

Carol Hoosier
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Buffalo Creek Hearings, pp. 1257-1258

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Mrs. Hoosier was interviewed relative to the Buffalo Creek disaster and she furnished the following information. Mrs. Hoosier is married to Ronald Hoosier, an employee of Buffalo Mining Company and they have two children.

She said that she awoke at 7:30 A.M. Saturday, February 26, 1972, at her home in Stowe, West Virginia. Her husband and two children were with her. Approximately 15 minutes later, her sister telephoned and told her to stay awake because the dam was going to break. Mrs. Hoosier said she did not believe what her sister said. Her husband was also awake that morning because he and his father, who lived in Lundale, one mile away, were going to Man to purchase a pump to remove water which was under their house. Mrs. Hoosier said she overheard someone telling her husband, who was on their porch, that the dam was about to break.

At this point, Mrs. Hoosier decided to warn her parents who lived next door. She went to their house and warned her mother, who was in the kitchen and her father, who was in bed. She said her father became mad and he told her not to become upset over nothing.

Mrs. Hoosier said she and her mother returned to the kitchen where they heard a loud noise which sounded like boards banging together. They went to the kitchen door and saw water and debris rushing toward the house. She stated that her husband, who was in their house, yelled for her to get in their car. Mrs. Hoosier said the water was three houses away and it was 20 feet high over the bridge. She stated that her mother went into The bedroom to get her father while she took her two children and ran to the car.

The debris and water was now at the car. She, her husband, and children jumped in the car and she drove up a mine road with the debris hitting the rear of the car. Mrs. Hoosier said her mother and father never left their house, which was washed away while she was driving up the road. When Mrs. Hoosier reached safety, she looked back and could oversee a wall of black water covering the hollow.