Tel. Address :
"Emb[illegible] Sowest, London."
Tel. No. VICtoria 4433.

Any communication on the subject of this letter should be addressed to :—

The Under Secretary of State,
Home Office
(Fire Brigades Division),
Cleland House.
Page Street,
London, S.W.1.

and the following number quoted:—

HOME OFFICE,
CLELAND HOUSE,
PAGE STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

31st May, 1940.

F.B.Gen 316/3

Sir,

Distinguishing Signs for use at Air Raid Incidents and Rendezvous.

F.B.Circular No.65/1940.

I am directed by the Minister of Home Security to transmit to you for your information and guidance the accompanying Memorandum on the subject of Distinguishing Signs for use at Air Raid Incidents and Rendezvous, and to say that the instructions contained therein should be known and followed by all ranks in the Regular and Auxiliary Fire Services.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

A. Dixon

Issued to all fire authorities in England and Wales outside the London Civil Defence Region.
Copies sent for information to Chief Officers of Fire Brigades and Chief Constables in England and Wales outside the London Civil Defence Region.

Operation and Training Memorandum No. 9.

Ministry of Home Security,
Whitehall,
London, S.W.1.

29th May, 1940.

Distinguishing Signs for use at Air Raid Incidents and Rendezvous.

Consideration has been given to the question of standardising the distinguishing signs to be used by the various Civil Defence Services at air raid incidents and for indicating the places selected as rendezvous for reinforcements and the following decisions have been reached:-

(1) Incident Flags for marking the position of Incident Posts (see Operation and Training Memorandum No.4, Section V).

By day - A flag 3 feet square, of Cambridge blue and white checks, the checks being 6" square.

By night - Two blue lamps placed one above the other.

(2) Service Pennants for marking the position taken up by the senior officers or leaders of individual Services whether at an Incident Post or elsewhere (see Operation and Training Memorandum No. 4, Section IV, paragraph 11).

These pennants will be triangular in shape with a base of 1 foot and a length of 2 feet.

The following colours will be used:-

Police ..... Dark blue

Fire ..... Grey with a red disc 6" in diameter placed 6" from the base.

Casualty Services ..... Divided horizontally the upper half white, the lower black.

Rescue and Public Utilities .....Green.

Decontamination.....Yellow.

(3) Rendezvous Flags for marking the position of Rendezvous (see A.R.P. Training Manual No. 2 B Section 6, Paragraph (e) (i)).

By day - A flag 3 feet square, of vertical Cambridge blue and white stripes the stripes being 6" wide.

By night - Two blue lamps placed side by side.

Incident flags and lamps will be provided by the Police Force of which the senior police officer who establishes the Incident Post is a member, Service pennants by the authority responsible for the Service concerned, and Rendezvous flags and lamps by the local authority to whose assistance reinforcements are being sent.

The Blue lamps should take the form of hurricane lamps and these should be so screened that no light is emitted upwards and not more light is emitted in any other direction than is reasonably necessary. In case of necessity a Blue lamp can be improvised by placing a piece of carbon paper behind the glass of an electric torch.

All flags, pennants and lamps should be prominently displayed in order that they may be easily recognisable.

Hugh Elles

Chief of the Operational Staff.

Issued to Regional Commissioners, except the London Commissioners for distribution to Controllers.

Copies for information to London.