



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

MEMORANDUM

TO SM
McClenagan

YOUR REF.

Grenfell Tower

FROM

WM/S Mark Niblett (Pay No:- [REDACTED]7D)
CBRN Team
Red Watch

OUR REF.

TEL. NO.

FAX NO.

DATE

19/06/17

Grenfell Tower Fire

14/06/17

Name:- Mark Niblett

Pay Number:- [REDACTED]7D

I am based at [REDACTED] on the 2nd floor in the CBRN team and I have been here for one year.

We were status paging at [REDACTED] when we received our mobilisation.

I was riding [REDACTED] as the appliance team leader

We approached the incident from the South using Bramley Rd .

As we approached I could see that two thirds of the Tower was engulfed in flames.

Our appliance was sited in Bramley Rd and it stayed in same position until we left the incident.

We parked in Bramley Rd and I proceeded to try and find the booking in CU. While doing this I came across about 20 members of the public that were being treated by the LAS. At this point a call went up for additional IEC packs so we quickly returned to [REDACTED] to retrieve ours. We then dropped ours off where the members of the public were being treated. We then came across two Ff's who were being administered oxygen by Ff's and LAS. At this point I asked a WM where the booking in point was and he informed me that it was somewhere around the other side of the building.

We made our way around the building and located the booking in CU and booked in.

After discussing our capabilities, we were told to report to the leisure centre with our ED BA. This was where the BA holding area was located. This process took about 3 mins.

When we were making our way back to [REDACTED] we were approached by two members of the public who said that they were on the phone to someone who was trapped in the building. Myself and WM Parkin escorted them to

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the FSG CU so they could pass this information on. I think the person involved was on the 14th floor but this could be incorrect. I do not remember the flat number.

We then proceeded to our vehicle, picked up our EDBA and made our way to the Leisure centre. This process took about 15 minutes.

We spent about ten minutes in the holding area before being instructed to re locate to the forward holding area.

Here we spent about five minutes, before be escorted into the building by the police.

In this holding area, after about 30 minutes the committing officer asked for an EDBA crew of four. This was made up of myself WM Morrison and WM Vanstone (RRT) and a FF who I believe was from Chelsea. I do not remember his name.

We were briefed of the situation as it presented itself at that moment which was that were numerous casualties on all the upper floors but we had only reached to the 12th floor and we were being hampered from progressing by the intense fire.

Our initial task was to try and move to fire hose up the building to try a combat the fire and in turn enable us to progress to floors 13 and above.

Just before we were committed an FSG call came in and the committing officer made this a priority and re assigned us to the task.

This task was to go up to the 10th floor. Locate flat 72 and rescue the occupant who was trapped in his flat. We were told that this was a search and rescue and we wouldn't be taking any firefighting media, but our escape route was being protected by crews who were already in the building.

I led our crew up the staircase passing Firefighters without BA on floors one to I think four who were feeding hose up the building.

From this point the smoke steadily became thicker and by the 6th floor visibility was down to about two meters.

On the stairs leading to the tenth floor we were confronted with a person who was face down on the stairs who was apparently dead. We had been notified of this when we were briefed.

When we made entry into the 10th floor lobby, visibility dropped to zero and the heat increased considerably.

I made the decision to start searching off the right hand wall. As we progressed the heat intensified still further to a point where it was just bearable and there seemed to be considerable fire damage.

WM Vanstone suggested that the conditions in this part of the lobby were to bad for anyone to be alive and to try a left hand wall search.

We all agreed and traced our way back to the door to the stairwell and started the left hand wall search.

The first door we came to was open and myself and WM Vanstone entered the property to look for the member of the public. Due to the zero visibility we were un able to determine if this was 72.

WM Morrison and Chelsea's FF stayed in the lobby to monitor the conditions so they could warn us if they deteriorated.

The flat appeared empty so we continued our left hand wall search and we quickly came upon another flat door.

WM Vanstone said he thought he heard something so we shouted "Fire Brigade" and knocked on the door.

This time the member of public opened the door and myself and WM Vanstone entered the flat closing the door behind us to protect the member of public from the smoke and heat.

Again WM Morrison and Chelsea's FF stayed in the lobby to monitor the conditions.

The gentleman appeared calm and fit and well. He confirmed that this was flat 72 and he was the only one in it.

We told him that we had to leave and instructed him to grab WM Vanstone's BA cylinder and I would be behind him, holding his shoulders.

WM Vanstone placed a wet towel over his head and when we were all in position, he opened the door and we rushed him through the lobby with the help of WM Morrison and Chelsea's FF.

Myself and WM Vanstone then proceeded down the staircase with the casualty. WM Morrison and Chelsea's WM stayed on the 10th floor and started to carry out our original brief which was hose management.

When we got to about the 4th floor, we came across a fire crew without BA which indicated to us that the air was now breathable.

We handed the casualty over to this crew, making sure that they told entry control which flat he had been rescued from.

We then proceeded back up to the 10th floor to help WM Morrison and Chelsea's FF with our original brief of hose management.

When we got back up to the 10th floor, it appeared that none of the hose lines were charged. To rectify this WM Morrison and Chelsea's FF traced a length of 45mm hose back down the building, while myself and WM Vanstone tried to find a dry riser outlets to plug into.

I believe we went into the lobbies of the 11th, 10th, and 9th floors but we were unable to locate the dry risers due to the fire conditions .

I believe that we had about 110bar left in our sets when we made our way out. We took the decision to leave at this point because we were both starting to suffer from heat stroke (Extreme fatigue and light headed).

We then closed down at entry control and made our way back to the leisure centre and rested for about 30mins.

I believe we left the incident at around 08.30hrs.