

LT Coughlin working at SOC FRIDG.

REPORT OF UNIT CITATION

March 1, 2003
Date

Unit: **Haz-Mat Co. 1**

Battalion: **SOC**

Division: **SOC**

1. Box **4197** Borough **Staten Island** Date **2/21/2003** Time **10:15**
Time of Act: **10:15** Date: **2/21/2003**

2. **MEMBERS RESPONDING:**

Rank	Name	Unit	Assigned Unit
LT	Brian Coughlin	HM-1	L-143
FF	Sgro	HM-1	L-160
FF	Napoli	HM-1	E-321
FF	Kelly	HM-1	L-150
FF	Sanchez	HM-1	SQ-288
FF	Regan	HM-1	HM-1
FF	Larocchia	HM-1	HM-1
FF	Robinson	HM-1	BN-11

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

Rank	Name	Unit	Assigned Unit

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.

Port Mobil is a major onshore facility for loading and off-loading petroleum products particularly gasoline, diesel and number 6 fuel oil. The facility consist of 50 bulk storage tanks each holding 35,000 barrels of product, roughly 30,000 feet of piping over 400 acres surround by resident community. At the time of occurrence the facility had two barges containing 60,000 barrels of gasoline in the process of being off-loaded, one of which had exploded sent part of the vessel into the facility damaging piping, equipment and killing two employees.

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

6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

At 10:15 hours Hazardous Material Company 1 (Haz-Mat1) responded to Staten Island third alarm Box 4197 for an explosion at an onshore oil facility. While in-route Haz-Mat1 relayed critical information to the on-scene units via Department dispatcher (land line) about the site in addition to reminding units to monitor for possible radiation, WMD agents, secondary devices and recommended evacuation zones.

Upon arrival, Lt. Coughlin with Entry team (FF Regan and FF Larocchia) and the Decon Team (FF Kelly and FF Sanchez, Sq-288) reported to the staging area command post for a size up briefing by the Chief on scene. The Backup Team (FF Sgro and FF Napoli) repositioned both Haz-Mat apparatus in case this was a terrorist event and prepared the necessary equipment needed for the operation.

Upon arrival to the scene, an initial reconnaissance was conducted by Lt. Coughlin, the Entry Team, and the Decon Team as to what assistance Haz-Mat 1 could provide. The following was reported back to the command post:

- 1.) A 12 inch pipeline adjacent to the area of the Barge fire was found to be severed and leaking gasoline under pressure.
- 2.) An 8 inch pipeline was also founded by Haz-Mat to be leaking gasoline at a rate of 20 gallons per minute.

At this point it was recommended to the Command Post that both HazMat rigs be allowed at the scene to mitigate the leaking pipelines. Port Mobil personnel were requested to shutdown all valves leading from the bulk storage area, however this only slow the flow of product from the compromised pipelines. With fire already threading the second barge it was now critical to contain and stop the flow of fuel issuing under pressure from the severed pipeline to prevent possible exploding. Realizing this, the Entry Team under the direction of Lt. Coughlin enter the area of the pressurized leak to apply a seal Dresser Clamp using ratchet straps under the protection of fog hoseline and secondary foam line. While the seal was being applied, it was now necessary for the Decon team to established containment of the spill using a large decon pool under the broken pipelines. This operation was perform in a efficient, time saving matter that was necessary to prevent further compilation to the overall operations already underway.

After the gasoline leaks were terminated, Hazardous Materials Company 1 members performed protective air monitoring to insure the atmosphere in the vicinity would not be explosive and no carcinogens were impacting fire fighting forces. Other members of Haz-Mat 1 monitored the pipelines utilizing thermal imaging cameras, and air monitoring equipment.

During this operation, members from Haz-Mat 1 entered a warehouse on the terminal to conduct a hazard risk assessment and had determined that the structural integrity of the building had been altered by the explosion. Haz-Mat 1 made notification to the Incident Commander, immediately established a collapse zone perimeter and cordoned off the immediate area.

Multiple entries were required by Haz-Mat 1 members to maintain a proper seal on the pipeline, search for additional leaks/hazards and provide continuous air monitoring for explosive and toxic atmospheres.

7. RECOMMENDATION:

Deputy Chief

Division

Date

Hazardous Material Operation Report

To Battalion 23

From HAZ MAT

Location: 4101 ARTHUR KILL RD.

Type Incident GASOLINE BARGE

Structural Bldg Type

Area

Height

NSType:

NSComments:

Unit Times

Assigned: 02/21/2003 10:15

Arrived: 02/21/2003 11:15

Available: 02/21/2003 20:55

Operational 10:40

Action taken prior to arrival: First due units secured area and started firefighting procedures.

Product Identification	Amount	Prod Data	MSDS	OSD	Other Source	Class
gasoline	60000 gal's	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		3

Company Operations

Level Of Protection

Entry Team: FF

BackUp: FF

Decon Team: FF

Communications

LineOfSight HT

HandSignals

Other:

Operation HAZMAT SURVEYED PORT AREA ADJACENT TO BARGE FIRE AND FOUND A 12 INCH PIPELINE SEVERED AND LEAKING GASOLINE. PORT MOBIL PERSONNEL TURNED OFF ALL VALVES TO PIPELINE STRUCTURE. HAZMAT FOUND A LEAK IN A 8 INCH PIPELINE AND TOOK APART A DRESSER COUPLING AND APPLIED A RATCHET CLAMP TO STEM THE FLOW OF FUEL. SETUP A DECON POOL UNDER LEAK AS A CATCH BASIN. MONITORED AREA WITH MSA FIVE STAR AND PASSPORT METERS. USED THERMAL CAMERA TO MONITOR FOR ANY IMPINGEMENT ON PIPELINE AND ADJACENT PORT FACILITY. CONTINUED TO MONITOR AREA FOR EXPLOSIVE LEVELS AND RE-ADJUST RATCHET CLAMP AS NEEDED. SEARCH BUILDING FOR VICTIMS.

PLACED BARRIER TAPE AROUND WAREHOUSE WITH STRUCTUAL
DAMAGE DUE TO EXPLOSION FROM FUEL BARGE.

<i>Involved Agencies</i>					
	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>IName</i>	<i>ID-4</i>	<i>On Scene Via Day</i>
Petro, Alcohol & Tobacco Bureau	NYS	7E+08	BRANCACCIO		0:00
Department Enviromental Protectio		9E+08	HANNA		0:00
NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTM	ief of Dc	1E+09	ESPERZITO		0:00
FBI	JTTF	1E+08	O'CONNELL		0:00
n	MARSI	8E+08	GARCIA		0:00
n	B-23	3	GIORDANO		0:00
n	SAFETY	1E+09	HAY		0:00
n	JR COM	1E+09	HAYDEN		0:00
n	ERATIC	1E+09	CASSANO		0:00

Misc. Information

Disposition

Cause Determined

Circumstances

<i>Meter Readings</i>						
<i>Model</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>sub Location</i>	
MSA	4		2/21/03	700 Sharrotts Rd		
Thermal Image	normal		2/21/03	700 Sharrotts Rd		
PASSPORT	0		2/21/03	700 Sharrotts Rd		
MSA	3		2/21/03	700 Sharrotts Rd		
Ludlum 19	0		2/21/03	700 Sharrotts Rd		
LUD-LUM	0		2/21/03	700 Sharrotts Rd		

Member Information

B/U 1	SGRO	L160
B/U 2	NAPOLI	E321
Decon 1	KELLY	L-150
Decon 2	SANCHEZ	SA-288
Entry 1	REGAN	HM-1
Entry 2	LAROCCHIA	HM-1
Lieutenant	COUGHLIN	
Resource	ROBINSON	PNW-11

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Involved Parties

Box: 4197 Incid# 27 Rec'd by Disp Date 2/21/03 Time: 10:15 Page 2 of 5

SI

First Name HANK Last Name MULLER Phone

Address

Responsible Relationship to Incident 0

Reason Responsible

Company Involved

Company EXXONMOBIL

Company Address

Contact

4101 ARTHUR KILL RD

Co.Phone (718) 966-2005

STATEN ISLAND

NY 10309-

License Require License Type License #

Vehicle or machine operated VIN#

License Plate# State TrailerLic T.Lic.State

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Rank	Name	Unit	Assigned Unit

4. **LOCATION OF UNIT OPERATIONS:**

a) If in building: Address: Port Mobil **Port Mobil, Arthur Kill Road, Staten Island**

Height 400 acres Industrial
 Oil Terminal Number of apartments in building
 Floor(s) Room

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

Port Mobil is a major onshore facility for loading and off-loading petroleum products particularly gasoline, diesel and a variety of fuel oils. The facility consists of 50 bulk storage tanks each holding up to 35,000 barrels of product, and roughly 30,000 feet of piping. It covers over 400 acres and is surrounded by a residential community and wetlands. The facility has a total petroleum throughput of over 300,000 gallons per day and is supplied by pressurized pipelines and petroleum cargo barges. At the time of occurrence the facility was in the process of off-loading two barges containing 60,000 barrels of gasoline. One barge exploded sending part of the vessel into the facility damaging piping, and equipment and killing two employees. The resulting fire threatened to extend to the other barge, as well as the fuel in pipelines running adjacent to the explosion.

5. **PERSON(S) AIDED:**

NAME	
ADDRESS	
AGE - SEX	
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EXTERNAL CARDIAC MASSAGE	
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Lt. Coughlin with Entry team (FF Regan and FF Larocchia) and the Decon Team (FF Kelly and FF Sanchez, Sq-288) reported to the staging area command post for a size up briefing by the Chief on scene. The Backup Team (FF Sgro and FF Napoli) repositioned both Haz-Mat apparatus in accordance with anti-terrorist procedures and prepared the necessary equipment for the operation.

Lt. Coughlin, the Entry Team, and the Decon Team conducted initial reconnaissance upon arrival to the scene. Hazardous Materials Company 1 reported the following findings back to the command post:

- 1.) A 12-inch pipeline adjacent to the area of the Barge fire was found to be lacerated and leaking gasoline under pressure.
- 2.) An 8-inch pipeline was also found by Haz-Mat to be damaged and leaking gasoline at a rate of 20 gallons per minute.

At this point it was recommended to the Command Post that both HazMat apparatus be allowed at the scene to mitigate the leaking pipelines with specialized equipment carried on board. Hazmat monitored for explosive atmospheres and guided the rigs to the closest position to the leaks as possible. Port Mobil personnel were requested to shutdown all valves leading from the bulk storage area in an attempt to isolate the leaking sections. However, this only slowed the flow of product from the compromised pipelines. With fire already threatening the second barge and flammable vapors escaping, it was critical to contain and stop the flow of fuel issuing under pressure from the damaged pipelines to prevent possible secondary explosions. Realizing this, Haz Mat Specialists under the direction of Lt. Coughlin entered the area of the pressurized breach to apply Dresser Clamp and ratchet straps to seal the leak under the protection of fog hoseline and secondary foam line. While countermeasures were being deployed, the Decon team established containment of the spill using a 270-gallon collapsible pool under the broken pipelines. Although this operation was at great risk to Hazmat members due to the highly volatile vapors and the close proximity of the fire, it was performed in an efficient, time saving manner that was necessary to prevent further complications to the overall operations already underway.

After the gasoline leaks were terminated, Hazardous Materials Company 1 members performed protective air monitoring to insure the atmosphere in the vicinity would not be explosive and that minimal carcinogens were impacting fire fighting forces. Other members of Haz-Mat 1 surveyed the pipelines and bulk storage tanks utilizing thermal imaging cameras and air monitoring devices. All tanks and other appurtenances were determined to be sound.

During this operation, members from Haz-Mat 1 entered a warehouse on the terminal to conduct a hazard risk assessment and observed that the explosion had altered the structural integrity of the building. Haz-Mat 1 made notification to the Incident Commander, immediately established a collapse zone, and cordoned off the area.

Multiple entries were required by Hazardous Materials Company 1 members to maintain a proper seal on the leaking pipelines, search for additional leaks/hazards and provided continuous air monitoring for explosive and toxic atmospheres.

7. RECOMMENDATION:

Deputy Chief

Division

Date