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IN CONFIDENCE

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Lab. File 1/1DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND FIRE OFFICES' COMMITTEE
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PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FIRE REPORTS FROM FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

The results of a preliminary analysis of reports show that during 1959 the Fire Brigades attended approximately 215 400* fires in England and Wales and approximately 13 500 in Scotland. The number of incidents attended by each Fire Brigade is given in Table 1.

In England and Wales, no member of the Fire Service was killed; approximately 300 firemen were injured. The Fire Service assisted in the rescue of approximately 310 persons from dangerous situations. In Scotland no member of the Fire Service was killed; approximately 30 were injured. The Fire Service assisted in rescuing approximately 40 persons from dangerous situations. Further details are given in Tables 2 and 3.

The unusually large number of calls received during 1959 has caused some delay in reporting so that there are still reports outstanding from some Brigades. As a result of this the figures given in Tables 2 and 3 may be subject to rather more revision than usual for the final analysis.

* The totals of fires quoted on this page have been rounded off to the nearest hundred, and the totals of non-fatal casualties and of persons rescued to the nearest 10: exact figures will be given in the detailed returns which will be prepared later in the year.

Table 1

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to 22nd February, 1960; they are subject to slight revision as further information is received.

Column 1 shows the number of attendances at fires other than those confined to heathland or grassland.

Column 2 shows the number of attendances at fires confined to heathland or grassland.

Column 3 shows the total number of attendances.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>England and Wales - County Fire Brigades</u>			
Anglesey	151	267	418
Bedfordshire	1 044	669	1 713
Berks. and Reading	1 220	1 072	2 292
Brecon Co. and Radnor	104	66	170
Buckinghamshire	1 089	1 146	2 235
Caernarvonshire	298	579	877
Cambridgeshire	607	173	780
Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire	344	361	705
Cheshire	2 302	2 336	4 638
Cornwall	590	1 013	1 603
Cumberland	343	175	518
Denbigh and Montgomery	513	411	924
Derbyshire	2 424	2 042	4 466
Devonshire	964	653	1 617
Dorsetshire	606	1 255	1 861
Durham Co.	2 199	3 375	5 574
Ely, Isle of	473	54	527
Essex	4 465	8 739	13 204
Flintshire	318	252	570
Glamorganshire	1 433	668	2 101
Gloucestershire	913	340	1 253
Hampshire	2 080	2 985	5 065
Herefordshire	333	64	397
Hertfordshire	1 775	2 496	4 271
Huntingdonshire	342	183	525
Kent and Canterbury	4 258	511	4 769
Lancashire	4 609	3 093	7 702
Leicestershire and Rutland	1 227	815	2 042
Lincs. (Holland)	315	71	386
Lincs. (Kesteven)	406	365	771
Lincs. (Lindsey)	1 018	577	1 595
London C.C.	11 389	3 307	14 696
Merioneth	68	146	214
Middlesex	4 981	4 394	9 375
Monmouthshire	515	361	876
Norfolk	1 253	775	2 028
Northamptonshire	997	472	1 469
Northumberland	995	941	1 936
Nottinghamshire	1 966	2 956	4 922
Oxfordshire	567	229	796
Pembrokeshire	158	230	388

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>County Fire Brigades (contd.)</u>			
Peterborough, Soke of	255	118	373
Salop	1 057	436	1 493
Scilly, Isles of	-	-	-
Somersetshire	885	648	1 533
Staffordshire	2 418	3 311	5 729
Suffolk, East, Suffolk, West, and Ipswich	1 477	1 282	2 759
Surrey	3 562	4 544	8 106
Sussex, East	1 042	1 294	2 336
Sussex, West	1 080	877	1 957
Warwickshire	1 609	2 307	3 916
Westmorland	113	22	135
Wight, Isle of	210	267	477
Wiltshire	1 028	419	1 447
Worcester Co. and Worcs. C.B.	1 381	1 058	2 439
Yorks. (East Riding)	777	232	1 009
Yorks. (North Riding)	1 158	542	1 700
Yorks. (West Riding)	4 120	4 881	9 001
<u>England and Wales - County Borough Fire Brigades</u>			
Barnsley	148	330	478
Barrow in Furness	230	214	444
Bath	201	33	234
Birkenhead	586	260	846
Birmingham	2 746	1 919	4 665
Blackburn	278	84	362
Blackpool	430	215	645
Bolton	474	167	641
Bootle	333	235	568
Bournemouth	234	510	744
Bradford	793	478	1 271
Brighton	427	266	693
Bristol	990	738	1 728
Burnley	262	76	338
Burton on Trent	129	56	185
Bury	199	112	311
Cardiff	605	180	785
Carlisle	213	55	268
Chester	208	114	322
Coventry	481	1 176	1 657
Croydon	542	477	1 019
Darlington	339	72	411
Derby	568	303	871
Dewsbury	185	224	409
Doncaster	193	320	513
Dudley	164	231	395
Eastbourne	119	78	197
East Ham	177	189	366
Exeter	195	62	257
Gloucester	186	38	224
Great Yarmouth	142	129	271
Grimsby	292	113	405
Halifax	279	253	532

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>County Borough Fire Brigades (contd.)</u>			
Hastings	105	257	362
Huddersfield	252	334	586
Kingston upon Hull	807	421	1 228
Leeds	1 058	1 174	2 232
Leicester	872	501	1 373
Lincoln	298	260	558
Liverpool	2 549	548	3 097
Manchester	1 893	401	2 294
Merthyr Tydfil	147	105	252
Middlesbrough	449	119	568
Newcastle on Tyne and Gateshead	1 054	573	1 627
Newport (Mon.)	293	168	461
Northampton	292	123	415
Norwich	313	429	742
Nottingham	786	970	1 756
Oldham	381	95	476
Oxford	227	52	279
Plymouth	419	288	707
Portsmouth	524	282	806
Preston	345	102	447
Rochdale	250	100	350
Rotherham	127	329	456
St. Helens	258	168	426
Salford	528	116	644
Sheffield	901	1 019	1 920
Smethwick and West Bromwich	275	389	664
Southampton	554	955	1 509
Southend	337	213	550
Southport	177	110	287
South Shields	227	169	396
Stockport	391	274	665
Stoke-on-Trent	563	660	1 223
Sunderland	453	326	779
Swansea	287	243	530
Tynemouth	223	199	422
Wakefield	93	201	294
Wallasey	264	272	536
Walsall	236	284	520
Warrington	223	146	369
West Ham	673	341	1 014
West Hartlepool	227	123	350
Wigan	249	150	399
Wolverhampton	344	273	617
York	369	138	507
Total number of fires attended in England and Wales	118 465	96 962	215 427
<u>Scotland</u>			
Glasgow	2 776	269	3 045
Lanark	1 044	325	1 369
Central	650	224	874
Western	820	191	1 011

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>Scotland (contd.)</u>			
South Western	676	214	890
South Eastern	1 798	755	2 553
Fife	513	237	750
Perth and Kinross	277	81	358
Angus	763	170	933
North Eastern	955	354	1 309
Northern	260	107	367
Total number of fires attended in Scotland	10 532	2 927	13 459

Table 2

NATURE OF INJURIES OF CASUALTIES IN FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

Nature of injury	England and Wales			Scotland		
	Fire Brigades	Other casualties	Total	Fire Brigades	Other casualties	Total
Fatal casualties						
Burns and scalds	-	260	260	-	30	30
Overcome by gas or smoke ...	-	96	96	-	14	14
Other and undefined injuries	-	41	41	-	4	4
Total	-	397	397	-	48	48
Non-fatal casualties						
Burns and scalds	80	1 943	2 023	2	124	126
Bruises, cuts, abrasions ...	93	129	222	13	10	23
Dislocations, sprains, fractures	42	18	60	4	6	10
Overcome by gas or smoke ...	20	134	154	3	23	26
More than one of above injuries	16	61	77	1	9	10
* Shock	3	223	226	-	19	19
Other and undefined injuries	49	61	110	8	6	14
Total	303	2 569	2 872	31	197	228
Total casualties	303	2 966	3 269	31	245	276

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to 22nd February, 1960: they are subject to slight revision as further information is received.

* Casualties who suffered shock in addition to another injury have been classified according to the nature of the other injury.

Table 3

PERSONS RESCUED OR ESCAPED BY EMERGENCY MEANS FROM FIRES ATTENDED BY
FIRE BRIGADES IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1959.

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to
22nd February, 1960: they are subject to slight revision as
further information is received.

Appliances or methods used	Number of persons	
	England and Wales	Scotland
Rescue with Fire Brigade assistance from Buildings		
Automatic escape line	10	-
Escape (hand operated)	26	-
Ladder, extension	37	3
first floor	5	-
ajax	10	4
turntable (mechanical)	-	1
other or undefined	47	4
Ladder and line	1	-
Line	1	-
Other apparatus	6	1
Without apparatus	158	24
Ships	4	-
Total	305	37
Rescue without Fire Brigade assistance from		
Aircraft	4	-
Buildings		
Automatic escape lines	6	-
Carried or assisted out	248	76
Jumping sheet	-	6
Ladder	149	4
Lowered from windows, roof, etc.	64	9
Other or undefined methods	27	3
Road vehicles	11	3
Caravans	3	-
Total	512	101
Escape by emergency means from		
Aircraft		
Baled out	5	1
Method not stated	2	-
Buildings		
Automatic escape lines	26	-
Climbing over roof	44	1
Jumping from upstairs window, roof	172	22
Ladder	31	2
Sliding down drainpipe, sheets, rope, etc.	30	10
Through ground floor windows	50	8
Other or undefined methods	160	2
Ships	104	-
Road vehicles	9	-
Caravans	5	-
Trains	2	-
Total	640	46
Total persons rescued or escaped	1 457	184

Persons rescued or escaped by emergency means from fires attended by fire brigades in Great Britain