

Tucson Fire Department
Pioneer Hotel Fire Firefighter Individual Reports



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES.

CITY OF TUCSON

TO FIRE PREVENTION

FROM FF HECTOR M CORRALES

SUBJECT PIONEER HOTEL FIRE

DATE 15 OCT 71

I met Capt Carranza on the 4th or 5th floor, I assisted him in walking a man down to the mezzanine. Later on, I have no idea on which floor I was on, Fire Fighter Uthe and I broke into a room, we found an elderly woman laying behind the curtains, I put her on my sholder and took her down to the main floor. Another fire fighter took her, and started to give 1st Aid, she was still alive when I left. Went up to the 9th or 10th floor, found Capt Sedlack, Engineers Cox and Tamayo giving 1st Aid to a woman, put her on ~~my~~ my sholders and took her downstairs.

HECTOR M CORRALES

Hector M. Corrales

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

To Headquarters FROM R. Danielson, L-3 "A" *ADD*
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel fire DATE Oct. 15-1971
Ref: Memo #106

On Dec. 20-1971 I was the engineer on Ladder 3. Upon arriving at the scene I spotted the aerial on the Pennington street side. I then raised the aerial ladder to various windows and assisted in evacuating 7 people.

R. Danielson



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

To Headquarters FROM Firefighter C. H. Glen *CHG*
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10/15/71

On December 20, 1970, I was a recruit in training. On Arriving at the scene, we recruits were sent into the building to assist in evacuating bodies. I helped carry four bodies down to the lobby.

Charles H. Glen
Firefighter C. H. Glen

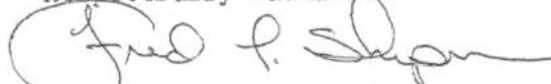
AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

ADD

TO Deputy Chief K. F. Dirks FROM Firefighter Fred L. Shipman
SUBJECT Pioneer Motel Fire DATE 10-15-71

I was assigned to Ladder 3 and responded to the scene on the first alarm. Upon arrival we immediately put up the aerial and removed approximately 8 or 9 people to street level from the sixth and seventh floor. I then went in on the seventh floor and assisted 2 or 3 people to the smoke tower where they were taken down by other firefighters and proceeded up to other floors to clear rooms and assist bringing down 4 or 5 more persons.

Respectfully Submitted


Firefighter Fred L. Shipman

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

72d

TO Headquarters FROM Raul L. Romero
SUBJECT Activities at Pioneer Hotel Fire, Removal of Victims DATE 10-17-71

As a member of the crew of ladder number one, on the night of the Pioneer Hotel Fire, I assisted in removal of live victims from the westside of the building on the aerial of ladder one. I also assisted in removal of one man from westside of building with a 45 foot extension ladder. The rest of my activities were centered on fire fighting activities.

Raul L. Romero

228

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM John A. Engelkes
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE Oct. 17, 1971

While proceeding up the smoke tower on the Southwest side of the Pioneer Hotel a fireman asked me to help carry one(1) person down to the 2nd floor landing where another fireman took this person down the aerial ladder. This person was alive and talked to us while we were carrying him down. I helped carry him from approximately the fifth floor. This was the only person or victim that I helped at the Hotel.

John A. Engelkes
Sta# 10 'B' Shift

cc: Sta# 10

J. V. Engelkes

John A. Engelkes

722

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO HEADQUARTERS FROM FIREFIGHTER E. L. DESCHAINES
SUBJECT PIONEER HOTEL FIRE DATE OCT. 10, 1971

I ASSISTED IN MOVING APPROXIMATELY FIVE (5) DECEASED VICTIMS BODIES FROM VARIOUS ROOMS AND FLOORS, ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE BUILDING, TO THE HOTEL LOBBY. FIRE FIGHTER KELLY ASSISTED IN HELPING ME MOVE A BODY FROM ONE OF THE ROOMS. THE REMAINING BODIES THAT I ASSISTED IN REMOVING, WERE IN THE HALLWAYS, WAITING TO BE TRANSPORTED.

Edward L. Deschaines
Emil Samuels
DE.



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES

CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Hobbs
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10-12-71

I removed a body from about the 5th or 6th floor. The time was about 0100 hours. The man I believe was middle aged & I thought that he was dead.



L. V. Hobbs

Capt Brannon

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO HEADQUARTERS FROM RAYMOND GRIESMER
SUBJECT EVACUATION OF BODIES AT PIONEER HOTEL FIRE. DATE 10-11-71

AT THE PIONEER HOTEL FIRE OF DEC. 28, 1970, I ASSISTED ANOTHER FIREMAN IN EVACUATION OF ONE BODY, FEMALE, WHO APPARENTLY WAS ASPHYXIATED.

NO FIRE HAD ENTERED THIS ROOM. THE BODY WAS FOUND IN NORMAL SLEEPING POSITION IN BED. WE DRAPED THE BED SHEET AROUND BODY, PLACED BODY IN SITTING POSITION ON A CHAIR. WE PICKED UP CHAIR, WITH BODY, AND CARRIED SAME FROM THE EIGHTH FLOOR TO FIRST FLOOR, WHERE AMBULANCE PERSONEL RETRIEVED BODY.

FROM OVERHEARD CONVERSATION FROM UNKNOWN SOURCE, I BELIEVE THIS BODY WAS THE PRIVATE & PERSONAL NURSE OF AN ELDERLY GENTLEMAN WHO ALSO PERISHED IN THIS FIRE.

Raymond Griesmer
Capt. Brarawan

722

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES

CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters

FROM Firefighter Edward H. Bell

SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel

DATE 10-13-71

At the Pioneer Hotel fire I assisted in removing a woman from the 9th. floor south side firestairs. We took her to the 2nd. floor where she was put into a stretcher and was removed to an ambulance. This woman was breathing okay and was between 35-40 years old.

The 2nd person was a male between 50-60-years of age. I found him on the 9th. floor south east corridor in a room full of smoke. I took him out alone and led him down the south stairs to about the 5th. floor where two other firemen led him out the rest of the way. His condition was excellent.

I later took a boy from two firemen who were coming down the south stairs and carried him to the 2nd. floor and put him in a stretcher. I started close cardiac massage while a civilian administered mouth to mouth resuscitation. We continued this until he was put into the ambulance.

The deposition of this victim is unknown to me. He was about 15-17 years of age.



Firefighter
Edward H. Bell
Sta. #11 "A" Shift

Edward H. Bell

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

WED
TO Fire Headquarters ✓ FROM Firefighter Hall Station #3 "A"
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE October 13, 1971

I assisted in the removal of one body (an elderly lady) from the seventh or eighth floor to the ground floor where she was placed on a stretcher. I come across several people who were burnt beyond recognition but did not attempt to move them.



Norman E. Hall
Firefighter N. Hall

cc: Members personnel file at Sta #3

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

To Headquarters FROM James R. Burns, L-3 "A" Shift
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10-15-71

Ref: Memo #106

On Dec. 20, 1970, I was assigned to L-3. I assisted in raising a 45' ladder on the Stone Ave. side of the hotel, enabling several people to come down same. I assisted in rescuing a woman from the 7th. or 8th. floor to the 3rd. floor. At that point we were relieved by two more men. Later on, I helped check rooms and helped bring down one body from the penthouse (11th. floor).

James R. Burns
James R. Burns

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

ALL

To Fire Headquarters

FROM _____

SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire

DATE Oct. 16, 1971

On the day following the pioneer hotel fire I was assigned to a detail which uncovered human remains (a foot & a knee). This was on the ninth floor, north west corner of the building. Following orders from Fire Capt. A. Gregory, I reported these remains to an on-duty Deputy Sheriff. The remains were not moved in my presence.

J.L. Bleess

James L. Bleess

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

KLD

To Headquarters, Fire Prevention Office FROM Firefighter J. D. Martin
SUBJECT Removal of victims at the Pioneer Hotel , Dec 20,1970 DATE Oct 16,1971

Upon arrival at the scene, Captain ^B Berle, Salgado, and myself were instructed to relieve the Engine # 2 crew. We were told to assemble on the ninth floor to search for victims. Salgado and myself, along with ambulance attendants assisted in the removal of a charred victim to the lobby. The room was on the west side and we were told that other victims had been removed from the same area before our arrival. Capt. Berle and our crew then searched for other victims on the ninth floor and found none. I then was assigned to aid with the removal of firefighting equipment from the building

J.D. Martin
J. D. Martin
Sta # 7.

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

Handwritten initials

to Fire Prevention FROM F. E. Bruning
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 17 Oct. 1971

While operating the pump of E-2 I assisted eight to ten
people over a ladder from the roof of Shoe City.

The names and any injuries of these people is unknown.

Francis E. Bruning
Capt. Arnold R. Weimer

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON *72d*

TO Headquarters FROM Marcus W Cox Station #9
SUBJECT Brief discription of part played in Pioneer Hotel fire 10/15/71

Sir;

I was on Ladder #4 when dispatched to Pioneer fire.

Was with group of fireman that found one male caucasian apparently dead.

We placed body on a chair and carried to main floor where we turned over to fire and ambulance personel.

I was not and still am not sure of room number or time this action took place.

Marcus Cox

Marcus Cox

x 28

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Merle Diggins
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE Oct. 17, 1971

While under the Supervision of Capt. Hopkins ; myself, Moreno, G., Hightower, we transported one (Female) body from the 9th floor to the main lobby. This is the only victim that I helped move from one location to another while participating at the Pioneer Hotel Fire.

Merle Diggins
Sta #10 'B' Shift

Merle Diggins

cc; Sta# 10

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

AKL
TO Headquarters FROM Coons, R.E. Fire Fighter
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10 Oct 71

0139 hrs 20 Dec 70, Reported to Training Center. Then transported to Pioneer Hotel to aid in the removal of victims from upper floors to Mezzanine.

Returned 22 Dec 70 to recheck building. In doing so found what appeared to be a foot of a woman or child.

Reported finding to a Training Captain.



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters ✓ FROM B Wells Sta 11 Ashift
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel DATE 10-13-71

In the smoke tower on the South side of the building on approximately the seventh floor, I relieved a fireman carrying an elderly female corpse. Another fireman and myself carried her down the smoke tower to the lobby where the ambulance attendace took over.

Later on the ninth floor, I removed a male corpse from a badly charred room. Another fireman and I layed him on a bed in an untouched room (across the hall).

C. C. To Chief Rojas
C. C. To Sta. 11

Basil E Wells
Basil E Wells

750

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Chief Dirks FROM Firefighter C. Cook
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE Oct. 17, 1971

While moving hose lines at the north stairway on the 6th floor, I was informed of a body in the east wing. I found a male body lying in the hallway in the vicinity of Room 627 and carried the burned body back to the north stairway landing.

C. Cook
C. COOK

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

WJC

TO Headquarters FROM Engineer, William Celaya
SUBJECT Ref. Master Memo # 106 DATE Oct. 17, 1971

In response to my activities, that involved removal of victims, I can only remember the name of one victim, which was Mrs. Steinfeld. I assisted in carrying Mrs. Steinfeld from one of the upper floors after I had met some fire-fighters in the stairway with the victim, and they needed help in carrying the victim. We carried the victim to the lobby area. I also assisted in the removal of other victims. The number and their names is unknown to me.

William Celaya
Williams Celaya

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES

CITY OF TUCSON

72d

TO: Headquarters FROM: Clodfelter, R. L.

SUBJECT: Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE: 10-16-71

At the Pioneer Hotel Fire I was instructed to help remove bodies. I went to the 11 th floor and found two bodies in Room 1109. The bodies were on the floor by the foot of their beds. I and other firefighters wrapped them in bedspreads and carried them in chairs to the mezzanine. I also helped carry one other body from the 11 th floor, down center stairs.

R. L. Clodfelter
R. L. Clodfelter

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

To Headquarters FROM Furman Sta #8 B
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10-10-71

I assisted in carrying a man from the seventh floor to the lobby. He was being carried in a chair. He was pronounced dead by a doctor in the lobby of the hotel. I do not know what room he was from as I relieved someone else who had been carrying him.

Jay Furman
Firefighter Furman
Sta. # 8 B shift



728

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES

CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Firefighter Zielbauer Sta. 14 "A"
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE Oct. 13, 1971

I was in Training on the night of the fire. I was notified by phone At approximately 0120 hours and ordered to report to training. I reported to the Training Center at 0145 hours. From there I was transported to the fire scene where I was under the command of the Training Officers. I assisted in the location of bodies and their removal to the exterior of the hotel.

Firefighter James D. Zielbauer

James D. Zielbauer

Captain Jack D. Simmons

Jack D. Simmons

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Firefighter D. L. Davis
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel fire DATE Oct. 10, 1971

I helped carry six victims during and after the fire as follows:

1. A burned, unclothed, dead man from fourth floor hall down the south stairwell to the third floor where I was relieved.
2. A live woman down the south stairwell from the fifth floor to the third floor where I was relieved.
3. A dead man, from a room on the east side of the hall on about the sixth floor, to the lobby. (A dead woman was found in the same room.)
4. & 5. Two charred, dead bodies, from a room on the west side of the hall on about the eighth floor, to the mezzanine.
6. A charred, dead body, from the same room, to the lobby. (About two or three more charred bodies were found in the adjoining room to the south.)

Daniel Davis
Firefighter D. L. Davis

Emilio Tamala, Capt



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

7201

To Chief Slagel (Fire Prevention) FROM Engineer Paul E. Cook
SUBJECT PIONEER HOTEL FIRE DATE Oct. 17, 1971

I responded with Engine #3 as Engineer, on the 1st alarm. We were at the scene at 0025. I noticed a large amount of smoke from the upper floors as we approached the scene from the south.

Engine #3 made a two line reverse lay from the South Dry Standpipe to engine #2. Engine #2 was at the hydrant about one-hundred yards east of Stone Ave. on Pennington.

As the rest of engine #3's crew had entered the building for rescue, I connected engine #3's lines to engine #2, and notified Engineer Brunning they were ready to be charged.

As I moved engine #3 to the curb, people in windows above were screaming that people were trapped on the north side of the hotel. I notice ladder #3 had set up on the South side of the hotel and ran to Captain Sedlack and informed him of the trapped people. We got a few more firemen and used ladder #1's forty-five foot extension ladder, as a car blocked the back of ladder #3. We raised the forty-five on the West side near the North end of the hotel. One to three victims came down the ladder from the four floor, I'm not sure as to how many came down.

There didn't seem to be any more victims that we could reach at this time. I noticed ladder #2 was lowering their aerial, so I went to assist as I thought they were going to put up the water tower. Instead they moved South of ladder #1, and raised their aerial for more rescue.

Captain Moran was looking for a 2 1/2" to 1 1/2" reducer, I told him I would check engine #3 for one. Engine #3 had been moved, and had made a two line reverse lay to the hydrant at Pennington and Scott. I ran to engine #3 and checked for the reducer, not finding one I asked Engineer Wells if he had one on engine #11. He got it and it was given to Captain Moran. Engineer Wells said he was not familiar with engine #3 and that I should operate it as I was driving engine #3.

Engineer Wells said not to charge the lines until ordered to do so. As I was waiting for the command I noticed a large amount of fire on the East side of the hotel. Also I saw the lines being taken up to the East side of the hotel.

At 0130 I was told to charge the number one line, a short time later I was told to charge the second line. I pumped at 150 lbs. pressure until 0420, when I was told to shut down by Captain Shoup. Engine #3 pumped 45,000 gallons of water.

I then helped in picking up engine #3's hose and we returned to station #3.

Engineer Paul E. Cook

Paul E. Cook

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

AKel

TO Fire Headquarters FROM Richard P. Salgado Sta.# 9-C
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire Actions DATE 10/17/71

My activities at the Pioneer Hotel fire consisted of the following. I was phoned at home by Capt. Berle to report to Sta. #1 on a full alert recall. At Sta.# 1 the crew of Eng.# 7 was assembled which consisted of Capt. Berle, Engineer Rankin, Firefighter J.D. Martin and myself. We were sent to the Pioneer Hotel and reported to the command post for further instructions. Chief Bayless instructed Capt. Berle to take his crew to the 9th floor to assist in anyway necessary. Upon reaching what appeared to be the 9th floor, we were directed to where five (5) charred victim's bodies were discovered. Firefighter Martin and myself assisted in carrying one of the charred bodies down to the lobby where we released it to the ambulance crews for disposition. I then returned to the 9th floor where I assisted in overhaul.

Richard P. Salgado
(signature)

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Fred K. Seal
SUBJECT Removal of People at the Pioneer Hotel fire. DATE 10-9-71

My rescue activities were limited to the west side of the hotel a little north of the main entrance.

First, I helped a family of four from a window on the seventh or eighth floor. This family consisted of a father and mother who were holding their two children, a boy and a girl, by one hand dangling down the side of the hotel. Next I helped two men from separate rooms about the fifth floor, I can't remember the exact floor.

After the above, I saw two ladies on the eighth floor. I helped one of them from the window to the ladder and passed her on to a fireman below me. The other lady collapsed in my arms as soon as I removed her from the window. I had to carry her to the ground. This was all I helped remove from the hotel via the Aerial Ladder.

After firefighting activities by the ladder pipe were concluded and carrying supplies to firefighters on the upper stories, I made my way to the suite belonging to the Steinfelds. Other firemen were there at the time and shortly after I got to this suite, I helped place them in chairs and carry them down the area on the mezanine where doctors were examining the victims.

This, to the best of my knowledge is the extent of my rescue activities at the Pioneer Hotel fire.

Fred K. Seal



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM D. E. Vanover
SUBJECT Body Removal (Pioneer Hotel) DATE 10/10/71

I was involved in the removal of seven bodies from upper floors of the hotel. Two of them were on the third floor in a relay take over from other men who had carried them from higher stories. The next five were from one two bed room apt. on one of the upper floors possibly the seventh or eighth it was on the stone avenue side with windows facing west. I was assisted in removing these last bodies by firefighter D. Davis and two men from Kords ambulance service. Due to the burned condition I did not try to obtain their ages or sex we placed them in rubber sacks or sheets from the unburned portions of the hotel. two of these victims were taken to the lobby by us we were relieved by other personnel on the mezzanine floor of the other three victims.


David E. Vanover

Emil I. Lamanda, Capt
NE.



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM R.C. Baldwin
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10-10-71

In compliance with master memo 106 of 6 Oct. 1971, I was involved with the removing of one body at the Pioneer Hotel Fire. The location was on one of the upper stories at the south-west corner of the building. There were two victims in this room, one male victim and one female. Due to the appearance of the room the male victim was an invalid. The female victim appeared to be a nurse. Other firemen and my self placed the male victim on a chair, covered him with a sheet and tied him in the chair with a sashcord from one of the windows. We then carried him to the mezzanine floor where four other people took him from us. This is the only victim I had any activity with even though I saw other victims at other times and locations during the fire. Because of the time laps between the fire and your request this is about all I can remember of this incident.

R.C. Baldwin

R.C. Baldwin
Fire Engineer

Capt. R. W. Appel

RE



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Firefighter G.A. Moreno
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10-10-71

I assisted in the removal of three dead bodies from the tenth floor. Two of the bodies were in room 1020, one was a nurse and the other was an elderly man. The other victim was in the middle of the hall. There was another body in the same room, but I didn't help in removing it. All of the above victims were removed to the mezzanine floor where an ambulance crew took them.

G.A. Moreno
Firefighter G.A. Moreno

R. W. O.
De.



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM L. D. Wise
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10/18/71

I arrived at the scene driving Rescue 1 and immediately put my turn-outs on and took the E&J resuscitator and first aid kit to the main entrance of the hotel. At this time I heard someone scream which caused me to look up. A girl had jumped from a room from an upper floor. She came down to the mezzanine where she straddled the balcony and then fell to the sidewalk about 10 feet from me. I went over to her and tried to get a pulse but failed to find one.

I then helped set up the aerial on Ladder 1, and helped to removed victims. First was a family of four, second was two elderly women of which one had to be carried all the way down, third was a man in a room all alone, fourth was a man and his wife, and fifth was an elderly woman who was in a room all alone. These are all the victims I can remember taking down the aerial.

I then went to the seventh floor with Captain Carranza where we were told that there might be two juveniles in room 712. We entered the room and found one boy laying in the southwest corner under the window and the other was in the bathroom laying up against the door.

I believe these were all the people that I helped remove from the hotel as near as I can remember.

Larry D. Wise



AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters FROM Charles E. Highhouse Stat 9 (c).
SUBJECT My activity at the Pioneer Hotel fire DATE 10-16-1971

I was called in because of the full alert and was assigned to unit 2523. Unit 2523 was dispatched at approximately 01:30 A.M. Upon arrival we reported to the command post and were told to assist at the 8th floor. We entered the building through the smoke tower. Upon reaching the 6th floor I assisted in carrying a teenage male to the 2nd floor. We administered mouth to mouth resuscitation to the youth all the, but there was no response. I Then went to the 8th (way) floor where I assisted in carrying a female victim to the mezzanine. I then went to the 10th floor with a medical team in search of victims. We came upon apartment 1018 where we found two victims, an elderly male and his nurse. Both were pronounced dead in the room by the doctor. I assisted in carrying them to the 2nd floor lobby. Directly after this we returned to station 10# where we were released.

Charles E. Highhouse
(signature)

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

TO Headquarters, Fire Prevention FROM Engineer Guy Rentfro
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE Oct. 17, 1971

When I arrived at station #3 at 0130 hrs. I was assigned to Reserve Engine #8027. The crew was Capt. Mazon, Eng. Lujan, Cammarano, Rentfro, Palko, and firefighter J. Davis. We were dispatched to the scene and sent to the 9th and 10th floors to aid the search for victims.

Myself and three other firefighters removed a male deceased victim from the bed in room #1003 and placed into a chair. We carried him to the foot of the stairway in the lobby. The other victim, a deceased male, was enroute on the stairway from either the 9th or 10th floor when I assisted three other firemen carry him to the lobby. A Doctor met us at the foot of the stairway in the lobby and pronounced both victims dead. Both appeared to be the victims of carbon-monoxide poisoning. We placed them on an ambulance cot and returned to the upper floors to continue the search.

Capt. Mazon and most of his crew, including myself, were returned to station #3. I was relieved of duty at 0800 hrs. Dec. 21st.


Guy Rentfro
Engineer L-2 Sta. 7 "B"

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

To Headquarters, Fire Prevention FROM Firefighter D. E. Kelly
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire Master Memo 106 DATE 17 Oct 1971

At approxamatly 0135 myself and six other Recruits arrived at the scene with Fire Cpts. Gregory, Frana, and Cirivello. We were disptchated by the Fire Commander to the upper floors to make a room to room search for victims. On the tenth floor in room 1009, myself and three other firefighters carried a female victim to the lobby. She was apparently a victim of carbon monoxide poisiong. I also assisted in carring three other victims from the ninth and tenth floors to the lobby. After making several more room to room searches of the hotel, I , then assisted in removing firefighting equipment from the building. I then remained on fire watch on the sixth floor untill 0830.

Three days after the fire I was assigned to a special detail to make a room to room search for a Handi-Talki- radio. Myself and another recruit found what appeared to be a foot and a knee joint. These parts were found in room 906. These body parts were put in a sheet and left in the room. A Police officer on watch on this floor evidently directed ambulance personnel to the parts.

D. E. Kelly

D. E. Kelly

Firefighter, Station 7 "B"

AVOID VERBAL MESSAGES
CITY OF TUCSON

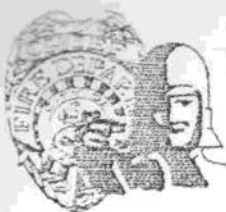
To Headquarters FROM F. A. Tamayo
SUBJECT Pioneer Hotel Fire DATE 10/15/71

On the night of the Pioneer Hotel fire I was tillerman on L-03. On arrival at the scene we put our aerial ladder into operation on the Pennington Street side of the hotel. I assisted an old man off the 8th floor. I helped the man down the aerial and then we moved the ladder over to the east and down about one floor. I went back up the ladder and carried a little girl down with her mother and father following us. We moved the ladder to another window where there were three women. I went up and assisted them in getting started down the ladder. Captain Sedlack went up the ladder to help the three women down and I went into the room where the women had been. From that room I went into the hall way which was about the middle of the east wing on the 6th floor. There I met Captain Jones who informed me that he had come up the fire escape on the north side of the wing on the 6th floor, in search of an old woman which had been seen from the outside. We found the lady and I led her to the fire escape on the north side of the annex. Later on I met Captain Sedlack, Mark Cox, Hector Corrales and a couple other firemen in a room on the 9th floor on the southwest corner of the hotel. In this room we found an unconscious woman and after administering oxygen she was carried down by Hector Corrales.

Frank A. Tamayo

Frank A. Tamayo

12-28-70				
Name	Dr. or Hospital	Status	Injury	Time Lost
✓ Gus A. Moreno	Dr. Frankel	Checked and sent home	Sprained right ankle	still off
✓ Reynold Strand	V.A. Hospital Dr. Miner	Stayed overnight in hospital	Smoke Inhalation	1 day
✓ Chester Adams	Dr. Webb	Checked at Hospital and released	Strained back	still off
✓ Frank A. Tamayo	St. Mary's Hospital Dr. R. W. Kohl	Checked at Hospital and released	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Dale A. Konigsfeld	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Roland H. Banton	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Pedro Trujillo	St. Mary's Hospital	Admitted to Hospital	Broken Pelvis	still off
✓ George Stedman	Dr. Weber Carl Hayden	Checked and released	Strained Back	still off ④ off 10
✓ Larry A. Cunningham	Dr. Bacus	Checked and released	Strained back muscle	none
✓ Arthur Apodaca	St. Mary's Hosp.	(1 day in hosp) Admitted to hospital	Broken Ankle	still off
✓ Leonard Hobbs	Carl Hayden	Checked and released	Back Strain	still off
✓ Marcus Cox	St. Mary's Hospital	Checked and released	Hip and leg & Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Ellis Cook	Carl Hayden	Checked and released	Sprained back and shoulder	none
✓ Jack Harris	TMC	(In hospital overnight) Admitted to Hospital	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Rodolfo Lopez	Command Physician at scene	Checked and released	Blisters on hands and Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Fred Sprung	TMC	Admitted to Hospital	Smoke Inhalation	still off
✓ H. M. Adams	None	O.K.	Strained right shoulder	none
✓ Carl T. Cook	None	O.K.	Bruised Toes, right on right foot	none
✓ H. Wray	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ W. P. DuPont	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ A. J. Caranza	DR. MAKYD None	O.K. 7.	Smoke Inhalation	2 DAY none
✓ Charles Hammel	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ R. L. Delahanty	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ C. J. Jacome	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Fred Seal	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ R. W. Jones	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ W. S. Foster	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Raul A. Romero	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Larry D. Vise	None	O.K.	Smoke Inhalation	none
✓ Alvin H. Gregory	None	O.K.	Strained lower back	none
✓ Ellis Franklin	TMC Baker and Edwards	Admitted (kept overnight)	Ulcerations and strain to arms, left foot, & shoulder	still off off
✓ E. H. Bell				



HELP US PREVENT FIRE

CITY OF TUCSON
FIRE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 27210
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85726
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
602 791-4502

E. Dean Holland Fire Chief



Re: Pioneer Hotel Report

December 5, 1977

Heidi Sanders
Rt. 1, Box 482A
Casa Grande, Arizona 85222

Dear Heidi,

Thank you for sending us a copy of your report. It reads very well and pulls the reader along. You know from the first paragraph that the Fords got out, but you find yourself urged along by the suspense--how did they get out? We hope the instructor finds it so as well; and we are happy that we were able to assist you with the facts that you required.

Sincerely yours,

R. B. Slagel, Chief
Fire Prevention Division

L. D. Gilmore, Captain
Fire/Arson Investigation Unit

RBS/LDG:LSM:lsm

11/30/77

Dear Mr. Seigel and Capt. Gilmore,

Thankyou so much for taking the time to help me with this story.

Although the main theme of the story deals with the Ford interview, everything they mentioned had to be backed by fact. That is where you really helped out.

I hope you enjoy the story, I'll be turning it in tomorrow morning.

If I do get it published I'll surely let you know.

Hope both of your families have a nice Thanksgiving -

Thanks again,
Heidi Sanders

Heidi Sanders

MCO 310/Itule

In-Depth

11-21-77

Pioneer Hotel

Dr. William Ford, a Casa Grande physician, sat at the round poker table in his family room. He was wearing a faded green scrub suit, ready to make the evening rounds at Hoemako Hospital.

His wife, Regis, sat next to him. Together they recalled the night they shared at the Pioneer Hotel in Tucson on Dec. 20, seven years ago when the landmark hotel was set aflame.

Twenty-nine persons died and 34 were injured in the fire.

The Fords escaped although Mrs. Ford was hospitalized overnight.

FIRST ADD/senders/Pioneer Hotel

"We rarely ever talk about it," Ford said. "We are just so grateful to be alive."

The Fords had reservations at the hotel for Dec. 19 and checked into their room in time to change clothes before attending a wedding that evening. Since Mrs. Ford had not been feeling well all day, they did not attend the reception.

When the Fords returned to their room after the wedding, Ford gave his wife some medication for her upset stomach, which also put her to sleep. About midnight Ford awoke to the sound of screams.

"What woke me up was the noise. We had left our window open and I could hear the yelling and hollering. Then, when I was up, I could smell the smoke," Ford said.

The Pioneer Hotel had three elevations. The main structure was 11 stories with a roof garden. A six-story east wing was attached to the main building. A two-story level with the swimming pool area covered the rest of the rear area of the hotel.

-MORE-

SECOND ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

The 29 persons who died all occupied the sixth through eleventh floors. The Fords occupied an eighth floor room overlooking the pool.

After realizing the hotel was on fire, Ford tried to arouse his wife. He had trouble waking her because of the medication and eventually pushed her out of bed with both feet.

Ford had remembered seeing the fire escape at the end of the hall next to the elevator. They decided to run. "The first thing we did was go into the bathroom and get wet towels to put around our heads," Mrs. Ford said.

"We made an agreement that we would hold hands," Ford said. "I would open the door quickly and we would run. If it was too bad out there we agreed to come back in the room."

They had decided to count steps so they would be able to find their way back if necessary. It only took three steps to know they could go no farther.

-more-

THIRD ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

"There was a deafening roar in the hall," said Mrs. Ford. "You could see the color of the fire above the rolling black smoke. It was rolling like a tornado."

They immediately returned to their room and ran for the window.

With their door open for that short while, the Ford's room had filled with smoke. "We stood on the windowsill holding onto the frame and hung our heads out the window to breathe," Ford said. The windows were the old fashioned roll-out kind with a metal frame.

The fire was set on two locations on the fourth floor by an arsonist. According to the Tucson Fire Department fire report, "With devastating speed, the fire spread and turned into a holocaust never before experienced by the city of Tucson. The open stairways, synthetic carpeting on the floors, vinyl wall covering, and combustible contents caused the fire to extend up the open stairways and engulf the hallways of the fourth through eleventh floors with inconceivable speed."

-more-

FOURTH ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

Louis C. Taylor, 17 at the time of the fire, was convicted on July 8, 1975, of 28 murder charges. He is now serving 28 life sentences in the Arizona State Prison. One person died a year after the fire and although the death was caused by the fire, Taylor was not charged in that death.

A family of five, staying in the room next to the Fords, died in the fire. As the Fords hung to their window they tried to help a young boy in the family.

"The little fellow next to us had gotten panicky. We tried to talk to him to calm him down a little bit. He would keep coming to the window and then going back into the room. Smoke was billowing out over his head because someone had left their hall door open.

"Then, when he was hanging to the window he either jumped or fell. We could hear him hit the roof below us and thought he was dead, but he survived the fall. Apparently he was just unconscious. The rest of the family had already been burned or asphyxiated in the room," the Fords said.

FIFTH ADD/Senders/Pioneer Hotel

The boy eventually died. Four other members of his family who were in the room ^athat night also died. Two of them died after falling. The others died from burns.

The Fords hung to their window thinking they'd be safe for a little while. Finally ~~at~~ there was a momentary sound of relief.

"We could hear the sirens. It sounded like just everything was coming and then there was no sound at all. No one came to the back to help us for a long time," Mrs. Ford said.

The fire reached the fourth alarm level. The first company arrived at the scene approximately three minutes after receiving the call. It involved 75 percent of all the equipment Tucson had available.

The trucks could not fit in the alley behind the hotel. When the firemen finally got to the back of the building, the Fords had started their descent.

The Fords could see people jumping, ~~and~~ falling and being burned up while they watched from their window. They made the decision that they, too, would try to find a way down.

SIXTH ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

"We both knew that we were dead, we had settled that.

There was just no way that ~~a~~ we were going to get out. The different windows around us were lighting up and people were jumping and still there were no firemen down there." the Fords said.

The fire investigators believe the fire was ignited around midnight. It spread swiftly but was not reported to the fire department until 12:19 a.m. by a cashier at the Downtown Shoppers Garage, one block south of the hotel.

Ford said, "We were hanging out the window and had said goodbye to our children and to each other and we were holding hands." ^d (Six of the Fords' nine children had planned to make the trip with their parents and changed plans at the last minute.)

It wasn't until this hopeless moment that Ford spotted a four inch cast iron pipe running down the side of the building on the other side of the cranked-out window.

-more-

SEVENTH ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

He reached around the window and shook the pipe to be sure it would hold. Then he took a chance and leapt around the window, grabbed the pipe, and started his descent.

"I could get a good grip of the pipe with my hands and feet ^o as I started down and yelled for Regis to come on. But, as soon as I got below our window, the nice easy cast iron pipe changed to a smooth metal conduit pipe that had been bolted onto the wall. I could hardly get a grip with my hands,"

^d
Ford said. Mrs. Ford did not follow.

With his toes and fingers, Ford got enough grip to work his way down. Between floors he was able to pull the pipe away from the wall a little bit which made it easier.

"I remember saying to myself that Regis will never be able to do this," Ford said.

As Ford made his way down he spotted Dr. Lewis Beck, an internationally known philosopher who was in Tucson for a meeting at the University of Arizona. He was about to jump from his sixth floor window when Ford called out to him and showed him the pipe. Beck then followed Ford down the pipe to the second story roof and safety.

-MORE-

EIGHTH ADD/Senders/Pioneer Hotel

"When I got down to the floor I just couldn't believe it. There were still no firemen ~~there so I ran across the sub-roof~~ there so I ran across the sub-roof and just got to the edge and there was a two or three foot parapet that came up with tile on the top of it," Ford said.

"I started over that and I could see a fireman. I started screaming 'My wife! We need help! We need help!'"

The firemen came carrying a ladder that only reached to the fourth floor. Another group followed it with an extension ladder. Ford tried to help them put it up.

"They said they didn't need me so I went in the corner and started to pray. I could see the ladder going up. I looked up and I could see my wife in the window with the fire behind her and she lit up like a silhouette," Ford said.

Two firemen were injured while trying to reach Mrs. Ford. One fireman fell off the ladder. The extension of the ladder collapsed catching the ankle of the other man and leaving him dangling upside down.

-END-

NINTH ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

Mrs. Ford had tried to reach the pipe to follow her husband down but couldn't ~~make~~ reach it. She ⁺stood in the window hoping help would come when the door, connecting the Ford's room with the family's next door, exploded with fire.

There was a fireman with a group of teen-agers ^o in the six-story roof near the Ford's window. They tried to throw Mrs. Ford a rope and urged her not to jump.

"After the explosion the frame on the window was getting red hot and I couldn't stay there. I had to go somewhere," said Mrs. Ford. "I really didn't think I was going to make it. I was really scared."

Mrs. Ford jumped around ^{to} the pipe and started her way down. The kids finally got the rope over to her and she tied it around her waist while gripping the pipe.

"I no more got that rope on and I fell. My toe caught in the pipe and I was hanging upside down," Mrs. Ford said. "I pulled back up using the rope and then used it to inch down the pipe again."

-more-

TENTH ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

The whole time that this was going on, the firemen had set the extension ladder up to the sixth floor. Mrs. Ford went down the rest of the way by ladder.

The Pioneer Hotel met the minimum standards for safety set by the city for its age and class, said L.D. Gilmore, captain of the arson unit. Although new buildings were putting in automatic sprinkler systems and closed staircases, it was not a requirement for the older buildings.

The fire initiated ^{an} immediate change of standards requiring these two prevention measures for non-residential multiple story buildings in Tucson.

The open staircase at the Pioneer worked like a chimney, shooting the fire up, said Gilmore said. If the staircase had been closed, the fire probably would have been contained on the fourth floor.

After repairs, the hotel was reopened, but failed. It is now being used as an office building.

-more-

ELEVENTH ADD/Sanders/Pioneer Hotel

The Fords returned to the hotel the day after the fire to see their room. Mrs. Ford was able to retrieve a watch that was sentimental to her.

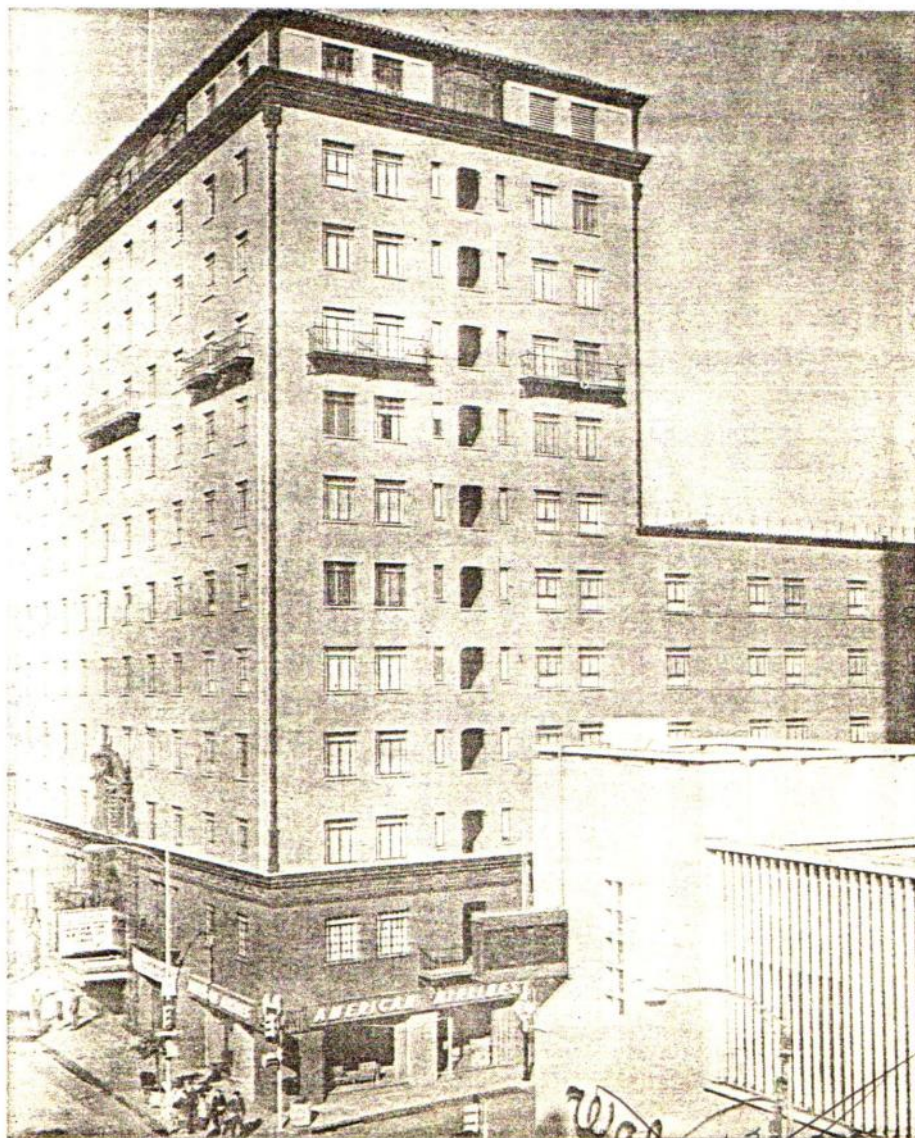
"Now when we stay away from home, we always get a room on the first floor," said Mrs. Ford. "Sometimes we have to drive extra miles to get one."

(S)

Chief Peterson

TUCSON FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE REPORT
PIONEER INTERNATIONAL HOTEL
80 No. STONE AVE.

DECEMBER 20, 1970



W. J. K.
133-070
3-6-71
By *W. J. K.*
Deputy

THE PIONEER INTERNATIONAL HOTEL FIRE
80 North Stone Avenue, Tucson, Arizona
0019 Hours, December 20, 1970

HOTEL BACKGROUND

The Pioneer International Hotel is located in the heart of downtown Tucson at the intersection of North Stone Avenue and Pennington Street. This attractive hotel building was constructed in 1929 by one of Tucson's most prominent business men, Mr. Harold Steinfeld. The hotel was a popular place for tourists, dignitaries, and celebrities to stay when visiting Tucson. The Cleveland Indians made the hotel their home while conducting their annual spring training program in the Old Pueblo. Vice President Agnew recently occupied a seventh floor suite during a short visit for a speaking engagement in the hotel's attractive ballroom. The warm hospitality extended to our neighbors south of the border gained fame for the hotel, and soon many of the prominent families from the State of Sonora, Mexico, made it a point to stay at the Pioneer Hotel while on business and pleasure trips in the City. Local and out of town groups enjoyed holding their banquets, dances and conventions in the main ballroom of the hotel. In the past 41 years of existence, the Pioneer Hotel loomed as one of Tucson's most prominent landmarks.

CONSTRUCTION

The Pioneer Hotel has three distinct elevations. The main structure is 11 stories high. The dimensions are approximately 128 feet by 56 feet. It has a roof garden with exterior walls that make it appear to be a 12-story structure. The east wing attached to the main structure is six stories high and the dimensions are approximately 54 feet by 71 feet. There is approximately 15,000 square feet of structure that is two stories high to the north and east sides of the main structure and east wing. The area of each floor from the third floor through the sixth floor is approximately 11,000 square feet. The area of each floor from the seventh floor through the 11th floor is approximately 7,000 square feet. There is a full basement under the building. The exterior walls are constructed of reinforced poured concrete. All columns, tees, beams, and ceiling joists are constructed of reinforced poured concrete. Partitions are constructed of hollow three-inch tile with one-half inch of plaster on both sides. All the floors are also constructed of reinforced poured concrete. The roof of the two-story section on the north side has a roof made of metal decking with insulation and built up composition. The two-story section on the east has wooden decking with built up composition roof. The remainder of the roofs are constructed of reinforced poured concrete.

All public hallways had noncombustible fiberglass accoustical tile ceilings hung on steel supports. The space between this ceiling and the floor above concealed the air conditioning plenums, electrical conduit, and water lines. Doors off the hallways were unrated wooden panel with wooden door frames. The public hallways were lighted by fluorescent light fixtures, each having a plastic defuser held in place by a wooden frame. The floors in the hallways and 22 inches of the walls above the floor were covered with a good grade of synthetic carpeting. At the 22 inch level there was a 3/4 inch by 8 inch plywood board with a laminated plastic surface paralleling the floor. The remainder of the walls were covered with a vinyl wall covering.

The hotel has two interior stairways and one smoke tower. One open stairway leads from the main floor lobby to the second floor mezzanine. There are self closing, fire rated doors on the second floor leading to an open stairway, which extends to the sixth floor and terminates in the east/west public hallway approximately 12 feet east of the elevator lobby. The other open stairway is in the north/south public hallway approximately 40 feet from the north end and goes up through the 11th floor to the roof. At the roof

level, there is one solid door leading to the roof and one louvered door leading to an equipment room. In the center of the hotel there is a narrow, open stairway leading from the basement to the second floor office area. At the south end of the 11th story tower there is a smoke tower which leads from the second floor mezzanine to the roof. There are two exterior fire escapes. One is located at the north end of the 11th story tower. The other is located on the north side of the east wing and is accessible only through a guest room.

The hotel building has a total of four elevators. There are two manually operated passenger elevators which go from the basement to the 11th floor. They are located at the south end of the north/south public hallway. There is one manually operated service elevator, which runs from the basement to the 11th floor. It is located approximately 20 feet east of the north stairway. There is an open freight elevator in the northeast corner of the two-story section which goes from the basement to the second floor kitchen.

OCCUPANCY

The street floor of the building consists of the main lobby, dining room, cocktail lounge, and several businesses. On the second floor there are several banquet rooms, a kitchen, business offices, and a large ballroom. The third floor through the 11th floor consists of approximately 175 hotel rooms and suites. At the time of the fire there was a total of 113 permanent and overnight guests staying in the hotel. Several of these guests were visitors from Mexico. Approximately 350 persons were attending a Christmas party in the large ballroom on the second floor. Some members of the hotel staff were on duty.

FIRE LOAD

Most of the hotel rooms and suites had typical furnishings, such as wooden dressers and chests, beds, drapes, etc. The only furnishings in the hallways consisted of one wooden table 24 by 48 inches and two wooden chairs. These were located near the elevator on each floor. The floors of hallways and rooms were covered with a good grade of synthetic carpeting. The vinyl wall covering, painted wooden door frames and painted doors also contributed to the fire load.

FIRE PROTECTION

The building has a wet standpipe system with the Fire Department connection on the Stone Avenue side of the building. There are two hose cabinets on each floor up through the sixth floor and one cabinet on each floor from the seventh through the 11th floor, which are connected to the wet system.

There is also a dry standpipe with Fire Department connections on the Pennington Street side of the building. This system consists of one standpipe, which goes up the smoke tower with one 2-1/2 inch outlet at each floor.

The building does not have a sprinkler system. The stairways in the hotel are open and unprotected. There are no heat or smoke detectors in the building.

WEATHER

The United States Weather Bureau at the Tucson International Airport recorded a temperature of 43° Fahrenheit, relative humidity 69, wind 9 knots from the southeast and a clear sky at 2300 hours on December 19, 1970.

STORY OF THE FIRE

Fire investigators believe the fire was ignited around midnight by

an arsonist in at least two separate locations on the fourth floor. The fire went unnoticed for several minutes. Then, with devastating speed, the fire spread and turned into a holocaust never before experienced by the City of Tucson. The open stairways, synthetic carpeting on the floors, vinyl wall covering, and combustible contents caused the fire to extend up the open stairways and engulf the hallways of the fourth through the 11th floors with inconceivable speed.

The fire gutted one room on the sixth floor, three rooms on the eighth floor and two rooms on the ninth floor. Searing heat and acrid smoke engulfed the hotel from the fourth through the 11th floors, causing a large loss of life in the upper floors.

REPORT OF THE FIRE

Incoming alarms, dispatches, and radio communications are recorded on tape. The time is recorded every six seconds on the tape. Times indicated on this report were taken from these tapes and are reasonably accurate.

The first report was received by the Fire Dispatchers at 0019:15 hours on December 20, 1970, reporting a car fire outside the Pioneer Hotel. This was reported by the cashier at the Downtown Shoppers Garage, 90 North Church Avenue, one block west of the hotel. Additional information was not given by the cashier, as he stated he could not leave the cashier cage unattended.

The second report was received from Emory Forkin, calling from the Tucson Federal Building one-half block south of the hotel, reporting a fire on the seventh floor of the Pioneer Hotel. This report was received at 0019:33 hours.

A third report of the fire came from the Pioneer Hotel staff at 0019:45 hours, stating that there was fire on the third floor and smoke in the upper floors.

The Fire Department continued to receive reports of the fire. At 0022:31 hours a person at the Old Pueblo Club in the Tucson Federal Building reported the Pioneer Hotel on fire. The person broke off the report by stating, "Oh, here they come. Well, I see the fire trucks now."

Of the many reports received by the Fire Department, the locations reported varied from the second floor to the seventh floor. Early reports indicated that people were yelling for help and breaking glass windows.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BACKGROUND

The Tucson Fire Department provides fire protection within the city limits of the City of Tucson, which covers approximately 80.9 square miles and has a population of 263,000 people. On December 20, 1970, the Fire Department had a total compliment of 288 firefighting personnel. The Fire Suppression Division normally has 79 firefighting personnel and three chief officers on duty. There are 12 fire stations, housing 13 engine companies, 4 ladder companies and 5 rescue companies. The department has 6 apparatus in reserve that can be manned by off-duty personnel and put in service as engine companies when needed. Most of these reserve apparatus are overage for active service.

SUMMARY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

A total of four alarms were dispatched to the hotel fire, consisting of 11 engine companies, 4 ladder companies, (1 ladder company was operating with a reserve engine) and 5 rescue companies. A total of 70 on duty firefighting personnel manned these companies. Three on duty chief officers also responded.

Fire companies from the first alarm arrived at the scene approximately three minutes after the first report was answered by the Fire Dis-

patchers at the Communications Center.

The first arriving companies and chief officers reported considerable smoke coming from windows of the upper floors of the hotel. People were in a state of panic and yelling for help. Some of them were hanging from windows, standing on ledges and balconies waiting to be rescued. A woman jumped to her death near the first arriving ladder truck as the aerial was being extended. Three other persons died from falls during the fire. As the first companies entered the hotel, it was obvious that the building was well involved with fire.

The Fire Commander, Assistant Chief Richard Bayless, established a command post on the southwest corner of Pennington Street and Stone Avenue. A combined operation of firefighting and rescue became the first major objective of the Fire Department. The two on duty District Chiefs divided the command for interior firefighting operations.

Ladder companies immediately spotted their trucks and extended their aerials for rescue operations. Several of their hand ladders were also used for rescue. All of those persons in need of rescue who came into view of the ladder companies were successfully rescued from windows, balconies and ledges. After Ladder 1 completed their rescue operations from the exterior of the building, they used their ladder pipe to fight fire through the windows on the eighth and ninth floors.

Engine companies assigned to firefighting took hose lines to each of the fire floors and attached them to the dry standpipe connection. These lines and the wet standpipe system were used to fight most of the fire in the hallways and rooms. Two lines were laid to the rear of the building and some firefighting was done with these lines after being taken up ladders.

The Chief of the Fire Department, L. F. Peterson, responded from his home, and arrived at the scene a few minutes after the first arriving companies. He initiated a "Yellow Alert", which is a crisis requiring the assistance of outside agencies or other city departments. At this time he assumed the position of Disaster Operations Chief, responsible for coordinating the activities of all agencies or departments at the scene. The primary need at this time was for transportation and medical treatment of victims.

As off duty chief officers arrived at the scene, they were assigned sectors (areas of responsibility) for firefighting, rescue, staging areas, etc. Off duty firefighting personnel were organized into companies at Station #1 and then sent to the scene to carry out a specific assignment, bolster company strength of companies at the scene, or to relieve injured or fatigued personnel. Ninety-two off duty firefighting personnel reported to the scene during the emergency.

A Fire Department Operations Center was established at Station #1 four blocks from the fire scene. At the Fire Department Operations Center several off duty chief officers reported and coordinated the support of manpower and equipment needed at the scene. They also arranged to provide fire protection for the rest of the city during the emergency. This was accomplished by calling in five mutual aid fire companies, manning four reserve engine companies with off duty men and utilizing the two on duty companies that did not respond to the scene. All of these companies were assigned areas left vacant by companies at the hotel fire.

Approximately one hour after the initial dispatch, the fire was under control. The objective of the Fire Department now was to make a systematic search of every room for victims and to extinguish any existing smoldering or spot fires. To establish a control of rooms checked, a white rag was tied to the door knob of each room after it was thoroughly searched and cleared of any victims. This operation lasted for approximately two and one-half

hours, and at this time some of the companies cleared the scene and returned to the station. Several companies remained to check for smoldering fires and to gather equipment scattered throughout the hotel. By 0800 hours all excepting one company had cleared the fire scene. This company maintained a fire watch until 1450 hours on December 20, 1970.

At this time the hotel was turned over to the Fire Prevention Division to conduct an investigation to determine the cause and place of origin of the fire. Their on-the-scene investigation continued until 1900 hours on December 31, 1970, at which time the hotel was turned over to the management.

R. B. Slagel, Chief of the Fire Prevention Division, after completing the on-scene investigation of the fire stated in his report that "the fire originated on the fourth floor in the public hallway and there were at least two major fire origin areas separated by approximately 60 feet. No natural or accidental causes could be found. In my opinion, this was a deliberate, man-made fire, with malicious intent; therefore, the fire cause is arson".

ACTIVITIES OF OTHER AGENCIES

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Tucson Police Department responded to the scene. Some off duty policemen were recalled and assistance was given by the Sheriff's Department, Border Patrol and Highway Patrol. Some of the first arriving police officers at the scene assisted firemen in rescue operations. The police maintained perimeter and crowd control and were responsible for casualty control.

NEWS MEDIA

During the first phase of the fire, numerous people from the various news media went to the scene to take pictures and give news releases. After the fire had been brought under control, Mr. Howard Weiss, City Public Information Officer, established an Emergency Operations Center at the Police Department two blocks from the scene where members of the news media reported. From this location the dissemination of all news releases were coordinated to prevent conflicting and erroneous reporting. During the emergency the Police and Fire Communication Centers received numerous calls from news media in other cities requesting information about the fire. These requests were channeled to the Public Information Emergency Operations Center.

MEDICAL

When the "Yellow Alert" was initiated, key persons in the medical field were alerted. A command physician then reported to the scene with other doctors and a mobile medical team. At the scene they checked victims and those in need of medical attention were sent to hospitals. Those pronounced dead at the scene were taken to the County Morgue. Several of the local hospitals activated their disaster plans and were prepared to receive injured victims from the fire.

RED CROSS

Fifty volunteer and staff Red Cross disaster workers responded when notified of the hotel fire. First aid teams reported to the scene. A canteen was set up to serve firefighters and rescue workers. Some volunteers assisted at the morgue. Other Red Cross personnel offered assistance to victims who were hospitalized or housed in hotels and motels.

The Red Cross switchboard received calls from all over the country and Mexico. The majority of the calls were from Hermosillo, Mexico, as a large number of persons registered at the hotel were from that

city. Spanish-speaking volunteers assisted in answering these calls and giving assistance to the survivors who were from Mexico.

AMBULANCES

The two ambulance companies who provide the emergency ambulance service for the City responded and provided for the transportation of victims to hospitals and the morgue. These two companies utilized 11 ambulances for this operation.

FIRE DAMAGE

There was extensive fire damage to the hallways and stairways from the fourth floor through the 11th floor. One room on the sixth floor, three rooms on the eighth floor and one room on the ninth floor, including their contents, were destroyed. Other rooms from the fourth to 11th floor had extensive smoke and heat damage, as indicated by melted telephones, lamp shades, plastic articles, light bulbs, etc.

There was no structural damage to the building.

It is estimated that the fire damage to contents and building is approximately 1.5 million dollars.

DEATHS AND INJURIES

There were 28 persons who died as a result of the fire. All of these persons were occupants of rooms from the sixth floor through the 11th floor.

It is known that at least 13 persons received medical attention due to injuries from the fire. Many other occupants received first aid treatment at the scene.

There were 34 reported injuries to firefighters. Many of the reported injuries were due to smoke inhalation and overexertion. After getting fresh air and rest, these firefighters did not require medical attention. There were 19 who were taken to hospitals or treated by doctors. The most seriously injured firefighter sustained a broken pelvis. One firefighter broke his ankle, one captain had severe lacerations on his legs and one chief officer suffered severe smoke inhalation. There were seven others injured seriously enough to lose time from work. The remainder of those treated were released after being checked by a doctor.

BOARD OF INQUIRY - PIONEER HOTEL

After the fire, the Mayor appointed a Board of Inquiry, consisting of himself and two Councilmen, to investigate the Pioneer Hotel fire. Following is a copy of their report:

This Board, composed of Mayor Corbett and Councilmen Boroza and Royal, was created to inquire into the disastrous fire on December 20, 1970 at the Pioneer Hotel and, using any information derived, to take all available steps to prevent any occurrence of a similar tragedy. The Inquiry Board's activities have been supplemented by investigations conducted by the administrative staff, particularly the Fire and Police Departments. In addition, the City has had the assistance of outside consultants.

The information presented in this report does not purport to indicate liability; rather, the intent is to disclose relevant information developed by the Board through City of Tucson employees, a consultant employed by the City of Tucson, and interviews with those who had knowledge of or were witness to the fire.

City activities in the aftermath of the Pioneer Hotel fire are covered in this statement, together with a review of City actions.

RESPONSE BY CITY FORCES

Fire Department:

First notification of the fire came by public telephone to the Fire dispatch operators at 0019:15 hours reporting a car fire in the vicinity of the Pioneer Hotel. Almost simultaneously a second call at 0019:33 reported a fire on the seventh floor at the Pioneer Hotel. At 0019:45 a call from the Hotel stated there was a fire at the Pioneer on the third floor.

The following equipment was initially dispatched at 0020:29 hours; Engines 1, 2 and 3; Ladder trucks 1 and 3; and Rescue Truck 1.

Approximately one minute and 42 seconds after dispatch, Engine 1 announced to other units by radio that they would make a high-rise lay (an indication of an active fire). Engine 2 responded by announcing a similar lay nine seconds later.

Three minutes and 35 seconds after the initial dispatch, fire officers at the scene requested Fire communications personnel to dispatch additional equipment (second alarm), together with ambulances and rescue units. Engines 4 and 5; Ladder 2, and Rescue 2 were then dispatched to the Hotel.

Seven minutes after the first dispatch of fire equipment, the (third alarm) call was made, sending Engines 8, 10 and Rescue 3 to the scene.

Police Department:

At 0021 the Police radio operator dispatched officers to a reported fire at the Pioneer Hotel; the first officers arrived almost simultaneously with the first fire equipment. Upon a report of the fire's severity, other officers were dispatched to initially assist in traffic and crowd control, rescue attempts, and aid to the injured.

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS

Board of Inquiry

Members of the Board requested those with knowledge of the Pioneer Hotel fire to appear before it. As a result, hotel employees, together with others who were witnesses to activities concerning the fire, met with the Board. Various aspects of the fire were discussed in an effort to reconstruct related actions and events.

The Board has concluded that there is no question concerning the capable reaction and performance of the City's organizations and employees in responding to the fire and rendering aid and assistance.

Consultant's Report

Mr. Cyrillis W. Holmes from the Arson Investigation Unit of the California Division of Forestry has been retained by the City of Tucson to conduct an independent investigation of certain aspects of the fire.

As a consultant, Mr. Holmes' task was to determine the "point of origin and cause" of the fire. A preliminary report was submitted to the City Attorney on January 6, 1971. Certain related photographs (a part of Mr. Holmes' investigation) will be forwarded to the City at a later date, together with his complete and detailed final report.

The following is a summary of the preliminary reports by Mr. Holmes. In his opinion:

- (1) The fire was intentional and man-caused, not mechanically-caused, by some device failure and the cause is concluded to be an act of arson;
- (2) The fire had, as its point of origin, the fourth floor of the hotel, with two distinct "start" points in the fourth floor hallway, each separated from the other by approximately 60 feet;
- (3) The path of the flame spread (travel) is fairly well established by physical evidence.

Mr. Holmes' examination and investigation was conducted independently and without any knowledge that had been developed by the Tucson Fire Department or other investigators. His opinion and conclusion were based upon the physical evidence observed in and about the fire scene.

It should be noted that the Tucson Fire Department's independent study agrees with the consultant's preliminary opinions. Prior to retaining Mr. Holmes, fire officials set a fire in the unburned portion of the hotel in an attempt to establish fuel source and flame spread rate. The tests were filmed so the results could be better interpreted. Appropriate to the overall investigation, both Mr. Holmes and the Tucson Fire Department recommended further testing of certain decorating materials and furnishings used in the hotel.

Fire Department

Currently, the Fire Department is involved in an ongoing investigation of the fire. Additionally, the consultant's further findings will be available to the Fire Department for use in their investigation.

Physical evidence has been collected and is being subjected to laboratory analysis. Some of the tests are to determine fire resistance, combustion qualities, gas release, and chemical reactions of various materials.

Police Department

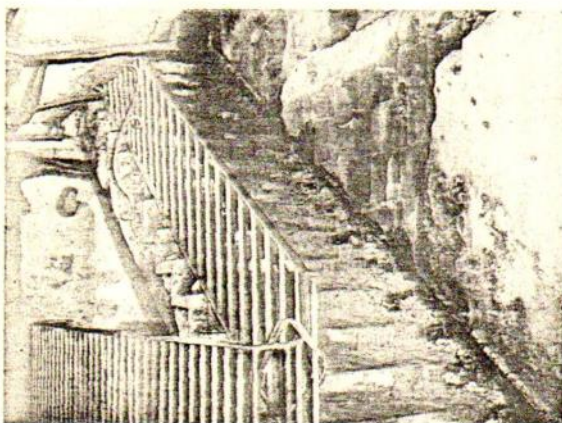
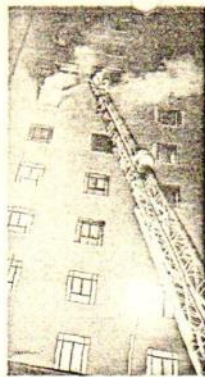
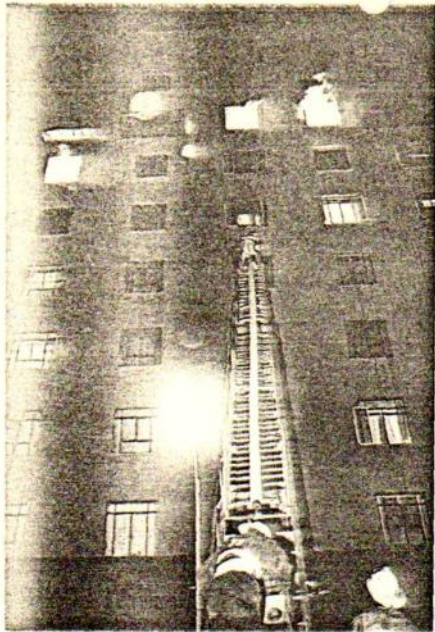
The Police Department continues its investigation into the arson question and all related aspects of the tragedy. The Police Department's investigation is in cooperation with that of the Fire Department.

GENERAL COMMENT

With this report, the task of the Fire Inquiry Board has been accomplished and no further action by this special body is contemplated.

In an attempt to prevent such a disastrous event in the future, legislative action will be proposed. The City's current codes conform to national standards. They can be modified to include more stringent regulations. The City, in its legislative efforts, may well consider the elimination of certain immunity from fire protection requirements and features in existing buildings. When recommendations are finalized by the City Attorney's office, Building Inspections Division, and Fire and Police Departments, they will be forwarded by the City Manager for consideration and immediate action by this Mayor and City Council.

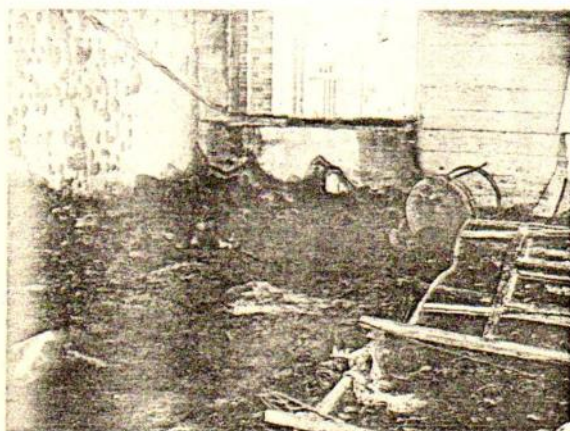
During the Board's review, it became obvious that many citizens in this community, each in his own way, aided his fellow man in hectic moments of the fire as well as in the agonizing days which followed. This response should not go unrecognized in the otherwise technical report from this Board. The community can be proud of its people.



5TH FLOOR STAIRWAY



ROOM 627



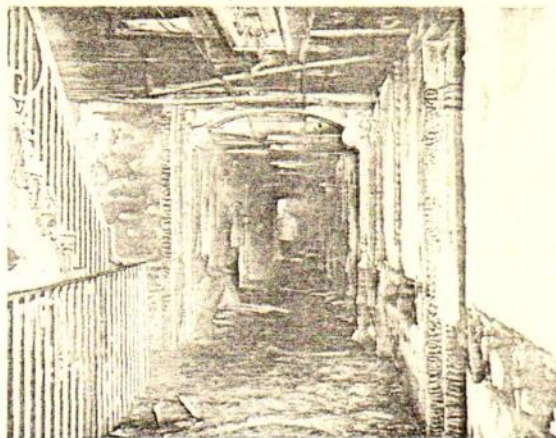
ROOM 300



HALLWAY OF 4TH FLOOR



ROOM 712--2 CHILDREN DIED HERE.



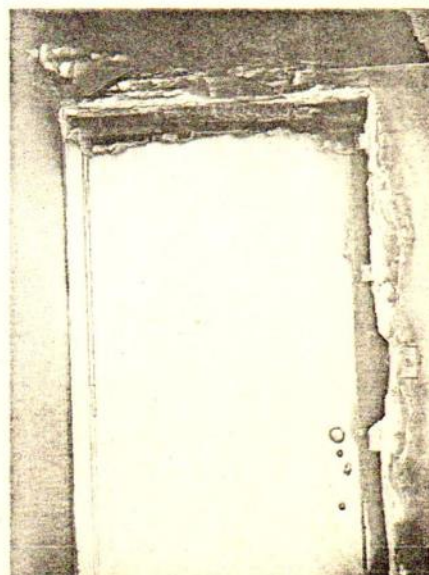
HALLWAY OF 8TH FLOOR



ROOM 706



ROOM 1018-CARBON MONOXIDE KILLED THE TWO OCCUPANTS OF THIS ROOM



DOOR TO ROOM ON 11TH FLOOR

JACKSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENT RUN REPORT

FOR 2ND ALARM FIRES OR GREATER

MASTER
REPORT NO. 0459

1ST ALARM Eng 1,2,3 Lnd 1,3 P-1 TIME 0020
 2ND ALARM Eng 5,7 Lnd 2 P-2 TIME 0025
 3RD ALARM Eng 8,10 P-3, P-5 TIME 0028
 4TH ALARM Eng 4,6,9,11 Lnd P-4 TIME 0045
 5TH ALARM _____ TIME _____
 6TH ALARM _____ TIME _____

DATE December 20, 1970
 DAY OF WEEK Sunday
 TIME REPORTED 0019
 HOW REPORTED By Phone
 PLATE NO. 5246-9
 DISTRICT NO. 01
 WIND DIRECTION SE
 M.P.H. 9 knots
 TEMPERATURE 43 degrees Fahrenheit
 HUMIDITY 69

TOTAL COMPANIES

ENGINE COMPANIES 11
 LADDER COMPANIES 4
 RESCUE UNITS 5
 TANKERS _____
 HOSE WAGONS _____

TOTAL COMPANIES 20

TOTAL FIRE PERSONNEL TO SCENE

(TO THE TIME THAT ONLY A FIRE WATCH IS REQUIRED AT THE SCENE)

ON DUTY CHIEFS 3
 ON DUTY FIREFIGHTERS 70
 ON DUTY FIRE INSPECTORS 0
 ON DUTY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL 0
 ON DUTY TECH. SERV. PERSONNEL 0
 ON DUTY TRAINING PERSONNEL 0

ALERTS INITIATED

	YES	NO	TIME
PARTIAL ALERT		<u>X</u>	
FULL ALERT	<u>X</u>		<u>0025</u>
YELLOW ALERT	<u>X</u>		<u>0112</u>
RED ALERT		<u>X</u>	

IF YELLOW OR RED ALERT

INDICATE IF:

POLICE PROBLEM _____ FIRE PROBLEM X
 DISASTER OPERATIONS CHIEF Personnel

FIELD COMMANDERS

FIRE COMMANDER Bayless at CP at Stone & Penn.
 POLICE COMMANDER Kessler
 COMMAND PHYSICIAN Wilson
 WATER None
 PUBLIC WORKS None
 CIVIL DEFENSE Gasnova
 COMMUNICATIONS Bama
 PUBLIC INFORMATION Waller

OFF DUTY CHIEFS 6
 OFF DUTY FIREFIGHTERS 67
 OFF DUTY FIRE INSPECTORS 7
 OFF DUTY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL 1
 OFF DUTY TECH. SERV. PERSONNEL 0
 OFF DUTY TRAINING PERSONNEL 11

TOTAL ON DUTY TO SCENE 73

TOTAL OFF DUTY TO SCENE 92

TOTAL TO SCENE 165

OFF DUTY TO OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

CHIEFS 7
 FIREFIGHTERS 22
 FIRE INSPECTORS 1
 MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL 0
 TECH. SERV. PERSONNEL 0
 TRAINING PERSONNEL 0

TOTAL TO OTHER ASSIGNMENTS 30

TOTAL OFF DUTY MEN REPORTING 122

(TO SCENE AND OTHER ASSIGNMENTS)

TOTAL ON DUTY NOT AT THE SCENE 8

TOTAL ALL FIRE PERSONNEL 203

(ON DUTY AND OFF DUTY WHO REPORTED TO DUTY)

IF YES—HOW LONG 1150 12-20-70

TIME FIRE WAS UNDER CONTROL 0116
 TIME COMPANIES AT SCENE BEGAN _____
 TO GO INTO SERVICE OR LEAVE 0322
 TIME ALL FIRE COMPANIES _____
 CLEAR OF THE SCENE 1150
 FIRE PERSONNEL LEFT ON FIRE WATCH YES X NO _____

LOCATION 80 No. Stone Ave.

OCCUPANT Pioneer Hotel

OWNER Pioneer Enterprises

TYPE OF INCIDENT Building Fire

CAUSE OF IGNITION Incendiary

CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPANCY Hotel

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION Ordinary

FIRE FACTOR NO. 1 Delayed alarm

FIRE FACTOR NO. 2 Vertical openings

FIRE FACTOR NO. 3 Combustible Contents

CODE 01

CODE 63

CODE 149

CODE 04

CODE 01

CODE 02

CODE 05

INJURIES 38 CIVILIANS 33 FIREMEN _____
 DEATHS 28 CIVILIANS 0 FIREMEN _____

BUILDING 8,000,000.00 CONTENTS 4,000,000.00
 LOSS TO 1,000,000.00 500,000.00
 INSURANCE X YES _____ NO _____ X YES _____ NO _____

DISPATCHERS Agans, Rickets, Barkley

OFFICER MAKING REPORT Dearing & Hansen

RESPONSE

FIRE COMMANDER	Bayless	FIRE COMMANDER'S AIDE	Rakow (from E-10)
DISTRICT NO 1 CHIEF	DuFort	DISTRICT NO 1 CHIEF'S AIDE	
DISTRICT NO 2 CHIEF	Rejzski	DISTRICT NO 2 CHIEF'S AIDE	Adonaga

FIRE CO NO	Engine 1	Engine 2	Engine 3	Ladder 1	Ladder 3
DISPATCH TIME	0020	0020	0020	0020	0020
TIME AT SCENE	0022	0022	0025	0022	0027
TIME IN SERVICE	0000	1030	0051	0000	0519
TIME LEAVING SCENE	0053	1050	0610	0000	0519
MILEAGE TO SCENE	0.2	0.2	1.2	0.2	4.3
PUMP TIME	5.0 hrs	7.2 hrs	3.0 hrs	0	0
FEET OF LADDER	0	20ft	20ft	12ft	130ft
1 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
1 1/2 INCH HOSE	200 ft	400 ft	0	0	100
2 1/2 INCH HOSE	1500 ft	400 ft	2000 ft	0	0
3 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	100ft	0
GALLONS USED	30,000 gals	40,000 gals	15,000 gals	0	6000gals (not completed)
MEN RESPONDING					
CAPTAIN	Corranza	Jacome	Schoun	Jones	Sedlack
	Adams, C.	Brunning	Cook, P.	Foster	Denialson
	Lopez, R.	Wray	Hall	Seal	Tamayo
	Delchanty	Banton	White	Romero	Burns
	Cook, C.	Konigsfeld		Hammel	Shipman
				Edwards	

FIRE CO NO	Engine 1	Engine 5	Engine 7	Ladder 2	Rescue 2
DISPATCH TIME	0020	0025	0025	0025	0025
TIME AT SCENE	0025	0032	0030	0030	0030
TIME IN SERVICE	0005	0332	0037	0000	0000
TIME LEAVING SCENE	0005	0332	0037	0000	0000
MILEAGE TO SCENE	0.2	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.5
PUMP TIME	0	0	0	0	0
FEET OF LADDER	0	0	20ft	105ft	0
1 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
1 1/2 INCH HOSE	0	100ft	0	0	0
2 1/2 INCH HOSE	0	50ft	0	0	0
3 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
GALLONS USED	0	0	0	0	0
MEN RESPONDING					
CAPTAIN		Jensen	Regilio	Machado	Trujillo
	Wise	Harris	Felix	Rovace	
			Wilder	Arriaga	
		Claves	Berline	Pesquera, J	
				Cook, W. R.	

FIRE CO NO	Engine 8	Engine 10	Rescue 3	Rescue 5	Engine 4
DISPATCH TIME	0028	0028	0028	0028	0015
TIME AT SCENE	0035	0041	0034	0035	0042
TIME IN SERVICE	0355	0423	0423	0355	0348
TIME LEAVING SCENE	0355	0423	0423	0355	0338
MILEAGE TO SCENE	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.0	1.5
PUMP TIME	0	0	0	0	0
FEET OF LADDER	0	0	0	0	0
1 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
1 1/2 INCH HOSE	200ft	0	0	0	100ft
2 1/2 INCH HOSE	50ft	50ft	0	0	100ft
3 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
GALLONS USED	0	0	0	0	0
MEN RESPONDING					
CAPTAIN	Porter	Brannaman, D.			McCarty
	Phillips, C.D.	Rakow	Corrales	Strand	Stedman
	Becker	Engelkes			Soulvie
	Morscinsk	Davis			Curvingman

FIRE CO NO	Engine 1	Engine 2	Engine 11	Ladder 1	Engine 1
DISPATCH TIME	0045	0045	0045	0045	0045
TIME AT SCENE	0048	0048	0050	0058	0042
TIME IN SERVICE	0351	0351	0351	0351	0352
TIME LEAVING SCENE	0353	0354	0420	0354	0352
MILEAGE TO SCENE	6.0	7.6	5.0	7.6	0
PUMP TIME	0	0	0	0	0
FEET OF LADDER	0	0	0	0	0
1 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
1 1/2 INCH HOSE	300ft	100ft	0	0	0
2 1/2 INCH HOSE	0	100ft	50ft	0	0
3 INCH HOSE	0	0	0	0	0
GALLONS USED	0	0	0	0	0
MEN RESPONDING					
CAPTAIN	Facio	Grimes	Moran		Carpenter
	Solomon	Hoops	Wells	Cox	Kanvur
	Longtin	Sisk	Griesmer	Uthe	
	VanZandt	Cox	Bell, E.H.		

UTILITY TRUCKS

(518, MAINTENANCE TRUCKS, 5000 WATT LIGHT PLANT TRAILER, ETC.)

TRUCK NO.	618	2136	2166		
DRIVER	Murtha	Price	Idema Plant		

TOTALS

ENGINE COS.	11	LADDER COS.	4	RESCUE UNITS	5	HOSE WAGONS	0
TANKERS	0	CHIEF OFFICERS	3	FIRE PERSONNEL	69	UTILITY TRUCKS	2
LIGHT PLANT TLRS.	1						

TOTAL PUMP TIME	15.1	TOTAL HOSE USED	1" 0	TOTAL LADDERS USED IN FEET	
			1 1/2" 1100ft	AERIAL	285 ft
			2 1/2" 1300ft		
EST. WATER USED	121,000 gals		3" 100ft	HAND	270ft

MUTUAL AID

	YES	NO	NO. MEN	EQUIPMENT	SERVICE PROVIDED
DAVIS MONTHAN	x		4	500 gal. pumper	Stood by at Station 9
HUGHES AIRCRAFT	x		4	750 gal. pumper	Stood by at Station 7h
SO. TUCSON F. D.	x		12	1000 gal. pumper, 750 gal. and 600 gal. pumper	Stood by in Co. Tucson Fire Station

ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES OR PERSONS

(RED CROSS, C.D., FOOD DONATIONS, AMBULANCE COMPANIES, ETC.)

AGENCY/PERSON	NO. PERSONS	EQUIPMENT	SERVICE PROVIDED
Red Cross	50 at scene	Vehicle with food	Provided food and coffee, assisted
Command Phys.	9	Command Phys. and Mobile medical team	-- checked victims at scene
C.D.	20	2 Rescue and Comm. vehicles	Stood by at Command Post
AAA Ambulance Co.	10	5 ambulances	transported victims
Kordic Ambulance Co.	15	6 ambulances	transported victims
Flaming Wells Fire Dept	10		Stood by in case they were needed

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT	PERSONS	EQUIPMENT	SERVICE PROVIDED
Streets	1	Refueling and Inha. truck	Refueled Fire Apparatus at the scene

EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS USED

INDICATE NUMBER OF TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED

COMPANY NO.	AIR PUMPS	AIR BOTTLES	AXES	BLANKETS	SOFT GUTTERS	CHAIN TOOL (GRAYHAWK BAR)	DELUGE SET	HAND LIGHTS	HOSE	ROLLER	55FT EXTENSION LADDER	35FT EXTENSION LADDER	25FT EXTENSION LADDER	15FT EXTENSION LADDER	10FT EXTENSION LADDER	8FT ROOF LADDER	10FT ROOF LADDER	14FT ROOF LADDER	10FT FOLDING LADDER	14FT STRAIGHT LADDER	15FT STRAIGHT LADDER	25FT STRAIGHT LADDER	25FT STRAIGHT LADDER	LADDER PIPE	LINE	PORTABLE CUTTING TORCH	PORTABLE POWER PLANT	PORTABLE RADIOS	ASSISTANTS	SMOKE EXTRACTORS	SAFETY	
Eng. 1	2	6		1				2																								
Eng. 2	2	8	1	2				2					1					1														
Eng. 3	2	2	2			2		2																								
Eng. 4	2	4		1				2					1																			
Eng. 5	2	4						2																								
Eng. 6	2	4																														
Eng. 7	2	6						2					1																			
Eng. 8	2	2																													1	
Eng. 9	3	7						2																			1					
Eng. 10	2	6						2																								
Eng. 11	2	4						2																								
Lad. 1	6	19	6	4				4			1	1						1											1	1		
Lad. 2	6	12	5					4																					1	1		
Lad. 3	5	10	5	1				3	1			1								1									1	1		
Lad. 4	2	2																														
Rescue 1					3																											1
Rescue 2	1	1						2																								1
Rescue 3																																1
Rescue 4																																1
Rescue 5	1	1																														1
TOTALS	13	58	19	12	0	2	0	31	1	2	2	2	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	4	8	0	0

[illegible]

**OFF DUTY PERSONNEL
PERSONNEL REPORTING**

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	DEVELOP	ASSIGNMENT
CHIEF OFFICERS			
Peterson	0030	0830	To the scene -- Disaster Operations Chief
Dirks	0100	0830	To station #1 -- In charge of operations at stat. 1
Sprung	0100	0240	To the scene
Rice	0105	0600	To the scene
Deering	0110	0900	To station #1 -- To the scene at 0530
Slagel	0115	1700	To station #1 -- To the scene at 0300
Garry	0045	0500	To the scene
Oliver	0030	0700	To station 2 -- Filled in as District #2 Chief
Russell	0115	0630	To station 1, to So. Tucson F.D., then to scene
Elias	0100	0800	To station 1, to the scene at approx. 0330
Hansen	0110	0630	To station 1, to communications at approx. 0230
Amaro	0050	0800	To the scene
Montoya	0050	0630	To the scene, in charge of staging area

To the Scene 6 Other Assignment 7 **TOTAL CHIEFS REPORTING 13**

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	DEVELOP	ASSIGNMENT
FIRE INSPECTORS			
Gilmore	0100	1630	To the scene
Franklin	0025	0210	To the scene
Swaggard	0030	0630	To the scene
J.R. Corbett	0117	0800	To station #1 as Liaison Officer with Hughes, then to scene
W. J. Martin	0100	1630	To the scene
Armstrong	0050	0450	To the scene
McGee	0100	0845	To the scene
Shusaker	0100	0600	To the scene

To the Scene 7 Other Assignment 1 **TOTAL FIRE INSPECTORS REPORTING 8**

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	DEVELOP	ASSIGNMENT
TRAINING PERSONNEL			
Gregory	0030	0830	To the scene
Coons	0130	0830	To the scene
Peschaines	0135	0830	To the scene
Kelly	0135	0830	To the scene
Glen	0138	0830	To the scene
Zielbauer	0145	0830	To the scene
Schreiber	0125	0830	To the scene
LaCompte	0136	0830	To the scene
Pierpont	0315	0730	To station 1 -- later to the scene
Frana	0050	0830	To the scene
Cirivello	0050	0830	To the scene

To the Scene 11 Other Assignment 0 **TOTAL TRAINING PERSONNEL REPORTING 11**

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	DEVELOP	ASSIGNMENT
MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL			
Price	0100	0630	To the scene

To the Scene 1 Other Assignment 0 **TOTAL MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL REPORTING 1**

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	DEVELOP	ASSIGNMENT
TECHNICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL			

To the Scene 0 Other Assignment 0 **TOTAL TECHNICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL REPORTING 0**

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	DEVELOP	ASSIGNMENT
OFF DUTY COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL			
Walborn	0100	0400	To Communications Center
Eaton	0115	0400	To Communications Center
Larson	0055	0430	To Communications Center
Kessler	0055	0600	Technician to Communications Center
Reus	0115	0600	Technician to the Scene, with service truck

To the Scene 1 To Comm. Center 4 **TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL REPORTING 5**

GPB CITY FIRE SUPPLEMENTAL ROSTER

NAME	TIME TO UNIT	RELEASED	ASSIGNMENT
1 Adams	0022	0230	To the scene
2 Adams, G. E.	0100	0730	To the scene
3 Adams, H. M.	0123	0800	To the scene
4 Aguilar, R. M.	0230	0600	To the scene
5 Archbold	0150	0600	To the scene
6 Bagg	0145	0700	To station 1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
7 Baldwin, E. C.	0122	0915	To the scene
8 Barnes, A. J.	0152	0700	To station 1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
9 Bellenger, W. M.	0300	0715	To station 1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
10 Berle	0152	0700	To the scene
11 Boykin, Bruce B.	0230	0800	To station 1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
12 Brethour	0210	0600	To the scene
13 Briggs	0227	0800	To the scene
14 Brown, K. W.	0130	0600	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2505
15 Cammarano	0100	0630	To the scene with Reserve Engine 6027
16 Carrillo	0459	0610	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2505
17 Calaya	0100	0715	To the scene
18 Cantano	0110	0610	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2505
19 Clodfelter	0123	0610	To the scene
20 Corcoran	0105	0800	To the scene
21 Crawford	0235	0600	To the scene
22 Davis, Jimmy	0110	0800	To the scene with Reserve Engine 6027
23 Diaz, C. V.	0200	0800	To station 1, manned Reserve Eng. 2
24 Dickey	0130	0600	To the scene
25 Diggins	0125	0610	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2523
26 Discher	0200	0800	To station 1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
27 Edds	0200	0630	To station 1, then to scene
28 Fabrega	0150	0818	To the scene
29 Furrman	0140	0830	To the scene
30 Gallardo	0142	0600	To the scene
31 Grace	0200	0700	To the scene
32 Graham	0032	0702	To the scene
33 Great	0145	0800	To the scene
34 Harrison	0220	0800	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
35 Hart	0105	0705	To station #5, manned Reserve Eng. 5
36 Heverly	0155	0700	To the scene
37 Highhouse	0100	0600	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2523
38 Higuera	0100	0705	To station #5, manned Reserve Eng. 5
39 Hopkins	0100	0700	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2523
40 Kaveloh	0110	0600	To station 1, then to So. Tucson F.D. as Liaison Officer
41 Keller	0225	0820	To the scene
42 Kepner	0130	0700	To station #5, manned Reserve Eng. 5
43 Ketchen	0150	0818	To the scene
44 Kwart	0215	0815	To the scene
45 Leoni	0130	0630	To the scene
46 Leon, Rudy	0115	0700	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 2
47 Lopez, A. C.	0200	0600	To the scene
48 Lujan	0100	0800	To the scene with Reserve Engine 6027
49 Mackey	0120	0610	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2505
50 Mantarnach	0245	0745	To the scene
51 Martin, J. D.	0152	0700	To the scene
52 May	0110	0730	To the scene
53 Mazon	0045	0800	To the scene with Reserve Engine 6027
54 McAnally	0120	0730	To the scene
55 McAdams	0109	0709	To station #5, manned Reserve Eng. 5
56 McDonald	0220	0800	To the scene
57 Montano	0100	0700	To the scene
58 Moreno, Gus	0100	0610	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2523
59 McCulloch	0235	0815	To the scene
60 Molander	0128	0900	To the scene
61 Monday	0115	0600	To the scene
62 Murtha	0145	0800	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 2
63 Palko	0130	0610	To the scene with Reserve Engine 6027
64 Parra	0200	0600	To the scene
65 Perry	0300	0700	To the scene
66 Pesqueira	0247	0600	To the scene
67 Plummer	0130	0630	To the scene
68 Poling	0115	0715	To the scene
69 Putney, John H.	0235	0810	To the scene
70 Queiruga	0200	0700	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 2

To the Scene cont. Other Assignment cont.

TOTAL continued

IF ALL ARE LISTED ABOVE, NO
BE NOT, CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

OFF DUTY FIRE SUPPRESSION PER (REL)

(CONTROLLED)

NAME	TIME TO DUTY	RELIVED	ASSIGNMENT
71 Rankin	0152	0700	To the scene
72 Rontiro	0130	0800	To the scene with Reserve Engine B027
73 Rhynor	0130	0700	To Station #1, manned Reserve Lad. 1
74 Rogers, Floyd R.	0130	0620	To the scene
75 Russell, James R.	0100	0300	To the scene
76 Salgado	0152	0700	To the scene
77 Sandoval	0145	0300	To station #1, manned Reserve Lad. 1
78 Saterley	0114	0600	To the scene
79 Saunders	0145	0700	To the scene
80 Scheley	0200	0800	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 2
81 Strickling	0122	0715	To the scene with Reserve Engine 2505
82 Stutz	0152	0800	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
83 Tubaugh	0225	0600	To the scene
84 Van Aiken	0200	0300	To station #1, manned Reserve Lad. 1
85 Velasco	0245	0800	To the scene
86 Weuve	0110	0845	To the scene
87 Yablonski	0205	0510	To station #1, manned Reserve Eng. 1
88 Zuniga, Roffelio V.	0110	0610	To station 2, acted as Liaison Officer with DM Fire Dept
89 Koni, Carson	0210	0600	To the scene
90			
91			
92			
93			
94			
95			
96			
97			
98			
99			
100			
101			
102			
103			
104			
105			
106			
107			
108			
109			
110			
111			
112			
113			
114			
115			
116			
117			
118			
119			
120			
121			
122			
123			
124			
125			
126			
127			
128			
129			
130			
131			
132			
133			
134			
135			
136			
137			
138			
139			
140			

To the Scene 67 Other Assignment 22 OFF DUTY FIRE SUPPRESSION PERSONNEL TOTAL 89

REMAINING DEFENSES OF CITY DURING EMERGENCY

PLATOON COMMANDER Bearing
DISTRICT NO 1 CHIEF Bliss

DISTRICT NO 2 CHIEF Oliver

STATION NO.	ON DUTY CREW	OFF DUTY CREW	MUTUAL AID CREW	VACANT	COMPANY DESIGNATION	TYPE OF APPARATUS OR APPARATUS NO.	NUMBER OF MEN	OFF DUTY CREW OR MUTUAL AID CO.	TIME IN	TIME OUT	IF RESPONDING ON FIRE CALL DURING THE EMERGENCY - GIVE REPORT NUMBER AND TYPE OF CALL
1					PS1	2502 1000 pump	5	0200	0800		#461 0107 to 0135 Rescue 12 dif. breathin
					PS2	2523 500 pump	5	0155	0800		#462 0142 to 0202 Rescue 12 auto accident
					PS1	2510 hose wagon	6	0205	0800		
3											
4											
5					PS5	2503 1000 Pump	4	0110	0705		#464 0301 to 0314 Res. E-5 Investigate sm
6											
7											
8											
9					DM1	Unit 14 500 pump	5	0114	0420		#463 0234 to 0250 DM unit Brush Fire
											#460 0026 to 0155 Rescue 4 need for exten
10					SL1	2542 750 pump	4				#465 0422 to 0437 E-14 Investigate smoke
11											
12											
14							4	0110	0500		
SOUTH TUCSON					ST1	1000 gal pumper	5	0120	0431		
					ST2	750 gal pumper	4	0120	0431		
					ST3	600 gal pumper	4	0120	0431		

FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO MUTUAL AID COMPANIES

DAVIS MONTHAN FIRE DEPARTMENT
HUGHES AIRCRAFT FIRE DEPARTMENT
SOUTH TUCSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Liaison Officers
Captain Rosalie Zuniga
Corbett
Chief Russell 0125 to 0230 Kavelch 0230 to 0431

NAMES OF CREW MEMBERS OF MUTUAL AID COMPANIES

DAVIS MONTHAN

Mantech
Martinez
McCape
Stons, K.

HUGHES

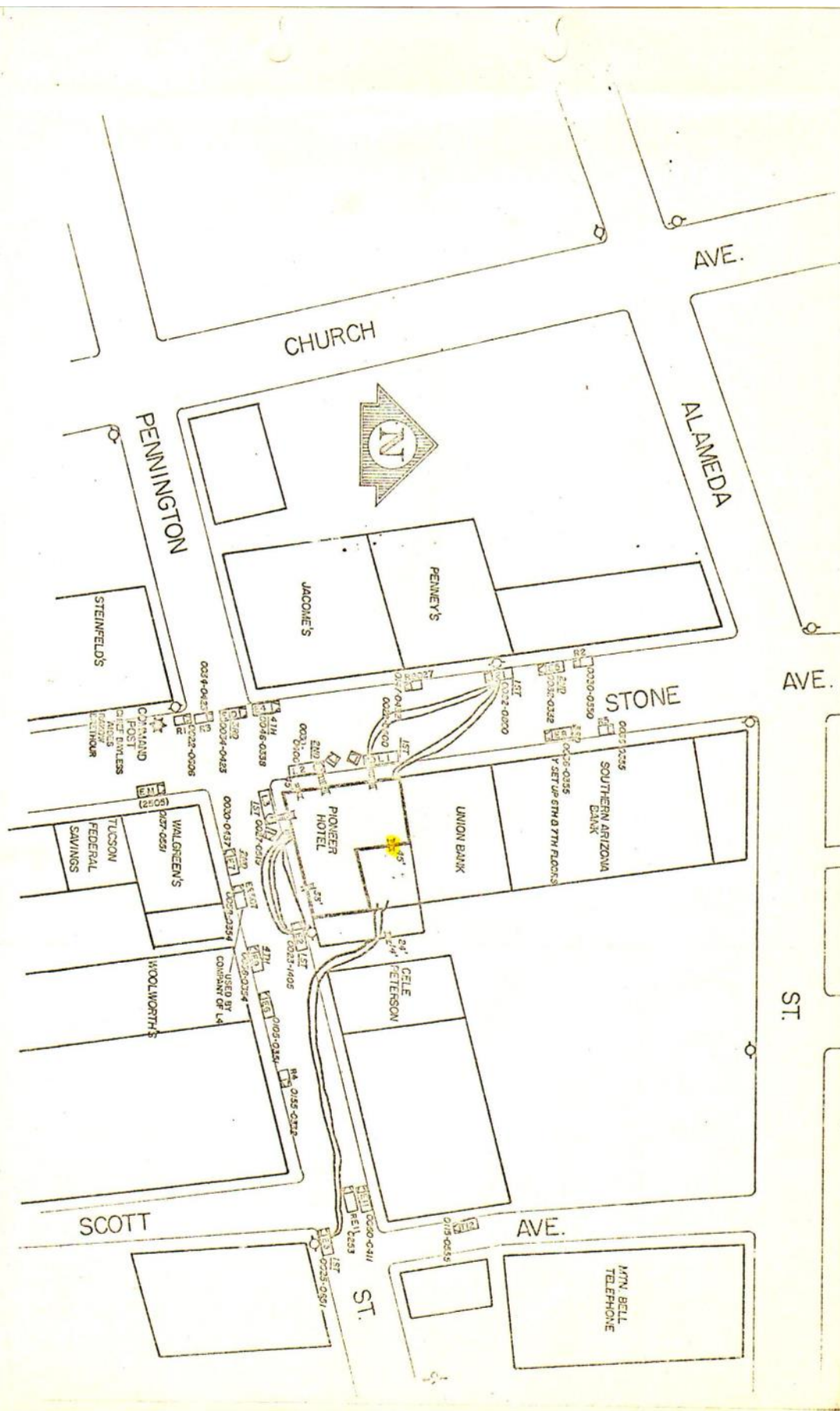
Carl
Dutton
Teal, Tony
Lutz, Bob

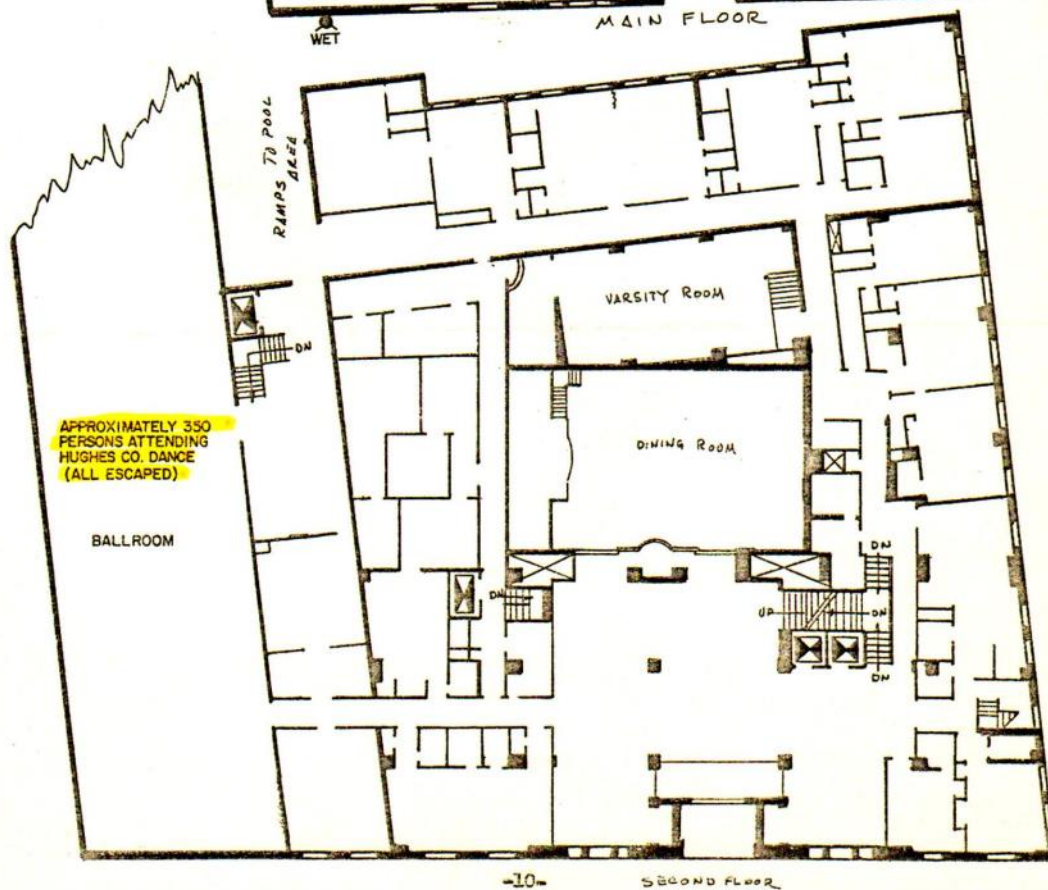
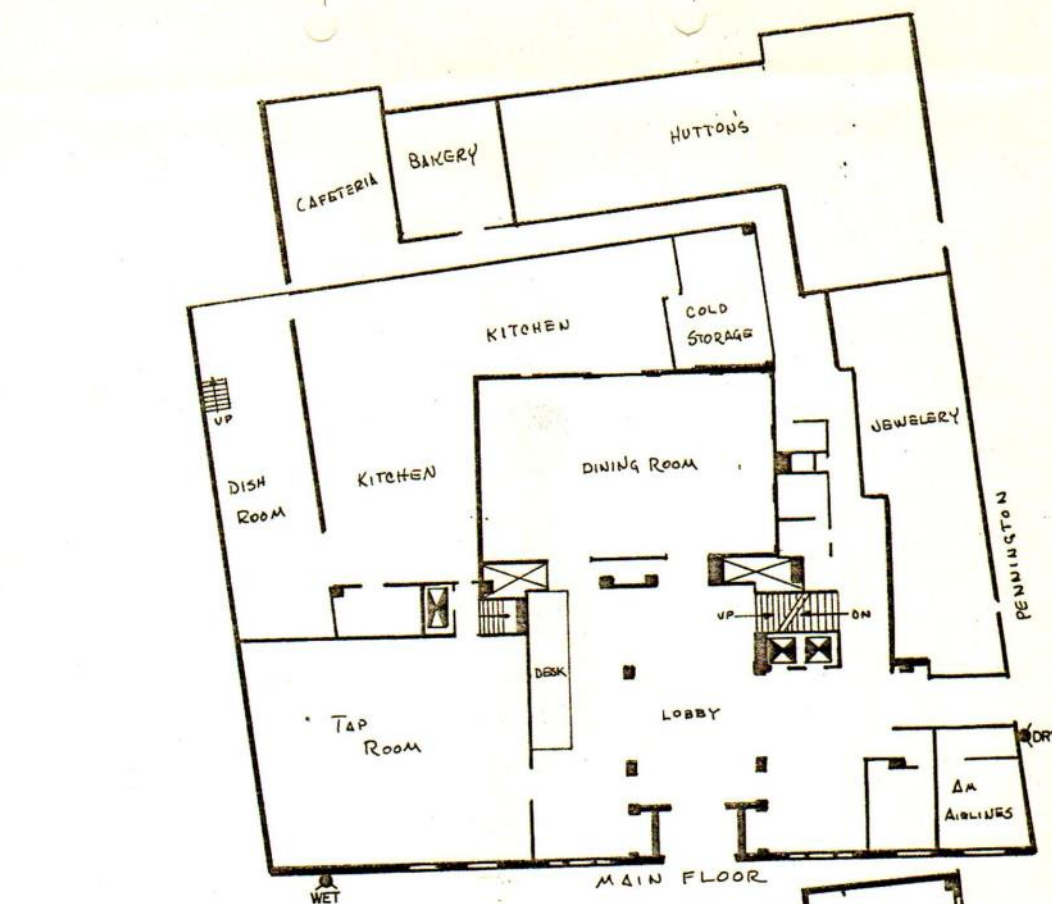
SOUTH TUCSON

Ducheney -- Engineer
York -- Engineer
Ochotorena - Chief
Serrano - Asst Chief
Pallones
Tapao
Morales, Tino - Capt
Velasquez
Pachado
Vrtix
McCarthy
Santa Cruz

Total men from DM 4 Total men from Hughes 4 Total men from So.T. 12

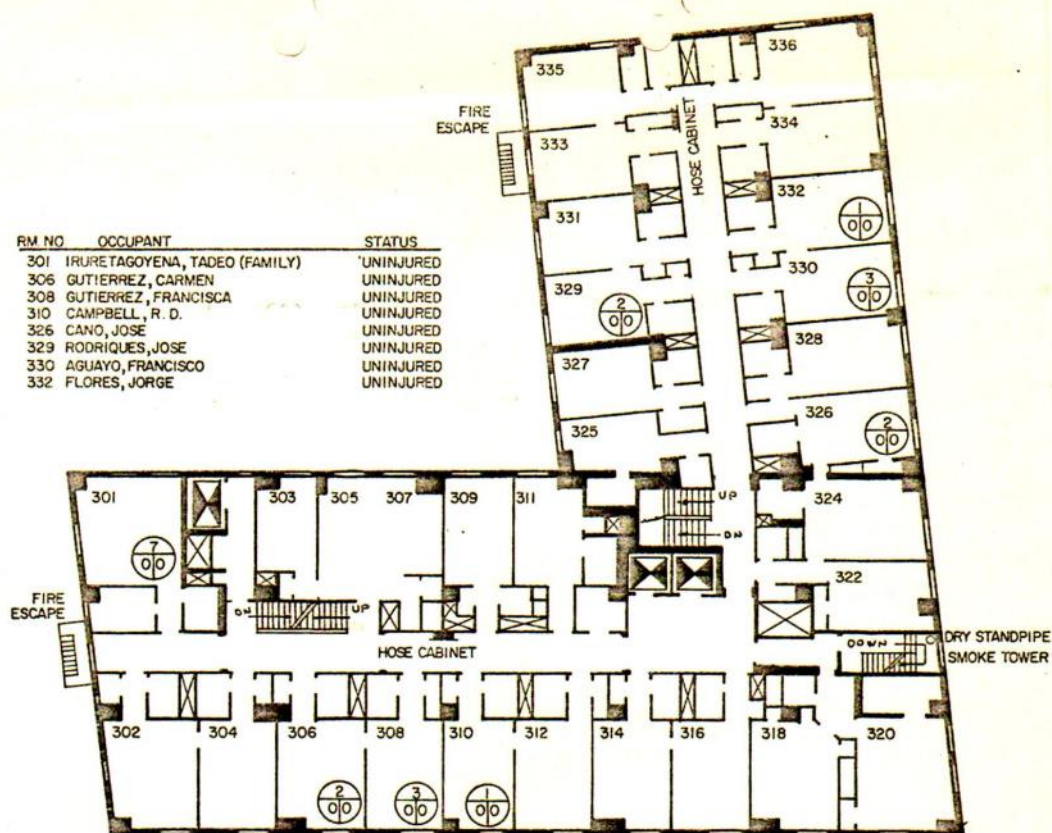
Total Mutual Aid Personnel Reporting 20





APPROXIMATELY 350
PERSONS ATTENDING
HUGHES CO. DANCE
(ALL ESCAPED)

RM NO	OCCUPANT	STATUS
301	IRURETAGOYENA, TADEO (FAMILY)	UNINJURED
306	GUTIERREZ, CARMEN	UNINJURED
308	GUTIERREZ, FRANCISCA	UNINJURED
310	CAMPBELL, R. D.	UNINJURED
326	CANO, JOSE	UNINJURED
329	RODRIGUES, JOSE	UNINJURED
330	AGUAYO, FRANCISCO	UNINJURED
332	FLORES, JORGE	UNINJURED

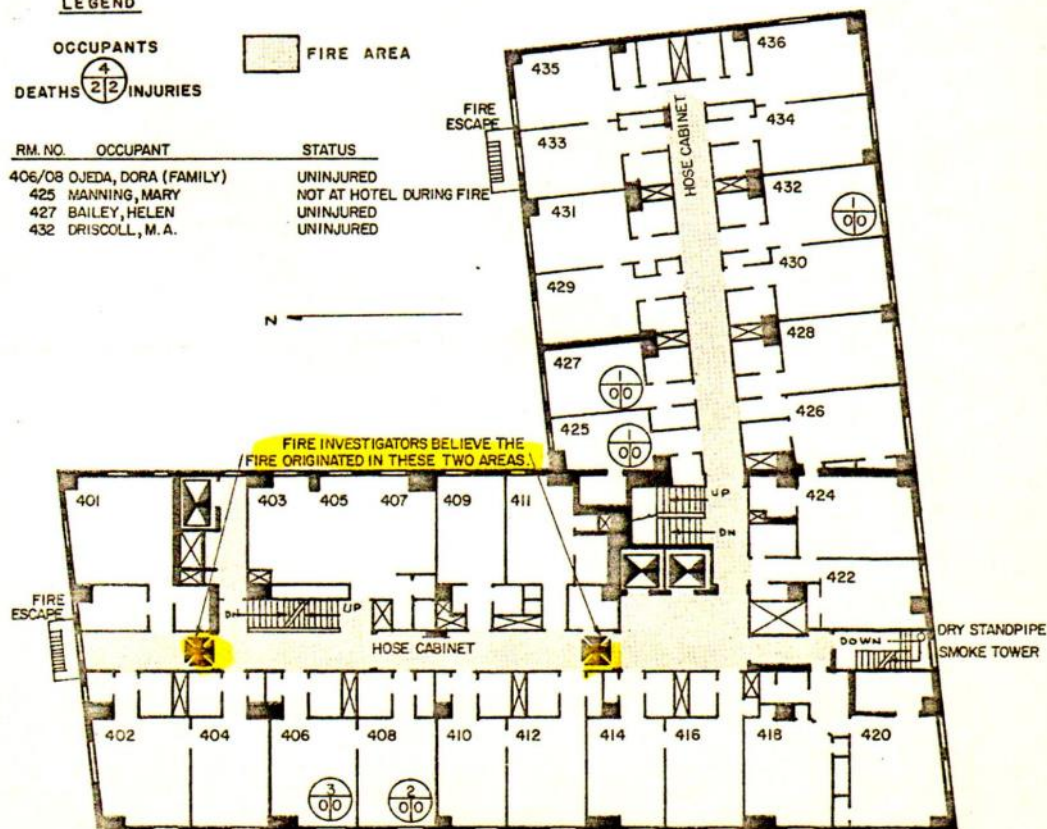


LEGEND

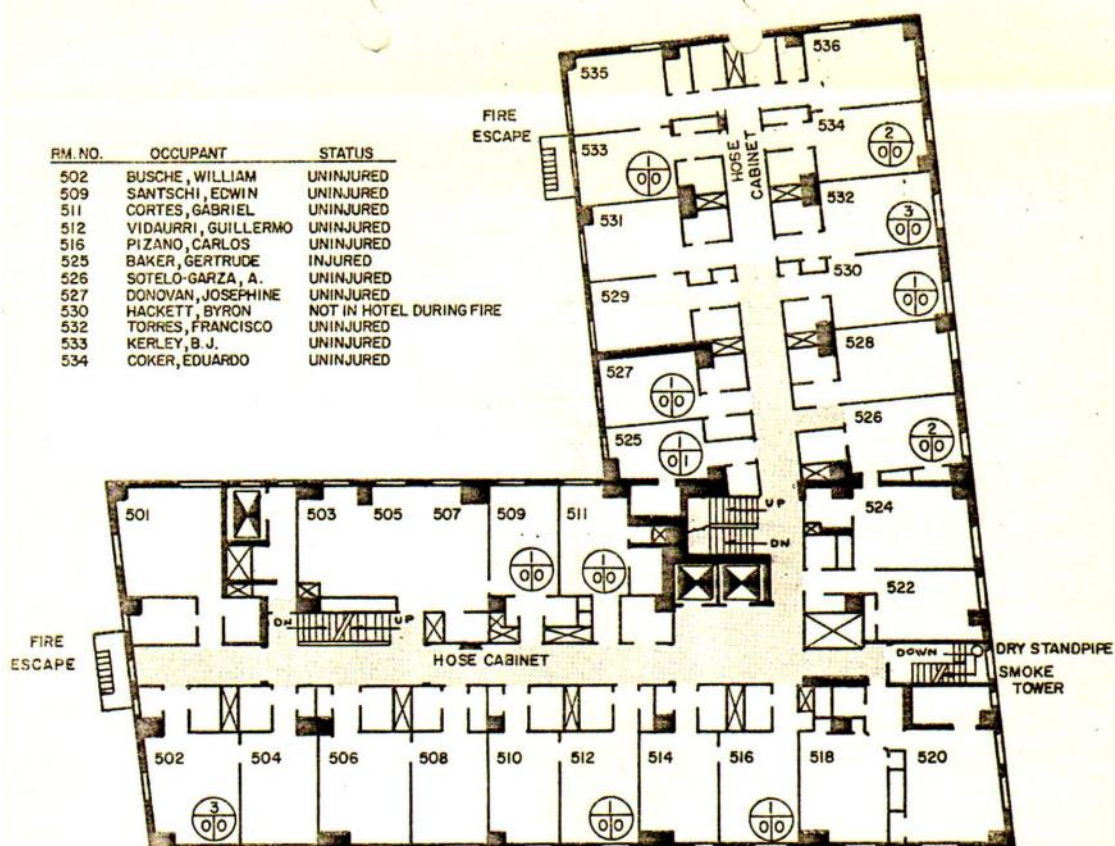
OCCUPANTS
DEATHS $\frac{4}{2}$ INJURIES

FIRE AREA

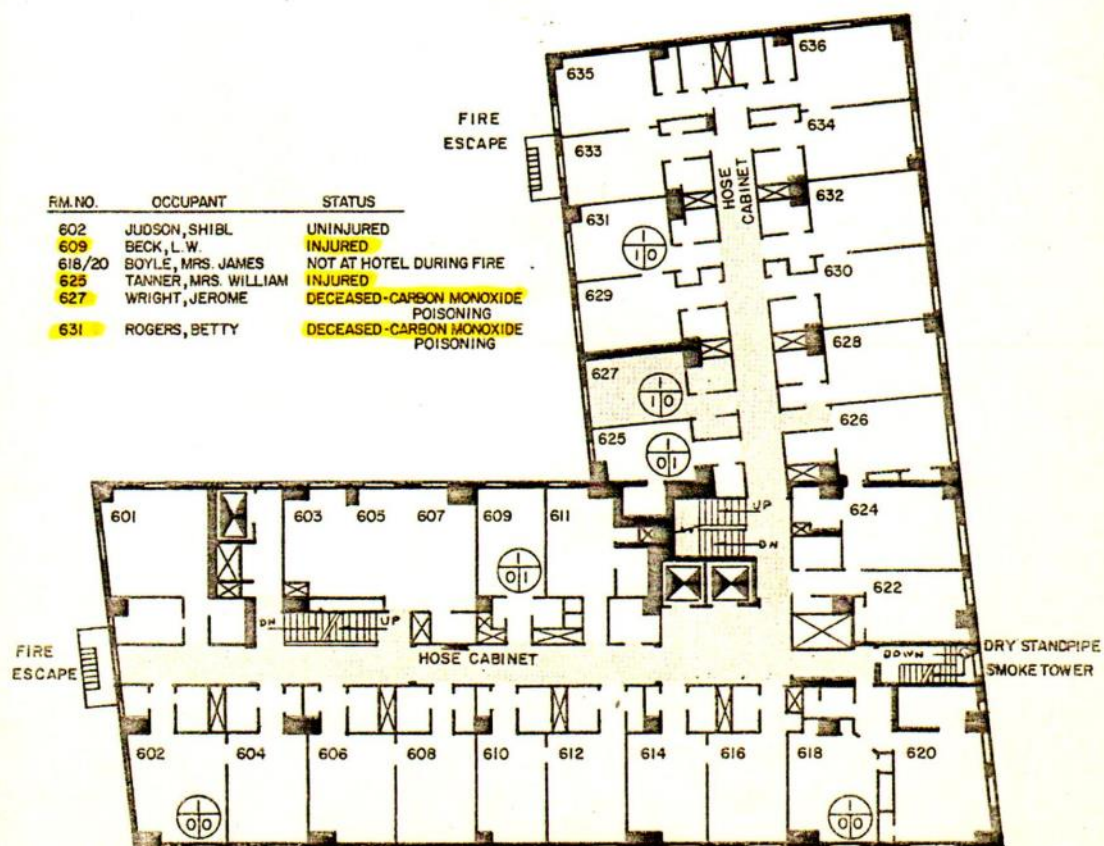
RM. NO.	OCCUPANT	STATUS
406/08	OJEDA, DORA (FAMILY)	UNINJURED
425	MANNING, MARY	NOT AT HOTEL DURING FIRE
427	BAILEY, HELEN	UNINJURED
432	DRISCOLL, M. A.	UNINJURED

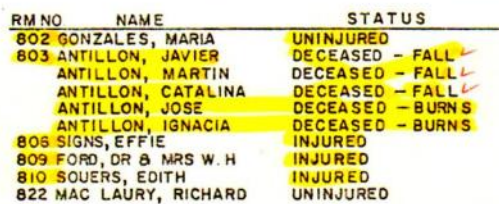
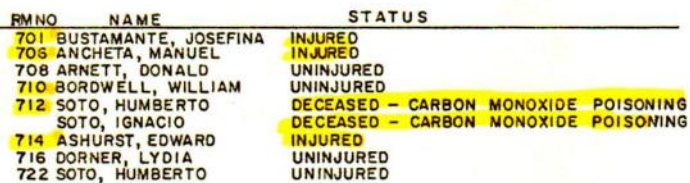


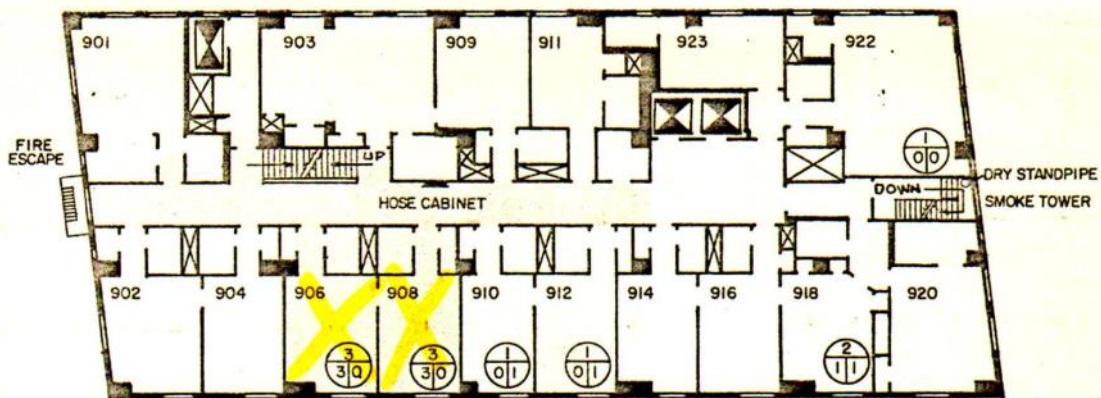
RM. NO.	OCCUPANT	STATUS
502	BUSCHE, WILLIAM	UNINJURED
509	SANTSCHI, EDWIN	UNINJURED
511	CORTES, GABRIEL	UNINJURED
512	VIDAURRI, GUILLERMO	UNINJURED
516	PIZANO, CARLOS	UNINJURED
525	BAKER, GERTRUDE	INJURED
526	SOTELO-GARZA, A.	UNINJURED
527	DONOVAN, JOSEPHINE	UNINJURED
530	HACKETT, BYRON	NOT IN HOTEL DURING FIRE
532	TORRES, FRANCISCO	UNINJURED
533	KERLEY, B. J.	UNINJURED
534	COKER, EDUARDO	UNINJURED



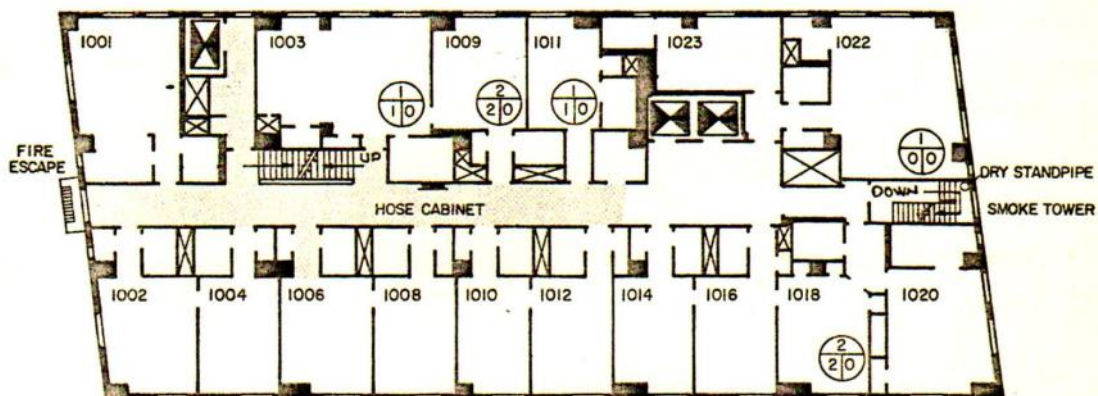
RM. NO.	OCCUPANT	STATUS
602	JUOSON, SHIBL	UNINJURED
609	BECK, L. W.	INJURED
618/20	BOYLE, MRS. JAMES	NOT AT HOTEL DURING FIRE
625	TANNER, MRS. WILLIAM	INJURED
627	WRIGHT, JEROME	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
631	ROGERS, BETTY	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING



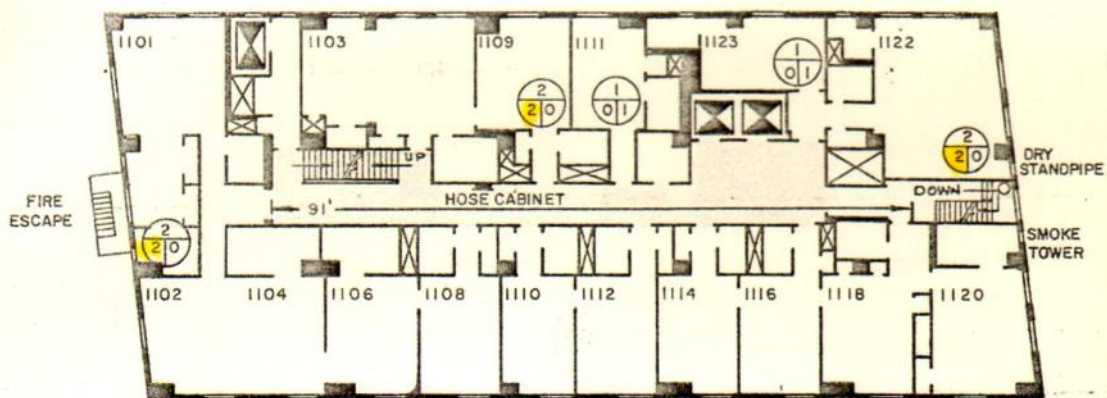




RM. NO.	OCCUPANT	STATUS
906	LUKEN, ANTONIO	DECEASED - BURNS
	LUKEN, FRANCISCO	DECEASED - BURNS
	LUKEN, JESUS	DECEASED - BURNS
908	LUKEN, ROSALIA	DECEASED - BURNS
	LUKEN, CARMEN	DECEASED - FALL
	LUKEN, ROSA MARIA	DECEASED - BURNS
910	CARMANY, R.B.	INJURED
912	HOSSETTER, J.R.	INJURED
918/20	SIMON, ABE	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
	SIMON, MRS.	INJURED
922	SIMON, WILLIAM	UNINJURED



RM. NO.	OCCUPANT	STATUS
1003	D'HEDOUVILLE, PAUL	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1009	DALE, VELMA	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
	BOND, BERNICE	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1011	KAUFMAN, ESTELLE	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1018/20	SMELSER, D.P.	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
	GORDON, E.L.L.	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1022	TOLLEFSON,	UNINJURED



RM.NO.	NAME	STATUS
1101/1108	STEINFELD, HAROLD	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
	STEINFELD, MARGARET	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1109	REEBE, EDA	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
	REEBE, JOSEPH	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1111	HAUF, ROSELLE	INJURED
1122	MALLERY, HARVEY	DECEASED - SMOKE INHALATION
	GLOVER, OLLIE B.	DECEASED - CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
1123	BOSSARD, EMIL	INJURED

DETAIL OF COMPANY ACTIVITIES

The following information was compiled from the company reports completed by each company captain. This report includes the initial action and some of the highlights of each company's activities as they fought the hotel fire. During the entire operation at the fire, companies were involved in many firefighting and rescue activities covering all floors of the hotel.

1ST ALARM

At 0020:29 the 1st alarm was dispatched. The initial response consisted of Engines 1, 2, and 3; Ladders 1 and 3; and Rescue 1.

Engine 1

When Engine 1 arrived at the scene, Captain Carranza reported that there was considerable smoke rolling out of the windows on the Stone Avenue side of the hotel. The crew of Engine 1 made a high rise lay on the Stone Avenue side of the building and connected two 2-1/2 inch lines into the Fire Department wet standpipe connection on the northwest corner of the building. Engine 1 then pumped from the hydrant on Stone Avenue approximately 200 feet north of the hotel. Later they pumped an additional two lines which supplied the ladder pipe on Ladder 1.

Chief Dupont went with Captain Carranza and two members of the crew into the hotel. The crew took two sections of 1-1/2 inch hose and nozzles with them. Upon entering the hotel the crew noted that the people in the lobby were in a state of confusion. Captain Carranza asked the elevator girl if she knew where the fire was. She stated that it was on the fourth floor. Captain Carranza then had the elevator girl take the crew and equipment to the third floor and then instructed her to return to the lobby and not to use the elevator again. The crew found much heat and smoke on the third floor. They proceeded to the north stairwell and found it was fully involved. The crew of Engine 1 used the hose from the interior wet standpipe and made the initial attack on the fire at this point about one to two minutes after their arrival. They advanced up the stairway and attacked the fire on the fourth floor. A man came up to Captain Carranza and informed him that there was a fire at the center stairwell. Captain Carranza took a hose line from another interior hose cabinet on the third floor and attacked the fire in the center stairwell working his way up to fourth floor. He rescued a female occupant from the fourth floor and took her to the lobby. He also checked the rooms on the third floor. Some of these rooms were occupied and these people were safely evacuated.

Engine 2

Engine 2 arrived at the same time as Engine 1. Captain Jacome reported large amounts of smoke coming from several windows on the west and southside of the building. Engine 2 made a high rise lay and a two-line reverse lay to the dry standpipes on the Pennington side of the hotel. The crew of Engine 2 took lines up the smoke tower and connected to the fourth floor standpipes. They extinguished the fire on the fourth and fifth floors and evacuated the occupants. Engine 2 pumped a total of four lines into the dry standpipe. Two of these lines were laid by Engine 3.

Engine 3

Engine 3 laid two lines from the dry standpipe connections to Engine 2. The crew then took lines and air paks to the fourth floor by way of the smoke tower and assisted other crews in firefighting and rescue on the fourth and fifth floors. Captain Schoup was informed by a bystander of a serious fire problem on the east side of the building. He investigated and had his crew lay two

additional lines to the east side of the building. These lines were used to attack the fire in the upper floors.

A woman that was hanging onto a drainpipe was rescued by using a 45-foot extension ladder. The crew of Engine 3 then assisted in the search and rescue operations from the seventh to 11th floors. Engine 3 pumped a total of two lines which were used at the rear of the building.

Ladder 1

When Ladder 1 arrived, people were hanging from windows, standing on ledges and balconies awaiting rescue. Captain Jones had Ladder 1 spotted north of the main entrance to the hotel on Stone Avenue and raised the aerial for rescue operations. Ladder 1 rescued all occupants that could be reached by the aerial from this position. A woman jumped from an upper floor and was killed while the aerial was being extended for rescue. Ladder 1 used their 45-foot extension, 35-foot extension, and a 14-foot roof ladder for rescue purposes. After all occupants that could be reached with the aerial were rescued, the ladder pipe was used to extinguish fires in the eighth and ninth floor windows on the Stone Avenue side of the building. Later the crew went inside the building and assisted in searching for victims, setting up lights, and supplying equipment.

Ladder 3

When Captain Sedlack arrived with Ladder 3, the truck was spotted on the Pennington side of the building and the aerial was raised for rescue operations. The crew helped seven occupants from the building down the aerial. A 45-foot extension ladder was raised to the fourth floor on the Stone Avenue side where a male occupant was rescued. A 14-foot roof ladder was placed at the top of the 45-foot extension ladder reaching the fifth floor where three more occupants were rescued. Two men were sent to the 11th floor by way of the smoke tower and they rescued a male occupant. The rooms on the 11th floor were checked and several unconscious occupants were taken to the smoke tower. The crew then connected hose to standpipes and knocked down spot fires on the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth floors. All of these rooms were checked for occupants and ventilated.

Rescue 1

First aid equipment and resuscitators from Rescue 1 were used on firefighters and hotel occupants.

2ND ALARM

The second alarm was dispatched at 0026. The response consisted of Engines 5 and 7; Ladder 2; and Rescue 2.

Engine 5

Captain Jensen had the crew of Engine 5 take one section of 2-1/2 inch hose and two sections of 1-1/2 inch hose up the smoke tower to the upper floors. The crew assisted in firefighting and rescue operations on several of the upper floors.

Engine 7

Captain Regilio reported that on the arrival of Engine 7 there were numerous people at the windows from the fourth floor up. Smoke and flames were coming from several windows on the northeast end of the hotel. The crew of Engine 7 put up a 24-foot extension ladder to the roof of the building to the east of the hotel. From the roof

of this building, the crew put up a 24-foot extension and a 14-foot roof ladder reaching some windows on the northeast part of the hotel building. Some occupants used these ladders to escape. The body of a small boy was laying on the roof and apparently had jumped from an upper floor. The crew later assisted in extinguishing spot fires and searching for occupants throughout the hotel.

Ladder 2

When Captain Machado arrived with Ladder 2, he saw several people at windows yelling for help. He immediately had the aerial ladder put into operation for rescue. Two female occupants were rescued from a sixth floor window on the northwest corner of the building. Before these two women reached the ground, fire belched from this window. The ladder truck was then repositioned further south for more rescue. From this location three elderly people were brought down from the seventh floor. The aerial was then fully extended to a point where men on top of the ladder were able to reach up and rescue occupants off the ninth floor balcony. After rescue operations were completed from the outside the crew went inside to assist with search and rescue operations. A 45-foot extension ladder was taken from Ladder 2 for rescue operations. This ladder retracted while three firefighters were attempting a rescue. All three were seriously injured, one with a broken pelvis, one with a broken ankle, and the other with serious lacerations of the arm and leg. The cause of this accident is under investigation.

Rescue 2

First aid equipment and resuscitators from Rescue 2 were used on firefighters and hotel occupants.

3RD ALARM

The third alarm was dispatched at 0028. The response consisted of Engines 8 and 10; and Rescue 3 and 5.

Engine 10

Captain Branaman and his crew entered the building at the fourth floor level of the smoke tower where they extended hose lines and worked their way to the north fire escape. They then proceeded to the seventh floor and attacked some fire at that point. They then assisted in search and rescue from the seventh to 11th floors.

Engine 8

When Engine 8 arrived at the scene Captain Porter had his crew advance 1-1/2 inch lines to the sixth floor where they assisted in firefighting operations. They later moved to the seventh floor to assist in firefighting. The crew assisted in first aid treatment and administered oxygen to personnel overcome by smoke. After the fire was knocked down, they assisted in the thorough search of the building for occupants.

Rescue 3 and 5

First aid equipment and resuscitators from Rescue 3 and 5 were used on firefighters and hotel occupants.

4TH ALARM

The fourth alarm was dispatched at 0045. The response consisted of Engines 4, 6, 9, and 11; Ladder company 4; and Rescue 4.

Engine 4

Upon arrival of Engine 4, Captain McCarty and his crew took two sections of 1-1/2 inch and two sections of 2-1/2 inch hose to the fifth floor. A line on the fifth floor was extended and a line moved to the sixth floor. The crew of Engine 4 extinguished fire on the sixth floor and moved upward a floor at a time, extinguishing fire as they progressed and searched for survivors. After reaching the top floor they participated in rechecking the north wing for survivors and extinguished spot fires as they progressed downward.

Engine 6

When Engine 6 arrived at the scene, Captain Facio took his crew to the sixth floor to assist in search and rescue operations. After completing the sixth floor assignment, the crew assisted in rechecking throughout the building for occupants and extinguishing spot fires.

Engine 9 and Ladder 4

The aerial ladder truck normally used by the company of Ladder 4 was out of service for major overhaul at the time of this fire. A reserve engine had been placed in service for use by the ladder company. At the time of dispatch, two members of the ladder company were out on a rescue call and one man was assigned as driver for the District 2 Chief. Engine 9 responded with four men and ladder company 4 responded with two men and upon arrival at the scene operated as one company under the command of Captain Grimes.

This crew took two sections of 1-1/2 inch and two sections of 2-1/2 inch hose to the upper floors. Upon reaching an upper floor where there was fire, part of the crew assisted in firefighting and the others assisted in removing victims to the mezzanine where a first aid receiving station had been set up. The crew then assisted in a room to room search of the eighth, ninth, tenth and 11th floors.

Engine 11

Upon arrival of Engine 11, Captain Moran had his crew take one section of 2-1/2 inch hose and some other equipment to the ninth floor. The crew assisted in firefighting on the ninth floor and also established a supply depot for equipment being hoisted from the street. The crew rescued one male occupant from the ninth floor who appeared to be in good condition. They also assisted in removing other victims of the fire.

Rescue 4

The crew of Rescue 4 was on a rescue call at the time the companies from station 9 were dispatched. As soon as they cleared this call, they responded to the scene. At the scene the rescue crew assisted in providing first aid treatment for firefighters.

OFF DUTY PERSONNEL

Reserve Engine 2523

An off duty crew commanded by Captain Hopkins took Engine 2523 to the scene and assisted in firefighting operations from the seventh floor to the roof. They later participated in rechecking the building for survivors and extinguishing spot fires.

Reserve Engine 8027

An off duty crew commanded by Captain Mazon took Engine 8027 to the scene. This crew assisted in checking for victims on the eighth

and ninth floor.

In addition to these two off duty companies 82 other off duty personnel were sent to the scene during the emergency to assist in firefighting, search and rescue, recovery of equipment, etc.

Eight of the 11 off duty Training personnel reporting were new recruits who were taken to the scene to assist and were supervised by their Training Officers.

TUCSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

(FIRE CAUSE REPORT)

INCIDENT Report, continued:

Page No.: _____

Master Report No.: 459Date: 12/31/70

CAUSE: From: _____

To: _____


I arrived at the Pioneer International Hotel at approximately 0130 Hours on December 20, 1970 to begin investigation into the fire cause.

The fire originated on the Fourth Floor in the public hallway and there were two major fire origin areas separated by approximately sixty feet (60'). No natural or accidental causes could be found.

In my opinion, this was a deliberate, man-made fire, with malicious intent. Therefore, fire cause is arson.

L.D. Gilmore, Captain
Tucson Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division

LDG/smw



Signature

TUCSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

(FIRE CAUSE REPORT)

INCIDENT Report, continued:

Page No.: _____

Master Report No.: 459Date: 12/31/70

CAUSE: From: _____

To: _____


I arrived at the Pioneer International Hotel at approximately 0300 Hours on December 20, 1970 to begin investigation into the fire cause.

The fire originated on the Fourth Floor in the public hallway and there were at least two major fire origin areas separated by approximately sixty feet (60'). No natural or accidental causes could be found.

In my opinion, this was a deliberate, man-made fire, with malicious intent. Therefore, fire cause is arson.

R.B. Slagel, Chief
Fire Prevention Division

RBS/smw



Signature

Greater Tucson Fire Foundation

Thank you for taking an interest in Tucson Fire Department history —

This is one of many sections that contain information, documents, letters, newspaper articles, pictures, etc. They have been collected and arranged in chronological order or by a subject. These items were collected, organized and entered into a computerized database by Dave Ridings retired Assistant Chief Tucson Fire Department, Al Ring friend of the department, Greater Tucson Fire Foundation and with the help of many friends and fellow firefighters.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles. This also applies to other items such as documents, letters, etc.

Credit to the source of the documents, photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. The *Arizona Daily Star*, The *Tucson Citizen* and the *Tucson Daily Citizen*, for which we want to give a special thanks.

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they should get permission from the source.

Should the reader have additional information on the above subject we would appreciate you sharing it with us. Please see the names and contact information on the 1st. TFD Archives page right below this paragraph.

