

MR. CAMERON - OPENING ADDRESS

1 A. I want to go to the explosion. I think the people
2 should be interested in that. Everyone agrees it was in
3 the Southwest section. Not everyone agrees where.

4 There was an RCMP map that I provided with you last
5 summer. There was notes on that map. They said there
6 was pyrite in the coal face which is a hard rock that
7 would cause sparking.

8 They said the continuous miner was in an "on"
9 position. They said the shuttle car wasn't full.

10 The interesting thing is that when you look at where
11 they found the bodies, you'll find that of all the men
12 operating the equipment, the gentleman on the continuous
13 miner was the first one out. It seems to me that that's
14 pretty clear evidence that he had the most warning when
15 he saw the sparks, the blue flame. He wouldn't sit and
16 look at it.

17 If it happened at the bolter, why wouldn't they be
18 running out? Why wouldn't they be further ahead?

19 I think it's pretty obvious that in all likelihood
20 the reason for the sparking was there. The machine was
21 working, and the gentleman running the machine was the
22 furthest out.

23 Well, that was continuous miner 2002. And that was
24 -- let's look at this machine the day before, May 8. Now
25 I'm not going to make any allegations. I'm simply taking