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.

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 flashlight or other illuminating device, and, where practicable, plant lights along his route should be left on

The watchman can also look for violations of smoking rules, improper storage of flammable material, leaking oil, gasoline, gas, or other flammable materials, and he should report unsatisfactory conditions to the management He should be physically capable of turning in a fire alarm, dealing immediately with small fires, and with such matters as shutting off gas and closing fire doors

Failure of a guard to report on schedule at the end of his patrol calls for immediate investigation

Additional protection and security measures call for closing off certain windows and other openings in plants which are not vital to operation and limiting the number of plant entrances and exits (All measures must be consistent with good fire prevention practices) Installation of protective wire mesh over windows along public thoroughfares is recommended Floodlighting of critical parts of plants at night is necessary for good protection

Plant security Although plant security involves measures to prevent unauthorized entry to the property, it also is concerned with identification systems for employees and visitors, personnel movement within buildings and grounds, and security checks on employees and applicants

Those who are not operating employees of key areas, such as power houses and water filter areas, should be restricted Visitor controls, fingerprinting of employees, checking of incoming materials and guarding of dangerous areas are other functions

A watchman of low mentality may be more of a liability than an asset Fires have often been caused by watchmen smoking while on duty, or by carelessness of watchmen Their failure to discover fires promptly, their shutting off of sprinklers without ascertaining whether the fires have been extinguished or their ignorance of the proper sprinkler valves to close after a fire is extinguished is often responsible for heavy water loss

As a supplement to automatic alarm and signal systems, the employment of an intelligent and physically fit watchman can prevent or minimize fire loss The watchman should be trained and made aware of his responsibilities Because fires which start when the plant is idle produce more damage, the watchman becomes an important part of the fire prevention and detection organization (see Fig 37-11)

An important responsibility of the guard service is the controlling of vehicle and pedestrian traffic on the company property This is especially important, for example, where a plant parking lot empties onto a busy public thoroughfare

For a small company the watchman's job carries considerable responsibility He is often in sole charge of the plant for many