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MIS:ACCIDENT

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1987

THREE WORKERS KILLED IN STEEL PLANT EXPLOSION

HAVANA, MAR 12, REUTER -- THREE WORKERS WERE KILLED AT THE ACEROS UNIDOS STEEL PLANT NEAR HAVANA WHEN AN EXPLOSION OCCURRED IN A PETROLEUM TANK IN WHICH THEY WERE USING A CUTTING TORCH, GRANMA REPORTED TODAY.

THE WORKERS WERE USING THE TORCH ATOP A TANK AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION. THE BLAST TOSSED THE TOP OF THAT TANK AND ANOTHER FORTY METERS THROUGH THE AIR. EACH TANK HAD A CAPACITY OF OVER THIRTY CUBIC METERS OF PETROLEUM.

THE PETROLEUM TANK WAS BEING ADAPTED SO THAT IT CAN USE DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED PETROLEUM INSTEAD OF THAT WHICH COMES FROM THE SOVIET UNION. THE PETROLEUM IS USED FOR PRE-HEATING THE FURANCES OF THE TWO SHEET MILLS (LIMINADORAS) IN THE PLANT.

THE DEAD ARE LUIS ALVAREZ, 37, HUMBERTO RODRIGUEZ, 54 AND EURDES MARTINEZ, 42 YEARS OF AGE.

==REUTER/LEM

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