

GUYANA



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Guyana Fire Service

FOR THE YEAR

1966

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
GUYANA FIRE AND AMBULANCE SERVICE  
FOR THE YEAR 1966.

FIRE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS,  
Water Street,  
Georgetown.

GUYANA.

21st March, 1967.

The Honourable,  
The Minister of Home Affairs,  
Brickdam,  
Georgetown.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit for your information the Annual Report of the Guyana Fire and Ambulance Service for the year ending 31st December, 1966.

1. Establishment

The Establishment of the Service at the end of the year was as follows:-

1 Chief Fire Officer  
1 Deputy Chief Fire Officer  
1 Station Officer  
1 Motor Mechanic  
5 Sub Officers  
13 Section Leaders  
36 Leading Firemen  
131 Firemen  
2 Clerical Assistants  
2 Class II Clerks  
2 Barrack Labourers

2. Stations

During the year two land stations and one river station were maintained in Georgetown, and one land station in the Town of New Amsterdam.

There is need for many years now for increasing the number of stations in Georgetown as the expansion of the city and its environs makes it difficult to ensure a five minute service to any part of the

outlying/.....

outlying areas, especially during those times of the day when traffic is heaviest.

3. Fire Boat Station

The number of men stationed at Fire Boat Station at 31st December, 1966, was as follows:-

- 1 Sub Officer
- 3 Section Leaders
- 6 Leading Firemen
- 17 Firemen

Two Fire Boats the "Lady Woolley" and "Stagshaw" were maintained in the service during the year and were responsible for turning out on 1,623 occasions as follows:-

Responding to Fire Calls	..	..	66
Special Services			
(Emergency Calls	..	18)	
(Ordinary Calls	..	22)	40
Transporting the sick and injured from Vreed-en-Hoop to Georgetown	..		786
Assistance rendered to the Police		..	32
Miscellaneous Calls	..	..	699

Emergency Special Service

- (a) On two separate occasions two persons were rescued from drowning in the Demerara River, but unfortunately, one died shortly after being rescued.
- (b) On six occasions, 6 vessels with their crews were rescued from drifting out to sea.
- (c) And on two separate occasions 2 unattended vessels adrift in the river weretaken into tow and moored safely to wharves in the Harbour.

Miscellaneous - Are those where assistance was rendered to various Ministries etc. namely :- Ministers of the Government, Doctors, Magistrates, Nurses and Senior Government Officers.

The Fire Boat Lady Woolley responded to approximately 90% of the calls mentioned before as for the greater part of the year Fire Boat Stagshaw was unserviceable, and undergoing general repairs to its hull, syper-structure and fire fighting pumps.

Construction of a new fire boat is still contemplated and accommodation for stretcher type cases will form part of the design.

4. The appliances held at the end of the year 1966 were:-

GEORGETOWN UNIT

- (5) Dennis Water Tenders of 600 g.p.m. capacity each equipped with V.H.F. Radio
- (1) Major Pump of 900 g.p.m. capacity
- (4) Land Rover Fire Appliances of 350 g.p.m. capacity each equipped with a portable pump of 250 to 300 g.p.m. capacity and V.H.F. Radio
- (1) Land Rover Jeep
- (1) Dodge Truck (with open tray)
- (1) Volkswagen Utility Van
- (1) Fire Boat (Lady Woolley) of 2,750 g.p.m. capacity equipped with V.H.F. Radio
- (1) Fire Boat (Stagshaw) of 500 g.p.m. capacity equipped with V.H.F. Radio
- (2) Bedford Ambulances equipped with V.H.F. Radios
- (3) Volkswagen Ambulances

NEW AMSTERDAM UNIT

- (1) John Kerr Water Tender of 600 g.p.m. capacity
- (1) Dennis Water Tender of 600 g.p.m. capacity
- (1) Self Propelled pump of 275 g.p.m. capacity
- (2) Land Rovers of 350 g.p.m. capacity equipped with V.H.F. Radios with two 250 - 300 g.p.m. portable pump.
- (2) Volkswagen Ambulances
- (1) Land Rover Diesel Ambulance
- (1) Dodge Truck (Open Tray)

5. Maintenance

The maintenance of Fire Appliances, Fire Boats, Ambulances and other equipment continued during the year as the responsibility of the Service's Maintenance Staff. All fire appliances, ambulances and other equipment were maintained at a high standard of efficiency, and kept in a state of readiness for any emergency. This was done at a considerable disadvantage to the maintenance staff who carried out their duties in the absence of a modern and up-to-date workshop, the need for which has

been/....

been mentioned for several years now.

During the period under review a total of 424 repair jobs were carried out including engine repairs and 2 overhauls. The Fire boat "Lady Woolley" continued to be Dry Docked by Messrs. Sprostons Limited, since the Fire Service has no such facility for its maintenance.

On the whole despite the lack of certain facilities the maintenance staff carried out their duties satisfactorily.

#### 6. Hose

A total of 35,400 feet of hose was held by the Fire Service at 31st December, 1966; 24,400 feet in Georgetown and 9,000 feet in New Amsterdam as compared with 34,350 feet for the previous year, a difference caused by the following 3 reasons:- Unserviceable condition, damaged by fire and unaccounted for.

#### 7. Hydrants

The total number of hydrants in Georgetown and its environs is now 1,226.

Hydrants were regularly inspected by Fire Service Personnel to ensure that they are in proper usable condition. Defective hydrants were reported to the Water Commissioners who effected the repairs promptly.

#### New Amsterdam

There are 121 hydrants situated in the town of New Amsterdam. The authorities continued in their efforts to ensure that all hydrants are working efficiently.

Throughout the year, inspections were carried out by Fire Service personnel to test and clean all hydrants to ensure that they are in working order. The Water Commissioners looked after all defect promptly whenever they were brought to their attention.

#### 8. Equipment Received

The following equipments and items of stores were received during the year.

<u>Articles</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Ambulance Volkswagen	2
Engine (replacements) Volkswagen	2
Outboard Motor 20 H.P. Johnsons 1966 (Seahorse) 4500 RPM	1

Trucks 5 tons Dodge (Second-Hand from the Police)	2
Hose Winding & Brush Machine	2
1 - ½" Jet X Nozzle N.P.S.H. (Foam) Complete	2
Air Compressor	1
8 feet length 4" BSS Suction Hose (H.D.)	12
Mark IV Self-contained compressed air breathing apparatus set (4400)	4
Salvage sheets 15' x 12'	3
Hose Ramp, main Bridge Patient, Light Alloy, Tripple channel for 2½" Hose	3 prs.
Marine Vanguard receiving and Transmitting sets	2
Semi Rotary Pump No. 4	1
Siren with Amber lights 12 Volts (N38)	3
Amplifier Phillips	1
Microphone	1
Speaker	3
Hailer	1
Extinguishers Air Foam Nu-Swift	25
Charges, Air Foam Nu-Swift	16
Extinguisher C.T.C. Nu-Swift	8
Extinguishers Water Pressure/Air	22
Extinguisher Carbon Dioxide	4
Helmets Firemen	56
Cambridge Radio Telephone type )	
6 AM 10B to 12 Volts )	5
Ambulance Electric bells 12 Volts & Lifebuoy lights	2

9. Special Services

The Services carried out 230 Special Services during the year in addition to responding to Fire Calls and other Emergencies.

Fifty-one of these Special Services were classified as Emergencies in which case no charges were made as they were based on humanitarian grounds. All other types of special services were chargeable at the approved standard rates.

During the year the sum of \$6,414.64 was collected as charges

for/.....

for the said services rendered. This yielded the sum of \$4,197.18 to Government as revenue.

10. Fire Calls

During the period under review the Service responded to 633 calls, an increase over the previous year as the table of comparison below would show.

<u>Georgetown Unit</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Actual Fires	271	404
Late Fire Call	24	23
False Alarm (Good Intent)	12	25
False Alarm (Malicious)	71	105
<u>New Amsterdam Unit</u>		
Actual Fires	45	51
Late Fire Call	5	7
False Alarm (Good Intent)	5	18
False Alarm (Malicious)	2	

This increase represents 45.5% over the previous year.

Causes of Fires

Careless disposal of cigarette ends & Matches	..	140
Electrical Faults	..	141
Electric, Gas and Oil Stoves		51
Wilful and malicious setting of Fire	..	11
Unknown	..	22
Ignition of flammable vapours, liquids or substances	..	19
Careless burning of rubbish	..	17
Motor Vehicle Crash & defective	..	6
Overheating of Electrical appliances	..	2
Children playing with matches	..	21
Boiling over of fats, oils and tars	..	6
Oil Lamps, candles and mosquito coils		8
Welding	..	9
Re-ignition	..	10
Radiated Heat	..	5
Improper construction of Fire Hearth	..	1
Careless use of Coal Pots & Domestic Fire Places	..	11
Spontaneous Ignition	..	3
Lightning	..	1
Suspected Arson	..	1

Method of Extinguishing

By occupants or other persons using buckets of water, wet bags or hand extinguishers before the arrival of the Fire Service.....	143
By the Guyana Electricity Corporation ..	116
By the Fire Service using	
(a) Hand Appliances .. ..	22
(b) Hose Reels .. ..	39
(c) Fire Bats .. ..	
(d) Buckets of water .. ..	
(e) One jet from pump .. ..	141
(f) Two jets from pump .. ..	14
(g) Three jets from pumps .. ..	5
(h) Four jets from pumps .. ..	1
(i) Five jets from pumps .. ..	1
(j) Six jets from pumps .. ..	3

Methods of Calling Fire Service  
Georgetown Unit

Central Exchange (Emergency Line 999) .. ..	482
Central Exchange (Administrative Line) .. ..	57
Running Calls .. ..	11
V.H.F. Radio .. ..	4
Private Fire Alarm .. ..	7

New Amsterdam Unit

Central Exchange (Emergency Line) .. ..	51
Running Call .. ..	8
Private Fire Alarm System .. ..	17

Types of Property Involved

Dwelling Houses .. ..	119
Overhead Electrical wiring & Transformers .. ..	115
Sawdust and rubbish dumps .. ..	34
Boarding, Lodging Houses and Restaurant .. ..	4
Hotels .. ..	5
Sports Club .. ..	1
Government Buildings .. ..	26
Motor Vehicles .. ..	14



Markets	..	..	2
Business Premises	..		17
Storeroom and Warehouse	..	..	3
Private Gardens	..	..	6
Boats	..	..	1
Offices	..	..	5
Schools	..	..	3
Hospitals	..	..	5
Cinema	..	..	2
Open Plot of Land	..	..	21
Wharves	..	..	11
Factories	..	..	5
Saw Milling Yards	..	..	11
Mechanic Workshop	..	..	8
Plantations	..	..	7
Play Grounds	..	..	3
Laundry	..	..	2
Out Houses	..	..	1
Ferry Stelling	..	..	2
Parapets and Roadways	..		50
Incinerators	..		2

Hours at which Calls were received

	<u>Georgetown</u>	<u>New Amsterdam</u>
12 mid-night to 6.00 a.m.	40	7
6.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon	141	21
12 noon to 6.00 p.m.	210	28
6.00 p.m. to 12 mid-night	166	20

11. Buildings seriously damaged or destroyed by Fire

10.12 a.m. - 14.3.66 - at Modern Industries Limited, Industrial Site, Ruimveldt, East bank Demerara, and owned by Messrs. A.H. & L. Kisson. One concrete two flat building measuring approximately 190' x 75' covered with corrugated galvanised sheets was completely destroyed including machinery, raw materials for manufacturing mattresses, pillows, toilet paper and furniture.

1.26 p.m. - 7.5.66 - at Eel Air & James Streets, Albouystown, one two flat wooden building measuring approximately 45' x 35' with corrugated galvanised roof owned by Rita Theresa Fredericks of 34 Bishop Street, Werk-en-Rust; part of external and internal walls, roof and

floor/.....

floor burnt. Top flat - dwelling house - unoccupied. Bottom flat - shop.

1.20 p.m. - 17.5.66 - 242 East La Penitence Housing Scheme. Dwelling house one flat concrete building measuring approximately 23' x 22' with corrugated aluminium roof owned by Nathan Gittens. Roof, walls, door and electrical installation severely scorched, and oil stove damaged.

1.11 p.m. - 19.8.66 - One dwelling house, wooden one flat building measuring approximately 12' x 10' and covered with shingles, owner is Mrs. Lydia Critchlow, of 17 Sparendaan, the interior of the house gutted.

6.42 p.m. - 10.9.66 - One dwelling house, a wooden building of two floors on 2' Pillars measuring approximately 28' x 20' with roof covered with galvanised sheets, owner is Mrs. Doolaire Persaud of lot 21 Hill Street, Albouystown. Occupiers on the first floor Mr. Joseph Seeraj and family and Mr. Clifford Campbell. Occupiers on the second floor Mr. G. Sookay, Mrs. Celestine Hamilton and Mr. Robert Davis. Flooring, walls and roof of the second floor destroyed, also contents completely destroyed.

6.31 p.m. - 15.10.66 - A two flat wooden building measuring approximately 35' x 25' with corrugated galvanised iron roof the owner is Mr. O. Valz of West Half 204 Charlotte Street, the occupier was Mr. Oliver Northy on the first floor, while the second floor was unoccupied, the inside of the upper flat gutted, all household effects badly damaged.

3.30 p.m. - 25.11.66 - Dwelling house - one wooden building with galvanised roofing measuring approximately 20' x 15' with kitchen attached 8' x 6' and two bedrooms. Owners are Mr. & Mrs. Sampson Haynes of 241 Blygezeight. The occupiers were Sampson Haynes, Hyacinth Haynes, Pamela Haynes, Godfrey Haynes, Sylvina, Orgista Deloris, Olga Gibson, Lloyd Gibson, Marion Gibson, Alfreda Gibson, Allison Orgista, Andrew Orgista. The entire building gutted.

3.42 p.m. - 28.10.66 - A two flat wooden apartment building measuring approximately 150' x 20' with a ground floor of concrete and first floor wood; a close coupled roof covered with galvanised iron sheets; the owner is the Government of Guyana. Occupiers were Messrs. M. Willis, Q. Shiffers, L. Griffith, W. Alleyne, R. Rollins, V. Harte, H. Vigilance, E. Garraway, C. Banfield, G. Edmundson, C. Hendericks and F. Elvis. Damage done to timber floor, roof and walls of a portion of the building collapsed - contents completely destroyed, walls and roof of the remaining portion damaged. Contents damaged by heat, smoke and water.

11.08 a.m. - 31.10.66 - One single storey two apartment building measuring 20' x 24' with galvanised sheeted roof on 8' pillars, the

owner/.....

owner is Mr. Aaron Hope of Plaisance, East Coast Demerara. The occupiers Miss Jean Johnson and Mrs. Gaine; contents and the building completely destroyed.

12.46 p.m. - 22.12.66 - A dwelling house of which an enclosed shed used as a kitchen measuring approximately 6' x 6' roof covered with corrugated galvanised sheets. Owner is Mr. M. Bacchus of 56 Robb Street, Lacytown. Occupier Mrs. Mabel Marshall and family, also Walterine Thomas. One Blue Flame Kerosene stove was damaged by fire, the clothing of Walterine Thomas caught afire causing third degree burns.

5.19 p.m. - 24.12.66 - Dry goods store and storeroom - One building top floor of wood and bottom of concrete approximately 40' x 30' with galvanised roof, owner is Mr. Vernon Medina of 102 Regent Street, Bourda. Occupier Mr. Vernon Medina and family. Contents of top flat completely destroyed by fire and smoke.

6.16 p.m. - 26.12.66 - Dwelling house one single storey wooden building measuring about 20' x 12' with galvanised roof owner Mrs. Carew of Bent Street, the occupier was Mr. George Myers. An oil stove in the kitchen caught afire, a portion of the nearby walls and ceiling were severely damaged.

## 12. Deaths by fire

During the year the following persons dies as a result of injuries caused by fire:-

Delores Orgista Haynes - a 7 month old baby of Lot 241 Blygezight Gardens, East Coast Demerara on 25.10.66.

Walterine Thomas - 18 years of 56 Robb Street, Lacytown on 22.12.66.

## 13. Ambulance Calls

The operation of the Ambulance Service continue to be an important facet of the Fire Service's work, during the year a total of 15,230 calls were attended for the period under review, an average of 41.75 calls per day. Of the total number of calls, 12,440 were classified as Emergency Calls, while the remaining 2,790 were classified as Private Calls; these were primarily for the removal or the transporting of sick persons from one place to another e.g. from the Amerindian Hostel, Palms, Dharm Sala, from the Georgetown Hospital to the Palms, from various nursing homes and private Hospitals and clinics for treatment and other purposes. In addition, a number of stretcher cases were conveyed from Home Hospital for treatment at the request of the Social Service Branch of the

Georgetown Hospital.

The Ambulances covered a distance of 111,959 miles in responding to all calls as are described above.

14. Mental Cases

A total of 192 mental patients were transported by ambulances from the Georgetown Hospital to the Georgetown Railway Station for conveyance by train and steamer and again by ambulance to the Mental Hospital, Canje, Berbice.

Atkinson Field

On 164 occasions ambulances responded to calls from Atkinson field to convey sick or injured persons to Georgetown, many of whom were brought by aircrafts from various parts of the interior.

15. Training - Local

(a) Regular training of members of the Service continued at all stations throughout the year. Practical drills were carried out with appliances and equipment, also specialised training in the use of Breathing Apparatus and Resuscitators were undertaken.

However considerable difficulties were encountered which prevented further expansion of our training programme which were due to lack of proper drill ground facilities in Georgetown, as a large part of the small drill area at Central Fire Station now houses several unserviceable vehicles awaiting disposal while the remaining portion of land is used for parking Ambulances and Fire Appliances. During the year two-thirds of this area was re-surfaced thus fulfilling a long felt need. Training with special reference to ship fires was maintained throughout the year at Fire Boat Station, special classes in seamanship, salvage, towing of vessels in distress and sea rescues were conducted.

Ten members of the Service pursued various Trade Courses at the Government Technical Institute, the courses undertaken are as follows:-

Building Construction  
Motor Mechanics  
Machining and Fitting  
Electrical Installation  
Carpentry and Joinery  
Radio Engineering

(b) Overseas (Training)

(b) Overseas (Training)

During the period under review six members of the service underwent external training courses in the United Kingdom and Canada as follows:-

- 1 Station Officer in the United Kingdom
- 3 Subordinate Officers in the United Kingdom
- 2 Sub Officers in Canada.

16. Leave - Annual

Two thousand three hundred and eighty-eight days leave were granted to personnel averaging 12.1 days per man as compared with an average of 12.54 days per man for the previous year.

The general health of members of the Service was not very good, as a total of 2,704 days sick leave was granted during the year this represents an average of 13.7 per man as compared with an average of 11.37 days per man for the previous year.

Vacation

Forty-five members of the Service were granted a total of 3,101 days vacation leave, an average of 68.9 days per man as compared with an average of 72 days per man for the previous year.

Special Leave

Twelve men were granted 23 days special leave for the year an average of 1.9 days per man as compared with 4.3 days per man for the previous year.

Discipline

During the year the usual high standard of discipline was maintained in the Service. Twenty-two cases for breaches of discipline were dealt with as follows:-

Reprimanded		7
Severely Reprimanded	....	2
Adminished	....	3
Confined to Barracks	....	3
Fined 1 day's pay	....	3
Fined 3 days' pay	....	1
Fined \$2.00	....	1
Fined \$3.00	....	2

In addition, one member of the Service was served with a warning notice

18. Resignations

During the year 2 Leading Firemen and 2 Firemen resigned from the Service.

19. Retirement/.....

19. Retirement

Mr. F.C. McCrae, Leading Fireman retired from the Service on 31st May, 1966, after attaining the compulsory retirement age.

20. Dismissal

One Fireman of the New Amsterdam Unit was found guilty on a criminal charge and was dismissed from the Service.

21. Promotions

During the year several promotions were made in order to fill outstanding vacancies as follows:-

Deputy Chief Fire Officer to the rank of Chief Fire Officer, and Head of the Service.

One Station Officer to the rank of Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

One Leading Fireman (Maintenance) to the rank of Section Leader (Maintenance).

Five Firemen to the rank of Leading Firemen.

22. Awards

During the period under review 5 members of the Service were recommended and approved for the Fire Service "Long Service Medals" etc. as follows:-

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Award</u>
Leading Fireman	O. McLeod	25 Years Long Service Clasp
Section Leader	J. King	18 Years Long Service Medal
Leading Fireman	J. Roach	18 Years Long Service Medal
Leading Fireman	G. Grant	18 Years Long Service Medal
Fireman	G. Accra	18 Years Long Service Medal

23. Communication - Telephone Switchboard

The majority of Fire Calls were received by telephone through Central Exchange and by Fire Alarm systems connected to the switchboard in the Control Room at Fire Service Headquarters.

At the present time, this switchboard is causing increasing concern as to its efficiency, and requires frequent repairs by technicians to keep it going.

Radio

During the period under review one new V.H.F. master set was installed and an immediate improvement in Radio Communication was achieved

24. Auxiliary Unit

The Auxiliary Unit of the Service continued to function at a high standard. During the year there were 24 men on roll in Georgetown and 32 in New Amsterdam. Their attendances at parades improved remarkably during the year which was very encouraging. However, the Annual Training Camp

at/.....

at Atkinson Field, designed to improve the efficiency of this Unit was deferred to 1967 on account of the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to this Country, the Independence Celebrations and the absence of several of the Regular Officers on training courses overseas. It is hoped that circumstances will permit this training to take place in the latter half of 1967. However regular training sessions in Georgetown and New Amsterdam were held, and the enthusiasm of all auxiliary members remain at a high level. During the year members of the Auxiliary Unit attended several incidents of fire.

#### 25. Welfare

Members of the Fire Service Sports Club in Georgetown participated in several in-door and out-door activities during the year. However, the Steel Percussion Orchestra in Georgetown did not function as much as in the previous year due to several contributory factors, but its counterpart in New Amsterdam continued its usual charitable work in the field of entertainment during the year.

Fire Service Week was not held due to the fact that the Fire Service was occupied with many other important events during the entire year. Another reason is that the Officer and Senior Subordinate Officer strength was substantially reduced due to the attendance of overseas training courses.

#### Organised Tours

Organised tours comprising groups of school children, Police Recruits and members of various Youth Clubs, Scouts and Cubs, were taken on educational tours at Fire Service Headquarters and Fire Boat Station. They were given short lectures by a senior subordinate officer with appropriate explanations of Appliances and equipment shown them, and in some cases a practical demonstration was carried out when circumstances permitted.

#### 26. Fire Prevention

During the year under review Fire Prevention inspections were carried out in Georgetown, New Amsterdam and the rural areas. All Government buildings were inspected and a special survey was done at Kamarang in the Mazaruni and Lethem and Orinduik in the Rupununi.

Fire equipment was allocated to these areas and lectures were given on the care and maintenance with special emphasis on its use and operation.

#### Mazaruni Prisons

There has not been any improvement in the domestic water supply system. Consequently, vats and gutters remain in a state of disrepair and delivery hose allocated for fire fighting purpose continue to be used daily

to supply water from the river for domestic use. It was however disclosed that a sum of money has been provided for use in implementing an improved system.

Efforts are being made to put the Dorman Pump back on the run as early as possible, the delay being caused by having to purchase an injector pump in the United Kingdom which was unobtainable in Guyana. Two small pumps were despatched from Georgetown as a temporary measure.

Fire Protection Works in Government Buildings.

Work on the provision of hose reels was commenced at the Georgetown Hospital and Queen's College but was not completed at the end of the year.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Visit

During the visit of Her Majesty every building visited by the Royal entourage was thoroughly inspected and full safety precautions taken. A fully manned fire appliance in radio contact with Fire Service Headquarters also stood by.

Schools and other places within which sleeping accommodation was made for school children from the rural areas were inspected and necessary precautionary arrangements made with a view to ensuring easy evacuation from the buildings in the event of fire. The same precautions were taken in respect to the Independence Celebrations.

Schools

Evacuation exercises were carried out at all the schools on the East Bank of Demerara and 3,930 children and teachers took part in the process. The performance at each school ran smoothly and was considered satisfactory.

Fire equipment were allocated as follows:-

Fire Extinguishers

Two gallon foam	..	..	32
Two gallon Water/Air	..	..	17
Quart C.T.C.	..	..	5
5 lb. CO <sub>2</sub>	..	..	1
Buckets	..	..	26
<u>Charges</u>			
Foam	..	..	108
Chemical Foam	..	..	36
Soda Acid	..	..	35
Conquest CO <sub>2</sub>	..	..	22
Nu-Swift	..	..	21
C.T.C.	..	..	6
Hose Reels	..	..	3

Under the terms of the Fire Prevention Ordinance, a total of 2,440 inspections were made throughout the country. These included full scale, special, goodwill, routine and follow up visits. Proposed new buildings and



alterations to existing buildings were also inspected. Lectures and Drills were carried out at Hotels, Hospitals, Hostels, Convents, Commercial and Business premises. The response was good and people generally showed an interest in the instructions given. Special training courses were also conducted at the Guyana Electricity Corporation, Rice Marketing Board, Wales Estate, Guyana School of Agriculture, Mon Repos, Mahaicony Abary Rice Development Scheme at Eurma and Anna Regina, Essequibo Coast. Thirty four legal notices were served on owners in accordance with the Fire Prevention Ordinance for failure to comply with recommendations submitted, and Court proceedings were instituted against ten of which three were convicted and seven cases pending with seven unexpired notices at the end of the year. Seventeen notices were satisfactorily implemented.

### Public Relations

Fire Prevention booths were on display at Fairs sponsored by the Enmore Community Centre, Annandale, Hindu Organisation and Gandhi Youth Organisation. Pictures depicting various aspects of fire prevention were exhibited and fire protection pamphlets distributed. Good co-operation between the Fire Service and the Press continued to be of immense value and several conferences were held on matters pertaining to fire prevention of which publicity was given.

Several groups from the Boy Scouts Movement were trained for the Fireman and Fighter's badge and 88 Certificates issued.

### Visits

A large number of overseas visitors, members of Youth Clubs, School Children and Police Recruits visited the Fire Service Headquarters from time to time and were taken on conducted tours of both Central and Fire Boat Stations. On each occasion a keen interest was evinced and a lively sense of appreciation displayed by them all.

### Publicity

Fire Prevention slides continued to be projected on the screens of many cinemas in Georgetown and New Amsterdam, and efforts are being made to acquire a 16 mm projector and a reasonable amount of films dealing with fire prevention and the extinction of fire in order to expand our publicity programme.

### Atkinson Field (Aerodrome)

During the month of December of the year under review, personnel of the Guyana Fire Service were ordered to perform duties at the Atkinson Field Airport as a result of a Strike by the members of the Aerodrome Fire Service.

Members of the regular Fire Service were given additional training on the Aerodrome premises in respect to aerodrome fires and consequently they performed their duties creditably.

27. Conclusion

Like previous years the Service maintained the high standard of efficiency which is now taken for granted by the general public. The Ambulance Service particularly is being taxed more heavily each year as there is a greater awareness by the public of the assistance which it is prepared to render.

Accommodation at Headquarters still poses a big problem and it has been pointed out that there is now a most urgent need for more strategically sited Fire and Ambulance stations in the greater Georgetown area. This would serve to solve the accommodation problem and at the same time avoid a drop in turn out and all round efficiency.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

  
Chief Fire Officer.

FINANCIAL RETURN

Ministry of Home Affairs

Sub-Office Fire Brigade

For the year ending 31st December, 1966

Head & Subhead of Charge	Allocation for period 1966	Expenditure Passed for Payment to Date.	Outstanding Liabilities to date	Total of Expendi- ture Passed for Payment and Out- Standing Liabilities.	Balance Available to date.
21 - Ministry of Home Affairs - <u>Fire Prevention</u>					
1. Personal Emoluments	516,489.00	517,736.57	-	517,736.57	1,247.57
2. Transport and Travelling	16,000.00	15,904.01	-	15,904.01	95.99
3. Miscellaneous	3,000.00	2,530.43	276.12	2,806.55	193.45
4. Uniforms & Bedding	28,350.00	25,735.68	3,372.00	29,107.68	757.68
5. Fuel, Oil & Grease	11,000.00	8,288.76	53.00	8,341.76	2,658.24
6. Spares, repairs & replacements	43,000.00	42,716.70	2,027.29	44,743.99	1,743.99
7. Ambulance & First Aid Equipment	1,500.00	724.38	175.00	899.38	600.62
8. Auxiliary Unit	3,200.00	3,120.07	-	3,120.07	79.93
9. Maintenance of Pipelines in Commercial Areas	1,500.00	551.47	-	551.47	948.53
10. Funeral Expenses	600.00	-	-	-	600.00