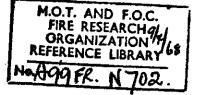
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Fire Research Note No.702

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FIRE REPORTS FROM FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

by

S. E. CHANDLER

March, 1968

FIRE RESEARCH STATION

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F.R. Note No.702 March, 1968.

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FIRE REPORTS FROM FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

by

S. E. Chandler

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MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY AND FIRE OFFICES' COMMITTEE
JOINT FIRE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

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Introduction

S. E. Chandler

A preliminary analysis of reports shows that, during 1967, local authority fire brigades attended 139 641 fires in England and Wales, 18 374 in Scotland and 2.780 in Northern Ireland. The number of incidents attended by each brigade is given in Table 1.

Three firemen were killed at the scene of fires. In England and Wales 358 members of the fire services were injured at fires; the corresponding figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland were 33 and 6 respectively.

Fire brigades assisted in the rescue of 623 persons from hazardous situations at fires in England and Wales, 113 in Scotland and 53 in Northern Ireland. A further 1 209 persons were rescued by other persons in England and Wales; the corresponding figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland were 122 and 90 respectively. Five hundred and seventy-five people in England and Wales escaped by emergency means from fires; there were 55 such escapes in Scotland and 26 in Northern Ireland. Further details of casualties, rescues and escapes are given in Tables 2, 3, 4 and 5.

There were 5 incidents in which mass evacuation of premises was deemed advisable. There were three hospitals, one a mental hospital, amongst these incidents - two were in Scotland and the other in Northern Ireland. Also evacuated were a school in Scotland and a departmental store in Northern Ireland. The number of persons involved is not known for some of these fires.

The analysis is based on reports received up to 2nd March, 1968 and the figures are subject to revision when outstanding reports are received.

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

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 Brigades	1	2	3
England and Wales - County Fire Brigades		***	
England and Wales - County Fire Brigades Anglesey Bedfordshire Berks. and Reading Brecon Co. and Radnor Buckinghamshire Caernarvonshire Caernarvonshire Cambridgeshire and Ely, Isle of Cardinganshire and Carmarthenshire Cheshire Cornwall Cumberland Denbigh and Montgomery Derbyshire(1) Devonshire(1) Dorsetshire Durham Co.(1) Essex Flintshire Glamorganshire(1) Gloucestershire Hampshire Herefordshire Hertfordshire Hertfordshire Huntingdonshire and Peterborough Kent and Canterbury Lancashire Leicestershire and Rutland Lincs. (Holland) Lincs. (Kesteven) Lincs. (Lindsey) London Merionethshire Monmouthshire	133 622 1 026(3) 111 1 212 240 726 377 2 564 593 494 548 1 372 406 1 458 1 001 1 788 1 001 1 788 2 496 1 458 1 001 1 788 2 564 3 564 3 7 049(4) 836 2 24 1 018 2 572 1 018 2 572 1 018	37 96 242 13 279 103 36 148 1 316 200 93 120 481 250 665 607 1 167 99 577 204 1 099 562 71 1 011 2 814 186 188 40 158 3 450 21 194	170 718 1 268 1 24 1 491 343 762 525 3 880 793 668 1 154 1 330 2 963 3 505 2 035 2 035 2 635 4 219 9 863 1 176 29 122 720
Norfolk Northamptonshire Northumberland Nottinghamshire Oxfordshire Pembrokeshire	850 800 1 062 1 239 514 195	- 218 120 313 743 61 78	1 068 920 1 375 1 982 575 273

Table 1 (Cont'd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

Fire Brigades	1	2	3
County Fire Brigades (cont'd.)			
Shropshire Somerset Staffordshire Suffolk (East) Suffolk (West) and Ipswich Surrey Sussex, East Sussex, West Warwickshire Westmorland Wight, Isle of Wiltshire Worcester Co. and Worcs. C.P. Yorks (East Riding) Yorks (North Riding) Yorks (West Riding)	791 983 1 479 1 282 1 840 737 976 1 167(4) 142 149 789(3) 988(4) 443 1 125 3 920	170 112 623 291 932 202 125 363 25 53 84(5) 275 32 151 1 155	961 1 095 2 102 1 573 2 772 939 1 101 1 530 167 202 873 1 263 475 1 276 5 075
England and Wales - County Borough Fire Brigades Barnsley Barrow in Furness Bath Birkenhead Birmingham Blackburn Blackpool Bolton Bootle Bournemouth Bradford Brighton Bristol Burnley Burton on Trent Bury Cardiff(1) Carlisle Chester Coventry Darlington Derby Dewsbury Doncaster Dudley Eastbourne	157 249 229 1 208 4 153 626 738 648 315 1 427 1 269 256 282 1 313 282 263 420 125	69 59 760 41 64 119 114 215 88 63 230 89 30 81 106 27 107 297 74 50 70 266 16	226 308 236 1 407 4 913 667 585 762 530 1 499 1 601 1 086 283 308 313 567 333 686 141

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN THE D KINGDOM, 1967

Exeter 298 19 317 Gloucester 228 17 225 Grimsby 455 48 501 Halifax 370 57 427 Hastings 122 38 60 Huddersfield 351 59 410 Kingston upon Hull 1 699 170 1 865 Leeds 1 762 275 2 057 Leicoster 1 077 170 1 27 Lincoln 261 53 314 Liverpool 110 695 685 Luton 344 75 449 Manchester 4 552 677 520 Merthyr Tydfil 135 27 160 Middlesbruugh 586 36 62 Newcastle on Tyme and Gateshead 1 777 159 1 936 Newport (Mon.) 377 104 481 Northampton 267 23 220 Norwich 344 187 621 Northampton 49 688 Oxford 278 149 Cxford 378 68 Cxf	Fire Brigade	and a collection of the second	6 11 12 12 13 13 14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15		3
Gloucester 226	County Borough Fire Brigades	(cont'd.)	and the same was to be the control of the control o	And in the second secon	
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Grimsby	the second secon	el e terre de la terre de la composición del composición de la co	218	27	
Halifax	Grimsby		453 : '		
Hastings 122 38 60 Nuddersfield 351 59 410 Kingston upon Hull 1 695 170 1 865 Leeds 1 782 275 2 057 Leicester 1077 170 1 247 Lincoln 261 53 314 Liverpool 0 110 695 6805 Luton 344 75 419 Manchester 4 552 577 5 209 Merthyr Tydfil 133 27 160 Middlesbrough 586 36 622 Newcastle on Tyne and Gateshead 1777 159 1 936 Newport (Mon.) 377 104 481 Northampton 267 23 290 Norwich 434 187 621 Nottingham 1 332 262 1 594 Oldham 619 49 668 Oxford 278 149 Flymouth(1) 575 71 646 Portsmouth 852 150 982 Preston 542 67 609 Rochkele 417 44 461 St. Helens 521 029 529 Rochkele 417 44 461 St. Helens 521 029 529 Salford 1 1075 43 1118 Sheffield(1) 1 341 362 1 703 Solihull 164 39 203 Southempton 612 256 868 Southend 378 68 446 Southport 530 176 589 Stoke on Trent 683 302 295 South Shields 304 85 389 Stoke on Trent 683 302 985 Stoke on Trent 683 302 985 Stoke on Trent 683 302 985 Sunderland 819 197 1 016 Swansea 393 176 569 Walsall 553 260 813 Warrington 369 133 592 West Hartlepool(2) 667 68 735 West Bromwich 586 215 801 Wagan 349 115 464 Walsanl Walverhampton 586 215 801 Warrington 483 199 792 West Bromwich 586 215 801 Walsanl 70rk 287 Waterlended 586 215 801 Walsanl 70rk 287 Total number of fires attended	▼			A	
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West Bromwich 586 215 801 Wigan 349 115 464 Wolverhampton 633 159 792 York 287 33 320 Total number of fires attended	Warrington				502
West Bromwich 586 215 801 Wigan 349 115 464 Wolverhampton 633 159 792 York 287 33 320 Total number of fires attended	West Hartlepool ⁽²⁾				
Wolverhampton 633 159 792 York 287 33 320 Total number of fires attended	West Bromwich	k	1		
York 287 33 320 Total number of fires attended	-				
Total number of fires attended					
	York		287	33	320
	Total number of fires atte	ended			
	in England and Wales		139 641	32 779	172 420

Table 1 (cont'd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

Fire Brigade	1	2 '	3
Scotland			
Glasgow Lanark Central Western South Western South Eastern Fife Perth and Kinross Angus North Eastern Northern	5 208 1 870 1 138 1 327 848 2 554 694 361 1 183 1 125 369	245 187 178 127 58 285 173 26 198 136 84	5 453 2 057 1 316 1 454 906 2 839 867 387 1 381 1 261 453
Total number of fires attended in Scotland	16 677	1 697	18 374

Fire Brigade	1	2 ·	3
Northern Ireland			
North South West Belfast	485 566 455 1 078	58 75 49 14	543 641 504 1 092
Total number of fires attended in Northern Ireland	2 584	196	2 780

(1) Boundaries altered from 1.4.67

- (2) Brigade ceased to exist from 1.4.67. and Hartlepool brigade was created. The total shown is that for West Hartlepool up to 31.3.67. plus that for Hartlepool from 1.4.67.
- Date of last report 31.10.67.
- Date of last report 30.11.67. (4) Date of last report 30.77.07.(5) Date of last report 30.9.67.

Table 2

NATURE OF INJURIES OF CASUALTIES IN FIRES

	Engl	and and Wale	s	Scotland			Nort	Northern Ireland		
Casualties	Fire brigade	Other casualties	Total	Fire brigade	Other casualties	Total	Fire brigade	Other casualties	Total	
FATAL CASUALTIES ¹							·			
Burns and scalds	1	258	259	-	37	37	_	4	4	
Overcome by gas or smoke	1	304	305	_	35	35	-	5	5	
Other and undefined injuries	-	82	82	1	10	11	-	1	1	
Total	2	644	646	1	82	83	-	10	10	
NON FATAL CASUALTIES ²	358	3 458	3 816	32	308	340	6	73	79	
POTAL	360	4 102	4 462	33	390	423	6	83	89 ·	

- 1. Casualties who are certified as having died from "Burns and asphyxiation" are included under "Overcome by gas or smoke"
- 2. See Table 3 for details of nature of injuries to fire brigade personnel.

Table 3

NATURE OF INJURIES (NON-FATAL) TO, FIRE BRIGADE PERSONNEL

Nature of injury	England and Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Burns and scalds	7.6	9	_	85:
Bruises, cuts, abrasions	127	· 12 ·	.2	- 141:
Dislocations, sprains, fractures	26	2	3	31 1
Overcome by gas or smoke	68	2	-	70
More than one of the above injuries Shock 1	12 4	1 -	-	13 : 4.
Other and undefined injuries	45	6	1	52:
TOTAL	358	32	6	396 i

^{1.} Casualties who suffer shock in addition to another injury are classified according to the other injury.

Table 4
SEX AND AGE OF FATAL CASUALTIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Age (years)	Male	Female	Total
Under 1	6	9	15
1 - 5	56	41	97
6 - 15	15	. 16	31
-16 40.	7,1	42	113
41 - 65	106*	76	182
66 - 80	65	107	172
Over 80	39	78	117
Not stated, unknown	10	2	12
TOTAL	368	371	739

^{*}Includes 3 fire brigade personnel

Table 5

FERSONS RESCUED OR ESCAPED BY EMERGENCY MEANS FROM FIRES

ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

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•]· 	Number o	f Persons	
Appliances or Methods Used	England and Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Rescue with Fire Brigade assistance from Buildings				
Escape (hand operated)	64	11	3	78
Ladder: extension	112	1	1	116
first floor	19	3 5	_	24
hook	3	_	∤ –	3
turntable (mechanical)	13	9	_	- 22
other or undefined	19	6	-	25
Ladder and line	2	_	_	2
Line	4	· · - /		. 4
Other apparatus	15	6	-	21
Without apparatus	359	69	49	477
Road vehicles	11	! 3	-	14
Ships	1	1 "	_	````2
Other specified hazards	1	– ,	- .	. 1
Total	623	113	53	789
Rescue without Fire Brigade assistance from	,	1		
Aircraft	1 3	-	_	13
Buildings				
Carried or assisted out	767	ļ 88	58	913
Jumping sheet	0	7	-	13
Ladder	164	5	6	175
Lowered from windows, roof etc.	141		22	169
Other or undefined methods	31	13		44
Road vehicles	28	2	4	34
Caravans	8	-	-	8
Ships	5(1)	-	-	5
Railway train (diesel multiple unit)	44(1)	-	_	44
Other specified hazards	2	1	_	3
Total	1 209	122	90	1 421

Table 5 (Cont'd.)

PERSONS RESCUED OR ESCAPED BY EMERGENCY MEANS FROM FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1967

		Number o	f Persons	
Appliances or Methods Used	England and Wales		Northern Ireland	
Escape by emergency means from Aircraft Baled out Through exits or from debris	7 10	-	_ _	7 10
Buildings Climbing over roof Fixed fire escape Jumping from upstairs window, roof etc. Ladder Sliding down drainpipe, sheets etc. Through ground floor windows Other or undefined methods Road vehicles Caravans Ships Other specified hazards	47 10 190 37 36 17 35 160(2) 3 20 3	3 - 33 1 1 5 2 3 - 1 6	8 1 5 4 1 2 - 3 - 2	58 11 228 42 38 24 37 166 3 23
Total	575	55	26	656
Total persons rescued or escaped	2 407	290	169	2 866

- 1. This train was on fire in a tunnel.
- 2. Includes two full buses that were on fire.

There were three incidents in which large numbers were evacuated from hospitals in sections not immediately affected by fire, one in Scotland and two in Northern Ireland. Also in Scotland a school was evacuated and in Northern Ireland, a departmental store. These evacuations are not shown in Table 5.

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