

HAZ MAT Co 1

Special Operations Command

Unit

Battalion

Division

1.

151

Brooklyn

7/31/2000

22:00

Box

Borough

Date

Time

Time of Act

Date

2.

MEMBERS RESPONDING

RANK	NAME	UNIT	ASSIGNED UNIT
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Lt. Edmund Connelly

HM-1

HM-1

FF Neil Yank

HM-1

HM-1

FF Dominick Tralli

HM-1

HM-1

FF John Gagliano

HM-1

HM-1

FF Denis Carey

HM-1

HM-1

3.

ARE ANY OF THESE MEMBERS BEING RECOMMENDED INDIVIDUALLY FOR MERITORIOUS ACT IN CONNECTION WITH THIS FIRE? NO (If yes - list names)

FF John Giordano

HM-1

E37

FF Philip McArdle

HM-1

HM-1

FF George Hough

HM-1

HM-1

4.

LOCATION OF UNIT OPERATIONS:

a) If in building: Address \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ Construction \_\_\_\_\_

Occupancy \_\_\_\_\_ Number of apartments in building \_\_\_\_\_

Floor(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

b) If not in building: Give complete descriptive information so that physical setting can be recreated.

5.

PERSON(S) AIDED:

NAME	
ADDRESS	
AGE - SEX	
RESCUE BREATHING	
EXTERNAL CARDIAC MASSAGE	
RESUSCITATOR APPLIED	
HOSPITALIZED	
NAME OF HOSPITAL	
DIAGNOSIS	
LENGTH OF HOSPITALIZATION	

REPORT OF UNIT CITATION

HAZ MAT: 1  
Unit  
Aug 17, 2000  
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6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

I respectfully request the Board of Merit consider Hazardous Materials Company #1 for a unit citation based on the following information.

At approximately 2221 hours, Haz-Mat 1 responded to Brooklyn Box 0151 to assist operating forces at trying to contain a running gasoline fire from a 9000-gallon DOT 406 tanker. Upon our arrival at the scene, the following conditions existed.

A DOT 406, 9,000 gallon, gasoline Tanker had overturned on the entrance ramp to the BQE at McGuinness Blvd. The product was leaking from the container; the spilled material (gasoline UN#1203) found an ignition source and was on fire. The ignited product was running down the entrance ramp along the curb, and what was not going into the drain, was running along the curb westbound along on the BQE service road. Two Tower ladders were in operation and 3 hand lines using foam were in the process of being established.

The tasks that the members of Hazardous Materials Company #1 would perform over the next 5 ½ hours were:

- I. Diverting the product away from the storm drains
- II. Perform damage assessment of container
- III. Building and maintaining a containment system for the product & runoff
- IV. Separating product and run-off
- V. Extinguishing portions of the container fire
- VI. Providing product containment & over packing
- VII. Air monitoring
- VIII. Providing MSDS for exposures
- IX. Assisting the Clean-up contractors with the removal of all hazardous materials
- X. Providing Technical Assistance to EMS & Squad 41 operating at another simultaneous incident during this operation

Upon arrival at the scene the **Officer (Lt. Edmond Connelly)** and the **Entry Team (FF's Philip McArdle & John Giordano)** received a briefing from the incident commander on several tasks that needed to be accomplished. During this time the **Back-up Team (FF's Neil Yank & Dominic Tralli)** were involved in assembling the needed tools, equipment and protective clothing for the beginning of a Foam Operation. Immediately after this briefing, the **Entry Team** began the initial reconnaissance in close proximity to the burning container. The initial reconnaissance was for damage assessment purposes to determine the best courses of action. This required using monitoring and detection equipment to determine safe areas where fuel that was extinguished; that could re-ignite. As this was occurring the **Back-up Team** along with Lt. Connelly and some members of Squad 252 established a Foam operation using Pyrocool (an experimental foam). This foam was effective in knocking down and extinguishing fire in the center compartments of the gasoline tanker. When this foam was completely used during the extinguishments efforts, the Back-up Team continued the foam operation and switched to

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6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

conventional foam to maintain the foam blanket after extinguishments. The Entry Team members made a close observation of the container to determine if it was going to be possible to control the leaking gasoline. This required a close visual inspection with a thermal imaging camera to examine the portion of the container resting on the roadway. Upon inspection it was found that several areas of the container in contact with the road surface were leaking which virtually eliminated the possibility of plugging and patching leaks. We were now going to try to contain the product. The Decon Team (FF's John Gagliano & Dennis Carey) began the process of acquiring all the containment material (Our containment material was not of sufficient quantity for the large volume of runoff being created. 2 tower ladders as well as 3 hand lines were in operation.) for diverting runoff around the sewers to a retention area. Total containment was going to be impossible, this necessitated switching tactics; the Decon Team built an under flow dam to allow runoff to continue and still trap the gasoline. The Decon Team then started to build a containment area for capturing product and separating it from runoff. As the containment area grew in size the Resource Man (FF George Hough) was busy making notifications and receiving information from and to other city agencies. While doing this task, he was also assisting another squad by providing technical information on a simultaneous incident in another part of the city. The Resource Man also made a number of phone calls to determine the owner of the container as well as to the clean up contractors to give direction and guidance as to the location, type of containment vessel, capacities that would be required for a successful cleanup operation. In addition to all of these duties we were providing EMS with MSDS's (material safety data sheets). This became necessary because the gas station attendant, in fear of his safety deployed the dry chemical fire protection system. This resulted in several exposures to civilians who got the extinguishing agent in their eyes. The Entry Team brought the MSDS to EMS and advised them on Decon methods.

Once the fire was under control, the efforts of Haz-Mat 1 now switched from an aggressive foam attack to one of product retention and containment. While other units continued to be relieved, Haz-Mat 1 continued to operate. Incident stabilization was now completed. A number of recovery drums were brought to the scene because of the difficulty of getting the recovery vehicle to the scene in a timely manner. These drums were moved into position near the retention area; because the DOT 406 continued to leak. Haz-Mat 1 avoided more loss of product from the retention area by over packing the gasoline using nine 85-gallon containers and several smaller containers. Upon arrival of the recovery vehicle, the members of Haz-Mat 1 assisted and supervised the safe product transfer of between 1,200 - 1,500 gallons of gasoline to the recovery vehicle.

After approximately 5 ½ hours of working in a wide variety of situations the members of Hazardous Materials Company #1 were finally released from the scene. For their hard work and accomplishments under a variety of conditions I respectfully recommend they be given serious consideration for a Unit Citation.

Respectfully submitted

*Edmund Connelly*

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6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

7. RECOMMENDATION:

Deputy Chief

Division

Date

