

JANUARY 1987



# BULLETIN



**ACCIDENTS ARE  
H—L! SAFETY  
IS  
HEAVEN 87**



THIS SAFETY BULLETIN CONTAINS SAFETY ARTICLES ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS, FATAL ACCIDENT ABSTRACTS, STUDIES, POSTERS AND OTHER SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PRESENTATION TO GROUPS OF MINE AND PLANT WORKERS.

AS GROUP SPOKESPERSON, LEADER OR SUPERVISOR, YOU PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR YOUR COMPANY. THE WAY YOU TALK, THINK AND ACT ABOUT SAFETY DETERMINES, TO A GREAT EXTENT, THE ATTITUDE YOUR COWORKERS WILL HAVE ABOUT SAFETY.

THIS MATERIAL, FUNDED BY THE MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, IS PROVIDED FREE AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AT ON-THE-JOB SAFETY MEETINGS. IT MAY BE USED AS IS OR TAILORED TO FIT LOCAL CONDITIONS IN ANY MANNER THAT IS APPROPRIATE.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED GREEN MEETING REPORT FORM TO RECORD YOUR SAFETY MEETINGS AND RETURN TO THE HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION, POSTAGE-PAID.



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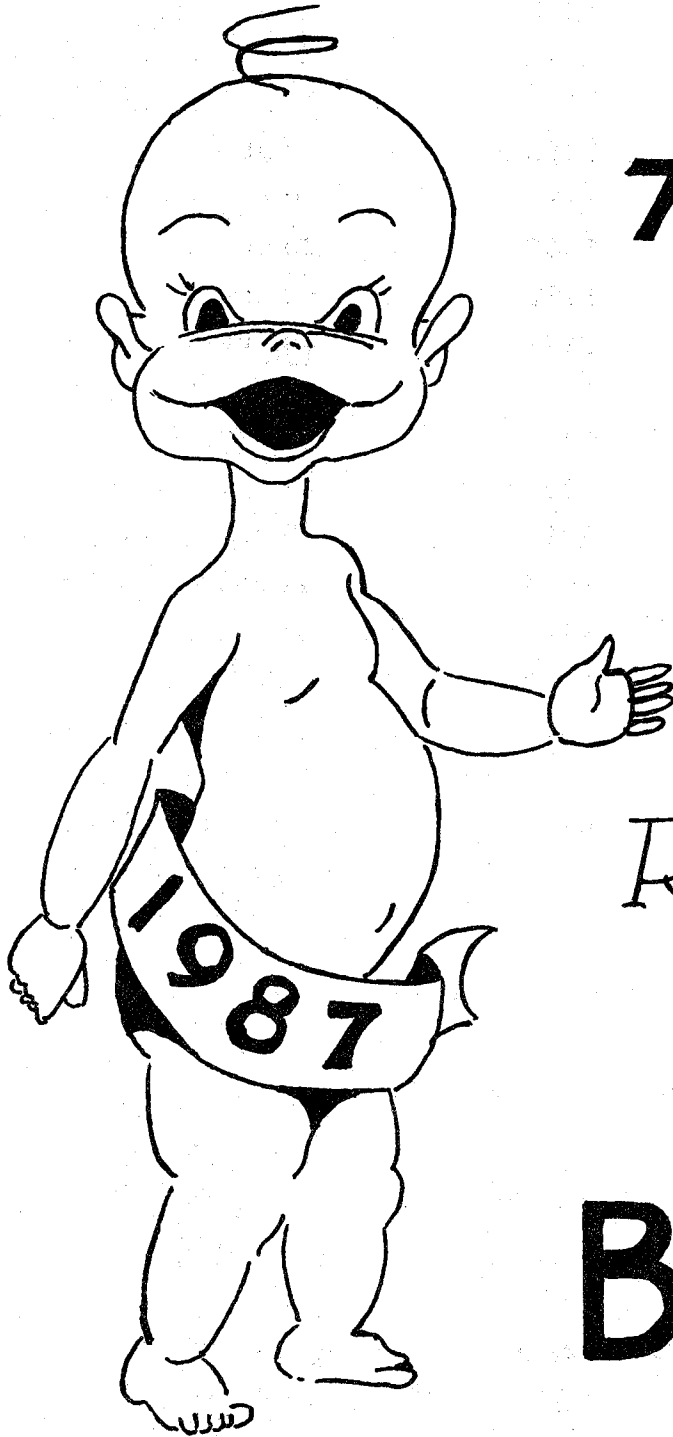
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<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>CHAPTER NO.</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Unicoal Inc.	6981	Summersville, WV
Buffalo Land Co. Inc.	6982	Summersville, WV
S & T Coal Co.	6983	Pikeville, KY
E.R. Trucking Co.	6984	Mannington, KY
Siders & Son Gravel	6985	Diske, IN
Mining Development Services	6986	McAlester, OK
Sand Valley Sand & Gravel	6987	Danville, IL
Dorchester Mining Co. Inc.	6988	Clintwood, VA
Copper Range Co.	6989	White Pine, MI
Hawaii Cement	6990	Kaomi Loop, HI
Grace Pacific	6991	Ewa, HI
Specification Stone Co.	6992	Pana, IL
West More Ltd.	6993	Skull Valley, AZ
Dove Claims Ltd.	6994	Prescott, AZ
Gold Star Inc.	6995	Mayer, AZ
B & B Materials	6996	Mayer, AZ
Copper Range Co.	6997	White Pine, MI
Pioneer Aggregates	6998	Millsap, TX
Willow Creek Inc.	6999	Barbourville, KY
Bradshaw Mt. Redi-Mix	7000	Dewey, AZ
Bell Enterprises	7001	Mayer, AZ
Yavapai Materials	7002	Prescott, AZ
Whitt Branch Coal Co. Inc.	7003	Rowe, VA
Berry Materials Corp.	7004	North Vernon, IN
Consolidation Coal Co.	7005	McLeansboro, IL
Small Mine Development	7006	St. George, UT
Kennecott--Utah Copper Div.	7007	Bingham Canyon, UT
Consolidation Coal Co.	7008	Sesser, IL
Weblit Corporation	7009	Webster, VA
Sweat Bee Coal Co. Inc.	7010	Grundy, VA
Coal Dust Mining Co. Inc.	7011	Grundy, VA
Betsy Layne Fuel & Energy Co. Inc.	7012	Pikeville, KY
Burke Elkhorn Mining Corp.	7013	Raccoon, KY

January 1987

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION



**TAKE A  
LOOK**

*AND....*

*Resolve to*

**DO  
BETTER**

January 1987

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## REMEMBER WHEN

REMEMBER WHEN brings back memories. Here is a list. How many can you remember? Drop us a line, we'll be happy to illustrate them.

1. When you shined shoes for five cents and two cents for rub-off?
2. Needed five years seniority to stand by the city latrine to shine shoes?
3. Picked and cracked coal, selling 50-lb. bags for 10 cents?
4. Raided neighbors fruit trees for fresh fruit?
5. Before TV, we played games on the street at night like billy buck?
6. Saved silver wrappers from cigarettes packs and chewing gum to make a ball to sell to rag man?
7. Cleaned horse manure from the street for flower gardens?
8. When day old bread was five cents a loaf or six for 25 cents?
9. When we ate bread with lard or ketchup and sugar?
10. Waited for people to exit from the side door of a movie house so we could rush in?
11. Took father's dinner pail bucket to the saloon for 10 cents worth of beer?
12. Heated hot water on the coal stove to wash father's back after a day in the mines?
13. Bought overalls and clodhopper shoes, both for \$2.98?
14. Knocked coal from a freight car before the coal policeman arrived?
15. Listened to local church picnics and gypsy music all day and in local saloons during the week?

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W I N T E R      A L E R T

16. Spent Sunday afternoons on a truck ride, cooking slabs of bacon on a stick and catching grease on rye bread?
17. Playing football with an old sock stuffed with rags?
18. Milkman brought fresh milk, butter, dairy products by horse and wagon to your porch at 5 a.m.?
19. We learned and spoke foreign languages (besides English) without college courses?

I can go on - and on - but we were happy and healthy -- we lived with what we had.

\*\*\*\*\*

### VALUE OF REPETITION

There may be people who say we talk too much about safety, but experience proves that when we cease talking about it, we cease thinking about it. And when we cease thinking about it, it ceases to exist.

It is true that we are bombarded with thoughts and ideas from the time we are born, but we are a product of the relatively few that have been driven home by constant reinforcement. The supervisors who keep repeating and insisting on compliance with the basics in planning, scheduling, good equipment operation and good management may not win popularity contests, but they will develop good people. Things are only important to the trainee to the degree that they are made important by the trainer.

Safety is a concept that has a special need for reinforcement through repetition of specific safety rules in conjunction with job instructions. Safety has a special need for reinforcement through repetition because experience indicates that it is easily forgotten or overlooked.

As leaders, we have an opportunity to multiply ourselves many times over through the people we direct. We have the opportunity to protect lives and livelihoods. Reinforcement through repetition is a valuable tool for achievement of these objectives.

**W I N T E R            A L E R T**

January 1987

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## YOU CAN HELP!

Write a memo to yourself that in the Holmes Safety Association Bulletin Year of 1987 you will do the following at least twice:

1. Send the editor an account of at least one serious or costly accident involving an employee. Describe briefly what happened and what might be done to prevent a recurrence.
2. Put the remarks on your mailing list for release of interest to other Holmes Safety Association members.
3. Send samples of any employee safety rules on or off the job and supervisory training materials, etc., preferably illustrated.
4. Send safety programs safety devices, safety ideas, reports including those for material handling, fire protection, warning signs, etc.
5. Send information on "success stories" - everybody is interested in how the "other person" prevents accidents which reduces costs and maintains production.

Remember, what is normal procedure for you and, in your opinion, a routine matter may be the answer somebody else is looking for.

Let's share your knowledge and experiences with other members in this great safety Association.

Mail your remarks, information, suggestions and stories to:

William H. Hoover, National Council Secretary  
MSHA  
Holmes Safety Association  
300 W. Congress FB-52, Room 7G  
Tucson, AZ 85701

W I N T E R      A L E R T



January 1987

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## MONONGAH 1907

MONONGAH 1907 tells the story of the struggle for mine safety in the United States, focusing on the tragedy of Monongah, West Virginia, in which 362 miners died and follows the evolution of mining laws from that time to the present. This is a story about people whose tragedy has been all but forgotten-although it led to the evolution of occupational safety and health laws protecting millions of American workers today.

MONONGAH 1907 was funded in large part by The Humanities Foundation of West Virginia, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The show was produced by the Mining Project of the Occupational Safety and Health Law Center, a public-interest law firm in Washington, D.C., which represents miners, their families and their communities in working to improve health and safety in the mines.

Research for MONONGAH 1907 included work at the West Virginia Collection of the West Virginia University Library, Fairmont State College Library, National Archives, Library of Congress, U.S. Bureau of Mines, U.S. Geological Survey, and many other locations. Interviews were conducted with miners and their families and with safety experts.

Thomas N. Bethell and J. Davitt McAteer co-produced MONONGAH 1907. Mr. Bethell is an editor, former research director of the United Mine Workers of America, and author of The Hurricane Creek Massacre, an investigation of mine disasters. Mr. McAteer, a native of Fairmont, West Virginia, is director of the Occupational Safety and Health Law Center, former staff safety director of the United Mine Workers of America and author of the Miner's Manual, a health and safety handbook.

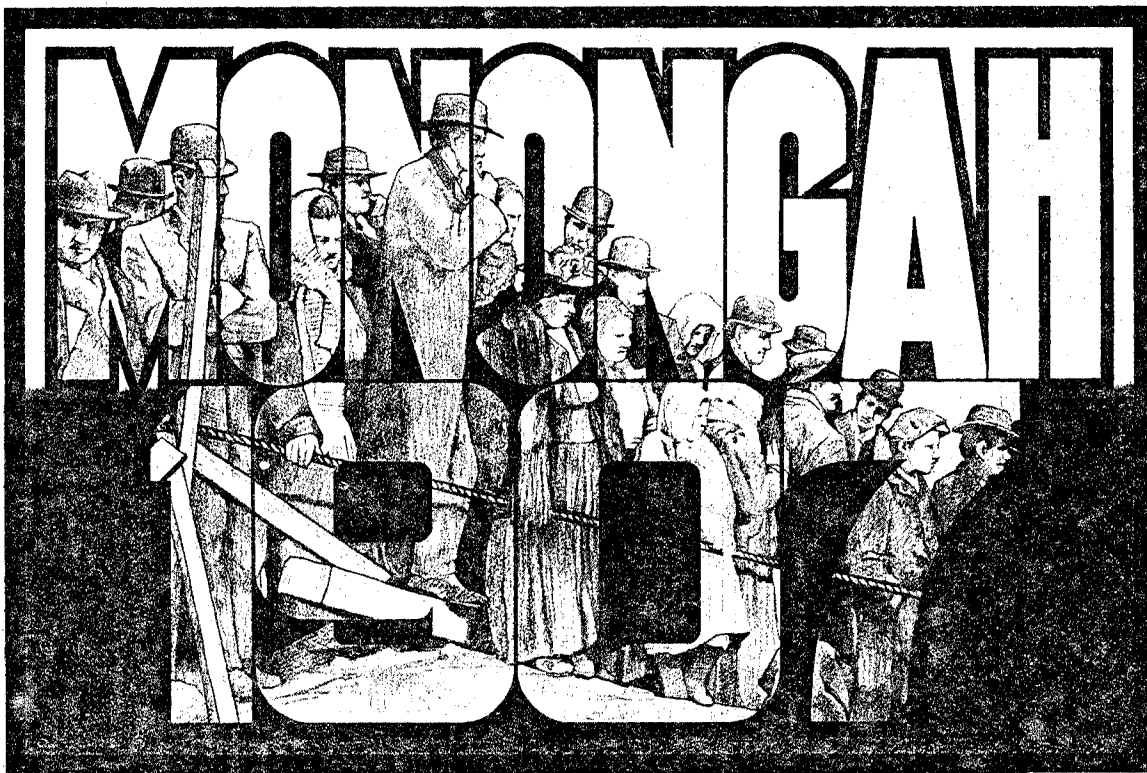
MONONGAH 1907 is a 120-slide, 26 minute slide/tape show. For temporary use, the show may be obtained from The Humanities Foundation of West Virginia on a free-loan basis for group showings by contacting:

Humanities Resource Service of West Virginia  
P. O. Box 204  
Institute, WV 25112  
(304) 768-8869

The show may also be purchased from the Occupational Safety and Health Law Center by contacting:

Terri Pencil  
Occupational Safety and Health Law Center  
1536 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 328-8300

W I N T E R            A L E R T



## COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARY

### HATS OFF TO!

The National Council wishes to recognize Ival VanHorne, Coal Mine Safety and Health District 9, Denver, Colorado, for his state wide support in motivating the objectives of the Holmes Safety Association.

Mr. Van Horne's interest has been very obvious in a number of council meetings, mine rescue meets and Holmes Safety Association combined meetings.

W I N T E R      A L E R T

# ABSTRACT FROM FATAL ACCIDENT

\*This fatality could be discussed at your regular on-the-job safety meeting.



## FATAL FALL-OF-PERSONS ACCIDENT

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT: A painter was fatally injured when he fell approximately 38 feet. Victim was working off an elevated walkway, standing with one foot on the walkway handrail and the other foot on the third rung of a step ladder and he lost his balance. Contributing to the severity of the accident was failure of the victim to use a safety belt and line where there existed a potential of falling.

RECOMMENDATIONS: 1. Do not carry supplies in hands when climbing; use both hands and hold on. 2. Do not overreach; climb down and reposition the ladder. 3. 56.15005-Always wear a safety belt and line when working from an elevation where there is a danger of falling.



\*Courtesy of Doyle Fink, Subdistrict Manager, Dallas, TX

January 1987

# ABSTRACT FROM FATAL ACCIDENT

\*This fatality could be discussed at your regular on-the-job safety meeting.



## FATAL ELECTRICAL ACCIDENT

GENERAL INFORMATION: An electrical accident occurred at an underground coal mine resulting in the death of an electrician with 4 years experience. He was electrocuted when he contacted an energized trailing cable phase conductor while attempting to splice the cable.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT: A roof-bolting machine was proceeding across Nos. 3 and 4 west entries when the trailing cable wedged between the reel and frame locking the cable reel. The trailing cable was pulled apart at a temporary splice. The superintendent moved two circuit breakers to the "off" position, removed two cable couplers and went to get the unit electrician to splice the cable. They rode past the section power center (transformer) and visually checked to determine if the circuit was deenergized. Two cable couplers had been removed from the receptacles. They then traveled to where the trailing cable was pulled apart. The electrician sat on the side of the vehicle and prepared the end of the trailing cable connected to the roof-bolting machine for resplicing by separating the conductors. When the cable pulled apart, the butt connectors of the previous splice remained on the three phase conductors of this section of the trailing cable and were covered with a part of the temporary splice insulating material. According to an eyewitness the electrician then cut into an energized phase conductor with wire cutters and fell from the vehicle. When others attempted to pull him away from the cable they received an electrical shock. The energized trailing cable was then pulled from contact with the victim.

CONCLUSION: The following violations were found:

1. Electrical work, i.e., attempting to splice the trailing cable for the right side roof-bolting machine, was performed by persons who were neither qualified to perform electrical work nor working under the direct supervision of a qualified person -- section 75.511, 30 CFR 75.
2. The trailing cable for the right side roof-bolting machine was not deenergized before the work of splicing the cable was begun -- section 75.509, 30 CFR 75.
3. The electrician did not lock out and suitably tag the disconnecting device (cable coupler) for the right side roof-bolting machine trailing cable before he attempted to splice the trailing cable -- section 75.511, 30 CFR 75.
4. The record of the weekly examinations of the right side roof-bolting machine and its trailing cable and protective devices was not current -- section 75.512, 30 CFR 75.
5. The ground check monitor circuit pilot wire was intentionally shunted by a length of wire to the grounding conductor in the cable coupler of the right side roof-bolting machine trailing cable -- section 75.902, 30 CFR 75.



## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### A 10 TO 15 MINUTE TOOLBOX SAFETY TALK

#### MANUAL HANDLING OF MATERIALS

Over 32% of all injuries in the mining industry for 1985 were due to handling material. There were 3 fatalities, 4,569 nonfatal disabling injuries and 1,778 non-disabling injuries for a total of 6,350 reported incidents.

#### METHODS OF PREVENTING HANDLING INJURIES

1. Planning and arranging operations and methods to eliminate hazardous situations and insure adequate control at all times.
2. Substitution of mechanical handling for manual handling to the maximum practical degree.
3. Careful placement and training of personnel.
4. Adequate and competent supervision.
5. Provision of suitable protective equipment.

#### DO'S AND DON'TS OF LIFTING

Is lifting part of your job routine? If so, every day you risk injury from strains, sprains, hernias, cuts and bruises. If you haven't learned the "BASICS" of LIFTING, take time now. Help protect your wage-earning power.

#### DO'S

1. BEFORE YOU BEGIN, KNOW THE RIGHT WAY TO DO THE JOB. Check with your boss if you have any questions about moving a load.
2. ALWAYS SIZE UP THE LOAD. Get help for heavy or bulky objects.
3. INSPECT YOUR PATH OF TRAVEL. Be wary of stairs and tripping or slipping hazards. Choose the safest route.
4. BE SURE OF A SAFE, FIRM GRIP. Check for nails and sharp edges. If the load is wet or slippery, wipe it off.

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5. LIFT WITH YOUR LEGS, NOT YOUR BACK. Squat down close to the load, keep your back straight, lift slowly with your leg power.
6. USE MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT WHENEVER POSSIBLE. Proper use of hand trucks and dollies can save a lot of manual effort.

DON'TS

1. AVOID HEAVY, MANUAL JOBS IF YOU
  - a. Have had previous joint injuries.
  - b. Are underweight or overweight.
  - c. Have a special medical problem (weak heart, high blood pressure).
2. NEVER LIFT MORE THAN YOU CAN EASILY HANDLE.
3. NEVER LIFT WITH A ROUNDED BACK OR STRAIGHT LEGS.
4. AVOID TWISTING YOUR BODY WHEN LIFTING OR CARRYING. Move your feet to change directions.
5. NEVER LIFT FROM ANY UNBALANCED POSITION. This means no lifting from one knee or reaching over another object to lift.
6. NEVER CARRY A LOAD THAT BLOCKS YOUR VIEW AHEAD.

The following list outlines six steps to safe lifting that we must adhere to if we are to safeguard ourselves.

1. Keep Feet Parted: Feet should be apart with one foot alongside the object being lifted and one behind. Feet adequately spread apart gives greater stability with the rear foot in a position for the upward thrust of the lift.
2. Keep Back Straight: Use the sit-down position and keep the back straight. A straight back keeps the spine, back muscles, and organs of the body in correct alignment. It minimizes the compression of the guts that can cause a hernia.
3. Tuck Chin In: Tuck in your chin so your neck and head continue the straight back line and keep your spine straight and firm.
4. Grip the Object with Your Whole Hand: The palm grip is one of the most important elements of correct lifting. The fingers and the hand are extended around the object to be lifted. Use the full palm; fingers alone have very little power.

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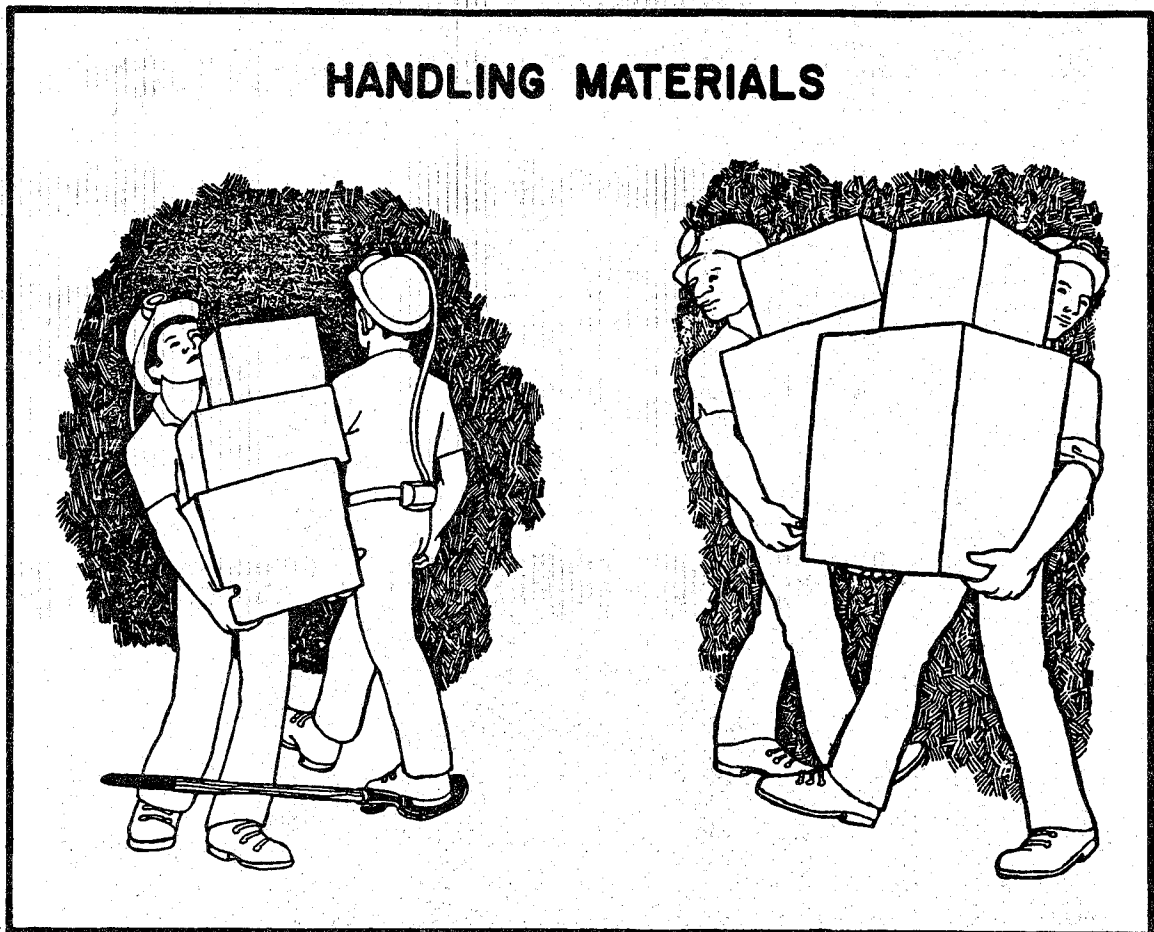
5. Tuck Elbows and Arms In: The load should be drawn close, and the arms and elbows should be tucked in to the sides of the body. When the arms are held away from the body, they lose much of their strength and power. Keeping the arms tucked in also helps keep the body weight centered.

6. Keep Body Weight Directly Over Feet: Position body so its weight is centered over the feet. This provides a more powerful line of thrust and insures better balance.

Start the lift with a thrust of the rear foot.

Injuries due to poor lifting practices are no one's fault but ours. Consequently, we must "think before we lift" if we are to protect ourselves from unnecessary injury.

\*Courtesy of Doyle Fink, Subdistrict Manager, Dallas, Texas



# "COMMON SENSE LIFTING"

January 1987

## Purpose:

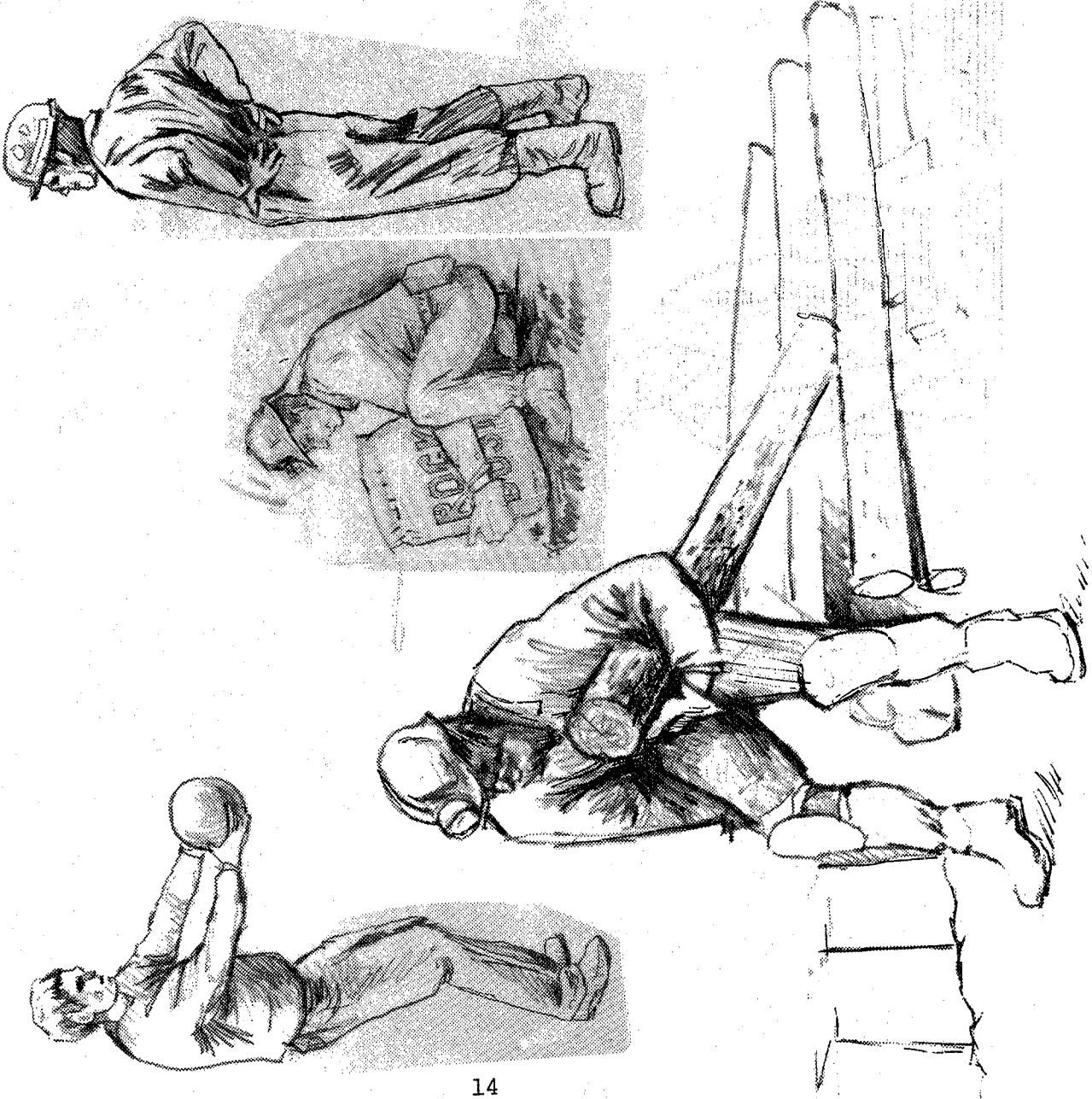
Statistics show that one out of ten Americans will experience a painful back injury--from improper lifting--at some time during their life. One out of these ten people is likely to be employed in the mining or related industries, where lifting--either by hand or with mechanical help--may be their sole duty or as part of their regular work. This 20-minute slide/tape program is designed to alert workers to possible health hazards of improper lifting practices, and to show them the correct method of lifting.

Lifting is so much a part of most miners everyday work that they don't think much about it; but it is often done incorrectly, with painful results: pulled muscles, disk lesions, or hernia.

Detailed artwork is used to illustrate the human backbone, muscles, ligaments and spine; to explain how muscles are pulled, disks "pinched," hernias happen, and how strains and sprains, fractures and bruises occur.

Live-action demonstrations, photographed in underground mines, are used to point out the need for proper lifting and handling of working tools and materials. Workers are encouraged to obtain help whenever they encounter a lifting situation that is too much for one person to handle safely, and to consider the use of mechanical aids whenever possible.

This slide/tape program demonstrates that proper lifting techniques--including good posture, correct grip, observing adequate foot or hand clearance, wearing personal protective equipment, and utilizing smooth application of lifting power--will do much to help reduce handling material accidents and injuries in our mining industry.





Please submit a written request or purchase order, including the title of the slide/tape program, "Common Sense Lifting," and the number of sets wanted.

**National Mine Health & Safety Academy  
Business Office  
P. O. Box 1166  
Beckley, WV 25802-1166**

Telephone orders will not be accepted. Do not enclose payment with your order; you will be billed \$9.00 per set by our finance office.





## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### SPECIAL MEDICAL RESPONSE TEAM RENDERS CARE IN DISASTER SITUATIONS

Unfortunately, mine disasters are a pervasive part of southwestern Pennsylvania history. Because of these and other man-made and natural disasters, a need existed for a highly trained medical team which could respond immediately and render advanced medical care, both above and below ground, on a 24-hour a day basis.

In 1983 such a group of skilled personnel was formed: the Special Medical Response Team (SMRT).

SMRT was organized for and trained by the Bureau of Deep Mine Safety and the Office of Environmental Emergency Management to fulfill a need for special advanced emergency medical care to the deep mine industry. Although the services of SMRT are geared toward the mining industry, it is not for the industry's exclusive use. The special training, organizational structure and tight medical control and discipline of SMRT make it suitable for other types of high risk on hazardous incidents requiring advanced medical support.

Each medical response team normally is composed of a physician/physician commander, paramedic chief and paramedic supervisor or specialist. Depending upon the nature and the scope of the incident a single team or multiple teams may be generated.

The goal of SMRT is to mobilize and respond to an incident within one hour or less from the time a call for assistance is received from an industrial, local, regional or state agency or governmental body.

The Indiana County Emergency Communications Center serves as the central dispatch agency for SMRT. When a call for assistance is received the dispatcher contacts the team members.

After SMRT members are apprised of the disaster situation and its location a mode of response is selected. In most cases the team will use ground transportation when responding to situations occurring within a 50-mile radius, a helicopter within a 150-mile radius and a fixed-wing aircraft outside the 150-mile radius.

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The mode of response may be by dual methods with one team arriving by air and a backup team arriving by ground.

Police departments and emergency industrial agencies within the 412 area code requiring the services of SMRT should call 349-1428 outside the 412 area code call 1-800-482-2122.

Detailed information on SMRT is available from the physician chief Richard F. Kunkle, MD. Dr. Kunkle may be reached at (412) 537-1187.

The efforts of the Special Medical Response Team have received the endorsement of the EMSI Board of Directors and the Bureau of Deep Mine Safety of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COMMISSONER VICINELLY PUSHES EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**

The concept of the Special Medical Response Team developed following the July, 1983, incident at Helene Mine in Homer City, Pennsylvania. In this incident a miner was killed following a methane explosion. The mining company had requested a physician on scene to assist in treating the individual as well as assist in medical planning. Upon arrival the patient was actually underground approximately three-fourths hour from medical assistance. At that time the mine owners, Commissioner Walter Vicinelly, Commissioner Deep Mine Safety, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources discussed the need for a medical response unit, adequately trained and properly equipped to respond to the underground environment of the bituminous deep mine industry.

As an outgrowth of the above concept, the Special Medical Response Team (SMRT) was organized and incorporated as a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation and trained by the Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Deep Mine Safety, to meet the defined needs of the mining industry. In addition, all deep mine accident records from the last two years are being reviewed in an effort to better understand injury patterns, necessary medical responses and provide medical insight into the mine environment. Educational programs based upon research into the medical aspects of the deep mine environment are being planned on an "as requested" basis to the mining community, the rescue and emergency services, community and/or other person/agency requesting it.

The purpose of the team, therefore, is to provide an immediately available, appropriately trained cadre of physicians and paramedics to administer advanced medical care, both above and

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below ground, during mine disasters. In addition, the team will provide research into the medical aspects of injury and rescue in the deep mine environment. As a result of the research, educational programs will be designed for appropriate personnel.

The team is requested by the mine owner at the time of an accident or disaster. The mine owner must simply contact 911 in Indiana County where a central tiered dispatching system assures notification of the team within minutes. Based upon the information ascertained one, two or three 3-member teams, each composed of a physician and two paramedics or three paramedics with remote physician commander, will be dispatched to the scene of the medical problem. A surface medical command center will be established by one team while a second team will be available to respond underground to the scene of the injury or recovery. This will allow advanced emergency medical care to be delivered underground as well as rapid interface with existing surface medical facilities. The team/teams will be transported by appropriate surface and/or air vehicles provided by a number of agencies and/or private corporations which have agreed to provide their services gratis.

All three team physicians are residency trained graduates in Emergency Medicine. They are also all Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certified by the American Heart Association and Advanced Trauma Life Support Certified by the American College of Surgeons. All paramedics are certified at the P-2 level in the State of Pennsylvania. Additional training requirements include ACLS certification by the American Heart Association; Rescue Practices Certified by the State of Pennsylvania and Hazardous Materials Certified by the State of Pennsylvania. Additionally, all team members have been trained in mine rescue practices by the Bureau of Deep Mine Safety of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. Specific certification in the use of the Draeger Self-Contained Breathing Device has also been completed.

The team has combined eighty years of EMS experience among the total of 10 members. Each member has a minimum of six years EMS experience and a maximum of 16 years. Team members were selected based on an active current involvement in EMS, as well as the special skills they could bring to bear.

Dr. Richard Kunkle,  
Physician Chief

\*A full follow-up on Medical Response Teams in the February Bulletin.

**W I N T E R            A L E R T**

January 1987

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## COUNCIL NEWS

### COAL RIVER COUNCIL AWARDS MINES

The Coal River Council, Holmes Safety Association, conducted their annual awards dinner on December 9, 1986. Listed below are the coal companies receiving awards for lowest incidence rate in the Council.

#### UNDERGROUND

150 + Employees

Eastern Associated Coal Corporation  
Wharton No. 4 Mine

100-149 Employees

Peabody Coal Company  
Big Mountain No. 8 Mine

50-99 Employees

Cannelton Industries  
Cannelton No. 1 Mine

0-49 Employees

Expansion Mining Company  
Model No. 4 Mine

#### Strip

Colony Bay Coal Company  
Colony Bay Surface Mine

#### Surface Facilities

Hobet Mining and Construction Company, Inc.  
Beth Station No. 79 Preparation Plant

W I N T E R      A L E R T

# Safety Achievement Awards for Miners



U.S. Department of Labor  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association

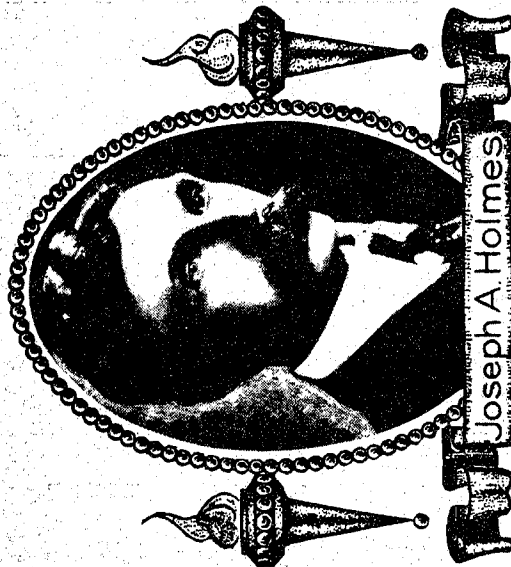
## WHAT IS THE JOSEPH A. HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association (JAHSA) was founded in 1916, by some of the nation's leading safety organizations representing the mining industries.

The purpose of the JAHSA was to commemorate the efforts of the late Dr. Joseph A. Holmes, the first director of the U.S. Bureau of Mines, by promoting the doctrines of safety and the conservation of life and health in those industries.

One of the functions of the JAHSA is to give recognition to miners and companies with excellent safety records by giving safety awards.

Many mining companies have used the JAHSA awards as a means of rewarding their employees for their group and personal contributions to safety. The awards inform the community that the mining industry does care about the welfare of its employees.



## TYPES OF AWARDS

The following are the different types of awards available:

1. Type A Awards—for acts of heroism: The awards are medals, with Medal of Honor Certificates and Certificates of Honor. These awards for personal heroism for distinguished services in the saving of a life are given regardless of whether the act was performed in the line of duty, or elsewhere, by an active or inactive employee of any branch of mining, quarrying, or mineral industries.

2. Type B-1 Awards—for individual workers: The awards are Certificates of Honor, gold pins and gold decals. A minimum of 40 years of continuous work experience in the mineral extractive industries without incurring an injury resulting in lost workdays is required for eligibility; this does not include clerical or office work. Applications for individuals who have been retired must be submitted within two years after their retirement date.

3. Type B-2 Awards—for individual officials (for record of group working under their supervision): Supervisors are eligible for this award (Certificate of Honor) if their crews have achieved a safety record of no lost time accidents in excess of 250,000 man-hours underground or 350,000 man-hours surface mineral extractive work: Lesser man-hour achievements are considered if the record spans more than five years. Safety records greater than 20 years are recommended without regard to man-hour totals.

4. Type C Awards—for safety records: This group includes safety records of companies, safety organizations, mines, quarries, groups of mines, quarries or other plants (when the grouping includes all the mine or plants in the area or district), and any operating department, except clerical (office), of a mine quarry, or plant. To qualify for an award in this group, the record must be compiled in the mineral extractive industries and may not include any manufacturing operations. The minimum number of man-hours worked without a fatality or permanent total disability is 4,000,000 and the minimum number of man-hours worked without an injury with lost workdays is 600,000 (providing the record exceeds six calendar months of operation).

5. Special Award (for small operators): One of the functions of the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association is to give recognition to everyone with an excellent safety record. This special award is to acknowledge the small operators with 25 employees or less in recognition of their outstanding safety records. The minimum number of man-hours worked without a fatality or permanent disability is 100,000 and the minimum number of man-hours worked without an injury with lost workdays is 50,000 (providing the record exceeds six calendar months of operation).

6. Other awards—workers who complete 10, 20, or 30 years without an injury with lost workdays are eligible to receive Association awards. The awards are as follows: 30 years—silver pin and decal bearing the insignia of the association; 20 years—similar bronze pin and decal; 10 years—a decal bearing the insignia of the Association.



The following information is required on all applications for awards.

1. Name and occupation of each person recommended for an award.
2. Name and address of the mine, quarry, plant or other mineral extractive operation and MSHA identification number.
3. Type of operation (U.G., surface, plant, etc.) and principal product.
4. The period covered by the record, with the date of the beginning and the end of record (month, day, year). If the record is continuing, give the date of the beginning and some recent date, such as the date of submittal of application with notation "and continuing".
5. The average number of employees in the group who achieved the record during the period covered.
6. Place and date of incident (Hero award only).
7. Name of other person or persons involved (Hero award only).
8. Complete details of occurrence and degree of risk involved.

Applications for all of the awards should be mailed no later than April 1, of the current year to:

Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association  
 U.S. Department of Labor  
 Mine Safety and Health Administration  
 Ballston Tower #3, Room 510A  
 4015 Wilson Boulevard  
 Arlington, Virginia 22203

JOSEPH A. HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION AWARDS ISSUED

TYPE OF HONOR	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Type A (Heroism)						
Medals of Honor	5	8	5	3	6	2
Certificates of Honor	0	6	0	0	3	14
Type B-1 (40 Year Awards)	81	70	134	52	45	27
Type B-2 (Individual Officials)	5	2	1	4	2	3
Type C (Safety Records)	81	80	74	14	12	7
Special Awards for Small Operators	367	56	15	13	63	73
10-Year Awards	1,584	931	1,077	242	141	1,355
20-Year Awards	1,473	310	219	52	175	173
30-Year Awards	556	352	310	80	250	223
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,160</b>	<b>1,815</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>1,857</b>

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## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### ONGOING AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE REAP PROGRAM

#### I. PROJECTS BEING CARRIED OVER AND CONTINUOUS

A. MONTHLY POSTERS - Will be ongoing to provide the mining community with an illustration on underground activities, certain types of hazardous situations, and statistics on fatal roof/rib accidents.

B. DISTRIBUTION OF ROOF/RIB FATAL STATISTICS - Each district roof-control supervisor will receive quarterly roof/rib fall information to disseminate within his district. The statistics will be on a National and district level. This material could be utilized for roof-control training, underground (one-on-one or group) safety talks, and for presentation at various safety organizations upon request.

C. REAP ROOF-CONTROL SAFETY PROGRAM - This is the annual fatal slide program accompanied by a prepared safety talk pertaining to all roof/rib fatal accidents for each calendar year.

#### II. CONDITIONAL PROJECTS

A. REAP-O-GRAM - This informational letter will continue to be forwarded to underground coal operators, union officials and enforcement agencies as the situation warrants. In the past, REAP-O-GRAM's have been distributed when a sudden increase has occurred with roof-fall accidents inby permanent supports and when certain occupations are involved, such as supervisory personnel.

B. SPECIAL INITIATIVES - To inform the mining community of new technology techniques, and support systems available in ground control. This may be accomplished through technology news, small workshops, seminars, management and union informational meetings.

C. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - To provide roof-control training to the miners upon request from mine management, U.M.W.A., and enforcement agencies.

Present REAP program upon request at Holmes Safety Council meetings, to educational institutes, miners training and retraining sessions, and other interested safety organizations.

-MORE-

**W I N T E R            A L E R T**



Reinstate the five 30-second Public Service Announcement radio tapes. These tapes pertain to pertinent roof-control information on hazardous areas, fatal statistics, compliance with roof-control plans, and requesting miners' assistance in support of the REAP program.

### III. NEW PROJECTS

- A. A recognition award has been suggested to recognize each MSHA district without a roof/rib fall fatality for calendar year 1986. This award will be in the form of a hard-hat decal. The decal will be for each underground coal miner, mine officials, MSHA's back-up groups, education and training groups, and enforcement personnel (State and Federal) within the recognized district. The district office will receive a plaque for display on their accomplishment.
- B. "I PLEDGE" CAMPAIGN - This will be a Nationwide campaign for each and every person required to go into an underground coal mine. The thrust of the program will be for no one to work or travel in an unsupported area unless within strict compliance of the roof-control plan. All persons required to enter in an underground mine will be requested to assist in making this campaign a success. They will be asked to sign a sheet expressing their support. In return, they will receive an "I PLEDGE" hard-hat decal. The intention of this program is a new approach for alerting the miner of the constant hazards of proceeding into an unsupported area. The expected benefits from this National campaign would be to eliminate those roof-fall fatalities occurring in unsupported area.
- C. ROOF-CONTROL TRAINING - A video cassette program is being finalized for the mining community. These training tapes will be in a series of three separate video tapes: (1) Roof Evaluation and Decisions, (2) Roof-Bolting Facts, and (3) The Supervisor's Responsibility in Roof Control. Each video tape will be approximately 20 to 30 minutes in length. Once this project is completed, it should be utilized for additional roof-control training to all concerned mining agencies. The National Mine Safety and Health Academy in Beckley, West Virginia, will have copies stocked for interested parties upon request.
- D. Visual Display - A committee has been selected to select a portable "eye catching" display pertaining to roof control. This display is intended to be presented at various safety organizational meetings. The eye catching display is to leave a person with a lasting impression "that could happen to me under the circumstances." Hopefully, this display will have the impact on the miners as the "Magic of Fire" demonstration.

This brings you up-to-date on what is happening in REAP; but, remember, our success is measured by the reduction of accidents. With your extra effort and dedication to the REAP program, we cannot help but to succeed in our efforts for the coming year.

**W I N T E R            A L E R T**

## "I PLEDGE" CAMPAIGN

In a continuing effort to enhance the safety of underground coal miners by reducing roof-fall accidents, the REAP committee is soliciting the assistance of every coal operator and miner to help eliminate accidents occurring inby permanent roof supports.

A National campaign has been established to make miners aware of the dangers of proceeding into unsupported roof areas. Every underground coal miner will be asked to pledge that he/she will not work or travel inby supported roof unless in strict compliance with the approved roof-control plan. They will be asked to sign a sheet expressing their support for the campaign and, in return, will receive an "I PLEDGE" hardhat decal. In the near future, MSHA personnel will be contacting each underground coal mine operator requesting their support for this National "I PLEDGE" effort. With unified support from the entire mining community, a drastic reduction and even elimination of roof-fall fatalities can be achieved.

REAP Coordinator



H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



**NATIONWIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL COMPETITION**  
**THIRD QUARTER RESULTS - 1986\***

**GROUP I - UG 3,000,000 + WHE**

GUYANDOTTE COUNCIL, Pineville, West Virginia, with 3,963,916 work hours of exposure, 78 lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 3.94.

**GROUP II - UG 1,500,000 + WHE**

GAULEY COUNCIL, Summersville, West Virginia, reported 2,580,828 work hours of exposure, 51 lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate 3.95.

**GROUP III - UG 1,499,999 OR LESS WHE**

WINDBER COUNCIL, Windber, Pennsylvania, accumulated 139,082 work hours of exposure, 2 lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 2.88.

**GROUP I - SURFACE 2,000,000 + WHE**

SOUTHERN INDIANA JOINT INDUSTRY SAFETY COMMITTEE & H.S.A., Lynnville, Indiana, reported an accumulation of 3,091,682 work hours of exposure, 41 lost-time accidents, fatality free for an incidence rate of 2.65.

**GROUP II - SURFACE 1,000,000 + WHE**

GROVE CITY/CLARION COUNTY COUNCIL, Clarion, Pennsylvania, compiled 1,348,920 work hours of exposure, 74 lost-time accidents and fatality free for an incidence rate of 2.08.

**GROUP III - SURFACE 999,999 OR LESS WHE**

WESTERN MARYLAND COUNCIL, Grantsville, Maryland, reported 698,021 work hours of exposure, one lost-time accident, fatality free for an incidence rate 0.29.

\*THESE FIGURES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

40-455 SAFETY ASSOCIATION  
 SORTED BY STANDING  
 COAL-SURFACE  
 SAFETY COMPETITION REPORT

YEAR-TO-DATE: JANUARY THRU SEPTEMBER 1986

QUARTER 3

COUNCIL NAME	CMCL NUM	WORK HOURS	LOST TIME ACC	INCI-DEVICES	NO. MTGS	NO. CHAP	STD	WORK HOURS	LOST TIME ACC	FILLS	RATES	INCI-DEVICES	TOT NO	AVG NO
<b>GROUP I</b>														
SOUTHERN INDIANA JT SAFETY COM 2 HSA	IN02	921,422	13	0	2,82	1	6	1	3,091,682	41	0	2,65	3	4.5
COAL RIVER COUNCIL	WV02	1,514,655	40	0	5,28	2	32	2	2,844,852	67	0	4,71	6	23.8
<b>GROUP II</b>														
GROVE CITY/CLARION COUNTY COUNCIL	PA05	445,657	4	0	1,80	1	15	3	1,848,920	14	0	2,08	1	11.3
SALLEY COUNCIL	WV05	269,010	3	0	2,23	1	100	4	1,704,114	24	2	3,05	4	30.0
ARACOMA COUNCIL	WV01	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	1,937,912	36	0	3,72	4	5.0
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS OPEN-PIT	IL06	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	1,366,380	40	0	5,85	2	6.3
<b>GROUP III</b>														
WESTERN MARYLAND	MD02	260,494	0	0	.00	1	20	1	698,021	1	0	.29	3	18.3
MON VALLEY COUNCIL	WV08	250,784	1	0	.80	1	45	9	747,126	4	0	1,07	3	34.3
N. INDIANA JT. COMM. FOR COAL MINE SAF	IN01	0	0	0	.00	3	0	4	984,321	7	0	1,42	5	3.0
GUYANDOTTE COUNCIL	WV08	275,350	5	0	3.68	1	0	12	873,437	9	0	2,06	5	0.4
KISKI - TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL	PA08	44,762	0	0	.00	1	2	2	132,917	2	0	3.01	6	1.5
NEW RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL	WV10	300,494	3	0	2.00	1	29	10	966,268	15	0	3.10	4	23.8
WINDING GULF	WV15	0	0	0	.00	0	0	4	142,352	2	1	4,21	1	4.5
SOUTHEAST OHIO COUNCIL	OH02	129,487	2	0	3.09	3	6	11	403,295	9	0	4,46	9	4.5
CENTRAL ILLINOIS OPEN-PIT COUNCIL	IL01	0	0	0	.00	0	0	4	168,788	4	0	4,74	2	1.3
KANAWHA VALLEY	WV07	0	0	0	.00	0	0	4	885,318	24	0	5,42	3	5.0
JOHN O MILLER COUNCIL	PA09	0	0	0	.00	1	0	4	105,426	3	0	5.68	6	1.5
INDIANA COUNCIL	PA07	149,174	3	0	4.02	1	5	13	473,999	14	0	5,91	6	3.8
CLYMER COUNCIL	PA04	17,593	0	0	.00	2	2	3	54,488	5	0	18.35	8	1.5

HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION  
 SORTED BY STANDING  
 COAL-UNDERGROUND  
 SAFETY COMPETITION REPORT

YEAR-TO-DATE: JANUARY THRU SEPTEMBER 1986

QUARTER 2

COUNCIL NAME	CNG- NO	WORK HOURS	LOST TIME ACC	INCI- DENCE RATES	NO MTGS	NO CHAP	STD	LOST TIME ACC	WORK HOURS	INCI- DENCE RATES	NO MTGS	NO CHAP	STD	AVG
GROUP I														
SHYAMADITE COUNCIL	WV06	1,213,195	27	0	4.45	1	1.04	1	3,963,316	0	3.94	5	78.0	1
NORTH CENTRA COUNCIL	WV11	970,234	28	0	5.77	1	6	2	3,052,004	61	5	4.33	3	4.0
WALTER W. KEMPISHA, KESLER	IL07	1,089,751	37	0	6.79	1	3	4	3,552,599	100	0	5.63	3	4.5
SOUTHEAST OHIO COUNCIL	OH02	1,003,496	36	0	7.17	3	7	6	3,181,931	95	1	6.03	9	5.3
COAL RIVER COUNCIL	WV02	2,440,577	79	0	6.27	2	58	3	5,137,764	194	1	7.59	6	43.0
NEW RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL	WV10	1,033,130	37	0	7.16	1	46	5	3,356,406	131	0	7.81	4	35.5
JOHN E. JONES	IL02	3,000,553	144	4	9.86	1	15	7	9,167,265	472	5	10.41	3	11.0
INDIANA COUNCIL	PA07	1,626,706	103	0	12.65	1	17	8	5,190,906	337	0	12.98	6	12.8
GROUP II														
SAULEY COUNCIL	WV05	553,648	16	0	5.78	1	100	3	2,580,828	51	0	3.95	4	30.0
KASKASKIA VALLEY	IL03	970,321	34	0	7.01	1	1	4	2,013,352	61	0	6.06	2	1.8
ARACOMA COUNCIL	WV01	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	2,527,132	91	1	7.28	4	10.0
WILLIAM "SPOTTY" GROVES COUNCIL	PA06	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	2,151,999	116	1	10.87	6	9.3
GROUP III														
WINDSOR COUNCIL	PA11	48,843	1	0	4.09	3	7	6	139,082	2	0	2.88	4	5.3
POTOMAC VALLEY	MD01	386,203	10	0	5.18	1	7	7	1,203,790	23	0	3.82	3	5.8
EAST PIKE COUNTY	WV01	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	657,994	19	0	5.78	1	2.5
WINDING GULF	WV15	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	967,933	33	0	6.82	1	9.3
KISKI - TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL	PA08	80,344	4	0	9.36	1	5	8	288,015	11	0	7.64	6	3.8
KANARHA VALLEY	WV07	0	0	0	.00	0	0	1	965,382	37	0	7.67	3	5.0
MON VALLEY COUNCIL	WV03	108,852	2	0	3.67	1	11	5	343,281	17	0	9.90	3	8.8
CLYMER COUNCIL	PA04	88,251	7	0	15.86	2	7	9	289,155	26	0	17.98	8	5.3
JOHN J. MELLER COUNCIL	PA09	0	0	0	.00	1	0	1	736,248	71	0	19.29	6	2.5

# THE LAST WORD

Blessed are they who were not satisfied to leave well enough alone. All the progress the world has made, we owe to them.

\*\*\*\*\*

Many people are wondering if the Golden Rule, too, has been buried at Fort Knox.

\*\*\*\*\*

Force may subdue, but love wins.

\*\*\*\*\*

If something goes wrong, it is more important to talk about who will fix it than who is to blame.

\*\*\*\*\*

If your batting average is high enough, the big league will find you.

\*\*\*\*\*

The probable reason some people get lost in thought is because it is unfamiliar territory to them.

Your reputation might be damaged by the opinion of others. Only you yourself can damage your character.

\*\*\*\*\*

Blessed is the man who can adjust to a new set of circumstances without surrendering his convictions.

\*\*\*\*\*

Those who make a mistake and doesn't correct it thereby makes another mistake.

\*\*\*\*\*

There is far more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than there is hunger for bread.

\*\*\*\*\*

The greater the obstacle, the more the glory in overcoming it.

\*\*\*\*\*

The longer you gaze at difficulty the bigger it looks. Tackle it at first sight and lick it.

**IF YOU FIND MISTAKES**  
IN THIS PUBLICATION  
PLEASE CONSIDER  
THAT THEY ARE THERE  
FOR A PURPOSE. WE  
PUBLISH SOMETHING  
FOR EVERYONE AND  
SOME PEOPLE ARE  
ALWAYS LOOKING  
FOR MISTAKES!!!

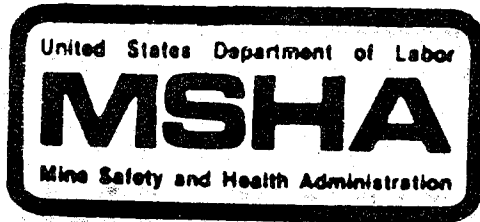


## ATTENTION!

HAVE YOU REPORTED YOUR LAST MONTHLY SAFETY MEETING? IF NOT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD KINDLY COMPLETE THE POSTAGE-PAID GREEN FORM (5000-22) AND MAIL IT BACK TO US.

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HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION  
MEETING REPORT FORM

For the month of \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL meetings held this month \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL attendance this month \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Number \_\_\_\_\_ (See address label, if incorrect, please indicate change.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

FILL OUT - FOLD AND STAPLE - FREE MAIL-IN

NOTE: BE SURE OUR ADDRESS SHOWS

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If you do not care to receive this Bulletin, please check here and return this form.

Please include any change of address below:



The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association was founded in 1916 by 24 leading National organizations of the mining industries.

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association is named to commemorate the first director of the Bureau of Mines for his efforts in reducing accidents and illness throughout the mineral industries.

The following is the different award criteria:

Type "A" Awards - For Acts of Heroism

The awards are medals with Medal of Honor Certificate.

Type "A" - For Acts of Heroic Assistance

The awards are Certificates of Honor.

Type B-1 Awards - For Individual Workers

(40 years continuous work experience without injury that resulted in lost workdays)

The awards are Certificate of Honor, Gold Pins and Gold Decal.

Type B-2 Awards - For Individual Officials

(For record of group working under their supervision)

The awards are Certificate of Honor.

Type C Awards - For Safety Records

(For all segments of the mineral extractive industries, meeting adopted criteria)

The awards are Certificate of Honor.

Other Awards - For Individual Workers

(For 10, 20, or 30 years without injury resulting in lost workdays)

The awards are 30 years-Silver Pin and Decal, 20 years-Bronze Pin and Decal, 10 years-Decal bearing insignia.

Special Awards - For Small Operators

(Mine operators with 25 employees or less with outstanding safety records)

The awards are Certificate of Honor!

Contact: HSA Office

Department of Labor  
MSHA, Holmes Safety Association  
4800 Forbes Avenue, Room A268  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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