

EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS

ment which might be required for fire and should cover out-of-the-way places, especially those in which fires are most likely to start. Drills should be varied so that the men acquire an intimate knowledge of areas and buildings and of the location of stairways, hose connections, high hazard exposures, portable and fixed equipment

Fire brigade members should be trained in correct methods of resuscitation and first aid, and in the use of gas masks and other respiratory protective equipment

Many states and large municipalities have fire training schools that are open to industrial brigade members. One or more selected individuals should be delegated to take this training and in turn relay information to other members of the brigade

Special apparatus. A study should be made of conditions in the plant, and fire apparatus should be selected which will be adequate to any emergency. Larger plants can secure advice from trained fire fighters in nearby plants or towns before investing in equipment.

Fire brigade apparatus should include all necessary types of portable extinguishers, gas masks and other items of personal protective equipment, ladders, lighting equipment, complete sets of hand tools, spare sprinkler heads, extinguisher refills, other tools and stores, as well as first-aid equipment, stretchers, blankets, tarpaulins, and, perhaps, inhalators

The fire station itself should be centrally located, but not exposed to possible fires. It should be of fire-resistant material or located in a sprinklered part of the plant and protected with portable extinguishers. A larger plant may require mobile units, such as light hand-drawn trucks outfitted for the special hazards of the plant

The station should have large plans of the plant buildings showing location of water mains, sprinkler valves, hydrants, and fire alarm boxes. The address and telephone number of each fire brigade member, the chief, plant officials, public fire departments, and doctor should be prominently displayed.

The fire inspection committee or inspector should work closely with the plant safety committee, the exit drill organization, and the plant fire brigade. Fire inspection personnel should be well acquainted with established fire codes and plant regulations

so that accurate reports and complete recommendations can be made. (Fire prevention inspections are discussed in Chapter 33, "Fire Protection." Safety committees are covered in Chapter 3.)

Plant protection and security

Industrial security is management's responsibility. Government agencies can provide assistance and advice in establishing a policy. Since the basic problems of security are protection of property and control of persons, a company does not have to establish a new department to handle this function. A company's emergency security force could be built around the present security force

The men need training in maintaining order, handling crowds, and coping with the panic-stricken. They should also be prepared to prevent looting. They map emergency routes to shelters, both inside and outside the plant grounds

Plant protection. At all times, this group should be alert for possible espionage and sabotage. It should establish liaison with state and local police and assist them in carrying out any emergency plans for community security

The guard functions include protection against pilferage, burglary, vandalism, and espionage. The starting time of the inspection rounds must be staggered. If a would-be burglar or saboteur can time the patrol, he can easily commit his act just after the guard passes a given spot at a regular time with the knowledge that he has a clear period of 30 to 40 minutes, before the next round is due. However, it is important that the staggering of rounds not fall into a regular pattern which can be detected after a few days of observation. Guards must examine fences on each patrol and report and investigate any suspicious object lying near them or any suspicious loiterers

The first round, immediately after the plant closes is the most important. Most fires are likely to start just after employees have left, from machines or processes running unattended or from careless smoking

The watchman should have enough time on his rounds to make a thorough inspection of the premises. His route should require no more than 40 minutes and should take him close to all hazardous occupancies. He should be provided with an approved