

Seventeen convicted in mine explosion case

by UPI

LINFEN CITY, China - Seventeen people were convicted Sunday in Linfen City, China, for a coal mine explosion that killed 105 miners in December 2007. Legal representative Wang Hongliang, investor Wang Donghai of Ruizhiyuan Coal Mining Co. Ltd., and production manager Kong Huiping, were sentenced to life in prison, while other mine management officials were jailed for up to 20 years, said the city court. The company was fined \$24.7 million for illegal trade of explosives, illegal working on unproved coal bed and evading tax, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported. The Dec. 5 explosion killed 105 people and caused an estimated \$5.6 million in property damage.

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