

SUMMARY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, July 13, 1984, CDF and Lakeshore Fire Protection District responded to a structure fire in the incorporated City of Clearlake. (CDF Incident No. 13-1953, Fire No. 251). Shortly thereafter the fire spotted into CDF (SRA) lands. During this control effort, two Lakeshore Fire Protection District firefighters were burned. Firefighter Craig Scovel received superficial burns to the arms and face. Firefighter Michael Mattioda received third degree burns to 70-90% of the body. Firefighter Michael Mattioda succumbed to his injuries on July 14, 1984, at about 1800 hours at Chico Community Hospital, Chico, CA.

On July 14, 1984, at the request of Region I Chief Richard Ernest, an investigation team was formed to investigate the role of actions of CDF in relation to the burn injuries. The investigation team consisted of:

1. Earl Young, Chairman
SFR III, Region I Office
Camp Program Manager/Region Safety Officer
2. John Brayton
SFR I, Fire Academy
Instructor
3. Pat Bawden
F. C. Specialist, Lake-Napa Ranger Unit
Law Enforcement/Fire Prevention Specialist

The team did not interview any member of the Lakeshore Fire District as CDF has no authority to conduct an investigation of the actions of other agencies.

11. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

On July 13, 1984, Lakeshore Fire Protection District and California Department of Forestry engines were dispatched to a structure fire that occurred in the City of Clearlake. CDF equipment dispatched and arriving consisted of Officer 1313, Engines 1392 and 1378, Transport 1341 with Dozer 1346, Air Attack 140, Airtankers 79 and 95, and Helicopter 103.

Upon arrival at 1510 hours, Battalion Chief 1313 assumed command of CDF resources on the incident. Engines 1392 and 1378 were assigned to work on the spot fires. Dozer 1346 along with Copter 103 were also to pick up the spot fires that resulted from the structure fire. Lakeshore Chief Donald Parker was in command of his agency resources and directed control and extinguishment of the structure fire. Air Attack 140 was instructed to hold the airtankers in orbit in case of additional spot fires. By 1519 hours, containment had been achieved on the two spot fires near the structure by Dozer 1346 and the helitack crew. About this time the airtankers were released from Incident No. 13-1953.

Shortly thereafter, another spot fire took off some 300 to 400 feet from the original structure and spot fire problem. At this time the CDF I.C. (Battalion 1313) requested the airtankers return to the fire. Lakeshore Chief Parker and two units, Attack 170 and 470, left the original incident and proceeded to gain access to the new incident by a road that leads to Baldy Mountain. (Sec. 16, T13N, R7W, MDBM).

Battalion 1313 "Baldy I.C." also made an attempt to access the new spot fire; however, 1313 did not know the access and there was considerable delay in reaching the top of the ridge in advance of the fire. Upon gaining access to the ridge top, Battalion 1313 located Lakeshore Chief Parker in the area of Hill 2219 in Sec. 9, T13N, R7W, MDBM. Chief Park and his Attack 170 and 470 were stationed on a ridge point but were taking no action.

Battalion 1313 surveyed the situation and emphatically cautioned Chief Parker not to take his equipment any further down the dozer line in advance of the fire coming up the hill. Battalion 1313 then proceeded easterly to evaluate the situation and check on Dozer 1346 and the helitack crew which were working on the right flank of the fire. During the ensuing time the fire made several small runs toward the ridge top. Air attack also advised the fire was "heating up" below the Lakeshore Chief and engine companies. Several minor runs by the fire were stopped by Lakeshore crew members as the fire approached the ridge top. Again the Lakeshore Chief was advised to move his resources from the path of the advancing fire. By this time, however, the Chief had committed his engine companies to a hose lay that was at this time the left flank of the fire. The one-inch SJCH hose was laid down the dozer line and then broke off into a steep drainage to the northwest.

11. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
(continued)

At about 1630 hours the fire made a run up the steep draw and overran both Lakeshore Firefighters Scovel and Mattioda. Scovel came running up the hill and was administered first aid by Battalion 1313 and removed from the smokey environment to Hill 2219 where Chief Parker's pickup was located.

Shortly afterwards, Chief Parker came on the County Net radio requesting the helicopter for a medivac of a burned firefighter. Battalion Chief 1313 acknowledged the request and immediately requested Copter 103 to a suitable landing location to transport the victim. Battalion 1313 then coordinated the medivac effort, removal from the accident site and loading into the helicopter. Chief Parker was in charge of the medical treatment.

A short while later, Chief Parker advised he and his resources were leaving the incident due to stress. Fire control activities continued and the incident was contained at about 2030 hours.

111. CONCLUSIONS

1. This was a multi-jurisdictional/multi-agency incident. The fire originated in the city, spread to state responsibility area and back into the city. Each agency had the authority to act independently.
2. No firm, unified command structure existed. Actions immediately prior to the incident were under the direction of the Lakeshore Fire Protection District Chief Donald Parker.
3. The senior CDF officer on scene, Scott Drew (Battalion 1313) was aware of the potential danger to the Lakeshore Fire Protection District firefighters immediately prior to the incident. He was able to make this judgment from his own observations and from a warning he received from SFR I Blaine Moore (Air Attack 140). He did express his concerns to Chief Parker and attempted to dissuade him.

② -07/14/84--OBS--- 2:10GMT

STATN	MSGC	DY	W	DBT	RH	WS	10	P1	P2	HRE	HU	TH	X1000	V	SC	EC	FL	BI	IC
DL	G3A3	13	0	89	35	14	10	0	0	6	11	15	15.2	C	22	13	28	40	46
DL	G3A3	13	0	89	35	14	10	0	0	6	11	15	15.2	C	19	43	47	66	44
EELCC	G3A3	13	0	81	42	7	9	0	0	6	11	12	11.7	C	13	13	23	32	32
EELCC	G3A3	13	0	81	42	7	9	0	0	6	11	12	11.7	C	11	52	40	56	30
HOWFOR	J2A3	13	0	99	20	5	2	0	0	3	10	14	13.8	C	15	207	85	120	54
HOWFOR	B2A3	13	0	99	20	5	2	0	0	3	10	14	13.8	C	10	61	41	58	39
HOWFOR	F2A3	13	0	99	20	5	2	0	0	3	10	14	13.8	C	6	30	23	33	48
HOWFOR	G2A3	13	0	99	20	5	2	0	0	3	10	14	13.8	C	8	54	35	50	50
MONOCT	B2A1	13	0	99	14	8	5	0	0	3	7	8	8.4	G	37	66	77	109	74
MTJACK	F3A2	13	0	91	26	10	6	0	0	4	6	8	8.5	C	13	26	32	45	55
MTJACK	K3A2	13	0	91	26	10	6	0	0	4	6	8	8.5	C	13	75	51	72	56
MTJACK	A2A2	13	0	91	26	10	6	0	0	4	6	8	8.5	C	125	3	31	44	47
WRMSPG	A3A2	13	0	103	21	6	5	0	0	3	10	13	10.7	C	827	3	27	38	45
STHEL	B2A1	13	0	102	19	6	3	0	0	3	11	12	11.7	G	8	53	35	49	35
WOODAC	A2A1	13	0	100	23	4	7	0	0	4	14	14	14.4	C	39	3	18	26	28
WOODAC	B2A1	13	0	100	23	4	7	0	0	4	14	14	14.4	C	5	36	22	31	22

③

EUREKA FIRE WEATHER FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JULY 13 1984...4 PM

DISCUSSION:
HIGH PRESSURE IS BUILDING INTO WASHINGTON AND OREGON. A THERMAL LOW CONTINUES TO BUILD OVER CALIFORNIA. AS THE HIGH PRESSURE MOVES INTO THE ROCKIES, THE

PRESSURE GRADIENT OVER NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WILL WEAKEN. MAP NUMBER 910 STILL THE BEST FIT BUT WITH WEAK FEATURES.

20 560
FAIR. HIGHS 60S TO LOWER 80S. LOWS IN THE 50S. MAX RH ABOVE 70 PCT. MIN RH 45 TO 65 PCT. WIND NORTH OF CAPE MENDOCINO NORTHERLY 10 TO 25 MPH. DECREASING THROUGH SATURDAY BECOMING 5 TO 15 MPH SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY. SOUTH OF CAPE MENDOCINO WIND WEST TO NORTHWEST 5 TO 15 MPH.

OUTLOOK FOR THE MENDOCINO COAST...
EXPECT A SLOW RETURN OF COASTAL CLOUDS AND FOG SUNDAY NIGHT AND MONDAY WITH FOG AND LOW CLOUDS INTRUDING INTO VALLEYS TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. CLEARING TO NEAR THE COAST DURING THE AFTERNOONS.

ZONE 556 HUMBOLDT DEL NORTE EXCEPT SIX RIVERS FOREST
FAIR. HIGH 80S TO MID 90S. LOWS 50 TO 65. MAX RH MOSTLY 60 TO 80 PCT. MIN RH 20 TO 35 PCT. WIND NORTHEAST TO EAST 15 TO 25 MPH DECREASING TONIGHT THROUGH SATURDAY BECOMING NORTHEAST 5 TO 15 MPH SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY.

ZONES 555, 557 558, 559 561
FAIR HIGHS MOSTLY 90 TO 105. LOWS 50 TO 60 BUT WARMER AT HIGH ELEVATIONS. MAX RH MOSTLY 70 TO 95 PCT. MIN RH 20 TO 40 PCT NORTH AND 10 TO 20 PCT SOUTH. RIDGETOP WINDS NORTH TO NORTHEAST 5 TO 15 MPH. UPSLOPE AFTERNOON AND EVENING W1 TO 10 MPH IN VALLEYS AND PROTECTED AREAS.

TORONTO

CLEARLAKE HIGHLANDS QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA-LAKE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NW/4 LOWER LAKE 15' QUADRANGLE

1:62,500
CLEARLAKE OAKS





Head of fire looking west
toward left flank



Head of fire looking west toward
left flank from top of Mt. Bald



Toward right flank 100 feet
below accident scene



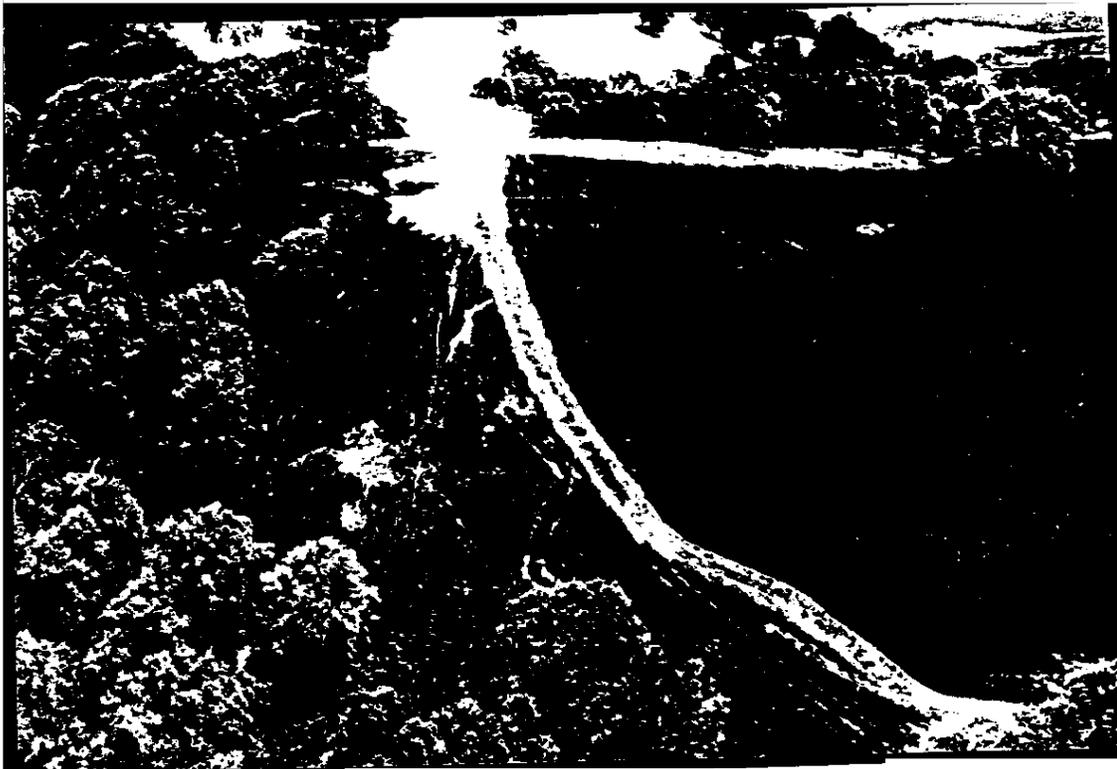
Toward left flank 100 feet
below accident scene



Looking toward right flank
standing at accident scene



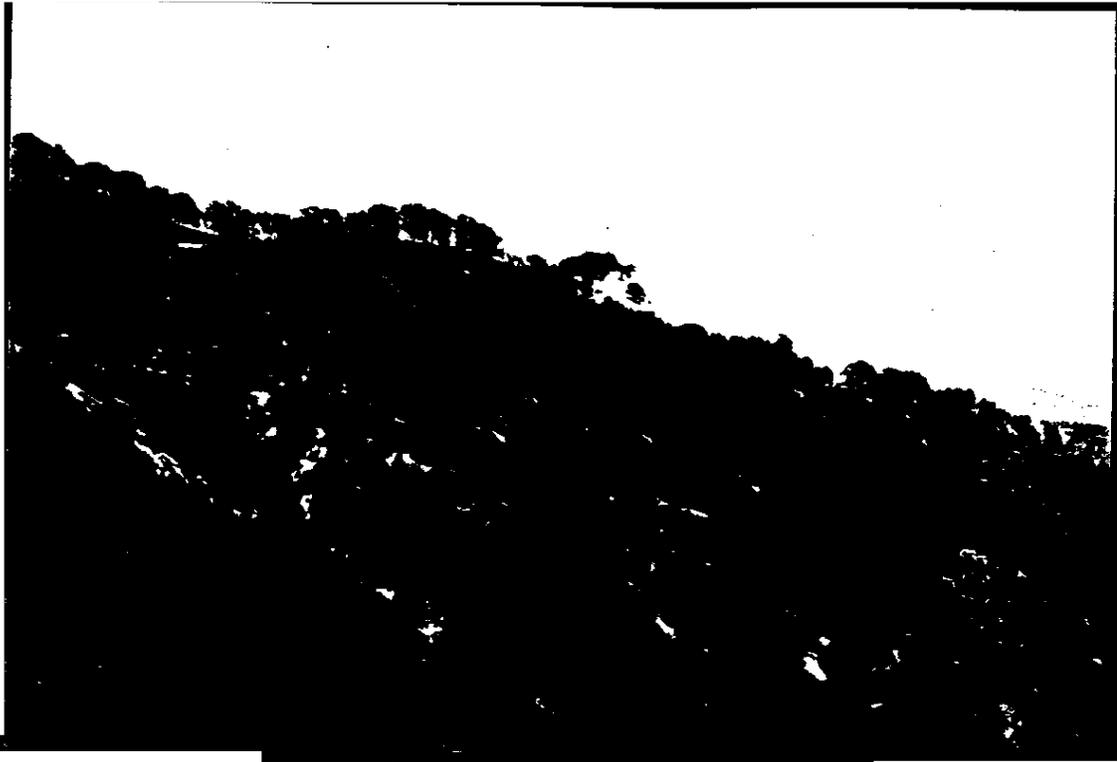
Looking toward left flank
standing at accident scene



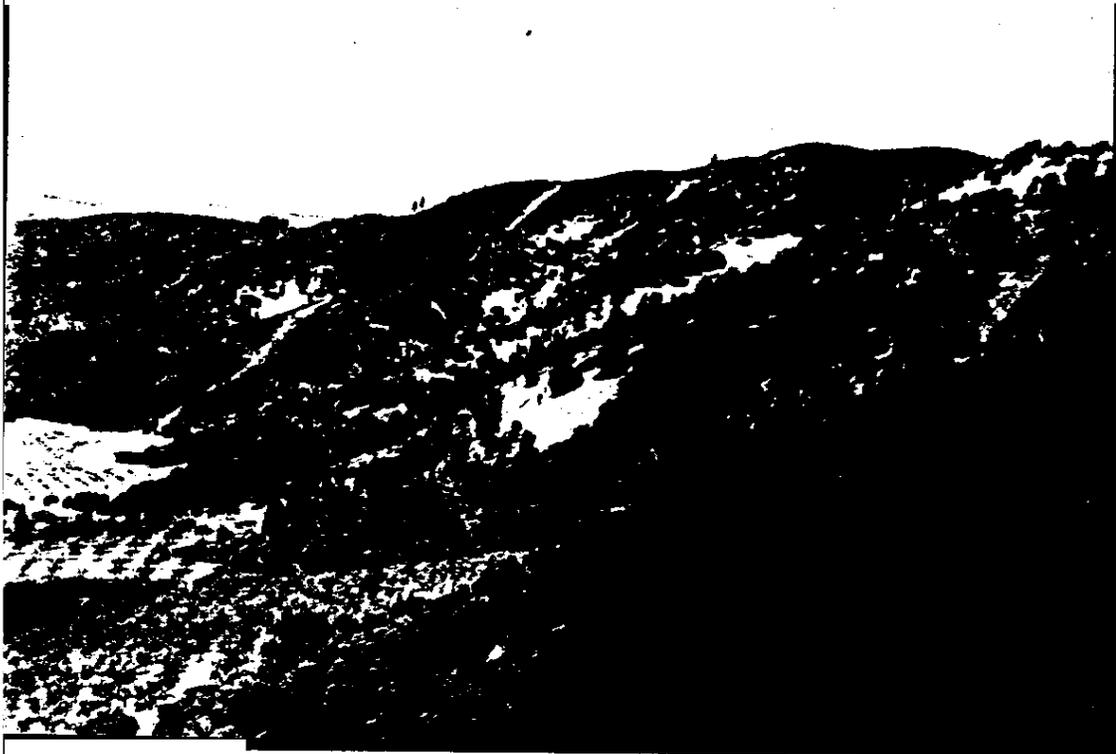
Accident scene



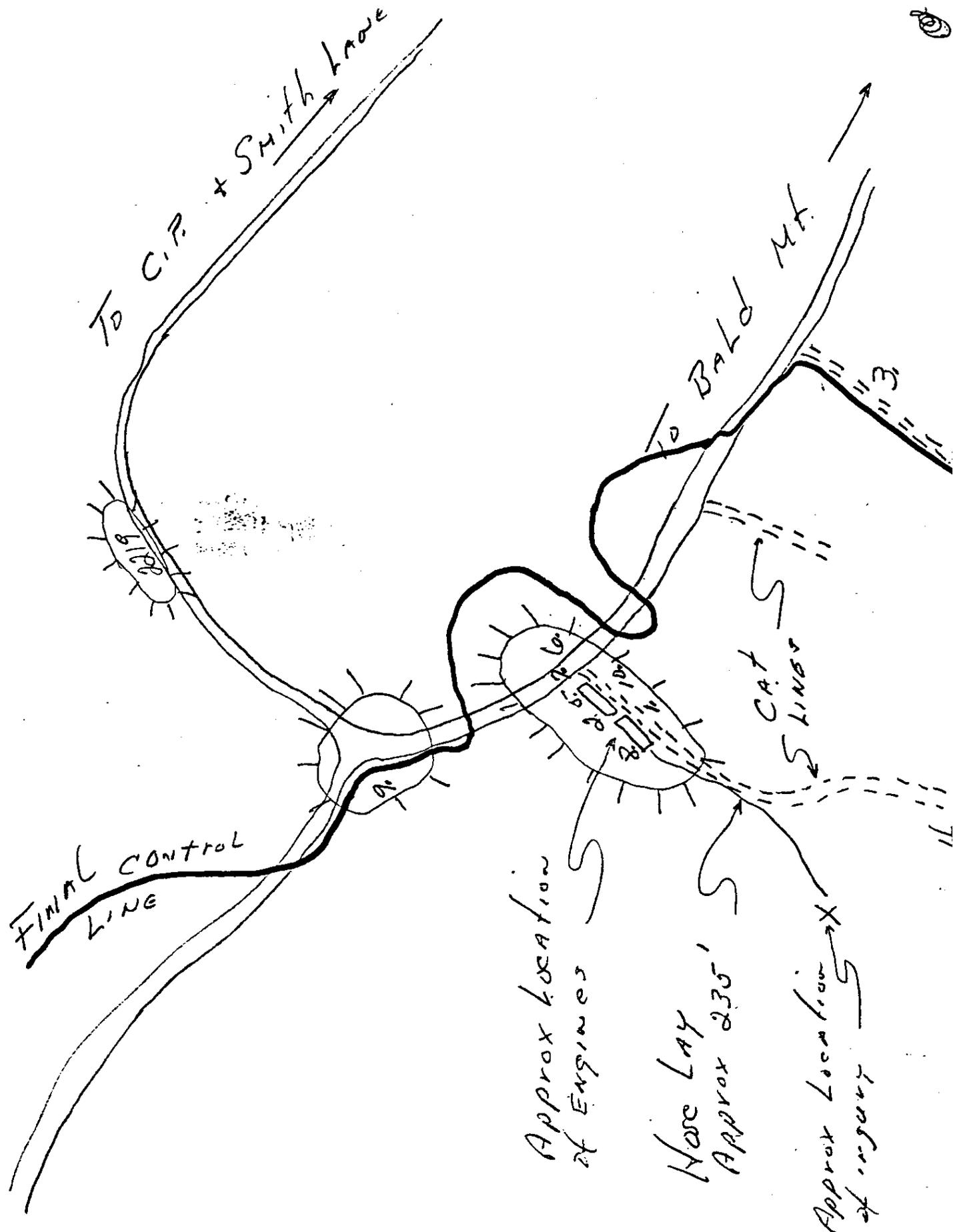
Origin of fire



Looking east below accident scene



Looking west below accident scene



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NW/4 LOWER LAKE 15' QUADRANGLE

1462 II
CLEARLAKE OAKS
1:62,500



EXHIBIT C