

THE VOLUNTEER

Official Journal for The Country Fire Services South Australia

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September/October
1980

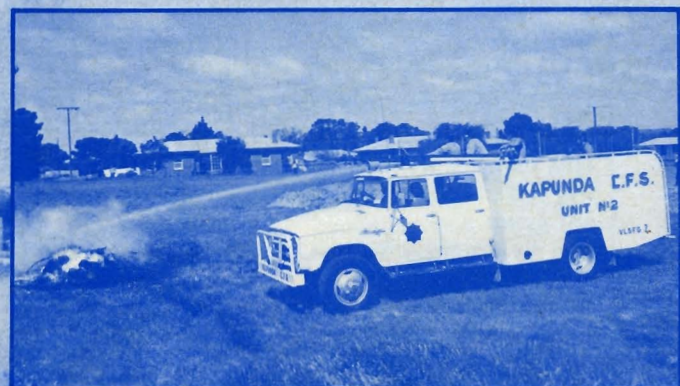
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Correspondence to the Editor

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Letters to the Editor.

EDITORIAL

LIFE SAVING AWARD TO ST. JOHN MEMBER



Colin Bourne

On 7 September last year the Meningie Ambulance was involved in a head-on collision at Murray Bridge whilst transporting a patient to the Repatriation General Hospital. Three people were killed and four people were injured in the accident including the ambulance crew, whose injuries were serious.

The driver, Mr Alan Guy was trapped by the feet and the attendant, Mr Colin Bourne, finished up underneath the dashboard. The ambulance caught fire. Realising the predicament, and suffering serious head injuries, Mr Bourne smashed a window to get out of the ambulance, extinguished the fire and disconnected the battery before collapsing. He was later admitted to the Murray Bridge hospital where he received three litres of plasma before being transferred to the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

'An Expensive Mistake' (USA)

Members of a northern Virginia volunteer fire department were so proud of their new \$6 000 'Hurst' tool that they held a special demonstration to show how it could quickly cut into an automobile to rescue people trapped in wrecks.

As a crowd of forty looked on, two members of the Burke Volunteer Fire Department in Fairfax County quickly ripped a door from a 1969 Buick. Then they pulled the car's steering wheel through a windshield and knocked out the windows.

At that point, a voice cried out: 'Hey, what have you done to my car?' The firemen, in their enthusiasm to show off their new tool, had cut up the wrong car. Bill Burris, president of the Burke fire department said, 'It was just a mistake—everything has been taken care of.' He said that the department will pay the man for the loss of his car.

ex American Journal

CHANGE OF HEADQUARTERS FIRE CALL NUMBER

This fire season a new fire call number will be in use at CFS Headquarters. The number to be used is 297 9111. This number will take the place of 297 7000 as the eight line fire call number. (297 7000 will still be retained, but not listed.)

The new number will be in operation by 1 October 1980, and should be used by brigades reporting fire information to the Control Room.

Through his actions, Colin Bourne undoubtedly saved Alan Guy from almost certain death and reduced the risk of further danger. In recognition of his outstanding actions, Colin has been awarded the Order of St. John Life Saving Medal in Bronze. A very humble man, Colin said he 'was only doing his job'.

All St. John personnel in South Australia extend sincerest congratulations to 'Sandy' Bourne for his most courageous action.

Nine Minute delay kills six patients

A woman patient set fire to her bed and some paper in a waste paper bin at St Crispin's Psychiatric Hospital near Northampton. Six patients died in the blaze that followed.

The inquest on the victims, on whom open verdicts were recorded, heard that there was a nine (9) minute delay in calling the fire brigade owing to the nurse who discovered the outbreak, having difficulty in getting through to the switchboard.

Extract courtesy of the Fire Protection Journal, June 1980.

This is just further evidence of the need for brigades to receive a direct signal to siren turn-out from hospital fire detection and alarm systems.

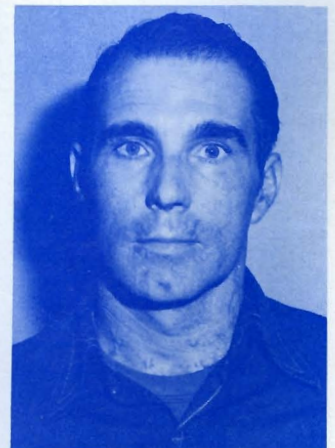
The Faces of Courage— The Price of Service to the Community

In recent months I have received visits from two firefighters who were seriously injured on 20 February 1980, one at Coonalpyn and the other at Longwood. For many firefighters Ash Wednesday is now a history of lessons learned and experience gained. For John Dennett and Ken Lutze the physical and mental pain will, at the very least, be a long, long time in becoming just a memory.

There are many faces to courage. Most people think of it in terms of dashing knowingly into some affray or other and performing some heroic deed fully aware that personal disaster could occur at any moment. Neither of the above two men had the luxury of being able to make the decision of whether to stay or leave. Their courage, and that of their wives, lies in the weeks and months of slow recovery. Pain, frustration and personal hardship and sacrifice have been constantly with them. This is a face of courage few of us, mercifully, have to exhibit.



Ken Lutze



John Dennett

Ken Lutze and John Dennett have displayed the courage and fortitude that must be an inspiration to all firefighters—who step forward to serve their community.

LLOYD C. JOHNS
Director,
SA Country Fire Services

CFS volunteers 'not amateurs'

By Ben Hickey, The News

Country Fire Service officers have hit back at claims they are little more than a volunteer organisation.

And they said they were quite capable of controlling fires within their territory.

A spokesman for CFS Regional officers, was replying to statements by Firefighters' Association secretary, Mr Mick Doyle.

Mr Doyle said professional firemen objected to taking instructions, in some circumstances, from CFS volunteers.

Fully-paid

However, a provision to allow control by the CFS in special circumstances is contained in a Bill to amend the Fire Brigades Act.

The spokesman said that in SA the CFS had more than twenty fully-paid officers who train and assist the volunteer firemen.

The SA Fire Brigade firemen guarded closely their right to be in charge of fires within metropolitan areas.

They should also allow that right to CFS officers in rural fires.

Thank You Berger Paints

Many thanks to Berger Paints (Australia) Pty Ltd for supplying free of charge drums of fuel, suitable for our simulated flammable fuel fires. It is a gesture that other companies could follow!

R. O. Hogan

'The Citizen of the Year'

2nd Award

The Blackwood Lions Club at a recent function presented Mr John Penno with its second award for 'The Citizen of the Year'.

John has lived all his life in Blackwood.

His main interest over many years has been the Country Fire Services. He joined the Eden Hills CFS, 25 years ago, became station officer and was involved in getting the new Eden Hills CFS building.

John Penno later became deputy district chief officer, and for the last five years, has been chief officer for the district.

During the past twenty-five years, he has been involved in every major bush fire in the hills, including supervising a zone during the disastrous Ash Wednesday fire and also the Norton Summit fire.

John and his wife Yvonne has four grown-up children.

To a most deserving person . . . congratulations John . . . Editor.

Mr J. Penno,
BLACKWOOD CFS

Dear John,

It was very pleasing to learn that the Blackwood Lions Club has seen fit to elect you 'Citizen of the Year'.

On behalf of the Country Fire Services Board and the staff at CFS Headquarters, we offer our heartiest congratulations on your success.

It is extremely gratifying to know that an organisation such as Lions has seen fit to recognise a person whose principal activities have centred around the Country Fire Services.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Yours sincerely,

LLOYD C. JOHNS,
Director, Country Fire Services

Dear Country Fire Services,

I saw you at the show (Royal Adelaide Show). I have one of your "Prevent Bushfires" bags (show bags). The best thing in the bag was the Bushfires can hurt Smokey and his friends (8-page colouring-in) book, but I did not like fierce fred flame. I like Smokey very much.

The thing I was going to say was, could you please send me some pamphlets.

Please write back. Thank you.

Scott Millar
18 McLelland Street,
Elizabeth Field,
SA 5113

Thank you Scott Millar for your above letter. Smokey the Koala (the SA CFS Fire Prevention symbol) and Officers of the SA Country Fire Services were pleased to hear that you read and enjoyed your CFS Colouring-in/story booklet.

Your interest shown has earned you a copy of this September issue of the publication 'The Volunteer'.

'The Volunteer' is a news-worthy fire journal distributed to 11 000 Volunteer Firefighters, members of the South Australian Country Fire services.

Pamphlets requested have been forwarded . . . pleasant reading, regards . . . Editor and Smokey's Friend.

CFS urges caution on funds approach

The County Fire Services Board suggests business people should exercise caution if approached to take advertising space in localised business and telephone directories.

A board spokesman said the selling of advertisements for the wall poster type directory was on the premise that advertisers would be assisting their local CFS brigades.

However, because of complaints received by the board and from its own enquiries, it would appear that the brigades may not be benefiting financially from the directory.

'Advertisers could be under a misapprehension believing that they had already made a donation to the CFS when this may not be the case.

'The board emphasises that it neither authorises nor condones the soliciting of funds for brigades in this manner,' the spokesman said.

Front cover:—

Fighting fires from the air

Helicopters will play an expanded role in fighting bushfires in SA.

The Country Fire services demonstrated at the CFS State Drill Competitions (held at Kapunda, Sunday 21 September) how helicopters would be used in firefighting.

The Wales State Rescue Helicopter hovered over a 'spot fire' with a 540 L bucket dangling below and dampened the blaze. Whereon the blaze was promptly extinguished by a ground crew/unit, from the Kapunda CFS Brigade.

CFS Director Mr L. C. Johns, said the CFS was considering expanding the role of helicopters in firefighting. Previously, they had been used only as command platforms. Now, using the bucket, they would help to fight fires.

They have been used in America and New Zealand for some years. The bucket used in the exercise was borrowed from the National Parks Department, Canberra.

The CFS was considering two types of buckets—one from the US and one from NZ.

The bucket method did not put out the fire. It dampened it and allowed ground crews to get closer.

SA National Parks Firefighters were being trained to drop from the helicopter by winch to get to trouble spots quicker. A recent evaluation of helicopters in firefighting had confirmed their value.

In Canberra: The Prime Minister Mr Fraser said the Federal Government had asked the states to join in a study to find the best aircraft to fight forest fires and bushfires. 'This is an important study,' he said.

The tremendous potential for loss of life and property and stock damage associated with bushfires requires assessment of new responses.

'The Government is most concerned at the drought conditions which prevail over much of Australia.

'These conditions increase the likelihood of disastrous fires in the coming summer.

'I hope the Commonwealth Government's initiative in arranging for the evaluation of water bombing of bushfires will prove even more beneficial to those exposed to bushfires,' he said.

Mr Fraser said the lack of suitable lakes and dams in Australia could limit water bombing of fires, as practised in North America. But it could be possible to modify the techniques to suit Australian conditions.

LOST

STADLER PENCIL—
CLUTCH TYPE
BLUE AND SILVER
COLOURING
LOST AT PRICE CFS
COMPETITIONS
PLEASE PRESENT TO
CFS HEADQUARTERS
RECEPTION COUNTER.
OR CONTACT CFS H/Q., 20
WEST BEACH ROAD, KES-
WICK. SA 5034.
TELEPHONE (08) 297 6788.

Balaklava Junior CFS Brigade

The Balaklava CFS Brigade has a junior group in training whose ages range from five to fifteen years. They are registered and attend training sessions with regular crew members each Monday night. In the event of fire, the youngsters are not permitted to attend the scene, but will engage in duties around the base.

The junior team comprises of Carol Dayman, Rosie Dayman, Michelle Philp, David Dayman, Raymond Hean, Tanya Milton, Wayne Hean, Susan Milton, Nathan Bull and Hayden Bull.

CREDIT DUE

Dear Sir,

I am writing to commend you on the excellent presentation of the journal "The Volunteer". Having served as an EFS member (Burnside and Belair units) for eleven years prior to joining the Ferntree Gully Urban Fire Brigade I can recall the days when the EFS was looked upon by the general public as just a group of people who attended fires during the summer season.

Watching from over the border the Service has progressed in leaps and bounds and much of the credit must be attributed to your excellent journal. Over the past fifteen years I have (and still do) collect magazines and reports from many and varied Fire Services.

Your publication is equal to any other I currently receive from throughout the world and Australia. Incidentally I will be displaying my collection at the Combined Emergency Services Seminar (18-19 October) and your journal will be displayed with pride as an ex member of potentially one of the best Country Fire Services in the world.

Keep up the good work and all the best to the journal and its future.

Kind Regards.

TONY WELBOURN
VICTORIA

PS Should you be interested in an article on the Ferntree Gully Urban Fire Brigade or group operations please let me know as I will only be too happy to oblige.

Thank you for your complimentary letter ... this praise must also be directed towards both the early efforts of the first volunteer firefighters through to the 11 000 members in today's CFS Brigades.

We look forward to an early receipt of your article ...
Editor.

FIRE RISK

Kangaroo Island faces one of its worst fire seasons ever, with abundant growth on roadsides, in paddocks and around farm buildings. Many farmers have sprayed their fencelines and building surrounds. When this is done regularly, it is possible every so often to skip a year.

Burning off, hazard reduction

Dear Sir,

I was disturbed to read the The Advertiser on Saturday 12 July 1980, a statement made by Mr Chatterton, Opposition spokesman on rural affairs, at the recent public seminar, 'Bushfire in the Adelaide Hills, 1980,' at the University of Adelaide. He said, I quote, 'Hills landowners and the National Parks and Wildlife Service were increasingly fearful the CFS was anti-natural bushland'. He also went on to say that events which occurred at Stirling and Horsnell Gully sullied our image in the eyes of the community.

I would like to put up a defence against his statements on behalf of the Country Fire Services Volunteers who, I believe, reject these accusations.

In all Australian rural areas except arid desert and rain-forest, fuel builds up on the ground at varying rates until, at a quantity of twenty-five tonnes per hectare and given the extreme weather conditions which occur regularly about twice every ten years, a bushfire of devastating intensity and complete uncontrollability will occur if the fuel ignites. The aim, then, of hazard reduction is to modify the available fuel by either making it less flammable, reducing the deposition rate, or removing it, so that quantities are kept to a level which will produce a fire of controllable intensity in all weather conditions.

Practical methods of hazard reduction include raking, mowing, grazing, ploughing, pulverising, herbicide spraying, bulldozing and burning. Of these, only burning is ecologically and economically possible on a large scale, the other methods being used to protect homes and farms or to make breaks along fence lines or roads.

Because many CFS Volunteers believe that controlled burning of bushland is the answer to reducing the fire hazard in the Hills, and until the landowners and the National Parks and Wildlife Services accept this fact, we will be forever condemned as being 'anti-natural bushland'.

In answer to our sullied image, I believe the community at large still regard the CFS as an effective and efficient organisation for the suppression of fires. There would be only a minority who, for some reason, believe that events which occurred at these fires sullied our image. Because we depend on the support we receive from the community we will endeavour to retain our image set under the direction of the now-retired Mr Fred Kerr. Klaus R. Stichel
Lobethal CFS

FOR SALE

CFS Crested Glassware

Following approval given by the SA Country Fire Services Board, the Clarendon CFS wish to advise all CFS Volunteers, Councils and readers of 'The Volunteer' that CFS Crested Glassware is now available for sale. Items consist of the following:

- Carafe (std. size)—complete with Gold CFS Badge/Crest.
- Tulip Wine Glass—(Imported English) Gold CFS Badge/Crest.
- 10 oz Beer Glass(es) (ie. Schooner type)—three colour CFS Badge/Crest (red, blue, gold).
- 8 oz Tumbler—three colour CFS Badge/Crest or alternative one colour—Gold.
- Coffee Mug (ovenproof)—three colour CFS Badge/Crest.

*Prices on Application—

Telephone: Tom Millar 383 6017 or

John Hussey 383 6124.

or contact—Clarendon CFS

PO Box 213

Clarendon SA 5157

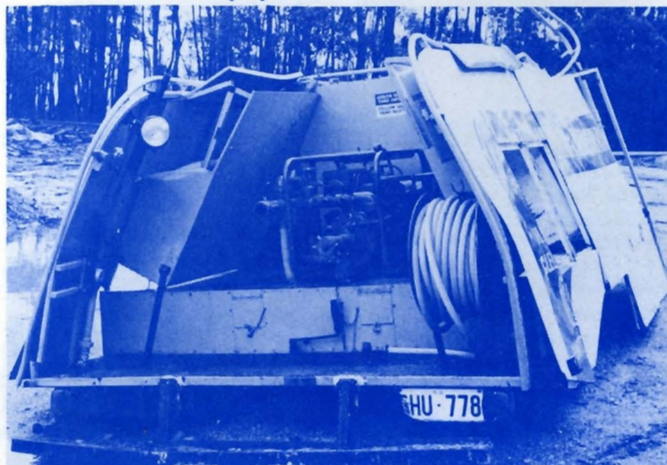
note* Cheaper prices apply for bulk purchase if for use by CFS Brigades in Fund Raising Activities.



STRENGTH IN CONSTRUCTION

In July, in heavy rain and thick fog a National Parks and Wildlife Services fire unit left the road, rolled over and careered down an embankment. It came to rest after 50 m, against some large trees.

On the first roll the body left the chassis, and although the unit suffered structural damage the solidarity of the water tank prevented the sides from crushing in, thereby protecting the crew from serious injury.



The photograph shows how the truck sides were buckled, but further damage was prevented by the water tank remaining intact. This indicates the advantage of this type of design which affords good crew protection.

Note: The pump and hose remained operational.

RADIO LICENCE FEES DROPPED

The Director,
SA Country Fire Services,
PO Box 312
Goodwood 5034

Dear Sir,
**CFS radio
licences—no fee**

As you are aware, the Minister recently announced a revision of radio licence fees and as a result licences in your organisation which are used **solely** in connection with firefighting and emergency operations would in future be at a no fee rate.

However it must be emphasised that the only change in the licensing requirements is the abolition of the fee.

All radio equipment in your organisation is still required to be covered by a licence as before. Applications will still be required for new services, additional mobiles, changes in location, equipment and frequencies etc.

It is proposed to replace all existing licences and issue them for a three year period. Some licences will initially be issued for a lesser period to avoid all CFS licences becoming due in the same year.

All licences will have a common expiry date of 1 October of the year in which they expire. That is, approximately one-third of all CFS licences will expire on 1 October each year.

When licences are due for renewal each network will be asked to supply a complete list of all equipment in use, before renewals are issued.

It should be appreciated therefore, if you could include these comments in your circulars to those responsible for licensing of CFS networks and advise them that each individual network will be contacted by letter explaining the arrangements as soon as this can be done.

Yours faithfully,
D. E. Caudle,
Superintendent
Regulatory and Licensing
Adelaide

*CFS Headquarters Footnote:
Each district should compile a complete list of equipment used in its network including make, type (e.g. 'portable') frequencies installed, serial number, and normal location for that set.*

It is suggested that this be commenced as soon as possible in preparation for licence renewal.

RURAL FIRE AUTHORITIES TO CONFER IN ADELAIDE

**South Australia's Country
Fire Services Board will host
the 1981 bi-ennial meeting
of the Australian Confer-
ence of Rural Fire Authori-
ties.**

The conference will be held in Adelaide on 13-14 May.

CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns, said it was expected that all States, the ACT and Northern Territory would be represented at board level and by senior officers.

The first conference of the authorities was held in Melbourne in February 1979.

Mr Johns said the 1981 Conference would consider a broad range of subjects such as weather forecasting and fire control, equipment development programs, research, small town protection and hazard reduction, seasonal restrictions and total fire bans, radio communications, integrated control in large fire emergencies, the use of aircraft, hazardous chemicals, training programs and fire prevention publicity and films.

He said it was evident that many items were common to fire and forestry authorities throughout Australia. By meeting on a two-yearly basis the respective authorities could contribute towards a wider acceptance nationally of rural firefighting and protection methods.

When a State or territory is faced with a fire emergency on its borders there is need for close co-operation with the adjoining state authority, and we believe that the new conference will assist greatly in achieving this liaison, the Director said.

Naracoorte shows its wares

Six CFS members from Kingston have seen a rundown on equipment and training at the Naracoorte CFS depot in Smith Street.

Local members showed them competition training, hose work from the back of a truck, the rescue units, the Jaws of Life and breathing apparatus.

Naracoorte CFS hopes to pay a return visit to Kingston, possibly for a family day.

The brigade last week also demonstrated the Jaws of Life under lights to the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES—SA DIVISION

Since its foundation in 1977, the South Australian Division of the Australian Institute of Emergency Services has adopted a low profile while it gathered a viable and representative membership. The time has not been wasted however, as the Council in South Australia has also been developing a number of services for the benefit of the members. Bi-monthly dinner meetings are held at which guest speakers address the members on a variety of emergency-related subjects, and at which the members themselves can take the opportunity to discuss mutual problems and matters of interest; a quarterly journal is produced; and one of the most comprehensive libraries in South Australia is being assembled, which in time will include magazines and books not only from Australian sources, but world-wide, all on the general subject of counter-disaster and emergency preparedness.

The main aim of the Institute is to provide a common meeting-ground for the members of all organisations interested in emergency work, whether full-time staff or volunteer. It allows the ambulance man to meet the fireman or police officer in a relaxed atmosphere; it allows firemen from the SAFB to talk over problems with their CFS counterparts; it allows the policeman to chat with the SES volunteer; its purpose is to cross the parochial boundaries, without diminishing in any way the service provided already by the existing specialist organisations. As such, it is an essential 'extra', not a substitute.

To be effective, and to achieve its aim in the provision of a forum for all emergency personnel, the Institute must have a truly representative membership; it must not be dominated by one service or one group.

The basic requirements for membership of the Institute are:

- (a) Any person in professional employment with or a volunteer member of an official emergency service or of an organisation which has official emergency responsibilities;
- (b) Must be at least twenty-three years of age;
- (c) Must have had four years continuous service of an emergency officer but persons professionally employed as such may apply for membership after two years continuous service, provided they satisfy such other requirements as may be prescribed by the General Council.

New members are charged an entrance fee of \$10 plus the annual subscription of \$10.

The membership of the South Australian Division includes people from the Police, SA Fire Brigade, Country Fire Service, St. John Ambulance, State Emergency Service, and Red Cross.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Institute, please contact the State Registrar, Brian Lancaster, at Red Cross, or write to 'The Registrar, Australian Institute of Emergency Services, SA Division, 23 Inwood Avenue, Kilburn 5084'.

TRAINING DAY AT KADINA

A pre-fire season training program conducted by Regional Officer David Batten was held at Kadina on Sunday, September 28 1980 for Country Fire Services Personnel from Upper Yorke Peninsula and the Lower North.

Both practical and theoretical work were undertaken, and the day concluded with the commissioning by CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns of a new salvage and rescue unit.

The unit, largely financed by Apex clubs, is a tandem trailer equipped with an auxiliary lighting plant, flood lights, light rescue equipment, salvage sheets and tea/coffee making facilities.

The training programme began at 10.30 a.m. at the Kadina Council Depot and commenced with map reading exercises and practical work with fog spraying techniques, breathing apparatus, foam application, and infighting fuel fires. A film on tanker and fuel fires backed up the training sessions.

In all about 60 CFS Volunteers from the Kadina, Paskeville, Cunliffe, Bute, and Alford Brigades attended.

Kensington and Norwood Women's Service Association CFS VOLUNTEERS NOT FORGOTTEN

On Thursday 14 August 1980, Deputy Director Peter Malpas, attended the Annual General Meeting of the Kensington and Norwood Women's Service Association.

The President (Mrs J. Burgess) presented a cheque for \$400.00 towards equipment for the volunteer firefighters in South Australia.

On behalf of our CFS volunteers, I express my sincere appreciation to the President and Members of the Association for their efforts in raising funds to assist CFS volunteers.

It is most encouraging to the Country Fire Services to know that it has the support and co-operation of community groups
... Editor.

Ash Wednesday Fire . . . from Dump . . . Coroner



The State Coroner, Mr K. B. Ahern, found that the Ash Wednesday fire began in the Heathfield Rubbish Dump. The main points from Mr Ahern's findings, given to the crowded court on Friday 18 July 1980 were:

- A fire which broke out in the garden refuse section of the dump on 5 February continued to smoulder until Ash Wednesday 20 February. This fire had been contained after jumping a fire break and was left to burn itself out.
- The Ash Wednesday fire was caused by hot winds fanning smouldering debris in the garden refuse section. There was no evidence to support claims of arson.
- It was impossible to pinpoint the exact time the fire broke out, however, evidence suggests this was between 12 noon and 12.30 p.m.
- The official time for the first report of the main fire was given as 1.16 p.m. However Mr Ahern confirmed that three people had reported the fire as early as noon.
- No firefighting facilities or equipment were in the garden refuse area, and neither mains water **nor** stored water was available.
- On the morning of 20 February, no-one was in attendance at the dump. It was the supervisor's day off, but some other arrangements could have been made for some person to be in close attendance.
- A CFS unit which attempted to investigate reported smoke could not gain access because the gates were locked.
- Both the fire on 5 February and the Ash Wednesday fire were in the non-burning period in the area.

In summary Mr Ahern said:

'This tragic fire indicates quite conclusively the extreme care that must be taken by those persons or authorities who conduct rubbish dumps, particularly where the burning of certain types of rubbish is permitted.

'These areas should be serviced with water facilities and also with appropriate equipment in case of an outbreak.

'Furthermore, it is essential that reasonable precautions be taken, particularly in the way of surveillance to ensure that an outbreak of fire does not occur. The degree of care applied in any case, of course depends to an extent on the fire risk involved.

'In this particular case of course, the refuse section constituted as admitted by many witnesses, a high fire risk in the particular conditions prevailing and having regard to the nature of the surrounding vegetation.'



LEFT: Sue Long, comforted by her father, Graham, after the Ash Wednesday fires.

ASH WEDNESDAY

*Don't let it
happen again!*

By BEN HICKEY,
The News, 6 October

Sue Long says she has nightmares about the Ash Wednesday fire.

'It's still firmly on my mind,' says Sue, twenty, of Mylor.

'I can't bear to watch a fire on a TV program.

'I'm afraid of what might happen this summer. I'm dreading the hot weather.

'We've still got hassles with the insurance and we were lucky because we didn't lose the house.

'The fire came rushing up the hill about 100 m.p.h., and a split second before it reached the house the wind changed and it went around.

'But we lost all the fencing and we still haven't got that all up. We've only just replaced the sheds.

'Some people moved out of the area straight after the fire.

'There are some here who still have just one water tank and trees right up to the back door.

'It's amazing how quickly people can forget the dangers.'

Sue lives in Mylor, one of the hardest-hit areas during the Ash Wednesday devastation. She lost a pet donkey in the fire.

The man in charge of the Country Fire Service, Lloyd Johns, is worried about the bushfire potential.

'The fine weather might be pleasing the city dwellers but it is potentially disastrous,' he says.

'At this time last year it appeared the fire season would be somewhat short and sharp, and look what happened.

'This year it looks like it could be drawn out.

'We hope we will be able to confine whatever fires break out.

'We now have regional officers in most areas of the State whose job it is to ensure back-up for our firefighters, to have proper communications and ability to mobilise quickly.

'But I wonder sometimes whether the publicity is getting through to people.

'There are still people in the Adelaide hills who are not taking precautions to protect their houses.

'Some people persist in lighting fires on roadsides.

'City residents must manage their properties better. They should get rid of leaf litter and have a proper water supply, and not have an electric pump for the water. The power is the first thing to go in a fire.

'Farmers should be checking their gear now and ploughing fire breaks.

'Simple actions can make a difference to effects on property and life in a fire.'

Mr Johns, as director of the CFS, is in charge of 11 000 firefighters, 430 brigades and 586 fire trucks in SA.

Residents in one hills suburb are acting to see they are safer against fire.

Most home and land-owners in Greenhill have agreed to contribute \$5 000 for a fire unit.

President of the Greenhill CFS committee, Mr Derrick Wisking, says his committee is making an application for brigade registration.

'Effectively, we live on a ridge which makes us vulnerable to fires from both the north and Cleland.

'If there is a house fire, there is a minimum finite time in which other units can be here. It could take ten minutes, and much damage can be done in that time.

'The establishment of a unit is in no way a criticism of any other CFS unit, and we know we will become part of the established firefighting system.'

Refer Page 7
Fire Danger Rating
Map ➡

FIRE DANGER WARNING



'I am concerned as I was concerned at this time last year that this coming summer will be no less hazardous than before.'

CFS SEEKS MORE UNIFORM STANDARD

CRYSTAL BROOK—The Country Fire Services Board in early August, completed a tour of Mid North Brigades in an all out push to counter misapprehension developing over the equipment standardisation issue.

Deputy Director, Mr Peter Malpas, said in Crystal Brook, during the inspection of the nearly completed fire station, that the Board's intention is to establish uniformity in standards to bring escalating costs down.

"We are attempting to have units built to basic standard requirements, rather than a standard design", Mr Malpas said.

Requirements will be produced by the CFS Board, for reference and consideration by local brigades. Mr Malpas hopes the board's requirements will assist brigades in keeping costs at a reasonable level.

The board is also endeavouring to gain the assistance of personnel for the nominations of interested members to form a committee which will look into the equipment requirements of the service.

Mr Malpas instanced unit designs, which have become very costly to purchase. 'The increasing difficulty in obtaining necessary subsidies from the Government makes it imperative the board stabilise escalating costs through some form of standard equipment, and at the same time maximise efficiency'.

The CFS Board is the body which recommends subsidies for local CFS brigades on behalf of local Government to the State Government.

'The Board want people in the field to be involved in the practical design of appliances, and make recommendations to us', Mr Malpas said.

He added the Board recognised the fire truck cannot be completely standardised as the type of unit required from area to area differs.

CFS Director Mr Johns is already concerned with the reports that were coming in from all over the State of the dry conditions.

'It is stacking up to be another bad year,' he said.

New Superintendent



Superintendent G. A. (Tony) Keay

A Country Fire Services Officer, with a background in fire services in the UK and Australia, has been appointed as CFS Superintendent of Operations.

He is Mr G. A. (Tony) Keay, of Modbury North, who was previously regional officer responsible for fire protection.

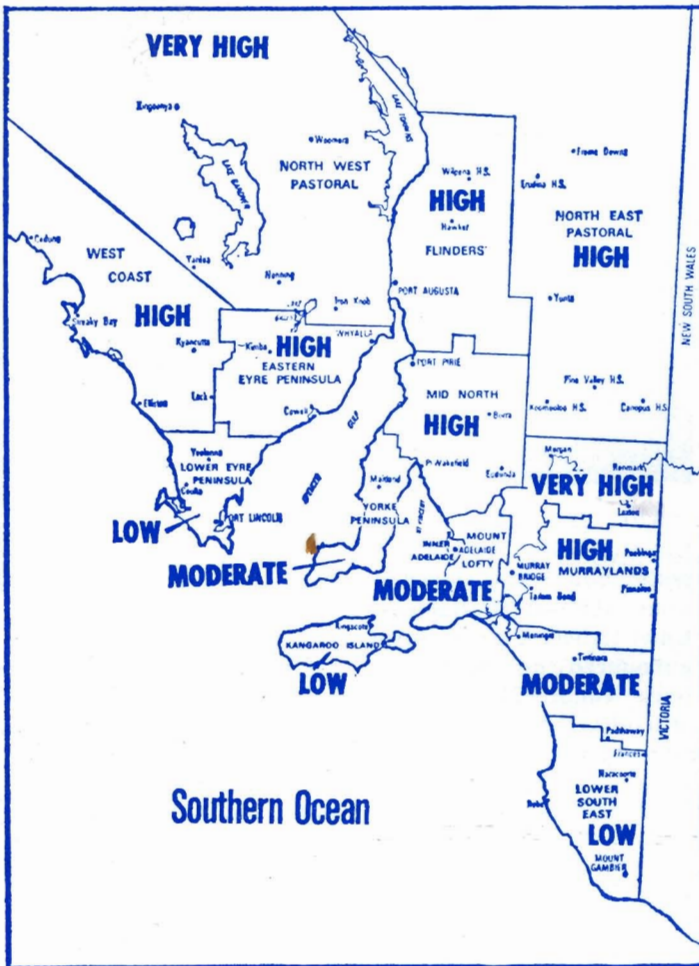
His promotion to Superintendent of Operations follows the elevation of Mr Peter Malpas to Deputy Director.

Superintendent Keay was a member of the Warwick Country Fire Brigade in the UK from 1949-70, attaining the rank of station officer in 1963. After attending the British Fire Service College in 1965, he was made responsible for fire prevention measures for property, covering domestic, rural, commerce and industry.

He served with the Northern Territory Fire Brigade as Deputy Chief Officer prior to joining the CFS (EFS) at Headquarters in 1974 and was appointed a CFS regional officer in 1978, responsible for Region 1 (the Adelaide Hills).

He is a Member of the Institute of Fire Engineers, and saw service with the Royal Air Force from 1944-47.

Married with one son, Superintendent Keay's interests are in caravanning and sailing.



Conditions as at September 1980. The Fire Danger rating has since changed, due to state wide rainfall.

First Bushfire, Adelaide Hills

With temperatures soaring above the 30°C mark, and preceded by several warm dry days South Australia was shaping up for its first bushfire in the Adelaide Hills.

At 1400 hours (2.00 p.m.) Monday 29 September a grass fire was spotted at Filsell Hill between Carey Gully and Forest Range (approx. 18 km south-east of Adelaide).

Fanned by gusty 40 to 60 kp/m north-west winds the fire spread across the hilly terrain and burnt out about 20 ha of scrub and grassland. It was a patchy sort of fire, small areas were burnt out rather than one big area. No stock or property had been threatened.

The Basket Range CFS were first to attend, followed by backup units from Carey Gully, Lenswood Forest Range, Summertown, Lobethal, Oakbank/Balhannah and Norton Summit CFS. Eleven Country Fire Services Units from the surrounding areas battled the fire.

Backburning operations were used to contain the first bushfire, which was brought under control by 1800 hours (6.00 p.m.), but continued to burn slowly until extinguished at 2110 hours.

CFS Units also attended two small grassfires on the same day at Heathfield and Bridgewater.

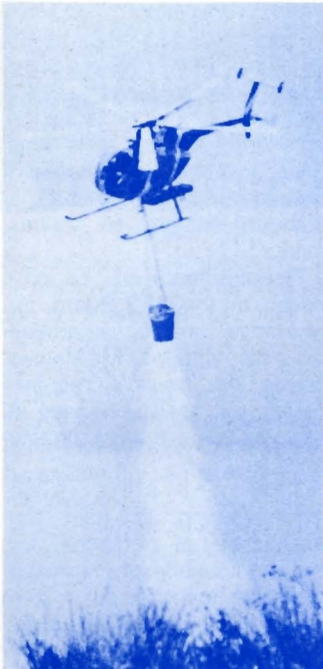
CFS Deputy Director, Mr Peter Malpas advises people who live in fire prone areas, to begin taking precautions against bushfires now.

'Clean up areas around your house before the fire season, as it is evident from Carey Gully, a bushfire can start at any time.'



Wednesday 9 July 1980—11.15 a.m. marked the official launch of the Wales State Rescue Helicopter by the Premier, The Hon. David Tonkin, M.P. The Hon. the Minister of Agriculture Mr E.(Ted) W. Chapman, and official dignitaries representing the SA State Government, Local Government, the various emergency services, Country Fire Services, the Bank of New South Wales and Radio 5AA attended the opening.

FIRE SUPPRESSION EXERCISES Helicopter/Water Bucket



One picture is of a California Department of Forestry helicopter doing a water drop, and the other of the SA Wales State Rescue Helicopter on a water drop over a 'spot fire'. Can you tell which is which?

Domestic Power Points Safety Precautions Use of Double Adaptors

The Commonwealth Fire Board has amended its guidance in respect of the use of double adaptors for electric blankets. In the past the use of separate power points was always favoured for each appliance because of the risk of multiple plugs becoming loose, with consequential high resistance, sparking and possible fires.

With present day appliances, some having low power demand, some relaxation is considered justifiable and the following guidelines have been issued.

- (1) Not more than one double adaptor should be used from each power point.
- (2) Double adaptors should not be fitted to light sockets.
- (3) Care should be taken in the placement of appliance leads to prevent them from becoming abraded.
- (4) Regular inspection should be made of power points, plugs, etc, for signs of overheating, discolouring or acting. If discovered the installation should be checked by a qualified electrician.
- (5) The rating amperage of the circuit should not be exceeded.

Chief Officer Howe Retires



After five years as the Country Fire Authority's senior officer and leader of some 100 000 firefighters, Chief Officer Clarrie Howe announced his retirement from August 22, when he officially stepped down from office.

After serving the Country Fire Authority as a volunteer firefighter Mr Howe was appointed, in November 1952, as the Regional Officer in Charge of Region 24 with headquarters at Wodonga. In 1959 he was appointed Assistant Chief Officer (Rural Brigades) and stationed at CFA Headquarters in Melbourne. Later he took command of the Western Zone, then the Central Zone and, in 1964, transferred to the North Eastern Zone with headquarters at Wangaratta.

In 1967 Mr Howe was promoted to Senior Assistant Chief Officer and returned to CFA Headquarters in Melbourne. Then upon the retirement of Deputy Chief Officer P. Gray in 1969, he was appointed Deputy Chief Officer. In 1975 he succeeded Chief Officer A. Pitfield as the fifth Chief Officer of the Country Fire Authority and, in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 1979, was awarded the Queen's Fire Service Medal.

Mr. Howe extends his sincere appreciation to his fellow Officers for their loyalty and support and to the Volunteers for whom he has great admiration.

Mr Howe has always maintained a close liaison with Local Government as well as with Government Departments and other corporate bodies in the line of duty, and has appreciated their ready co-operation.

He considers that the media is playing an important part in fire prevention education and wishes to record his sincere thanks for their continued support to the Authority.

Mr Howe has enjoyed the friendship of the fire service personnel throughout the years and wishes them all health and happiness in the future.

Best wishes go to both Chief Officer Clarrie Howe and to Mrs Howe from the CFS fire service for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Editor

SNOWTOWN EMERGENCY SERVICES CENTRE OPENED

A new centre with facilities for St. John Ambulance, Country Fire Service and State Emergency Service was officially opened at Snowtown on Sunday 5 October at 2.00 p.m.

The building was officially opened by Mr Eric Ridgway, Chairman of the St. John Country Ambulance Services Association. Others involved in the ceremony included Mr Keith Adams, Chairman of the District Council of Snowtown, and Mr Keith Russack, M.P., Member for Goyder.

Mr Lloyd Johns, Director of the Country Fire Services, Chief Superintendent E. Aston, of the State Emergency Service, and Dr Brian Fotheringham, Deputy Commissioner of The St. John Ambulance Brigade, inspected the members of their respective organisations prior to the commencement of the ceremony.

The new Centre was constructed at a cost of \$105 000, and consists of a large training hall, kitchen, offices and storerooms, along with weatherproof garaging for the vehicles. The sandstone-coloured brick building is on land donated by the District Council of Snowtown, and will provide a meeting and training venue for members of the Emergency Services, as well as an ideal location for public First Aid classes.

continued page 11

**DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
WAIKERIE
TENDER (FIRE UNIT)
FOR SALE**

1960 DODGE FIRE UNIT.

FITTED WITH 2 250 L (500 GALLON) WATER TANK (2 years old).
BACK OF UNIT REPLACED ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO.
TOHATSU PUMP/MOTOR UNIT HAS COVERED ONLY 6 000 MILES.

INSPECTION BY
ARRANGEMENT—PHONE
(085) 41 2077

Tenders to be submitted in writing to:

**DISTRICT CLERK,
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
WAIKERIE
P.O. BOX 321
WAIKERIE SA 5330**

Envelopes to be marked
'TENDER FIRE UNIT'

Tenders close
5.00 p.m., 31 October 1980

**T. L. Burgemeister
DISTRICT CLERK**

**AGAINST
JOINT
FIRE GROUP**

**Opposition to any merging
of the SA Fire Brigade with the
CFS has been expressed in
Millicent.**

At the Liberal branch annual meeting, it was indicated that the Member for Victoria, Mr Allan Rodda was against any merging of Country Fire Services with the SAFB.

He said the SAFB would have new headquarters on a site in Wakefield Street.

Plans for its development had been put in train recently.

It was proposed to reorientate funding of fire fighting in SA.

However, he did not envisage the merging of the CFS and SAFB.

'I see their needs and composition as entirely different and do not see that on amalgamation of the two was being beneficial to the State,' Mr Rodda said in his letter.

Mr Fred Ellis commented that most people in the area would agree with this.

Mr John Andre—It's vital that the CFS continue as it is.

A resolution was carried in support of the administration of the fire services being maintained in its present form.

More training for FCO's



Fire Control Officers after completing their three-day (23, 24, 25 June) theory and practical training course, await patiently to be called to receive their FCO certificate, on presentation night.



FCO's undergoing pump instruction.



Learning about pumps—Students at the school involved in one of the practical sessions, operation of a GAAM 200 pump. Experimenting with flows and outputs.

A more recent FCO school was held on 1, 2 and 3 October 1980.

FOR SALE



1975 BEDFORD FIRE APPLIANCE
6 000 km
400 GALLON WATER TANK,
MAGIRUS PUMP
24FT. WOODEN EXTENSION
LADDER

THE VEHICLE WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING APRIL 1981

PLEASE SUBMIT TENDERS TO MR G. DICKSON, DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MUNNO PARA, 36 CRITTENDEN ROAD, SMITHFIELD PLAINS, SA 5114.

BEVIS J. DIXON
ONE TREE HILL CFS
SECRETARY

for INFORMATION ABOUT THE
APPLIANCE PLEASE CALL
MR B. DIXON (08) 380 7131

Chief of SA Fire
Brigade retires,
in a fiery
farewell

**Chief Officer of the SA
Fire Brigade, Mr Dudley
G. Eve retired in a blaze
of activity on Tuesday, 30
September 1980 after
forty-three years of
service.**

The previous days unseasonal heat brought fifteen fire calls before lunch bringing the total number of calls received over the ten years Mr Eve was at the brigade's helm; to over 58 000.

When Mr Eve joined the brigade, 558 men handled 500 calls a year, now 865 firemen answer 7 500 calls.

During his term as Chief several new fire stations have been established and new appliances bought, including the Japanese 45 m Morita extension ladder.

On the eve of his retirement Mr Eve recalled the days of the Fire Brigade displays for charity, with human pyramids, wrestling displays, and hair-raising leaps from great heights into a 'jump sheet', held by a dozen colleagues.

The worst fires attended were the Moores and the tragic Covent Garden blazes. He carried a critically injured fireman down the ladder from the Covent Gardens fire.

The best wishes of the SA Country Fire Services goes to Dudley and Mrs Eve, for a long and happy retirement, and our sincere appreciation for the co-operation that has existed between the two services . . . Lloyd. C. Johns.

FOR SALE

**INTERNATIONAL 510A
ACCO 4 x 4 FIRE
APPLIANCE (4 TONNE)
PUMP—GAAM MK200
TANK—2160 LITRE CAPACITY
HOSE REELS—2 x 30 m
CAPACITY. LOCKERS
BOTH SIDES. COMMISSIONED
EARLY 1978—has done
only 6 000 km AS NEW
CONDITION
PRICE—\$24 000 O.N.O.**

**For further information
contact—Mr Phil Taubert,
Corporation of Naracoorte.
Telephone (087) 62 2122**

CFS BRIGADE OFFICER SCHOOLS

Due to the interest shown by CFS Brigade Officers at our recently held FCO Schools, a course is being established for Captains and Lieutenants of CFS Brigades. The course will consist of four (4) Schools, each of three (3) day's length. A block syllabus is enclosed for information.

The course is designed not only to better equip the Officer for Brigade duties, but also to give him/her sufficient knowledge to carry out training at the Brigade level. It is designed to give both theoretical and practical experience to those who attend.

An Officer will not be able to progress to a stage 2 school without first attending a stage 1 school. Likewise, an officer will not be able to attend a stage 3 school without attending a stage 2 school and so on.

An exception to the above is if an Officer attended an FCO School at CFS Headquarters in May or June of this year (1980).

That Officer, if he wishes, can be exempted from a stage 1 school and can progress straight on to a stage 2 school. He is advised, however, to attend a stage 1 school as it varies slightly from previously held FCO Schools.

An assessment will be given during stages 3 and 4 of the course, so that an appreciation can be made of the amount of material learnt and/or retained by members of the course. A course member must satisfactorily complete a stage 3 assessment before going on to stage 4. If he does not satisfactorily complete the assessment, he will have the opportunity to re-sit for a further assessment and/or repeat a stage 3 school. A stage 4 assessment must be completed satisfactorily before a final certificate will be issued.

22.8.80.

RO B. W. Hogan
Training Officer

BRIGADE OFFICERS COURSE

Stage 1

Metrication
Physics and Chemistry of Combustion
Powers and Duties of Fire Control Officers
Pre-planning (Brigade and District Readiness)
Country Fires Act and Regulations
Hydraulics I—Head, Pressure and Flow
Grass Fires—Spread and Control
Flammable Liquids and Gases
First Aid and CPR
Map Reading
Fire Appliance Design
Hydraulic Rescue Equipment

Stage 2

Radio Procedure
Hydraulics II—Pumps and Primers
Building Fires
Research and Fire Protection
Hose and Ladders
Hazardous Materials—Hazchem
Foam-making Equipment
Appliance Small Gear

Stage 3

Fire Station Organisation and Administration
Breathing Apparatus
Fire Extinguishment
Ropes, Knots and Lines
Brigade Constitutions and Regulations
Fire Extinguishers
Hydraulics III—Water Supplies
Salvage
Examination

Stage 4

Search and Rescue
Control Room Organisation and Operation
Communications
Protective Clothing
State Disaster Plan
Research and Fire Protection
Examination

CFS CHOOSES UNIFORM DESIGN FOR ALL RANKS

The new uniforms in CFS green and tailor-made, provide for a number of options.

For the male officers and volunteers there will be two styles:—
• officers may choose the trousers and short tunic type jacket with peaked cap and rank markings displayed on slip-on epaulettes, or the longer dress coat;
• volunteers will wear trousers, tunic jacket, and beret.

The women's uniform, made of the same material as the men's, also features a range of options—skirt or slacks, the short tunic type jacket or a more stylish coat, with or without tie.

CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns, said the new styles for both men and women had been accepted after a year's evaluation by the Board's Uniform Sub-committee.

Mr Johns said that in considering the new uniform, the Board evaluated factors such as wearability, durability, acceptability, and cost. The material is 70 per cent wool and 30 per cent polyester.

The jackets, trousers and skirts will be made by the South Australian State Clothing Corporation.

Details of the suppliers and prices for uniforms and associated apparel is listed below.



Uniform designs—From left: Style for CFS Volunteers—Tunic jacket, trousers and beret. Women's Uniform—Shirt and tie skirt (pictured) or slacks, (short tunic type jacket/or more stylish coat). Male Officers—Dress coat (pictured) or alternative short tunic type jacket, trousers, peaked cap and rank markings.

REMARKS

*THESE ORDERS GO DIRECT TO SUPPLIER AND CFS HEADQUARTERS IS INVOICED. CFS HEADQUARTERS THEN INVOICES THE BRIGADES OR COUNCILS.

1. INCLUDES POSTAGE.
 2. UNIFORMS AND OVERALLS ARE COMPLETE WITH INSIGNIA AND BUTTONS (AS APPLICABLE). HOWEVER PRICE OF INSIGNIA AND BUTTONS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE OF LISTED UNIFORMS.
 3. PRICES EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE STATED DOES NOT INCLUDE DELIVERY OR POSTAGE CHARGES.
- SIZES 1 AND 2 FOR CHILDREN ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

continued page 11

SUPPLIERS AND PRICES FOR UNIFORM APPAREL

| Item | Description | Supplier | Price |
|--------------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| Badges ¹ | Cap & Beret Metal 44 mm | CFS Headquarters | 1.25 |
| Badges Beret | Helmet Stick On CFS Green | CFS Headquarters M. Hambour & Son, Wilson Street, Royal Park | N/C 4.85 |
| Boots | Brown CFS Style | Rossiters Shoes, 182 Unley Road, Unley | 16.30 |
| Buttons | Silver CFS Insignia | | |
| Cap | Peak CFS Khaki | Reiner Pty Ltd, 137 Sydney Road, Coburg, Vic. | 17.95 |
| Insignia's ² | Shoulder Pocket and Beret (Sew On) | M. Hambour & Son, Wilson St, Royal Park | 1.90 pair 0.80 |
| Jacket* (Tailor Made) | CFS Volunteer CFS H/Q Staff, Officer, Volunteer CFS H/Q Staff Only (no marking or insignia) | State Clothing Corporation, P.O. Box 41 Whyalla | 55.80 |
| Overalls* | Combination 'Foreman' Combination 'Yacka' | G. & R. Wills, 229 Marion Road, Marleston | 14.00 17.80 |
| Shoes | Brown CFS Style | Rossiters Shoes, 182 Unley Road, Unley | 17.98 |
| Shirts* (Epaulettes) | CFS Green L/S | King Gee, 41 Fullarton Road, Kent Town | 9.30 |
| Pullover Ties | CFS Green CFS Green | T.B.N. M. Hambour & Son, Wilson Street, Royal Park | 4.40 |
| Trousers | | State Clothing Corporation, P.O. Box 41 Whyalla | 38.32 |



Pictured: The Combined Emergency Services Centre, Snowtown. The centre houses from left—St. John Ambulance Service, the State Emergency Service and the local Country Fire Service (far right).

PRAISE FOR MALLALA RURAL YOUTH

Mallala Rural Youth Club handed over a cheque for \$1 000 to the Dublin CFS at their last meeting on 10 July. Mr Reg Clarke, who accepted the cheque on behalf of the CFS, was overwhelmed by the Club's efforts and has a high regard for the Rural Youth organisation. The cheque was presented by Tom Heath, the president of the Mallala club, and the presentation was followed by an explanation of the CFS equipment by Mr Phil Ferne.

The money will help to pay for new equipment which the CFS has just purchased. The majority of their costs were covered by a subsidy but the donation will cover outstanding payments.



Civic Awards for Community Service

Meadows District Council has recognised the outstanding efforts of five community workers by presenting them with civic awards.

Now in its second year, the award scheme is aimed at recognising significant contribution to the community.

The Mayor of Meadows, Mr Geoff Simpson, made the presentations after the recipients had been introduced by their respective councillor.

Those receiving awards were:

- **Mrs Joyce Candy** of O'Halloran Hill (for service to the CWA, MBHA and Guides);
- **Mr Reg Frith** of Cherry Gardens (CFS, SES and a councillor for eight years);
- **Mr Keith Griggs** of Prospect Hill (service to the Scout Movement and the Prospect Hill community);

• **Mr Jack Jacobs** of Cherry Gardens (CFS); and

• **Mr Mike Kavanagh** of Echunga (CFS, Picnic Race Meeting and a councillor for 20 years).

Among the guests at the presentation were Mr Ted Chapman, Member for Alexandra and Minister of Agriculture, and Mr Grant Chapman, Federal Member for Kingston.

The award presentation was followed by the citizenship ceremony conducted by the Mayor.

Mayor Simpson (second from left) presents Mr Kavanagh with his award, watched by Mr Jacobs (left), Mr Griggs, Mr Frith, Mrs Candy and the Hon. Mr Chapman.

Editorial courtesy, The Courier, 20 August 1980.

CFS action saves silos at Nunji

A disaster was narrowly averted at Nunji-kompita, Wednesday July 16, when local CFS members put out a fire in the local silos.

Senior constable John Heidt, of Wirrulla, said if the CFS had arrived thirty minutes later the silo would have blown up.

The fire occurred at 6 p.m. in silos owned by SA Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited.

'The fire was caused by a hot substance falling through the delivery chute and onto a conveyor belt covered in grain dust,' Senior Constable Heidt said.

Grain dust is highly inflammable.

Twelve members of Nunjikompita CFS and twenty-five from the Wirrulla unit fought the blaze.

By the time it was put out

between \$5 000 and \$10 000 damage had been done.

'Credit must go to Mrs Sara Beattie, of Nunji-kompita, who discovered the fire and immediately notified the CFS,' Senior Constable Heidt said.

'The CFS, led by Noel Gaden, was quick to respond and their immediate action averted a disaster,' he said.

'They were brave and unselfish.'

A silo which exploded in America about a year ago left a crater like an atomic bomb, and rubble from the structure was found up to 10 km away.

Regional Offices opened

1st Regional Office

MID NORTH REGIONAL OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS CFS DECENTRALISATION

The official opening of the Country Fire Services Board's first regional office at Jamestown on 8 July highlights the Board's policy of decentralising its operations.

The Board's Chairman, Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger, told the gathering of official guests and the public, that through the decentralising within its seven regions, the Board was maintaining its close liaison with individual brigades and volunteer firefighters.

'We look upon today's ceremony as a further milestone in the history of the CFS as we know it is necessary to ensure our continuing personalised relationship between Headquarters and volunteers.

'In establishing regional offices in areas distant from Adelaide, we feel we are not only helping to maintain, but also fostering greater interest and goodwill in the Service,' Professor Schwerdtfeger said.

He praised the hundreds of CFS members who represent the forty-nine brigades in the Mid North Region, which is one of the largest in the State, covering the areas of twenty-one district councils and corporations.

The CFS Region 4 takes in most of the Mid North, the Flinders and the North East pastoral districts.

The Regional Officer, Mr George Polomka, is also the Mayor of Jamestown. He, along with the Chairman of the District Council of Jamestown, Mr Malcolm Catford, and the President of the Northern Fire Fighting Association, Mr Peter Axford, supported Professor Schwerdtfeger's remarks on the importance of establishing regional centres.

George Polomka has experienced thirty-two years of association with volunteer firefighting, having joined the Jamestown EFS—the earlier form of the CFS—in 1948.

He has been station and district officer and council fire supervisor.

Last year, he attained the role of regional officer.

He has been mayor of the Jamestown Corporation for four years, is a volunteer driver and a member of the St John Ambulance Brigade since 1969, and a controller for the State Emergency Service since 1966.

CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns, in welcoming guests, said it was pleasing to note the interest of local civic and government authorities and the public in the volunteer service.

Following the ceremony, there was an inspection of the office which encompasses a small meeting area that can be converted to a functional operations room in the event of a major fire. Radio equipment, with VHF and HF capability, gives radio coverage throughout the region and links to CFS Headquarters and the National Parks and Wildlife Headquarters.

To mark the opening, the CFS Board held its monthly meeting at Jamestown earlier that afternoon, and in the evening played host at a public meeting of all local government councils within the region, representatives of CFS Brigades, the Northern Fire Fighting Association, and government instrumentalities.

The public meeting was attended by some sixty people, discussed various aspects of CFS operations and policy matters, especially as they apply to local subsidies and plans for standardisation of equipment.



The new Jamestown CFS Regional Office (Region 4) designed to service CFS Brigades and Councils in the Mid North, Flinders and the North East pastoral districts, is headquarters for Regional Officer George Polomka.



CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns speaking at the opening ceremony before unveiling the plaque for the Jamestown CFS Regional Headquarters Office.



Plaque commemorating the 1st CFS Regional Headquarters Office at Jamestown. Officially opened by Professor P. Schwerdtfeger, Tuesday July 8 1980.



Regional Officer, George Polomka

Regional Offices opened

2nd Regional Office

OPENING OF EYRE PENINSULA CFS REGIONAL OFFICE

(*'A site well chosen'*)

The Country Fire Services regional office for Eyre Peninsula (Region 6) was officially opened at Wudinna on Monday, 18 August 1980 at 11.30 a.m.

Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger, of the Meteorology Department at Flinders University, and chairman of the CFS Board, unveiled a plaque in the landscaped garden in front of the neat transportable office in De Latour Street.

Professor Schwerdtfeger said that as Eyre Peninsula was a large and important granary of the State it, as well as the natural environment, needed protection from fires.

Due to the volunteer corps in the CFS the organisation was operating economically, he said.

'The success of the CFS is that things get done through self-help and mutual understanding'.

CFS director, Mr. Lloyd Johns, welcomed the Chairman of the District Council of LeHunte, Cr N. L. Simpson, the Member for Flinders, Mr Peter Blacker, and the Member for Eyre, Mr Graham Gunn, and members of the services whose business it is to serve the community—police, SES, National Parks and the CFS.

President of the Eyre Peninsula Firefighting Association, Mr Leon Murray, considered that the choice of location for the regional headquarters was an excellent one and all councils on Eyre Peninsula would have access to the regional officer, Mr Peter Ferris.

Mr Ferris, who will live at Wudinna, was welcomed by Cr Simpson, who said 'it was quite a thing' for Wudinna to get the second regional office in the State. The other is at Jamestown.

Mr Blacker saw Mr Ferris' appointment as a further step in efficient CFS services and the means of closer liaison between the men in the field and those in administration.

Mr Gunn also considered the new office as a permanency in protecting the prime agricultural land of the State.

Members of the public from Wudinna and surrounding areas attended the opening and afterwards inspected the new facilities.

The office encompasses a small meeting area which can be converted to a functional operations room, in the event of a major fire.

Radio equipment with VHF and SSB capability, will give coverage throughout the region and links to CFS Headquarters and the National Parks and Wildlife Headquarters.

The Regional Office phone number is (086) 80 2294 (all hours)

If unable to contact RO Ferris on above number, please phone CFS Headquarters on (08) 297 6788 and leave message.

Regional Officer Peter Ferris will not be taking up full residence at Wudinna until approximately 1 January 1981. He will however be working from the Regional Office Monday to Friday, as from 1 November, 1980.

Region 6s territory extends from Port Augusta north to the Northern Territory border and west to the WA border. Besides the local Government areas, the Board is also responsible for fire protection measures in the far north pastoral country.

Region 6 has fifty-five CFS brigades, with more than 600 volunteer fire fighters.



Inset—Regional Officer Peter Ferris assigned to represent the S.A. Country Fire Services in Region 6.



Headquarters for Eyre Peninsula, Region 6, CFS (2nd) Regional Office, De Latour Street, Wudinna.



Part of the crowd at the official opening gathered in front of the new CFS building at Wudinna to listen to the speakers.



Gathered around the commemorative plaque following the official opening of CFS Regional Headquarters, Wudinna on Monday 18 August 1980.

From left; Chairman of LeHunte District Council, Cr. Newton Simpson; CFS Chairman, Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger; The Member for Flinders, Peter Blacker; Member for Eyre, Graham Gunn; CFS Regional Officer, Peter Ferris and his wife Adrienne.

CFS DOESN'T HIBERNATE IN WINTER

(by Lloyd Johns, Director, Country Fire Services)

A question sometimes asked is—what do the Country Fire Services crews do in winter—do they hibernate?

The answer is *no*—fires and other emergencies are occurring throughout the State every day and the Country Fire Services, like any fire service, is always ready to respond. But, the winter months do give country firefighters greater opportunities to sharpen their skills through training.

To give a more in-depth answer to the question it is important to realise that local CFS crews are teams of concerned people who readily volunteer their time and resources for the protection of their local community against damage by fire or other calamity.

Although the summer period is the busiest for country firefighters because of the bushfire threat, they must also be proficient in fighting fires in buildings.

To enable the volunteers to develop expertise in handling this type of situation, brigades carry out special training programs with hose and ladder drills during the winter months.

To add to the challenge of this training, the Country Fire Services Board has continued the long-standing concept of inter-brigade competitions, culminating in the State finals, which this year was held at Kapunda on 21 September.

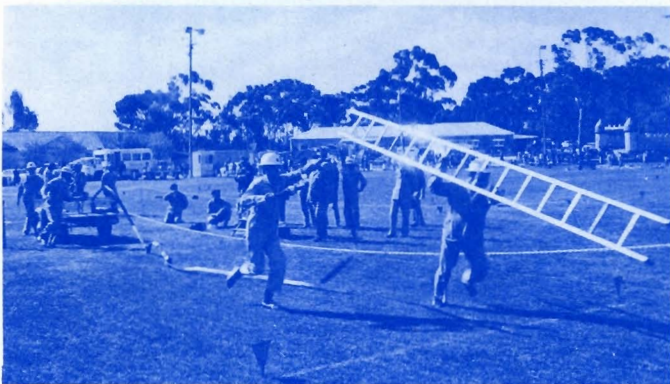
These events included the following:

Hose and Pump Drill—A four man event comprising coupling and uncoupling hoses onto a standpipe, and knocking a target with water.



One Man Hose Drill—Rolling out a length of hose, coupling one end to a standpipe, and fitting a branch to the other end.

One Man Ladder Drill—Picking up and carrying a ladder, placing it against a tower and ascending the ladder.



Four Man Ladder Drill—Similar to the one man ladder drill, and incorporating the coupling of a length of hose to a standpipe and knocking a target at the top of the tower.

Portable Pump Alarm Race—A spectacular event calling for competitors to dress in their uniform overalls, manning a unit, starting their pump and driving through a course during which they endeavour to knock targets set at varying heights.

In each of these events the competitor's score is calculated on accuracy and timing.

Each year seven regional competitions are held during the winter months—with the regions extending from the South-East to Eyre Peninsula. The competitions are co-ordinated from CFS Headquarters in co-operation with the regional host brigade. The winners from each region compete in the State Finals.

NURIOOTPA TOP BRIGADE IN CFS DRILL FINALS



The Nuriootpa Country Fire Services brigade scooped the pool in the major events at this year's CFS State Fire Drill Championships, held at Kapunda, Sunday 21 September 1980.

The Nuriootpa teams took out five first placings—the A Grade Hose and Pump Drill (for the SA Government Cup), the B Grade Dry Hose Drill; the CFS versus IFS Challenge event; the Four Man Ladder Drill; and the award for the Best and Most Efficient Appliance and Crew.



The runner-up team was Blackwood, which took out one first and five seconds.

CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns, said an encouraging aspect of this year's championships was the participation, with success, by some of the smaller brigades. He especially mentioned the Buckleboo team which came second in the A Grade Pump Drill; the Yongala team which took out the C Grade Dry Hose Drill (for cadets or women members); and the One Man Ladder Drill won by G. Ward of Waikerie, with M. Bowman of Riverton, second.

The championships, held at the Kapunda Oval, were officially opened by the CFS Board Chairman, Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger, who said that without the dedication and voluntary contribution made year-round by CFS people, the cost of protecting 99 per cent of the State would be prohibitive.

The cost of operating the CFS throughout the State was less than 10 per cent of the expenditure required to protect the Adelaide metropolitan area.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Chapman, told the 180 personnel on parade and the large audience that the scope of fires dealt with by CFS units was widening.

While bushfires were still the prime concern—and some 1 300 rural fires were attended last year—there were increasing numbers of urban fires and incidents involving vehicles.

With road transportation, it was not only fires but also the spillage of hazardous materials, which could range from corrosive chemicals to over-proof brandy.

CFS Doesn't Hibernate—continued

The Minister continued: 'With the increasing industrialisation of our country, we can expect much more movement by road of these materials. With most of the transporting taking place within areas under the control of the CFS there will also be a consequent rise in the number of incidents'.

To meet such emergencies, Mr Chapman said the CFS Board proposed setting up a special task force at CFS Headquarters, which would have specialist gear, including protective clothing and breathing apparatus.

Referring to the fire danger situation, the Minister said that last summer had been a real test of the service.

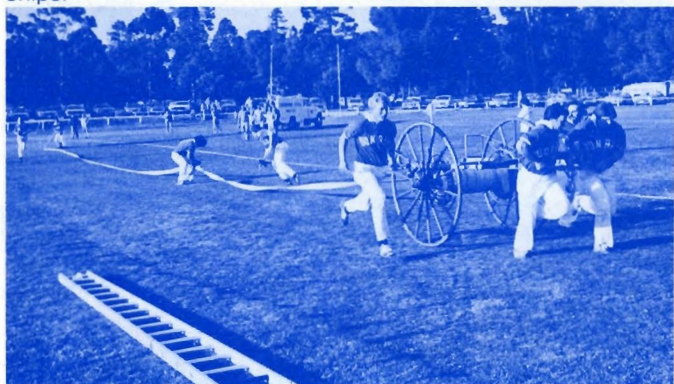
Commending the CFS personnel on their role, he added: 'It is easy for people to sit back and criticise after the event, but there is no doubt that the State would be much worse off today without your efforts during the past fire season'.

The Minister said he had also noted from the Ash Wednesday Adelaide Hills fires and others, including that at Deep Creek, that overall control was needed in a major outbreak. In the case of bushfires, it was evident that the officer responsible should be the CFS Director, or, where required, his prescribed nominee. This authority would not undermine the role of officers operating and controlling a fire contained within their gazetted areas, including Government reserves.

Mr Chapman commended the co-operation existing between the National Parks and Wildlife Division and the CFS 'The National Parks people are working with us in fire protection', he said.



Pictured from left: The Minister of Agriculture Mr. Ted Chapman and CFS Director Mr. Lloyd Johns beside the Wales State Rescue Helicopter upon arrival at the CFS State Championships.



A Victorian Country Fire Authority team from Donald gave several demonstration runs of their reel and ladder hose drill.



The Speaker of the House of Assembly, Dr Bruce Eastick, presented the trophies at the conclusion of the day's events.

Detailed results:

Presentation of Trophies



A Grade Hose and Pump Drill: 1st, Nuriootpa, 78.37 secs.; 2nd, Blackwood, 80.21 secs.



A Grade Pump Drill: 1st, Blackwood, 19.05 secs.; 2nd, Buckleboo, 21.55 secs.

B Grade Dry Hose Drill: 1st, Nuriootpa, 56.77 secs.; 2nd, Blackwood, 57.26 secs.



C Grade Dry Hose Drill: 1st, Yongala, 14.49 secs.; 2nd, Yorketown, 14.99 secs.

CFS IFS Challenge: 1st, Nuriootpa, 56.06 secs.; 2nd, GMH, Elizabeth.

One Man Hose Drill: 1st, L. Butler, Yorketown, 19.06 secs.; 2nd, M. Merritt, Blackwood, 21.74 secs.

CFS Doesn't Hibernate—continued

Presentation of Trophies—continued



Alarm Race: 1st, Belair, 30.33 secs;
2nd, Yorketown, 32.79 secs.



One Man Ladder Drill: 1st, G. Ward, Waikerie, 9.15 secs;

A member of the Waikerie CFS, Mr David Ward won the State final in the One-Man ladder drill. David completed the task of placing a six metre ladder against a tower and pressing a timer at the top, in just over nine seconds.

Eleven members from the Waikerie Unit competed and were placed third in the A Grade hose and pump drill event and fourth in the B Grade section.

2nd, M. Bowan, Riverton, 9.50 secs.

Four Man Ladder Drill: 1st, Nuriootpa, 15.29 secs;

2nd, Blackwood, 15.54 secs.

Best and Most Efficient Appliance and Crew: 1st, Nuriootpa;
2nd, Blackwood.

The Championships were hosted by the Lower North Fire Fighting Association Finals Committee.



CFS Volunteers on Parade, with youngest member in uniform.

There were a number of commercial exhibitors displaying firefighting equipment and rescue equipment.

Some of the equipment was of interest to farmers and local residents, as pumps and other items that could be used for other things as well as firefighting. St. John Ambulance were in attendance and stalls served barbecue chops, sausages, steak, pies, pasties, cool drinks, ice creams and sweets. A booth was provided by the local hotel. There were children's side shows, camel rides, the kastle, jet rides, trampolines and races. Souvenir glasses were also on sale.

ENTERTAINMENT



The competitions proved to be a real crowd pleaser.



Chief Officer, Country Fire Authority (Victoria) Mr Ron Orchard (left) pictured with CFS Director Lloyd Johns took time off from duties as the new Chief Officer of CFA to visit SA and attend the State Championships as a guest of the CFS with his wife Mrs Orchard.



Earlier photograph of newly constructed Rescue Unit for the Naracoorte CFS.

Two years ago Naracoorte had the highest accident rate of any country town in South Australia. Last year they equalled Bordertown, and in the last twelve months Naracoorte CFS received fifty-four call outs to fires and/or rescues.

Private vehicles had previously been used to tow a trailer containing rescue equipment to an accident scene.

There was an urgent need for emergency equipment.

Comparisons were made with other Brigades and other States' rescue vehicles, and during the early planning stages Naracoorte received assistance and advice from the CFA.

Designed primarily for rescue and as a back up unit in fire suppression, proceeds came from generous donations from Lions Club (\$6 850); Naracoorte Council (\$4 350). The remaining \$5 600 was raised by the Naracoorte CFS Volunteers. Built on a Ford F350 with four speed manual the Rescue Unit is fitted with dual tyres, a 450 litre (100 gallon) water tank, two hose reels, small high pressure pump, 240 volt generator and four banks of lights. Equipment consists of a Jaws of Life, Porta Power Kit, Turfor Wrench, four First Aid Packs, Stretchers and a Reciprocating Saw. Fire extinguishers are Air/water, Dry Powder, BCF and Foam.



Little Anthony's all fired up!

• Where's the fire, folks? Pint-sized Anthony, 4, of Woodside looks set to tackle the Towering Inferno after getting to grips with the controls of the Morphett Vale fire engine at the CFS championships Region 1 at Hackham Oval, 22 June 1980.

photo courtesy Kym Wenham, The Southern Times

Twelve drums of very deadly chemical, sodium cyanide, used in the process of the extraction of gold, were thrown across Highway No. 32 and the white crystals were spread across the road. This chemical when in contact with water, releases a colourless poisonous gas with the characteristic odour of bitter almonds.

It is believed that some local farmers endeavoured to wash the chemical off the road, and it was not until well after mid-day on Thursday that the Highways Department realised just what the chemical was, and its deadly nature. The SA Fire Brigade was called as they had the equipment to handle the chemical.

The Barrier Highway was immediately closed to all traffic at Saddleworth and Hanson and traffic was routed through Auburn, Clare, and Farrell Flat.

It was not until Friday morning that the Highway was re-opened. At one stage, information was broadcast advising all users of the road while the chemical was there, to wash their tyres and the underportion of their vehicles with water, but this was quickly altered by the Director of the CFS Mr Lloyd Johns, that this was dangerous and that another chemical had to be added to the water to neutralise the sodium cyanide.

The Black Springs district can be thankful that no rain or moisture fell on the drums of chemical for the 24 hours or a

very dangerous situation may have resulted.

The SA Fire Brigade attended late in the afternoon with breathing apparatus and protective clothing, and commenced the risky clean-up.

ICI Industries attended both in an advisory capacity and to decontaminate areas where it was impossible to retrieve capsules.

TNT attended as the agent for transporting the cyanide to the Northern Territory. Clare State Emergency Service provided the lighting, as well as officers from SES Adelaide.

Others in attendance included Chief Inspector Jennings and Sgt Snodgrass from Port Pirie Police, Police Officers from both Burra and Riverton and the Highways Department. The whole operation, locally, was very low key, and the very little news on the actual place of the accident was released, so as to keep sight-seers away from the danger.

Eleven Clare State Emergency Service personnel attended at the scene with the emergency van manned by Mr Don Allen. They assisted with raking up the chemical.

Editorial courtesy Northern Argus

Footnote: The day following his return from an overseas trip, the Director Mr Lloyd Johns at a television news interview expressed concern on the transportation of hazardous loads, and advised that he would be making recommendations to the country fire services board in regard to combating spillages.



Naracoorte Rescue Unit with Volunteer firefighters—left (standing) Messrs Shane Francis, Allan Marshall, Brian Ball, Trevor Male. (front row) Captain Denis Sugars, and Ross Redding.

DEADLY CHEMICAL SPILL, BLACK SPRINGS

On Wednesday night 30 July, around 10 p.m., a truck carrying amongst its cargo drums of Sodium Cyanide going to Broken Hill was involved in a mishap six kilometres north of Black Springs, north of Manoora.

The evacuation of Mississauga

Part 1

Richard Best

Fire Analysis Specialist

NFPA Fire Investigations Department

Shortly before midnight on 10 November 1979, firefighters at the headquarters station in Mississauga, Ontario, heard a crash and saw the western sky light up. Residents nearby heard explosions, and some saw a fireball. Twenty-four cars of a 106-car freight train, eleven of them tank cars containing hazardous materials, had derailed in a thickly populated section of the Canadian city.

The ensuing evacuation of nearly 217 000 persons—more than three-quarters of Mississauga's population of 284 000—is believed to be the largest evacuation in North America to result from a hazardous materials incident. This account of the evacuation and the lessons it taught may help other municipal agencies plan for the nightmare of relocating thousands of citizens in an urban area.

Background

The city of Mississauga, which adjoins metropolitan Toronto, is the southernmost and the most urban of three municipalities that comprise Peel Region on the north-west shore of Lake Ontario. Two of Canada's major freeway systems cross through the city, and the Toronto International Airport is located in Mississauga.

The Mississauga Fire Department has nine stations and 288 career firefighters who man nine first-line engines, one mini-pumper, seven secondary engines, three quintuple 100-foot aerial ladders, and two emergency squads. The department protects an area of 111 square miles. A private ambulance company funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health provides ambulance service. Peel Region is responsible for the regional police force, schools, and various supports services.

Emergency planning and training

No formal emergency plan for a large-scale evacuation existed in Mississauga or Peel Region prior to the hazardous materials accident last November. Plans for other kinds of emergencies did exist.

Mississauga's municipal emergency measures plan brings city department heads to a designated meeting place to form a decision-making group. This organisation authorises the mayor to declare a municipal emergency and can request assistance from the province. Emergency operations are to be controlled by a group of officials responsible for providing essential services.

The major emergency disaster plan of the Peel Regional Police

Force had begun as an aircraft disaster plan and had been modified by experience gained in a gas explosion, air crash incidents, and simulated disasters. The plan calls for sealing off a problem area through the use of a grid system and assigning sections to controllers.

The fire department's emergency plan calls for deputies to respond to the crisis, while the department chief reports to an emergency control centre. Off-duty firefighters and fire prevention and training personnel are to be recalled. The department has mutual aid agreements with the surrounding areas and a resource list of heavy equipment, special services, and specialists.

Fire department training officers and four other staff members had attended an NFPA hazardous materials emergency training seminar. Speakers from chemical firms and the Transportation Emergency Assistance Program (TEAP), which is similar to CHEMTREC, had addressed department members. The NFPA training program, 'Handling Hazardous Materials Transportation Emergencies,' and film, 'BLEVE' (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion), had been used in training programs. Senior officers had reviewed emergency plans at a September 1979 meeting, and one department squad was receiving special training on dangerous goods.

The incident

Just before midnight on Saturday, 10 November 1979, twenty-four cars of a 106-car, eastbound Canadian Pacific freight train derailed in the centre of the south half of Mississauga, the city's most heavily populated section. The train consist included thirty-seven tank cars of hazardous materials, such as propane, toluene, butane, caustic soda, chlorine, and others. Of the twenty-four cars derailed, eleven tank cars contained propane; three, toluene; three, styrene; and one, chlorine.

When the derailment occurred, a large fireball erupted. About eighteen minutes later, there was a first BLEVE, followed by a second BLEVE in another nine to ten minutes. The accident occurred in a light industrial area with no immediately adjacent residences, but people in nearby homes and apartments heard and saw the explosions and fire.

Firefighters at headquarters Station 1 did not wait for further notification but responded immediately in the direction of the crash and light. En route to the incident, a district chief thought a chemical plant must be involved.

He first realised it was a train wreck when he started up Mavis Road where the derailment had occurred. He requested the notification of all superior chiefs.

Police officers cruising the area saw fire light up the sky at approximately 11.53 p.m. They responded and arrived just behind the first fire engine. The police chief was notified, and the police force disaster plan was activated. The police command post trailer was set up south of the scene; it was later moved north, upwind of the incident.

Fire apparatus were moved in from both north and south of the derailment. The responding firefighters were aware of the BLEVE hazard. They laid hose lines to set up deluge sets for exposure protection, intending to move to a safe area once the lines were in place. When they heard a whistling noise, described by one firefighter as the sound of a small jet warming up, they realised a tanker was venting and moved away quickly. The first BLEVE occurred before master streams were operating. A few hundred spectators, who had gathered south of the derailment as firefighters were arriving, dispersed rapidly following the first BLEVE.

Firefighters immediately moved back in, pulling hose lines by hand. Apparatus were repositioned to protected areas, where possible. The firefighters moved around behind buildings to set up exposure lines and stop the fire from spreading west along the remaining rail cars. A train conductor brought the manifest to the district chief. Because the derailed cars' numbers and location in the train manifest were not immediately known, the most difficult problem early in the emergency was interpreting the manifest; someone had to walk along the tracks to note the car numbers.

Ten master streams were operating throughout the early stages of the emergency. (See site plan.) Firefighters used 1½-inch lines to extinguish spot fires in buildings and along the tracks, and the forward train section was moved away from the burning cars. The rear section, which contained additional derailed cars, was not moved until Sunday night.

A tank car containing chlorine was involved in the jumble of derailed cars. It was daylight on Sunday morning, 11 November, before firefighters could locate the tank car and determine that it was damaged and leaking.

Details of the derailment and the firefighting operations have been reported in two Canadian fire service publications.* The *Toronto Sun* newspaper has also published a ninety-six-page photographic report, titled 'Miracle of Mississauga'.

Following the derailment, the Mississauga fire chief called in local chemists for their immediate assistance. TEAP was contacted,

and hazardous materials specialists representing the chlorine manufacturer were rushed to the scene. Because the location of the puncture at the head of the chlorine tank car made it difficult to establish a tight seal over the opening, there was a major delay in patching the tank. Pressure had to be applied simultaneously on the horizontal surface and against the end of the tank.

Early in the week, repair crews were unable to successfully pressurise the chlorine tank to allow removal of the remaining chlorine by pressure pumping. It was Wednesday night before they succeeded in establishing a tight seal over the opening. The crew finally vacuum-pumped the chlorine into a tank truck, a process that continued through the following weekend.

Fire department activities were fire-related during the initial stages of the emergency; later, they were concentrated on the hazardous materials emergency. Fire personnel played a major role in obtaining materials for the crews attempting to patch the chlorine tank. The evacuation was carried out primarily by Peel regional police. They were assisted by provincial police, metropolitan Toronto police, Halton regional police, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the news media, and the Mississauga and numerous other ambulance services.

Although the emergency operations control group varied as required at different times, it included the Mississauga mayor and fire chief, the provincial attorney-general, the Peel regional police chief, and other fire and police members. The Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Health, and the Ontario provincial police provided resource personnel to assist. Also represented were the Canadian Transport Commission, the Federal Ministry of Transport, chlorine and propane manufacturers, and railroad officials. Decisions were made under democratic procedure, and the respective agency heads implemented the tasks that involved their own personnel.

(Next month, Part 2 of 'The evacuation of Mississauga' details the massive evacuation of nearly 217 000 people from a heavily populated section of the city. Included among the evacuees were 1 449 patients from three hospitals and six nursing homes.)

Acknowledgments

The assistance of Mississauga Fire Chief G. E. Bentley; Staff Inspector B. V. King, Peel Regional Police Force; and Operations Manager Allan Duffin, of the District of Halton and Mississauga Ambulance Service Ltd., is acknowledged and appreciated.

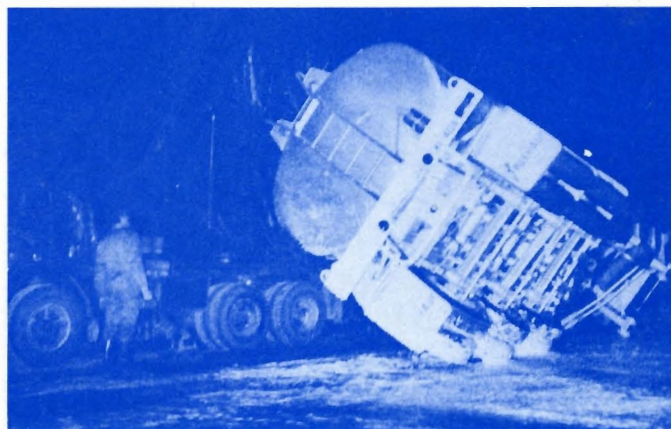
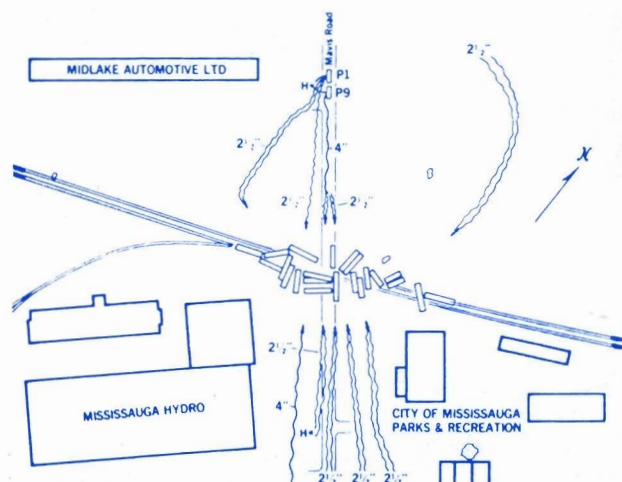
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Evacuation of Mississauga continued . . .

*The Canadian Fire Fighter, Fire Fighting in Canada, January/February 1980, 'Dateline December 1979-January 1980, Mississauga,' page 4.

Editorial courtesy

FIRE COMMAND July 1980



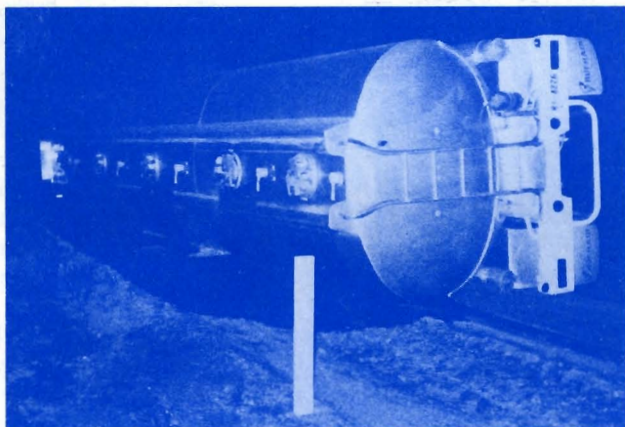
The disabled prime mover was sprayed with large quantities of foam before a crane separated the prime mover from the petrol tanker. Remaining fuel was transferred to another tanker from Mount Gambier.

CFS crews took turns in mopping up operations and were in attendance until 0345 hours, a total of seven hours at the scene.

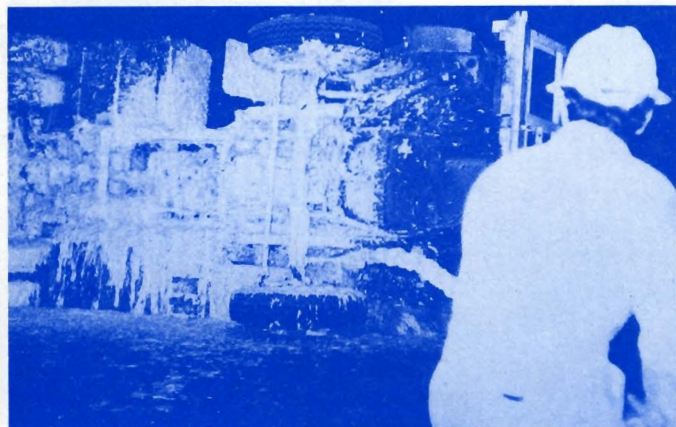
The accident was 'potentially highly explosive'. Co-operation among all authorities brought the emergency to a safe and successful conclusion.

Tanker Spillage Emergency

Four CFS Fire Units, an ambulance, crane and police attended a fuel tanker accident eight kilometres (five miles) south of Padthaway.



Wednesday 3 September, 2045 hours, the Keppoch CFS received a report that a tri-axle petrol tanker had overturned on the main Keith/Naracoorte road, and was leaking fuel profusely.



First to attend was the Keppoch CFS followed by Naracoorte who arrived with new foam equipment. Fire trucks also attended from Mundulla and Padthaway. CFS Regional Officer Mr M. T. Sherwell of Naracoorte, and the Tatiara fire supervisor were also on hand. A St John ambulance from Naracoorte treated the driver for slight injuries and SA Police personnel assisted at the scene.

Traffic was diverted approximately ten kilometres around the accident scene.

Opening of Eyre Peninsula continued . . .

Regional Officer Peter Ferris appointed to Region 6 in June, has had almost 20 years' service—including the past 19 months as a regional officer at CFS headquarters.

He was a member of the Eden Hills CFS for 14 years followed by a further 4 years with the Naracoorte brigades before returning to Adelaide. At Naracoorte he was deputy district officer, brigade captain, and deputy controller of the local branch of the State

Emergency Service. Married with 3 children his interests are the CFS, football and squash.

Activities (Region 6)

4 and 5 October 1980—Training School was held at Cummins for Brigades in Southern area of region.

25 and 26 October 1980—Training School to be held at Cleve for Brigades in North East area of Region.

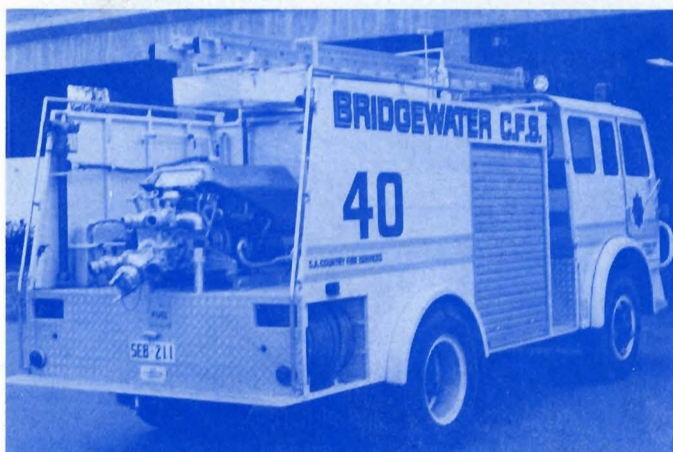


The new Lincoln CFS Brigade Unit underwent a pump test on Monday 29 September at CFS Headquarters. Pictured from left Regional Officer Peter Ferris (Rgn. 6.) with CFS Lincoln volunteers Chris King and Tony Secker.



House ablaze, California, USA the end result of a forest fire deliberately lit.

CFS GETS ITS MOST MODERN APPLIANCE



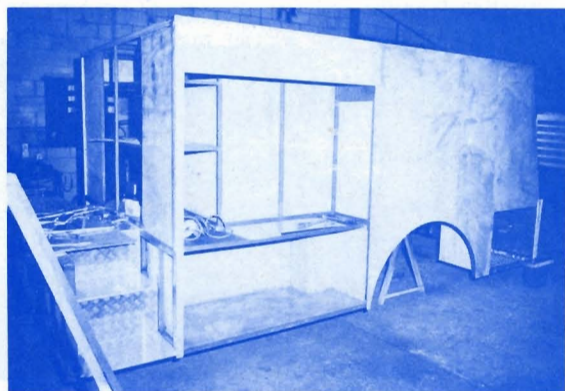
**NEW PROTOTYPE
CFS FIREFIGHTING APPLIANCE—
STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION**



Modifications and extensions to cabin area to accommodate fire-fighting crews.



View of seat compartment in open section, located at rear of cabin.



Basic body work almost completed.

The Country Fire Services officially received its most modern firefighting appliance—a \$50 000 prototype unit which will be tested and evaluated by the Bridgewater CFS Brigade.

The unit is the first of new standard designs which the CFS Board is having tested and evaluated. The other two prototype units are scheduled for completion later this year.

At the ceremony held at Bridgewater on Saturday 20 September 1980, CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns, said the service needed to purchase and put into operation the best technologically efficient units available.

The Bridgewater unit, besides its role as an evaluation vehicle, replaces the brigade's unit which was caught and burnt out in the Ash Wednesday holocaust in the Adelaide Hills.

CFS Board Deputy Chairman, Mr Ray Orr, said the new style design appeared to be admirably suited to firefighting in the Hills. It was a vehicle which could travel in rough terrain—with its short wheel-base being ideal for the severe off-road conditions experienced in the Hills.

Mr Orr said that as a prototype vehicle, the cost of \$50 000 had been shared with the CFS Board contributing \$22 000; donations from a public appeal to replace the burnt out vehicle totalled \$10 000; and insurance on the old vehicle was \$18 000.

The Chairman of the Stirling District Council, Mr Lloyd Leah, said that while all regretted the circumstances which had led to the need for a replacement unit, it was pleasing that the Bridgewater Brigade had been given the responsibility of evaluating 'this new generation of fire fighting units in South Australia'.

Mr Leah said the Stirling Council had allocated a record figure of \$192 500 for fire protection this financial year.

Mr Johns handed the keys of the new unit to Bridgewater CFS Captain, Mr Dave Moller, who assured all that the brigade would continue its service to the community.

Following the handing-over ceremony, members of the Bridgewater Brigade gave a demonstration of the firefighting power—using the unit's own pump and hose system.

The new unit is a fast, compact short wheel-based vehicle, capable of carrying 2 000 litres of water and with pumping facilities to draw water from mains and other sources.

It has an American style twin cab, capable of carrying up to seven firefighters, seated back to back. The back section of the cab is open, allowing firefighters to enter and leave by side openings. A drop-down fireproof blanket gives extra crew protection.

Other firefighters can travel on the protected high-sided platform at the rear.



One of the Bridgewater CFS Volunteer Firefighters sons Master Martin Paul aged ten years adding a final polish to the chrome on the pumps before the ceremony.



Bridgewater CFS Volunteers and Official guests.



The keys of the new \$50 000 fire unit were officially handed over to the Bridgewater CFS Captain, Mr Dave Moller by the CFS Director, Mr Lloyd Johns. Looking on from left is the Chairman, Stirling District Council, Mr Lloyd Leah and Deputy Chairman, CFS Board, Mr Ray Orr.



Life Membership Medals—Mr Harold Bowles (second from left) following the presentation of his ten year medal and ten year bar of the British Fire Services Association by Mr Lloyd Leah, Chairman of the Stirling District Council is pictured being presented with his life membership certificate with the CFS by Mr Lloyd Johns, Director CFS.

Offering their congratulations are Messrs Geoff Knight (left), President, Bridgewater CFS and Dave Moller, Captain.

Mr Bowles has thirty years service with the Bridgewater CFS.



A demonstration of the units fire power was given.



Close up of firefighters at the end of the hoses.

NEW WATER TANKER PRESENTED TO CFS

A new mobile water tanker, which will prove a valuable support vehicle for firefighters in the Adelaide Hills was presented to the Country Fire Services at Stirling on Saturday 9 August.

The new vehicle, with a tank capacity of 4 500 L (1 000 gallons), was presented to the CFS Mount Lofty Training Centre.

It will be used as a support vehicle to supply firefighting units at fire fronts, and as a firefighting unit for emergencies along the South-Eastern freeway.

Lions Clubs from two Lions International Districts—201-S1 and 201-S2—subscribed \$10 000 towards the cost, with the balance of the \$24 000 being met by the Stirling District Council and through a CFS subsidy.

The Commandant of the CFS Mount Lofty Training Centre, Mr Charles Rosewarne, said the new unit would also be used in the training of firefighters at the Centre.

Two past District Governors of Lions, Mr Jack Tank, (201-S2) and Mr Jim Adams (201-S1), took part in the presentation of the truck to the Chairman of the Stirling District Council, Mr Lloyd C. Leah.

The Deputy Director of the CFS, Mr Peter Malpas, commended the community spirit shown by organisations, and in this particular instance, Lions International, in supporting the CFS.

Mr Malpas said the new vehicle was an essential part of firefighting equipment for the Hills.

He added: 'We are moving ahead to make ourselves the most efficient firefighting service in Australia'.

Mr Tank said the decision for Lions to become associated with the project followed the disastrous Ash Wednesday fires. As a result of the Lions' appeal, clubs from many parts of the State—and even into the West Darling District of NSW—had contributed towards the cost.

Mr Adams said Lions had also assisted in raising funds for the CFS in the Upper South East, as a result of the large bushfire in the Tintinara district.

Council Chairman, Mr Leah, said the new tanker was tangible evidence of the role played by Lions as a community service organisation. The vehicle would assist the CFS in the protection of life and property throughout the whole community.



Water Tanker on display.

Fire Weather Forecasting

The Bureau of Meteorology has the responsibility for assessing fire danger ratings for each District in South Australia during the summer months. This assessment takes into account the following factors:—

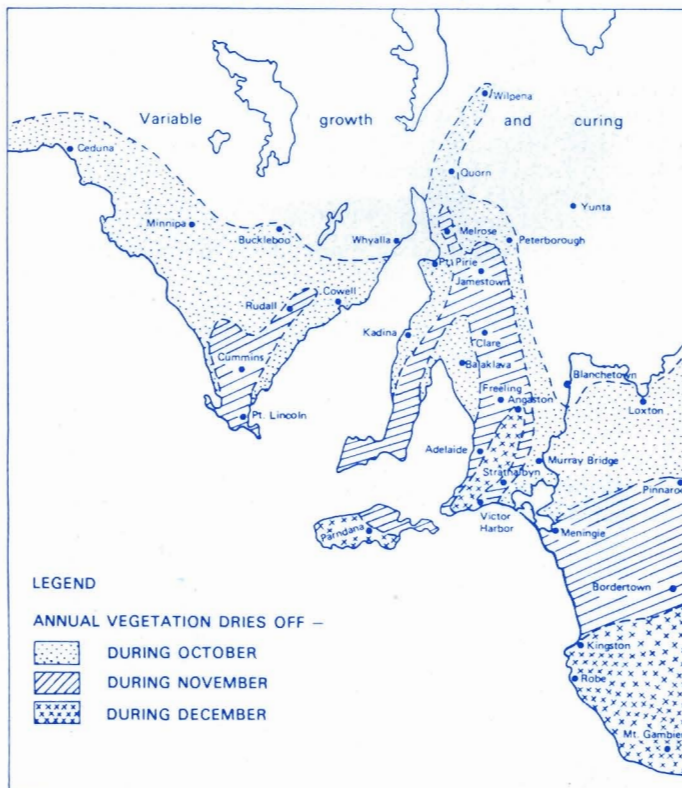
- The amount of fuel (grass, stubble, etc.) available.
- The condition of the fuel (degree of dryness).
- Period since last rain.
- Humidity
- Temperature
- Winds (surface and upper level)

Fuel State

To obtain a state wide picture of the amount and condition of the fuel referred to in (a) and (b) above, the Bureau obtains weekly reports from CFS for each fire district.

In South Australia the difference between the drying off of grass in the early and late districts varies by approximately one month. To keep the Bureau informed on the stages of drying, the CFS Research and Fire Protection Branch with the assistance of the rural officers of the Department of Agriculture, provide a weekly report on stages of curing. This service lapses when all districts will burn but recommences towards the end of summer as the grass land fuel becomes sparse to assist with the closing of the fire ban warnings.

CURING ZONES—ANNUAL VEGETATION (AVERAGE YEAR)



With a knowledge of fuel conditions, the next procedure is to examine the Meteorological elements that contribute to fire danger.

Rain—

The number of days since the last rain is taken into account and the danger increased by a certain amount for each day.

Humidity—

Humidity is not of major importance for grass fire danger assessments, but becomes more significant when considering forest fire danger where the litter remains damp for longer periods than in open country.

Temperature—

Except for its cumulative drying effect it is not as important for fire danger assessment as most people imagine, and occasionally it becomes necessary to issue bans on days of near 30°C. but they may sometimes not be necessary when temperatures are near or above 37.8°C (the old 100°F).

Wind—

The determining factor, of course, is wind, and calm to light winds with above century temperatures may not be as dangerous as 30 to 40 km/hr winds with temperatures near 30°C. The situation sometimes arises where calm to light winds may be observed near the ground but the winds at 1 000 to 2 000 feet may be blowing strongly, necessitating a high danger rating being given and possibly ban conditions operating, when there is apparently no obvious reason from the observed surface conditions. This occurs more frequently than is generally appreciated, and cases can be quoted of winds on the Adelaide Plains blowing at 10 to 20 km/hr, whereas the winds on the top of the Mt. Lofty Ranges have been blowing at 40 to 50 km/hr or more. This also applies to gullies and densely wooded areas where the free flow of wind is retarded and surface observations can be misleading.

It is perhaps unfortunate for us, but fortunate for the man on the land, that, on some such days when serious fire danger ratings are issued, no fires occur, giving the impression that such a high rating was unwarranted, but no one can assess what may have happened had a fire started under these conditions of light surface winds and stronger upper winds. A going fire under these conditions will be quickly affected by the stronger upper winds and the rate of spread will increase very rapidly.

Protective Bans—

'Protective' Bans have occasionally been imposed on days when it is considered that the following day may be a 'blow up' day. Criticism was levelled at this action for the Western District during March 1964, but serious fire danger conditions with 40 to 60 km/hr Northerlies and above century temperatures were recorded over most of the following day.

It is often suggested that persons located in each district would be more capable of assessing fire danger ratings than Officers stationed at the Bureau of Meteorology's Office in Adelaide, but it should be fairly obvious from the above explanations that no one outside the Bureau has all the available information necessary for making these estimates. Mistakes are occasionally made because of rapidly developing or rapidly moving systems, and sometimes the rate of travel of an approaching cool change is difficult to assess. How much more difficult must this be for someone who has not access to all the relevant information.

Occasionally a cool change may move through part of a District during the early morning but, if a considerable portion of the district is still experiencing a serious fire danger condition, it would be reasonable to expect that this area should be protected by giving the more serious fire danger rating to the whole district. It is also possible to have light rain in some parts of a district while the remainder of the district may be under serious fire danger conditions.

Thunderstorms—

Thunderstorms, although causing showers here and there could be responsible for the starting of serious fires by lightning and, for this reason, the fire danger rating may be higher on a thundery day than on a day with similar wind and temperature conditions but with no prospect of thunderstorms.

Controlled Burning—

Burning off operations getting out of control are recognised as a major cause of fires in South Australia, and controlled burning, with the aid of the Bureau of Meteorology Forecasting Services is strongly recommended. The time, place and required meteorological conditions should be advised some time prior to the operation. The Bureau will then notify the person or persons concerned when these conditions are likely to develop to enable advice to neighbours and recruitment of helpers to be arranged.

Out of Control—

Should a fire get out of control the Bureau's facilities are always at your service and special forecasts and reports from key stations in our emergency network can be made available. These services can be obtained direct by telephone to 42 6601 (24 hour service) or through the Bureau's Field Offices at Ceduna and Mt. Gambier, who will remain on duty until such time as special forecasts or advices are no longer required. When a fire is under control advice would be appreciated so that our efforts can be concentrated on other fires which may be out of control at the same time.

Car Fires Up; fewer carry extinguishers

During the next year almost 500 motor vehicles could catch fire in the Adelaide metropolitan area alone.

Taking in the rest of the State that figure will undoubtedly rise. Property damage could run into hundreds of thousands of dollars and drivers or passengers could die.

Last year there were 440 car fires in Adelaide reported to the Fire Brigade, and it sees that figure rising over the next few years, partly because fewer motorists carry fire extinguishers in their vehicles.

'A few years ago fire extinguishers were fairly common in cars,' a Brigade spokesman said.

'Today motorists aren't particularly fire conscious anymore. Drivers have been burnt to death after cars have caught fire as the result of an accident. A fire extinguisher can cut down property losses and save lives.'

The Brigade is usually only called out to a car fire when the blaze is well underway.

But a driver who carried an extinguisher could put out a car fire before it had a chance to get going, saving the vehicle from considerable damage.

A recent survey in Victoria found that out of 450 vehicles inspected only seventeen carried an extinguisher and only eleven of these met Australian Standards.

Another two were fitted with brackets where an extinguisher had once been located.

The survey also found that only three pre-1975 vehicles were fitted with extinguishers, and the majority of expensive

luxury cars were not fitted with one. Only one out of fourteen vehicles manufactured by a German firm was fitted with an extinguisher, supposedly standard equipment for the make.

The owners of campervans were equally unconcerned about fire protection, despite the higher risk of fire due to cooking and heating facilities. Only three of eight campers checked were fitted with fire prevention devices.

The Fire Brigade spokesman said two types of extinguishers were recommended for use in the family car—the BCF and dry powder units.

The BCF extinguisher should only be used for external or engine fires because of the toxic fumes it gives off, while the dry powder unit was suitable for internal and external fires.

In the case of an engine fire, the spokesman said motorists should not fully lift the bonnet, but should only lift it to the first click before squirting the contents of the extinguisher into the engine bay.

This lessens the chance of a flare-up.

Water should never be used on an electrical or petrol fire. In electrical fires, water increases the chance of electrocution and in petrol fires water can spread the flame.

The spokesman said motorists buying an extinguisher should ensure that there is at least two kilos of contents.

'An untrained person wastes between 25 and 60 per cent of the contents before the fire can be controlled,' he said. copy ex South Australian Motor, RAA.

Fire Prevention Week 17–24 October 1980

Fire Prevention Week, held annually in October is designed to make people more aware of fire safety.

The SA Country Fire Services supports Fire Prevention Week, and asks that local CFS Brigades and Associations draw attention to the need for their own communities to heed the present dangers in the approaching Bushfire season.

Prepare now for your local fire prevention promotions.

Fire prevention information and advice/assistance, displays and literature can be obtained through the Regional Officer assigned to your region, or direct from CFS Headquarters.

Suggestions—Advise proposed activities to your Regional Officer and to local press. Hold open house at your local CFS Fire Station, firefighting demonstrations, static displays, local charity fairs, local CFS Brigade Parade, school visits/lectures . . . are just a few methods of getting the message of fire prevention through to the public.

Program

| Day/Date | Function | Organiser |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Friday 17 October | Official Opening—11.00 a.m. Senior Citizens Centre, Mylor | Fire Prevention Week Committee/SAFB/CFS |
| Saturday 18 October | City Parade of Fire Units | Country Fire Services |
| Sunday 19 October | Annual IFS Competitions— 1.00 p.m. GMH Pty Ltd Elizabeth Plant | Industrial Fire Services |
| Monday 20 October | Pyre Lighting Ceremony— SA Fire Brigade H/Q's | SA Fire Brigade |
| Tuesday 21 October | AFPA/BP Creative Arts and Crafts Competition Prize Presentation (BP Theatre) | AFPA |
| Wednesday 22 October | Symposium— Stirling Committee Hall | AFPA |
| Thursday 23 October | IFS Factory Demonstration—10.30 a.m. GMH Pty Ltd Elizabeth Plant | IFS |
| Friday 24 October | Evacuation Exercise | SAFB |

Special Program

Throughout Fire Prevention Week a Static Display complete with Fire Units and Equipment from within the Region 2 area, will be held at the New Parabanks Shopping Centre, John Street, Salisbury.



The Kimba CFS Fire Unit, Mobile No. 46 is now identified from the front and rear by a Personalised Number Plate 'Fire 46'.





With one of the largest areas of bush and farm land to protect in the Stirling area, the Mylor unit has the smallest number of the fire-fighters, ... and vehicles and equipment are in urgent need of replacement.

Since Ash Wednesday the few members which include two fire women, who fight the fires alongside the men, have been making an all-out effort to protect the district from the effects of the major fire, as well as attending two suspected 'deliberately lit' fires.

EQUIPMENT 'LOST':

Mylor CFS unit's problems are compounded by the fact that a lot of equipment has not yet been returned after Ash Wednesday. Because the fire came within inches of the fire shed and threatened the whole township, everyone who could help was issued with equipment. So far despite extensive inquiries, some ten knapsack sprays, are still missing!

FIRE UNITS DAMAGED:

One of the Mylor trucks was badly damaged in the fire—the whole unit was extensively blackened. Another collided with an obstacle during the fire and damaged the side.

Repairs were being hampered by the fact that many Mylor CFS men themselves lost sheds, etc. in the fire, and with their sheds were destroyed their tools and workshops.

At present the unit is using the pump off the damaged vehicle to put on their 1969 Bedford Truck.

Another pump, a ten year old Robin 'blew up' during the bushfire. 'It worked so hard'

according to Captain Bert Ewing.

Footnote: The Stirling District Council has since offered assistance and repaired and repainted the damaged vehicle.

The Mylor CFS is also renovating a wartime vintage trailer pump, which it has on loan from the Mount Lofty Training Centre for use in pumping from dams or the river.

The volunteers are proud of the unit's new Toyota Land Cruiser, bought with the help of the District Vehicle Replacement Fund last year. However this also suffered from the rigors of Ash Wednesday. The main thrust bearing is suspect and the new fibreglass tank leaks.

The brigade's eleven year old International fire unit (burnt when it stalled with a vapour lock, in the fire) is slow on the hilly terrain around Mylor and has to be used in first gear on many of the roads, thus reducing its effectiveness as an emergency vehicle.

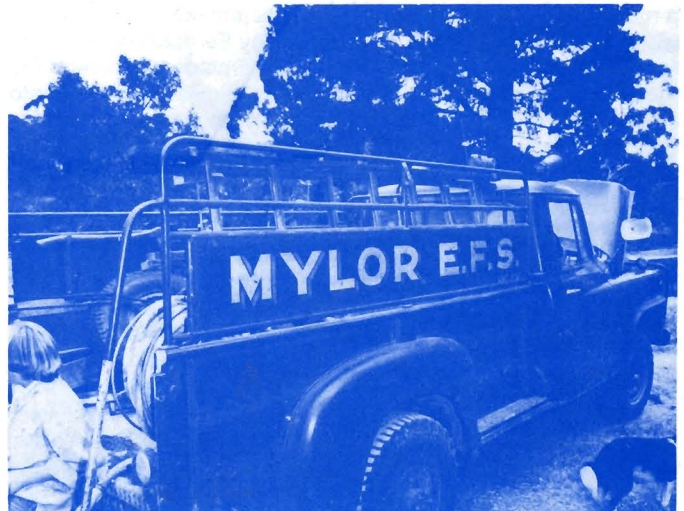
The Toyota Land Cruiser has limited water and crew carrying capability for use in large fires, so there is an urgent need for a four-wheel vehicle that can go over rough country and carry a large amount of water.

NEW UNIT:

Mylor CFS hopes to acquire a second-hand four-wheel drive fire unit to augment its existing fleet.

The need for a new unit in the three to five-tonne category was discussed at the recent annual meeting.

It was then decided that a search be made for a suitable



unit to add to the two already in use.

Mr Ewing said that the brigade members had been unable to do much in the way of vehicle and station repair in the past year.

FIRE:

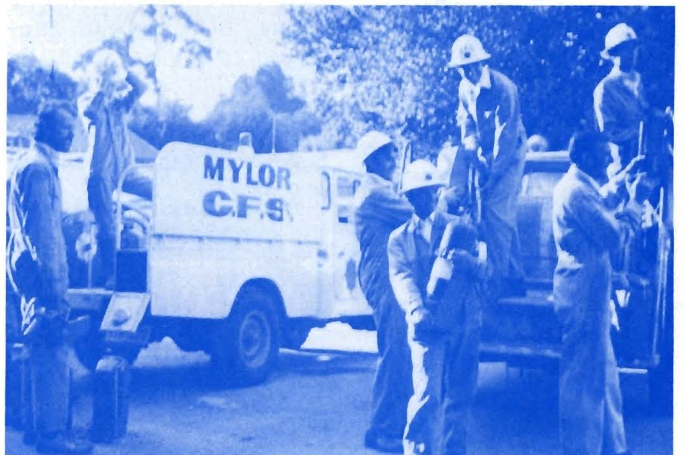
The Ash Wednesday fire took members a full two weeks to mop up and the last tree found burning since the fire was put out on 20 April—two months later.

Twenty-eight houses had been lost in the Mylor district and there could be three times as many sheds which caused much inconvenience to farmers. So many people

lost their homes, sheds and other items that outside help is needed to help the Mylor CFS get on its feet again.

Captain Ewing said it was good to see the whole of Mylor working together during the fire, no lives had been lost, but he felt that the fire had hastened the passing of some of the older people in the district.

Special thanks goes to the volunteer members for their work during the year, to the CFS Ladies Auxiliary for their support, and to the Uniting Church for its help; especially in counselling those who lost their homes.



MANPOWER/MORALE:

Twenty-five (25) people had asked to join the CFS after the Fire, now only three (3) still regularly attend meetings.

There is another desperate need — man/woman power, particularly to answer calls during weekdays, and to assist with repairs and maintenance.

During the weeks only half a

Special thanks goes to the people of Mylor, to Mrs Joan Kingdon and the CFS Mylor Ladies Auxiliary, to Mr and Mrs Fred Groom, to Mr and Mrs Fred Prout, Bert and Fred Ewing and to all the Volunteer members of the Mylor CFS for their efforts in catering and organizing Fire Prevention Week Opening held at the Mylor Senior Citizens Centre ... story to follow in next issue. P. Mills

dozen firemen (including two (2) women) can be relied on to answer the siren and go out on calls. The others are working out of the district and are not immediately on hand.

The total membership is only twelve, and the CFS Ladies Auxiliary (president—Mrs Joan Kingdon).

Support your local CFS Brigade, help them to help you!

Melrose's New Shed

The Mount Remarkable District Council has completed the new Country Fire Service shed, which has been erected next to the council offices, at a cost of \$5 000.

Improvements to Fire Stations at Truro, Stonefield and Blanchetown.

Truro Council has submitted a budget of \$4 000 from capital works for Country Fire Service buildings for minor improvements to Fire Stations at Truro, Stonefield and Blanchetown.

New fire unit

Evanston Gardens Country Fire Service took delivery of a new unit on Sunday 30 March.

The keys of the new Acco truck, specially fitted for fire-fighting, were presented to chief station officer Harry Gillard by the chairman of the Munno Para Council finance committee, Cr Colin Pearce.

The new unit cost \$29 333 and was described as the most efficient and up-to-date in South Australia.

A monitor branch—a special hose nozzle for fire-fighting—was donated by Gawler Apex Club and handed over by Apex representative Mr Tony Fotheringham.

Also present at the ceremony were District Supervisor Mr Eldred Riggs and CFS Director Mr Lloyd Johns.

The former Evanston Gardens unit has now been taken over by Roseworthy College through the District Council of Light.

EX. The Bunyip, Gawler.

Demonstration of Fire Truck.

The District Council of Burra has resolved to accept the offer from the Booborowie CFS to view a demonstration of a new four wheel drive International Fire Truck, following its October Council meeting.

A works committee has been directed to investigate the purchase of such a unit for delivery to the Booborowie CFS in August 1981.

New Fire Stations/New Brigade Units

New Siren Tower Summertown CFS

The District Council of East Torrens has agreed to purchase a new fire siren tower for the Summertown CFS. Officer in charge Mr Roger Bonython, said the existing tower had to be taken down because it had become dangerous.

The Council agreed to pay the costs involved with the supply and erection of the tower, with the CFS being responsible for the wiring. Cost is expected to be around \$2 200 erected.

During the past year Summertown CFS attended fifteen fires. These included three major fires—Ash Wednesday, Wood Hill Road (Ashton) and Horsnell's Gully. At several times, particularly during the Horsnell's Gully fire, the crews were in extremely hazardous conditions, but were fortunate not to have any loss of life or units.

Fire Utility— Diesel Powered

President, Mr Brian Hannaford, said the brigade was hoping to purchase a new diesel powered four wheel drive utility to replace its Land Rover before next season. Members believed that diesel-powered units did not vaporise at the Ash Wednesday fire.

He added that the collection of paper and bottles helped put the unit in a position where it was able to purchase the new vehicle, with the help of subsidies.

During the August meeting of the District Council of Kimba, the Chairman, Cr L. J. Schaefer presented the keys for the new Buckleboo appliance, to the Captain of the Buckleboo CFS Mr G. J. Baldock. Crews members of the Buckleboo CFS were also present.

New equipment for Hamley CFS

Hamley Bridge CFS has recently purchased self-contained breathing apparatus at a cost of \$1 080.

CFS president Mr A. J. Milton said it was hoped the equipment would never need to be used but it was good to know that such a valuable life-saver was now available should the need arise.

Another recent purchase had been a trailer, at a cost of \$210, less a donation of \$60 from KB Steelweld of Wasleys.

Mr Milton said the trailer would be fitted with fire-fighting equipment for use as a back-up unit or as an additional unit as well as for training purposes.

He said these two items had been purchased solely by Hamley CFS, the expenditure being made possible by fund-raising activities, donations and work carried out by members.

New equipment to be supplied by the district Council of Owen would include hoses, goggles, knapsacks, helmets, flashing lamps, branch piping, a fire lighter for burning off, toolkit and safety cones to a cost of \$900.

Extract courtesy The Gawler Bunyip.

Syd Martin recently attended a 3 day officers school at CFS Headquarters, Adelaide. In the near future a course will be held over a period of weeks, so members and anyone interested can receive the information learnt by officers attending these schools.

New Pump Units Gift from Apex

Two mobile firefighting pumps which can be used in situations inaccessible by fire units, were presented to the Mount Lofty Training Centre by the Zone President of Apex, Mr Bob Babidge recently.

Mr Charlie Rosewarne, group captain of the centre, said that the pumps could be connected to a water tank, dam or swimming pool of a house and would give sufficient pressure to protect the house and surrounding area to a distance of 300 feet.

The pumps were demonstrated after the presentation.

The presentation took place at the passing out ceremony of local firemen of the CFS who had recently completed their training course.

In making the presentation of certificates to the firemen who graduated as second class firemen after their training course, Mr Rosewarne said that being a member of the CFS was a family concern.

'You cannot be a voluntary fireman and go off regularly to training, to meetings and to fires, if you do not have your family behind you.'

Certificates were presented to Messrs. Wayne Boyd, Rod Cooper, Carsten Dahl, Peter Harris, Doug Harper, Warren Lock, Craig Holt, Grahame Humphrey, Bruce King, Warren Lock, John Meikle, Anthony Milne, Alan Morgan, Brian Morgan, Darryl Morgan, Grahame Morgan, Michael Pickering, Murray Rice, Bryan Richards, Derek Stubbs, Robert Turner, David Twist, John Wright, Murray Pope, and Marigail Grant and Christine O'Brien.

In addition to the pumps for the CFS Training Centre, Apex had donated money to a number of organisations that helped fire victims. These included the Meals on Wheels, Salvation Army and St Vincent de Paul.



New Fire Alarm System CFS phone 'hook-up'

Mallala Country Fire Services is now operating under a new multi-phone answering service and fire alarm control system.

The system involves a 'hook-up' to seven homes of CFS members plus the District Council office and has been especially installed by Telecom.

Previously, when a fire call has been received at the Mallala exchange the operator has rung the siren to warn volunteers that there was a fire.

Now, when a person telephones the fire emergency number (27 2000) eight phones ring simultaneously, of which any five can be answered by a CFS member.

The personnel then decide if they can handle the matter themselves or whether the fire alarm should be sounded to summon all members.

To activate the siren one of the members can then press a button located on his telephone.

One benefit of the new system is that members can screen the calls so that hoax calls and wrong numbers do not result in the siren being sounded.

It is believed Mallala St John Ambulance Service, which is also operating on a multi-phone system—is the first country service to switch to the new method.

ORROROO CFS BUILDING WILL BE EXTENDED

A 6 m x 9 m extension to the Country Fire Service building has been approved in principle by the District Council. Alterations approved include three rooms with the largest being a recreation, training and meeting room for CFS members. A toilet and kitchen are also planned.

According to District Clerk, Mr E. D. Spencer, the extensions may cost about \$6 000. The rooms would be lined and insulated.

The CFS Ladies Auxiliary has been approached to provide funds for the project and a 50 per cent subsidy will be requested of the State CFS. Plans are currently being drawn up.

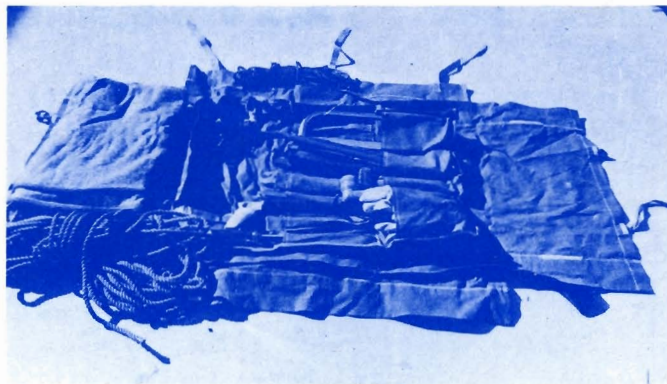
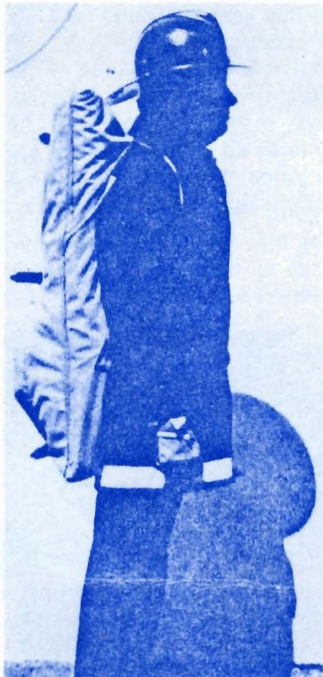


NEW ZEALAND ACCIDENT/ RESCUE KIT

Pictured is the basic New Zealand 'Rescue Tool Roll', that is designed for use as a back pack, to allow the wearer full mobility.

The Kit consists of twenty-six items—

- 1—Canvas carry-all/emergency stretcher.
- 1—Canvas tool roll.
- 1—Metal cutting lever.
- 1—Phillips screwdriver.
- 1—Cold chisel, long stem.
- 1—Hacksaw.
- 1—Swivel saw.
- 1—Pair heavy duty wire cutters.
- 1—Pair leather gloves.
- 1—100 ft. line.
- 1—15ft. line.
- 1—Crescent spanner, 6 inch.
- 1—Entrenching tool.
- 1—Survival sheet.
- 2—Sets canvas slings.
- 1—Knife.
- 1—Screwdriver, heavy duty.
- 1—Club hammer.
- 3—Power saw blades.
- 3—Metal/wood blades.
- 1—Safety hand lamp.
- 1—Blanket.
- 1—50 ft. line.
- 2—Yellow wax crayons.
- 1—Crescent spanner, 10 inch.
- 1—Wrecking bar.



Country Fire Services Headquarters are awaiting delivery of a 'Rescue Tool Roll' Kit for appraisal. Editor.

FRONT MOUNTED PUMP

PUMP:

Pictured—a popular design used by New Zealand Fire Service Brigades. A Darley Champion Model HF 400 single stage, transmission driven, centrifugal fire pump, front mounted. Complete with disconnect clutch which disengages the crankshaft drive when pumping is not required.

Pump casing—alloy cast iron. Pump area has steel bull bar suitable for providing two crew protection. Standing area has heavy duty mesh grille to support crew.

PRIMER: Rotary type electrically driven complete with lubrication reservoir and pump panel control.

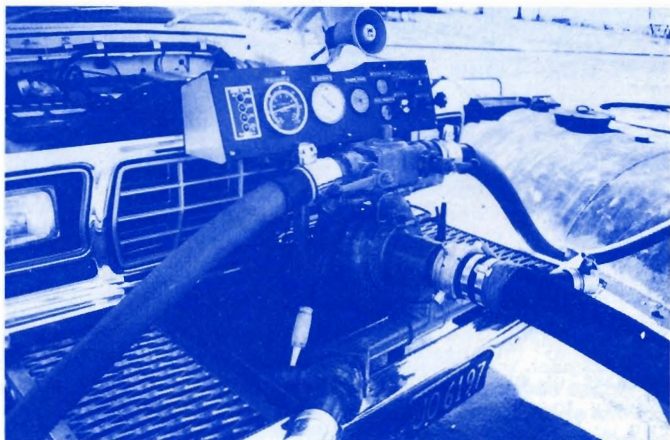
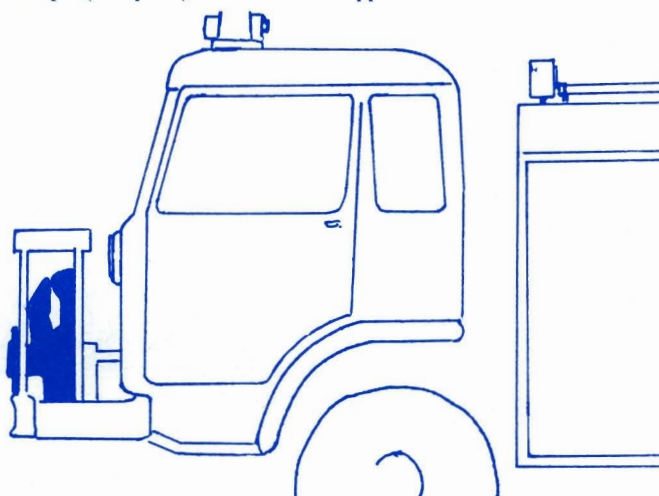
PERFORMANCE: Stationary: 33 litres per second (440 g.p.m.) at 700 Kpa (100 p.s.i.) or 4.5 litres

per second (60 g.p.m.) at 2 400 Kpa (350 p.s.i.).

Pump and Roll—same performance as stationary is possible. Meets all UL Class A performances and NFPA Standard 1901 for automotive fire apparatus.

The advantage of a front mounted pump, is that the water tank can be designed over the rear axle to give a better weight ratio. Tank capacity can be increased, better weight distribution achieved and this balance can improve the vehicles braking and steering. The vehicle can also be driven at any speed with the pump engaged.

This system has been well adopted in New Zealand for rural application.



OBITUARY

EDWIN M. MARTY, 15 August 1979
RONALD T. LORANT, 15 August 1979
STEVEN R. MANLEY, 15 August 1979
SCOTT W. COX, 3 February 1980

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
SAN LUIS OBISPO RANGER UNIT
NIPOMO FIRE STATION
REGION V
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

On 15 August 1979, at approximately 1615, Fire Captain Edwin Marty, Firefighters Ronald Lorant and Steve Manley died while working on the Spanish Ranch Fire. On 3 February 1980, 202 days later, Firefighter Scott Cox died of respiratory and cardiac complications after a long hospitalisation for burns he had received on the fire.

Marty's crew, from the Nipomo Fire Station, had all completed their forty hour Basic Forest Firefighter Training and appeared to have been highly motivated.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

At 1550, Captain Marty and his crew reported to Fire Boss at the command post on Carrizo Canyon Road (see map). Marty's assignment was to lead his three men, equipped with hand tools, two back pumps and fuses, to the top of hill 2465 via the bulldozer line. Marty's crew was to provide protection for dozer operator (C) and to backfire only in the event that it became necessary for everyone's safety. Marty and his firefighters were able to begin their assignment within five minutes of their arrival at the command post.

At approximately 1610, Santa Barbara County Fire Department bulldozer and operator (F) arrived at the command post. His assignment from the Fire Boss was to proceed to operator (C) position and assist in completing the dozer line to hill 2465.

In the bottom of the steep ravines to the south and to the foot of hill 2465, the fire burned through the unattended fire retardant lines which had been established by the air tankers. Within seconds, after burning through the retardant lines, a finger of fire raced up the chimney of a ravine and penetrated the uppermost south face of the peak, extending to the crest. Westerly twenty-five to thirty mile per hour winds aloft over the fire, unpredictably surfaced and acted upon the finger of the fire and, together with the complex topography, created a new firehead, driven northerly and easterly.

As the finger of the fire crested hill 2465, Airco (T) called bulldozer operator (C) and informed him that he should probably start back down the hill. During that conversation, the fire boss inquired as to whether or not that part of the dozer line that had already been constructed could be saved. Airco (T) replied that he didn't think so, unless it could be fired out immediately. Immediately after this exchange, Airco (T) advised operator (C) that he definitely could not beat the fire to the top of the hill and to head back down the line. Operator (C) requested air support, to which Airco (T) responded that he had no air tankers over the fire. Within two or three minutes, at approximately 1615 hours, the entire northern flank erupted into a high intensity fire, driving through the light-flashy fuels toward the ridge where operator (C) and Captain Marty and his crew were located.

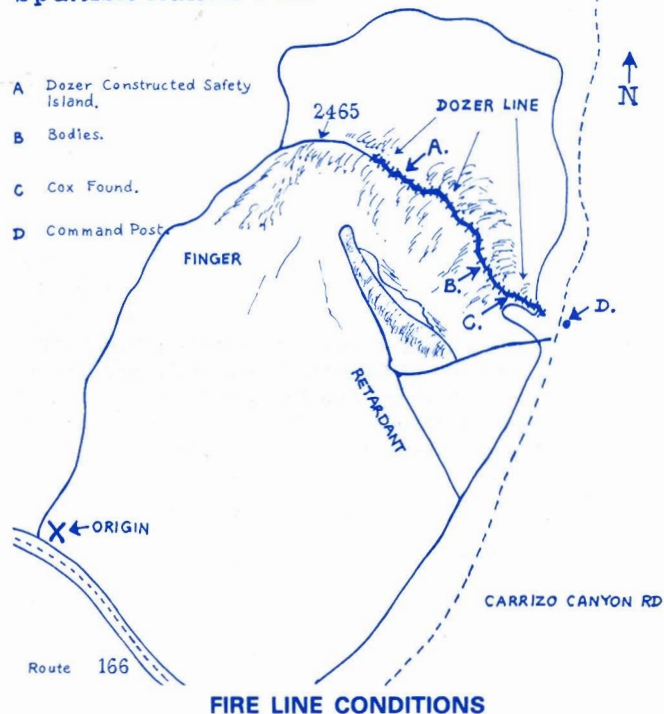
Operator (C) had time to construct a safety island four blades wide, park his bulldozer, lower the two fire resistant side curtains on the bulldozer, and wrap himself within a fire resistant blanket, before the flames enveloped him and his machine. Within a minute or two, Captain Marty and his crew, located approximately five hundred yards down the ridge to the east, were subjected to extreme heat as the fire raced toward them. Marty called the fire boss to inform him that he would not be able to reach operator (C) before he would have to start firing his line. The fire boss told him to go ahead if it was necessary. A few moments later, Marty

reported that the fire had crossed the dozer line. Marty attempted backfiring operations in order to provide a safety island for his crew. Spot fires erupted to the north of the dozer line, which together with the onrushing flames from the south, overwhelmed them within a firestorm.

Captain Marty and Firefighters Lorant and Manley elected to hold their position on the ridge, and all three died instantly as smoke and flames overwhelmed them. Death to all three is attributed to haemorrhagic pulmonary edema and third degree total body surface burns, due to inhalation of hot gases and burns.

Firefighter Cox ran easterly down the ridge and escaped with grave injuries (second and third degree burns over sixty per cent of his body). At approximately 1620, Santa Barbara County bulldozer operator (F) saw a badly burned man (Cox) emerge from the smoke to the west of the dozer line. Cox's rescue, treatment and transportation to the Sherman Oaks Burn Center was handled without delays utilizing the most professional medical personnel available. He was treated on the fire line with water application and placing him in a 'Santa Clara Burn Bag'. A rescue unit arrived at the scene and he was further stabilised by a physician before beginning his helicopter flight to the Goleta Hospital and Sherman Oaks Burn Center. Although every effort was made to save Firefighter Cox, he died 202 days later.

Spanish Ranch Fire



Weather:

1. Temperature 84 (from Simmler FS).
2. Wind—Erratic 5-10 m.p.h.—Just prior to the accident, winds became increasingly stronger and switched from light upcanyon to westerly gusty, up to 30 m.p.h.

Fuel:

Loading 3-4 tons per acre.

1. The lower slopes were covered with light flashy fuels with an overstorey of blue oak.
2. The middle and upper slopes were covered with yucca, light brush, sage and scattered juniper. Grass was intermingled with all of the fuels.
3. Approximately 80% of the brush was dead. Grasses made up about 50% of the total fuel available.
4. There were two years of grass crop available with the 1978 year's crop being matted and clustered in, around and under the heavier fuels. The 1979 year's grass had filtered up through the matted material and provided an extremely flashy fuel bed.

continued page 28

Fire Line Conditions—continued

- Live fuel moisture below 60% is at the critical level in California for live chamise. Samples taken show:

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| California Sagebrush | 53.93% |
| White Sage Tips | 66.06% |
| White Sage Stems | 65.88% |

Topography:

- Elevation varied from 1430' to 2465'. Accident occurred at approximately 1885'.
- Average slope below accident site is 60%.
- Average slope of dozer line where accident occurred is 35%.
- Chimneys are present on each side of the accident site.
- Ridges and canyons run parallel and perpendicular to the ridge where accident occurred.

CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

A strong coastal inversion caused a wind shear. This wind shear resulted in turbulence in the winds aloft over the fire area. Surface heating of the slopes in the fire area resulted in sufficient convective activity to transport the turbulent gusts to the surface. At one moment, the fire was experiencing light upslope winds; then the higher windspeeds, produced by turbulence, surfaced rapidly, increasing winds and shifting the direction to westerly.

The occurrence of the surfacing eddy turbulence with the fire on the steep terrain was *coincidental*. The fire, burning predominantly in fine fuels, responded quickly to the wind change.

Using National Fire Danger Rating fuel Model 'T' consisting of sagebrush and grass which best fits the fuel types for this fire the following information is obtained for the slopes immediately below the accident site:

Rate of spread—234 feet per min.
Intensity—2000 BTU/sec/ft
Flame length—15 feet

With this type of burning, major fire runs can be expected and all control efforts at the head would be ineffective.

This article was reproduced as a tribute to the officers of the California Department of Forestry, San Luis Obispo Ranger Unit, Nipomo Fire Station; Fire Captain E. Marty and Fire officers R. Lorant, S. Manley and S. Cox for their dedication to duty, and who's heroic firefighting attempts cost them their lives.

Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are extended to their next of kin. Editor.

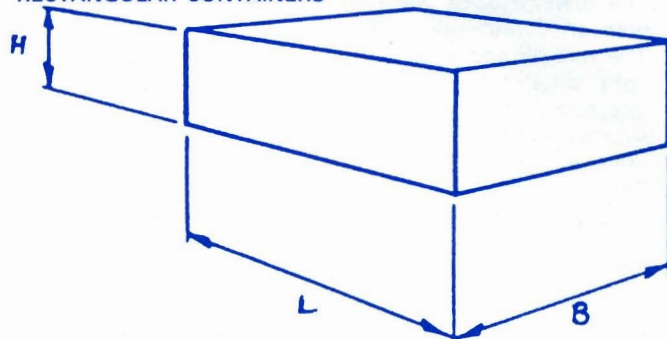
Calculation of Water Supplies

A fireman is always interested in knowing how much water is available for firefighting. By knowing the amount of water available and the output of his pump he can make a fairly accurate estimation on how long the water supply will last and if additional supplies will be necessary.

To calculate the volume of a container three lengths must be multiplied. Basically this means multiplying the surface area (using two lengths) by the depth. Providing the volume is calculated in cubic metres (m³), the total capacity of the container in litres can be obtained by multiplying the volume by 1,000.

Some of the formulae set out below are approximate only and have been developed for ease of calculation.

RECTANGULAR CONTAINERS



Volume = Length x Breadth x Height (or Depth)—in Metres.

= L x B x H (or D)

Capacity = L x B x H x 1 000 Litres

Example: If L = 10 metres

B = 3 metres

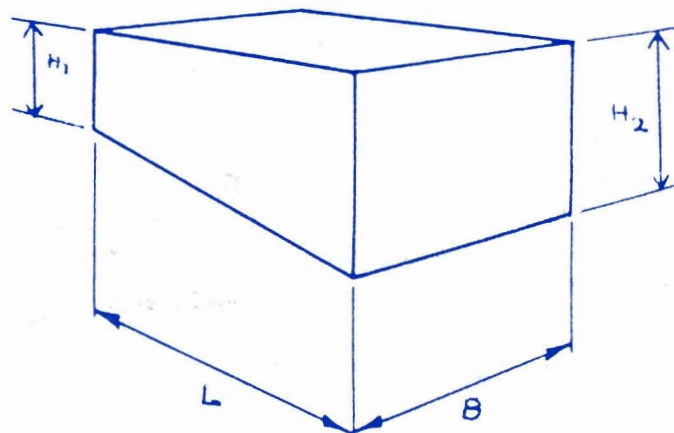
H = 2 metres

Volume = 10 x 3 x 2 = 60 m³

or 60 000 L (if full of water)

or 60 tonnes

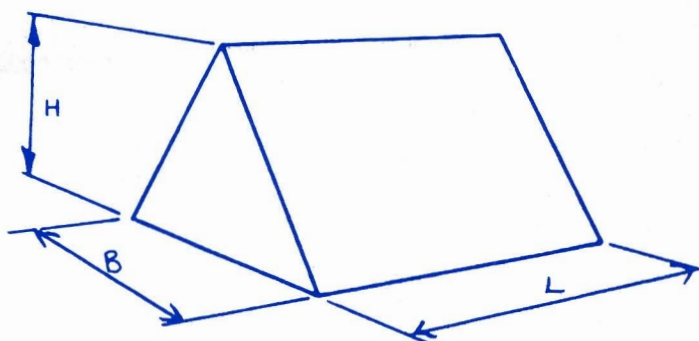
RECTANGULAR CONTAINERS, SLOPING BASE



Volume = L x B x $\frac{H_1 + H_2}{2}$ (in Metres)

Multiply by 1 000 for capacity in Litres

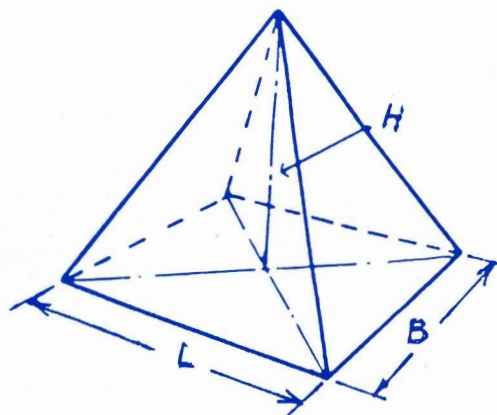
TRIANGULAR TANKS



Volume = L x B x $\frac{H}{2}$ (in Metres)

Capacity = L x B x $\frac{H}{2}$ x 1 000 Litres

CONICAL OR PYRAMID TANKS



Pyramid

Volume = L x B x H (in Metres)

$\frac{1}{3}$

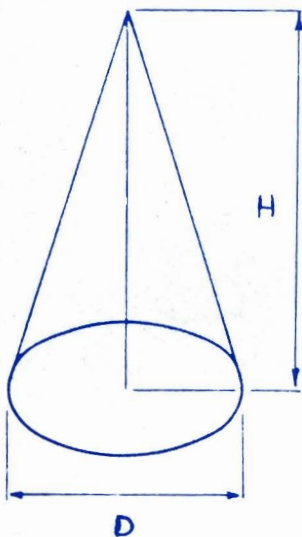
or

Capacity = Area Base x H x 1 000 litres

$\frac{1}{3}$

continued page 29

CONE



$$\text{Volume} = 0.8 \frac{D^2 \times H}{3}$$

(in Metres)

$$\text{Capacity} = 800 \frac{D^2 \times H}{3}$$

(Litres)

SPHERES



$$\text{Volume} = \frac{1}{6} D^3 \text{ (in Metres)}$$

$$\text{Capacity} = 500 D^3 \text{ (Litres)}$$

CYLINDRICAL CONTAINERS



$$\text{Volume} = 0.8 \times D^2 \times L \text{ (in Metres)}$$

$$\text{Capacity} = 800 D^2 \times L \text{ or}$$

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{8C^2h}{100} \text{ (in Metres)}$$

where C = Circumference of Cylinder

$$\text{Capacity} = 80C^2h \text{ (Litres)}$$

VOLUME OF IRREGULAR PONDS

A rough calculation can be made for any very irregular shaped body of water by:

$$\text{Volume (m}^3\text{)} = \frac{1}{2} (\text{area of surface} \times \text{average depth})$$

This would be suitable for dams or ponds.

PIPES AND HOSES



Diameters of pipes and hoses are usually expressed in millimetres. Volume calculations for these are worked in cubic decimetres, for direct conversion to litres.

Allowing for d in millimetres and length in metres, the formula becomes:

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{8 d^2 L}{10\,000} \text{ (Litres)}$$

By calculation:

30 metre length of 25 mm. diameter hose holds 15 litres (approx.)

30 metres length of 38 mm. hose holds 35 litres (approx.)

30 metre length of 64 mm. hose holds 100 litres (approx.)

Information Centre

S.A. COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES

Information Centre



The SA Country Fire Services erected a wall 'run on' 'Information Centre' Booth 15ft wide x 10ft deep, in the Keith Angus Hall, during the 1980 Royal Adelaide Show, Friday 29 August to Saturday 6 September.

tastefully finished off with green carpet squares on the floor.

Parents and children queued up each day to receive free fire prevention material, a colouring-in book, leaflet, poster, window sash and eyeshade supplied in a free show bag. The majority of people complimented the CFS for a free show bag and went away explaining to their children about Smokey Koala (SA Country Fire-Services Fire Prevention Symbol), displayed on the bag.

The total 10 000 show bags and eyeshades were used at the Royal Show.

The television monitor screened extracts from television news reports on the Ash Wednesday Fire, and continually drew crowds who watched the whole coverage before moving on.

Very few visitors asked questions but the majority were contented with collecting circulars related to 'Incinerators and Burning Rubbish', 'Barbecues and Campfires', 'Fire Ban Maps' and 'Sprinklers for House Protection'.

The Circular 'Fire Safety with Farm Machinery' proved of interest among the country visitors.

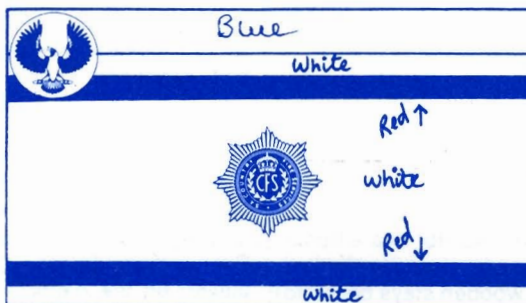
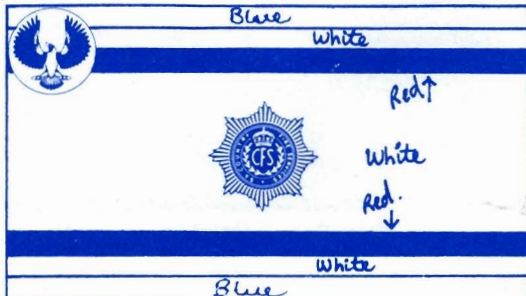
P. MILLS, CFS
Publicity/Promotions Officer



SHOULD THE CFS HAVE A FLAG—continued . . .

New suggestions:

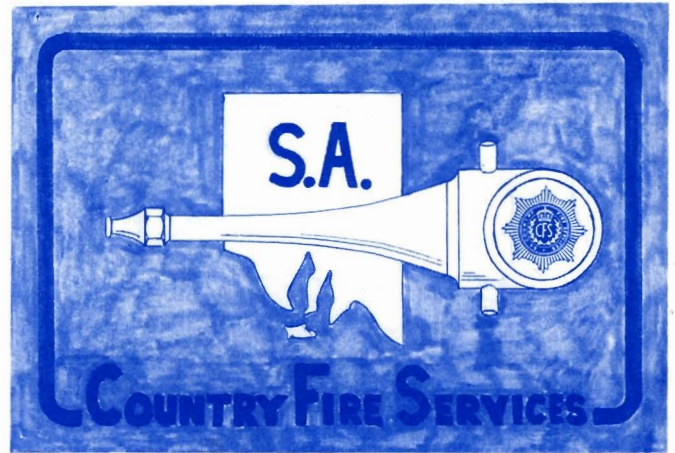
(1) Three designs (below) have been submitted by Mr Fred Pinnington, Vice President, Price CFS. The designs incorporate both the State and CFS Emblems, the standard CFS colours and a blue sash to represent the Helicopter which is now in service.



(2) The Nairne CFS Womens Auxiliary (Mrs A. Morriss, Secretary) advised of their support on the idea of a flag for the CFS. They have arranged a competition for a flag design in the local school and are hoping for a good response. One suggestion made—A flag showing 'Smokey Koala' on the right hand side holding the insignia of the CFS, with the name of the unit printed on the bottom left hand corner.



(3) Mr R. A. Swann, 23 Crase Street, Kapunda enclosed a design that consists of a CFS emblem centred on a white background with a thick red vertical stripe down each end of the flag.



(4) Yet another creative idea comes from Mr Arthur Tundall, Tea Tree Gully CFS: The centre piece of the design is an outline of our State with a branch pipe across it. The branch pipe has the CFS emblem incorporated at one end (right). These are ringed by a broad band (border all round) which is split by the words Country Fire Services. The branch pipe and broadband both symbolise the same thing, i.e. the CFS covers the State.

The colour scheme used is optional with the dominant background colour being that of a parched countryside in summer (yellow/brown). The band being that of the green of winter and the branch would be in contrast to these (i.e. white with blue or black outline).

Another option would be a white background with the band being of the same design as the red and white reflective bands now displayed on our fire units. The State could be green and the branch bronze.

Thank you for the above contributions and ideas . . . now how about some suggestions and designs from our other Volunteer brigades and readers. Editor

World trends in the use of halons

(PART II)

POTENTIAL AND ACCEPTANCE

Halon 2402 appears to be evolving with more potential and wider acceptance than 1202. The most significant development of 2402 has been in Italy, where developers and manufacturers are looking toward this agent as a companion to some of the well established foam or dry chemical agents to extinguish petroleum fires. The most recent report is by Dr Nicola Rainaldi, who is recognised as a world authority on Halon 2402.

There seems to be some confusion over the relative toxicity of 2402. Dr Rainaldi states 2402 as being in Group 5 (UL rating), whilst the NFPA Handbook places 2402 in Group 4.

Halon 2402 does appear to possess a favourable extinguishing ability, but a fatal accident during human exposure tests under Dr Rainaldi's programme has not helped to enhance the popularity or future development of 2402 as an extinguishing medium.

In the historical development of halon extinguishants, research has been carried out into the development of halogenated hydrocarbon foam or halo foam extinguishants. The report shows that the purpose of this particular research was to determine if an agent superior to CB could be developed for use in portable extinguishers installed in aircraft, for use on Class A, B and C fires.

A number of tests were conducted, using combinations of both aqueous and non-aqueous foam compounds and halon chemicals.

continued on page 31

Halons—continued

Results tended to indicate that the best results were obtained with a 1211/foam compound. Whilst recommendations were made to extend development of this work, I have not been able to find any further material on the subject to date.

Before moving away from the historical aspect of halons, there are two large countries about which we know very little by way of extinguishment.

I have not been able to find any current information about halon protection in China and Russia is similar, except that Halon 1211 has been supplied for aircraft protection.

BCF and BTM

Before looking at the two principal halon extinguishants, I would like to cover some basic facts about how the halons got their name. Even today there is still some confusion about nomenclature, and if the student of fire engineering can use this paper as a reference text, then its purpose will have been achieved.

The term halogen refers to a group of elements consisting of fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, and a little known element called astatine. Chlorides, bromides and iodides are typical solutes of sea water and the family as a whole is known as the 'halogen' family, derived from the Greek words meaning salt producer. There are literally thousands of halogenated compounds in existence, but of these fewer than two dozen could be effectively used for extinguishing fires, and only about six of these have been considered as suitable for use in significant quantities.

The halogen agents which have found use as extinguishing agents have been derived from Methane (CH_4) and Ethane (CH_3CH_3)—both hydrocarbon compounds.

Hence, we have seen developed the name 'halogenated hydrocarbon'. The effect of substituting a hydrogen atom in the hydrocarbon with either fluorine, bromine or chlorine is well stated in the NFPA Handbook.

Since compounds produced are difficult to refer to in terms of chemical jargon, the identification of the agents through a numbering system has been devised by the American Army Corps of Engineers.

The first digit in the halon number represents the number of carbon atoms in the molecule.

The second digit represents the number of fluorine atoms.

The third digit represents the number of chlorine atoms.

The fourth digit represents the number of bromine atoms.

The fifth digit represents the number of iodine atoms.

This system has practically gained world-wide acceptance, but in Australia and New Zealand at least we still tend to refer to CTC, MB (or MeBr) CB, BCF and BTM. This is all very well for these but becomes somewhat cumbersome if we are dealing with a large number of halon compounds which are not easily abbreviated in letter form, or are less commonly known.

It is not proposed in this paper to discuss the chemistry of combustion and flame inhibition related to halon extinguishment. There are a number of well documented theories which are available for the fire engineering student to consider, and are outside the intentions of this paper. It is sufficient to say that even at this stage of halon development, the chemistry associated with inhibition is still not fully understood.

In New Zealand, the introduction of 1211 occurred in the early 1960s, and 1301 has really only come to our attention in the last couple of years. I have become somewhat disturbed to hear such general phrases as 'one is much better than the other' and '1301 is much less toxic than 1211'. I believe that playing one extinguishant against the other in very broad terms is defeating the concept and development of this particular form of extinguishing medium. I liken it to two top athletes reluctantly competing against one another—one is a short distance sprinter and the other a marathon runner. They can both run, but in certain situations one has an advantage over the other, in other situations it is hard to tell the difference between them.

DISCOUNTING FALLACIES

I propose, therefore, to factually discuss the two agents, including weaknesses and strengths in the hope that some of the fallacies built around these substances will be discounted.

Firstly, why have we got two halon 'brothers' competing with each other? You will have deduced from my earlier statements that the development of these substances was paralleled—1211 in the UK and 1301 in the United States. As the result of this each has tended to remain the favourite in his own right. In a sense, I suppose, the New Zealand fire protection scene is once again the recipient of the 'best of both worlds'. Certainly in the United States the emphasis on the use of 1301 for fixed systems—especially for total flooding systems—has remained, whilst the development of 1211 in Europe for local application and portable use has been more pronounced. With the realisation now of just how poorly carbon dioxide is performing in the local application field, it is now only a matter of time before portable CO_2 extinguishers and fixed systems become objects of a past era.

Chemically both agents are similar. Both contain a central carbon atom and one atom of bromine, which is attributed with giving these agents their high degree of fire extinguishing effectiveness. Halon 1301 contains additionally three atoms of fluorine, which impart chemical and thermal stability to the molecule, whereas Halon 1211 contains two atoms of fluorine and one of chlorine. Thus in general chemical terms, Halon 1301 is more volatile, more stable, less dense and less toxic than Halon 1211. At the same time, hence the fluorine content of a halogenated compound accounts for a large measure of its cost, Halon 1301 is inherently more expensive than Halon 1211.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

| Halon Number | BTM 1301 | BCF 1211 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Chemical formula | CBrF_3 | CBrClF_2 |
| Chemical name | bromotrifluoromethane | bromochlorodifluoromethane |
| Boiling point | | |
| Deg. C at 760 mm | -57.9 | -4.0 |
| Freezing point | | |
| Deg. C at 760 mm | -174.4 | -150.5 |
| Liquid density at 21 Deg. C | | |
| gm/cc | 1.57 | 1.83 |
| Heat of vapourisation cal/gm | 28.2 | 32.0 |
| Vapour pressure at 24 Deg. C | | |
| p.s.i.a. | 276 | 38 |

What do some of these physical properties mean in practical terms?

In terms of boiling point, it can be seen that whilst both compounds are in the gaseous state at normal temperatures, BTM vapourises much more readily than BCF. Since the sudden release of the agent from the container is a flash vapourisation, Halon 1301 will be at its boiling point upon discharge and will be largely a vapour cloud with a small amount of liquid—provided that enough is discharged so that the heat capacity of the line, valve and nozzle is not sufficient to completely vapourise at the nozzle. In fact, the discharge of 1301 from a pressure/stored situation is similar to that of a CO_2 discharge. On the other hand Halon 1211, with a higher boiling point, will be a more balanced liquid/vapour mix which does enable a greater throw of extinguishant to be achieved. The lower boiling point of Halon 1301 is often cited as a freezing hazard to personnel who may be inadvertently sprayed with material, whereas such is not the case with Halon 1211. In practice, however, vapourisation of Halon 1301 after discharge is so rapid that skin contact is highly unlikely. An unsubstantiated report of accidental discharge directly into a person's face is stated to have caused injury.

The freezing point is of little practical significance to the user—it merely means that we are handling the two substances in liquid or gaseous form in normal circumstances, but never in the solid state.

SANTA'S HELPERS AT WORK OR PLAY? JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS . . .



It was a hive of activity all through the Aldinga Beach & Area CFS Fire Station when Santa's helpers (Members of the Aldinga Beach and Area CFS) set about the task of filling the popular Monster Xmas Stocking.

Not a murmur was heard . . . not even a mouse (sorry wrong story) anyway, back at the station, at the South Pole? This Monster Xmas Stocking (reputed to be the largest Xmas Stocking Raffle in the Southern area) by now was overflowing. Even Santa Claus would need a double team of reindeers or an International V8 with 5-speed Allison automatic gearbox, Fire Unit complete with flashing lights and standard CFS red and white reflective safety strips (bands), to whisk this stocking away.

Valued at \$400 and 8ft high the stocking contains electrical appliances, games, toys, wine, spirits (Jingle bells, jingle bells etc. . .), nuts, sweets, sports equipment, books, tickets for dinner and so much more.

Raffle tickets are 50c each, and the stocking under security guard will be on display in a charity booth at Colonnades and the Reynella Shopping Centre.

The total proceeds of this fund-raising activity will be allocated towards the \$6 000 needed to equip the new \$48 000 Urban Fire Appliance ordered on behalf of the Aldinga Beach and Area CFS. By the District Council of Willunga. The Council has also granted the Brigade \$10 000 to extend their current garaging to enable them to house the fire appliance.

The District Council of Willunga recognises the rapid expansion of home dwellings within their area, and the subsequent necessity for the Aldinga Beach and Area CFS Brigade to expand not only their services but also the need to acquire additional equipment and facilities to enable the volunteer Brigade to supply the services which modern communities now expect.



STOP PRESS

Mr F. (Fred) L. Kerr., A.M., M.B.E., has been bestowed the award of Honorary Life Membership of the British Fire Services Association.

Hearty congratulations Fred from all your friends and colleagues.
Editor.

Armed forces on fire standby

THE ARMED forces are on permanent standby to back up normal firefighting personnel in a disaster such as the Ash Wednesday fire.

Chief Secretary Allan Rodda said there had always been an understanding whereby the Army, Air Force or other Federal Government forces could be called in.

He was replying to a question in Parliament by Fisher M.P. Stan Evans.

Mr Evans asked what arrangements there were for the State to call on Federal departments for help with personnel and equipment for firefighting in Adelaide.

There was the Army at Keswick, the Air Force at Edinburgh and the Transport Department at West Beach airport.

'Each of these departments has people who are trained in firefighting and have the necessary equipment for firefighting,' Mr Evans said.

SA Fire Brigade members had pointed out they could find it difficult to fight more than one major fire in the metropolitan area at the same time, he said.

Mr Rodda said: 'As I think applied on Ash Wednesday, an arrangement exists between heads of Government, at Premier to Prime Minister level, whereby in the case of an emergency the Army, the Air Force or any other Federal Government instrumentality can be asked for help, and it will be forthcoming.

'The arrangement for the call out of Defence Forces has always existed, and the matter raised is covered by the heads of Government arrangement.'

OBITUARY

The Lamerook CFS pay tribute to the memory of Peter Geczy

who passed away, 14 May 1980.

Peter had been an active member of the Lamerook EFS, from 1961 to 1976.

Members of the Lamerook CFS extend their deepest sympathy to the family.

