
From: Brian Martin
Sent: 18 May 2012 11:58
To: Louise Upton; Peter Wise; Ken Knight ** account disabled as PER rfc 278457 **
Cc: Anthony Burd; Steven Kelly
Subject: FW: 120517 ETICS fire in France this week

For info - the video on the second link is pretty alarming - this wouldn't be in accordance with Building Regs (probably)

Subject: RE: 120517 ETICS fire in France this week

Hello

French was quite rusty.

I have figured out the following:

The video that you have watched were sections filmed by a neighbour from the 'beginning' of the incident (14:45) until 15:25.

The flat is one of 3 identical towers (known as the 'Aviateurs').
The building contains 94 flats.

The fire is believed to have started on the 1st (or perhaps the 2nd) floor, and has been attributed to a gas cylinder (carboy) exploding.

The fire quickly spread up 18 floors.

Fire fighters first on scene quickly called for reinforcement, and approximately 100 fire fighters attended the fire. A number of residents were able to evacuate the building early into the fire, but the fire service explained that the stairwells quickly filled with smoke. The rest of the residents were advised to stay in their flats.

There was one fatality (an elderly woman) and 10 injuries (including 4 children and a serious case of smoke inhalation)

250 people were evacuated from the building.

A dozen flats were totally destroyed in the fire.

A large-area safety cordon was put in place by the police, and a local school was evacuated due to debris from the fire falling in the playground.

The cladding of the 2 other identical towers are under investigation.

Here are further photos and videos:

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/2012/05/14/01016-20120514DIMFIG00571-incendie-spectaculaire-a-roubaix.php>

http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/Region/actualite/Secteur_Rregion/2012/05/15/article_un-apres-midi-en-enfer-pour-les-habitant.shtml