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I am sure everyone is aware of the recent incident at the Sago mine in West Virginia. Miscommunication occurred with the rescue crews. This resulted in the initial belief that there were a large number of survivors. What appeared to be good news rapidly spread through the use of cell phones. The corrected information of only one survivor was not immediately released.

Fortunately, amateur radio was not part in this incident. However, it is very easy to picture a similar situation involving amateur radio operators. We always have to be alert to what we say over the air.

Amateur radio should not be responsible for the spread of unconfirmed information or rumors.

We must also think about how the words we use could be misinterpreted. "We need more bodies over here." may not be the best choice of words to use over the air.

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