Fire Code Administration
Bureau of Fire Prevention

Key events in history that significantly shaped today’s International Fire and Life Safety Codes

The following information was captured from several websites including the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

January

1. First practical fire engine is tested, Cincinnati (OH), 1853
2. Meat processing plant fire kills 16, Terre Haute (IN), 1963
3. Marlborough Hotel fire kills 19, Minneapolis (MN), 1940
4. SS Atlantique passenger liner fire kills 18, English Channel, 1933
5. Texaco gas plant fire, loss worth $51 million, Erath (LA), 1985
6. Thomas Hotel fire kills 20 San Francisco (CA), 1961
7. Mercy Hospital fire kills 41, Davenport (IA), 1950
8. M/V Erling Jari passenger ship fire kills 14, Bodo, Norway, 1958
9. Laurier Palace movie theater fire kills 78, Montreal (QB), 1927
10. Pathfinder Hotel fire kills 20, Fremont (NE), 1976
11. Fire damages 463 houses, Savannah (GA), 1820
12. Rhodes Opera House fire kills 170, Boyertown (PA), 1908
13. Coal mine fire kills 91, Wilburton (OK), 1926
14. USS Enterprise carrier fire kills 24, Pearl Harbor (HI), 1969
15. NFPA launches Fire Journal this month, 1965
16. McCormack Place hall fire, loss worth $289 million, Chicago (IL), 1967
17. SS Salem Maritime tanker fire kills 2, Lake Charles (LA), 1956
18. Sacred Heart College fire kills 46, St. Hyacinthe (PQ), 1938
19. Dance hall fire kills 31, Taipei, Taiwan, 1966
20. Phillips refinery fire, loss worth $78 million, Borger (TX), 1980
21. Nursing home fire kills 5, Maryville (TN), 2004
22. Gargantu bar fire kills 13, Montreal (QB), 1975
23. US Maritime warehouse fire, loss worth $14 million, Kearny (NJ), 1961
24. Shell Oil refinery fire, loss worth $49 million, Roxana (IL), 1985
25. M. Baer Dress Company factory fire kills 15, New Haven (CT), 1957
26. Harwick coal mine explosion kills 179, Cheswick (PA), 1904
27. Victoria Hotel fire kills 13, Dunnville (ON), 1969
28. Apollo launchpad fire kills 3 and loss worth $413 million, Cape Kennedy, 1967
29. Challenger spacecraft explosion kills seven, 1986
30. Coal mine explosion kills 84, Stuart (WV), 1907
31. Pan American B-707 post-crash fire kills 95, Pago Pago, American Samoa, 1974
32. Lacoste Babies Home orphanage fire kills 17, Auburn (ME), 1945

February

1. Joelma office fire kills 179, São Paulo, Brazil, 1974
2. Coast to Coast Hardware store fire kills 13, Eagle Grove (IA), 1973
3. Thiokol Chemical Co. fire kills 29, Woodbine (GA), 1971
4. Fire Technology begins publication this month, 1965
5. Banko Paradise Hotel fire kills 30, Tokyo, Japan, 1969
6. “Black Thursday” forest fires damage 50,000 square miles Australia, 1851
7. Great Baltimore Fire loss worth $1,019 million, 1904
8. Loebel’s Restaurant fire kills 89, Berlin, Germany, 1946
9. USS Lafayette fire, loss worth $598 million, New York (NY), 1942
10. First fire extinguisher patent issued to Alanson Crane, 1863
11. Madrid-Barcelona Express train fire kills 34, Zaragoza, Spain, 1965
12. Knitting factory under apartments fire kills 19, Hong Kong, 1968
13. First state-level insurance regulatory act passes Massachusetts, 1799
15. First US graduate FPE program Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1979
16. “Ash Wednesday” forest fires kill 76, Australia, 1983
17. Katie Jane Nursing Home fire kills 72, Warrenton (MO), 1957
18. Manhattan State Hospital fire kills 25, Ward’s Island (NY), 1923
19. Spencer Mine explosion kills 7, Pottsville (PA), 1846
20. First US chartered fire insurance company, Philadelphia (PA), 1768
21. The Station nightclub fire kills 100, West Warwick (RI), 2003
22. NY Bronze Powders Co. warehouse, loss worth $210 million, Elizabeth (NJ), 1985
23. Madrid Spectacle Frame Company fire kills 24, Madrid, Spain, 1961
24. One Meridian Plaza fire, loss worth $439 million, Philadelphia (PA), 1991
25. Gai Sejour home for the aged, fire kills 16, St. Gilles, Belgium, 1965
26. Oil pipeline explosion kills 508, Cubatão, Brazil, 1984
27. World Trade Center bombing/fire kills 6 and injures 1,165, New York (NY), 1993
28. Nursing home fire kills 16, Hartford (CT), 2003
29. Telephone exchange fire, loss worth $205 million, New York (NY), 1975
30. First joint stock fire insurance company, Philadelphia (PA), 1810
31. Army plant under construction, loss worth $17 million, Livonia (MI), 1952
March

1. Weeks Law authorizes federal-state cooperation in forest fire protection, 1911
2. US Food and Drug Admin. bans carbon tetrachloride fire extinguishers, 1970
3. Explosion kills 31, filling gasoline cans from leaking truck, Syria, 1962
4. Lakeview Grammar School fire kills 175, Collinwood (OH), 1908
5. False alarm leads to confrontations that result in the Boston Massacre, 1770
6. Psychiatric hospital fire kills 28, Burghoezli, Switzerland, 1971
7. Harbor dynamite explosion kills 55, Baltimore (MD), 1913
8. Prison fire kills 133, Higuey, Dominican Republic, 2005
9. Castle Gate #2 coal mine fire kills 171, Castle Gate (UT), 1924
10. Missouri Athletic Club & bank bldg. fire kills 37, St. Louis (MO), 1914
11. Strand Theater fire roof collapse kills 13 firefighters, Brockton (MA), 1941
12. Ski resort fire kills 31, Numata, Japan, 1966
13. Multiple train station bombings kill 191, Madrid, Spain, 2004
14. Chemical plant fire kills 68, Pusan, Korea, 1960
15. House of Angels orphanage fire kills 14, Seoul, Korea, 1975
16. Royal Beach home hotel fire kills 19, Chicago (IL), 1981
17. National Theater fire damages entire block Washington (DC), 1845
18. Willow Grove #10 coal mine explosion kills 72, St. Clairsville (OH), 1940
19. First fire prevention legislation passed, Cambridge (MA), 1631
20. Consolidated school gas explosion kills 294, New London (TX), 1937
21. Sparky ® the Fire Dog is born, 1951
22. Insurance groups form committee to design what will be NFPA, New York (NY), 1896
23. San Bois #2 coal mine explosion kills 73, McCurtin (OK), 1912
24. Subway Sarin gas attack kills 12 and injures 6,000, Tokyo, Japan, 1995
25. Conflagration kills 2,018, Hakodate, Japan, 1934
26. Brown’s Ferry reactor fire, loss worth $342 million, Decatur (AL), 1975
27. Caboose Barfire kills 9, Allentown (PA), 1974
29. Triangle Shirtwaist fire kills 145, New York, 1911
31. Jed coal mine fire kills 83, Jed (WV), 1912
32. First steam fire engine’s public test by designer P. Hodge, New York (NY), 1841
33. Hanna #1 coal mine fire kills 59, Hanna (WY), 1908
34. First state law banning public use of fireworks passes, Michigan, 1929
35. Petrobras refinery fire kills 38, Duque de Caxias, Brazil, 1972
36. Cleveland Hill School fire kills 15, Cheektowaga (NY), 1954
April

1. First salaried fire department established, Cincinnati (OH), 1853
2. Wayside Inn board and care home fire kills 25, Farmington (MO), 1979
4. St. Anthony’s Hospital fire kills 74, Effingham (IL), 1949
5. Cornell dorm fire kills 9, a day before sprinklers were due, Ithaca (NY), 1967
6. Marting Arms sporting goods store fire kills 41, Richmond (IN), 1968
7. First US/Japan Fire Research/Safety Panel Gaithersburg (MD), 1976
8. Banner coal mine explosion kills 128, Littleton (AL), 1911
9. First meeting of National Board of Fire Underwriters, 1866
10. Eddystone Ammunition Company explosion kills 133, Eddystone (PA), 1917
11. Gulf of Venezuela explosion kills 25, Port Arthur (TX), 1926
12. Fireworks factory fire kills 32, Rawalpindi, Pakistan, 1979
13. Munitions works explosion kills 45, Lapua, Finland, 1976
14. Harbor explosion kills 700, Bombay, India, 1944
16. SS Grandcamp and Monsanto plant explosion kills 468, Texas City (TX), 1947
17. First municipal law on fire escapes from tenements passes New York (NY), 1860
18. Earthquake fire kills 315+ and loss worth $7,132 million, San Francisco (CA), 1906
19. Princess Irene ship fire kills 20, Rhine River, Germany, 1975
20. Religious group complex fire kills 47, Waco (TX), 1993
22. Imperial Hotel fire kills 24, Bangkok, Thailand, 1971
23. First firehouse pole installed, New York (NY), 1878
24. Ohio state penitentiary fire kills 320, Columbus (OH), 1930
25. Keen Mountain coal mine explosion kills 45, Hanger (VA), 1938
26. Rhythm Club fire kills 207, Natchez (MS), 1940
27. First alarm received from first fire box alarm system, Boston (MA), 1851
28. Antiques exhibition explosion kills 33, Todi, Italy, 1982
29. Chernobyl nuclear power facility fire kills 31, Ukraine, USSR, 1986
30. SS Sultana boiler explosion kills 1,547, Mississippi River, 1865
31. Eccles #5 & #6 coal mine explosion kills 181, Eccles (WV), 1914
32. Civil disturbance fires, loss worth $743 million, Los Angeles (CA), 1992
33. Federal #3 coal mine explosion kills 97, Everetteville (WV), 1927
34. 

May

1. Winter Quarters #1 & #4 coal mine explosion kills 200, Scofield (UT), 1900
2. Sunshine silver mine fire kills 91, Kellogg (ID), 1972
3. Fireworks factory fire kills 38, Caracas, Venezuela, 1961
5. Wildland fire loss worth $1,068 million (2003 dollars), Los Alamos (NM), 2000
7. Hindenburg zeppelin fire kills 36 and the zeppelin industry, Lakehurst (NJ), 1937
9. Armour meat processing plant gas explosion kills 19, St. Joseph (MO), 1930
10. Catholic church fire kills 21, Santa Cruz Tlapacoya, Mexico, 1983
11. Kader toy factory fire kills 188, Nakthon Pathom Prov., Thailand, 1993
13. Christopher #3 coal mine explosion kills 56, Osage (WV), 1942
15. Minerva Film Company fire kills 23, Rome (NY), 1947
16. Cleveland Clinic fire kills 125, Cleveland (OH), 1929
17. Terminal Hotel fire kills 35, Atlanta (GA), 1938
18. Cleveland School fire kills 77, Beulah (SC), 1923
19. Prison fire kills 103, San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 2004
20. NFPA Standard 19B requires SCBA use during firefighting, 1971
21. First US patent on an automatic fire alarm system issued, 1857
22. Coal mine explosion kills 273, Mather (PA), 1928
24. First Society of Fire Protection Engineers chapter is formed, Chicago (IL), 1953
25. Innovation store fire kills 325, Brussels, Belgium, 1967
26. All Hallows Church Parish Hall fire kills 17, San Francisco (CA), 1964
27. Moose Hall fire kills 10, Hamilton (ON), 1944
28. First ad for a fire insurance agent, Philadelphia (PA), 1721
29. USS Bennington fire kills 103 off Rhode Island coast, 1954
30. Carolina coal mine explosion kills 53, Farmville (NC), 1925
32. Lone Star Ice Plant fire kills 4, San Antonio (TX), 1985
33. First rubber-lined cotton web fire hose patented by J. Boyd, Boston (MA), 1821
34. US Army ammunition plant fire, loss worth $38 million (2003 dollars), Radford (VA), 1974
June

1. Coal-fueled power plant explosion kills 33, Berlin, Germany, 1948
2. Air Canada DC-9 in-flight fire kills 23, Cincinnati (OH), 1983
3. Gas pipeline explosion kills 650, near Ufa, Russia, 1989
5. LaSalle Hotel fire kills 61, Chicago (IL), 1946
7. Ellington Apartments fire kills 13, Cleveland (OH), 1932
8. Metal mine fire kills 163, Butte (MT), 1917
9. Night club fire kills 41, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 1977
10. First forest fire lookout tower staffed Squaw Mountain (ME), 1905
11. Showa Denko Co. chemical plant fire kills 11, Kawasaki, Japan, 1964
12. Conflagration damages 70 buildings, Whitewright (TX), 1911
13. Hercules, Inc. plant fire, loss worth $23 million, Covington (VA), 1980
14. Carteret Shopping Center fire loss worth $37 million, Carteret (IL), 1974
15. SS General Slocum steamship fire kills 1,030, New York (NY), 1904.
16. American Society for Testing and Materials is founded, Philadelphia (PA), 1898
17. Hotel Vendome fire kills 9 firefighters, Boston (MA), 1972
19. Wildfire damages 15,000 acres, near Los Alamos (NM), 1977
20. Mayaguez Theater fire kills 150, San Juan (PR), 1919
21. St. John City Detention Center fire kills 21, St. John (BR), 1977
23. First NFPA Committee on Safety to Life is appointed, 1913
24. Upstairs Lounge fire kills 32, New Orleans (LA), 1973
25. Aerlex Corporation fireworks plant fire kills 21, Hallett (OK), 1985
26. Maury County Jail fire kills 42, Columbia (TN), 1977
27. Forest fire, loss worth $334 million, Santa Barbara County (CA), 1990
28. LP-gas tank car derailment fire kills 23, Meldrim (GA), 1959
29. Conflagration fire kills 9, Virginia City (NV), 1873
30. North German Lloyd line steamship fire kills 326, Hoboken (NJ), 1900
31. Flammable Fabrics Act takes effect, 1954

JULY

1. First mechanical water tower built New York (NY), 1879
2. Semet-Solvay Co. TNT plant fire kills 50, Split Rock (NY), 1918
3. Quarterly of the National Fire Protection Association begins this month, 1907
4. Elliott Chambers Rooming House fire kills 15, Beverly (MA), 1984
5. Doxol Gas Co. fire kills 12 firefighters, Kingman (AZ), 1973
MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

6. Ringling Bros, Barnum & Bailey Circus tent fire kills 168, Hartford (CT), 1944
7. Pomona Hotel fire kills 12, Portland (OR), 1975
8. Excursion boat fire kills 55, Haderslev Park Lake, Jutland, Denmark, 1959
9. Forest fire kills 15 firefighters, Mendocino National Forest (CA), 1953
10. Rolling Mill coal mine explosion kills 112, Johnstown (PA), 1902
12. Hotel Coronade Aragon fire kills 74, Zaragoza, Spain, 1979
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AUGUST

1. Forest fire kills 48 northeast of Massif des Aures, Algeria, 1959
2. Summerland Leisure Centre fire kills 50, Isle of Man, England, 1973
3. Warehouse fire, loss worth $54 million, Hamburg, Germany, 1983
4. Forest fire kills 13 firefighters, Gates of the Mountain (MT), 1949
5. “Indiana Dunes” tests report, leads to home detector standards this month, 1975
6. Motorboat fire kills 11, off Basilan Strait, Philippines, 1972
7. Dynamite trucks explosion kills 1,100, Cali, Columbia, 1956
8. Coal mine explosion kills 17, Walbrzych, Poland, 1976
9. Titan II ICBM silo fire kills 53, near Searcy (AR), 1965
10. Gateway Restaurant fire kills 22, Andover (OH), 1955
11. First sprinkler head patented by H.S. Parmelee, 1874
12. Auto parts plant fire, loss worth $220 million, Livonia (MI), 1953
14. Frontier #1 coal mine explosion kills 99, Kemmerer (WY), 1923
15. In-flight balloon fire kills 5 Barrington (IL), 1981
16. Forest fire kills 25, Transkei Veld, South Africa, 1975
17. Gulf Oil refinery fire, loss worth $44 million, Philadelphia (PA), 1975
18. First Volunteer Fire Fighter Recognition Day is held, 1984
19. Forest fire kills 230 and damages 256,000 acres, SW France, 1949
20. Cinema Rex theater fire kills 422, Abadan, Iran, 1978
21. Liquid propylene tank truck crash explosion kills 12, Martelange, Belgium, 1967
23. Warehouse fire kills 10 firefighters, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1959
24. Washington (DC) set afire by British troops during War of 1812
25. Washington House Hotel fire kills 12, Berkeley Springs (WV), 1974
26. Fireworks factory fire kills 23, Chiaya, Taiwan, 1958
27. Argonaut gold quartz mine fire kills 47, Jackson (CA), 1922
28. Conflagration fire destroys 44 buildings and kills 2, Hull (MA), 1923
29. Fireworks factory fire kills 27, Hong Kong, 1993
30. Select movie theater fire kills 88, Paris, France, 1947
31. In Crowd lounge fire kills 13, Gary (IN), 1968

SEPTEMBER

1. Earthquake conflagration kills 142,807, Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan, 1923
2. First reported Learn Not to Burn® PSA saves Jamaica Plain (MA) & Muskegon (MI), 1975
3. Middle of five-day Great Fire of London, England, 1666
   Chicken processing plant fire kills 25, Hamlet (NC), 1991
4. First fog nozzle is patented, 1894
5. Hotel Caledonien fire kills 14, Kristiansand, Norway, 1986
6. Cargo plane in-flight fire, loss worth $463 million, new Newburgh (NY), 1996
7. Forest fire kills 25 firefighting soldiers, near Lisbon, Portugal, 1966
8. Movie theater fire kills 50, Drumcolloagher, Ireland, 1926
9. SS Morro Castle fire kills 135 off New Jersey coast, 1934
10. Island Queen excursion steamer fire kills 23, Pittsburgh (PA), 1947
11. Powder mill explosion kills 19, Fairchance (PA), 1904
12. Air France Caravelle in-flight fire kills 95, France, 1968
13. World Trade Center attack kills 2,666, New York (NY), 2001
14. Hercules Powder Company plant explosion kills 52, Kenvil (NJ), 1940
15. Ponet Square Hotel fire kills 19, Los Angeles (CA), 1970
16. First use of gooseneck piping for fire engines, Boston (MA), 1815
17. Fire destroys Pioche (NV) and kills 13, 1871
18. Protocol to limit world production of Halon is signed, Montreal (PQ), 1987
19. Aircraft hanger fire loss worth $296 million, Richmond (FL), 1945
20. Yell of "fire" in church causes 100+ to be trampled to death, Birmingham (AL), 1902
21. Study Club fire kills 22, Detroit (MI), 1929
22. Badische Anilin chemical plant fire kills 1,000, Oppau, Germany, 1921
23. Second SFPE chapter is formed, Los Angeles (CA), 1953
24. US Army underground fuel tank explosion kills 34, Bitburg, Germany, 1953
25. Teatro de Novedades theater fire kills 68, Madrid, Spain, 1928
26. Bunk Hirama rubber shoe factory fire kills 14, Kobe, Japan, 1963
27. Nursing home fire kills 14, Nashville (TN), 2003
28. Conflagration destroys 386 buildings and kills 13, Bandon (OR), 1936
29. Gasoline tank car explosion kills 43, Ardmore (OK), 1915
30. First fireboats arrive in the US, New York (NY), 1800
31. First Fire Fighters Memorial Sunday is held, 1979
32. Forest fire kills 22, Minnesota/Ontario border, 1938
33. Forest fire kills 559, Cloquet (MN), 1918
34. Monsanto chemical plant fire kills 11, La Salle (PQ), 1966
35. Colliery fire kills 439, Mid Glamorgan, Wales, 1913
36. US Postal Service HQ fire, loss worth $48 million, Washington (DC), 1984
37. USS Leyte carrier explosion kills 39, Boston (MA), 1953
38. Mercantile building fire kills 12 firefighters, New York (NY), 1966
39. High-rise building fire kills 6, Chicago (IL), 2003
40. Alexander Hamilton home hotel fire kills 15, Paterson (NJ), 1984
41. Geiger nursing home fire kills 15, Honesdale (PA), 1971

OCTOBER

1. NFPA’s Fire News begins (as NFPA News Letter), 1916
2. First national Fire Prevention Week proclaimed by President Warren Harding, 1922
3. Brush fire kills 28, Griffith Park, Los Angeles (CA), 1933
4. Forest fire kills 44, northern Ontario, 1922
5. Crystal Palace destroyed by fire, New York (NY), 1858
6. SC-340, submarine chaser ship is destroyed by fire, off St. John, Virgin Islands, 1923
7. First Fire Fighters Memorial Sunday is held, 1979
8. Forest fire kills 1,152 around Peshtigo (WI), 1871
9. Great Chicago Fire kills 250, loss worth $2,568 million (2003 dollars), Chicago (IL), 1871
10. First Fire Prevention Day, 1911, marks end of two-day Great Chicago Fire, 1871
11. Oles Inc. hardware store fire kills 4, South Pasadena (CA), 1984
12. Forest fire kills 22, Minnesota/Ontario border, 1938
13. Forest fire kills 559, Cloquet (MN), 1918
14. Monsanto chemical plant fire kills 11, La Salle (PQ), 1966
15. Colliery fire kills 439, Mid Glamorgan, Wales, 1913
16. US Postal Service HQ fire, loss worth $48 million, Washington (DC), 1984
17. USS Leyte carrier explosion kills 39, Boston (MA), 1953
18. Mercantile building fire kills 12 firefighters, New York (NY), 1966
19. High-rise building fire kills 6, Chicago (IL), 2003
20. Alexander Hamilton home hotel fire kills 15, Paterson (NJ), 1984
21. Geiger nursing home fire kills 15, Honesdale (PA), 1971
MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

22. International Association of Fire Chiefs founded, Baltimore (MD), 1873
23. Oakland fire storm kills 25, Oakland (CA), 1991
24. Care-of-aged facility fire kills 28, Hof, Germany, 1947
25. Stag Canyon #2 coal mine explosion kills 263, Dawson (NM), 1913
27. Puerto Rican Social Club fire kills 25, New York (NY), 1976
28. Metropolitan Store fire kills 10, Windsor (ON), 1960
29. "Old" wildland, San Bernadino (CA), 2003
30. USS Oriskany carrier flash fire kills 43, Gulf of Tonkin, Viet Nam, 1966
31. Laguna forest fire, Orange County (CA), 1993
32. St. John's Parochial School fire kills 22, Peabody (MA), 1915
34. Jumbo floating restaurant fire kills 34, Hong Kong, 1971
35. Society of Fire Protection Engineers is founded, Boston (MA), 1950

NOVEMBER

1. Dance hall fire kills 145, Grenoble, France, 1970
2. Explosion kills 1,000 to 3,000, Salang Tunnel, Afghanistan, 1982
3. Metal mine fire kills 51, Ishpeming (MI), 1926
4. Forest fire damages 37 homes, Topanga (CA), 1948
5. Sunday Creek #6 coal mine explosion kills 82, Millfield (OH), 1930
6. National Fire Protection Association is founded, Boston (MA), 1896
7. Halifax Poor House fire kills 31, Halifax (NS), 1882
8. First recorded use is made of a mechanical water tower, New York (NY), 1879
9. Great Boston Fire, Boston (MA), 1872
10. USS Mount Hood munitions explosion kills 373, Admiralty Islands, 1944
11. Coats boarding house fire kills 14, Pioneer (OH), 1979
12. Tinker AFB repair plant fire, Norman (OK), 1984
14. St. Paul coal mine explosion kills 259, Cherry (IL), 1909
15. Hoechst Celanese Chemical fire, Pampa (TX), 1987
16. Stratford Apartments home hotel fire kills 25, Los Angeles (CA), 1973
17. Northwestern Mine explosion kills 31, Ravensdale (WA), 1915
18. Learn Not to Burn® Foundation is incorporated, Quincy (MA), 1986
19. Ballantyne Department Store fire kills 41, Christ Church, New Zealand, 1947
20. Gas storage area explosion kills 334, Mexico City, Mexico, 1984
21. Club Cinq Sept fire kills 143, St. Laurent du Pont, France, 1971
22. MGM Grand Hotel fire kills 85, Las Vegas (NV), 1980
23. Phillips Dance Hall & Martin's Grocery, fire kills 25, Ville Platte (LA), 1919
24. Golden Age nursing home fire kills 63, Fitchville (OH), 1963
25. Home gas explosions kill 105, Danaciobasi, Turkey, 1980
MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

26. Taeyokale Hotel fire kills 163, Seoul, Korea, 1971
27. Pakistani International B-707 in-flight fire kills 156, Saudi Arabia, 1979
28. Capitol International DC-8 post-crash fire kills 47, Anchorage (AK), 1970
29. Cocoanut Grove night club fire kills 492, Boston (MA), 1942
30. Hotel Concorde wedding reception fire kills 11, Margarita Venezuela, 1987
31. Boomer #2 coal mine explosion kills 23, Boomer (WV), 1915

DECEMBER

1. Our Lady of the Angels school fire kills 95, Chicago (IL), 1958
2. Arcadia Hotel fire kills 28, Boston (MA), 1913
3. Waterfront fire kills 10, Brooklyn (NY), 1956
4. Union Carbide plant fire kills 3,800, Bhopal, India, 1984
5. Stouffer's Inn conference center fire kills 26, Harrison (NY), 1980
6. Brooklyn Theater fire kills 295, Brooklyn (NY), 1876
7. Monongha Mine coal mine explosion kills 361, Monongha (WV), 1907
8. Munitions freighter explosion kills 1,654, Halifax (NS), 1917
9. Winecoff Hotel fire kills 119, Atlanta (GA), 1946
10. Church of La Compana fire kills about 2,000, Santiago, Chile, 1864
11. State school for mentally retarded fire kills 15, Ellisville (MS), 1978
12. Overton #2 coal mine explosion kills 53, Irondale (AL), 1925
13. Quaker Oats factory fire kills 22, Peterborough (ON), 1916
14. Textile mill fire, Methuen (MA), 1995
15. Tent city fire kills 138, Mina, Saudi Arabia, 1975
16. Coal mine explosion kills 20, Stone City (KS), 1916
17. St. Charles Hospice orphan asylum fire kills 36, Quebec City (PQ), 1927
18. Koppers Steel plant fire kills 19, Weirton (WV), 1972
20. Gran Circus Americano fire kills 323, Niteroi, Brazil, 1961
21. Nursing home fire kills 20, Fountaintown (IN), 1964
22. Coal mine explosion kills 239, Jacobs Creek (PA), 1907
23. USS Constellation fire, Brooklyn (NY), 1960
24. Pioneer Hotel fire kills 28, Tucson (AZ), 1970
25. Orient #2 coal mine explosion kills 119, West Frankfort (IL), 1951
26. Stockyard cold storage fire kills 21 firefighters, Chicago (IL), 1910
27. Sumner coal mine explosion kills 19, Sumner (PA), 1899
28. Babbs Switch School fire kills 36, Hobart (OK), 1924
29. Gambling hall fire kills 15, Dresslerville (NV), 1947
30. Richmond Theater fire kills 70 including governor, Richmond (VA), 1811
31. Mine explosion kills 431, Chasnala, India, 1975
32. Oil tank truck/train post-collision fire kills 13, Everett (MA), 1966
33. Lick Branch coal mine explosion kills 50, Switchback (WV), 1908
34. Iroquois Theater fire kills 602, Chicago (IL), 1903
35. Nightclub fire kills 188, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2004
36. Dupont Plaza Hotel fire kills 97, San Juan (PR), 1986