make their way to Number Two and Number Three shafts, which were undamaged.

Mine officials descended the shafts to ensure that all workers were able to leave the underground workings safely, the spokesman added. — Sapa

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ARGUS 14/4/82

8 killed,

7 hurt ⁽²¹²⁾

in mine shaft sinking

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —
Eight men were killed and seven injured, three seriously, in an accident at Amcoal's New Denmark Colliery near Standerton shortly after 1 pm yesterday.

The accident occurred during shaft sinking operations on the central mine service shaft being carried out by Shaft Sinkers Ltd.

The cause of the accident is the subject of an inquiry by the Government mining engineers department. However, initial reports are that steel shuttering and concrete lining collapsed on to the workers from a point about eight metres above the shaft bottom which is 170 metres deep.

Miner dies during rockfall

CAPE TOWN
14/4/82
212

JOHANNESBURG — One mineworker was killed and 20 injured in a localised rockfall caused by an earth tremor which shook the Free State Geduld mine near Welkom at 120pm yesterday

About 2000 mineworkers were trapped underground, for several hours. Most had been brought to the surface by 1130pm

An Anglo American spokesman said last night that a tremor damaged the hoisting mechanism at the No 1 shaft and part of the shaft lining of No 4 shaft. As a result, underground workers could not be hoisted to the surface in these shafts and had to make their way underground to the undamaged No 2 and No 3 shafts.

According to eyewitnesses this proved to be a massive task.

Mine officials descended the shafts to ensure all workers were able to leave the underground workings safely, the spokesman added — Own Correspondent-Sapa

L.A. Times 15/4/82

Miner dies, 3 missing

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —
Three miners are missing and one has died after an earth tremor shook the Free State Geduld mine at Welkom on Tuesday, trapping 7 000 men underground.

A dramatic rescue operation was mounted to lead them to safety underground through pitch-black, dust-filled tunnels after two lift shafts were put out of action.

Mr Jack Paseka Ncubuka, 31, a senior miner from KwaZulu, was killed by falling debris just after the tremor occurred at 1 27pm.

Yesterday, 20 injured miners were still in the Oppenheimer mine hospital in Welkom.

Last ²¹² miners safe ^{Sowetan} 15/4/82

ABOUT 2 000 trapped gold miners at Free State Geduld Mine near Welkom were rescued after an earthquake and rockfall last night.

The last 40 miners trapped in the accident, which claimed the life of one and injured 20 people, came to the surface in the early hours of the morning.

An Anglo-American spokesman said that repairs were being made to number 1 and 4 shafts which were damaged by the earthquake.

The trapped miners — 4 000 of them at one stage — had to walk up to 5 km underground through connecting tunnels and underground workings to escape via two undamaged shafts.

(212) Mail Reporter

2001

75/4/82

EIGHT men were killed and seven injured when they were crushed by falling steel and concrete while working underground at a coal mine near Standerton late on Tuesday night.

The collapse occurred during shaft sinking operations at Amcoal's New Denmark Colliery while the men were working on the central mine shaft.

The accident, according to a spokesman for the mine, occurred when steel shuttering and concrete lining collapsed onto the workers from a point about eight metres above the shaft bottom at a depth of about 170m.

All the dead and injured were employed by Shaft Sinkers Pty, who are working on contract to the mine.

Mr Rob Hudson, a spokes-

8 killed, 7 hurt in mine tragedy

man for the mine, said in Johannesburg yesterday the cause of the accident was being investigated by the Government Mining Engineers Department.

He said the names of the dead and injured would be released as soon as their next of kin had been notified.

212

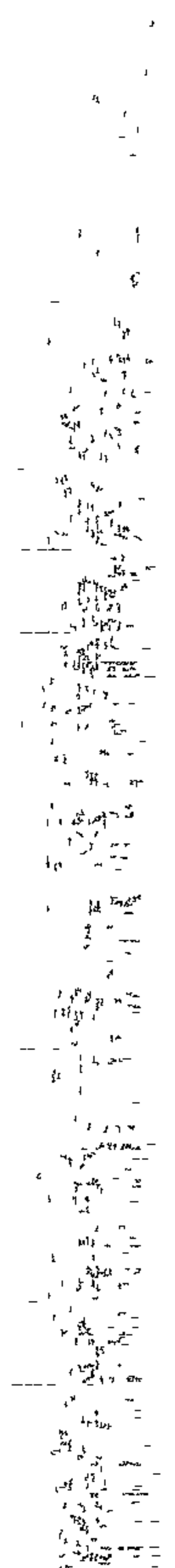
3 miners found dead

Star 15/4/82

Three black miners missing at Free State Geduld mine after several earth tremors were found dead early today.

The men, who were last seen alive after the first tremor on Tuesday morning, had apparently sought refuge in a steep ore pass tunnel where a second tremor caused a rockfall which killed them.

Their bodies will be brought to the surface later today by rescuers who will have to hike through many kilometres of mine tunnels.



(212) Soweto
15/4/82

Eight miners killed

EIGHT black miners were this week killed and seven others injured when steel-shuttering and concrete-lining collapsed on them in Standerton.

In another mine accident the same day, one miner Mr Jack Ncubuka (31) and 19 injured at the Geduld Gold Mine after a severe earth tremor in Welkom, Free State

About 7 000 mine-workers had to leave their damaged shafts by alternative routes, but a mine spokesman said they were not trapped

By yesterday, three were still missing and a search team of 100 were busy searching for them. Mine officials believed the three were still alive

Sapa reports that the

accident occurred during a shaft-sinking operation on the central mine service shaft. The cause of the accident was being investigated by the Government's Mining Engineers Department, and the names of the dead and injured have not been released pending notification of their next of kin

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Tremors:

APR 15 15/4/82
3 miners

212
found dead

JOHANNESBURG. —
Three black miners missing at Free State Geduld mine after several earth tremors were found dead early today.

The men, who were seen alive after the first tremor on Tuesday morning, had apparently sought refuge in a steep ore pass tunnel where a second tremor caused a rockfall which killed them.

Their bodies will be brought to the surface today by rescuers making a hike of many kilometres through mine tunnels.

Mr Karel Opperman, the mine manager, said it was not known yet when the two shafts, knocked out by the tremors would be back in operation. — Sapa.

Miner dies in tremor

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Three mineworkers are missing and one miner has died after an earth tremor shook the Free State Geduld mine at Welkom on Tuesday, trapping 7 000 miners underground.

Two of the mine's lift shafts were put out of action and a dramatic rescue operation was mounted to lead the thousands of miners to safety through pitch-black, dust-filled mine tunnels.

The one fatality, Mr Jack Paseka Ncbubuka, 31, a senior miner from KwaZulu, was killed by falling debris just after the tremor occurred at 1 27pm.

Yesterday, 20 miners were still in the Oppenheimer mine hospital in Welkom with injuries. The condition of four was serious but they were "definitely out of danger." Twenty miners suffered heat exhaustion and 120 others had minor abrasions and bruises.

The earth tremor, registering five on the Richter scale and followed by four smaller shocks, caused immediate havoc in the long mine corridors below the damaged No 1 and No 4 shafts.

These two shafts, which are 1 400m apart, shifted dangerously at a depth of 1 300m and put the lifts out of action.

Thousands of frightened miners milled about for long, horror-filled minutes in the dust-filled tunnels.

Yesterday, mining in all but the two damaged shafts continued.

MINERS DIE

16/1/77 21 Sowetan
THE bodies of three
black mineworkers were
found early yesterday
morning in a disused
ore-pass at the Free
State Geduld Gold Mine
near Welkom which was
shaken by several earth
tremors on Tuesday, a
spokesman for Anglo
American said in Johan
nesburg

This brings the total
number of men killed in
the incident to four

(212) ROM 16/4/82

Miners died as they sheltered in shaft

Mail Reporter

THREE more miners were found dead at the Free State Geduld Gold Mine near Welkom yesterday, bringing to four the number killed at the mine — which was shaken by five earth tremors on Tuesday

The three bodies were brought to the surface yesterday by search teams who were sent out when it was realised the three men were missing after 7 000 of their colleagues were brought to the surface in a massive 10-hour rescue mission

The bodies were found in a disused ore shaft 1 400m below ground

The victims' names are being withheld until their next of kin have been notified

The panic-stricken men had apparently crawled into the ore-shaft in a bid to escape shortly after the first tremor struck at 1 27pm, mine officials said

The 7 000 miners were trapped underground be-

cause the tremors, which registered five on the Richter scale, had put Nos 1 and 4 lift shafts out of action

The two shafts were still being repaired yesterday

Production in the stopes below will not resume until engineers certify they are safe. This may not be for several more days, a mine official said.

Engineers are still working round-the-clock to repair and test the two damaged, 700m-long sections which are 1 400m beneath the surface

"This is a painstakingly slow procedure. Every centimetre has to be sounded with seismic equipment to test its strength and, also, shifted sections have to be shaved off," he said

● Tomorrow the Rand Daily Mail will publish an exclusive account of how 60 of the mine's senior officials led the thousands of frightened men to safety through dust-filled, disused tunnels

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Three more added to mine death toll

• CAPE TIMES 10/4/82 (212)

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Three more miners were found dead at the Free State Geduld gold mine near Welkom yesterday, bringing the total number of dead at the mine — which was shaken by five earth tremors on Tuesday — to four

The three men were brought to the surface yesterday afternoon by search teams sent out when it was realized the three men were still missing after 7 000 colleagues had been brought to the surface during a massive 10-hour rescue mission

The bodies were found in a disused ore shaft 1 400 m below the disabled No 4 shaft. Their names will not be released till next-of-kin have been notified

The panic-stricken men had apparently crawled into the ore-shaft shortly

after the first of five tremors struck at 1 27pm in a frenzied attempt to escape, mine officials said

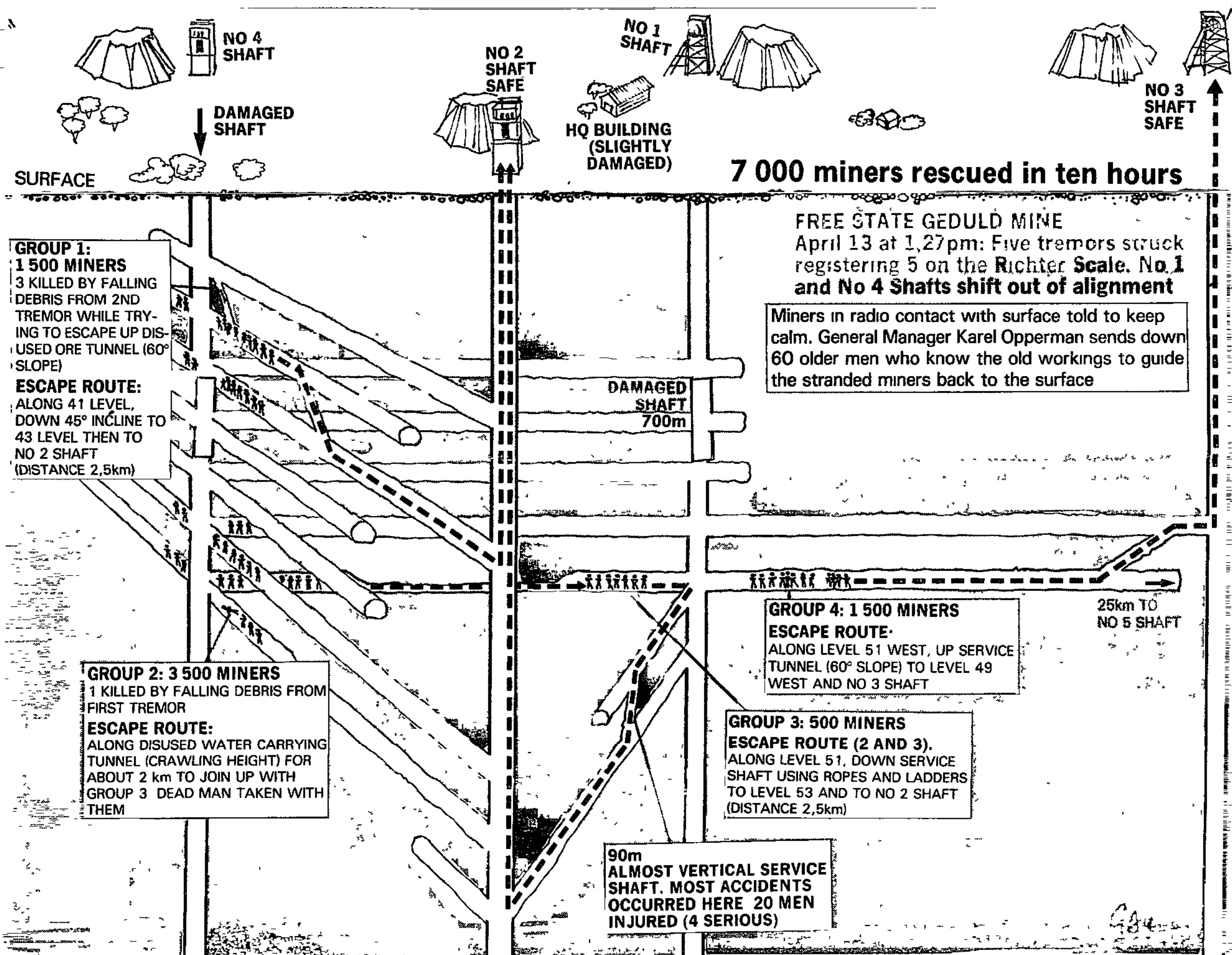
The 7 000 miners were trapped underground because the tremors, which registered five on the Richter scale, had disabled lift shafts No 1 and No 4

The two shafts were still being repaired yesterday, and production in the stopes below would not be resumed till engineers certified them safe for use

This might take several more days, a mine official said yesterday

Engineers are still working round-the-clock to repair and test the two damaged, 700 m-long sections, which are 1 400 m beneath the surface

"This is a painstakingly slow procedure. Every centimetre has to be sounded with seismic equipment to test their strength and also, the shifted sections have to be shaved off," he said



How 7 000 miners surfaced alive

WHEN the first tremor shook Welkom at 1 27pm on Tuesday, the Free State town held its breath as people remembered the terror and destruction of the 1979 quake

Another four tremors, registering a total of 5 on the Richter scale, followed and within minutes it was all over — for people on the surface

But more than 1km under the nearby Free State Geduld mine the panic and terror was only starting

The trembling earth bent the cage guides out of shape inside lift shafts Nos 1 and 4 across a length of 700m, 1½km below the surface

This effectively put their lifts out of action, because the high-speed elevator cages — which carry 100 men each — could have struck the rocks along the manager, Mr Karel Opperman, found himself faced with an in-

route and plummeted to earth, 5km down

This was the grim prospect for the 7 000 miners working the stopes below, because many did not know their way about the thousands of tunnels, inclines and shafts in the huge seven-shaft mine, which covers a total surface area of 32km by 16km

Meanwhile, the mine's general credible dilemma

With two of the seven mine shafts out of order, some quick rescue planning for the 7 000 marooned miners was called for

Basically, there were four different groups of miners working various levels, many of whom had to be brought out through mine tunnels normally used only to transport water and ore

One of the great fears on the surface was that the panic-stricken miners would run amok in the dust-filled caverns in their anxiety to get to safety

ADA STUIJT reports on the dramatic Welkom mine disaster rescue operation.

"The first human reaction after such a shock hits your stope, is to run to the surface the immediate instinct is to crawl into the first upward-bending tunnel you see," says a mine safety-specialist

It was then that the cool-headed general manager and 60 senior officials, all ex-miners with extensive knowledge of little-known escape routes, swung into action

A priority was to calm the miners underground

The surface officials did this through their permanent radio links to the thousands of men below, keeping them informed — and telling them to stay where they were until advised when to evacuate

Mr Opperman used his senior personnel's knowledge of the many thousands of tunnels crisscrossing the levels belowground

The 60 rescuers volunteered to go down the undamaged Nos 2 and 3 shafts while their worried colleagues mulling about kilometres beneath the surface were told, by radio, how and when they were going to be guided to safety

The thousands of miners had to walk and crawl, slide up and down inclining shafts and climb across waterpipes and ore-rails for many kilometres in the gloomy tunnels, lit only with light from their miners' helmets

Four men died during the tremors but the mammoth res-

cue operation, which took 10 hours to complete, was accomplished with only 20 men injured — four of them seriously

Another 20 men were stricken with heat exhaustion

The bruises and abrasions on 120 of the rescued men, were treated and all 7 000 men were closely examined for symptoms of shock

The mine clinic's nurses and doctors were helped by medical personnel from two other Anglo-American mines nearby, and the injured men were rushed to the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Hospital in Welkom for emergency treatment as soon as they arrived on the surface

Of the dead, one senior team leader incurred fatal head injuries when debris fell on him during the tremors and three died when, panic-stricken, they apparently had crawled head on into an ore shaft after the first

tremor

The three dead men were brought to the surface on Wednesday after search teams had found them — 24 hours after they were reported missing

All the rescuers were "back on the job as usual" this week — as was their general manager For him, there was only one way to describe the rescue "That's a miner's life," he said

And those miners had plenty of work to catch up with two mine shafts needed repair, mine tunnels required damage inspection

And of course, it was business as usual

Ore still waited in the bowels of the mine from which then 7 000 colleagues had been so efficiently rescued that week

For the precious gold ins. that ore men risk lives and save lives

That will never change

(212) ROM 17/4/82

Single man inspects mine safety

CAPL Times 28/4/82

212

18.

Political Staff
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
- Only one person is employed at present in South Africa to inspect the 700 000 people working on the mines to ensure that the occupational safety laws are enforced

Address:

Telephone:

Officials:

Area of Operation:

Founded: 1979

Registration: No (1)

MINERS' ASSOCIATION OF S.A.

The Medical Bureau for occupational diseases whose annual report for April 1980 to March 1981 was tabled in Parliament yesterday said there should be three inspectors for the job. But at present, the bureau said there were only two posts and one of these was vacant. It explained that the salary scales and nature of the work which required constant travel attract staff.

To cope with the situation the bureau called in batches of X-ray films but although this served a useful purpose it cannot be regarded as a satisfactory substitute for personal visits to mines and works by an inspector of radiological services.

The bureau said "With only one inspector available it is impossible to make regular inspections of all controlled mines and works particularly those on smaller mines. The inspector concentrates on smaller mines and works, particularly those which do not have a full-time medical officer, but even these can not be visited often enough to ensure adequate supervision on a continuous basis.

"There are many places where the records of medical examinations and the quality of X-ray films from time to time fall short of the minimum standard required but a consistent improvement till the staff situation is rectified. The bureau also reported a high turnover of staff in other sections although most vacant posts were eventually filled.

It concluded that the mining industry was expanding and the bureau had to be prepared for greater responsibility

(1) Applied for registration but objections raised by other unions.

CAPR TIMES 28/4/82

Mine death after tremor

JOHANNESBURG — A miner was killed and seven were slightly injured after an earth tremor and pressure burst at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine near Klerksdorp in the Western Transvaal yesterday.

The tremor measured 3,6 on the Richter scale and affected the mine's No 4 shaft. Production was only marginally affected.

The name of the dead man has not been released as his next-of-kin have yet to be informed.

— Sapa

This Union formed in 1980 is presently administered by Mr. A.B. Sookul of the Natal Branch of the Transport Workers Union (Coloured and Asian)

NATIONAL UNION OF SEAMEN (SOUTH AFRICA)

Johannesburg where in

for 28/4/82
4 die in (12)

gold mines

Four miners were killed last night in separate incidents at two Anglo American Corporation gold mines

At Vaal Reefs, southwest of Johannesburg, a minor earth tremor killed two and injured seven but there was little damage

A rockburst at Western Deep Levels, southwest of Johannesburg, also killed two miners and a search was started for three who were missing. Damage was slight. — Reuter

Registration: Yes

Founded:

Area of Operation: Transvaal

Officials: Secretary: W.J. de Bruyn

Telephone:

Address: P.O. Box 1341
Pretoria
0001

PERSONEELVERENIGING VAN DIE TRANSVAALSE RAAD VIR ONTWIKKELING
VAN DIE BUITESTEDELIKE GEBIEDE

29/4/81 (212)
Search for missing miners
 Mail Reporter
 RESCUE workers last night were digging through tons of rubble and rock for two missing miners after a rockfall at Western Deep Levels, near Carletonville, which killed three miners
 On Tuesday two miners were killed and seven injured after a pressure burst at Vaal Reefs near Klerksdorp.

The Union disaffiliated from

affiliated in 1981.

A light-fir

Industrial Council: Industrial Council for the Chemical Manufacturing Industry
 Registration: Yes
 Founded:
 Area of Operation:
 Officials: Secretary: D. Smit
 Address: P.O. Box 4990 Johannesburg 2000
 Telephone: (011) 237 459

Year	Membership		
	African	Asian and Coloured	White
1980		570	140
1979		570	140
1978		528	150
1977		619	176
1976		624	157
1975		577	167
1974	
1973		587	255
1972	
1971	
1970	
			Total

CHEMICAL WORKERS UNION

4 ⁽²¹²⁾ die in
Buffels ^{stau}
blaze ^{24/5/82}

Four black mineworkers died in Buffelsfontein Goldmine near Klerksdorp on Saturday when a fire broke out 2 300 m underground, a spokesman for Gencor said in Johannesburg today

The area was immediately sealed off but a rescue team found three men dead, apparently overcome by smoke

A fourth man, a member of an investigation team, died yesterday from gas inhalation

The fire is thought to have been caused by a welding machine.

The exact cause would be investigated, the spokesman said

He said the fire had been brought under control

Production had been only slightly affected and this morning's shift had gone down as usual

— Sapa

4 DIE UNDERGROUND

FOUR black mine workers died in the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Klerksdorp at the weekend when a fire broke out 2 300m underground, a spokesman for Gencor said yesterday.

The area was immediately sealed off, but a

212 Sometan 25/5/82
rescue team found three men dead, apparently from the smoke. A fourth man, a member of an investigatory team, died on Sunday from gas inhalation.

The fire is thought to have been caused by a welding machine — Sapa

4. CONSIDERATION TO RECOMMENDATIONS

THE COMMITTEE COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS

INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDATIONS:-

Recommendation 1.

That the universities keep the administration under constant review from time to time.

control, management and C.U.P. consider the matter

Comment.

The Committee recommended approval.

Recommendation 2.

That any transfer to the senate of functions proper to the council should be guarded against.

Comment.

While the Committee recommended approval, it drew attention to the fact the recommendation appears to be too rigidly worded and may prohibit any future change in the existing functions from Council to Senate. The Committee considered that changes in the functions of Senate and Council should be made possible, provided they are carried out legally and constitutionally.

Recommendation 3.

That each university consolidate all its regulations and statutes as soon as possible and keep them up to date and submit copies, as amended and supplemented from time to time, to the Department of National Education.

Comment.

The Committee noted the Recommendation.

Recommendation 4.

That the mechanisms recommended by the Commission, viz the State subvention formula, the reorganised U.A.C. (A.C.U.), liaison and interaction between universities and other institutions will jointly function efficiently over the next decades.

Comment.

The Committee noted the above Recommendation which appeared to be a Finding.

Recommendation 5.

That from an organisational, administrative and academic point of view, the ten White residential universities and Unisa will be able effectively to supply the need for university education during the next three of four decades.

ROM 25/5/82
Four miners die in fire (212) underground

Mail Reporter

FOUR mine workers died after a fire 2300m underground at the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Klerksdorp at the weekend. The fire broke out on Saturday and the affected area was immediately sealed off, a spokesman for the General Mining Union Corporation, which owns the mine, said yesterday. Rescue workers found the bodies of three men. A fourth man - a member of an investigatory team - died on Sunday from gas inhalation. The names of the dead have been withheld until their next-of-kin have been informed. The cause of the fire is being investigated. It was extinguished yesterday.

On the witnesses th attract the enabled to climate that Teaching in the great m what is off original wo best brains responsible for intelligence. It is staff should other acad equipped in those oppor

agrees with the view of relative position to universities should be and exciting possibilities. ing enough for some, but for tal leaders in this category e opportunity of doing The need for the universities whose he ablest men and women every sector of our society. that university academic opportunity for research and

Although teaching is one of the university's basic functions, teaching and the academic staff's other duties should be seen as complementary. In cases where research is actually relevant, it would be a waste of potential to appoint a person to the teaching staff without affording him sufficient opportunity for research. In the teaching of undergraduates a lecturer's ability to teach and to stimulate young, developing minds is enhanced if he is engaged in research of his own. In the long run, the student will probably benefit more by being taught by someone who

The individual teaching load will obviously vary according to the nature of the subject and the way in which it is taught. Fewer lectures means more written assignments, which in turn means the extra work of marking them, or a greater number of tutorials or discussion groups. The preparation required for some lectures, particularly those for advanced classes, may take more time than lectures for less advanced classes, and differs from subject to subject. Nevertheless the Commission feels that it should give an indication of what it regards as a reasonable teaching load for an individual member of the teaching staff. In the light of the evidence, the Commission considers that it would be fair to say that, by and large, ten hours a week should be laid down for teaching, whether in the form of formal lectures, tutorials or discussion groups, and for laboratory classes. Allowing for the time spent on preparation and marking, this should normally leave teaching staff enough time for private study and research. The result is that there are fewer chances of promotion, a good research record being an important factor here. A teaching load which makes reasonable participation in research practically impossible often gives rise to resignations, with the inevitable result that the remaining members of the staff have to carry an even heavier teaching load if substitutes cannot be found quickly.

28.9

COMMISSION/...

Pink Eye hits 400 miners

A NUMBER of patients in a sanatorium in the West Rand have fallen victim to the Pink Eye epidemic.

The disease has also spread to a gold mine in the West Rand, where a total of 400 mineworkers were treated at the Libanon Mine near Westonaria during the past week.

At the Rand West Mental Hospital a large number of patients are being treated each day since the outbreak of Pink Eye about two weeks ago. Authorities confirmed that the disease had struck at the hospital but refused to reveal the number of patients who are affected.

He said the disease was now under control and a doctor is currently busy treating the patients.

By LEN KALANE

Reports reaching The SOWETAN show that about 12 patients are being removed from their wards each day to get treatment. The largest number was when 36 patients were treated in one day during last week.

The total number of patients who have had Pink Eye at the hospital is unknown and further enquiries were referred to the State Health Department in Pretoria. It is also believed that Pink Eye has struck at the Sterkfontein Sanatorium near Krugersdorp.

But the superintendent at Sterkfontein Dr G Withinshaw, said he had no comment to make concerning these allegations. He referred The SOWETAN to the St John Eye Hospital.

At the Libanon Gold Mine, the compound manager said Pink Eye problems started at the beginning of May and mineworkers had to be removed from their crowded hostels to be treated at a rate of about 50 each day. The total number of miners who have contracted the disease shot up to 400 last week. The mine has a total of 7 300 workers, he said.

He said production was not affected during the week when the disease was at its worst.

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Amalgamated Engineering Union of South Africa
Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers
CONSTRUCTION
Johannesburg Municipal Water Works Mechanics Union
General Workers Union
Escom Workers Association
Escom Salaried Staff Association
Escom (Cape Western Undertaking) Salaried Staff Association
Cape Town Gas Workers Union
ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER
Diamond Cutters Union of South Africa
Jewellers and Goldsmiths Union
Optical Workers Union
S.A. Association of Dental Mechanicians
S.A. Diamond Workers Union
Other

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG

One miner is believed to have been killed and 26 miners injured in a rock burst at the West Rand Consolidated Mine at Krugersdorp early today.

Some of the injured are said to be in a serious condition

A spokesman for the ambulance department said today that 25 of the injured miners were blacks and had been admitted to the mine hospital while the other had been taken to the Cottesloe Hospital in

APR 64S 17/6/82
Mine rock burst kills

1; 26 hurt

212

Johannesburg, suffering from head injuries.

The men were trapped underground at about 6 am when the rock burst occurred. The resultant tremor was felt several kilometres from the mine

Miner dies in 212 West Rand tremor

AT least one black miner was killed and six others injured when a rockfall occurred following an earth tremor at the West Rand Consolidated Mine near Krugersdorp yesterday.

Earlier reports reaching The SOWETAN indicated that a major mine disaster had occurred with people trapped underground. A Public Relations Officer for the mine, Ms Sandra Nel said as far as she knew 16 people had been trapped.

On investigating, a SOWETAN team was escorted out of the Deep Shaft at the mine by an

By **LEN KALANE**

official who said they were trespassing and warned that the team should not report the incident. There were a number of ambulances parked in front of the Deep Shaft apparently waiting for rescuers to bring injured miners to the surface.

Inquiries were referred to Gemco, the

head office in Johannesburg, where several attempts to contact the senior manager, Mr P L Grimbeek, were futile. However, the PRO for the Johannesburg office, Mr Neil Ackerman, said he did not have all the facts but has sent a statement to the South African Press Association (Sapa).

He said only one person had died when the rockfall occurred yesterday morning at about 6.20. He said nobody had been trapped underground and those injured had probably been sent to a mine hospital.

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CHANG OVER 10/70

Award for CDM mine

21/6/82 (212)

RDM

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WINDHOEK — CDM's Mit-
tag mine near Opranjemund
has been judged the safest
large mine in Namibia and
South Africa. It is the first
time a Namibian mine has
won the National Occupa-
tional Safety Organisation
competition for mines with
more than 250 employees.
Mittag is at Consolidated

Diamond Mine's No 2 plant
area and consists of mining
and metallurgical sections as
well as an engineering com-
plex at Uubvley.

The company had also won
an award by the SWA/Nami-
bian Chamber of Mines for
working more than a million
shifts without a fatal acci-
dent — Sapa.

(212)

Worker missing in mine explosion

East Rand Bueau

An intensive search has been launched for a carpenter missing since yesterday's explosion at Grootvlei Proprietary Mines, near Springs

Six men died and 14 were injured

The missing man is Mr H P G Jantzen a carpenter Mine officials fear he may not have survived

The explosion occurred in the mine's Number 4 shaft

BURNS

Among the dead were Mr Nick Jacobs (49) and Mr M C Haasbroek, both of Springs, and Koos Jonker (59), of Brakpan

Most of the injured, mainly black, were admitted to the Rand Mutual Mine Hospital in Johannesburg with burns

One of them is reported to be in a serious condition

CAGE

Mr H de Lange, of Selection Park, Springs, also injured in the explosion, was admitted to the Cottesloe Mine Hospital in Johannesburg

He was later transferred to Springs

According to a spokesman for the mine the accident occurred about 7 am when the cage in which the men were travelling was leaving an intermediate pump station underground.

An electrical fault in one of the pump station starters is believed to have been the cause of the blast

The damaged cage continued to the surface where the injured and two dead were removed

GASES

Two bodies were recovered from the pump station and two from the mine

A five man proto team was sent down to the pump station soon after the explosion to ensure that the area was clear of toxic gases

The spokesman said production had been marginally affected.

"The Chief Inspector of Mines accompanied me down the mine yesterday and he was of the opinion I hold that the explosion was probably caused by an electrical fault," said the spokesman.

DRIVER

Mr Jacobs, of Vischkuil Small Holdings was a fitter and turner at the mine

He leaves a wife Lettie and three children Niek (25), Kobie (21) and Karin (11)

Mr Jonker of Prince George Street, was a hoist driver He leaves a wife Mien, and two daughters, Annatjie (25) and Annelie (15)

Mr Haasbroek, of Aston Wood, was a carpenter.

Miner missing after blast

ARGUS 28/6/87

(212)

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A search has been launched for a mineworker who has been missing since yesterday's explosion at Grootvlei Proprietary Mines near Springs, in which six men were killed and 14 injured.

The missing man is Mr H P G Jantzen, an underground carpenter.

The explosion in the mine's No 4 shaft happened about 8 am.

Three of the mineworkers who were killed were Mr Nick Jacobs, 49, Mr M C Haasbroek of Springs, and Mr Koos Jonker, 59 of Bra'pan.

The names of the three other dead will be released when their next-of-kin have been informed.

IN HOSPITAL

The injured, who are mainly black, were admitted to Rand Mutual Mine Hospital, Johannesburg with electrical burns. One of them is reported to be in a serious condition.

Mr H de Lange of Selection Park, Springs, who was also injured in the explosion, was admitted to Cottesloe Mine Hospital, Johannesburg but was later transferred back to Springs.

Nine injured as blast shatters shaft cage on East Rand mine

SIX DIE IN EXPLOSION

Sowetan 28/6/88 (212)

AT least six mineworkers, three of them whites, are believed to have been killed and several injured in an explosion at the Grootlei Proprietary Mine on the East Rand yesterday.

The explosion, said to have occurred just after 8am, happened when the cables propelling the shaft cage exploded. Fifteen miners were travelling in the cage at Number Four Shaft.

BY LEN KLANE

The accident was apparently the result of an electrical fault in the intermediate shaft pump stations and took place as the cage was passing the pump station, a mine spokesman said. He could not elaborate further as investigations into the explosion are still underway.

Mineworkers in the area said they had heard about the accident but had been barred from going near the scene where there is a heavy

presence of white officials. A clerk at the command said the place has been cordoned off. We haven't heard any developments. They don't want us to come near.

An employee at the mine hospital said the bodies of three whites and three blacks killed in the explosion were in the mortuary. He said

nine other injured mineworkers were rushed to Wenela in Johannesburg with facial burns. Initial reports indicated that two people had died in the explosion but later a mine employee said the number had gone up to six. It was not clear whether other miners were trapped as reports showed that the affected cage was put out of operation.

Mine blast: missing miner feared dead

212 Mail Reporter ^{WDM 29/6/82}

THE search for the miner who disappeared after Sunday's explosion in which six were killed and 14 injured at the Number 4 shaft at Grootvlei Proprietary Mines near Springs is continuing

Mine officials now fear that Mr H P G Jantzen a carpenter, was killed in the explosion which claimed the lives of Mr Koos Jonker 59, of Brakpan Mr Nick Jacobs, 49, of Springs, and Mr M C Haasbroek also of Springs

The names of the other three dead will not be released until their next-of-kin are informed

Most of the injured have been admitted to the Rand Mutual Hospital in Johannesburg with burns

Mine officials say the explosion occurred at an intermediate pump station on the fourth level, 700m below

ground and about 50m from the lift shaft

The explosion apparently happened when the three-tier cage lift containing the workers was about to pull to the surface

It blew the steel door off the bottom cage of the lift and buckled the back of the cage

It is believed that an electrical fault in one of the pump station's starters could have been the cause of the blast

The general manager at Grootvlei, Mr G W Fitcher, said the blast was, as far as could be established the first type of its kind in South African mining history

The Department of Mines has started an inquiry into the accident

Repairs to the shaft are expected to take about four days and production at the mine has been marginally affected

212 WSM 29/6/82

Grootvlei Mine, 8am Sunday

Triple deck hoist
Capacity: 60 men

No 4 SHAFT

647m below surface

EXPLOSION AT PUMP STATION
(50m from shaft) OCCURED AS HOIST
WAS LEAVING 4TH LEVEL

2 bodies found
at pump station

2 bodies
found in mine

steel
back plate
damaged

steel door
blown off

HOIST CONTINUED TO SURFACE WITH
16 MEN — 2 DEAD 14 INJURED

Missing man presumed to have
fallen down shaft

Shaft plugged at
1090m below surface

GAIL

A graphic showing No 4 Shaft at Grootvlei Proprietary Mines where six miners were killed and 14 injured during an explosion on Sunday. The explosion apparently happened when the three-tier lift cage carrying the workers was about to pull to the surface.

GRAPHIC GAIL IRWIN

Mine death toll rises (212)

Sowetan

29/6/82

THE number of mineworkers killed in the weekend explosion at the Grootvlei Proprietary Mines on the East Rand has now increased to seven, with three blacks and four whites dead.

The seventh miner a white man is suspected to have fallen to the bottom of the shaft after the explosion. He was identified as Mr H P G Jantzen of Strubenvale, Springs.

Latest reports indicate that the condition of a seriously injured black mineworker still unnamed, is improving.

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Body of seventh Grootvlei blast victim recovered

212 Mall Reporter ^{10/6/82} ^{POW}

THE body of the seventh mineworker killed in the Grootvlei mine explosion at Springs on Sunday has been recovered

He was Mr Henry Jantzen, 24, of Hansom Road, Strubenvale, who was found at the bottom of the Number 4 Shaft where six other mineworkers were killed and 14 injured

The explosion, about 700m below surface, killed Mr Koos Jonker, 59, of Brakpan, Mr Nic Jacobs, 49, of Vischkul, Springs, and Mr M C Haasbroek, also from Springs. The other victims

cannot be identified until their families have been informed

Mr Jantzen, a carpenter, was to have married Miss Irene Berry, 23, in November. He was the son of Mr and Mrs Gotthart Jantzen of Hennenman, in the Free State

The explosion occurred at an intermediate pump station on the 4th level as a three-tiered cage lift containing the 16 men was about to pull to the surface

The steel door was blown off the bottom cage of the lift

The Department of Mines is investigating

The announcement, following a Cabinet meeting, came amid the growing prospect of an Israeli military attack on Beirut if a political solution to the guerrilla presence is not found

212 120M
East Rand mine blast kills six

SIX mine workers were killed and 14 others injured in an explosion at the No 4 Shaft at Grootvlei Proprietary Mines on the East Rand just after 8 am yesterday.

Among those killed were Mr J Jonker of Brakpan and Mr M Haasbroek and Mr M H Jakobs of Springs. The names of the other three have been withheld until their next of kin have been informed.

One worker was missing and an injured man was in a serious condition last night, a mine spokesman said.

The accident was still being investigated, but it appeared to have been associated with an electrical fault, the spokesman said.

The accident at the underground pump station damaged the shaft and repair work is expected to take four days to complete.

Production will be marginally affected, the spokesman added. — Sapa

In Beirut leaflets dropped from supersonic warplanes yesterday warned the people of the besieged city to make use of the two-day-old ceasefire and get out.

"Use the ceasefire to save your life" the leaflets said.

The Israeli Cabinet called on the Lebanese Army to take over the capital. It also called on Palestinian guerrillas trapped in West Beirut to hand over their weapons to the Lebanese Army and leave the city for Syria.

But there were increasing signs of crumbling internal support for Israel's invasion.

While the Cabinet met more than 100 demonstrators waited outside chanting anti-war slogans and demanding the army should be called home.

In scenes unprecedented in Israel, thousands of people packed Tel Aviv's municipal square on the weekend to protest against the war report by a correspondent. They follow world-wide condemnation of the Israelis.

There were scuffles in the crowd as a group of men tried to shout down speakers who included a reservist general.

The general Matty Peled, a professor at Tel Aviv University, claimed the government had lied to the people about the objectives of the invasion. He said that soldiers at the front were now questioning the strategy.

He said afterwards: "We have agonised about holding this demonstration, the first protest of its kind while Israel is at war, but feeling is so strong in the country that we had to come here to speak out."

Demonstrators carried photographs of Mr Ariel Sharon, Defence Minister and architect of the invasion. Across his face was plastered the word "Shame".

A small group of "Peace Now" army reservists who until a few days ago were serving at the front have pitched a tent outside Mr Begin's office, saying they will maintain a round-the-clock protest vigil.

The main opposition Labour Party, which until recently refrained from public criticism, was yesterday debating its position.

In the statement issued after the lengthy Cabinet meeting Israel gave a pledge to maintain the latest ceasefire unless fired on and suggested the Lebanese Army should enter Muslim West Beirut to receive the guerrillas' arms.

The statement, read to reporters by the Cabinet spokesman, Mr Dan Meridor, said the Israeli Army would ensure that the estimated 5 000 guerrillas had safe passage along the sector of the road it now controls.

"The departing column of terrorists under the protection of the International Red Cross..."



Willem Strong, left, and Ralph Rosen came all the way from Cape ballooning championships which were to be held at Lonehill in Sed when the race was called off because of unfavourable winds.

INSIDE

NP meetings 'not secret'

The leader of the National Party in the Transvaal yesterday confirmed that the NP held private meetings with top businessmen to appeal for funds — but denied any "sinister or secret" motives for doing so.

● See Page 3

Three's company

Progeriacs Fransie Geringer and Mickey Hayes arrived in Durban at the weekend where they were joined by another patient suffering from the premature aging disease, 20-year-old Babsi Nxumalo of Inanda.

● See Page 4

A critical assessment

In his column on the media this week the Rand Daily Mail Ombudsman, James McClurg, takes another critical look at the Registration of Newspapers Amendment Bill and its effects on the SABC and comes to the conclusion that a single code of conduct for the electronic and newspaper media is almost impossible.

● See Page 6

World Cup: cond round

Cup organisers are being for a smoother path.

Ambition of Capt Astiz

Mail Correspondent
 PARIS — Captain Alfredo Astiz, accused torturer and murderer, has one great ambition — "to live permanently in South Africa".

Astiz, who served for just over one year as Argentine's naval attaché in Pretoria, divulged this to three French yachtsmen in South Georgia island where he had landed.

Thousands in Zimbabwe

Mail Africa Bureau
 HARARE — Hundreds of people have been arrested in Bulawayo in the past two days in a major joint operation by Zimbabwe police and army units to track down anti-government dissidents.

Helicopters swooped over the western suburbs yesterday broadcasting warnings to the population...

Search ²¹²

for three

miners ^{Stow 5/17/82}

hindered

West Rand Bureau

CARLETONVILLE — A team of about 45 rescue workers is working in extremely difficult conditions in a bid to save the lives of three miners trapped 2,2 km underground at the West Driefontein mine here.

A stope collapsed near the mine's number five shaft at 11 00 am yesterday.

Eighteen injured miners were brought to the surface and a rescue team was formed to conduct a search for the missing.

Six men were found and brought up last night — one was dead and another seriously injured. Four were unhurt.

Three miners remain trapped since 5 00 am yesterday and will be in hot, humid conditions.

A mine spokesman said rescue teams comprising mine workers would be working continuously in relays in their search for the trapped men.

"We are working on the assumption that they are still alive," the spokesman said.

"They will become dehydrated after 72 hours but some do have higher tolerant levels. Some miners have been known to be rescued after six days.

The men were working in cramped conditions and at some places the stopes were lower than 1 m.

Limited working space and fractured rock is hindering the rescue operation.

It could not be said when the men would be found or for how long the operation would continue.

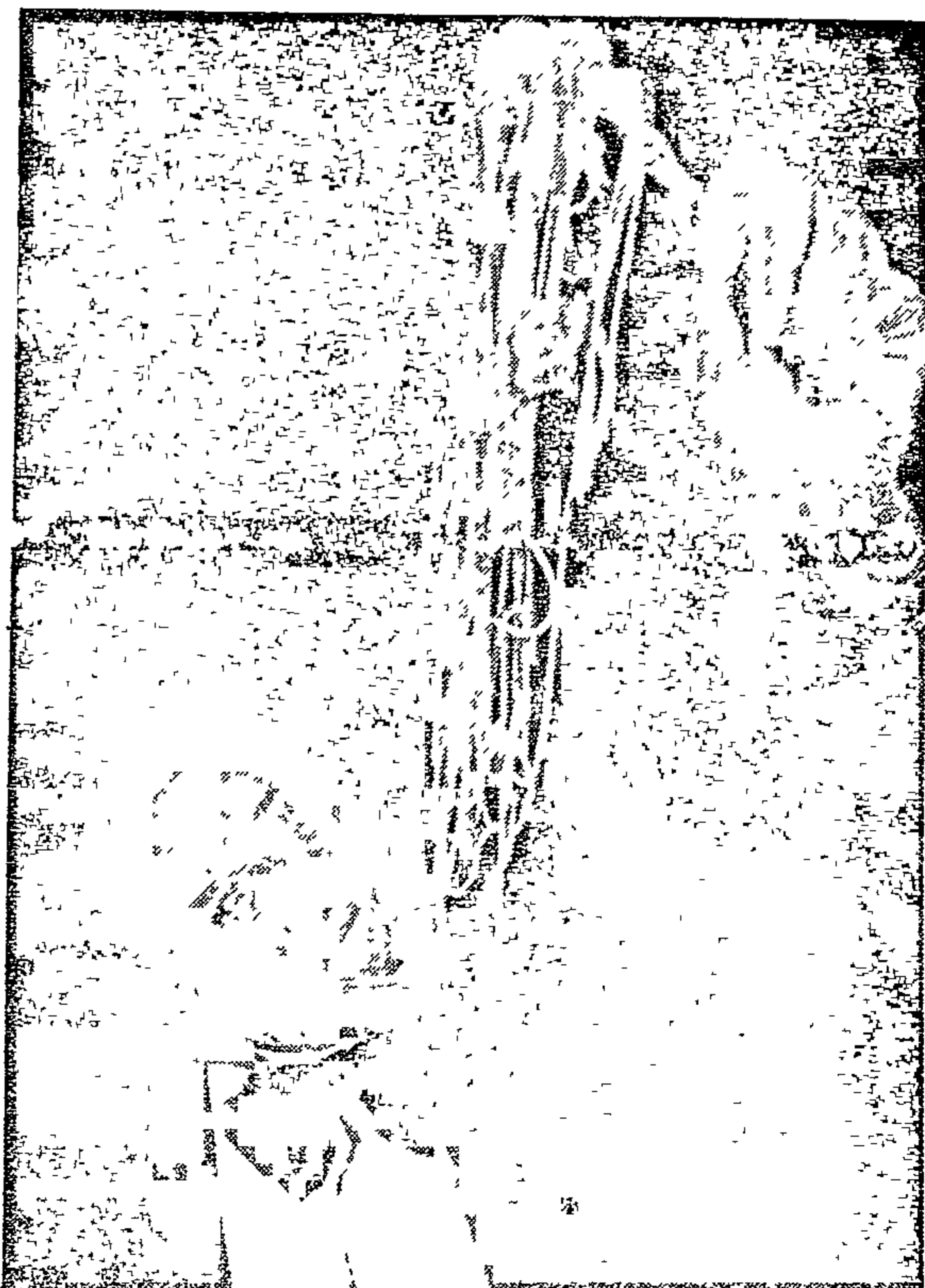
Bus bandits snatch R700

A Johannesburg man was robbed of R700 while travelling home on the top deck of a double-decker bus yesterday.

Mr J J Esterhuizen (54) of Leo Street, (54) of Leo Street, Kenilby was robbed by two armed men as

Homelands sumr

This is how it will be



31/7/82 (212) RPH

A race to free trapped miners

By NORMAN PATTERTON

A TEAM of 45 rescue workers were racing against time last night to save three miners trapped 2km underground at the West Driefontein gold mine at Carletonville

Eighteen injured miners were brought to the surface after an earthquake measuring 3.9 on the Richter scale caused a stope to collapse near the mine's No 5 west sub-vertical shaft at 11am

One miner was discovered dead last night

The three miners still missing have been trapped amid "miserable" conditions since then

Late last night a rescue team reported on the telephone link to the surface that one of them was found to be alive, although seriously hurt

The other two had not been found yet.

"If they are still alive, they are in darkness amid miserable conditions," said a mine

spokesman

They had been underground since 5am, when they went on duty

The batteries for their helmet lights would have lasted till 5pm last night, unless they switched off their lights periodically to conserve power

Ventilation is severely impeded, and temperatures are soaring back to the high "virgin rock temperature" because the waterpipes burst.

Last night assistant manager Mr Syd Caddie said the stope that collapsed was excavated to proportions 1m high and 150m wide

"It's like taking the ham out of a ham sandwich," he said

He roughly estimated that the two miners would be found early today. Rescue workers had started to work towards them from a different direction

During the rescue operation small rockfalls continued

.....

Rescuers battle to ²¹² reach trapped miners

1/8/82 S. Express
By MOKONE MOLETE

ONE of the four miners still trapped 2,2km underground by a rock collapse at the West Driefontein gold mine at Carletonville is believed to have died. Rescue workers were yesterday desperately trying to reach the other three.

The men were trapped on Friday morning.

A spokesman for the mine said the accident was caused by an earth tremor which registered 3,9 on the Richter scale. This resulted in the collapse of a stope near the mine's No 5 west sub-vertical shaft.

Mine manager Mr David BlearHoek said 18 blacks were injured in the accident. Seven have been discharged from hospital. The names of the injured men could not be released. One man was found dead on Friday.

The rescue was progressing slowly but there was enough oxygen for the trapped men.

.....

Mine accidents on Reef kill 5

CAPE TIMES Own Correspondent

18/8/82
212

JOHANNESBURG — Five men died in two separate accidents at mines on the Witwatersrand yesterday

Two men were killed and 16 injured when a geyser burst at the No 8 Shaft hostel at Vaal Reefs Gold Mine early yesterday

Mr R Hudson, a public relations officer for the Anglo American Corporation, said the incident happened at 230am yesterday

He said it was presumed that the geyser was near the dormitory because of the resultant deaths and number of injuries. The cause of the burst was not known and was still being investigated

The names of the dead men have been withheld until all next-of-kin have been informed

Sapa reports that three men were killed in a rockburst at the Western Deep Levels No 2 shaft near Carletonville early yesterday

(212)
**Three die in
rockburst**
COM 18/8/82

Mail Reporter

THREE men were killed in a rockburst at Western Deep Levels No 2 shaft near Carletonville in the early hours of yesterday morning and two men were killed and 16 injured when a geyser burst at the nearby Vaal Reefs Gold Mine

Mr Rob Hudson, a public relations officer for the Anglo American Corporation, said the cause of the geyser burst in Number 8 Shaft Hostel at Vaal Reefs mine near Carletonville at 2.30 yesterday morning was unknown and under investigation

He said it was presumed that the geyser was situated near the dormitory because of the resultant deaths and number of injuries

The names of the men killed in both accidents have been withheld until the next-of-kin have been informed

212 D. Dispatch
**Beisa mine
death toll
rises to 8**

WELKOM — The bodies of the three mineworkers missing in an accident at Beisa mine here were found late yesterday, bringing the number of victims to eight

The accident occurred in the underground loading station at the mine's number one shaft

One of the miners killed was Mr Peter Baker. The names of the other seven will be released when their next-of-kin have been informed

A total of 14 people were working in the complex when the accident occurred

Mr Baker, 29, was married with two children
— SAPA

33-94

12 miners die from shaft fire smoke

(212) ROOM 15/9/82

By ANTON HARBER

TOXIC smoke from a fire in a disused section of the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Klerksdorp killed 12 black miners yesterday

And 163 other miners were admitted to the Stilfontein mine hospital after the eight-hour drama involving 4 800 workers and seven rescue teams, a Gencor spokesman said

Eight were still being treated last night, and the rest were later discharged, he said

The spokesman said the fire came at the most dangerous time — during the main shift — and could have been “much, much worse” if the other miners had not been brought to the surface swiftly

The fire was spotted by two workers joining the 7 00am shift yesterday

The two were travelling down a haulage tunnel 2 200m below the surface when they noticed thick black smoke from a worked-out stope

The two men went down one level to find fresh air and alerted the rescue teams

“The smoke travels terribly fast at that level, so the 12 dead must have been on the same level as the fire and were overtaken by it”

None of the miners suffered burns. Most workers made their own way to the surface, but the rescue teams found 24 miners who had moved to the level below the fire and were waiting for assistance

“It is terribly difficult when a fire breaks out during a working shift, because there are almost 5 000 people who could be affected by the smoke

“We were very lucky. Only an act of God kept the deaths so low,” he said

The spokesman said the rescue teams had sealed off the stope and, since there was no damage to the rest of the mine, production would resume as normal today

Earlier the spokesman had reported 14 miners had been killed

“I suppose in the initial confusion somebody must have got the count wrong,” he said

None of the injuries are serious and the last eight miners should be discharged from hospital within 24 hours, the spokesman said

Her mother Mrs Juliet Lukhele was shot in the thigh by a man who tried to shoot again but whose gun is said to have jammed

According to Mr William Lukhele of 185 Hlongwane Section his mother was shot by unknown men near the shops as she came back from work. She was recently discharged from hospital. On Saturday at about 7.45 pm two men masked in balaclavas came to the house and asked to see a man whom he unfortunately did not know.

He said: "I told them I did not know of whom they were talking and ran away to seek help from the neighbours. My fears

12 miners die in tragic fire accident

(212) Sowetan 15/7/82

TWELVE black mine-workers have died in the Buffelsfontein

Gold Mine near Stilfontein

Gencor said in a statement yesterday afternoon that a fire had been detected at about 8am yesterday in a worked-out stope at the Orangia shaft of the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine at about 2 200 m below surface

The fire resulted in the death of the 12 men. It was believed the workers had died of asphyxiation

The statement said 163 black mineworkers had been admitted to hospital for observation, of whom all but eight had been discharged

"The latter are not in

a serious condition. In all seven proto teams were included in the rescue operations. The cause of the fire has not yet been established. As the area affected had previously been sealed off the mine's production will not be affected" the statement said — Sapa

Love Story

IT was not until late that night that I arrived home. My body was aching, my feet were killing me, and all I looked forward to was a good night's sleep. But how could I possibly expect to sleep well after all the drama of that day — and night?"

To get to the bottom of this, don't miss our Short Story of The Week — A Woman Scorned — in The SOWETAN tomorrow. It will keep you guessing right to the end.

Good value for money

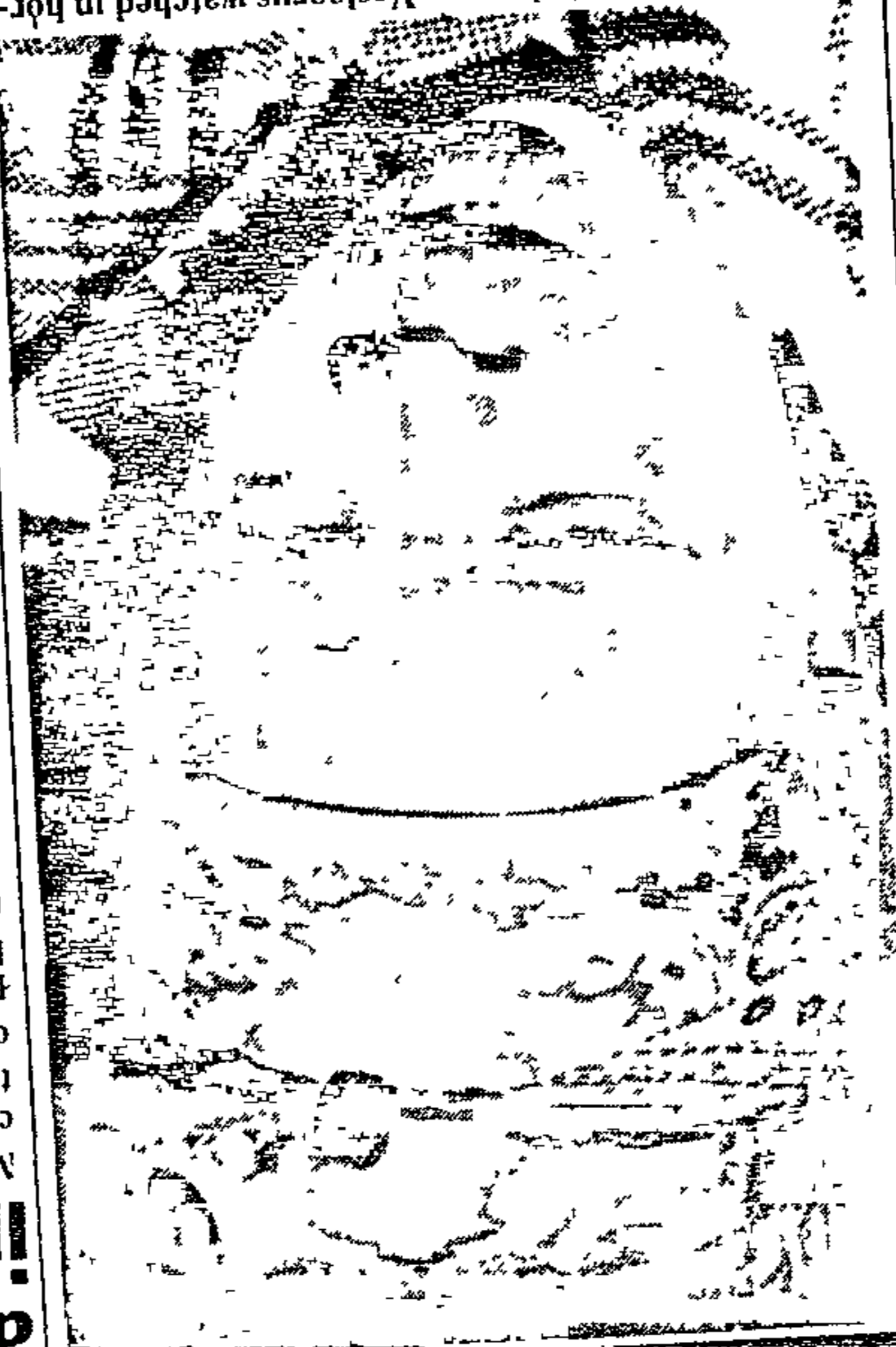
PLEASE note the date of October 1. Regrettably, on this day the cover price of The SOWETAN will go up from 15 cents to 19 cents plus 1 cent GST. You will therefore pay 20 cents for your SOWETAN from that day.

Like everybody else,

The SOWETAN has been hit hard by increases in the price of raw materials and labour. We kept our price down for as long as we could and, indeed, were the only newspaper still selling at 15 cents. But even at 20 cents you will find The SOWETAN good value for money.

Mr Dipale made headlines when he died in a cell at John Vorster Square Johannesburg. Police said he handed

quarrel at the weekend. PATRONS at a shebeen in Vosloorus watched in horror as a woman stabbed another to death during a



Drink quarrel, woman killed

Cousin of dead detainee appears in court

MISS Lily Keagle, the cousin of the latest man to die in Security Police custody, Mr Ernest Dipale, yesterday appeared briefly before the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on a charge of furnishing the arms of a banned organisation.

Miss Keagle who has been in detention since last November will be tried in the Johannesburg Regional Court on September 28. In an appearance last month Miss Keagle was told that the death of her cousin Ernest had changed the circumstances of her own case and it had to be postponed for further investigation.

Mr Dipale made headlines when he died in a cell at John Vorster Square Johannesburg. Police said he handed

for by the men lasted for more than 20 minutes before East Rand Administration Board police arrived and dis-

EDOM
tom, this week when
e 10

The effect on their health will be devastating, she said. She said that when one considered that these pensioners also paid house rentals, fed and clothed their children and had to face the escalating cost of living, it was just unthinkable how they were going to manage. Other consumers interviewed on the price hike have said that it would affect their budgets drastically.

and she said R10 a month just on themselves spend- the pensioners could them to live. Government would make it impossible for money they got from the pensioners would be the escalating cost of living, it was just unthinkable how they were going to manage. Other consumers interviewed on the price hike have said that it would affect their budgets drastically.

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1 Stamps
in bread
15.1982

12 die in gold mine fire

212

C. Times
15/9/62

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —

Twelve miners suffocated to death and 163 were taken to hospital when a fire in a disused section of the Buffelsfontein gold mine near Klerksdorp filled a working shaft with toxic smoke yesterday.

The 163 miners were admitted to the Stilfontein mine hospital after the eight-hour drama involving 4 800 workers and seven rescue teams, according to a Gencor spokesman. Eight miners were kept overnight at the hospital and the rest were discharged.

The spokesman said the fire was during the main shift and could have been "much, much worse".

"It is terribly difficult when a fire breaks out during a working shift, because there are almost 5 000 people who could be affected by the smoke."

The spokesman said the rescue teams had sealed off the stope and there was no damage to the rest of the mine so production would resume as usual tomorrow.

None of those in hospital was in a serious condition and the last eight miners should be discharged from hospital within 24 hours, he said.

MINERS OKAY

THE eight miners who were admitted to hospital after a fire accident at the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine near Stilfontein on Tuesday were yesterday reported to be in a better condition.

A spokesman for Gencor yesterday said the hospital had told them that the miners were out of danger. Some of them were due to be discharged yesterday afternoon and others today. Sixteen miners were admitted to hospital for observation after the incident, eight were kept overnight and the rest were treated and discharged.

Twelve men died of asphyxiation on Tuesday

(212) RDM 22/9/81

Risks in deep level mining

IN HIS letter "No silence on mine safety," (RDM September 15) Mr John Imrie, Public Relations Adviser of the Chamber of Mines, in replying to the three questions posed in "Bullring" of September 13, answers the first, evades the second and gives an equivocal answer to the third

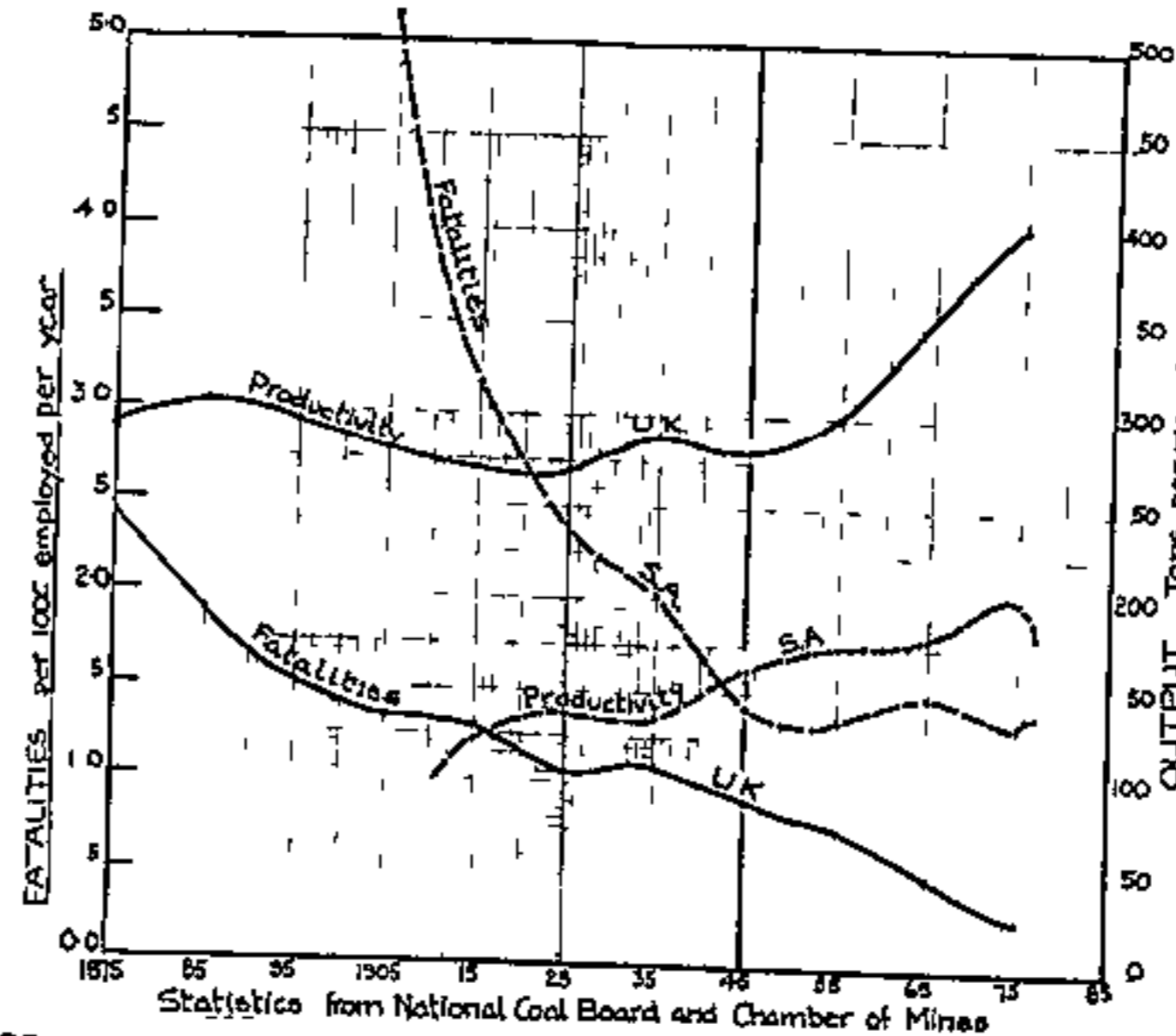
The questions were

● How many people are killed each year? Mr Imrie "633 fatal accidents on gold mines in 1980"

● Is the safety record improving? Mr Imrie gave no reply

● How does it compare — and on what basis — with other countries? Mr Imrie "It is not possible, meaningfully, to compare South African gold mines' safety records with safety records elsewhere"

While there is some truth in the third answer it is not wholly true. While actual rates may not be comparable, trends certainly are. The attached graph shows trends on South African gold mines compared with trends in British (narrow seam, deep) coal mines. While British fatality rates have decreased from 0,9/1 000 pa in 1945 to



0,25 in 1975, in the same period South African rates have wavered around 1,4

In the same period British productivity rates rose from 255 tons/man year to 405 (ie 59%) while South African rates rose from 166 to 200 (ie 20%). The answer to the second question is — in terms of lives lost per person employed or per ton mined, and despite the achievements of "five stars", and "million accident free shifts" — "not significantly"

In Britain, progress in the adoption of mechanised mining methods, made possible

by successful strata control procedures, was responsible for the marked improvements in both productivity and safety. While it is true that in the period 1945-75 in South Africa some deep fields were opened up, it is also true that some shallow fields were too, eg Kinross and parts of the Far West, Klerksdorp and the OFS.

Until the industry can evolve more effective strata control procedures than the present ones, deep level mining in South Africa will remain a risk — JACK CURTIS, Norwood, Johannesburg.

Rockfall kills

two miners

212 1200 21/9/82
TWO workers were killed in a rockfall at Impala's Bafokeng South mine in Bophuthatswana early on Wednesday morning.

The accident at the mine, north of Rustenburg, occurred in the No 4 sub-incline shaft, 526m below the surface.

A fall of ground above an ore loading box led to about 150 tons of broken ore pouring out of the, killing the two workers. One was operating the loading box and the other was standing on a platform.

The bodies have not yet been recovered. — Sapa.

AD 21985
Innovation

(22)
**to speed up
mine rescue**

A DESIGN which could significantly reduce the time taken by special rescue drills to reach coal miners trapped underground has earned its originator an award from the Chamber of Mines

Mr Frank Fanoë, a rescue drill supervisor at the Colliery Training College in Witbank, received the R3 000 award from the President of the Chamber, Mr W W Malan, yesterday

Mr Fanoë's design overcomes certain problems associated with the installation of flexible casings used to line large diameter holes in mines when large quantities of water are encountered in rescue drilling

Using Mr Fanoë's design, the casings can be installed much faster, speeding up the rescue of trapped miners

Yesterday's award was Mr Fanoë's second for design — Sapa.

RD 12/10/72
**Miner dies in
bed explosion**

Mail Reporter **212**

A STILFONTEIN mineworker died at the weekend while lying on his bed when four detonators strapped to his chest exploded

Mr Albert Bellington Pietersen, 42, of Canot Street, leaves his wife and three children

Major A Scheepers, police liaison officer for the Western Transvaal, said yesterday Mr Pietersen died on Friday and no crime was suspected

"It is possible that Mr Pietersen took the detonators from the mine on which he worked," he said

SA's 'Red Adair' on standby
 21/10/82
 Giant drill can
 gouge hole to
 212
 trapped miners

By Stephen McQuillan

Frank Fanoe is the Red Adair of the South African coalfields.

He and a six-man rescue team are on 24-hour standby for disaster. The team, based at the Colliery Training College, Witbank, is ready to take its expertise and equipment anywhere in the country at a moment's notice.

Its job to save life

As Red Adair looks after the oilfields, Frank Fanoe, (41), and his men look after the coalfields.

If catastrophe strikes at a colliery and the miners' workplace threatens to become their tomb, it will be Frank and his men who are sent to get them out.

SPECIALISED

To help them they have some of the most specialised equipment in the world, including a giant drill — the only one of its type in the world to be used for rescue — to pull out trapped miners hundreds of metres underground.

The team first drills smaller holes to locate the men and set-up a supply-line of food, water and medical equipment.

As soon as the miners' life-line has been established the big drill or "mole" will swing into action. Its 635 mm bit will claw its way through the earth until it penetrates the mine.

The hole will be big enough to pull out the



Mr Frank Fanoe and a section of the steel casing he designed to enable the mines rescue unit to reach trapped miners more quickly.

trapped men one at a time in a rescue pod or parachute-style sling.

And it is the operation of the giant drill that has brought Frank recognition from the mining community — thanks to his innovative skills.

Frank, who was a fitter and turner, joined the college more than five years ago after a spell working underground. On October 1 he was awarded R3 000 for his contribution to mine safety through development carried out at the college.

A college instructor and rescue drill supervisor, Frank was given the cash prize in recognition of his efforts to overcome one of the major problems associated with drilling the life-saving shaft.

When using the drill in training it was sometimes necessary to line the shaft with steel casing to prevent landslips and excessive amounts of water. But the team discovered it was often difficult to install the metal "tube" and very slow because it was too rigid.

Frank overcame these problems by designing a steel case that was flexible. And the Chamber of Mines sees his invention as significant to mining operations throughout the world. The chamber has patented the invention.

"We are using the biggest down-the-hole hammer drill in the world," said Frank. "It is owned by the Chamber of Mines and is the only one in the coalfield."

"Sometimes the drill couldn't handle excessive amounts of water, or earth would collapse around the drill, so the casing is important. But sometimes it was very difficult to get the casing into the hole because it was too rigid."

The award was the second time Frank had been recognised for his technical know-how. In 1980 he was credited for his modifications to the rescue drill. He designed a more effective bit to cut more easily through the top layer of earth and equipment to remove the cuttings from the hole.

CRITICAL

In presenting Frank with his prize president of the Chamber of Mines M. W. W. Malan said the invention saved time and money.

"Were the drills to be used in an emergency in an attempt to free miners trapped underground then Mr Fanoe's work could have a critical bearing on the outcome," he said.

He hoped the award would encourage others to come forward with schemes to improve safety levels, mining methods or equipment involved in mining.

Mr "Mac" van der Merwe, manager of the Witbank college, said Frank's inventions were extremely valuable. "This steel casing invention may reduce the time it takes to get to the trapped miners. It could prove to be five to ten times faster than using the normal method."

But to Frank the drama of trouble underground is all in a day's work. "It's just a job. As long as you do your best and have a feeling for your work — that's all that matters."

Bravery in the bowels of the earth

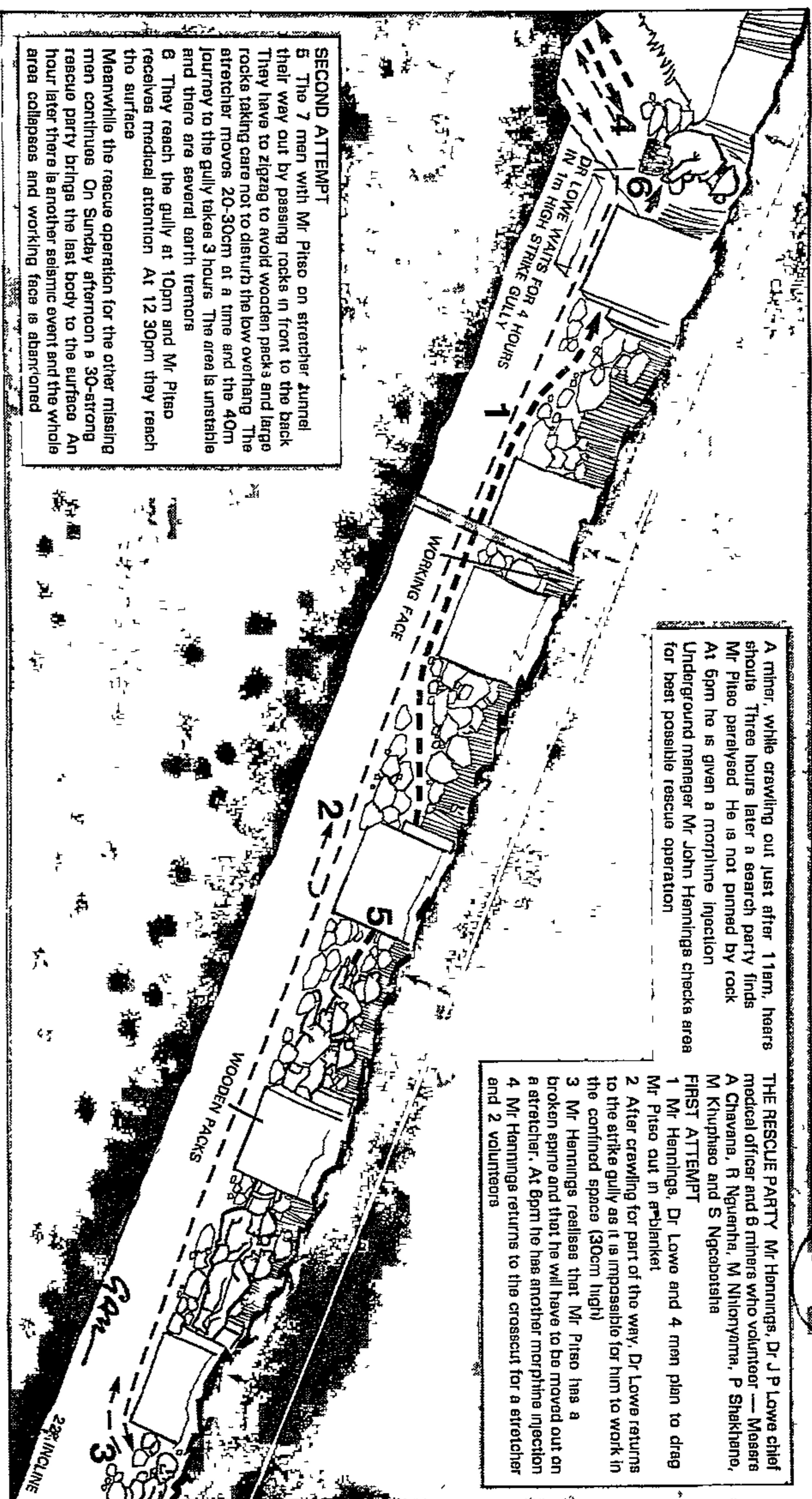
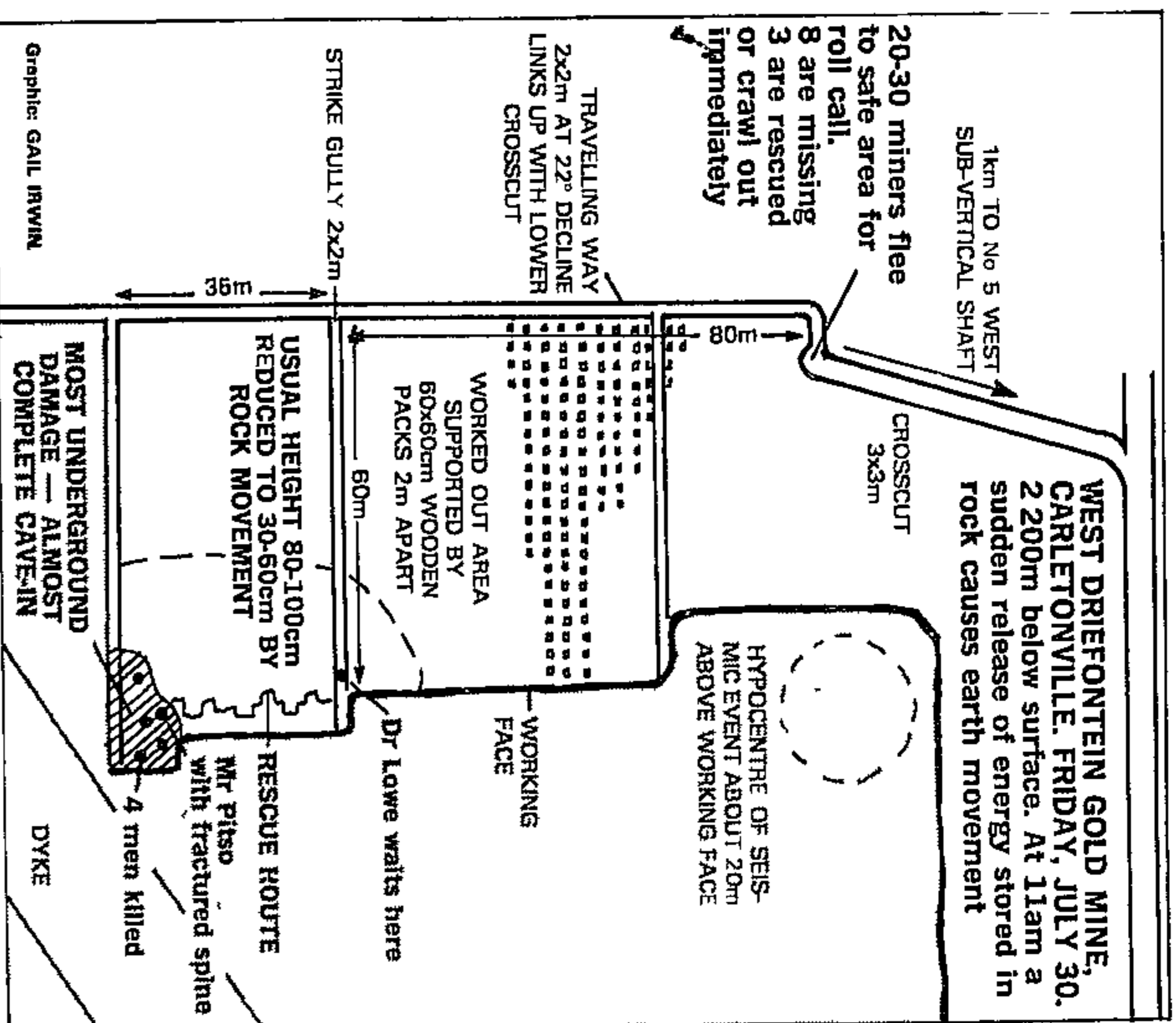
23/10/82
Mail Reporter

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SEVEN Carletonville miners and a mine doctor yesterday received one of the country's highest awards for bravery after saving the life of a critically injured colleague at the West Driefontein Mine in July

The men, Dr J P Lowe, Messrs J W Hennings, A Chavana, R Nguenha, M Nhlonyama, P Shakhane, M Khuphiso and S Ngcebetsha, were awarded the Chamber of Mines' award for outstanding bravery by the Chamber's president, Mr W W Malan

● Report — Page 7



A miner, while crawling out just after 11am, hears shouts. Three hours later a search party finds Mr. Pitsco paralysed. He is not pinned by rock. At 6pm he is given a morphine injection. Underground manager Mr. John Hennings checks area for best possible rescue operation.

THE RESCUE PARTY Mr Hennings, Dr J P Lowe chief medical officer and 6 miners who volunteer — Messrs A Chavanna, R Nguenha, M Nhlonyama, P Shakhane, M Khuphiso and S Ngcebetsha

FIRST ATTEMPT

- 1 Mr Hennings, Dr. Lowe and 4 men plan to dig Mr. Pitsco out in gully
- 2 After crawling for part of the way, Dr Lowe returns to the strike gully as it is impossible for him to work in the confined space (30cm high)
- 3 Mr Hennings realises that Mr Pitsco has a broken spine and that he will have to be moved out on a stretcher. At 6pm he has another morphine injection
- 4 Mr Hennings returns to the crosscut for a stretcher and 2 volunteers

SHORTLY before 11am on July 30 this year a tremor shook the West Driefontein Gold Mine near Carletonville. Underground manager, John Hennings, 34, knew immediately that some of his colleagues could be injured, dead — or worse — trapped.

"I ran to the nearest telephone to inquire where the accident had taken place and what the damage and injuries were," he said.

Eight missing, he was told, but little did he know it would become one of the longest days in his and the lives of seven other men as search parties entered the dangerous area where the rockfall had occurred. John Hennings raced over to the shaft.

There was jubilation when three men crawled to safety, helping each other to the surface. But it was short-lived. One of them reported he had heard screams for help, that the person was in severe pain and he had heard his moans and gasps.

The race against time started.

"It was like a voice in the wilderness. We had a rough idea in which area he was. But it was pitch dark down there and he could have been anywhere."

A search party went down and the search started for Lebujaong Pitsco. Three long hours later he was located. He was not trapped, but his injuries prevented him from moving. The time was 2 30pm.

It was obvious he had been critically injured and around him the rock groaned as stored energy in the rockface was being released, threatening to bury him and the search party. The injured man was given a morphine injection to ease the pain. A miner stayed with Lebujaong and the party reported back to Mr Hennings. The picture was not an encouraging one.

Rock was falling continually and the whole area was in danger of collapsing. They also told the underground manager they would be extremely difficult to get the injured man to the surface.

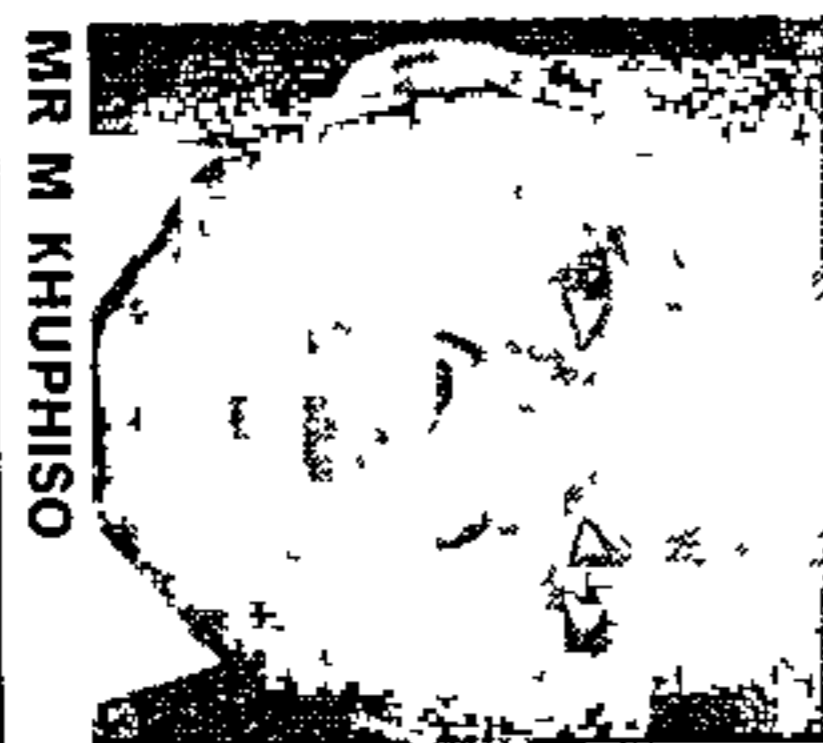
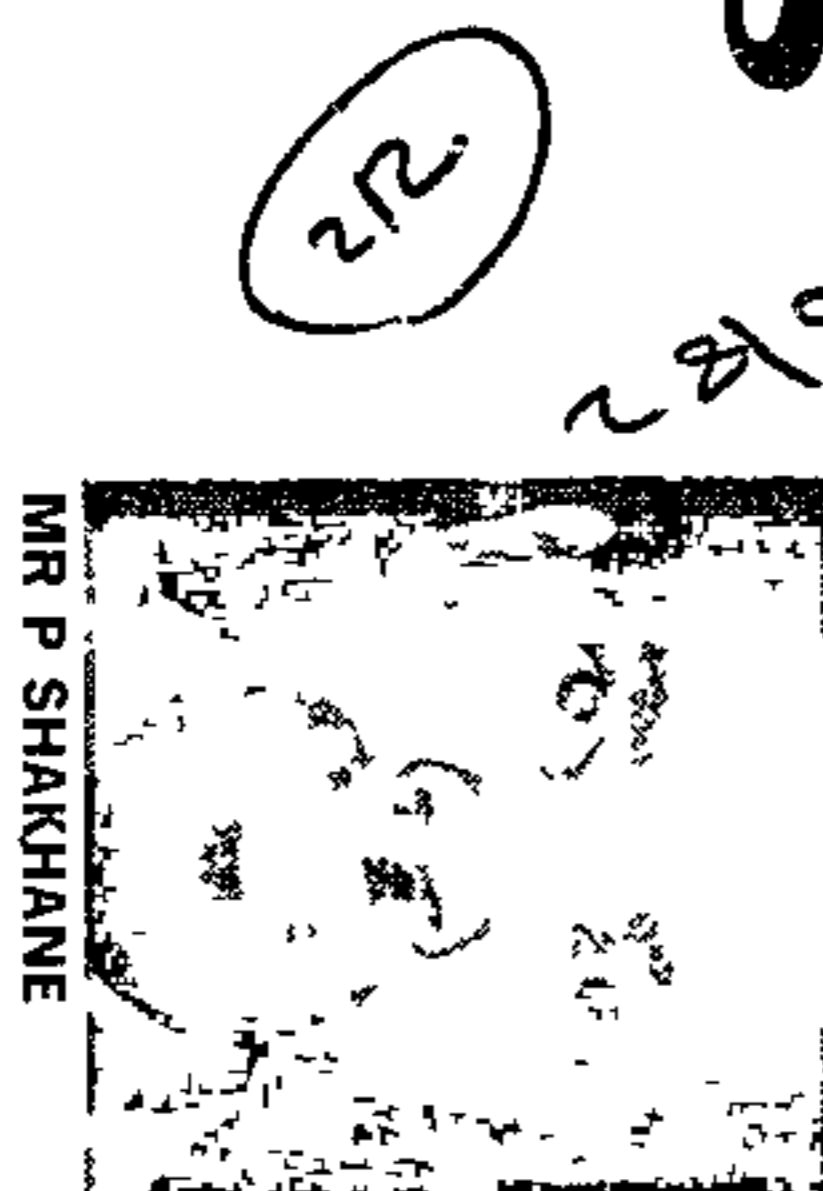
MORE than 2km below the surface, eight men clawed and crawled centimetre by centimetre towards a critically injured colleague. As the earth groaned and moaned, threatening to crush them all, they slowly moved forward, guided only by the meagre light of their headlamps. Four men had already died and the rescuers were determined the earth would not claim a fifth life. Yesterday the men, six blacks and two whites, received the Chamber of Mines award for outstanding bravery. **CHRIS OLCCKERS** reports

Bravery in the bowels of the earth

If a rescue team went down they would face partially collapsed tunnels, continual rockfalls and areas they would barely be able to fit through, as well as a 22° incline where they would have to crawl for long distances.

John Hennings understood the fear his worker was experiencing and the pain he was suffering. Lebujaong had to be saved.

Mr Hennings volunteered for the dangerous job. Immediately the mine's chief medical officer, Dr Piet Lowe, 53, said he would join the party. The doctor, not really used to underground conditions, insisted on joining. He knew the dangers involved, but a man's life was at stake.



Six black miners, Messrs A Chavanna, R Nguenha, M Nhlonyama, P Shakhane, M Khuphiso and S Ngcebetsha also volunteered.

All seasoned miners, they knew they might never return to the surface. But they were also aware that if they were trapped, their colleagues would endanger their lives and do the same for them. They were tired after just completing a full shift, but 2 200m underground Lebujaong lay in agony. The rescue party was on its way.

The rescuers had to crawl through narrow areas through which they could barely squeeze their bodies. Before the rockfalls passages had been 100cm high.

— now in some places they were only 30cm — barely big enough for a man to crawl through.

The men had planned to drag the injured man to safety on a blanket.

"The going was rough," Mr Hennings said, "all the time we could hear the earth moving and in the darkness we heard the shattering as more rocks kept falling."

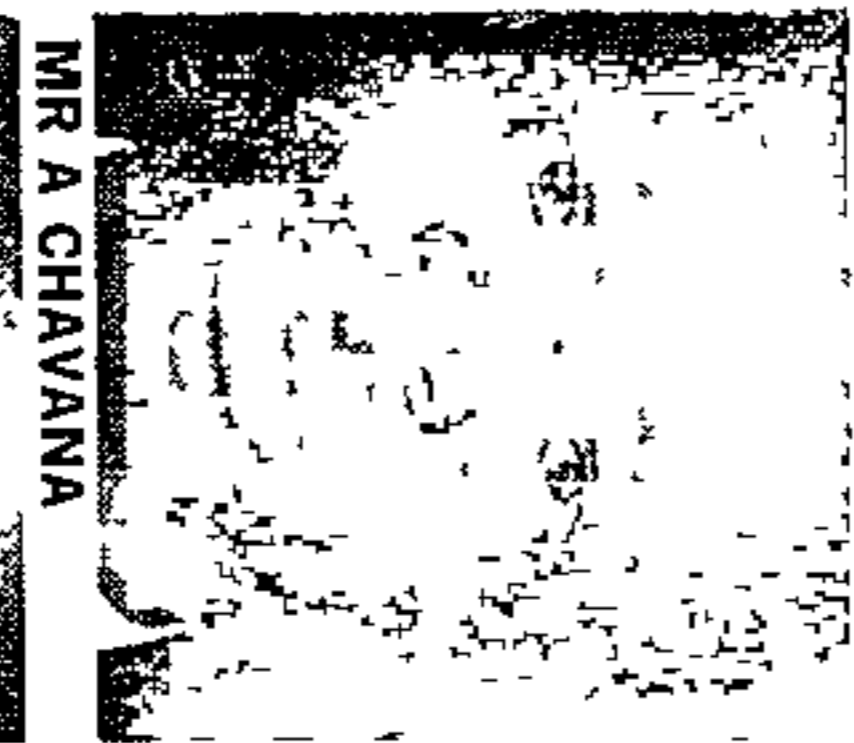
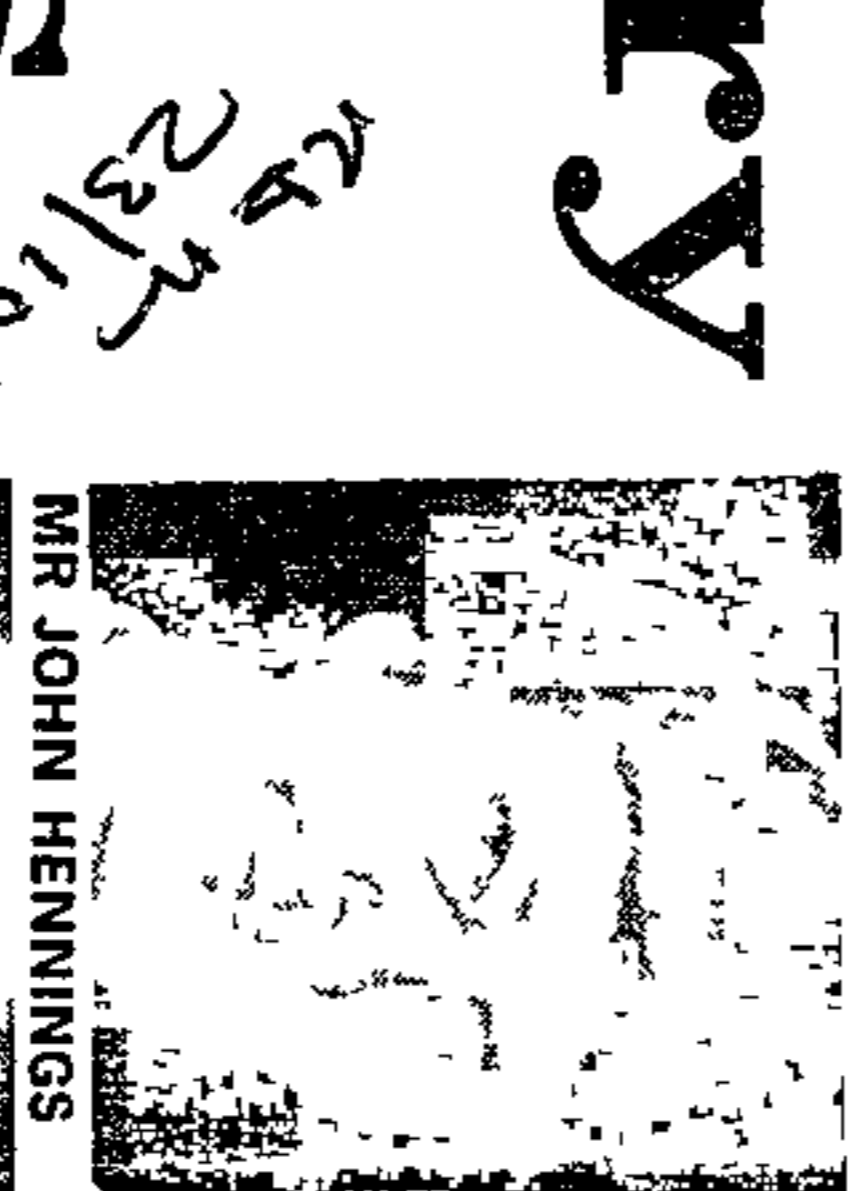
"All we had for light was the headlamps we were wearing. We had gone about 80% of the way when I realised that the area was far too narrow for Dr Lowe to work in and asked him to go back and wait for us on the surface." But he refused. Instead he went to the

gully about 40m from the injured man. "He was still in danger of being crushed, but he waited for us."

At about six that night the seven miners reached the injured man and John Hennings realised they couldn't move Lebujaong.

"When we touched him he screamed in agony. He had suffered a broken spine and we would have to move him out on a stretcher or otherwise he could have died."

"One of the miners, qualified in first aid, gave him another morphine injection and three of us crawled back up against the incline to inform the doctor and to get a stretcher."



But the rescue party did not know what lay ahead for them. To prevent further injury to Lebujaong, they had to move him extremely carefully and slowly. The lifesavers had to be careful not to touch the hanging wall or top of the tunnels. A single brush against either could bring them tumbling down.

Several further tremors made the small gang of men stop dead in their tracks. Any one of the tremors could have spell the end for them. From the point where the injured man was put on the stretcher to the gully where Dr Lowe was waiting was only a distance of about 40m. But it took the rescuers nearly three hours to get there.

"At times we had to dig and move rocks out of the way. We also had to zigzag around wooden packs keeping the dangerously low hanging wall in position."

"The packs creaked under the tremendous weight, but they held. All the time we had to watch that we didn't jerk or move the stretcher suddenly. But worse, we had to watch that damn hanging wall. I was scared, we were all scared, but our fatigue and the sense of urgency pushed our fear into the background."

"All along the way we could only move the stretcher 20 to 30cm at a time. When we rested, the chilly fear began nagging and we just kept on pushing forwards."

At 10 they reached the doctor who immediately examined his patient and gave emergency treatment. But the men still had to go another kilometre before reaching the No 5 West sub-vertical shaft from where they could reach the surface. This took a further 2½ hours.

To shouts of joy and jubilation John Hennings and his team arrived at the surface at 12 30 on Saturday morning with their injured colleague. Nearly 14 hours after being injured, Lebujaong was raced to hospital. He will be paralysed for life.

On Sunday morning the area through which the man had crawled to save Lebujaong was rocked by another tremor. The whole area was buried under tons of rock.

Cape Times 15/11/82 212

19 die in mine disasters

JOHANNESBURG — Nineteen men were killed, four critically injured and six were missing presumed dead after two separate mine accidents in the Transvaal today. The accidents occurred at the Vaal Reef and Ermelo mines.

A spokesman for Vaal Reef said last night that the death toll there had risen from seven to eight and six men were missing.

The rock burst registered 4,3 on the Richter scale on the 71st level which is more

than 2 000m underground.

The cause of the Ermelo explosion, 130m below surface, was not known. The General Mining Group announcement yesterday said the affected area had been closed off but the accident would not affect production in other parts of the mine.

● A Chamber of Mines spokesman here said the South African gold and coal mining industry had concentrated on safety measures in the past few years and introduced the International Mine

Safety Rating Scheme

The scheme rated mines from one to five stars by reflecting the effort put into safety. Accidents and fatalities were "significantly lower" at those mines with three, four or five stars.

The fatality rate of the the Republic's gold mines for the first six months of this year — at 1,20 deaths a 1 000 employees — was the lowest ever, the spokesman said.

The fatality rate for coal

mines for the same period was 0,65 a 1 000, he said.

The spokesman gave comparative figures for the American coal-mining industry. Preliminary figures released in May last year were 0,73 for every 1 000 employees. They were the most recent figures available.

The spokesman said the figures for South Africa were "encouraging", particularly as mines were getting deeper and the numbers of employees was increasing — Sapa

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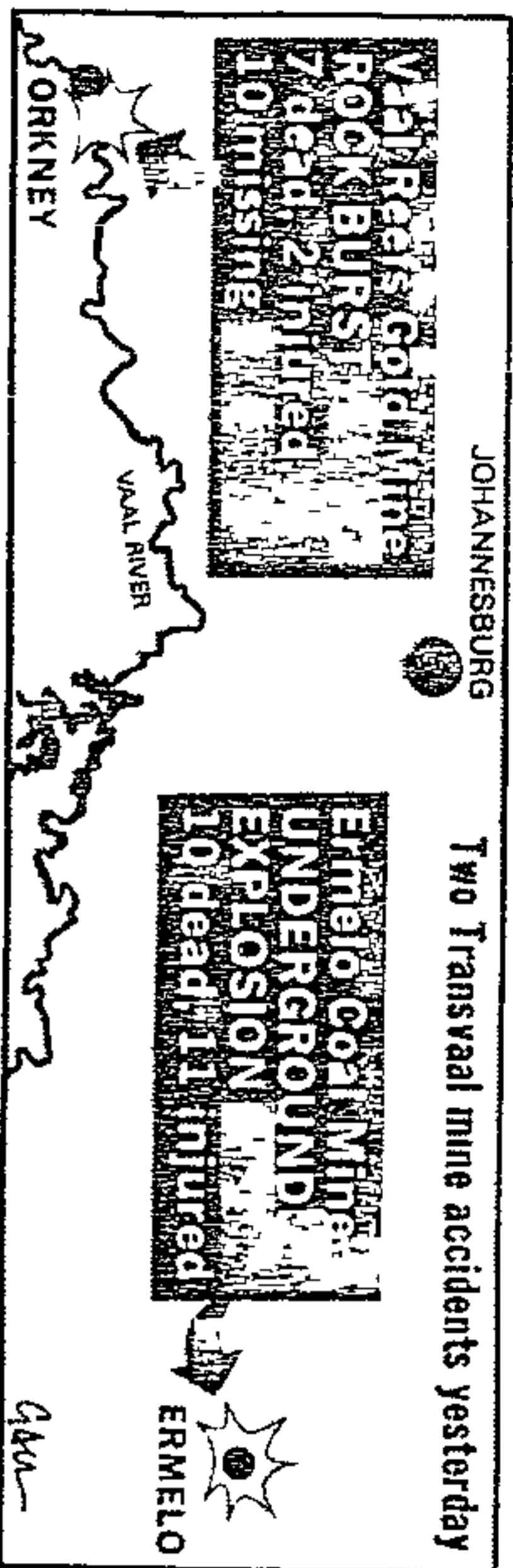
ALL 18 men — possibly as many as 28 — were killed, two were injured and at least 10 are missing after two mining accidents, including one underground explosion 30m below the surface, in the Transvaal yesterday

Eleven miners were killed in underground explosion in the Ermelo Coal Mine at about 11am the General Mining Group announced. The bodies of three blacks and five whites were found in the mine late yesterday and their five bodies were recovered

Eleven other workers were seriously injured. The cause of the explosion is not known. A spokesman for General Mining said names of the dead would be released as soon as next-of-kin had been notified

The dead in the explosion included seven black workers whose names were being withheld because their families had not yet been con-

212 Fifteen dead, 10 missing in Vaal minings tragedies



Two Transvaal mine accidents yesterday

He said the rock burst occurred shortly after 8am at the 71st level of the mine

The death toll in the underground explosion at the Ermelo Coal mine, at first believed to be six, rose to 11 later in the day with the discovery of five bodies in the afternoon

The cause of the Ermelo Coal Mine explosion, 130m below surface, was not known yesterday. The General Mining Group announcement said the affected area had been closed off but the accident would not affect production in other parts of the mine

The accidents came as a

particularly severe shock to the mining industry who this year have seen marked improvements in safety records

For the first six months of the year the fatality rate on gold mines in South Africa was the lowest in history. A spokesman for the Chamber of Mines last night attributed vastly improved records to an intensified effort on the part of the mining industry as a whole

He said the industry had introduced the International Mine Safety Scheme which rated mines on a 1 to 5 star basis

For the first six months of the year the fatality rate on gold mines in South Africa was 1.20 per 1 000 workers, compared to 1.26 for the same period last year and 1.32 in 1980

South African coal mines that last year earned a three, four or five rating had an average fatality rate of 0.35 per 1 000 people. All other coal mines had an average fatality rate of 1.16

tacted, and a Polish immigrant, not named for the same reason

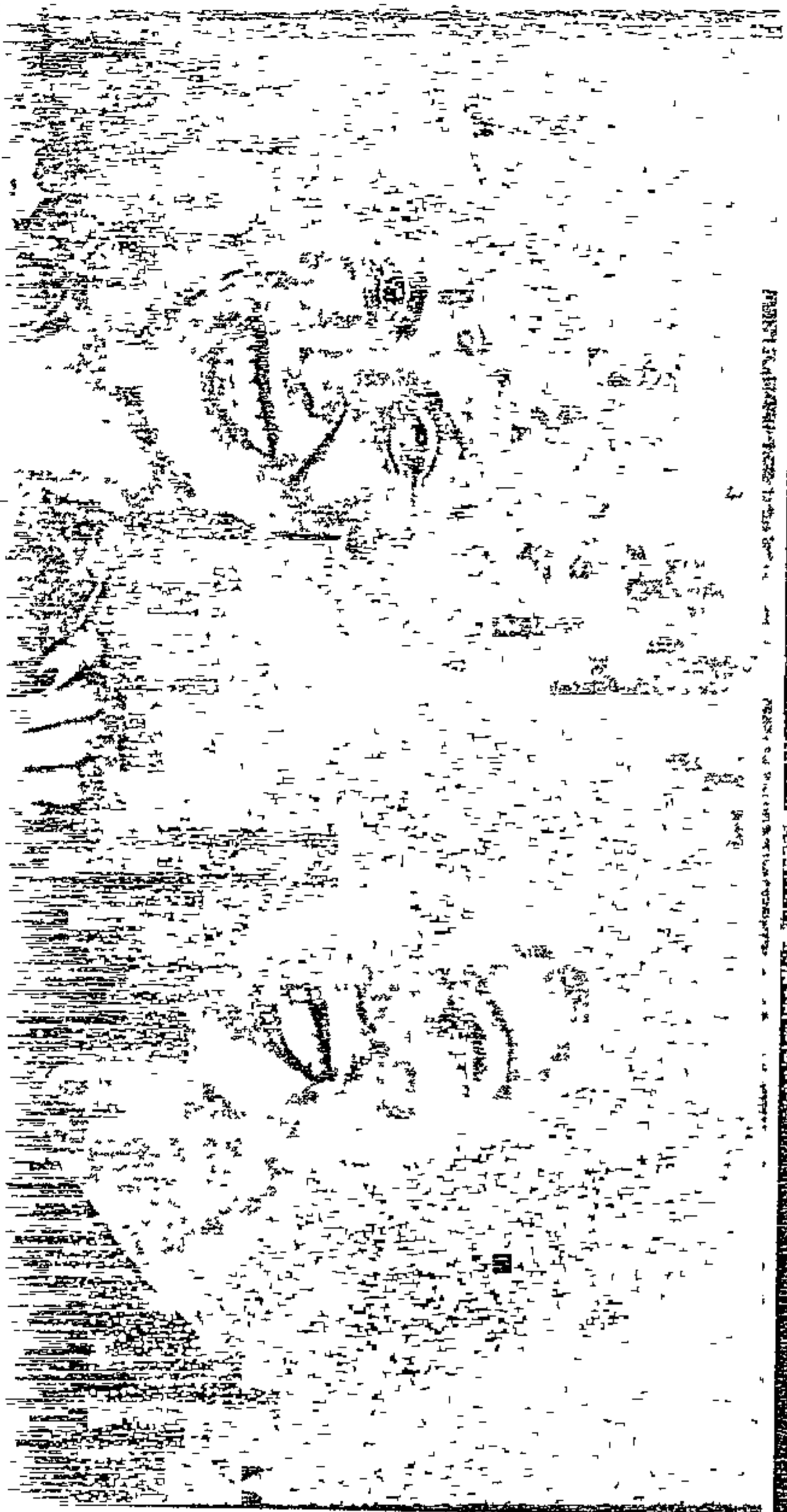
The other two victims were Mr Peter John Zerf, 41, an underground electrician, and Mr Pieter Jacobus van der Westhuizen 30 an under-

ground fitter. One of the injured, Mr Christoffel van der Linder, 38, is in the Coltesloe Mining Hospital

In the other accident seven men died and two were seriously injured in a rock burst at Vaal Reef's Gold Mine

near Klerksdorp, where rescue teams were yesterday afternoon clearing debris in search of 10 missing workers

A spokesman for Anglo American Corporation indicated there was little hope of finding any of the men alive



Assocom rejects new influx Bill

Labour Correspondent

THE Association of Chambers of Commerce (Assocom) claims Dr Piet Koorhof's new influx control Bill for blacks is "in some ways even more retrogressive" than a 1980 Bill on the issue which was withdrawn after an outcry

Assocom, which represents organised commerce nationwide, has told the Government the Bill must be "completely re-examined and restructured"

It says a proposed R5 000 fine on employers of "illegal" black workers is "outrageous to public conscience" and that

been referred to a commission for examination

Assocom says the Bill would initially "broaden the scope" of blacks allowed to stay in cities, but would "thereafter severely limit the accrual of future rights"

The Bill would re-impose a curfew on blacks "with increased severity", would require night raids on black homes and would effectively limit the time blacks could stay in a city from 72 to 17 hours

It suggests, like all other immigrants to the Republic, that blacks be able to qualify permanently to live in cities

1911/182
**4 miners die
in rockburst**

Mall Reporter

FOUR men were killed in a rockburst on the 41st level of the President Brand Gold Mine No 3 shaft, near Welkom in the Free State, last night.

A spokesman for Anglo American Corporation said the names of the dead men were being withheld until their next of kin had been informed.

A list of mine disasters in which men have been killed — compiled from Press reports — brings this year's total to 116. This includes the latest deaths in Welkom.

... near the ... at 10 am

Explosion kills miner

15/12/82

~~212~~ (212) West Rand Bureau Star

A man was killed and five injured—four seriously—in a mystery explosion at Randfontein gold mine yesterday. A police spokesman said that a group of black mineworkers were going off duty at the No 1 Cooke shaft at the mine. It is understood that one of them tossed an unknown object into a waste bin.

There was an immediate explosion during which the man believed to have tossed in the object was killed, and the others injured. The injured were admitted to the mine hospital. Mine authorities are investigating.

Did it also
happen elsewhere?
←

Mines in darkness after explosion

212 E. Post
24/12/82

JOHANNESBURG — Two mines on the gold-producing West Rand were plunged into darkness last night after an explosion at a nearby electrical sub-station

A mine spokesman said today the underground night shift was unable to work for two hours while the power was out

An Escom spokesman said the explosion, which cut power to the Randfontein and the West Rand Consolidated Gold Mine, destroyed a transformer between Randfontein and Krugersdorp and damage was estimated at R700 000

Initial fears that an undisclosed number of miners had been trapped underground later proved unfounded, said the mine spokesman

“The power cut disrupted the normal night shift and the men were trapped in the sense that they could not get to the surface while there was no power,” he said

“But no one had been trapped in the lifts and the shift was completed after power was restored”

A police spokesman said sabotage was not suspected.

“A transformer overheated and short-circuited and set others alight,” he said — Sapa