

## FIRST POLICE OFFICER AT THE SCENE

The first police officer at the scene will be faced with enormous demands and his initial reaction may well be to render assistance to survivors. This temptation must be resisted if co-ordinated rescue plans are to be brought into operation.

XR 211

The following guidelines may be most effective in the circumstances:—

- 1      **APPROACH THE SCENE CAUTIOUSLY**                      —    upwind and downhill where appropriate.
- 2      **INITIAL RECONNAISSANCE**                      —    speed is essential, a general picture will suffice.
- 3      **DO NOT GET INVOLVED IN RESCUE WORK**                      —    or take any personal risk!
- 4      **INFORM FORCE OPERATIONS ROOM**                      —    by the best means available giving the following information:—
  - (a) **EXACT LOCATION**
  - (b) **TYPE OF INCIDENT** (aircrash, fire, etc.)
  - (c) **RISKS** (explosion, chemical, radio-activity)
  - (d) **CASUALTIES** (numbers, persons trapped, injuries, fatalities, etc.)
  - (e) **EMERGENCY SERVICES** (present or required)
  - (f) **ROADS** (blocked, best access routes)
- 5      **LIAISE WITH FIRST SUPERVISORY OFFICER AT THE SCENE**

XR 212

**FORCE OPERATIONS ROOM**

**NOTE: IF A MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURS ON A MOTORWAY, THE FOLLOWING NOTES DO NOT APPLY. PLEASE REFER TO THE SECTION ON "MOTORWAY ACCIDENTS".**

If a major incident occurs within the Force area, elsewhere than on the motorway, police personnel at the site of the incident will be working to their normal local radio control using personal UHF sets. It would be wrong for Operations Room to seek to take over the direction of operations at the site, although circumstances may make this desirable in the later stages, in order to allow sub-divisions to carry on with normal policing.

*XR 216*

The RESPONSIBILITIES of the OPERATIONS ROOM are:—

- (a) to ensure that the necessary action is taken in respect of special safety measures demanded by the circumstances of the incident;
- (b) to alert the emergency services and other authorities and departments whose facilities and expertise will be needed;
- (c) to deal with the possible Forcewide problem of traffic congestion;
- (d) to direct the Forcewide deployment of manpower and equipment.