



HOME OFFICE

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Our reference: FIR/74 80/37/25
 Your reference:

47052

FIRE SERVICE

To all Chief Fire Officers
 TECHNICAL COLLEGE LIBRARY

17 October 1975

Dear Chief Officer

SMOULDERING IN FOAM RUBBER

BUILDING RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT CURRENT PAPER 36/75: THE EXPLOSION RISK
 OF STORED FOAMED RUBBER

When I wrote to you on 24 January about the fire at Chatham Dockyard involving foamed rubber mattresses (letter No. 4/1975 under reference FIR/74 8/838/7), I said that it was hoped in due course to be able to provide you with detailed information on what appeared to be a new hazard. The Fire Research Station has now produced Current Paper 36/75, which describes the results of a series of experiments on foamed rubber. You will observe from the work that a serious explosion risk exists when flammable smoke and vapours from smouldering foam rubber are allowed to collect in an enclosed space.

You will wish to know also that the operational implications of the Current Paper are shortly to be considered by the Joint Committee on Fire Brigade Operations.

Yours sincerely

K L HOLLAND
 HM Chief Inspector of Fire
 Services

No 57/1975

The Fire Service
 College



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