

IN CONFIDENCE

F.R. Note No. 458
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Lab. File 1/1DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND FIRE OFFICES' COMMITTEE
JOINT FIRE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

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PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FIRE REPORTS FROM FIRE BRIGADES IN THE
UNITED KINGDOM

The results of a preliminary analysis of reports show that during 1960 the Fire Brigades attended approximately 119 900^m fires in England and Wales, approximately 12 100 in Scotland and approximately 1 600 in Northern Ireland. The number of incidents attended by each Fire Brigade is given in Table 1.

In England and Wales, 4 members of the Fire Service were killed and approximately 200 firemen were injured; the Fire Service assisted in the rescue of approximately 500 persons from dangerous situations. In Scotland, 20 members of the Fire Service, including 5 from Glasgow Salvage Corps, were killed and approximately 50 were injured; the Fire Service assisted in rescuing approximately 90 persons from dangerous situations. In Northern Ireland no member of the Fire Service was killed but approximately 10 were injured; the Fire Service assisted in rescuing approximately 10 persons from dangerous situations. Further details are given in Tables 2 and 3.

* 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 ten: exact figures will be given in the detailed returns which will be prepared later in the year.

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1960.

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to the 21st February, 1961; 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	82	34	116
Bedfordshire	737	200	937
Berks. and Reading	843	241	1 084
Brecon Co. and Radnor	82	36	118
Buckinghamshire	717	358	1 075
Caernarvonshire	232	126	358
Cambridgeshire	407	38	445
Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire	307	104	411
Cheshire	1 660	1 053	2 713
Cornwall	408	289	697
Cumberland	386	137	523
Denbigh and Montgomery	413	178	591
Derbyshire	1 072	381	1 453
Devonshire	788	358	1 146
Dorsetshire	461	444	905
Durham Co.	1 499	753	2 252
Ely, Isle of	234	26	260
Essex	3 018	1 281	4 299
Flintshire	282	163	445
Glamorganshire	1 192	548	1 740
Gloucestershire	671	209	880
Hampshire	1 192	1 017	2 209
Herefordshire	240	24	264
Hertfordshire	1 405	670	2 075
Huntingdonshire	208	44	252
Kent and Canterbury	2 722	919	3 641
Lancashire	4 245	2 434	6 679
Leicestershire and Rutland	445	123	568
Lincs. (Holland)	226	28	254
Lincs. (Kesteven)	244	50	294
Lincs. (Lindsey)	565	158	723
London C.C.	10 422	552	10 974
Merioneth	53	41	94
Middlesex	4 001	767	4 768
Monmouthshire	441	176	617
Norfolk	624	270	894
Northamptonshire	538	61	599
Northumberland	712	246	958
Nottinghamshire	866	537	1 403
Oxfordshire	362	50	412
Pembrokeshire	121	36	157

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1960.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>County Fire Brigades (contd.)</u>			
Peterborough, Soke of	159	29	188
Salop	610	161	771
Somersetshire	677	137	814
Staffordshire	1 376	943	2 319
Suffolk, East, Suffolk, West, and Ipswich	802	279	1 081
Surrey	2 215	1 099	3 314
Sussex, East	573	254	827
Sussex, West	657	176	833
Warwickshire	939	445	1 384
Westmorland	119	26	145
Wight, Isle of	118	22	140
Wiltshire	787	90	877
Worcester Co. and Worcester C.B.	910	330	1 240
Yorks. (East Riding)	370	53	423
Yorks. (North Riding)	814	248	1 062
Yorks. (West Riding)	2 707	1 376	4 083
<u>England and Wales - County Borough Fire Brigades</u>			
Barnsley	109	63	172
Barrow in Furness	150	70	220
Bath	217	11	228
Birkenhead	547	222	769
Birmingham	2 774	712	3 486
Blackburn	295	85	380
Blackpool	404	122	526
Bolton	423	129	552
Bootle	283	124	407
Bournemouth	202	200	402
Bradford	766	210	976
Brighton	396	50	446
Bristol	838	253	1 091
Burnley	240	104	344
Burton on Trent	77	16	93
Bury	205	89	294
Cardiff	597	67	664
Carlisle	245	42	287
Chester	151	97	248
Coventry	551	154	705
Croydon	439	95	534
Darlington	189	11	200
Derby	579	45	624
Dewsbury	157	52	209
Doncaster	150	53	203
Dudley	152	88	240
Eastbourne	101	11	112
East Ham	148	25	173
Exeter	227	37	264
Gloucester	167	16	183
Great Yarmouth	128	14	142
Grimsby	230	58	288
Halifax	255	98	353

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1960.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>County Borough Fire Brigades (contd.)</u>			
Hastings	95	37	132
Huddersfield	227	95	322
Kingston upon Hull	888	115	1 003
Leeds	1 015	329	1 344
Leicester	574	90	664
Lincoln	176	81	257
Liverpool	2 591	438	3 029
Manchester	2 213	401	2 614
Merthyr Tydfil	112	36	148
Middlesbrough	360	34	394
Newcastle on Tyne and Gateshead	846	125	971
Newport (Mon.)	298	67	365
Northampton	172	14	186
Norwich	263	92	355
Nottingham	741	160	901
Oldham	347	42	389
Oxford	234	7	241
Plymouth	341	61	402
Portsmouth	480	82	562
Preston	302	77	379
Rochdale	233	68	301
Rotherham	129	72	201
St. Helens	187	81	268
Salford	512	56	568
Sheffield	821	149	970
Smethwick and West Bromwich	311	194	505
Southampton	411	252	663
Southend	247	19	266
Southport	176	91	267
South Shields	234	63	297
Stockport	350	95	445
Stoke on Trent	409	100	509
Sunderland	448	127	575
Swansea	247	176	423
Tynemouth	173	50	223
Wakefield	115	42	157
Wallasey	241	190	431
Walsall	257	124	381
Warrington	209	82	291
West Ham	599	38	637
West Hartlepool	214	57	271
Wigan	199	58	257
Wolverhampton	351	89	440
York	217	40	257
Total number of fires attended in England and Wales	90 913	28 947	119 860

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1960.

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>Scotland</u>			
Glasgow	2 833	201	3 034
Lanark	1 099	243	1 342
Central	698	196	894
Western	927	252	1 179
South Western	691	150	841
South Eastern	1 572	258	1 830
Fife	461	111	572
Perth and Kinross	240	55	295
Angus	684	87	771
North Eastern	790	146	936
Northern	295	86	381
Total number of fires attended in Scotland	10 290	1 785	12 075

Fire Brigade	1	2	3
<u>Northern Ireland</u>			
North	185*	51	236*
South	436*	63	499*
West	289*	68	357*
Belfast	487*	26	513*
Total number of fires attended in Northern Ireland	1 397*	208	1 605*

* Reports of fires not confined to heathland, grassland and railway embankments in Northern Ireland only cover the period up to the 30th November, 1960. Reports of fires during December have not yet been received.

Table 3

PERSONS RESCUED OR ESCAPED BY EMERGENCY MEANS FROM FIRES ATTENDED BY
FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1960.

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to
the 21st February, 1961; they are subject to slight revision
as further information is received.

Appliances or Methods Used	Number of Persons			
	England and Wales	Scotland	Northern ⁽¹⁾ Ireland	United ⁽¹⁾ Kingdom
Rescue with Fire Brigade assistance from				
Aircraft	-	-	-	-
Buildings				
Escape (hand operated)	51	-	-	51
Ladder: extension	114	3	1	118
first floor	54	1	3	58
hook	4	-	-	4
turntable (mechanical)	28	11	-	39
other or undefined	28	5	-	33
Ladder and line	2	-	-	2
Line	1	-	-	1
Other apparatus	1	1	-	2
without apparatus	203	65	5	273
Unknown means	8	-	-	8
Ships	3	-	-	3
Road vehicles	1	-	-	1
Total	498	86	9	593
Rescue without Fire Brigade assistance from				
Aircraft	1	-	-	1
Buildings				
Carried or assisted out	400	59	9	468
Jumping sheet	15	-	-	15
Ladder	108	4	-	112
Lowered from windows, roof etc.	73	12	8	93
Other or undefined methods	48	1	-	49
Ships	2	-	-	2
Road vehicles	14	-	-	14
Caravans	6	-	-	6
Woodland	1	-	-	1
Total	668	76	17	761
Escape by emergency means from				
Aircraft				
Baled out	9	-	-	9
Through exits or from debris	3	-	-	3
Thrown clear	2	-	-	2
Buildings				
Climbing over roof	30	-	-	30
Jumping from upstairs window	183	10	6	199
Ladder	38	-	-	38
Sliding down drainpipe, sheets etc.	30	3	-	33
Through ground floor windows	31	7	7	45
Other or undefined methods	38	2	1	41
Ships ⁽²⁾	35	3	-	38
Road vehicles	19	2	2	23
Caravans	2	-	-	2
Trains	-	-	-	-
Total	420	27	16	463
Total persons rescued or escaped	1 586	189	42	1 817

(1) Northern Ireland figures refer to January to November only

(2) Includes 30 persons escaped in one incident at Milford Haven

Table 2
NATURE OF INJURIES OF CASUALTIES IN FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1960(1)

Nature of Injury	England and Wales			Scotland			Northern Ireland(2)			United Kingdom(2)		
	Fire Brigades	Other Casualties	Total	Fire Brigades	Other Casualties	Total	Fire Brigades	Other Casualties	Total	Fire Brigades	Other Casualties	Total
Fatal casualties												
Burns and scalds	-	287	287	-	32	32	-	9	9	-	328	328
Overcome by gas or smoke	1	109	110	-	21	21	-	3	3	1	133	134
Other and undefined injuries	3	29	32	20(3)	8	28	-	-	-	23	37	60
Total	4	425	429	20(3)	61	81	-	12	12	24	498	522
Non-fatal casualties												
Burns and scalds	31	2 040	2 071	9	107	116	-	27	27	40	2 174	2 214
Bruises, cuts, abrasions	88	171	259	9	19	28	2	2	4	99	192	291
Dislocations, sprains, fractures	30	39	69	9	3	12	1	-	1	40	42	82
Overcome by gas or smoke	15	214	229	15	33	48	-	-	-	30	247	277
More than one of above injuries	8	59	67	3	7	10	1	-	1	12	66	78
Shock only(4)	2	283	285	-	38	38	-	-	-	2	321	323
Other and undefined injuries	28	76	104	4	26	30	1	4	5	33	106	139
Total	202	2 882	3 084	49	233	282	5	33	38	256	3 148	3 404
Total casualties	206	3 307	3 513	69(3)	294	363	5	45	50	280	3 646	3 926

(1) Provisional figures. Subject to possible slight revision as further information is received

(2) Figures for Northern Ireland refer to January to November only

(3) Including 5 members of the Glasgow Salvage Corps

(4) Casualties who suffered shock in addition to other injuries are classified according to the nature of the other injury

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CORRIGENDA

TABLE 2

FIRE BRIGADE

England and Wales

(a) Fatal Casualties	
Overcome by gas or smoke	delete 1 insert -
Total	delete 4 insert 3
(b) Total Casualties	delete 206 insert 205

OTHER CASUALTIES

(a) Fatal casualties	
Overcome by gas or smoke	delete 109 insert 110
Total	delete 425 insert 426
(b) Total Casualties	delete 3307 insert 3308

FIRE BRIGADE

United Kingdom

(a) Fatal Casualties	
Overcome by gas or smoke	delete 1 insert -
Total	delete 24 insert 23
(b) Total Casualties	delete 280 insert 279

OTHER CASUALTIES

(a) Fatal casualties	
Overcome by gas or smoke	delete 133 insert 134
Total	delete 498 insert 499
(b) Total Casualties	delete 3646 insert 3647