

Celebration & Sorrow

A day of festivity was followed by one of the darkest in American labor history.

The state militia is on guard.

Because tensions between the strikers and the company had been steadily escalating, the state militia was stationed on Watertank Hill, observing the colony's activities.



Members of the Colorado National Guard, called in to suppress the UMW strike against CF&I, including Sergeant John Davis, pose near an automatic rifle on a tripod on Water Tank Hill

Just a day before the massacre, the colonists enjoyed an Easter celebration.

April 19, 1914 was Greek Orthodox Easter. The entire colony, along with some militia men, commemorated the holiday with a feast, followed by dancing, singing and a baseball game.



View of a ball game at the UMW camp

Violence erupted the next morning.

Most of the camp slept late after their big celebration. Around 9 am, a shot rang out triggering an exchange of gunfire between the miners and the militia. The battle lasted throughout the day. Armed miners defended their positions, while women and children hid in the tents until they could evacuate the colony. In the afternoon, a train stopped on the tracks between the militia and the miners. This interrupted the exchange of gunfire long enough for most of the women and children to escape. At dusk, the militia entered the camp and set fire to the tents.

LUDLOW FIRE HORROR

BLAMED ON MILITIA AND MINE GUARDS BY CORONER'S JURY.

Men Under Command of Linderfelt and Hamrock Fired Strikers' Tent Colony, Is Finding.

Western Newspaper Union News Service
Trinidad, Colo.—The jury conducting the coroner's inquest into the cause of the Ludlow disaster returned a verdict Saturday implicating the militia, mine guards, Maj. Patrick Hamrock and Lieut. K. B. Linderfelt.

The jury was out one hour and returned two separate counts, the first of which is as follows:
"Alfred Martin, member of the militia; Fresno Larco, Louis Tikas, Frank Snyder, Frank Rablins, James Tyler, Frank Bartalato and Charles Costa came to their death by bullet wounds in the battle between the militiamen under Major Hamrock and Lieutenant Linderfelt and mine guards, on one side, and strikers on the other; said battle held in or about Ludlow on the twentieth day of April, 1914."

The second count reads:
"Cardelina Costa, Petra Valdez, Rozaro Pedregone, Clovina Pedregone, Lucy Costa, Oragilo Costa, Elvira Valdez, Mary Valdez, Bualala Valdez, Rodolfo Valdez, Frank Petrucci, Lucy Petrucci and Joseph Petrucci came to their death by asphyxiation or fire, or both, caused by the burning of the tents of the Ludlow tent colony, and that fire on the tents was started by militiamen under Major Hamrock and Lieutenant Linderfelt or mine guards, or both, on the twentieth day of April, 1914."
(Signed) "CASIMIRO CRUZ, Foreman.

"George Stracy, M. W. Babcock, A. W. Nash, F. J. Doveton, J. W. Bartlett."

When asked if he would file complaints against Hamrock and Linderfelt on the findings of the coroner's inquest, J. J. Hendrick, district attorney, said he would do nothing until he learned what the people most closely interested in the outcome of the inquest were going to do.

La Junta Guardsman May Lose Foot.
J. A. Junta.—Harry McCollar of La Junta, a member of Company H, Colorado National guards, is in the C. F. & I. hospital in Pueblo and may lose his right foot. Six members of the La Junta militia, including McCollar, were called to Trinidad a few days ago to do strike duty. After arriving there the boys were examining some guns in a building near the depot. A rifle was accidentally discharged, the ball going through McCollar's right leg just above the ankle.

Guards Surrender Arms to Troops.
Walsenburg.—After a conference between Dev. Mattson and Capt. Smith, the first actual steps in carrying out the government policy of disarming mine guards and strikers in the war zone took place Saturday when Superintendent Graham of the Walsen and Robinson mines, turned over to Lieutenant Crowley, commanding a detachment of federal soldiers, forty-two high powered rifles that have been used in the defense of the mine property since the strike began.

The coal operators have seen fit to attack the United Mine Workers of America. There are two sides to every question. We believe you should know the real purpose of our organization, what is the story for the coal miners and the truth about conditions as they actually exist, and have existed, in the strike district.

TALK NO. 5
One Price Paid by the Striking Coal Miners to Secure an Enforcement of Colorado Mining Laws—

Name	Age	Status
Elvira Valdez	2 mos.	
Frank Pedregone	2 years	
Lucy Petrucci	2 years	
Lucy Costa	4 years	Murdered
Oragilo Pedregone	4 years	and
Outifira Costa	6 years	Cremated
Mary Valdez	7 years	by
Elvira Valdez	8 years	the
Frank W. Snyder	15 years	Guardsman, killed
Patricia Valdez	18 years	in
Mrs. Patricia Valdez	18 years	Ludlow massacre,
Mrs. Patricia Valdez	18 years	April 20, 1914
James Tyler	18 years	
John Bartalato	18 years	
Frank Bartalato	18 years	
General Equipt	18 years	murdered by fire on Belcher, Robinson-Pitts
Trinidad, August 16, 1913.		
Mark Powell, killed when operators' gunmen attacked Ludlow tent colony, October 9, 1913.		
Isabel Korbicki, killed when Babwin-Pitts shot up Forten tent colony with machine gun and high-powered rifles, October 17, 1913.		
Neil Stadel		Murdered on Seventh Street, Walsenburg, October 24, 1913.
Andy Jan'um		with operators' gunmen attacked strikers.
Chas. Gresh		
One Manon, shot in Walsenburg, January 5, 1914, from rhesusium contracted through inhalemate of Colorado militia.		
Rogers Chavez, killed by gunmen at Hastings, March 14, 1914.		
Nick Tomich, killed by gunmen at Aguirre, April 20, 1914.		
Nick Loupich, killed by gunmen on Ingham near Walsenburg, April 26, 1914.		
Mike Lancia		Killed on streets of Walsenburg, April 28, 1914, when gunmen-George Iak
George Iak		militia turn machine gun down streets of town.
Steve Dvorak, killed by guards at Pueblo, April 29, 1914.		

UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA



Men and women of the Red Cross stand in the ruins of the Ludlow tent colony