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Internet Writing 2

# Broken Elevator Cable leaves thousands of Miners stranded

## Rescue Under Way in Gold Mine

A gold mine near Johannesburg, South Africa wasn't just hauling gold out of the ground on Thursday. Instead the miners were being hauled out. A pressurized pipe snapped causing damage to the main elevator inside the mine trapping thousands of miners.

When the accident occurred, it left about 3,200 miners stranded 1 mile below the surface of the entrance of the mine.

The miners were hauled up in a smaller shaft in a cage that can hold about 75 miners at a time. Most of the miners who emerged into the blinding sunlight looked dazed and confused, but there were no signs of injury. 500 miners were still trapped by evening. These 500 miners were near a ventilation shaft, so they were able to receive oxygen.

"I was hungry, though we were all hungry," engineering assistant Sethiri Thibile, said. Sethiri was among one of the first batch of miners to be rescued about 19 hours after the accident.

Relatives of the trapped miners stood outside the mine's offices all day, complaining that they were not given enough information about their loved ones trapped in the mine.

“I am very traumatized, exhausted, not knowing what is going on,” said Sam Ramohano, whose wife, Flora, 31, was among the trapped. “It is very unfair to us, not knowing what is going on with our beloved ones.”

Officials had hoped to rescue all the miners by lunchtime but because of the extra precautions taken for safety, the rescue took much longer. All the miners were successfully rescued by the evening hours.