

Virginia Beach Fire Department

**Allied Technology Fire
Mayday Event**

March 10, 2008

“MAYDAY!”



“MAYDAY!”



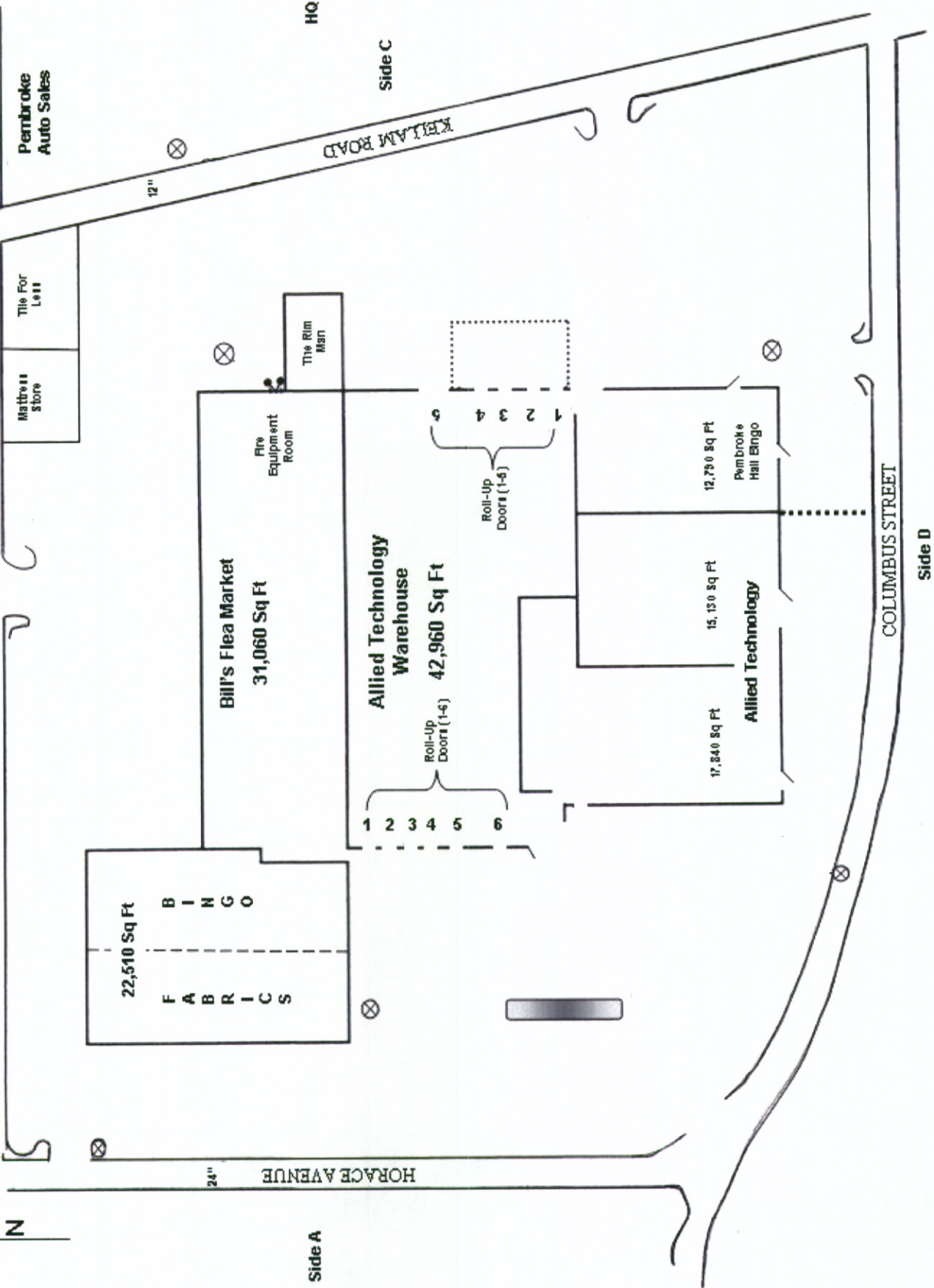
“MAYDAY!”

Background

- March 10, 2008 – 11:31 am
- Ultimately upgraded to three alarms
 - 46 Fire Apparatus
 - 116 Personnel
- Commercial structure - approximately 139,000 sq ft
- Corrugated aluminum on concrete slab

VIRGINIA BEACH BOULEVARD

Side B



Pembroke Auto Sales

HQ

Side C

KELLAM ROAD

12"

The For Less

Mattie's Store

The Rim Man

Fire Equipment Room

Bill's Flea Market

31,060 Sq Ft

Allied Technology Warehouse

42,960 Sq Ft

Roll-Up Doors (1-4)

Roll-Up Doors (1-4)

12,790 Sq Ft

Pembroke Hall Engo

15,130 sq Ft

Allied Technology

17,840 Sq Ft

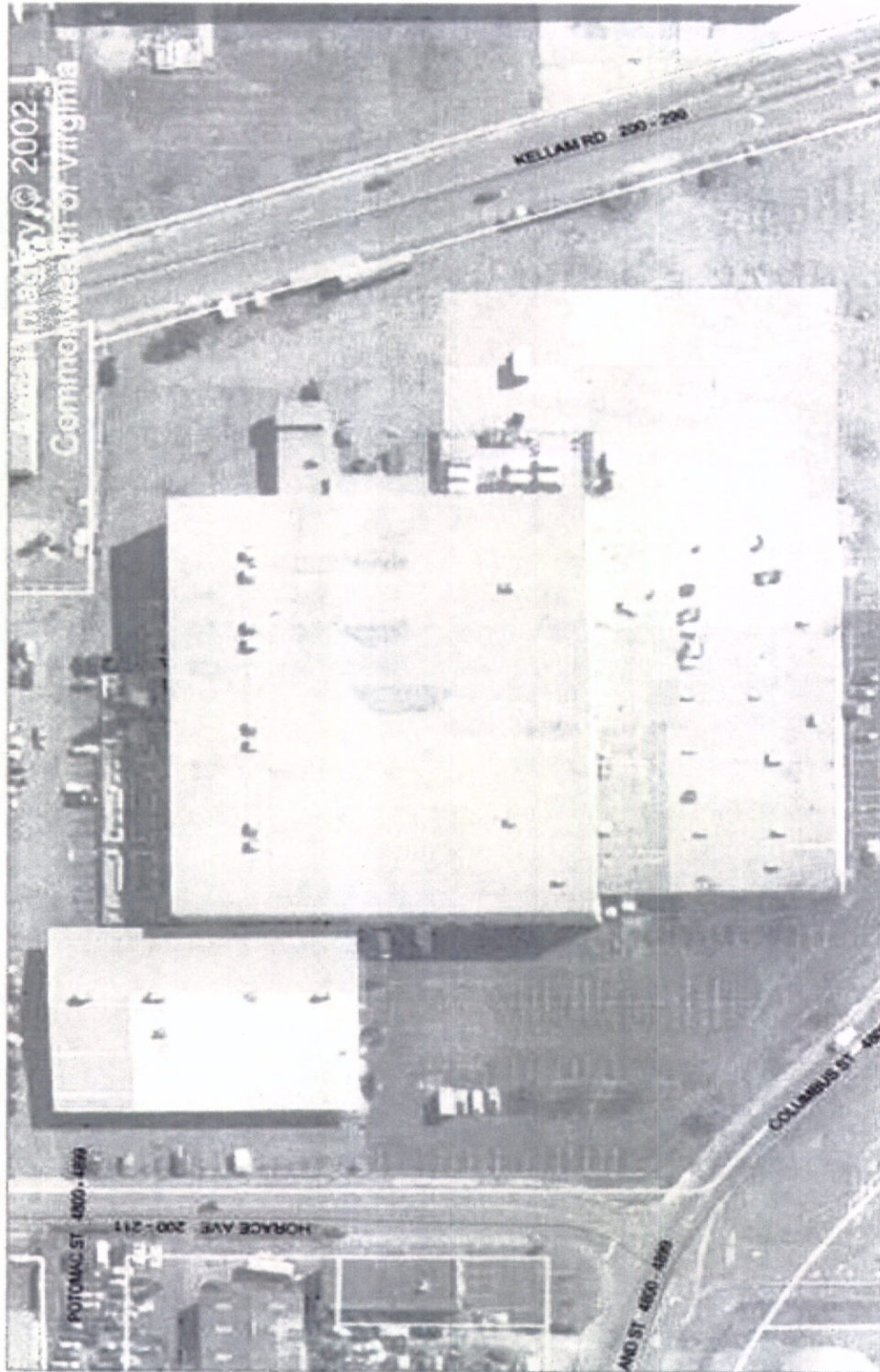
COLUMBUS STREET

Side D

HORACE AVENUE

24"

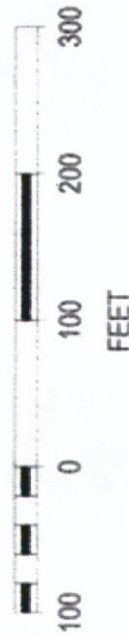
Side A



-  Interstate
-  Primary Roads
-  Streets
-  Parcel
-  Water Bodies



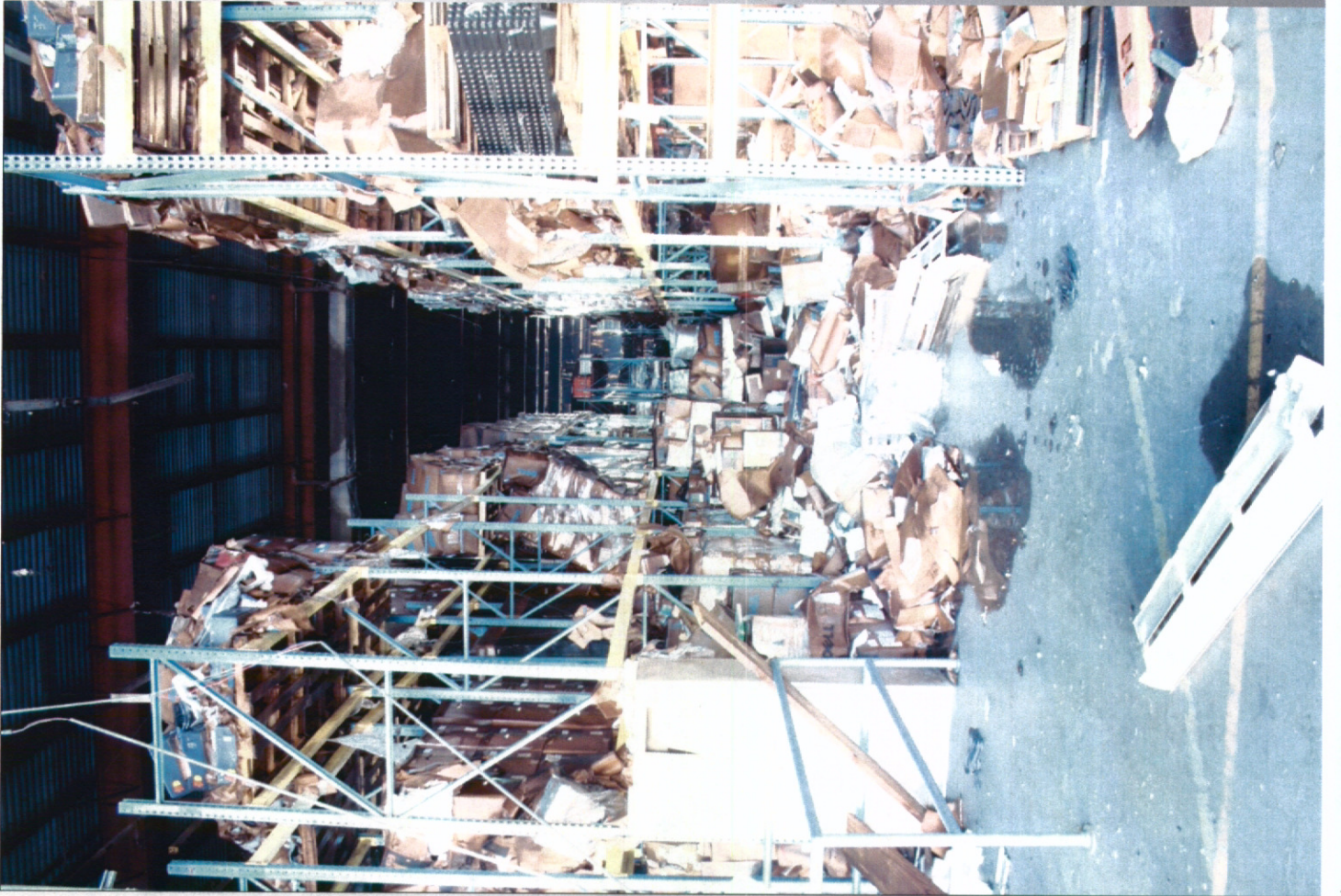
SCALE 1 : 1,861

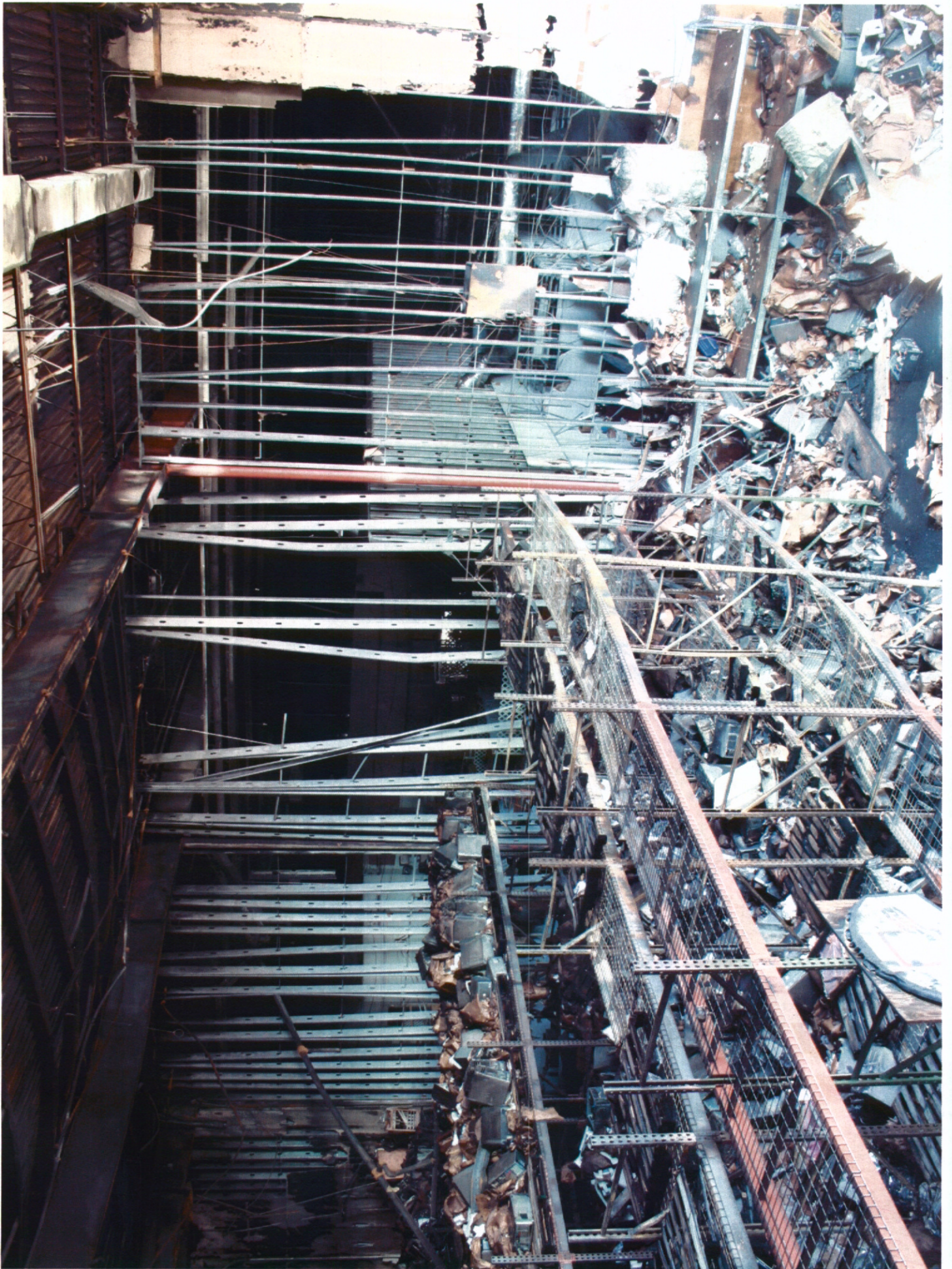














- E32 – Three-person crew
- Assigned to relieve E33's crew
- Hose line already extended into the building
- Very dense smoke

Approximately on hour into the incident, at 12:25:24, a Mayday was called.



The Mayday

- E32's crew followed pre-existing line into warehouse
- Captain left his crew and became disoriented
- Noticed he was getting very low on air
- (Conflicting reports)
- Eventually advised interior BC

The Mayday

- Searched unsuccessfully for crew
- Crew witnessed Captain's disorientation
- FF #2 followed Captain deeper into structure
- Low air alarm sounded
- Captain attempted Mayday (inaudible)

The Mayday

- Captain “stumbling” back and forth between pallets
- FF #1 and FF #2 “grab” Captain
- FF #2 successfully calls Mayday
- Captain’s air supply runs out – Broke seal to mask in an attempt to breath
- FF #1 attached “buddy-breathing” system
- Interior BC led crew out of the building

Outcomes

- Both FF #1 and FF #2 agreed the training they received on “MAYDAY – FF Down” and “Buddy-Breathing” positively affected the outcome of the this situation
- All FFs were released at the scene (no injuries)
- Retrospection on “what if?”

Thank you

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