

FIREWORD

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THE NATIONAL FIRE
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First NFPCA National Conference Focuses on Master Planning

THREE HUNDRED were expected, but more than 600 arrived to attend the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration's first national conference—on community fire protection master planning.

The conference was held October 28-30, 1975, in Orlando, Fla., to brief all fire interest groups on the master planning process that has been developed for NFPCA by the city of Mountain View, Calif., Fire Department and the Los Angeles City Fire Department. A variety of groups were represented: fire chiefs, firefighters, state fire marshals, urban planners, city managers, architects, instructors and educators, mayors, industry, engineers and consultants.

That the interest in fire protection master planning for communities, rural areas and states is high was evidenced by representation from all 50 states. That the interest

continued was evidenced by nearly all attendees staying for the three days of the conference and participating in all sessions (and some were long).

The key participants in the conference answered the question "What is master planning?" as viewed from their roles, outlining the various elements that need to be integrated to make the process a truly community-wide plan.

In his keynote address, NFPCA Administrator Howard D. Tipton defined master planning for community fire protection as "a systematic process for determining how much fire risk a community wants to assume."

The key word in Tipton's statement is "community," since he envisions the process as a participative plan, "adopted by the City Council

"Those choices must include codes, fire suppression, built-in protection, manpower, inspection, water systems, communications, response criteria, Emergency Medical Technicians and others. The process provides a budget for the current year and a 5- and 10-year plan with estimated costs," he said. "It's a big job, but a required job for the Fire Chief of the future."

At the general sessions, the main speakers from the various fire interest groups expressed their feelings and detailed the roles that they would play.

Howard McClennan, President of the International Association of Fire Fighters, emphasized that his-

NFPCA's first national conference on master planning drew a crowd of 600—twice as large as expected—with representatives from every state.



after community-wide involvement."

The Fire Chief, according to Tipton, should take the lead in introducing the process into his community, presenting to the City Council a plan which has analyzed life and property at risk and which projects four or five alternative costed-out programs for the Council to consider to best reduce that risk.

tory has told us many times that planning in an ivory tower can lead to disaster. "Practical, realistic pragmatic planning on the other hand, can produce great benefits and fine results."

McClennan stressed that "if master planning is to be the new

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name of the game for cutting fire services in the next few years, you will NOT have our cooperation."

He added, however, "If the people who do the master planning are ready to travel the high road—the reality road—they will find us completely cooperative."

McClennan thinks that master planning represents a great opportunity to look at the whole problem of fire prevention and control from every possible angle. "In that context," he said, "the involvement of the rank and file firefighter is of

MASTER PLANNING *continued*

the utmost importance. Without him the plan will be divorced from reality."

Jack Hurley, past President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, commented, "A community fire protection master plan is a realistic way to determine the level of service or standard in fire protection that a community desires and is willing to support, morally as well as financially."

To be successful, Hurley noted that all segments of the community must be involved. But the chief must sell the importance of the plan. Hurley stated, "It is his (the chief's) job to get his superiors and peers in local administration interested and anxious to participate."

He added later, "Where does the responsibility of the community end and the responsibility of the individual begin? The Fire Chief and his staff know the capability of the various systems. They should also be aware of the cost of these systems. They will play a key role in advising the community planning team as well as the individual building owners as to the potential of the various systems available."

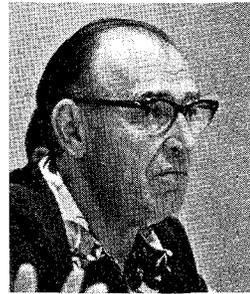
Richard DeLong, City Manager of Mountain View, Calif., looked at the role of his counterparts. He feels personal commitment must be strong, but that there has to be more. "The first duty of a city manager in master planning is to develop staff commitments," he said. "A city manager can't accomplish anything alone."

Other commitments are also needed. The city manager must get a political commitment as well. And he must look to the future. "Unless you have a future orientation, you are solving yesterday's problems."

In addition to these responsi-



Howard McClennan, President of the International Association of Fire Fighters



Jack Hurley, past President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs



David A. Lucht, Deputy Administrator for the NFPCA, opened the master planning conference in Orlando, Fla.

bilities, DeLong pointed out the city manager's role includes getting all segments of his community involved, coordinating city efforts, providing perspective, assigning priorities, monitoring both the process and its progress, and supervising the implementation of the plan.

Urban planners need to be an integral part of the process. In discussing plans drawn up for his county, Arthur Easten, Dade County, Fla., Planning Department, said that his department was in the process of calling for increased use of electronic data processing and the use of management information systems that would relate to the fire department systems.

Easten also noted that they were looking at the establishment of a productivity management council on fire prevention and control.

Codes and standards were addressed by Martin Grimes, Director, Public Protection for the National Fire Protection Association. Codes and standards, according to Grimes, are going to have to play an important part in the master planning process if we are ever to reduce the loss of life and property due to fire.

Dr. Peter Jurkat, Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey, warned against being deflated by opposition. "It is natural," said Dr. Jurkat, "to get opposition. But in the process of planning, you have already received many of the benefits of the plan—adoption is only one of the benefits."

Chief Merrel C. Hendrix of

Dallas spoke about fire station locations. Said Hendrix, "A comprehensive fire station location plan needs input from all city departments, the business section, the chamber of commerce, and, most importantly, the citizenry." Hendrix said that the citizenry paradoxically may oppose the construction of a new fire station in their own neighborhood and strongly oppose the closing of an old one.

In Dallas, Hendrix said that they have decided to develop their fire location plan through one of the new public technology computerized models.

The second day of the conference, the attendees listened to a slide presentation prepared to acquaint them with the methodology now being tested for the NFPCA community fire protection master plan. Deputy Chief Robert Burns, Mountain View, Calif., Fire Department, W. C. Hanna, Director of the Civil Analysis Group of Mission Research Corporation, Calif., and John Steen, Materials Chairman at Mission told how the model plan was developed, and introduced the audience to "Sampleton, USA," a dramatization about a fictitious town, showing how the master plan process works.

The self-teaching model is the beginning step for fire protection master planning, and this model is now being tested in 10 communities strategically located in different geographic areas and composed of different characteristics. The validation communities are part of the demonstration project. When they



NFPCA Administrator Howard D. Tipton defined master planning for community fire protection as "a systematic process for determining how much fire risk a community wants to assume."

have completed their tests of the process it will be refined, adjusted, and a manual will be published for

distribution to communities who want to initiate fire protection master planning.

Dr. Joseph E. Clark, NFPCA Associate Administrator in charge of the master planning project, said that he expected the manuals will be ready for distribution in early 1977.

The 10 validation communities are: Tulsa, Okla.; Edmonds, Wash.; Fremont, Calif.; Ketchum, Idaho; Springdale and Fayetteville, Ark.; Richardson, Tex.; Springfield, Ill.; Azusa, Covina and West Covina, Calif.; Virginia Beach, Va., and Washington Township, N.J.

Two other NFPCA study/grants on master planning methodology—the Oklahoma study for small rural areas and the Illinois grant for a state level study—also were discussed at the conference. Jack Sanders, Oklahoma State Fire Marshal, presented the rural process now underway and Charles Kirchner, Director of the Local Government Affairs Department of Illinois, ad-

dressed the state study.

Following each session of the conference, an open forum was held to let the conferees raise questions on the master planning process and have them answered by the speakers and panels of experts. These questions and answers are being summarized and will be distributed as part of an overall summary of the conference.

Orlando was selected as the site for the NFPCA conference to allow attendees to tour the Disney World fire protection system. Thomas Moses of Disney World illustrated the system, one of the first in the world to be designed and executed as part of the architectural and engineering plans, through slides. Conference members were then taken to the site to see the system first hand.

Before the conference, Tipton said, "This conference is the beginning of a process to implement fire protection practices at the local level." It was.

Project RIDFIRE Focuses on Home Fire Safety

RIDFIRE—*Reduction In Dwelling Fire In Research and Education*—is a national project to reduce residential fires. The program is a cooperative venture between the NFPCA and the State of Washington's Fire Marshal's Office.

Howard D. Tipton, NFPCA Administrator, called the project the Administration's "first major step toward assisting local governments and communities to reduce fire hazards through education and involvement of the public."

The project is examining approximately 60 national home fire inspection team programs, including one in Edmonds, Wash. A city of 26,000, Edmonds experienced a 67% reduction in fire losses in that area's homes over the past year.

In the first six months of 1974, Edmond's fire loss statistics were \$72,050; for the same period in 1975, the figure had dropped to \$13,655. In one area of the city, nearly 60% of the hazards found in

an initial inspection had been corrected. Only two homes had early warning fire detectors, but on re-inspection, 23 more homes had installed them. All homes were found to have emergency exit plans.

According to Edmonds Fire Chief Jack Cooper, his city's program is the first in the United States in which fire inspectors have been employed strictly for home inspections. In teams of two, the five inspectors—three women and two men—called on most of the city's 7,000 residences. Chief Cooper said, "Most of the residents home during the day are housewives. Some women are hesitant to allow men in the houses during the day. So the women inspectors have an advantage. . . ."

The Edmonds home inspection program success impressed sister city Seattle, which was interested in

putting a similar kind of program into operation for its residents. Members of the Edmonds project are now helping train participants in Seattle, where it will be instituted on a neighborhood basis.

Rex Jordan, Chief of the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office and director of the RIDFIRE project for his state, is excited about the project's potential. "RIDFIRE can have a strong impact on the reduction of fire losses in homes across the country. It has the possibility for the development of a workable national program of fire safety inspections that can be used in any community in the United States."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fireword is a monthly NFPCA publication. In each issue we'll present information on NFPCA activities. We'd also like to share stories of interest about fire prevention and control from around the U.S. with our readers. If you are involved in or know of an effective program, send the information and any pictures to: **Fireword**, Peg Maloy and Cheri Steffek, Editors, NFPCA, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230.

NFPCA Division Heads Appointed

David M. McCormack



Dr. Joseph E. Clark



B. William Rock



Richard R. Strother

THE MEN who will head the NFPCA's four divisions have been appointed by Howard D. Tipton, Superintendent of the National Academy for Fire Prevention and Control is David M. McCormack; Dr. Joseph E. Clark is Associate Administrator of NFPCA's National Fire Safety and Research Office; B. William Rock is the Associate Administrator of the National Fire Data Center; and Richard R. Strother is Associate Administrator for Public Education.

Fire Academy

Superintendent David McCormack of Staten Island, N.Y., has 21 years of fire experience behind him. He joined the New York City Fire Department as a fire fighter in 1954, and worked his way up to Deputy Chief of the Department's Eighth Division in 1972, a rank he held until he retired in 1974.

He came to the NFPCA from John Jay College in New York City, where he served as Associate Professor in Fire Science and Administration and as Chairman of the Fire

Science Department. McCormack has also taught in several New York City area schools, including the Staten Island Public School, N.Y.C. Community College and the Delehanty Institute.

In his new position at the Academy, McCormack's responsibilities will include developing short courses, seminars, workshops and similar education and training activities for use around the United States, as well as at the Academy. (The location for the Academy is still under consideration.) The Academy's program will also cover techniques for fire prevention, fire inspection, fire fighting, arson and fire investigation, and training in special fields such as aircraft fire control.

McCormack holds a B.A. degree in mathematics from Brooklyn College, N.Y., and an M.S. from Columbia University, N.Y., in administration. He is also co-author of "Emergency Command Procedures During Civil Disobedience," 1968, and the editor of the 1970 "New York City Fire Prevention Code."

Research & Planning

As Associate Administrator for Fire Safety and Research, Dr. Joseph E. Clark, Rockville, Md., will direct efforts to apply research toward decreasing fire loss and to improve the cost/effectiveness of fire protection and control.

Dr. Clark will supervise the National Fire Safety and Research Office of the NFPCA and will coordinate activities with the Fire Research Center of the Commerce Department's National Bureau of Standards, and with the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Dr. Clark has been with the NFPCA since its beginning in the fall of 1974, when he was appointed Acting Administrator for the new agency. When Howard Tipton was named Administrator in August 1975, Dr. Clark became Director of Operations.

Before joining the NFPCA, he spent a year at Princeton University as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Public Affairs. From 1970 to 1973, he served with Commerce's National Bureau of Standards, first as Chief, Office of Flammable Fabrics, and later as Chief, Fire Technology Division.

Dr. Clark received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in physical chemistry from Villanova University, and his doctorate in polymer chemistry from the University of Windsor, Canada.

Data Center

B. William Rock, Potomac, Md., was appointed head of the National Fire Data Center. The Center will collect, analyze and disseminate fire data to those in the fire prevention field, to help them establish priorities and solve problems.

The new Associate Administrator comes to the NFPCA from another Commerce Department agency, the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, where he has directed the data center and information analysis branches since 1969. Before joining Commerce, Rock was Vice President of Washington Operations for Information Dynamics Corporation. He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from Purdue University.

Public Education

Richard R. Strother of Cambridge, Mass., is head of the NFPCA Public Education Office, which will develop methods of presenting fire education programs to the public.

The new Associate Administrator has a varied background in education as well as in fire safety research and planning. He joined NFPCA from his own planning and consulting firm, Strother Associates, Inc., of Cambridge. He has served as consultant to the National Fire Protection Association and directed the studies used to develop the public education program "Learn Not To Burn."

He has also been consultant to the Ford Foundation's Educational Facilities Laboratories, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Office of Education, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the National Education Association.

From 1970 to 1973, Strother was a partner and director of planning for the Cambridge architectural firm Hill, Miller, Friedlaender, Hollander, Inc. During this time he was also an associate in education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, from which he also received his Master's degree. He holds a B.S. degree from Yale University.

Site Selection Board for Fire Academy Chosen

THE SITE SELECTION Board, a three member board that will explore possible locations for the National Academy for Fire Prevention and Control, has been appointed by the Secretary of Commerce.

Serving on the Board are: David M. McCormack, Superintendent of the Academy; Henry D. Smith, head of Fireman Training and the Municipal Inspectors Training Division, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&M University; and John L. Swindle, Chief, Birmingham, Ala., Fire Department.

The Site Selection Board will conduct hearings on possible sites for the National Fire Academy, survey the most suitable locations, and make recommendations on those sites the Board feels would meet the needs of the fire services and of others engaged in fire prevention

and control activities. They will recommend sites to the Secretary of Commerce.

The new Board will hold its first hearings March 22-23 in Washington, D.C., and March 25-26 in San Francisco, Calif. The agenda will include organizational structure of the board and review of suggested criteria to be used in selecting possible sites for recommendation to the Secretary.

In making recommendations on the most suitable sites, the Board will take into consideration the training and facility needs of the Academy, environmental effects, the possibility of using a surplus Government facility, and other important factors.

McCormack, as Superintendent of the Academy, will chair the Site Selection Board as required by law.

Smith has headed the Fireman Training Division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&M University, College Station,

Tex., since 1955. He added to these responsibilities the direction of the Municipal Inspectors Training Division in 1970. He is a certified State Fire Service Instructor and Safety Professional. A native Texan, Smith has spent 35 years in the fire services. He joined the Kingsville, Tex., Volunteer Fire Department in 1941. He became Fire Department Instructor of Harlingen Air Force Base in 1943, and Fire Captain and Instructor at Harlingen in 1947, following his service in the U.S. Army, Armored Artillery. From 1947 to 1950, Smith served as Fire Chief at Harlingen, becoming Instructor of Fireman Training at the Texas Engineering Extension Service in 1950.

Swindle has been Chief of the Birmingham, Ala., Fire Department since 1961. He has been a member of that department since 1938, when he was employed as a firefighter. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1948, Captain in 1952, and Deputy Chief in 1958. Swindle joined the U.S. Naval Reserve and Alabama Naval Militia in 1931, and served for 10 years. Swindle has been closely associated in Fire Science education, taking part in the publication of Curriculums for Fire Science Programs for Junior Colleges in 1969. He has been a member of the Alabama Fire College Advisory Board since 1963.

Six Conferences Help Academy Establish Priorities

FIVE TWO-DAY mini-conferences were held last autumn to discuss the goals and objectives of the National Academy for Fire Prevention and Control. Each meeting sought to involve a major group interested in fire prevention in an evaluation of fire service needs from a national academy.

A sixth conference was held in January 1976 to bring the chairmen of the first conferences together for a coordinated look at the overall needs of the fire services and others interested in fire prevention.

Groups that participated in the conferences were: eight volunteer

fire chiefs representing different sections of the nation; fire chiefs from paid fire departments; state

directors of fire training; the International Association of Fire Fighters (AFL/CIO); and college and university educators.

The input of these groups will be instrumental in assisting Acad-

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Chairmen of the Academy's mini-conferences meet with Academy officials to consider the overall needs of the fire services.



Before the Congress

Pending legislation
of interest to the
fire community:



Three ways are being considered by Congress by which it may authorize benefits for non-Federal firefighters or their dependents in cases of serious injury or death.

H.R. 365, sponsored by Representative Joshua Eilberg, would provide a total of \$50,000 for dependents of certain firefighters who die in the performance of duty. The bill would cover a firefighter serving with or without compensation (including a member of a legally organized volunteer fire department) who sustains his injury while "actually and directly engaged in fighting a fire; or otherwise engaged in the performance of his duty where the activity is . . . potentially dangerous to the firefighter." No benefits would be available where the death is caused by the firefighter's intentional misconduct, where he is voluntarily intoxicated or where his own actions were a substantial contributing factor to his death.

On November 6, 1975, the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship and International Law approved the bill, with amendments, for consideration by the House Committee on the Judiciary. It is now pending before that Committee. Similar bills were sponsored by Senator Moss and Representatives Minish, Roe, Burke of Florida, Clancy, Annunzio, Price, Nichols, Helstoski, Rodino, Gonzalez, Ford of Michigan, Gaydos, Brinkley, Russo and Schroeder.

A second group of proposals would make dependents of killed firemen or totally disabled firefighters eligible for the Federal equivalent of workmen's compensation benefits. Under 5 U.S.C. 8191-8193 certain law enforcement officers are presently covered by that program even though they are not Federal employees. **H.R. 9872** (sponsored by Congressman Jacobs), **H.R. 1459** (sponsored by Congressman Minish), and **H.R. 887** (sponsored by Congressman Price) would make such benefits available to anyone: 1) employed as a law enforcement officer

or fireman by a state or a political subdivision; 2) who is an official member of a legally organized volunteer fire department; or 3) who is a member of a law enforcement organization serving without compensation and who is killed or totally disabled in the line of duty. **H.R. 5168**, sponsored by Representative Helstoski, would extend the benefits to members of volunteer fire departments, ambulance teams and rescue squads.

All of these bills were referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship and International Law of the House Committee on the Judiciary. Last spring, executive comments were requested from the Justice Department on **H.R. 887** and from the Justice and Labor Departments on **H.R. 5168**.

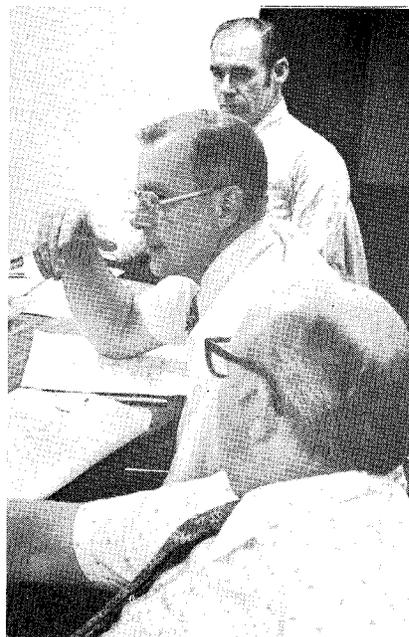
The third approach is embodied in **S. 230**, sponsored by Senator Kennedy. The bill would authorize the Federal government to establish and administer a group life, accidental death and dismemberment insurance program for certain public safety officers. As an alternative, the officers could vote to remain under their state or local coverage. In such a case, Federal assistance would be available to the governmental unit. Eligible officers would include only those firefighters who are employed on a full-time basis and who are not covered under Federal employee or military programs. The Federal government would pay no more than one-third of the cost per man per month for the coverage. Any amounts deducted from the officer's pay for the insurance would be transmitted to the Federal government.

S. 230 was introduced on January 17, 1975, and is pending before the Subcommittee on Criminal Laws and Procedures of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

SIX CONFERENCES *continued*

emy officials in setting their priorities. The Academy was established to advance the professional development of fire service personnel and of other persons engaged in fire prevention and control activities.

Howard D. Tipton, NFPCA Administrator, said that while each group consulted had "unquestionably agreed that the National Academy for Fire Prevention and Control had to operate from a headquarters facility—as a focal point for the development of programs and courses of training and education, and they emphasized that the programs of the Academy must be disseminated to state and local training institutions for use at local levels."



Representatives from the volunteer fire community participated in one of the Academy's mini-conferences. From left to right: Joseph Bachtler, Academy; Professor Richard Bland, Applied Research Laboratory, Pennsylvania State University and formerly chairman of the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control; and Fowler E. Finch, Office of Past President, Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

Academy Stages Fire Safe Building Design Conference

URBAN PLANNERS, architects, interior designers, and builders from different regions of the United States met at the University of California's Department of Architecture at Berkeley, Calif., January 26-28, 1976, to discuss fire safe building design.

The three-day conference for 30 professionals was called by the National Fire Academy of NFPCA to assist in developing recommendations for the Academy on courses in fire protection for buildings.

The planners, architects, designers and builders met in workshops January 26 and 27 and in full session January 28 to identify design and code needs and suggest possible solutions.

The conference chairman and keynote speaker was Professor Richard E. Bland of the Applied Research Laboratory at Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa. Professor Bland was the Chairman of the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, the commission responsible for the report "America Burning," which resulted in the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974. That Act established the NFPCA.

The four panel workshops were led by Professor Michael J. Munson, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Princeton, N.J.; Professor Richard Bender, chairman of the Department of Architecture,

University of California at Berkeley, Calif.; Norman DeHaan, past President of the American Society of Interior Designers, Chicago, Ill.; and Robert Balliet, chairman of Balliet Bros., General Contractors, San Francisco, Calif.

Among the recommendations from the urban planners workshop were the suggestions that the NFPCA co-sponsor with the American Institute of Planners (AIP) a presentation of the results of the building design conference for local planning agencies and public officials; that NFPCA provide modest grants to develop fire-related materials for planning academic institution courses and curriculum; and, that planning competitions be initiated for community designs and redevelopment plans that demonstrate fire safety concerns in buildings.

The architect workshop recommended that formal lines of communication be opened up among professional and educational groups and the NFPCA; that a task force be established to train teachers, using input from professional and education societies; that NFPCA should implement a fire safety effectiveness statement as an instrument of certifying the safety level of a building, provided by design; that NFPCA act as an agent, trainer and educator, introducing designers to the fire service.

From the interior design workshop came the recommendations that NFPCA publish a brochure covering the key issues in fire-conscious and fire-preventive design for use by interior designers, examiners and the practitioners; that NFPCA be the resource center for the interior design field, making available fire-safety materials relat-

ing to the profession; that NFPCA provide a grant for the development of at least one educational course for interior designers; and that NFPCA be responsible for the development of training programs for insurance, building and fire officials with reference to the interior design field.

The builders workshop felt that it was important that all levels in the building industry be educated on fire safety for new buildings, and in retrofitting buildings already in place. They propose a four-part effort on education and training for builders, contractors and related groups: tradesmen/apprentices, community colleges (two year), baccalaureate programs (four year), and continuing education. For this program they also recommended a program outline that could be implemented by the NFPCA.

All participants in the conference felt that the meetings had been valuable in bringing these groups together to get their problems out on the table and to find ways to solve them. The Department of Architecture at the University of California is writing up the conference proceedings and will be distributing them through the NFPCA to all groups in attendance for final recommendations and actions to the NFPCA.



Dr. Joseph E. Clark, Associate Administrator of NFPCA, left, examines a firefighter's turnout coat and helmet with Marshall Space Flight Center officials Richard G. Smith, center, deputy director, and James T. Shepherd, director of the Administration and Program Support. The NFPCA and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration have signed a three-year agreement to develop better clothing and equipment for firefighters, using information and materials developed for the Apollo and Skylab programs.

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Through the new Fire Research Building, officials of the National Bureau of Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce, hope to "prevent fire with fire." The tests and research at the Building will provide the technical information needed for better building and product design, and for incorporation into voluntary standards and building codes. The Fire Research Building features a fire endurance furnace that can be used to test wall assemblies, partitions, doors and floor/ceiling assemblies. In the burn corridor, the contribution of wall, floor and ceiling materials to fire spread and smoke generation can be measured. A two-story fire growth facility in the Building has the space for testing furnished rooms, while a burn room can be used for testing individual pieces of furniture and consumer items. A sophisticated control center and smoke abatement system have also been incorporated into the Fire Research Building.

