

Hazardous Materials Co. 1

Special Operations Command

Unit

Battalion

Division

2-2 0724

Brooklyn

Sept. 13, 1991

2048 hrs

1.

2100-2230 hrs

9/13/91

Date

Time

Time of Act

Date

2.

MEMBERS RESPONDING

RANK	NAME	UNIT	ASSIGNED UNIT
Capt.	Brian McCarthy	Haz-Mat	S.O.C.
FF.	James Hay	" "	Haz-Mat 1
"	Philip H. McArdle	" "	" "
"	Walter Henry	" "	" "
"	Natale Russo	" "	" "
"	Larry Singletary	" "	" "
"	John Hack	" "	" "
"	Joseph Proscia	" "	" "

3.

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

4.

LOCATION OF UNIT OPERATIONS:

a) If in building: Address 426 Troutman  
 Height 1 story Area 75X100 Construction Brick  
 Occupancy Commerical Number of apartments in building n/a  
 Floor(s) N/A Room N/A

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

5.

PERSON(S) AIDED:

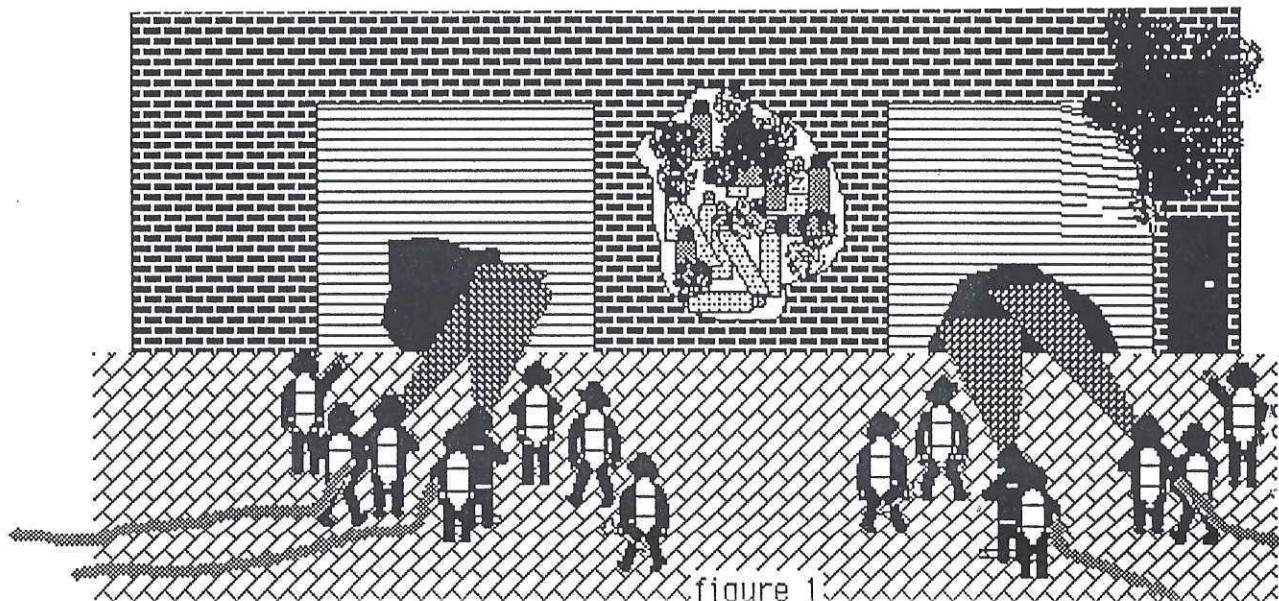
NAME	
ADDRESS	
AGE - SEX	
RESCUE BREATHING	
EXTERNAL CARDIAC MASSAGE	
RESUSCITATOR APPLIED	
HOSPITALIZED	
NAME OF HOSPITAL	
DIAGNOSIS	
LENGTH OF HOSPITALIZATION	

## 6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

On 9/13/91 Hazardous Materials Company #1 was special called to Brooklyn Box 22-0724 for a fire in a commercial occupancy. The building was a one story taxpayer which was identified as GCM IRON WORKS the address being 426 Troutman Street. While en route Chief Eberlein of the 28 Battalion directed that Haz-Mat company report to the front of the fire building as soon as they arrived. Two explosions had already occurred with the concussion knocking one firefighter off his feet and injuring him.

The Haz-Mat Officer (Capt. Brian McCarthy) and the Entry Team (firefighters Philip McArdle & James Hay) reported into the command post and were informed of the subsequent explosions by Chief Eberlein. While unsure of the nature of the explosions, assumptions were made by Chief Eberlein, which turned out to be extremely accurate, that the explosions were the results of compressed gas cylinders releasing product.

Forcible entry was being performed by two separate teams, each working independently on the large roll up doors located on the front of the fire bldg. (figure 1). When the explosions occurred this resulted in the door on the right being partially blown out in the upper right corner (figure 1). This created a more difficult forcible entry operation on the right door and access was first gained on the left. Most of the fire seemed to be centered between the two roll up doors. The Decon Team (firefighters Natale Russo & Walter Henry) along with the Backup Team (firefighters Joseph Proscia & Larry Singletary) assisted the operating forces in making a sizable opening. The extent of the damage and the problem was now visible.



6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

Chief Eberlein and Capt. McCarthy along with the Entry Team could now see what had caused the explosions; a large number of oxygen and acetylene cylinders were involved in fire. The cylinders were in disarray; some standing, most appeared to be knocked over. The major concern of the Haz-Mat Officer and the Entry Team was separating the cylinders (oxygen from acetylene) and then undamaged from the damaged. The Haz-Mat Officer explained his concerns and was given permission to start a separation procedure. The Entry Team began a damage and risk assessment of the cylinders. Unaffected oxygen cylinders with direct flame impingement were moved first. Since the cylinders were exposed to flame they had to be cooled with a hand line which was being used for a dual purpose (to protect the entry team & cool the cylinders); this line was operated by the backup team. Conductive heat was being transmitted through the fire gloves requiring several periods where the hands and gloves of the Entry Team had to be cooled with hoselines in order to continue operating. After separating the oxygen from acetylene (figure 2), a systematic removal began of the cylinders which were still on fire.

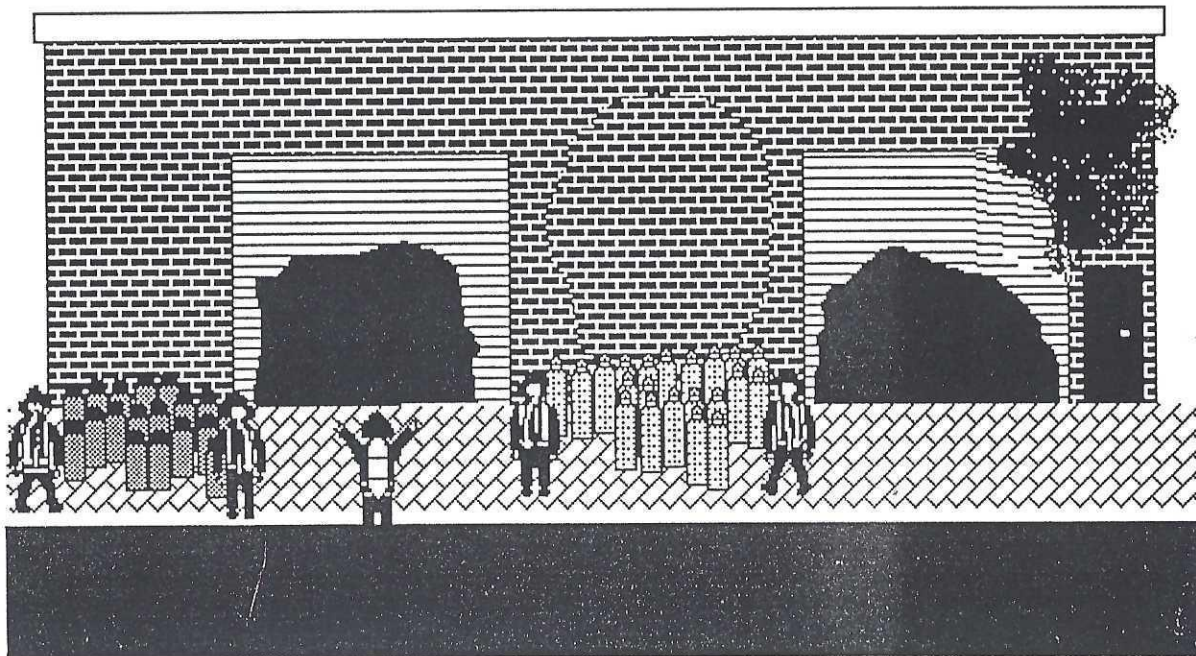
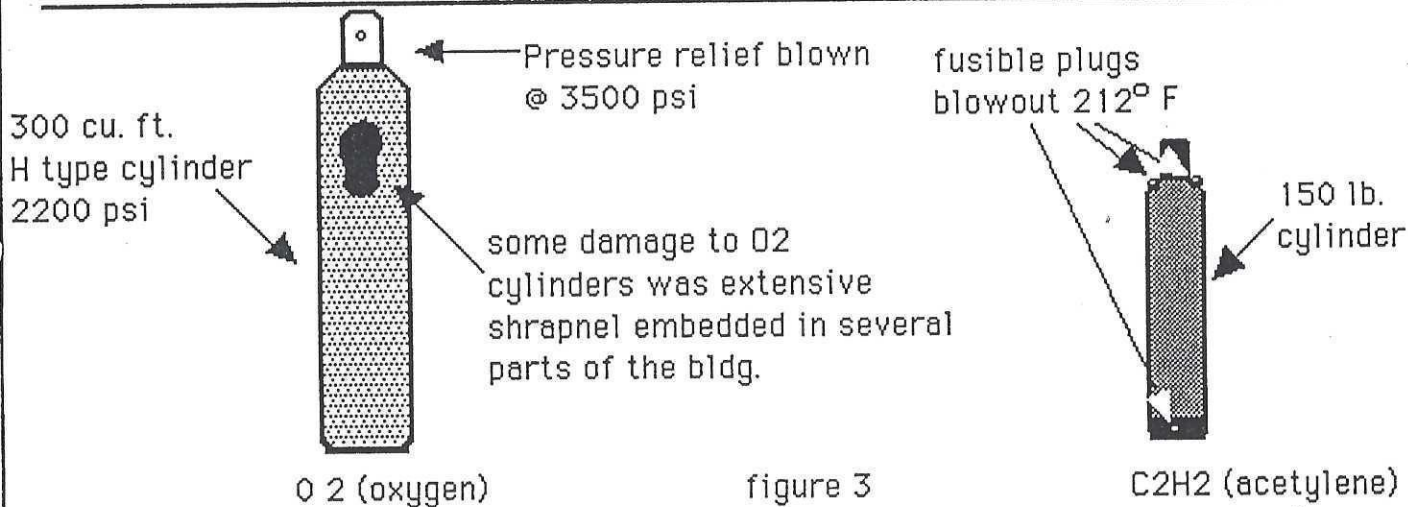


figure 2

6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION

Each cylinder was evaluated and move one at a time to a position where it could cooled. As the cylinders were cooled and extinguished they were moved outside where, the Decon Team was waiting. The Decon Team began the process of plugging the leaking acetylene cylinder's fusible plugs (figure 3) which were still off gassing some residue. The cylinders were examined by the Decon Team with a thermal imaging infrared camera and cylinders which were still hot or questionable were cooled with hoselines. Several oxygen cylinders were examined by the Haz-Mat Officer and Entry Team and seen to have had over-heated structural high intensity tears. One acetylene cylinder had disintegrated with only small fragments remaining (most likely the cause of the largest explosion). As the Entry Team continued to move the cylinders, a fire above their heads started to get out of hand. The Haz-Mat Officer suspended removal operations momentarily while the Backup Team knocked down and extinguished the fire. During the removal operation the Haz-Mat Officer, Entry Team and Backup Team stopped only long enough to make two breathing apparatus changes and work continually until all cylinders were removed from the fire bldg; which allowed other operating forces to then extinguish the remaining fire. This was possible because the Resource Man (firefighter John Hack continued to anticipate the need for additional equipment and had it available as soon as it was needed. The resource man also kept the decon team supplied with equipment.



REPORT OF UNIT CITATION

Haz-Mat 1  
Unit

Sept. 13, 1991  
Date

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6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

The Decon Team succeeded in successfully plugging 58 fusible plugs. There were 19 acetylene and 21 oxygen cylinders involved in the fire. The Haz-Mat Company worked continually without relief demonstrating diligence, perseverance and teamwork until the hazardous condition was eliminated allowing the operating forces to operate more safely and minimize the amount of property damage. For there exceptional effort I respectfully recommend they be considered for a unit citation

Respectfully submitted

7. RECOMMENDATION:

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Deputy Chief

Division

Date

~~THIS IS A COPY OF A PREVIOUS MESSAGE \*\*~~

SIG - ADD'L UNIT ON 2ND ALARM

OM01

\* RESPOND TO BROOKLYN \*  
BOX 0724 - 426 TROUTMAN ST

STNICHOLAS AVE NYCKOFF AVE  
BUILDING FIRE  
INCIDENT# 781

ORIGINAL TIME SENT: 09/13/91 204857\*

*Rear - B  
on Jeff*

D.E.C. NOTIFIED: YES NO / NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(If YES fill out D.E.C. Reporting Form)

*FIRE MARSHALL DEVERY # 252 AND F.M GREEN # 376*

THE ABOVE SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EVERY INCIDENT

NAME OF COMPANY : \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER/SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLES INVOLVED: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ TRUCK \_\_\_\_\_ AUTO \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

OPERATOR OF TRUCK: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

LIC. OF TRUCK/TRACTOR: \_\_\_\_\_ LIC. OF TRAILER: \_\_\_\_\_

OPERATOR OF AUTO: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

LIC. OF AUTO: \_\_\_\_\_ VIN # \_\_\_\_\_

(OVER)

EQUIPMENT USED: (List Everything Used)

(6) ~~SCOTTS~~ SCOTTS (1) NON-SPARKING TOOL KIT  
 (5) FLASHLIGHTS (1) WEDGES & DOWELS KIT  
 (1) THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA  
 (1) HAND TRUCK (24) GOLF TEES  
 (1) LEAK-SEAL KIT  
 (12) BOXES GATORADE

OPERATIONS:

- (1) REMOVED CYLINDERS FROM FIRE SCENE
- (2) PLUGGED LEAKING CYLINDERS - TOP + BOTTOM
- (3) CHECKED WITH THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA FOR FIRE
- (4) CORDONED-OFF CYLINDERS
- (5) Left in HANDS of DIV II AND FIRE MARSHALS

SUIT USE [ENTRY] (Level A-B-C) (C) [SAFETY]: C [DECON]: C  
 SUIT DECON: (Wet - Dry) TYPE OF PERSONAL DECON: N/A  
 (Shower-Hospital, Etc)

DISPOSITION: Left in HANDS of DIV. II + FIRE MARSHALS

CONTAMINATION: N/A

ACTIONS TAKEN PRIOR TO ARRIVAL: N/A

HAZ-MAT MEMBERS RESPONDING

OFFICER: CP. MC CARTHY

ENTRY TEAM: PROSCIA  
MCARDLE  
MAY

DECON TEAM: HENRY  
PROSCIA  
MCARDLE

BACKUP TEAM: RUSO  
SINOLETARY

RESOURCE MAN: HACK

COMPANY OPERATIONS REPORT

28

To: 37-75 Chief HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CO. #1  
Battalion

REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BOX 22-724 DATE 9/13/91 TIME OUT 2048 TIME IN SERVICE 2300

ADDRESS GCM IRON WORKS BLDG. CONSTRUCTION ~~AND COLLISION~~ SHOP  
426 TRAUTMAN ST OCCUPANCY TAXPAYER

NATURE OF INCIDENT BET. ST. NICHOLAS AVE + WYCK OFF AVE (HEAVY-DUTY I BEAMS)  
718-386-3346

TYRE AND AMOUNT OF PRODUCT INVOLVED  
(List Most Toxic First) (OWNER) BALDO CIARAVINO 19 ACETYLENE > CYLINDERS  
21 OXYGEN TANKS (2 BLEVED)

BOROUGH: BKLYN BN. 28 EBERLEIN SIMULTANEOUS INCIDENTS: N/A  
(Box #, and Borough)

INC. #: 781 BAT: 37, GUIDA DIV: 11, BUTLER  
(From Printout) (NO) (Name) (NO) (Name)

TIME 10-84: 2100 SIGNAL: 10-80 (Code) TIME I/S: 2300 TIME A/Q: 2320

P.D. ON SCENE 83 PCT. HARVEY #, 1830 D.E.P. ON SCENE: N/A  
(Name) (Badge #) (Name)

E.M.S. ON SCENE SOD BRAUNSTEIN, 1408 OTHER F.D.: N/A  
(Name) (Badge #) (Rank) (Name)

SAFETY CHIEF - CORDES  
D.E.C. NOTIFIED: YES  NO  NAME X SPILL # X  
(If YES fill out D.E.C. Reporting Form)

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VEHICLES INVOLVED: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ TRUCK \_\_\_\_\_ AUTO \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
OPERATOR OF TRUCK: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
LIC. OF TRUCK/TRACTOR: \_\_\_\_\_ LIC. OF TRAILER: \_\_\_\_\_  
OPERATOR OF AUTO: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
LIC. OF AUTO: \_\_\_\_\_ VIN # \_\_\_\_\_

(OVER)