entered

25 APR 1995

1. CASE NUMBER	2. INVESTIGATOR'S ID	EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION REPORT
9 5 0 3 0 1 C W E 5 0 0 5	8 0 9 0	

3. OFFICE CODE	4. DATE OF INCIDENT	5. DATE INITIATED
8 6 0	9 5 0 2 0 9	9 5 0 3 0 1

6. SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT OR COMPLAINT

No one was injured in this residential fire, which resulted in an estimated $45,000.-- to $55,000.-- fire damage to the tri-level home. One or both of two boys, ages 3 and 4 years old, are believed to have played with a utility fuel lighter (also known as a barbecue lighter), starting this fire in their bedroom (according to Fire Department Officials). The first item ignited is not known for certain.

7. LOCATION (Home, School, etc.)	8. CITY	9. STATE
Home (A Bedroom-3rd Floor) 1 0	Vacaville (rural)	California C A

10A. FIRST PRODUCT-(per Fire Dept) [Suspected - Ignition Source]	10B. TRADE/BRAND NAME	10C. MODEL NUMBER
Utility Fuel Lighter 1 2 4 7	Marked: T.S. (on handle's end) [Unknown if "T.S." is brand]	Unknown

Fuel Charcoal Lighter 6/1

10D. MANUFACTURER NAME AND ADDRESS

Unknown

11A. SECOND PRODUCT-(per Fire Dept) [1st material ignited - unknown]	11B. TRADE/BRAND NAME	11C. MODEL NUMBER
Fire in bedroom 1 8 6 6	Unknown	Unknown

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared 2 Sc

No Mfrs/PrvtLblrs or Products Identified

Excepted by ANPR

Firms Notified, Comments Processed

Am 6/30/97

11D. MANUFACTURER NAME AND ADDRESS

Unknown

12. AGE OF VICTIM	13. SEX	14. DISPOSITION	15. INJURY DIAGNOSIS
No Injury 9 9 9	No Injury 9	No Injury 0	No Injury 7 0

16. BODY PART(S) INVOLVED	17. RESPONDENT	18. TYPE OF INVESTIGATION	19 TIME SPENT (Operational hours)
No Injury 9 9	Fire Officials; Father; Fire Rept; and Newspaper 3	[Visit-Fire Dept.] On-site 1	1 6.0 Hours

20. CATEGORY ID	21. CASE SOURCE - Newspaper	22. SAMPLE COLLECTION NUMBER
S E C T 0 4	[Doc. No. F535005] 0 5	None

23. PERMISSION TO DISCLOSE NAMES (Non Neiss Cases Only) YES: NO: XXXXXX

24. REVIEW DATE	25. REVIEW BY	26. REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTOR
950421	8101	

27. DISTRIBUTION

O: EPDS cc: SFRO

CPSC FORM 182 (REVISED 03/94)

25 APR 1995

FIELD ACTIVITY COVERSHEET

1 Region/State FOWR/SFO	2 Operation (Check one) __ Inspection __ Telephone contact __ Other _____ __ Establishment visit XX Investigation	3 Date 4-20-95 4 Number 950301CWE5005

5 Establishment

Unknown

Telephone

6 Related firm __ Parent __ Headquarters __ Subsidiary __ Other

7 Products covered Utility Fuel Lighter (Used for lighting a woodstove)	8 Other consumer products Unknown
9 Establishment Type __ Manufacturer __ Importer __ Wholesaler __ Own label distributor __ Retailer __ Repackager __ Other _____	10 Annual production Product covered $_____ units _____ Other products $_____ units _____

11 IS business % received _____ % shipped _____	12 Samples collected None	13 MIS code 32 626	14 Hours Activity 16.0 Hours Travel 2.0 Hours

15 Reason for activity - This residential fire incident was found in a newspaper article [DOC. REF. F535005]. Fire Officials allege that this fire was started due to children, 3 and 4 years old, playing with a utility lighter (BBQ type) at home.

16 Announced __ (Rationale for announced inspection)
Unannounced __

17 Employee's Name Kenneth G. Felton (#8090)	Title Investigator	Signature date Kenneth G. Felton 4-20-95

18 X **Endorsement** __ **Remarks** __ **Summary** __ **Other** _____

IDI conducted in response to a newspaper account of a residential fire associated with a utility lighter. Two children, ages 3 and 4 years, are thought to have started the fire with the utility lighter. Loss was estimated at $55,000.00. No injury occurred. We were unable to fully identify the utility lighter. No further follow up.

19 Reviewer's Name James P. DiGrazia	Title Supervisory Investigator	Signature James P. DiGrazia 4/21/95
20 Review Date 4/21/95	21 Distribution O: EPDS cc: SFRO cc c/s: LGC, LDB	

CPSC FORM 167

PRE-INCIDENT:

The father of the two boys (ages 3 and 4 years old) was interviewed by telephone. He said that this home (site of this fire incident) was a new home when they moved into it. He added that this home was built in 1988, and that it is a tri-level home. The bedroom of his two sons (ages 3 and 4 years) is located on the 3rd floor [NOTE: Referring to the photograph, shown in PHOTO #1 of EXHIBIT II, two firefighters are shown standing and looking out the window of the boys' bedroom].

The father reports that the home has a woodstove and that the heat from this woodstove is the only heat used to heat the home. He added that a lighter (NOTE: He is referring to a utility fuel lighter/barbecue lighter) is used to start the woodstove, and that this lighter is always kept out of the reach of his two small sons. The father said that this lighter is always kept on a shelf that is six feet high, when it is not being used. He added that his two small sons (ages 3 and 4 years) are not able to reach this shelf, to gain access to the lighter. The father reports that he is familiar with the operation of this lighter, and he had read all of the instructions. He said that he previously had the same kind of lighter, as this lighter that the Fire Department is holding; So he is familiar with the operation of this lighter. The father believes that the lighter (being held by the Fire Department) was purchased a few months prior, probably somewhere in Vacaville, CA. He was very uncertain of the identity of the retail store, where this lighter was purchased, but said that it may possibly be the Target Store, in Vacaville, CA. The father said that the lighter worked well. He added that this lighter had not ever been damaged and it had not ever malfunctioned.

The father reports that his two small sons, ages 3 and 4 years old, are healthy children, and they have no history of any serious illnesses. He added that they had not been recently ill, prior to this fire, and had not taken any medications. He also reports that they have no handicaps.

On the morning of the fire, he saw his two boys in their room, roughly 5 minutes before the fire was discovered. He said that there was no indication of fire or any problem at that time. The father said that he left them and then started to get himself cleaned up. The father said that the temperature inside the home was very roughly between 55°F and 60°F.

INCIDENT:

This fire incident occurred at about 10:00 A.M. on February 9, 1995 (a Thursday). The father said that he saw his two sons come running out of their bedroom, yelling about this fire. The Fire Department's Report (shown in EXHIBIT I), states in part:

> " ... ARRIVED ON SCENE, A TRI-LEVEL RESIDENCE WITH AN UPSTAIRS BEDROOM INVOLVED, ALL OCCUPANTS WERE OUT OF THE STRUCTURE. THE HOMEOWNER DID A KNOCKDOWN USING DRY CHEMICAL EXTINGUISHER AND GARDEN HOSES PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF UNITS".

The father indicated that the fire in the bedroom was spreading rapidly (soon after he discovered the fire), and so the father grabbed his two sons and left the home. The family and others, who passed-by, fought this fire from outside the home, using garden hoses. The Fire Department's Incident Report lists its dispatch time as being 10:17 A.M., and its arrival time (at the scene of this fire) as being 10:30 A.M. on 2-9-95. Fire Officials determined after entering the home, that the fire had already been extinguished by the people outside.

The fire damage is estimated, on the Fire Incident Report, at about $30,000.-- (to the structure) and about $15,000.-- (to the contents). The father said that the fire was nearly confined to his sons' bedroom, but there was smoke damage throughout the home. He said that the fire damage to the home may be a little bit more than the $30,000.-- (Fire Department's estimates). He believes that it may be about $40,000.-- fire damage to the home.

POST INCIDENT:

The Fire Department's Investigator said that this fire started under or near the youthbed. He said he is not certain what material was the first material to ignite. He said that it may have been some clothing or bedding, located under or near the youthbed. The Fire Investigation Report states in-part:

> "AFTER LOOKING AROUND THE ROOM I FEEL THE FIRE STARTED EITHER ON OR NEAR THE TODDLER BED THAT WAS IN THE SOUTH WEST CORNER OF THE ROOM".

The father said that Fire Department Official(s) did find the utility lighter on a coffee table in the livingroom, and they felt that this lighter was used to start this fire. The father said that he does not know why this lighter was on the coffee table and not in its usual place on a six foot high shelf.

The father doubts that the utility lighter was the ignition source of this fire. He said that if either of his two sons had used this utility lighter to start the fire, then he believes that the lighter would have been most likely dropped and left in their bedroom (close to where the fire started). The father indicated that it does not seem possible that his son(s) had enough time to go from the bedroom (on the third floor), after the fire was started, to the living room (on the second floor), to set the utility lighter down on the coffee table, and then return to the bedroom (on the third floor). He added that there was not enough time for all of this to occur. So the father indicated that the cause of the fire is still a mystery to him, and that he does not believe the Fire Department's version of this fire incident.

The Fire Department ruled out electrical and all other sources, as being a possible cause of this fire. The Fire Department's Incident Report lists: "FORM OF HEAT - Lighter (flame type)" and "IGNITION FACTOR - Children Play w/ Heat".

The Fire Investigation Report states in-part:

> " ... THAT THE FIRE WAS PROBABLY SET USING A PROPANE FIRE STARTER ... IT IS MY OPINION THAT ONE OF THE KIDS STARTED THE TODDLER BED ON FIRE PRIOR TO LEAVING THE ROOM".

The Fire Department's Investigator said that he does not know for certain what was the first item that was ignited. He said that it may have been the youthbed (or its bedding) or possibly clothes that may have been on the floor near the youthbed.

The father was asked if there was any possibility of anyone smoking, in or around the youthbed in his sons' bedroom. The Father said that no one smokes in this bedroom. The father was questioned: Assuming that a lighter was used to start this fire, could it have been started by one of his sons playing with another lighter (not the lighter that the Fire Department is holding)? The father simply said that there are two smokers in the home, but he did not mention any other lighter. He did not provide any additional information, regarding this matter.

STANDARDS INFORMATION:

It is not known if the utility lighter (the suspected ignition source) was made to conform with any voluntary standard. Also no information, regarding compliance with a standard, is known about any of the other product which may have been involved in this fire incident.

PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION:

The utility lighter, which is being held by the Fire Department, was photographed by CPSC. Several of these photographs are shown in EXHIBIT III, except for the close-up photographs which were later ruined when the camera was accidentally opened prior to winding the film back into its metal cartridge.

Examination of the utility lighter reveals the following identification on the end of the lighter's handle: "T.S.". The utility lighter also has a warning statement: "KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN. FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS ON PACKAGE". The Fire Department's Investigator does not know the name of the manufacturer of this utility lighter and no other identifying information could be found on the lighter. The father also does not know the lighter's brand name or the name of the lighter's manufacturer or distributor. The father indicated that he does not know the whereabouts of the lighter's packaging, instructions, etc. The utility lighter has an "OFF - ON" switch and also a trigger. The utility lighter measures about 8 & 7/8 inches long by 1 & 1/8 inch square (on the end of the lighter's handle). This utility lighter has a red and black colored plastic case.

The father describes the youthbed as follows (from top to bottom): (1) A comforter; (2) Top sheet; (3) Bottom sheet; (4) A mattress pad, egg crate type; (5) A mattress, with a Quit top surface and having innerspring (other components of the mattress are not known). The father does not know for certain where the youthbed and its mattress were purchased, but believes that it may have been Toys R Us. He did not know other details about this youthbed. The fire debris, including the remains of the youthbed and its bedding, has been discarded and it is no longer available to examine. The father did not know about clothing that may have been on the floor, under or near the youthbed. He believes that clothing was hanging on a closet door's hanger.

EXHIBITS:

I - Fire Department's Incident and Investigation Reports. (9 pages)

II - Selected photographs provided by the Fire Department. (PHOTOS #1 to #21)

III - CPSC Photographs (PHOTOS #1 to #4). + Negatives

INDEPTH No. 95 0301 CWE5005

EXHIBIT I

STATE OF CALIFORNIA FIRE INCIDENT REPORT

SECTION A											
1	FDID 48-065	Vacaville Fire Prot. Dist. FIRE DEPARTMENT							CFIRS 1		
2	CHANGE DELETE	Station 3 STATION							YEAR 95	INCIDENT NUMBER 00095034	EXPOSURE 00
									MULTI-AGENCY INCIDENT NUMBER :	AGENCY YEAR INCIDENT	
3	DATE 02/09/95	WEEKDAY 5 Thursday	DISPATCH 10:17	ARRIVAL 10:30	END TIME 13:11	ADDITIONAL DAYS 0	FIRST IN 39A1	DISTRICT 3			
4	SITUATION(S) FOUND 11 Structure Fire AUTOMATIC AID 8 No Aid Given/Received WEATHER 1 Clear	TEMPERATURE 68F°	METHOD OF ALARM 1 Telephone Direct to Fire Dept PROPERTY MANAGEMENT 1 Private Tax-Paying Prop								
5	ADDRESS [redacted]										
6	APARTMENT	ZIP CODE 95688	CENSUS TRACT 0000.00	FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE 99999 Z Unknown							
7	PERSONNEL RESPONDED : CAREER 6 VOLUNTEER 13	NUMBER APPARATUS RESPONDED : ENGINE 1 TRUCK 0 RESCUE 0 OTHER 6									
8	INVOLVEMENT CODE OC Occupant	NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.) [redacted]	PHONE [redacted]								
9	ADDRESS [redacted]	STATE CA	ZIP 95688								
10	INVOLVEMENT CODE	NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.)	PHONE ( ) -								
11	ADDRESS	STATE	ZIP								
12	GENERAL PROPERTY USE 41 1 or 2 Family Residential Use OCCUPIED AT TIME OF INCIDENT 1 Yes, Occupied	SPECIFIC PROPERTY USE 411 1 Family Dwelling Year Round STRUCTURE TYPE 1 Building w/1 Specific Prop Use	BUILDING CODE OCCUPANCY TYPE R30 Dwellings and Lodging Houses STRUCTURE STATUS 2 Furnished, Routinely In Use								
13	IF MOBILE PROPERTY INVOLVED IN IGNITION	MOBILE PROPERTY TYPE 98 Mobile Property Type N/A MODEL VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	VEHICLE LICENSE MAKE DRIVER'S LICENSE	STATE YEAR I.C.C./D.O.T. PERMIT STATE							

SECTION B						
			COMPLETE FOR ALL FIRES			
1	ACTION(S) TAKEN 13 Extinguish/Salvage/Overhaul FIRE ORIGIN AREA 21 Sleeping Room 1-4 Persons	FIRE ORIGIN LEVEL A 1 Stories; x10' Above Grade	FORM OF HEAT 65 Lighter (Flame Type)	IGNITION FACTOR 36 Children Play w/Heat	HORIZONTAL DISTANCE	
2	SEX AGE SEX AGE CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S)	METHOD OF EXTINGUISHMENT 5 Water Carried On Asgnd Apra	TYPE OF MATERIAL IGNITED 0 Type of Material Undetermine	FORM OF MATERIAL IGNITED 0 Form of Material Undetermine		
3	ESTIMATED PROPERTY LOSS $ 30000	ESTIMATED CONTENTS LOSS $ 15000	FUEL MODEL	ACRES BURNED		
4	IF EQUIPMENT INVOLVED	EQUIPMENT TYPE 98 No Equipment Involved	YEAR MAKE	MODEL	SERIAL NUMBER	

EXHIBIT I INDEPTH No. 950301CWE5003

FDID	STATION	YEAR	INCIDENT NUMBER	EXPOSURE	DATE	DISPATCH TIME
48-065	3	95	00095034	00	02/09/95	10:17

SECTION C — COMPLETE FOR STRUCTURE FIRE

1 CONSTRUCTION TYPE: 5 Type V: Wood Frame
ROOF COVERING: 2 Composition Shingles
STORIES
EXTENT OF FLAME DAMAGE: 2 6 Confined To Structre of Orig
EXTENT OF SMOKE DAMAGE: 6 Confined To Structur of Orig

2 TYPE OF MATERIAL GENERATING MOST SMOKE: 0 Type of Material Undetermined
AVENUE OF SMOKE TRAVEL: 2 Corridor
FORM OF MATERIAL GENERATING MOST SMOKE: 0 Form of Material Undetermined
DETECTION SYSTEM :
TYPE: 0 Type of Detector Undetermine
POWER SUPPLY
PERFORMED
REASON FOR FAILURE

3 EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM :
TYPE: 98 No Extinguishing Sys
PERFORMED
REASON FOR FAILURE
SPRINKLER HEAD(S) TYPE
HEAD(S) ACTIVATED

SECTION D — COMPLETE FOR ANY FIRE CASUALTY

1 FIRE-SERVICE CASUALTY : INJURIES 0 FATALITIES 0
NON-FIRE-SERVICE FIRE CASUALTY : INJURIES 0 FATALITIES 0

SECTION E — COMPLETE FOR E. M. S.

1 HIGHEST LEVEL OF FIRE-SERVICE CARE CAPABLE OF BEING PROVIDED ON SCENE
HIGHEST LEVEL OF FIRE-SERVICE CARE PROVIDED ON SCENE
HIGHEST LEVEL OF OTHER CARE CAPABLE OF BEING PROVIDED ON SCENE
HIGHEST LEVEL OF OTHER CARE PROVIDED ON SCENE
NUMBER OF PATIENTS

2 E.M.S. TYPES OF SITUATIONS FOUND
NUMBER OF PATIENTS TRANSPORTED BY : FIRE DEPARTMENT PRIVATE AMBULANCE CORONER OTHER

SECTION F — COMPLETE FOR HAZ MAT

1 OES CONTROL NO.
HAZ MAT RELEASE AREA
HAZ MAT RELEASE LEVEL
RELEASE FACTORS
CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S)

2 ESTIMATED CHEMICALS RELEASED
EQUIPMENT TYPE INVOLVED
INCIDENT DISPOSITION
HAZMAT ACTION(S) TAKEN

3 HAZMAT ID SOURCES, PERSONNEL :
HAZMAT ID SOURCES, REFERENCE :
FIRE SERVICE HAZMAT CASUALTY - INJURED: FATALS:
NON-FIRE-SERVICE HAZMAT CASUALTY - INJURED: FATALITIES:

SECTION G — OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN AND SPECIAL STUDIES

1 OTHER ACTION(S) TAKEN

2 SPECIAL STUDIES : LOCAL

1a	1b	1c	1d
2a	2b	2c	2d
3a	3b	3c	3d
4a	4b	4c	4d

SPECIAL STUDIES : STATEWIDE

5a	5b	5c	5d
6a	6b	6c	6d

MEMBER MAKING REPORT : Ed McCalmon, Battalion Chief — DATE : 02/09/95
REVIEWED BY : Howard F. Wood, Fire Chief — DATE : 02/10/95

EXHIBIT I

INDEPTH No. 950301CWE50C

03/07/95
07:31 pm

Repair Needed
Vacaville Fire Prot. Dist.

		Item Descr	Repair No.	Reported	Problem
VEHICLES					
Staff	39-0175				
02/14/95	Repair	3900, 1992	1558	02/10/95	Traier plug left turr sig in/op P1
Engines	39-0003				
02/28/95	Repair	3913, 1988	1539	02/23/95	Power steering belt cracked P1
Engines	39-0024				
12/19/94	Repair	3914, 1979	1498-A	12/19/94	Water leaking from booster tank P2
Engines	39-0153				
03/07/95	Repair	3911, 1990	1543	03/07/95	Left 2-1/2 Suction Leaks P1
Engines	39-0185				
03/07/95	Repair	O.E.S. 244	1545	03/07/95	Air Horn Not Working P1
Water Tender	39-0018				
03/01/95	Repair	3961, 1979	1540-A	02/21/95	Left front tire worn P1
03/01/95	Repair	3961, 1979	1540-B	02/21/95	2 pump panel lights out P1
03/01/95	Repair	3961, 1979	1540-C	02/21/95	Rear license plate light missing P1
03/01/95	Repair	3961, 1979	1540-D	02/21/95	Releaf valve light in/op P1
Water Tender	39-0005				
11/06/94	Repair	3963, 1971	1457	11/04/94	ATF leaking from transmission P1
Power Wagon	39-0143				
03/07/95	Repair	3940, 1990	1565	03/07/95	Seat Torn P2

EXHIBIT I INDEPTH No. 950301 CWE 5005

REMARKS

Vacaville Fire Prot. Dist.

For Incident: 95034 Exposure: 00 DATE: 02/09/95 TIME: 10:17

BATTALION THREE WAS DISPATCHED TO A STRUCTURE FIRE AT [redacted]. UNIT 3900 ARRIVED ON SCENE, A TRI-LEVEL RESIDENCE WITH AN UPSTAIRS BEDROOM INVOLVED, ALL OCCUPANTS WERE OUT OF THE STRUCTURE. THE HOMEOWNER DID A KNOCKDOWN USING DRY CHEMICAL EXTINGUISHER AND GARDEN HOSES PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF UNITS. 3911 ARRIVED ON SCENE, LAYING ONE 3 INCH SUPPLY UP THE DRIVEWAY, TWO FIREFIGHTERS ENTERED WITH SCBA'S AND A SAFETY LINE TO CHECK THE BEDROOM. A SMOKE EJECTOR WAS SET UP FOR POSITIVE PRESSURE VENTILATION. PG&E AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT WERE NOTIFIED. CREWS FROM ALL UNITS WERE ROTATED IN FOR OVERHAUL WITH SALVAGEABLE ITEMS REMOVED TO THE FRONT DECK AREA. THE REMAINDER OF THE DEBRIS WAS PILED TO THE EAST OF THE DRIVEWAY. THE HOME HAD HEAT AND SMOKE DAMAGE THROUGHOUT. SHEET ROCK WAS PULLED IN THE INVOLVED BEDROOM AND HALLWAY. ALL TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT WAS RETURNED TO UNITS, ALL UNITS WERE RELEASED AND SCENE WAS SECURED. THE STRUCTURE WAS RELEASED BACK TO THE RESIDENT.

EXHIBIT I INDEPT No. 95030/CWE5005

VACAVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

INCIDENT No. 95-034

☐ INFORMATION REPORT ☐ FOLLOW-UP ☒ CONTINUATION ☐ OTHER	DATE AND TIME OCCURRED 020995 @ 1017 HRS	DATE AND TIME REPORTED 020995 @ 1017 HRS
INCIDENT ADDRESS / LOCATION [redacted]		

[redacted] NARRATIVE [redacted]

ON 020995 AT 1017 HRS. I RESPONDED TO A STRUCTURE FIRE AT [redacted] IN VACAVILLE. I WAS ASSIGNED TO 3911 THE FIRST IN ENGINE. WE ARRIVED AT 1030 HRS. AND FOUND A 2 STORY WOODSIDED HOUSE WITH SMOKE COMMING OUT OF A 2ND STORY WINDOW. THERE WERE ALSO CIVILIANS ATTEMPTING TO EXTINGUISH THE FIRE FROM THE OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE WITH A GARDEN HOSE.

MYSELF AND B/C HODGES MADE ENTRY INTO THE HOUSE AND FOUND HEAVY SMOKE COMMING FROM THE HALLWAY, WE MADE IT TO THE BEDROOM AND FOUND THE FIRE HAD BEEN KNOCKED BY THE PEOPLE OUTSIDE. AFTER WE CHECKED FOR EXTENSION INTO OTHER PARTS OF THE HOUSE I STARTED MY INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSE AND ORIGIN.

THE UPSTAIRS BEDROOM APPEARED TO BE WHERE THE FIRE STARTED. I THEN TRIED TO PINPOINT IF POSSIBLE WHERE IN THE ROOM IT STARTED. AFTER LOOKING AROUND THE ROOM I FEEL THE FIRE STARTED EITHER ON OR NEAR A TODDLER BED THAT WAS IN THE SOUTH WEST CORNER OF THE ROOM. THE FOLLOWING IS THE EVIDENCE I FOUND TO SUPPORT THIS FINDING.

THERE WAS A BURN LINE ON THE WEST WALL THAT STARTED FROM THE SOUTH WEST CORNER FLOOR AND ANGLED UP FROM THAT POINT. A PLASTIC TOY BOX THAT WAS ON THE FLOOR WAS BURNT MORE ON THE SOUTH SIDE THAN

J McCants 158 020995
Member making report ID No. Date Reviewed by

INCDNT_D 4/93

EXHIBIT I

INDEPTH No. 950301CWE5003

VACAVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

INCIDENT No. 95-034

☐ INFORMATION REPORT ☒ CONTINUATION ☐ OTHER ☐ FOLLOW-UP	DATE AND TIME OCCURRED 020995 @ 1017 HRS	DATE AND TIME REPORTED 020995 @ 1017 HRS
INCIDENT ADDRESS / LOCATION [redacted]		

[redacted] NARRATIVE [redacted]

ON THE NORTH SIDE. THE TWIN BED THAT WAS AGIANST THE NORTH WALL DID NOT BURN NEAR AS BAD AS DID THE TODDLER BED. THE SHEET ROCK ON THE WEST WALL HAD BURNT THROUGH TO THE INSULATION.

THERE WAS A SEWING MACHINE TABLE THAT WAS EAST OF THE TODDLER BED ALONG THE SOUTH WALL THE TABLE SHOWED HEAVY SIGNS OF CHARRING ON THE SIDE NEXT TO THE BED. THE SHEET ROCK NEAR THE BED HAD ALSO BURNT THROUGH ON THIS WALL ALSO. THERE WAS A WINDOW IN THIS WALL. THE WINDOW SILL RECIEVED MORE DAMALE TO WEST SIDE THAN IT DID ON THE EAST.

THE WINDOW FRAME HAD ALSO MELTED IN THE UPPER WEST CORNER. THE REST OF THE WINDOW FRAME WAS INTACT. THE GLASS WAS BROKEN OUT OF THE FRAME. THE WINDOW WAS CLOSED AT THE TIME OF THE FIRE.

THERE WAS A WALL PLUG IN THE SOUTH WALL THAT WAS CHARRED HEAVY BUT NOTHING HAD BEEN PLUGGED INTO IT AT THE TIME OF THE FIRE. I ALSO CHECKED THE PLUG FROM THE SEWING MACHINE TO SEE IF IT HAD BEEN PLUGGED INTO THIS PLUG. THE CORD RAN BEHIND SOME BOXES AWAY FROM THE PLUG NOT TO IT.

THE DOORS ON THE NORTH AND EAST WALL SHOWED A ROLL OVER PATTERN. THE FIRE BURNT DOWN NOT UP FROM THE

JMCLANTS — Member making report

158 020995 — ID No. Date

Reviewed by

INCDNT_D 4/93

EXHIBIT I

INDEPTH No. 950301CWE5005

VACAVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

INCIDENT No. 95-034

☐ INFORMATION REPORT ☒ CONTINUATION ☐ OTHER ☐ FOLLOW-UP	DATE AND TIME OCCURRED 020995 @ 1017 HRS	DATE AND TIME REPORTED 020995 @ 1017 HRS
INCIDENT ADDRESS / LOCATION [redacted] VACAVILLE		

NARRATIVE

FLOOR. THIS OCCURRES WHEN THE FIRE MOVES ACROSS A CIELING AND STARTS DOWN THE OTHER WALL.

I TOOK SEVERAL PICTURES OF THE INSIDE OF THE ROOM SHOWING THE BURN PATTERNS AND DAMAGE TO BOTH OF THE BEDS. I ALSO PHOTOGRAPHED THE SEWING TABLE AS WELL AS THE TOY BOX. AFTER I PHOTOGRAPHED THE ROOM I HAD A CREW REMOVE ALL THE FURNITURE FROM INSIDE THE ROOM SO I COULD INSPECT THE FLOOR.

I SAW THE CARPET IN THE SOUTH WEST CORNER WAS COMPLETEW BURNT AWAY. THE FLOOR HAD ALSO BURNT THROUGH UNDER THE TODDLER BED. THIS ALSO SUPPORTS THAT THE FIRE STARTED IN THIS AREA. I PHOTOGRAPHED ALL OF THIS ALSO.

AFTER I COMPLETED MY INVESTIGATION HODGES TOLD ME THAT HE HAD INTERVIEWED A 3 AND 4 YEAR OLD THAT HAD BEEN PLAYING IN THE ROOM APPROX. 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE FIRE. HE SAID THAT THE FIRE WAS PROBABLY SET USING A PROPANE FIRE STARTER

IT IS MY OPINION THAT ONE OF THE KIDS STARTED THE TODDLER BED ON FIRE PRIOR TO LEAVING THE ROOM THEREFORE THE FIRE SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED AS A

MCCANTS
Member making report

1125 020995
ID No. Date

Reviewed by

EXHIBIT I

INDEPTH No. 950301CWES005

VACAVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

INCIDENT No. 95-034

☐ INFORMATION REPORT ☒ CONTINUATION ☐ FOLLOW-UP ☐ OTHER	DATE AND TIME OCCURRED 020995 @ 1017 HRS	DATE AND TIME REPORTED 020995 @ 1017 HRS
INCIDENT ADDRESS / LOCATION [redacted]		

NARRATIVE

INDEX FOR SKETCH

#1 - TODDLER BED
#2 - TOY BOX
#3 - TWIN BED
#4 - DRESSER
#5 - SHELVES
#6 - SEWING CABINET
#7 - ENTRY DOOR
#8 - CLOSET DOOR
#9 - WINDOW
#10 - BURN THROUGH ON S WALL
#11 - BURN THROUGH ON W WALL

McCANTS
Member making report

15B 020995
ID No. Date

Reviewed by

INCDNT_D 4/93

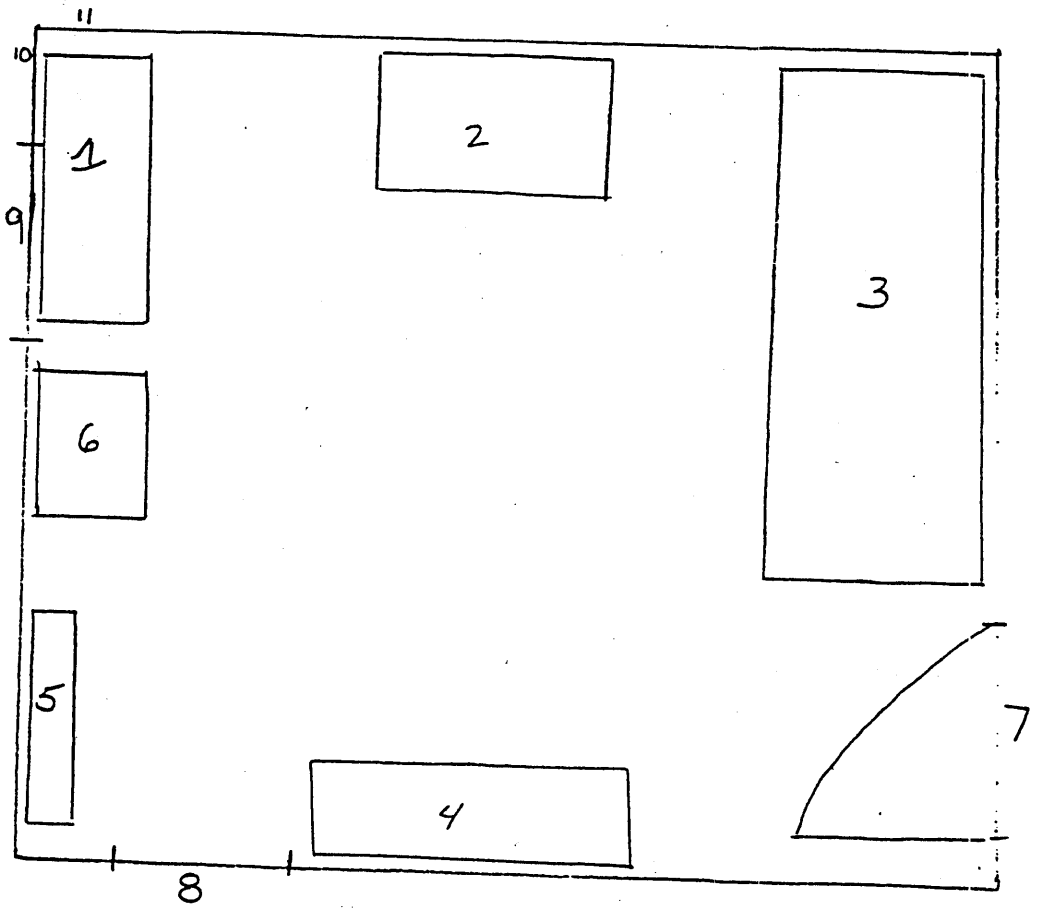
VACAVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SKETCH

INDEPTH No. 95 03 01 CWE 5003

INCIDENT No. 95-034

INCIDENT DATE 020995	INCIDENT ADDRESS / LOCATION [redacted]

[redacted] SKETCH [redacted]



N

NOT TO SCALE

JMCCANTS
Drawn by

LSB 020995
ID No. Date

INCDNT_C 4/93

pg __ of __

Indepth No. 950301CWE5005

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: NOT PURGED - DO NOT RELEASE

Father & Fire Site: [redacted]

(Disconnected)
(New number)

Fire Department: Vacaville Fire District (County areas)
420 Vine Street
Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 447-2252
Incident No. 95-034
Fred Hodges (Fire Investigator)
Ed McCalmon, Battalion Chief
Howard F. Wood, Fire Chief

U. S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
600 HARRISON STREET, ROOM 245, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107-1370
(415) 744- 2966 FAX (415) 744-2962

ALASKA
ARIZONA
ARKANSAS
CALIFORNIA
COLORADO
HAWAII
IDAHO
LOUISIANA
MONTANA
NEW MEXICO
NEVADA
OKLAHOMA
OREGON
TEXAS
UTAH
WASHINGTON
WYOMING
PACIFIC ISLANDS

April 4, 1995

Mr. [redacted]

Dear Mr [redacted]

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is studying fire incidents involving young children playing with a lighter. We recently saw a newspaper article which indicates that on February 9, 1995 there was such a fire at your home. The Vacaville Fire Protection District let me look at the barbecue lighter that it is holding.

I would like to talk with you at your convenience, regarding this fire incident. CPSC is interested in obtaining information about the history of the barbecue lighter (such as: When and where the barbecue lighter was purchased, etc.) and any other information that you may still have (such as: obtaining copies a brochure, an Owner's manual, instructions, etc.). Please complete the enclosed page, indicating a convenient day and time to call (so I can call you), and also complete the enclosed form - AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF NAME. You can return these completed forms to me in the enclosed postage paid envelope.

Some brochures describing the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission are enclosed for your information. Thank you for helping in our study.

Sincerely,

Kenneth G. Felton

Kenneth G. Felton
Product Safety Investigator
Western Regional Office

Enclosures

_____ Please call me between the hours of _____ and _____ on the following days: _____

at telephone number: _____.

Remarks:

EXHIBIT II

Indepth No. 950301CWE5005

PHOTO #1:

PHOTO #2:

PHOTO #3:

PHOTO #4:

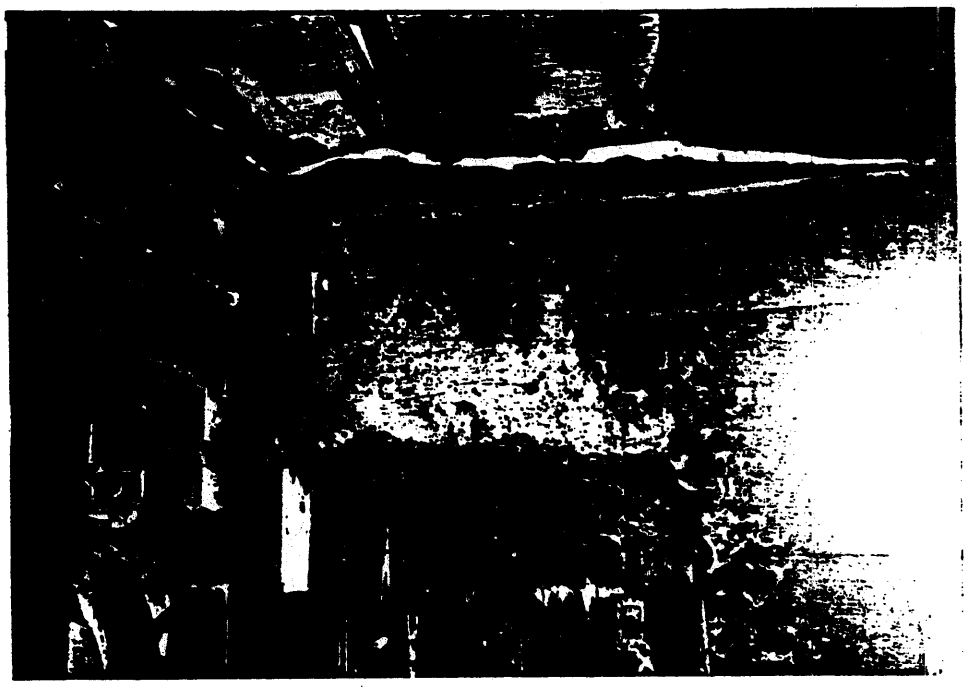


PHOTO #5:

PHOTO #6:

PHOTO #7:

PHOTO #8:

PHOTO #9:

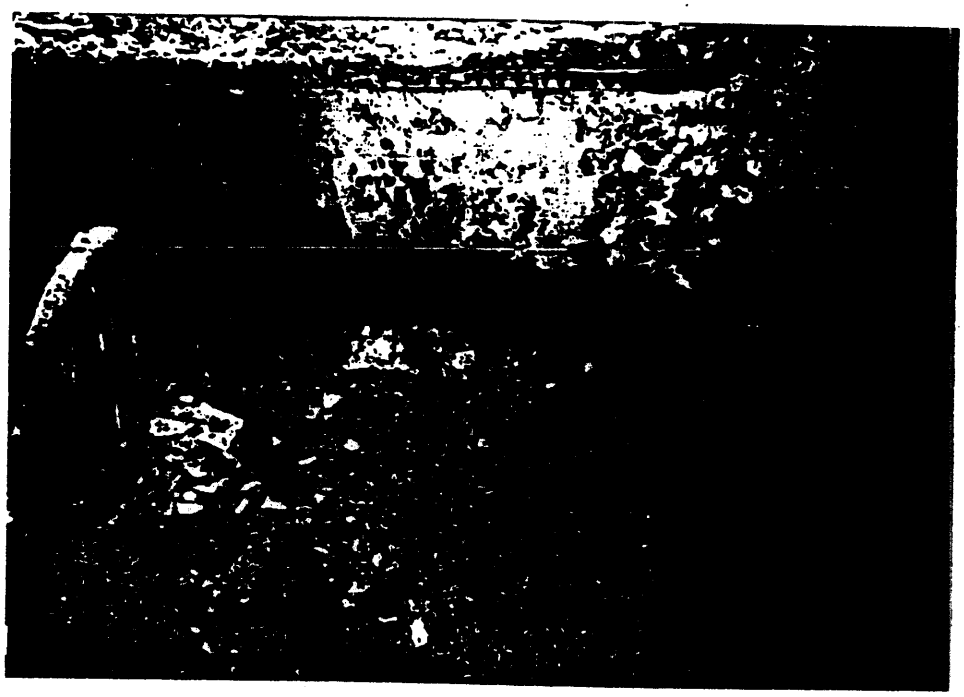


PHOTO #10:

EXHIBIT II Indpeth No. 950301CWE5005

PHOTO #11:

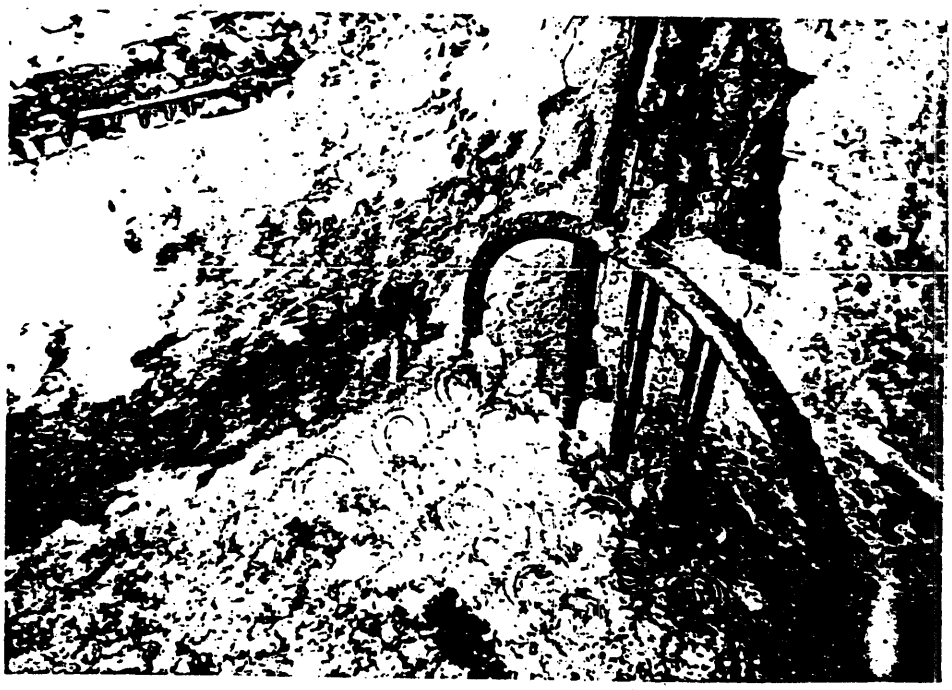


PHOTO #12:

PHOTO #13:

PHOTO #14:

EXHIBIT II Indpeth No. 950301CWE5005

PHOTO #15:

PHOTO #16:

EXHIBIT II Indepth No. 950301CWE5005

PHOTO #17:

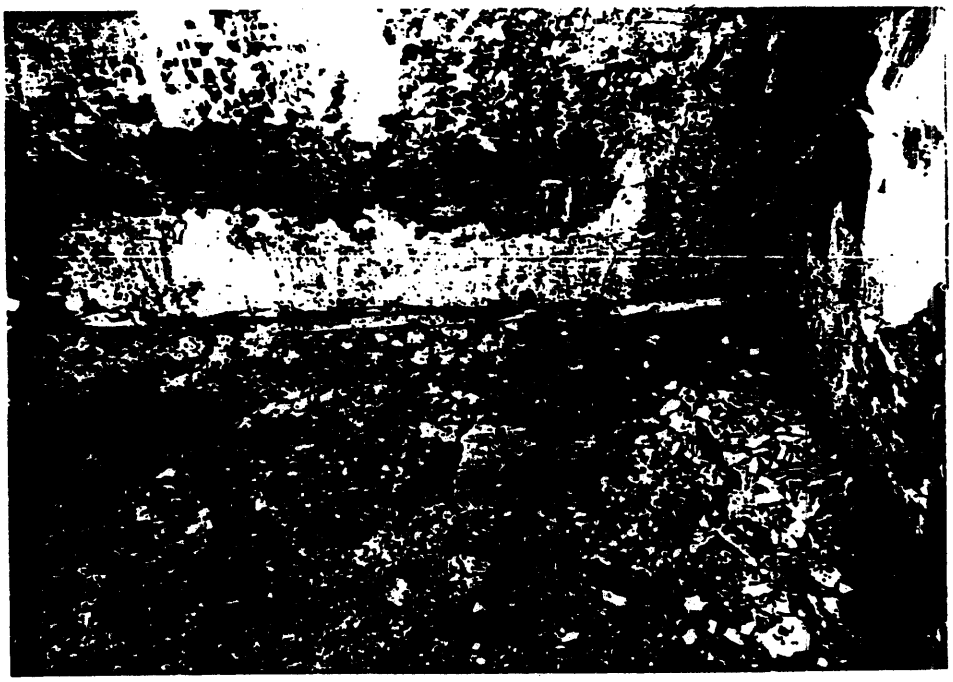


PHOTO #18:

PHOTO #19:

PHOTO #20:

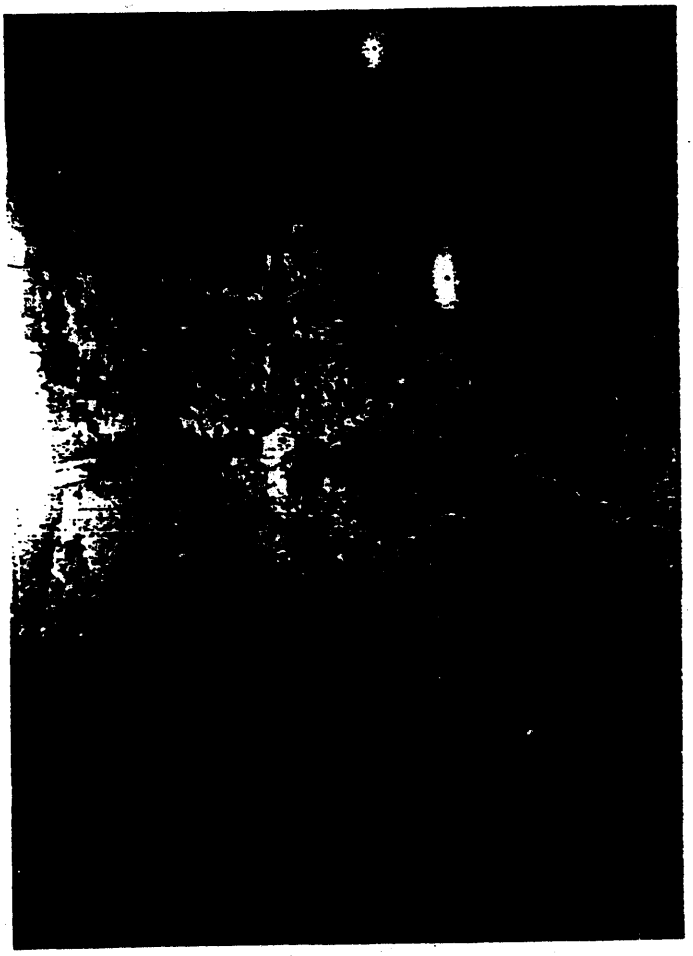
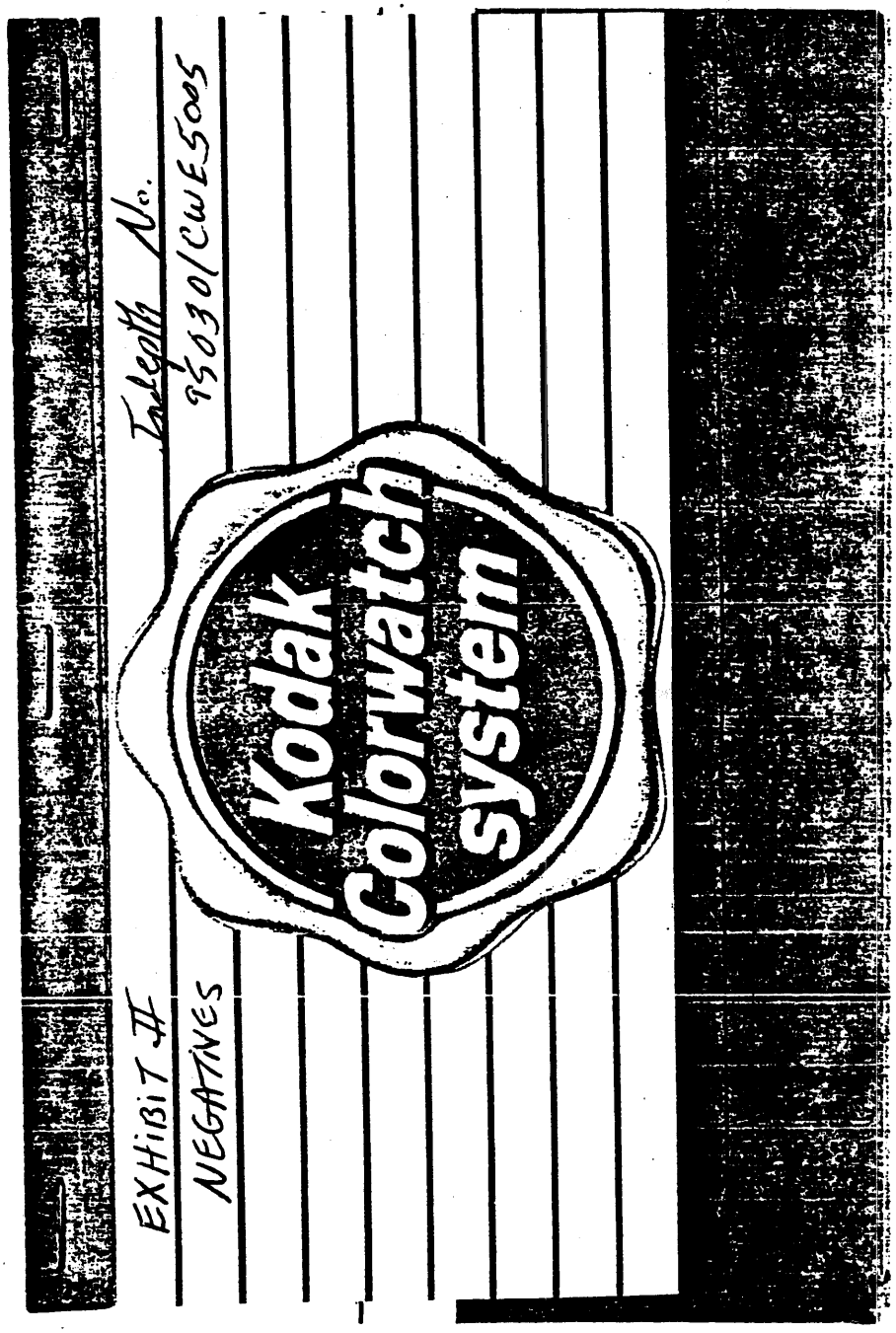


PHOTO #21:

EXHIBIT II - NEGATIVES Indepth No. 95030 1CWE5



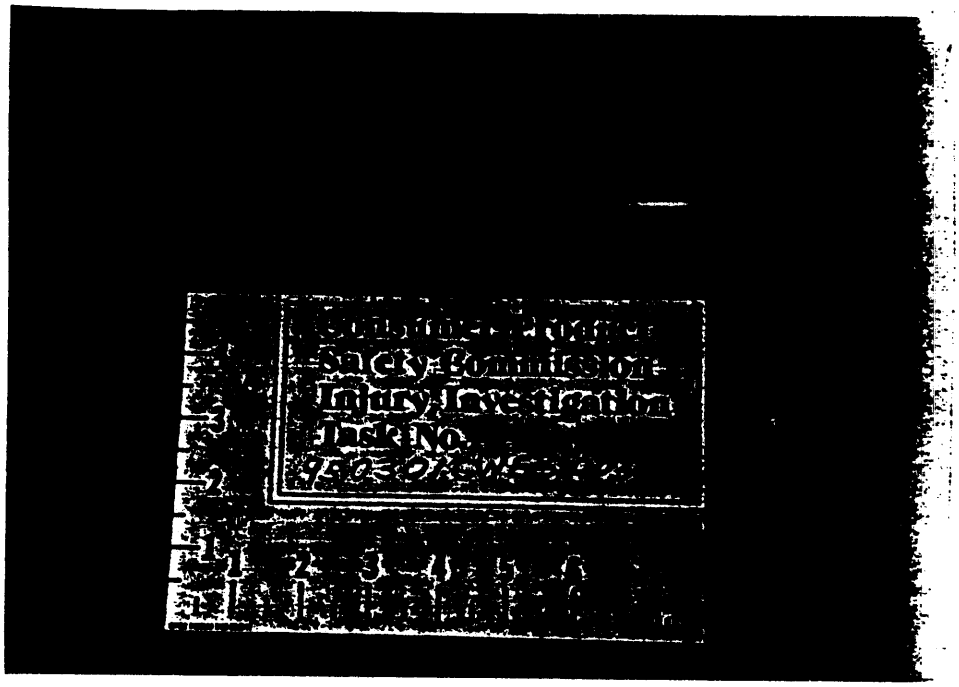


PHOTO #1: Photograph of the barbecue lighter, which the Fire Department is holding.

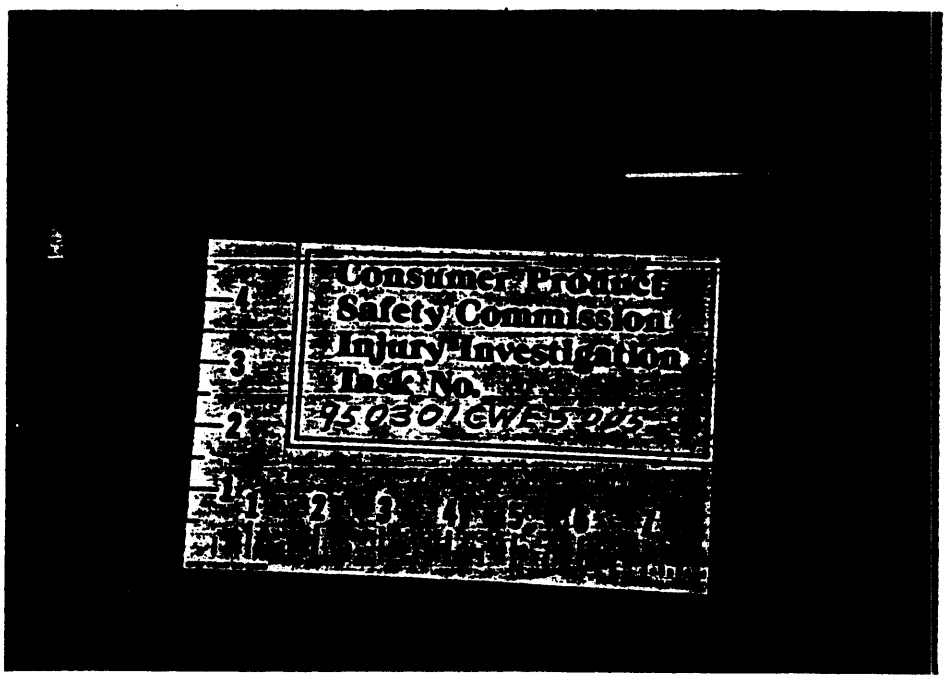


PHOTO #2: Photograph of another view of the barbecue lighter, shown in PHOTO #1.

EXHIBIT III

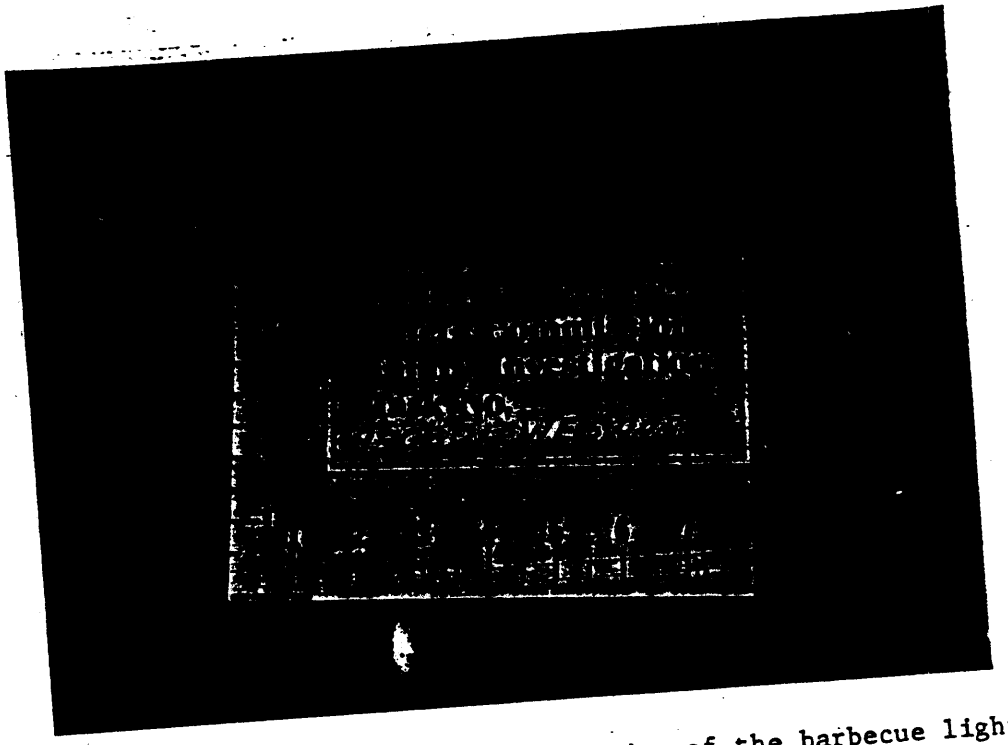


PHOTO #3: Photograph of another view of the barbecue lighter, shown in PHOTO #1.

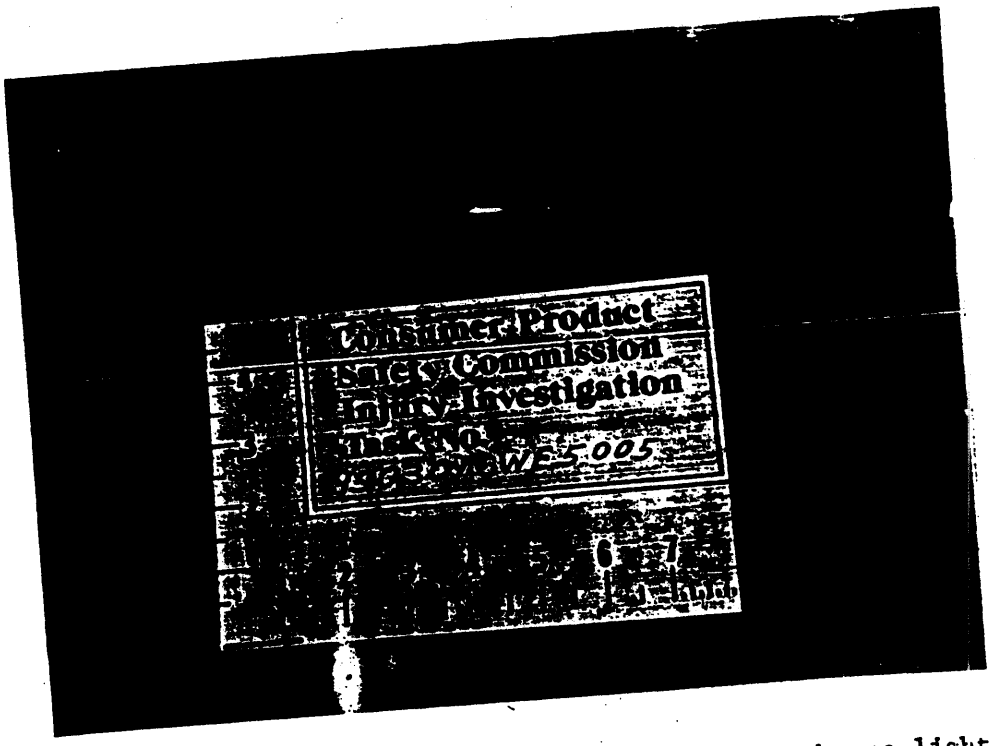
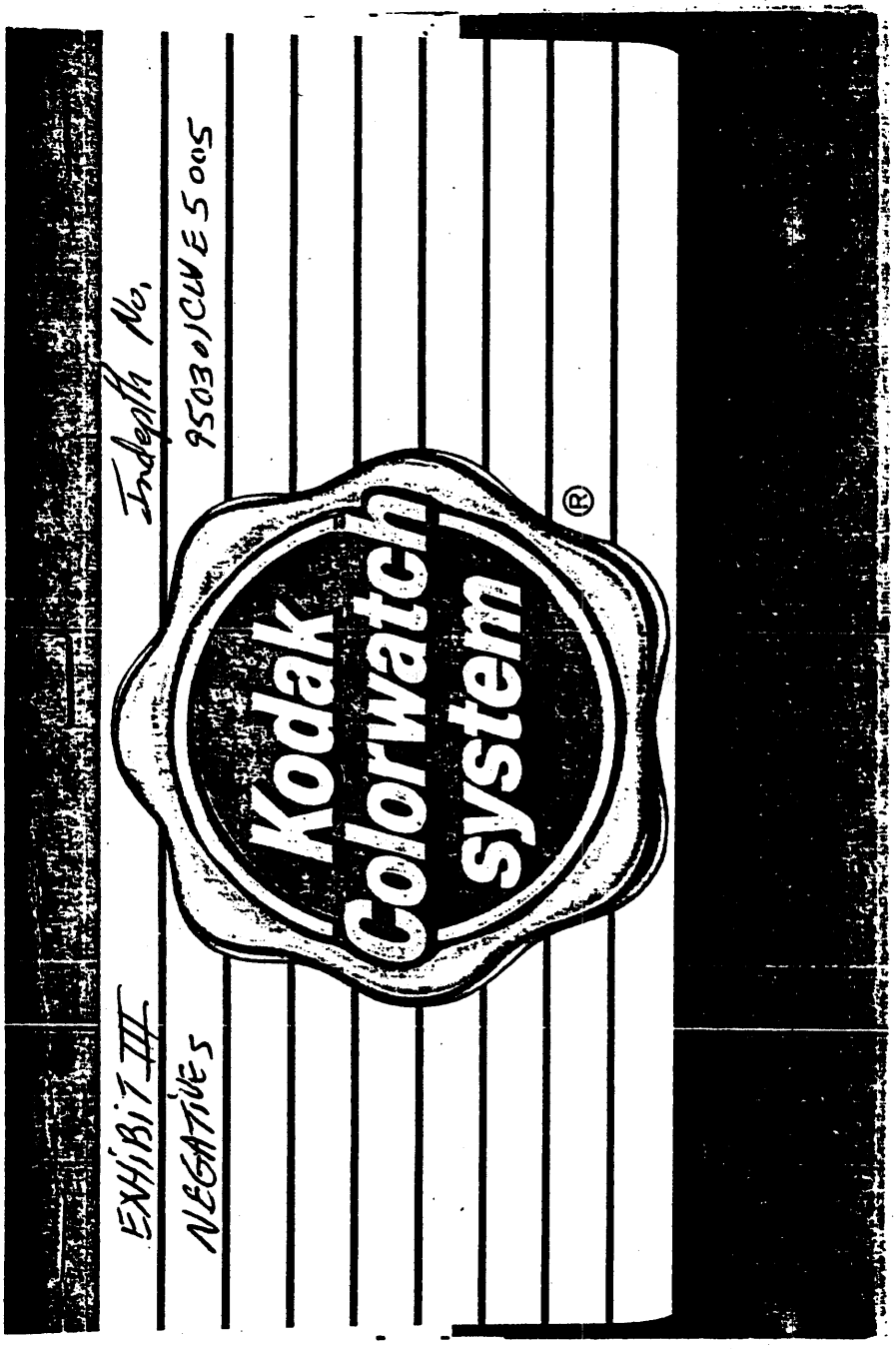


PHOTO #4: Photograph of another view of the barbecue lighter, shown in PHOTO #1.

Indepth No. 950301CWE5005

EXHIBIT III - NEGATIVES



Vacaville, CA
(Solano Co.)
Reporter
(Cir. D. 14,700)
(Cir. S. 15,300)

FEB 1 0 1995

Allen's P. C. B Est. 1888

SECT 04 1995 F835005 950301GWE5005

Children with lighters start home fire in Vaca

3569

Rural residence heavily damaged by morning blaze

Fire Marshal Fred Hodges (above right) talks to Deputy Chief Gary Robinson about the Spencer Lane blaze Thursday. The fire was started by young children playing with a lighter in an upstairs bedroom (below left), which suffered the heaviest damage.

Reporter photos/ Rick Roach

By Ben Patterson
Staff Writer

A Thursday morning blaze caused by children playing with a lighter caused extensive damage to a two-story rural Vacaville home.

No one was hurt in the fire, which broke out at about 10 a.m. Thursday in the [redacted].

Vacaville Fire Protection District Chief Howard Wood said the house suffered "extensive" heat and smoke damage to the upper floor and heavy smoke damage to the first floor. He estimated the house suffered $30,000 in structural damage and $15,000 in damage to contents.

Resident [redacted], said he was in the downstairs living room when his two sons, ages 3 and 4, came down from their bedroom and told him the room was on fire.

[redacted] entered the upstairs bedroom and saw flames in the back corner, according to Wood. He tried to extinguish the flames with a chemical fire extinguisher, but the fire spread so rapidly that he grabbed his two sons and escaped.

The family was soon joined by passers-by who helped battle the blaze with a trio of garden hoses.

"The fireplace was going, and there was smoke over the roof and everything," said [redacted] of Vacaville, who with companion [redacted] helped [redacted] fight the fire. "He [redacted] would have lost it by himself."

The three managed to keep the fire under control until firefighters arrived to finish the job.

Wood said investigators had determined that the children had been playing with a lighter in the upstairs bedroom shortly before the fire broke out.

17 MAY 1995

FIELD ACTIVITY COVERSHEET

1 Region/State FOWR/SFO	2 Operation (Check one) __ Inspection __ Telephone contact __ Other _____ __ Establishment visit XX Investig. Addendum	3 Date 5-3-95 4 Number 950301CW35005

5 Establishment

Unknown

Telephone

6 Related firm __ Parent __ Headquarters __ Subsidiary __ Other

7 Products covered Utility Fuel Lighter (Used for lighting a woodstove)	8 Other consumer products Unknown
9 Establishment Type __ Manufacturer __ Importer __ Wholesaler __ Own label distributor __ Retailer __ Repackager __ Other _____	10 Annual production Product covered $_____ units _____ Other products $_____ units _____

11 IS business % received _____ % shipped _____	12 Samples collected None	13 MIS code 32 626	14 Hours Activity 4.0 Hours Travel 0.0 Hours

15 Reason for activity - This residential fire incident was found in a newspaper article [DOC. REF. F535005]. Fire Officials allege that this fire was started due to children, 3 and 4 years old, playing with a utility lighter (BBQ type) at home.

16 Announced __ (Rationale for announced inspection)
Unannounced __

17 Employee's Name Kenneth G. Felton (#8090)	Title Investigator	Signature date Kenneth G. Felton 5-3-95

18 __ Endorsement __ Remarks __ Summary __ Other _____

Addendum consists of additional information of utility lighter involved in residential fire. The brand / manufacturer could not be established. No further follow up

12417
186G

19 Reviewer's Name James P. DiGrazia	Title Supervisory Investigator	Signature James P. DiGrazia
20 Review Date 5-9-95	21 Distribution O: EPDS cc: SFRO cc c/s: LGC	

CPSC FORM 167

ADDENDUM:

Some additional information was obtained from the Fire Department's Investigator, during a telephone call of April 24, 1995. He reports that he did interview the two small boys. He described the two boys' communication skills as being crude, and concluded that the two boys admitted that they were playing with the utility lighter (i.e. the barbecue lighter that he is holding as evidence), on the morning of this fire incident. The Fire Investigator was asked if it is possible that another lighter (i.e. not the barbecue lighter) or some other ignition source could have been used to start this fire. He said "No". He also said that in his opinion that this fire was started by one of the two small boys using the barbecue lighter that the Fire Department is holding in evidence. The Fire Department's Investigator was asked if the two boys had any prior known history of starting fires. He stated that the two boys had no known history of starting fires, prior to this fire incident, and that this fire incident was their first experience using this barbecue lighter.

The Fire Department's Investigator said that the barbecue lighter that the Fire Department is holding looks just like Scripto brand lighters, which were recently observed for sale at the PayLess Store in Vacaville, CA. He added that labeling on these Scripto brand lighters includes "Made in Mexico". On May 2, 1995, the Fire Department's Investigator was telephoned again. He was told that a Scripto brand utility lighter was observed at the PayLess store in Eureka, California, and that this Scripto brand utility lighter's labeling includes the "T.S." (on the end of the handle), which is also on the utility lighter that the Fire Department is holding as evidence. He was also told that this Scripto lighter is known as: "Aim n Flame". The Fire Department's Investigator was asked if there was any additional brand or model marking, possibly on the black metal (near the red trigger portion of the handle of the lighter). He said "No". He was told that the Scripto brand utility lighter has "Aim n Flame" marked on the metal. He reported there is no "Aim n Flame" mark.

The Fire Department's Investigator reports that he can only find the Warning label and the "T.S." mark on the barbecue lighter (being held in evidence). The Fire Department's Investigator was told that it is not know if all of the Scripto brand utility lighters have the "Aim n Flame" mark or if only some have this mark; So, at this time, no conclusions can be made regarding the brand of this utility lighter.

The Fire Department's Investigator was asked if there is a small black colored lever, which can be moved to the "+" or the "-" (located above the trigger and the "ON/OFF" switch). He said "Yes". The Fire Department's Investigator was told that this lever, on the Scripto brand, "Aim n Flame" utility lighter, is a flame adjustment control. He was also told that this Scripto brand utility lighter will have a small flame when this lever is moved to the "-" position, and that the utility lighter will have a larger flame when the lever is moved to the "+" position. The Fire Department's Investigator reports that the barbecue lighter that the Fire Department is holding in evidence apparently has this same flame adjustment control, as is found on the Scripto brand's "Aim n Flame" utility lighter.

18 JAN 1996

1. CASE NO.	2. INVESTIGATOR'S ID	3. OFFICE CODE	EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION REPORT
951204HCN0324	[8][9][2][9]	[8][3][0]	
4. DATE OF INCIDENT YR MO DAY [9][5][1][1][2][9]	5. DATE INVESTIGATION INITIATED YR MO DAY [9][5][1][2][0][4]		

6. SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT OR COMPLAINT

This investigation was initiated through a fire department report in connection with the uphostered furniture/mattress survey. This iunvident involved a four year old male who allegedly admitted to taking a grill started lighter out of the kitchen cupboard and starting paper on fire in his bedroom. The fire spread to the bedroom mattress and a crib also located in the bedroom, destroying both. All memebers of the family left the home and there were no injuries. The mother stated that the fire started in a ceiling light fixture, however this was unsubstantiated by any public officials. However, due to this statement, little is known about the circumstance surrounding this incident.

7. LOCATION *(Home, school, etc.)*	8. CITY	9. STATE
Home [1][0]	Franklin	Wisconsin

10A. FIRST PRODUCT	11A. TRADE/BRAND NAME, MODEL NUMBER, MANUFACTURER & ADDRESS
Mattress [4][0][0][9]	Unknown-Twin Size
10B. SECOND PRODUCT	**11B. TRADE/BRAND NAME, MODEL NUMBER, MANUFACTURER & ADDRESS**
Charcoal Lighter [1][2][4][7]	"E-Z LIGHT" Brand

12. AGE OF VICTIM	13. SEX *(USE NUMERICAL CODE)*	14. DISPOSITION	15. INJURY DIAGNOSIS
[9][9][9]	MALE - 1 FEMALE - 2 [9] UNKNOWN- 3	No Injury [0]	No Injury [0][1]

16. BODY PART	17. RESPONDENT(S) *(Mother, Friend)*	18. TYPE INVESTIGATION	19. TIME SPENT
[9][9]	Victim [1]	ON SITE - 1 TELEPHONE - 2 [1] OTHER - 3	[ ][8].0[ ]

20. ATTACHMENTS	21. CASE SOURCE	22. REVIEWED BY YR MO DAY	
Multiple [9]	[0][1]	[8][1][3][0]	[9][6][0][1][1][2]

23. PERMISSION TO DISCLOSE NAMES
(NON-NEISS CASES ONLY) CPSC MAY DISCLOSE MY NAME [ ] CPSC MAY NOT DISCLOSE MY NAME [X]

24. NARRATIVE *(See Instructions on Page 2)*

25. REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTOR REVIEW DATE

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared 25C
No Mfrs/PrvtLblrs or Products Identified
Excepted by ANPR
Firms Notified,
Comments Processed AM 6/30/97

ATTACHED:

(USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

951204HCN0324

SUMMARY:

This investigation was initiated through an area fire department due to this fire involving a mattress, and also because concern was raised due to the fire being started by a four year old male playing with a grill lighter. Allegedly, the four year old obtained the grill lighter from the kitchen cupboard and went into his bedroom located on the second floor of the home. Playing with the lighter he started his bedspread on fire. The fire spread and completely destroyed the mattress as well as spreading to a crib also housed in the bedroom.

PRE-INCIDENT:

The mother indicated to me that her son was engaged in watching television on the afternoon of the fire. She stated that she had been working in the kitchen area and went upstairs briefly, where she smelled something burning but did not see any smoke or flame. When she went upstairs a short time later, she stated that she saw her son's bed on fire and exited the home. After the fire she told me that an electical inspector indicated to her that the ceiling light in the bedroom was faulty and burning material fell onto the bed, starting the fire.

However, contact was made with the electrical inspector as well as the area fire and police departments and they all denied that the cause of the fire was electrical in nature. Therefore, the details surrounding this incident are unknown.

The mother indicated to me that she always keeps the grill lighter in the kitchen cupboard. The lighter is equipped with a small pin on the side to lock or unlock the lighter. The mother stated that it is always maintained in the "locked" position, however upon my request, she showed me the lighter and it was unlocked when she took it out of the cupboard to show it to me.

She stated that her son and a younger child were both engaged in watching television on the afternoon of the fire. She added that they never miss "Sesame Street" and it generally keeps them quiet and completely involved. The mother was working in the kitchen area of the home, and went upstairs to do some work. The first time she went upstairs she stated that she smelled something burning but did not see any smoke or flame. When she went upstairs a second time her son's bed was engulfed in flames.

INCIDENT:

As indicated previously, the details surrounding the incident are unknown due to the mother stating that the fire was electrical in nature. However, the four year old male was interviewed by the police and fire departments and stated that he lit some paper on fire using the grill lighter on or near the bed area and the

mattress went up in flames.

POST-INCIDENT:

The fire spread throughout the entire room, igniting a crib and crib mattress housed in the bedroom. The mother stated to me that the bed did not have any blankets or bedding on it at the time because she was washing the bedding on the day of the fire. She stated that the bed was given to her as a gift approximately one year ago. It was new, not used, and it was described to me as being a "terry cloth covered mattress covering foam". She further stated that it was given to her as a gift approximately one year ago. Due to the fire completely destroying the mattress, this investigator was unable to determine the ticking fabric, however the mattress appeared to have cotton batting under the ticking and a "horsehair" type of material covering the springs. (See photos attached) This investigator, however was unable to determine the age of this mattress or whether it was a pre or post standard mattress due to it being almost completely destroyed. It is assumed that it was a post standard mattress because of the mother indicating that it had been received as a gift, in a new condition one year ago.

There were no injuries involved in this fire. The family is currently residing in a seperate home on the property, both owned by a relative of the family.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

As indicated previously, this investigator contacted the electrical inspector who had visited the home, and he indicated that the fire was not electrical in nature. He stated that he felt that if it was claimed to be an electrical fire, the tenants who were uninsured would be able to make a claim against the owner's homeowners insurance.

The fire investigator who forwarded this information to the CPSC stated that his concern with this case is that the lighter device is an outdoor grill lighter which is of the type that run on butane and operates using a trigger type of device. He further states that the on/off switch on most of these devices is a slide switch which can be easily moved or bumped into position and the trigger switch could be especially appealling to children because the device looks like a gun, or laser type toy. He feels these devices should be child resistant like cigarette lighters.

PRODUCT INFORMATION:

Mattress: Unknown

Lighter: "E-Z LIGHT" brand grill starter. Unknown manufacturer. Warning labeling indicates:

"DANGER EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE CONTENTS UNDER PRESSURE....Contains Butane Do Not Use Near Sparks or Flame Do Not Puncture or Incinerate Container Do Not Expose to Heat or Store at Temperatures Above 120 degrees KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN"

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A-Fire Department Report

Exhibit B-Police Department Report

Exhibit C-Photographs

Exhibit D-Photographs taken by the Police Dept.

Exhibit E-Data Record Sheet/Mattress Fires

Exhibit F-Letter dated 12/1/95 from Fire Investigator

Please note that the Police Department photographs will be sent as an addendum to this report upon receipt.

PROBER Chief

Franklin Fire Department
Complete Incident Report

Date: 12-01-1995 (CI#103)

Department Name : Franklin Fire Department ID # : 40012 Incident Year : 95 Incident # : 311 Exp # : 0 Page #: 1-A
Incident Date : 11-29-1995 Day of Week : 4 Wednesday Alarm Time : 1509 Arrival Time : 1514 Back In Service : 1703

Situation Found : 11 Structure fire
Action Taken : 1 Extinguishment
Mutual Aid :
Fixed Property Use :411 One-family dwelling: yr round use
Ignition Factor : 36 Children with, child playing
Correct Address [redacted]
Occupant Name [redacted]
Owner Name [redacted]
Owner City :
Method of Alarm : 7 Tele tie-line to fire dept. (911)
No. Fire Serv Personl: 13 No. Engines Responded : 3
No. Injuries - FS : 0 No. Injuries-Civilian : 0

Phone [redacted]
Address :
State :FL
Inspection District : Shift : 2 No Alarms : 1
No. Aerial Apparatus Responded : 0 No. Other Vehicles Responded: 3
No. Fatalities - FS : 0 No. Fatalities - Civilian : 0

Census Tract :
Room/Apartment: :
Phone [redacted]
Zip Code :

Complex : 41 Dwelling complex (one & two family)
Area of Fire Origin : 21 Sleeping room for under 5 persons
Form/Heat Ignition : 46 Lighter (flame type)
Form/Material Ignitd: 32 Bedding, blanket, sheet comforter
Level of Fire Origin: 2 10 to 19 feet above grade

Mobile Property Type : 8 Mobile Property Type not applicable
Equipment Involved in Ignition: 98 No equipment Involved
Type of Material Ignited : 71 Man-made fabric, fiber, fin goods
Method of Extinguishment : 5 Preconnected hose line H20 in tanks
Estimated Total Dollar Loss : $40,000

Number of Stories : 3 3 to 4 stories
Extent/Damage Flame : 2 Confined to area of origin
Detector Performace : 4 Detector not in origin, didn't oper
Type/Mat Gen Smoke : 71 Man-made fabric, fiber, fin goods
Form/Mat Gen Smoke : 32 Bedding, blanket, sheet comforter

Construction Type : 6 Unprotected ordinary
Extent/Damage Smoke : 4 Confined to structure of origin
Sprinkler Performance : 8 No equip present in space of origin
Avenue of Smoke Travel : 2 Corridor

Mobile Property:
Equip Involved : Year: Make: Model: Serial#: Lic #:
Year: Make: Model: Serial#:

Member Making Report: 202 Captain Ronald F. Mayer
Officer In Charge : 202 Captain Ronald F. Mayer Date : 11-29-1995
Date : 11-29-1995

Party Calling :Dostal, Susan Phone:
2nd Alarm Time: 3rd Alarm Time: 4th Alarm Time: 5th Alarm Time: Assigned Incident: Y Stations Responding: 1
Emergency Contact 1 : Time/Contact: Emergency Contact 2 : Members Attending : 16
Contact Times-Police: EMS: Elec: Gas: Water: Time/Contact: Fuel :

Portion/Struc Inv :
Flame Spread :
Smoke Condition : Flame Color :
Smoke Color :

Value Structure: Loss Structure: Ins Structure: Company/Agent :
Value Contents : Loss Contents : Ins Contents : Company/Agent :
Value Mobile : Loss Mobile : Ins Mobile : Company/Agent :

Temperature : Wind Direction : Wind Velocity : Sky Conditions : Susp:
Precipitation : Humidity : Dew Point : HAZMAT Report#: N

95 1204 HCN0324
Exhibit A

PROBER Chief

Franklin Fire Department
Complete Incident Report

Date: 12-01-1995 (CI=103)

Department Name : Franklin Fire Department ID # : 40012 Incident Year : 95 Incident # : 311 Exp # : 0

Comments/Remarks :Upon receiving a page for a fire alarm - house fire, Rescue 218 responded from the road, Ambulance 210 responded to Station Three to pick up Engine 205 and Chief Bublitz responded to Station One to pick up Engine 206. With Med 11 and Ambulance 212 on another call and daytime call back unpredictable, a mutual aid engine was requested from Greendale FD.

Upon arrival, 218 found smoke coming from the second story of a two story, single family residence. The occupant (Susan) stated that everyone was out and that she thought the fire was upstairs in the bedroom. Upon arrival of 206, the rear crosslay was pulled and personnel from 212 and Car 217 masked up for the attack team. Engine 205 entered the loft area above the garage (east side) with the front crosslay to prevent fire spread. Greendale was directed to vent the roof over the fire room. Engine 204 provided a backup team for the attack team. As additional personnel arrived, a supply line was laid to 206, the PPV fan moved into position, and the electric power shut off.

The fire was extinguished utilizing less than 800 gallons of water with the fire contained to the two upstairs bedrooms. There was major fire/heat damage to both upstairs bedrooms, including the walls, ceilings, floors, and contents. The majority of the contents from the two bedrooms were moved outside during the overhaul process. There was moderate smoke and water damage to the first floor and minor smoke damage to the loft over the garage floor. The ventilation hole in the roof about 3 feet by 4 feet and it was covered with a tarp.

The cause was determined to be the four y/o child playing with a grill lighter that started some paper and bed linen on fire. When the mother smelt smoke she went upstairs and found the fire. She moved the kids next door and called 911. The child admitted to playing with the lighter to both the FPD Sgt Spak and FFD Lt Robertson. The FFD Juvenille Fire Setter Program was offered to the family. The family did not have any renters insurance, but the owner may have had insurance on the building. The Franklin Building Inspector (Fred Baumgart) was requested to inspect the damage and agreed to make a referral to the Electrical Inspector.

All apparatus returned to quarters undamaged and all equipment returned to full service without major problems. For the most part, damage to the structure was limited to the extent prior to our arrival and with no injuries to occupants, personnel or bystanders, this incident should be considered successful.

Impede Response :

Impede Firegrd Oper :There were other calls immediately before the fire alarm, making some personnel unavailable and delaying the response of necessary equipment.

Impede Extinguishment:

Other Arrival Cond's:

Y

FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT
9229 West Loomis Road
Franklin, WI 53132-0160
Telephone (414) 425-2522 FAX (414) 425-0391

INCIDENT / OFFENSE REPOR

PRINT DATE: 11/29/
PRINT TIME: 22:12
PAGE: 1

INCIDENT / OFFENSE:

Incident/Offense
1) HOUSE FIRE
2)
3)
4)

EVENT #: E95-048124
Ordinance/Statute #

INCIDENT #: 954523
IBR Code G8
Attempt/Complet

INCIDENT INFORMATION:

Location Where Incident Occurred	Sector	From Date/Time	To Date/Time	Juvenile Involved	Incident Confidenti
[redacted]	115	11/29/95 15:10	/ / :	Y	Y

REPORTING INFORMATION:

Date	Time	Day of Week	Reported By	How Received	Supplement Report
11/29/95	15:10	WEDNESDAY	DOSTAL/SUSAN/M	Dispatched	Y

TYPE OF PERSON: REPORTING PERSON

Name
[redacted]
Address
[redacted]
Employer

S/R F W
DOB 01/16/71
City FRANKLIN
Work Phone

Juvenile N
ST WI Zip 53132

Confidential Y
Home Phone [redacted]

NARRATIVE:

ON WEDNESDAY, 11/29/95, AT 1510 HOURS, I WAS DISPATCHED TO A REPORTED HOUSE FIRE AT 8924 W. PUETZ RD. UPON ARRIVAL, I OBSERVED WHITE SMOKE COMING FROM THE UPSTAIRS SECOND STORY WINDOWS. CALLER F/W, [redacted], 1/16/71 HAD ALREADY LEFT THE RESIDENCE WITH HER THREE MINOR CHILDREN. SEE SUPPLEMENT FOR DETAILS.

CASE DISPOSITION:

Disposition	Arrest/Citation #	TTY Entered/By	TTY Cancelled/By	TTY Number
Inactive				

Reporting Officer: SPAK/JOSEPH/J
Assisting Officer:
Investigating Officer:

Badge #: JS15
Badge #:
Badge #:

Shift: 1

Sgt [signature] #15
Reporting Officer's Signature

11/30/95
Date

Supervisor's Signature

Date

EXHIBIT B #95[illegible]

[METHOD OF OPERATION]

Point of Entry:

Point of Exit:

Method of Entry:

Instrument Used:

[PHYSICAL EVIDENCE]

[VEHICLES INVOLVED]

1) Yr Make Model Style Plate # ST Ex Typ Color Color VIN

2) Yr Make Model Style Plate # ST Ex Typ Color Color VIN

[CONTACT (PR, Officer Generated]

Contact #: M95-06197
Event #: E95-048124
Incident #: 954523

Name [redacted]
S/R DOB [redacted] Age 04 Juv Y Conf Y Eth N Hgt Wgt Hair Eye Build Skin
Address [redacted]
City [redacted] ST [redacted] Zip
Home Phone [redacted]
Employer
Work Phone
Alert Type
Photograph
Publicity
Driver's License # ST Exp Type SSN
B of I #
Teeth
Glasses
Vehicle Information: Yr Make Model Style Plate # ST Ex Typ Color Color VIN
Remarks:

[CONTACT (PR, Officer Generated]

Contact #: M95-06199
Event #: E95-048124
Incident #: 954523

Name [redacted]
S/R DOB [redacted] Age 02 Juv Y Conf Y Eth N Hgt Wgt Hair Eye Build Skin
Address [redacted]
City [redacted] ST [redacted] Zip
Home Phone [redacted]
Employer
Work Phone
Alert Type
Photograph
Publicity
Driver's License # ST Exp Type SSN
B of I #
Teeth
Glasses
Vehicle Information: Yr Make Model Style Plate # ST Ex Typ Color Color VIN
Remarks:

[CONTACT (PR, Officer Generated]

Contact #: M95-06198
Event #: E95-048124
Incident #: 954523

Name [redacted]
S/R DOB [redacted]
Age 03 Juv Y Conf Y Eth N Hgt Wgt Hair Eye Build Skin

Address [redacted]
City [redacted] ST [redacted] Zip

Employer
Work Phone
Home Phone [redacted]

Driver's License # ST Exp Type SSN
Alert Type
Photograph Publicit

Vehicle Information: Yr Make Model Style Plate # ST Ex Typ Color Color VIN
B of I #
Teeth Glasses

Remarks:

[CONTACT (PR, Officer Generated]

Contact #: M95-06196
Event #: E95-048124
Incident #: 954523

Name [redacted]
S/R DOB
M W 03/11/64
Age M Juv Y Conf Y Eth N Hgt Wgt Hair Eye Build Skin

Address [redacted]RD
City FRANKLIN ST WI Zip

Employer
Work Phone
Home Phone [redacted]

Driver's License # ST Exp Type SSN
Alert Type
Photograph Publicity

Vehicle Information: Yr Make Model Style Plate # ST Ex Typ Color Color VIN
B of I #
Teeth Glasses

Remarks:

FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Title: HOUSE FIRE

Address: [redacted]
[redacted] 53132

Incident: 954523

Date: 11/29/95

Officer: Spak

Page: 1

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

On Wednesday, 11/29/95, at 1510 hours, I was dispatched to [redacted] City of Franklin, State of Wisconsin 53132 for a reported house fire.

SOURCE OF ACTIVITY

While en route to the location, dispatch advised a female caller had contactec the department to advise of a fire inside of her residence at 8924 W. Puetz Road.

OFFICER'S OBSERVATIONS

Upon arrival to the location, I did observe white smoke emanating from the second windows and observed that the caller, identified as F/W, [redacted]L, DOB: 01/16/71, address [redacted]d., Franklin, WI 53132[redacted], had exited the residence with [redacted] and had responded to the residence located to the east [redacted]

After confirming all occupants were out of the residence, I was advised by [redacted]l that she was working in the main level kitchen area when she smelled smoke inside her residence at approximately 1500 hours. [redacted] stated she next responded to the second story of the residence where two bedrooms are located and upon arrival to that area discovered smoke and flames coming from the bedroom area. [redacted] stated she next removed [redacted] from the bedroom areas and after calling 911 exited the residence and responded to the next door neighbor's residence.

[redacted] stated she was unaware of the cause of the fire, but while speaking to [redacted], I was advised by [redacted] that [redacted] had caused the fire by accidentally starting a bedspread on fire using a lighter designed for use with charcoal grills.

While still at the scene, I next spoke with M/W, [redacted]II, DOB: 03/11/64. [redacted] had returned to his residence after being contacted by a relative and advised of the fire at his residence. [redacted] stated that he and his wife and children rented the house from his father, M/W, [redacted] II, DOB: 08/11/19, whom [redacted] stated was currently residing in the state of Florida. [redacted] further stated that he did not have

FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Title: HOUSE FIRE

Address: [redacted]
Franklin, WI 53132

Incident: 954523

Date: 11/29/95

Officer: Spak

Page: 2

renter's insurance to cover the loss of any personal property as well as the fact he was uncertain as to whether his father carried homeowner's insurance on the residence.

After the fire had been extinguished, I next entered the residence and after responding to the second floor bedroom area did observe extensive fire damage in the north bedroom on the second floor as well as smoke and water damage on the south bedroom located on the second floor. After advising Fire Chief Bublitz of the cause of the fire, he next advised me that the origin of the fire did appear to have started on a bed located in the north bedroom on the second floor.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Prior to leaving the residence I did take several photographs of the interior and exterior of the residence.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt Joseph Spak #15

Sgt. J. Joseph Spak
Franklin Police Dept.
Badge #15

11/30/95 klh

INVESTIGATION GUIDELINE

Attachment A

Data Recording Sheet for Mattress/Bedding Fires
(To be attached to CPSC Form 182, Epidemiologic Investigation Report along with a copy of the Fire Incident Report)

Task Number 951204HCN0324 Incident Date 11/29/95

A. MATTRESS DESCRIPTION:

1. Mattress surface type:
   / / Quilted
   / / Smooth
   / / Tufted
   / / Other _____
   /X/ Unknown (Mother stated no buttons)

2. Material directly under surface ticking:
   / / Polyester fiberfill
   / / Polyurethane foam
   /X/ Cotton batting
   / / Other _____
   / / Unknown

3. Pre- or post-standard construction (estimate to the extent possible):
   / / Pre-standard
   / / Post-standard
   / / Other _____
   /X/ Unknown

4. Purchased:
   /X/ New
   / / Used. If used, specify how obtained (e.g., garage sale, etc.): _____
   / / Unknown

5. Date mattress purchased: Unknown Mattress age: 1 year

6. Manufacturer/distributor/brand: Unknown

Exhibit E

INVESTIGATION GUIDELINE

B. BEDDING:

7. Bedding items involved in fire:
   / / Mattress pad
   / / Sheet(s)
   / / Blanket(s)
   / / Comforter
   / / Bedspread
   / / Pillow(s)
   / / Dust ruffle
   /X/ Other NONE

C. IGNITION:

8. Ignition source:
   / / Cigarette
   / / Lighter; child-resistant____ not child-resistant____ unknown____
   / / Match; book____ box ____ unknown____
   / / Candle
   / / Heater; fuel type_____ distance from mattress_____
   /X/ Other Grill Lighter
   / / Unknown

9. Location of mattress ignition (even if bedding was the first item ignited):
   / / Smooth top surface
   / / Tape edge on top of mattress
   / / Quilted or tufted depression on top of mattress
   / / Side of mattress
   / / Underside of mattress
   / / Dust cover on box springs
   / / Other_____
   /X/ Unknown

10. Age of person involved in ignition (if appropriate):
   /X/ < 5 years
   / / 5 - 14 years
   / / 15 - 24 years
   / / 25 - 64 years
   / / 65 + years
   / / Unknown

INVESTIGATION GUIDELINE

E. DETECTION OF FIRE

11. Detector (smoke, heat, c.o., sprinkler) present?
    - [x] Yes; specify type: First Alert
    - / / No
    - / / Unknown

12. Detector went off (alarmed)?
    - / / Yes
    - [x] No; possible reasons why not Dead Battery
    - / / Unknown

13. About how soon was the fire discovered after it started? 5-10 minutes (est.)

F. VICTIM(S)

0 Number of Deaths 0 Number of Injuries

G. SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA:

14. Education level of head of household:
    - / / Less than high school
    - / / High school
    - Some college
    - [x] Unknown

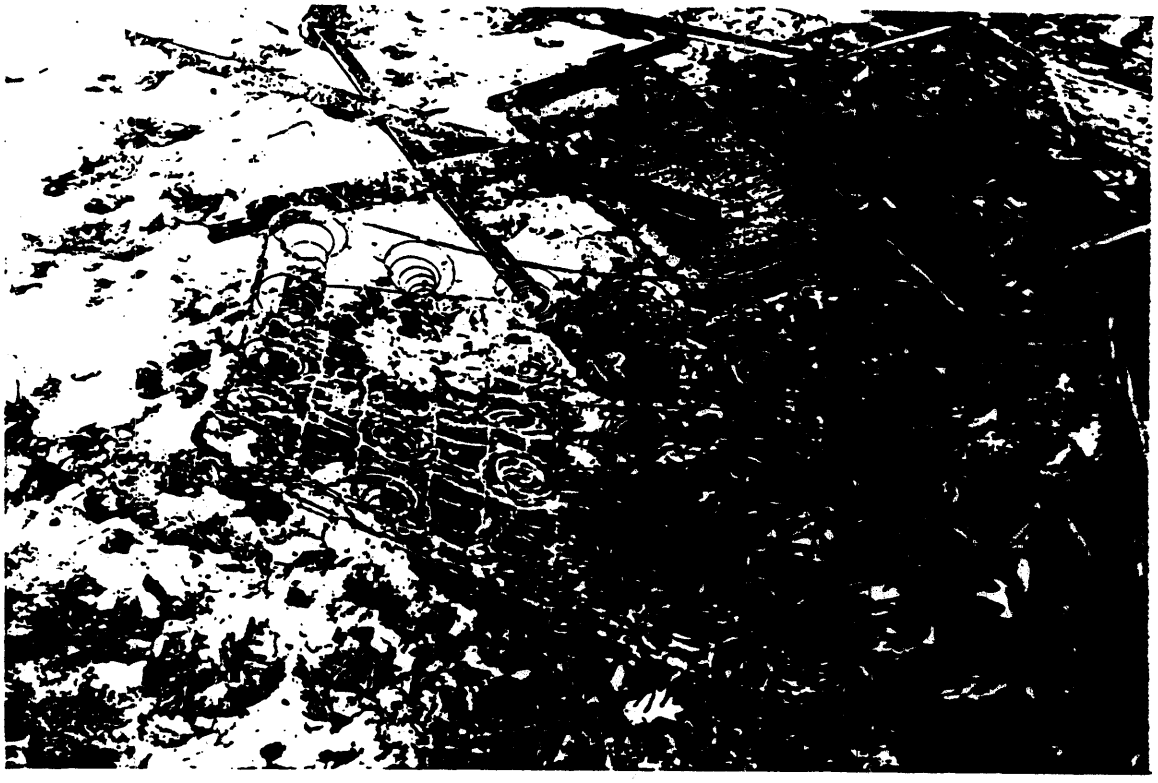
15. Total household income:
    - $15,000
    - / / $15,000 - $34,999
    - / / $35,000 +
    - [x] Unknown

16. Approximate home market value:
    - [x] Rent
    - / / Own
    - [x] Unknown

General Description: Provide general description, including all other relevant factors and information in the investigation report.

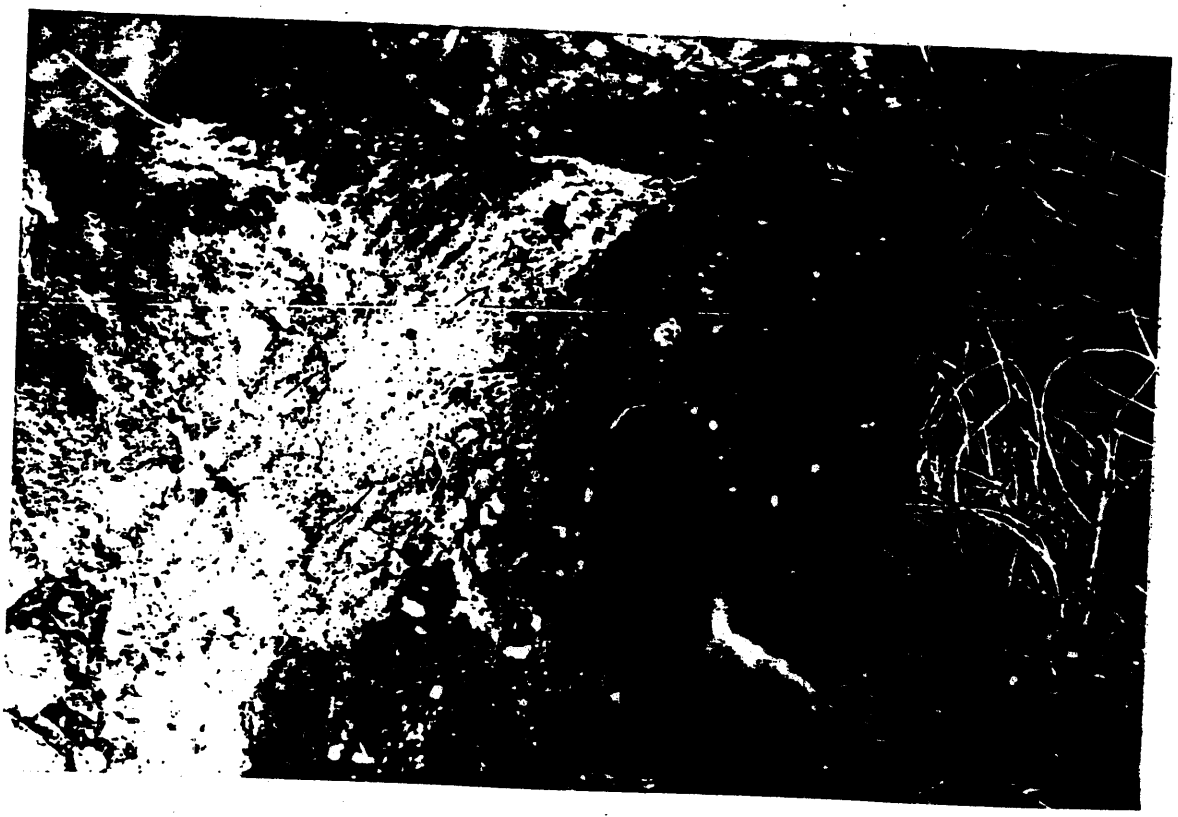
Photos of Fire Debris

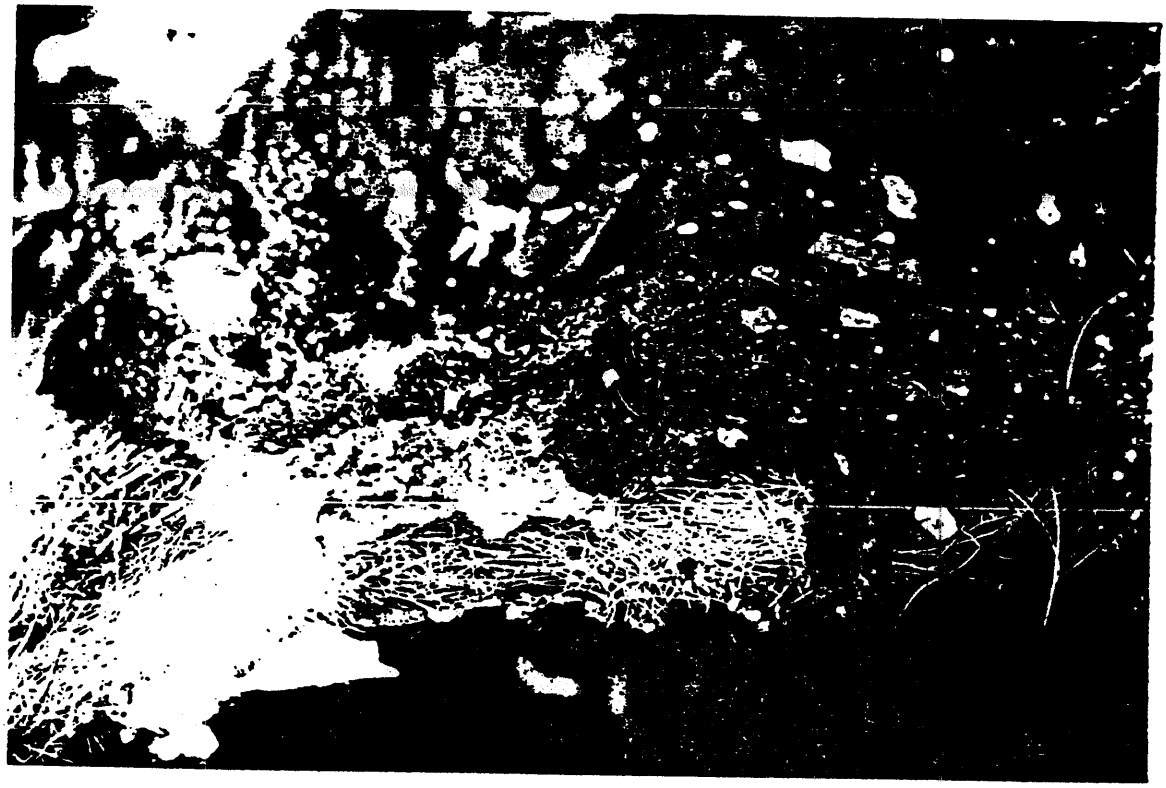
Exhibit C



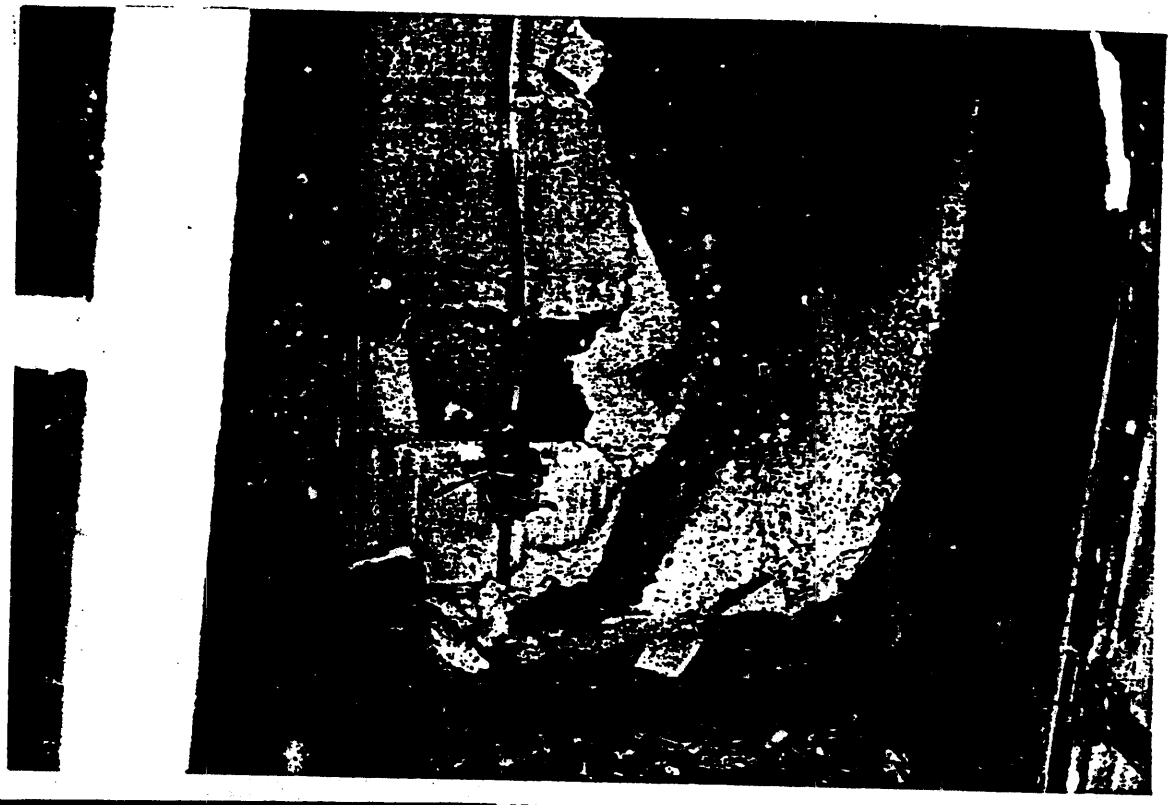
Remains of Crib Mattress and Crib Spring

Close-up view of
mattress materials found



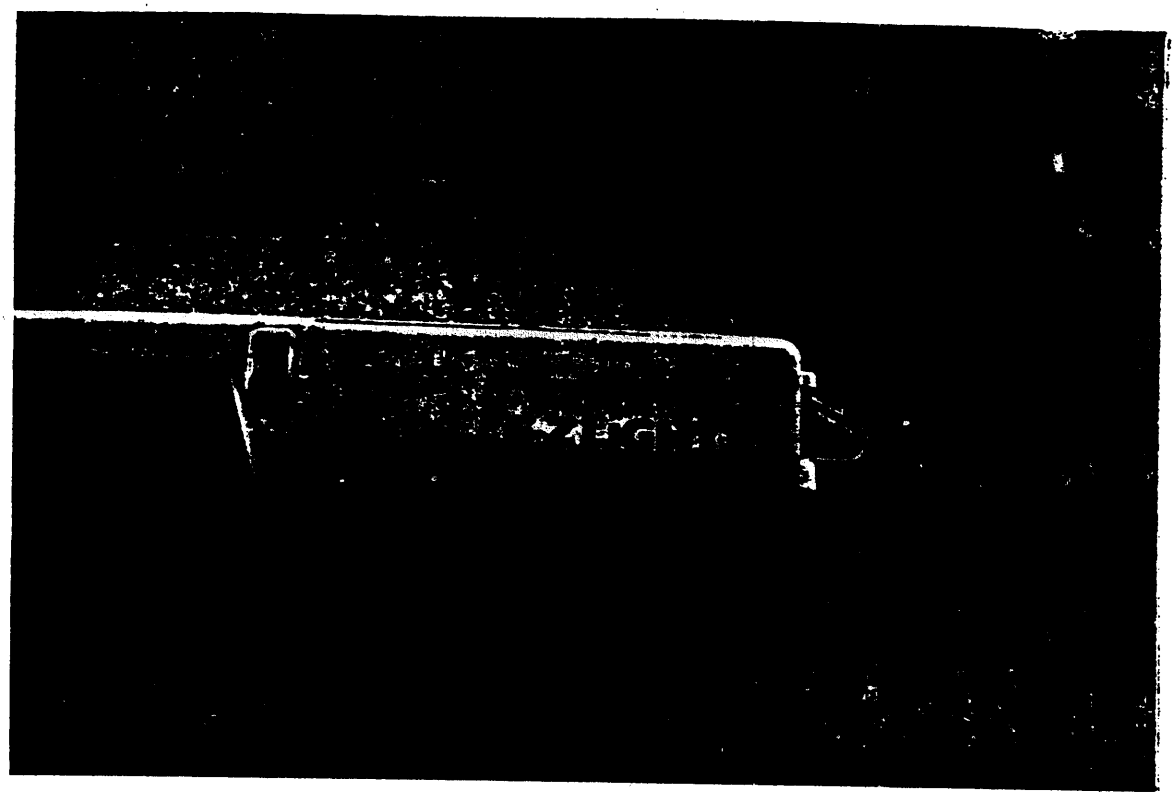


Close-up view of
mattress materials found

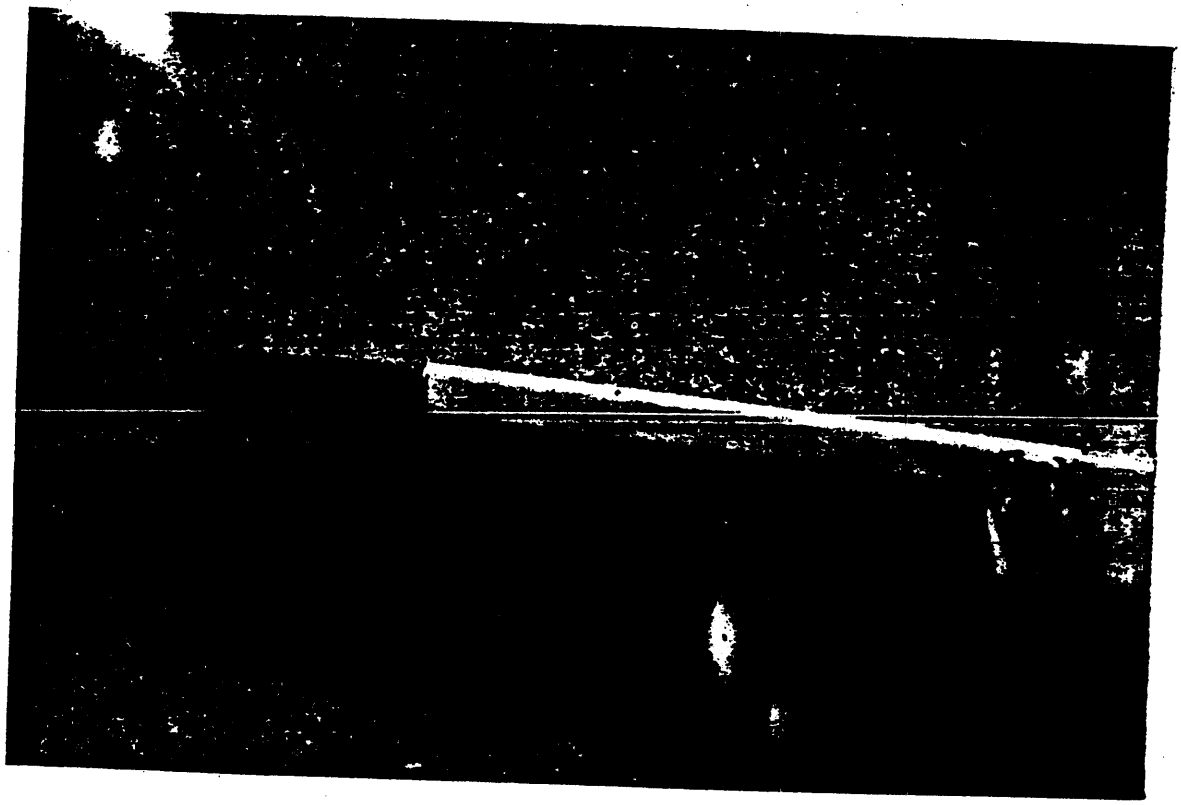


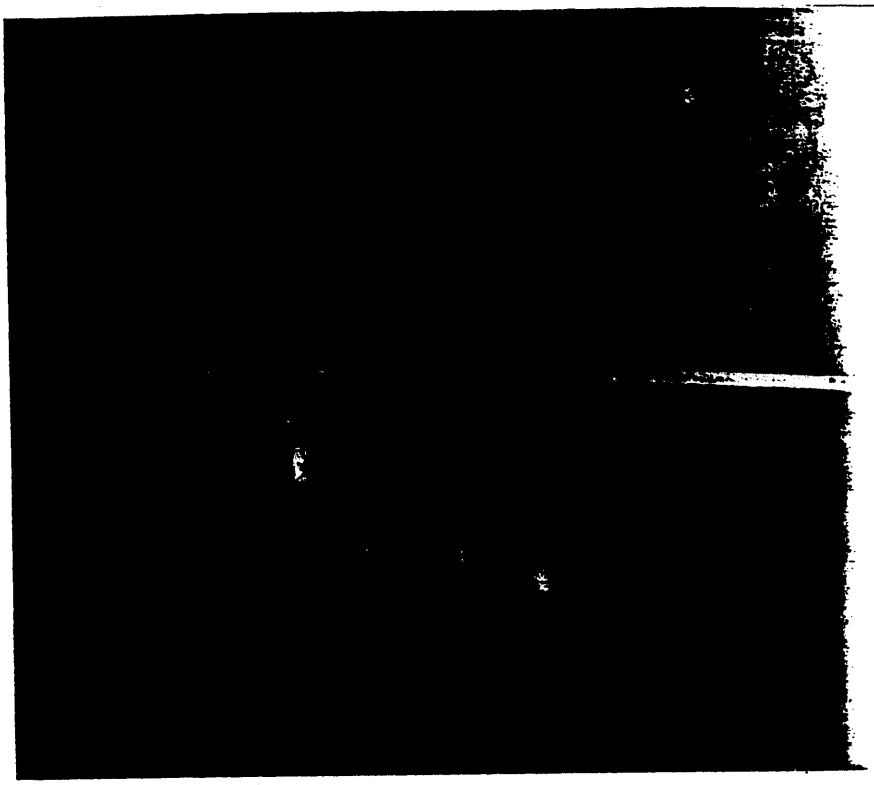
Fire Damage-Bedroom

951204HCN0324



Photos of Grill Starter





City of Franklin

Fire Department

Date: 12/01/95

To: Robin Ross
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

From: Lt. Burton L. Robertson
Franklin Fire Department

Subject: Fire Report

Priority: Urgent

Robin,

Attached is a copy of a fire report which we had on the 28th of November.

The fire did involve multiple mattresses burning however they were not the source of the fire, but rather in the room which was involved in a fire. The first mattresses, a full size single, was almost completely destroyed and the second, a crib mattress, sustained heavy damage.

The cause of the fire was a child playing with a lighter device. This juvenile lit paper on fire on or near the bed which was destroyed.

I think that more important than the mattresses in this case would be the lighter device issue. I am aware that recent laws have been passed which have required safety devices to be present on cigarette lighters which is to help prevent children from using them, and that is great. However, the type of lighter used in this fire was a outdoor grill lighter or starter. These types of lighters are generally about 8 inches long. They run on butane and can be disposable or reusable. All that I have seen have a on/off switch, And the operate by the pulling of a trigger device.

My opinion is two-fold, first the on/off switch on most of these is nothing more than a simple slide switch, which is easily moved/bumped into the on position with little or no effort or education level. Secondly, I feel that the trigger design is highly alluring to children as it appears to act and look like a gun, laser or blaster type toy, with potentially deadly results.

I feel that this item and similar fire starting devices should be closely evaluated similar to how cigarette lighters were in the past. We have taken away one "toy", cigarette lighters, from our children and they have simply overcome, adapted, and improvised another as deadly as before.

If you need any further information or would like to discuss this further please feel free to contact me. Thank You for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Lt. Burton L. Robertson

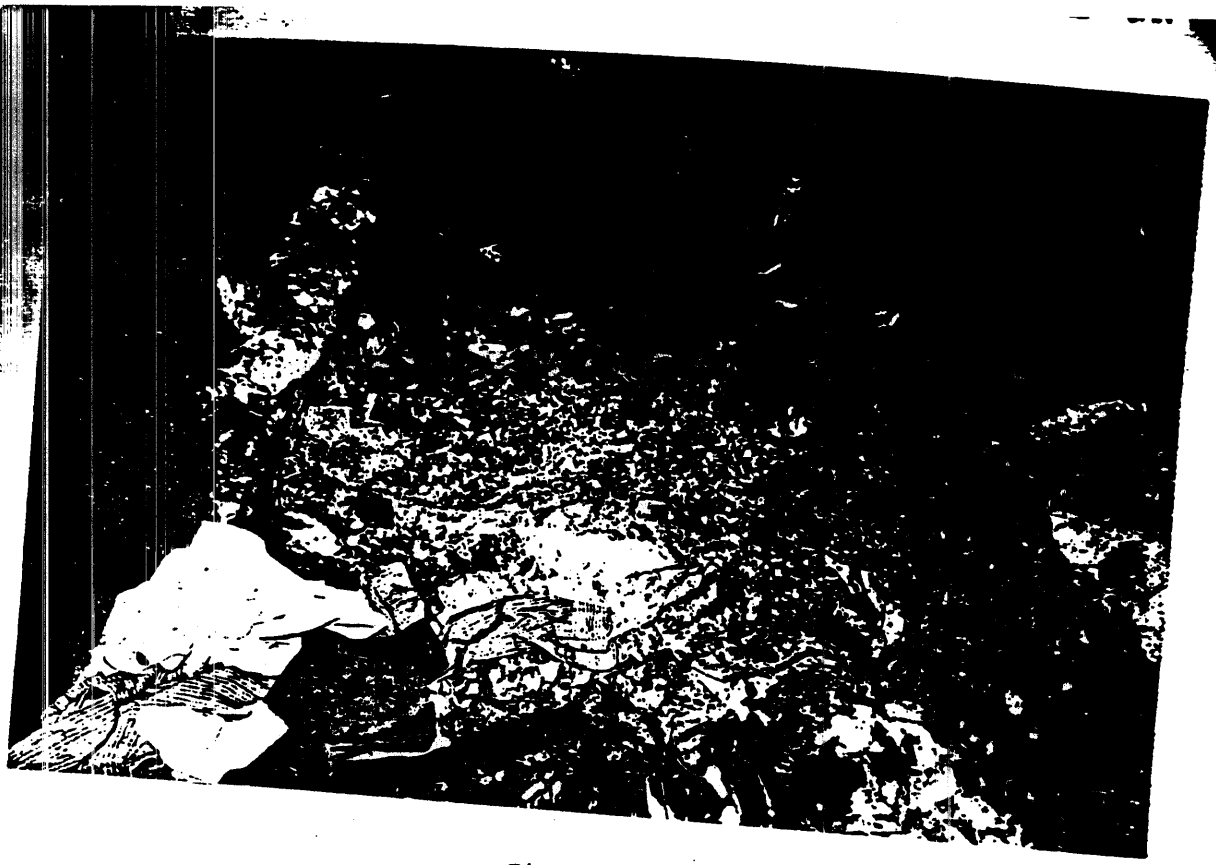
Attachments- Fire report / 2 Pages

951204#CN0324

G5 C
0001A

8901 W. Drexel Avenue, Franklin, Wisconsin 53132-9725 (414) 425-1420

EXHIBIT F



Photos received from the Franklin Fire Departme

ISSUE 44
JUL 29 1996

probe

Wisconsin firefighter keys lighter

TOM HEINEN
THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

FRANKLIN, Wis. — The federal government, with the help of a Franklin fire official, is conducting a nationwide investigation of fires caused by children playing with long-nosed butane lighters designed to ignite barbecue grills.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is examining whether these grill lighters should be required to have the kind of child-resistant controls that have been required of disposable cigarette lighters since mid-1994.

The investigation, pushed by Franklin Fire Lt. Burton Robertson, comes in the wake of fires across the country caused by the devices. Some of the fires have resulted in deaths, injuries or extensive property damage.

Some examples:

— Keith and Candy Lovett, 19-month-old twins, died June 4 when their 8-year-old sister set a bed on fire with a grill lighter at their home in Dillon County, S.C. The older girl escaped without injury, but the twins apparently fled into an adjoining bathroom and were overcome by smoke.

— Corey McNeil, 4, died of smoke inhalation Jan. 26, the day after he started a fire while playing with a grill lighter in his family's second-floor flat in Marlborough, Mass.

— Carla Brickles, 21, died of smoke inhalation last Dec. 15 after saving the lives of her three young children by dropping them from an upstairs window of her burning apartment into the hands of neighbors in Medina, Ohio.

Brickles had tried to hide a grill lighter in a bookcase because the children — all younger than 5 — had a history of playing with fire. But the children saw where she put the lighter and later set a sofa ablaze with it.

— Kelly McGuire, 3, died of severe burns Nov. 22, 1992, two days after flames flashed through the open-closet shelves where she had climbed while playing house in her La Crosse, Wis., home. She had wrapped herself in a blanket, which was among cloth that ignited when she and a 4-year-old sister played with a grill lighter.

"I'm pretty dead set against those things," La Crosse Fire Chief Peter Stinson said. "They are considerably dangerous. They're not like a cigarette lighter where you put them in your pocket out of the reach of the children."

Information about such fires is being compiled by Robertson, the Franklin fire lieutenant, who began tracking data about such incidents after a 4-year-old boy started a fire with a grill lighter at a home in Franklin last November. The boy's mother smelled smoke and rescued him and two younger children from a burning bedroom.

Robertson began soliciting information about such cases on an Internet bulletin board used by professional firefighters and has learned of at least 20 fires through his computer research.

He began sending information to the Consumer Production Safety Commission, as did several other fire departments, some using forms Robertson created and addressed to the agency's Milwaukee office.

The commission began a formal investigation of grill lighters this year in response to a petition it received Feb. 15 from Judy Carr, a Texas mother whose 4-year-old daughter was critically burned in 1992. The petition sought child-resistant controls on a particular manufacturer's lighter, saying the company provided information about seven other fires while defending itself in a civil suit the woman

Robertson's efforts have helped broaden the investigation from a single manufacturer to the entire industry, said Barbara Jacobson, a project manager at the commission's Bethesda, Md., headquarters.

"He started bringing fires of this sort to our attention and we were very interested in it," Jacobson said. "And at the same time, maybe a couple of weeks later, we received a petition from a parent whose child was burned in such a fire."

Robertson's goal is simple: To prevent children from starting fires with the butane devices.

"Children consider this to be a toy," he said. "These things are shaped like guns or swords and lasers. And boy, when you pull the trigger, it's exciting."

Industry sources say there is a large market for the devices, which are sold for igniting such things as gas and charcoal grills, fireplaces, pilot lights, candles and

On the market for at least 10 years, they cost less than $3 for some disposable models.

Although grill lighters typically have a sliding on-off switch near the trigger, the switches are very simple for young children to operate, and sometimes the switches break, Robertson said.

Child-resistant controls on disposable cigarette lighters generally require coordination or force to operate, and the motions must be repeated each time an attempt is made to create a flame, fire officials say.

WISCONSIN
Newspaper Association
P.O. Box 5580
Madison, WI 53705
Clipping Service Division
SUPERIOR
The Daily Telegram
1996

ClearingHouse Format - With Manufacturer Reported Incidents
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
National Injury Information ClearingHouse

Document Number: X9673300E **Task Number :** **Issue :** 44
Date Received : 07/29/96 **Confirmed :** **Date Entered :** 08/13/96
City : FRANKLIN **State :** WI **Zip :** 00000
Source : 0 **Type Of Contact :** 20
Prod : 1285 CHARCOAL LIGHTERS, NOT SPECIFIED
Prod : 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT
Date Injured : 11/01/95 M **Work Related :** N
Age : 4 **Sex :** 1 MALE
Disposition : 0 0=NO INJURY **Haz Type :** 1 FIRES AND FLAMES
Brand : MANUFACTURER UNKN **Screened ? :**
Model : 0

9512-04HCN0324

Narrative :
A BOY, AGE 4, STARTED A RESIDENTIAL FIRE PLAYING WITH A GRILL LIGHTER.

Task number: 951204HCN0324 **Date Accident:** 11/29/95 D **Date Entered:** 02/05/96
City : FRANKLIN **State :** WI **Type:** 1=ONSITE **Source:** 23
Sex: UNKNOWN **Status:** C **Disposition:** 0=NO INJURY
Age: 0 **Location:** HOME
Diagnosis: **Body Part:** 99
Document Number: G95C0001A **Category Id:** BUNN121996
Product 1 : 4009 NONBABY MATTRESSES
Product 2 : 1247 FUEL CHARCOAL LIGHTERS
Manufacturer: MANUFACTURER UNKNOWN **Model :** UNK
MANUFACTURER UNKNOWN E-Z LIGHT

Synopsis :
THIS INVESTIGATION WAS INITIATED THROUGH A FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH THE UPHOSTERED FURNITURE/MATTRESS SURVEY. THIS INCIDENT INVOLVED A FOUR YEAR OLD MALE WHO ALLEGEDLY ADMITTED TO TAKING A GRILL STARTED LIGHTER OUT OF THE KITCHEN CUPBOARD AND

13 DEC 1995

EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. TASK NUMBER	951107HCC1030
2. INVESTIGATOR'S ID	8922
3. OFFICE CODE	896
4. DATE OF ACCIDENT (YR MO DAY)	95 10 11
5. DATE INITIATED (YR MO DAY)	95 12 04

6. SYNOPSIS OF ACCIDENT OR COMPLAINT

Two 4 year old boys obtained a butane fueled fireplace lighter and ignited some stuffed animals and paper in an attic room. The resulting fire damaged the attic of the house. No one was injured in the fire.

7. LOCATION (Home, School, etc.)	8. CITY	9. STATE
INDOORS 10	HARMONY	PA
10A. FIRST PRODUCT	10B. TRADE/BRAND NAME	10C. MODEL NUMBER
CHARCOAL LIGHTER 1285	BIC	UNK

10D. MANUFACTURER NAME AND ADDRESS

BIC CORP. 500 Bic Dr., Milford, CT 06460 203 783 2000

11A. SECOND PRODUCT	11B. TRADE/BRAND NAME	11C. MODEL NUMBER
STUFFED ANIMALS 5004	UNK	UNK

11D. MANUFACTURER NAME AND ADDRESS

UNKNOWN

12. AGE OF VICTIM	13. SEX	14. DISPOSITION	15. INJURY DIAGNOSIS
999	N/A 9	NO INJ. 0	NO INJ. 70
16. BODY PART (S) INVOLVED	17. RESPONDENT	18. TYPE OF INVESTIGATION	19. TIME SPENT (OPERATIONAL HOURS)
NO INJ. 99	WITNESS 2	OTHER 3	10.0
20. ATTACHMENT(S)	21. CASE SOURCE	22. SAMPLE COLLECTION NUMBER	
NONE 0	NEWSCLIP 05	96 - _ _ _ - _ _ _ _	

23. PERMISSION TO DISCLOSE NAMES (NON NEISS CASES ONLY)

YES ____ NO x

24. REVIEW DATE	25. REVIEWED BY	26. REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTOR

27. DISTRIBUTION

O:EHDS CC:

951107HCC1030

PREINCIDENT:

The homeowners in this incident are a post high school educated couple in their 30's. They have three children living at the home, a 13 yr. old girl and two boys ages 15 and 4. It is an english speaking household.

The homeowner reports that they have lived in the three story frame house since 1991. The parents bedroom and a storage room are located on the third floor. The second floor is for the kids bedrooms and the first floor contains the living room, kitchen dining room and the sales room. The house is approximately 150 years old and is located in a small town's historical district.

The homeowner reports that she has a small business in the home; she makes and sells decorative candles.In the course of the business she uses a charcoal lighter to light candles for display. Usually she stores the lighter in the room where the candles are stored and on display.

The homeowner described the lighter as a plastic and metal "wand" about 8 inches long. It has a trigger type device which you push and a flame comes out the end. The lighter was a brand name one and was about a year old. She was not sure if it was butane fueled. She wasn't sure where she bought it from nor what price she paid for it. She did state that they are easily available at hardware stores.

A day before the incident, she had a candle selling party at her home. The youngest boy was home with her that night, and observed her using the lighter to light candles during the festivities. The party ran late and instead of shutting everything up in the sales room, she inadvertently brought the lighter with her to her third floor bedroom. It was on her dresser.

On 10/11/95, the homeowner was not feeling well, but was watching a neighbors' 4 year old boy as well as her own. At lunch time, she sent them up to the storage room so that they could play Nintendo. They had to pass through her bedroom to get to the storage room. She went downstairs to get them a sandwich and drinks.

INCIDENT:

Twenty minutes later as she was going upstairs with the food and drinks on a tray, the two boys rushed passed her down the steps. She stopped them and they said, "Fire." She looked up the stairs and saw smoke coming down from the third floor.

POST-INCIDENT:

The homeowner used her cordless phone to call the fire department. A neighbor came over with a fire extinguisher. He ushered the boys and the homeowner out of the house. he then went back in to put out the fire. However, it had already spread from the storage room to the homeowners' bedroom. He couldn't stop it's spread.

At this time the local fire department arrived. They extinguished the fire pretty quickly. Local firefighters remained for a few more to be sure their were no hot spots as the fire had entered the roof areas of the home.

The local fire chief reported that since it was a set fire, the children were counseled by the state fire marshal. It is believed to have been their first experience with curiosity with fire. The homeowner's 4 year old used the lighter to ignite some small stuffed animals in the storage room. There were also some newspapers in the room which had burned. But it is unknown if that was result of the fire or first burning them then turning to the stuff-toys. The children escaped without injury.

The fire department report estimated damages at $7500. The report was reviewed by this investigator and did not have any information necessary for collection of the document. They referred it to state fire marshal for release due to juveniles being involved. The fire marshal did not return this investigator's calls.

The homeowner's settled with their insurance company for a sum of $28,800.

The homeowner reports that after the state fire marshal interviewed the children, they threw the remains of the lighter out. She has begun to use long stem fireplace matches in her business now.

PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION:

The homeowner identified the lighter involved in this incident as a household charcoal lighter, unknown fuel, about 8 inches long with a red handle. It had a trigger type device that when pushed allowed flame to come out the end. It is made of metal and plastic and was of the BIC brand. BIC Corporation is located at 500 Bic Dr. Milford, CT 06460 203-783-2000.

The homeowner was not sure where she purchased it from, but said it was about a year old. She said you should be able to pick one up at any hardware store.

STANDARDS/CERTIFICATION:

The lighter was not available for review.

EXHIBITS:

None