

Hazardous Materials Co.1

Special Operations Command

Unit	Battalion	Division
4146	Bronx	5/20/91
0056 - 0830 hrs		0056 hrs.
Box	Borough	Date
0056 - 0830 hrs	5/20/91	
Time of Act	Date	

2. MEMBERS RESPONDING

RANK	NAME	UNIT	ASSIGNED UNIT
Captain	John Fatta	Haz-Mat 1	Same
Firefighter	Sean Cotter	" "	"
	Joseph Iovino	" "	"
	Timothy Regan	" "	"
	Natale Russo	" "	"
	John Olewnicki	" "	"
	John Hack	" "	"
	Philip McArdle	" "	"
	James Finnel	" "	Ladder 136

3. ARE ANY OF THESE MEMBERS BEING RECOMMENDED INDIVIDUALLY FOR MERITORIOUS ACT IN CONNECTION WITH THIS FIRE? Yes (If yes - list names)

Firefighter Philip McArdle (Voluntary Duty)

4. LOCATION OF UNIT OPERATIONS:

a) If in building: Address 2918 Bruckner Blvd.  
 Height 1 Story Area 40' X 100' Construction Taxpayer  
 Occupancy Retail Stores 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: (page 2)

At Approximately 0056 hrs. Hazardous Materials Company #1 responded to Bronx Box 4146 to assist operating forces at a major vehicle accident & Third Alarm Fire(Figure 1). Upon their arrival the Haz-Mat Officer (Capt. John Fatta) and the Entry Team (Firefighters Sean Cotter & Joseph Iovino) reported into the command post. A size-up briefing was conducted by several Chief Officers (Acting Chief of Dept. Feehan, Asst. Chief Nastro, Dep. Asst. Chief Felleni, Deputy Chief Neville 6th Division, Safety Operating Battalion Chief McDonald). Capt. Fatta & the Entry Team (Firefighters Sean Cotter & Joseph Iovino) along with Firefighter McArdle made a reconnaissance and reported the following information back to the command post. The Truck was an Island Transportation MC306 , 5 compartment, 4,000 gal. gasoline truck fully loaded(Figure 2-4). Gasoline was continuing to flow out of the numbers 1 and 4 compartments hindering the body removal operations of the passenger vehicle (four 10-45 Code #1). The product flow would have to be stopped before any additional search & rescue operations continued. This operation was further hampered by the fact that the truck was on it's side in the building and the roof was resting on the cab of the truck.

The Entry Team (Firefighters Sean Cotter & Joseph Iovino) & Back-up Team (Firefighters Natale Russo & John Olewnicki) under the protection of hose lines approached the still burning vehicle and were successful in placing dome clamps on all of the dome assemblies(Figure 2-2); this two-fold action reduced the flow to minute amounts and made it possible for extinguishment and protected the covers from accidentally opening and releasing more product. The next operational concern involved shutting off the MC 306 which was still running; this was difficult to accomplish because access to the fuel cut-off valve was impossible. It was decided to smother the engine so a pillow was placed in the exhaust and the engine stalled. At this point the first four victims were going to be removed from the car. From the start to the finish of the body removal The Entry (Firefighters Sean Cotter & Joseph Iovino) & Back-up Team (Firefighters Natale Russo & John Olewnicki) monitored the area with explosive meters to make sure it was safe for operating personnel during this difficult task. During the extrication, Rescue 3's Hurst Tool Cutter blade broke, Fr. McArdle who was acting as a runner for equipment removed the Haz-Mat cutter and set it up for Rescue 3 to continue operations. The Decon Team (Firefighters Timothy Regan & James Finnel E-324) knowing that transfer operations would be conducted shortly; began setting up & assembling the transfer pump which would be used for off loading. Capt. Fatta was moving around the operation checking on each team's progress and keeping Chief Officers appraised of the conditions

## 6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION: (page 3)

When the Transfer truck arrived they had no equipment to off load the product; the Decon Team (Firefighters Timothy Regan & James Finnel E-324) anticipated this and had brought the necessary equipment (Haz-Mat's Weldon offloading pump and related accessories) to the scene earlier. Capt. Fatta had the transfer vehicle positioned in the proper position for transfer. Firefighter McArdle and the Decon Team (Firefighters Timothy Regan & James Finnel E-324) began grounding operations (Figure 2-3). After grounding was completed all the connections of hoses and pumps were assembled by the Entry Team to begin product transfer. The Back-up Team assembled the air supply and then continued monitoring the area with gx-4000 meters. At this point product transfer was started.

Capt. Fatta and Firefighter McArdle had both done a damage and risk assessment of the container and determined that the container's emergency shutoffs were badly damaged, the container was still firmly fastened to the chassis, compartments #1-#3-#4 domes were leaking slightly and the fill pipes that were going to be used would only allow for approximately 1/2 of each container to be off loaded through the closed system (Figure 2-1). The rest would have to be off loaded through the dome covers. Since this would be a calculated risk, rescue co's 3 & 4 manned foam hose lines and laid a blanket of foam and evacuation routes away from the trailer were given to each member by Capt. Fatta.

Off loading operations moved at a smooth pace and several times during the transfer operation the foam blanket had to be added to. The transfer operation was successful even though it was conducted under difficult circumstances (the stability of the structure as well as the vehicle, many ignition sources were still present eg. several small fires continued to burn, running engines of emergency equipment, exposed electrical wires from damaged traffic signals etc...). approximately 2,200 gallons were off loaded and placed in the transfer vehicle.

With the gasoline out of the way the Entry Team & the Back up under the direction of Capt. Fatta foamed each compartment. Capt. Fatta then directed the Haz-Mat members to remove all transfer equipment and set up for the removal from the store and the uprighting of the tank truck. The vehicle's chassis was chained in several places by Firefighter McArdle and was towed from the store by sanitation wrecker. The Entry Team & Safety Team now used the air bags to lift the vehicle so the Decon Team could get the chains around the vehicle to lift it with the sanitation wreckers. Work was completed at about 0830 hrs.

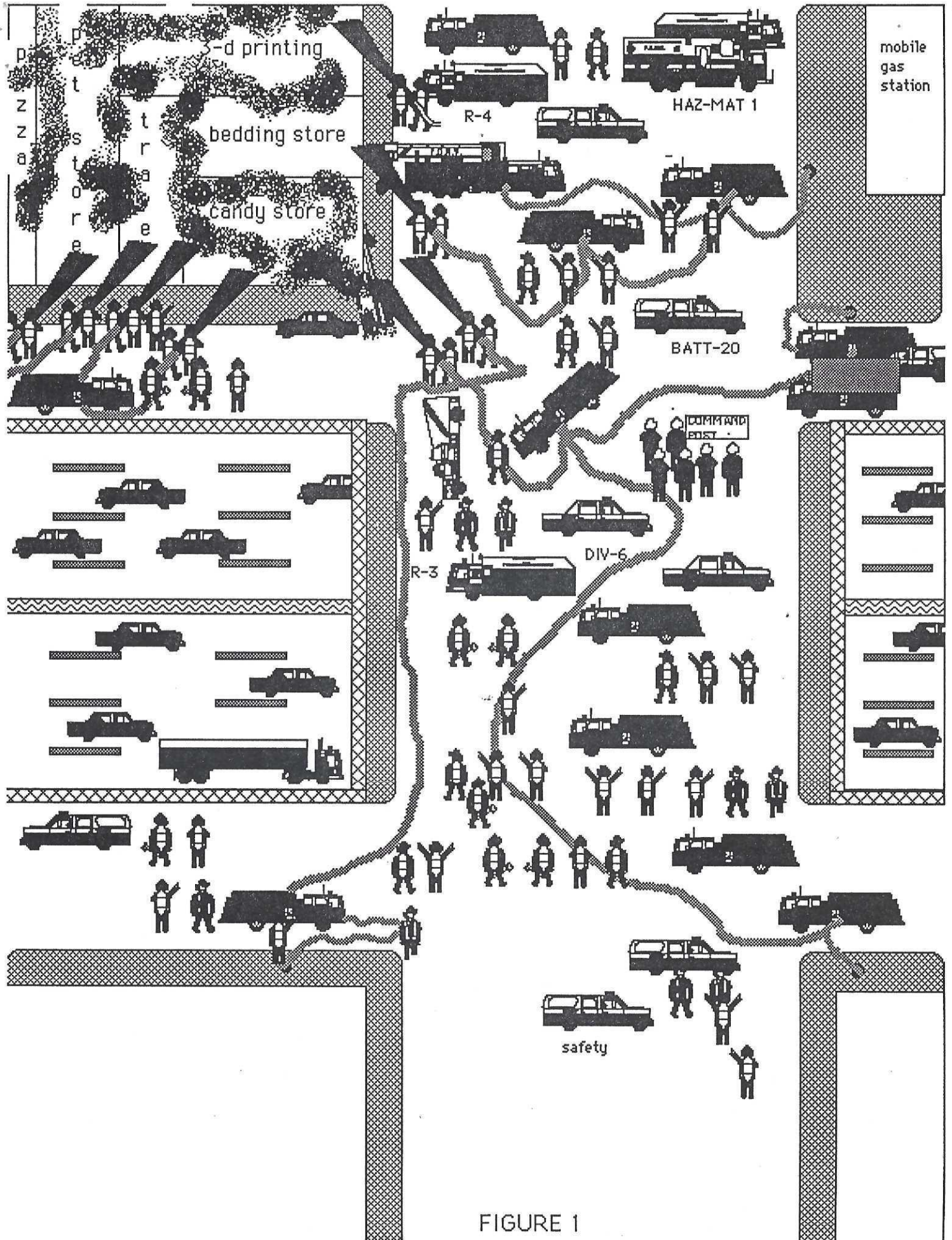


FIGURE 1

REPORT OF UNIT CITATION

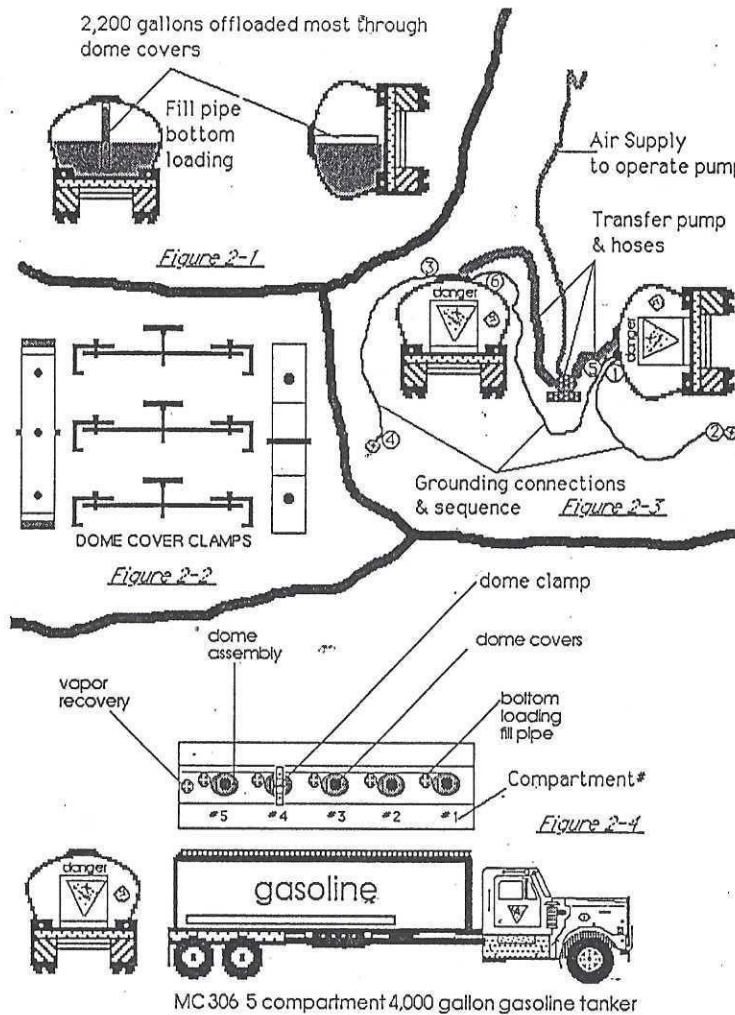
Hazardous Materials 1

Unit

5/20/91

Date

6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION: (page 5)



The members of Hazardous Materials Company 1 worked without relief for over 8 hours under very difficult and complicated circumstances using their knowledge and skill to remove a heated volatile fuel and remove & upright a vehicle. For their teamwork and dedication in making this complex operation run extremely well I respectfully request they be considered for a unit citation.

7. RECOMMENDATION:

Deputy Chief

Division

Date

BUREAU OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION  
UNIFORMED FORCE

VOLUNTARY DUTY REPORT  
(Refer Sec. 23.3 Regulations)

Date June 10, 1991

Name Philip H. McArdle Rank or Grade FF 1st Unit Haz-Mat 1

Services Accepted By Deputy Chief Neville 6th Division

Box No. 4146 Date 5/20/91 Time 0015 hrs - 0910 hrs.

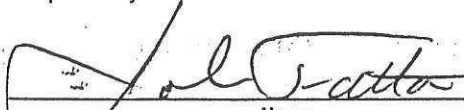
Location 2918 Bruckner Blvd. Bronx Fire  Emergency

Time: Reported 0015 hrs Relieved 0910 hrs Total 8 hrs 55 min.

Type of Duty Performed: SEE BACK

Supervised by: Name John Fatta Rank Captain Unit Haz-Mat 1

Respectfully submitted



Name

Forwarded to Officer Who Accepted Services

Capt  
Rank

14  
Group No.

TO BE FILLED IN BY OFFICER WHO ACCEPTED SERVICES OF MEMBER

Time of Acceptance \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Conditions at Time and Reason for Acceptance \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATION: Award \_\_\_\_\_ Filing \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name

Completed Form to be Forwarded to  
Bureau of Personnel & Administration

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank

\_\_\_\_\_ Unit

On Sunday May 19 at approximately 2345 hrs. Firefighter Philip H. McArdle of Hazardous Materials Company #1 heard a large number of fire apparatus sirens passing his house. Realizing that this was no ordinary response Firefighter McArdle called the quarters of Haz-Mat 1 and spoke to Firefighter John Hack who was on house watch; at this time Firefighter Hack informed Firefighter McArdle that a Third Alarm was transmitted and the address was in the area of Tremont Ave. and Bruckner Blvd. Firefighter McArdle's in-laws lived nearby and he decided to check on them; so he proceeded to the scene of the third alarm.

Upon his arrival at the scene a brief conversation occurred with Chief Feehan and the Chief was informed by Firefighter McArdle that Hazardous Materials Company #1 was still in quarters and not responding to the scene. Firefighter McArdle was directed by Chief Feehan to inform Field Comm. to have Haz-Mat 1 to respond. Having done that and knowing that the vehicle would have to be off loaded Firefighter McArdle was directed to notify Island Transport to have a vehicle respond for off loading purposes. Firefighter McArdle then proceeded back to the fire area.

At the fire area Firefighter McArdle provided technical assistance to operating personnel (particularly 13 David & the Safety Operating Battalion) at the scene until the arrival of Haz-mat.

Firefighter McArdle assisted Haz Mat 1 upon their arrival and provided assistance as needed to other units during this long operation. Some of the work included: getting an additional Hurst tool cutter for Rescue 3 when their blade broke during the extrication of the victims - assisting Haz Mat 1 set-up the transfer pumps and grounding of the vehicles - assisted the Tactical Support Unit when taking up their equipment - setting up the cables around the chassis for the wreckers to remove the gasoline truck

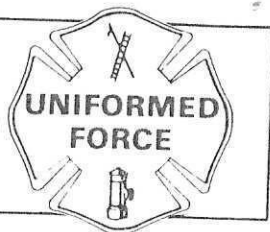
Firefighter McArdle worked at the scene for almost 7 hours without relief and for his efforts I respectfully request he be considered for a voluntary duty Service "B".



# FIRE DEPARTMENT • CITY OF NEW YORK

Supplement to Department Order No. 133 ☆ Issue No. 105

October 22, 1991



## 2.1.1

### BOARD OF MERIT

The following information records the action of the Board of Merit at a meeting held September 9, 1991:

#### UNIT CITATIONS

#### LADDER CO. 38—March 17, 1991

Box 22-3324, 1215 hours  
2394 Belmont Avenue, Bronx  
Lt. William Galligan  
FF. Alfred Miskiewicz  
FF. John Walsh  
FF. Raymond Benway  
FF. Charles Dever  
FF. Thomas Venditto, E. 88

#### ENGINE CO. 88—March 17, 1991

Box 22-3324, 1215 hours  
2394 Belmont Avenue, Bronx  
Lt. James R. Strouse, B. 15  
FF. Joseph Brosi  
FF. James Sideris  
FF. Daniel McEntee  
FF. James Herold

#### LADDER CO. 48—March 17, 1991

Box 22-3324, 1211 hours  
2394 Belmont Avenue, Bronx  
Lt. Kevin P. McAliney  
FF. Dominick Libonati  
FF. Bruce VanNosdall  
FF. Michael Moschitta  
FF. John McCann

#### ENGINE CO. 71—April 20, 1991

Box 75-2396, 2015 hours  
192 E. 164th Street, Bronx  
Lt. Benjamin P. Maggio, B. 3  
FF. Robert Pappas  
FF. Gerard Maher  
FF. William Palazzolo  
FF. Patrick Sheridan

#### LADDER CO. 55—April 20, 1991

Box 2396, 2011 hours  
192 E. 164th Street, Bronx  
Lt. Eric L. Wayne, B. 3  
FF. James Vella  
FF. Brian Pritchard  
FF. Bruce Fritz  
FF. James Darcey  
FF. William Magrino, E. 71

#### HAZ/MAT CO. 1—April 20, 1991

Box 75-8814, 0410 hours  
Bronx Whitestone Bridge, Bronx  
Lt. Joseph F. Nallan  
FF. Jeffrey Borkowski  
FF. Richard J. Gimbl  
FF. John J. Hack  
FF. Philip McArdle  
FF. Thomas Moody  
FF. Joseph Proscia  
FF. Dennis Scauso, E. 319

#### LADDER CO. 44—April 20, 1991

Box 2396, 2130 hours  
192 E. 164th Street, Bronx  
Lt. Donald Wasko  
FF. Douglas Gehrt  
FF. Todd Velten  
FF. Thomas Damore  
FF. Christopher Dougherty  
FF. Christopher Fraser

#### LADDER CO. 59—May 7, 1991

Box 75-3113, 1123 hours  
1905 Andrews Avenue, Bronx  
Capt. Richard Jacquin  
FF. James Dahl  
FF. Matthew Murtagh  
FF. John Barrett  
FF. Michael Corbett  
FF. Frank Salmon, E. 43

#### ENGINE CO. 43—May 7, 1991

Box 75-3113, 1123 hours  
1905 Andrews Avenue, Bronx  
Capt. Reginald Syder, D. 7  
FF. Kevin McLoughlin  
FF. Nickolas Aufiero  
FF. Hugh Lennon, L. 59

#### LADDER CO. 16—May 9, 1991

Box 75-1063, 0330 hours  
1448 1st Avenue, Manhattan  
Lt. Vincent Savarese  
FF. Oscar Davila  
FF. Dean Pappas  
FF. James Mullins  
FF. William Hayes  
FF. Jan Kuzniewski

#### LADDER CO. 26—May 13, 1991

Box 44-1358, 0830 hours  
230 W. 113th Street, Manhattan  
Lt. Frank O. Ciociola  
FF. Daniel Marino  
FF. Terence Tobin  
FF. Frank Gambino  
FF. Brian Curran  
FF. Steven C. Brown

#### LADDER CO. 40—May 13, 1991

Box 44-1358, 0835 hours  
230 W. 113th Street, Manhattan  
Capt. Robert Morris, D. 5  
FF. Nicholas McKeon  
FF. Colin Jordan  
FF. Bruce Collister  
FF. Peter Furino  
FF. James Brzezinski  
FF. Timothy McCauly

#### RESCUE CO. 1—May 13, 1991

Box 44-1358, 0845 hours  
230 W. 113th Street, Manhattan  
Lt. James P. Ellson  
FF. Gary P. Geidel, R. 5  
FF. Harvey Harrell  
FF. Edward J. Mauro  
FF. Bruce Newbery  
FF. John Moran, L. 4

#### ENGINE CO. 206—May 17, 1991

Box 75-273, 2310 hours  
316 Maujer Street, Brooklyn  
Lt. Michael A. Miller  
FF. Robert S. Wisniewski  
FF. Andrew Szabo  
FF. Joseph Monahan  
FF. Patrick J. Kerley

#### LADDER CO. 50—May 20, 1991

Box 33-4146, 0013 hours  
E. Tremont Ave. & Bruckner Blvd., Bronx  
Lt. Brian Johnson, B. 17  
FF. Joseph Yard  
FF. Brian Williams  
FF. John Lynch, L. 41  
FF. Brendon Whelan  
FF. William Callahan

#### ENGINE CO. 89—May 20, 1991

Box 33-4146, 0013 hours  
E. Tremont Ave. & Bruckner Blvd., Bronx  
Lt. William Herlihy  
FF. Nicholas Liso  
FF. Peter DeLorme  
FF. Daniel Sambrato  
FF. Michael Jackson

#### HAZ/MAT CO. 1—May 20, 1991

Box 33-4146, 0830 hours  
2918 Bruckner Boulevard, Bronx  
Capt. John Fatta  
FF. Sean Cotter  
FF. Joseph S. Iovino  
FF. Timothy Regan  
FF. Natale Russo  
FF. John Olewnicki  
FF. John Hack  
FF. Philip McArdle  
FF. James Finnell, L. 136

#### ENGINE CO. 83—May 29, 1991

Box 22-2180, 2157 hours  
593 East 141st Street, Bronx  
Lt. Timothy J. Kelly, (1)  
FF. Thomas W. Frey  
FF. James P. Hurley  
FF. John M. McGovern  
FF. Jerrold O'Grady