
CHAPTER III - FIRE SAFETY

1. FOR OCCUPANTS OF HOUSES AND APARTMENTS

Plan in Advance

Have your fire safety plan worked out in advance. Everyone should know the plan, and the reasons for each part of it.

Alternate escape routes are a "must" because one or more of the ways out may be blocked off by fire.

Escaping from one-storey buildings is relatively simple; there are alternate routes through any of the windows to the outside. But remember, storm and screen windows may be difficult to get through. Make sure there is something such as a chair available to smash them out.

Two-storey buildings require more planning because the stairway may be blocked off by fire, smoke or hot gases. Be prepared to use upper windows, perhaps to the roof of an adjacent building by having ladders strategically located, or by means of a rope, with knots at every 60 cm, anchored to the interior of a window.

Remember that in the event of a fire during sleeping hours, a closed bedroom door may save your life.

If conditions permit, gather everyone together into one room before attempting to escape. Children are easily lost in the confusion.

When escaping NEVER open the window before the door is closed behind you. This cuts down the draft which would help to spread the fire into your area of escape.

Fire drills should be carried out often enough so that everyone's role becomes automatic. Methods of evacuating children and sick, handicapped or disabled persons should be specially studied.

Everyone, including children, should know how to telephone the Fire Department and the number to call.

If in doubt, have the Mission Security Officer check over your escape plan with you.

Fire Prevention

Remove all non-essential combustible material from your home.

Remove all combustible storage from attics and ceiling spaces.

Clear out old papers and magazines.