



Alert Summary: China Train Accident

Date: April 27, 2008

Time: 4:40 pm EDT

Location: Hejiacun village,
Shandong province
China

INCIDENT SITUATION

On the morning of April 28, two passenger trains collided near the city of Zibo in Shandong province, killing 72 people and injuring 416 others. Train #T195, en route from Beijing to Qingdao, derailed on a section of track undergoing maintenance ahead of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Seven cars of Train #T195 fell onto the parallel track during the initial accident. Approximately three minutes later, Train #5034, bound from the city of Yantai to Xuzhou, struck the derailed cars and sent three passenger cars crashing into a nearby ditch. The subsequent investigation revealed that Train #T195 was traveling near 80 mph in the construction zone, which had a speed limit of 50 mph. The crash was the deadliest rail accident in China in over a decade.

NC4 issued the initial report on April 27 at 21:40 EDT. Analysts continued to track the accident throughout the evening and into the next day, starting as a simple train derailment and later escalating into a significant mass-casualty incident as more information was released from the crash site. NC4 was able to track the incident through our extensive local and international media sources, issuing twelve reports on the crash in less than 24 hours.

NC4 COVERAGE

NC4 provides ongoing updates to members as the incident unfolds through the National Incident Monitoring Center (NIMC). NIMC analysts followed the incident using international and national and media sources - linking to the China Daily's article, "Accident due to human error".

Selected NIMC Updates:

Two passenger trains collided in the Chinese province of Shandong on Monday. Casualties unknown.
2008-04-27 21:40 EDT

At least 80 people admitted to hospital after train collision in Shandong.
2008-04-27 22:47 EDT

At least 43 killed and 247 injured in train collision in Shandong.
2008-04-27 23:36 EDT

More than 70 people killed and hundreds of others injured in train accident in Zibo.
2008-04-28 07:59 EDT

Human error believed to be the cause of deadly train accident near Zibo. This incident is closed.
2008-04-28 19:17 EDT