Chapter 9

# Miscellaneous Facility-Based Fire-Fighting Operations

**9-1.** Miscellaneous fire fighting generally refers to any fire-fighting activity that does not involve structural or crash/rescue fire fighting. Tactical petroleum terminals (TPTs), logistics bases, internment/ dislocated civilian camps, and general support hospitals are some of the special mission areas that firefighters support. These infrequently encountered, vital missions probably require firefighters to focus even harder on training because they see so little of them.

## TACTICAL PETROLEUM TERMINAL

### MISSION

**9-2.** One of the major facilities that will require fire-fighting support in the AO will be the TPT. The mission of the fire-fighting team with a TPT in its AO will be to—

- Position organic fire-fighting teams.
- Conduct sustainment training of POL crews to use the organic fire-fighting equipment.
- Respond to all incidents involving the TPT.

### SITE DESIGN

**9-3.** The TPT has organic fire-fighting equipment in its design, but the equipment is a first-response measure only. The fire-prevention section of the LA or the LB team will conduct an on-site inspection to ensure that the fire-fighting suppression sets have been placed in the most effective locations. The TPT personnel will inspect within their area to ensure that—

- Berms are properly placed around storage areas in case of leaks or spills.
- All leaks and spills are reported as required, to include the appropriate Army safety and environmental protection functional offices.
- The areas are spaced out to control the spread of fire.

### TRAINING

**9-4.** Personnel assigned to a TPT will have little or no training on how to use fire-suppression equipment. Therefore, fire-fighting teams will have to train

key personnel at the terminal so that TPT personnel can perform in case of an emergency. Training will include—

- Putting the fire suppression sets into service.
- Conducting daily preventive maintenance checks and services (PMCS) of the set and their personal protective clothing.
- Using the sets effectively in an emergency.

### ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

**9-5.** In any incident, the fire-fighting teams should respond to extinguish the fire and contain the vapors. They will also ensure that fire-suppression sets are reserviced and back in operation in a timely manner.

**9-6.** When responding to fires in a TPT, the fire-fighting teams must ensure that they do not cause more damage than the fire; therefore, prefire planning is important in a TPT. Networks of piping, valves, pumps, and storage bladders will be interconnected throughout the site. Special care should be noted for shut-off valves and response routes.

**9-7.** If a storage unit is fully involved and extinguishing the fire poses more of a threat because of vapors, the fire-fighting teams will protect the other storage areas and allow the fire to burn. Controlling runoff is very important in fighting a fire in a TPT. Firefighters must channel the runoff and control it to ensure proper cleanup after extinguishing the fire.

### FIRE-SUPPRESSION EQUIPMENT

**9-8.** The basic load in a TPT will be 18 fire-suppression equipment sets. Table 9-1 lists the components of one set; Figure 9-1 shows one set. Each set must be inspected and placed in service, according to TM 10-4210-235-13, before a TPT can operate.

**Table 9-1. Items in one fire-suppression equipment set**

| Number | Component |
|---|---|
| 1 | Trailer-mounted, twin-agent unit, 100-gallon AFFF, premixed/250-pound Purple K, 150-foot attack line |
| 1 | Auxiliary hose cart with additional 150-foot attack line |
| 3 | Set of aluminized protective gear, 1 each of small, medium, and large |
| 5 | 20-pound, dry-chemical extinguisher |
| 3 | Complete recharges for twin-agent unit |

**9-9.** The fire-suppression equipment sets are designed so that the POL handlers use them as a first response to a fire. Pre-positioning the sets is key to their successful use in an emergency. Once the sets are in place, they are considered fixed. The sets must be placed close enough to the danger areas (300 feet maximum for the attack line) but not in the immediate area to preclude their use. Each storage area should be accessible by at least two sets. Additional sets should be in loading and unloading areas where pumps are located. If possible, a free set should be available for hooking up to a vehicle and repositioned, as required, to support other fixed locations in case of an incident.

## 9-2 Miscellaneous Facility-Based Fire-Fighting Operations

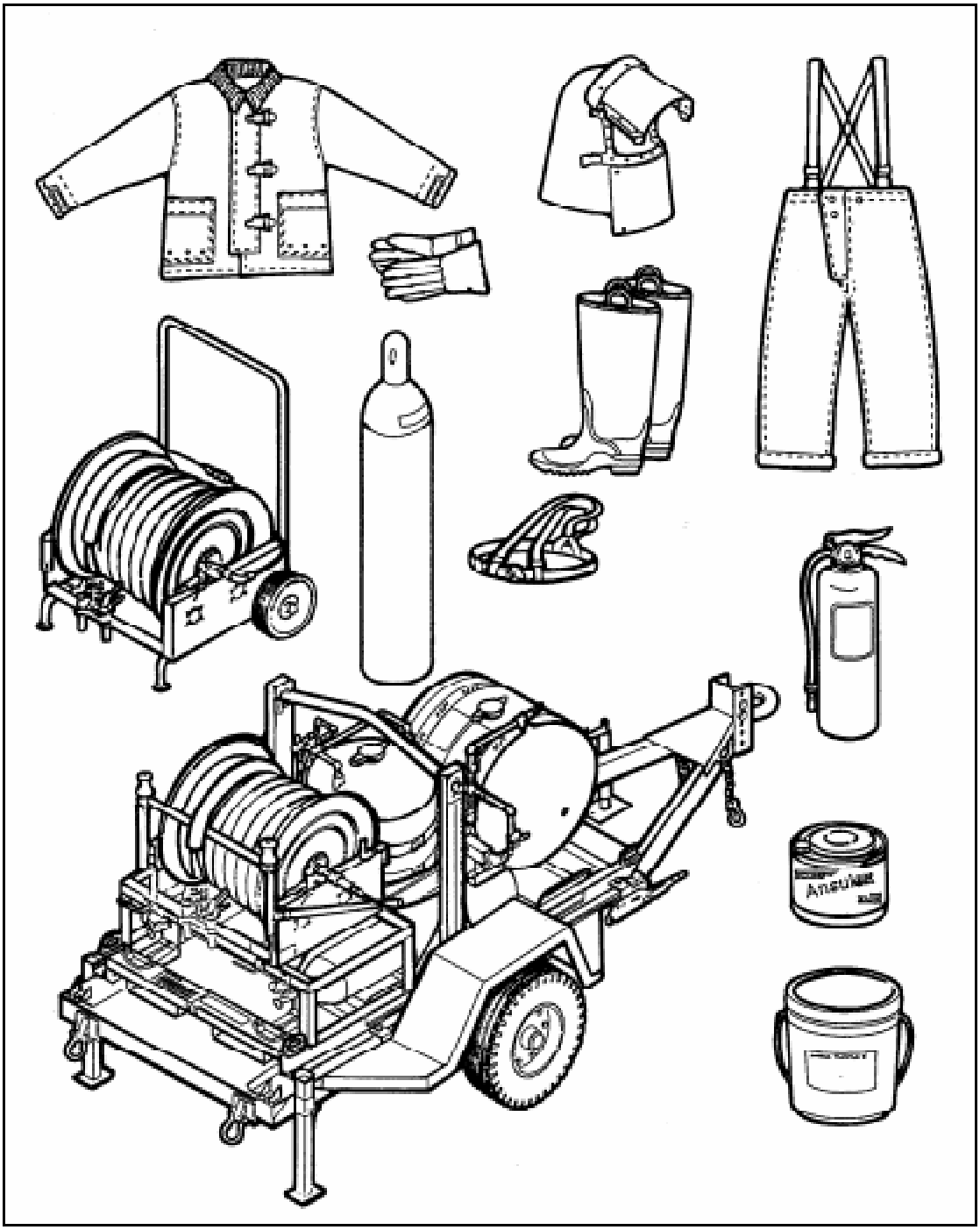

**Figure 9-1. Fire-suppression equipment set**

## LOGISTICS BASE

**9-10.** Fire-fighting teams assigned to major logistics bases will be involved in emergencies involving internal and external storage, bulk POL products, HAZMAT storage, tent cities, vehicles, and personnel incidents. Their missions will include the following:

### FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

**9-11.** Fire-fighting teams will assist in planning a base. The LA team should be available to the commander during site planning and once the operations begin. Fire prevention should be a high priority on a commander's list. Access to storage areas must allow for movement of fire-fighting apparatus, including water tankers. Temporary water points should be placed for maximum usage in high risk areas. Areas that store HAZMATs should be noted on response charts, and all crews must be made aware of these areas. Material data sheets should be available before an incident occurs for prefire planning.

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

**9-12.** Fire-fighting teams must ensure that—

- HAZMATs are stored according to current safety and environmental protection regulations.
- All reactive materials are stored in separate locations in case of a breech of containers.
- All personnel, including the fire-fighting crews, who work in an area where containers are stored are aware of the possible dangers involved with a container breech.

### OTHER MISSIONS

**9-13.** Fire-fighting teams on a logistics base will also assist in rescue operations and in emergency medical services, as required.

## INTERNMENT/DISLOCATED-CIVILIAN CAMP

**9-14.** Fire-fighting teams assigned to protect internment/dislocated-civilian camps are responsible for the following:

- Fire protection and prevention. Fire prevention should be a high priority on the commander's list.
- Assistance in base planning. Fire-fighting teams will be required to assist in base planning. Members of the LA team should be available to the commander during site planning and once operations begin. They should ensure that access to their stations allows for movement of fire-fighting apparatus, including water tankers.

## GENERAL-SUPPORT HOSPITAL

**9-15.** Fire-fighting teams assigned to protect a hospital are responsible for the following:

- Fire protection and prevention. Prevention should be a high priority on the commander's list. Fire-fighting operations must be quick and confining the fire, a priority. Prefire plans and control points should be developed during set up or as soon as possible. The fire-prevention section must monitor the storage of HAZMATs and compressed gasses.
- Support of all MEDEVAC missions. Fire-fighting teams will assist medical personnel in evacuating the sick and injured, when required.
- Assistance in base planning. Members of the LA team should be available during site planning and once the operations begin. They should ensure that access to their stations allows for movement of fire-fighting apparatus, including the water tankers.