

Hand Mangled By Blast Here

William Burgess White, 25, a former member of the U. S. merchant marine, sustained serious injury to his hands, chest and face when a dynamite cap which he was handling exploded shortly before noon yesterday.

City police officers who investigated the accident said that White lost four fingers from his left hand a part of his right thumb. He was also severely burned about the face and chest. He was treated at Providence hospital where his condition was considered serious.

The young mariner came to Columbia to visit his parents, Sgt. and Mrs. W. C. White of L-6, Gonzales Gardens, prior to re-enlisting in the merchant marine. At 11:15 yesterday morning he was examining one of several dynamite caps which his mother asked him to investigate, officers were told, when it exploded.

Although other members of the White family were in the house at the time of the blast, only William was injured. Sergeant White, the young man's father, was formerly stationed with the V Corps at Fort Jackson.