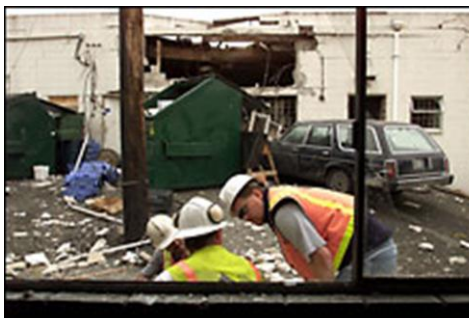


SHOPPING MALL

BURIEN, WASHINGTON WATER HEATER EXPLOSION

The person most seriously hurt Friday when an electric water heater exploded at the back of a strip mall has been released from a hospital. The 50-year-old Burien woman, whose name has not been released, suffered second-degree burns on her hands when the water heater exploded in the back of Cautla Video in the Plaza Zacatecas at 123 S.W. 152nd St., where the woman was working. The three others who were injured; Monica Caro, 29; Juan Licon, 39; and Imelda Vyarra were taken to Highline Community Hospital in Burien, where they were treated and released. King County fire investigators said the pressure-relief valve on the water heater had been capped and the tank partly drained of water, allowing steam pressure to build, causing the explosion. Damage to the building, which housed a row of small businesses including a Mexican restaurant, a video store, grocery and a butcher's shop was estimated at \$750,000 to \$1 million, fire officials said. The building has been condemned.



Water heater rocketed 400 feet to the parking lot of a nearby restaurant.

