

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.



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

and the following number quoted:—

F.B. Gen 277/15/3

1st July, 1940.

Sir,

Reimbursement for Repairs of Fire Appliances.

F.B. Circular No. 92/1940.

I am directed by the Minister of Home Security to refer to F.B. Circular No. 79/39 and F.B. Circular 60/1940, on the subject of fire appliances supplied for emergency fire brigade purposes, and to say that consideration has been given to the conditions under which reimbursement may be made to fire authorities in respect of the cost of repairs.

1. With a view to simplifying the procedure for dealing with minor repairs, it has been decided that, if the repair work on any one appliance involves the purchase of replacement parts or material - either locally or from the makers of the appliances - for a sum not exceeding £10, such work may be put in hand without prior reference to this Department.

The reasonable cost of such parts or material will be reimbursed in full provided that:—

- (i) None of such items are included in the grant claims of your Council;
- (ii) no expenditure is included which properly comes under the heading of maintenance of the appliance concerned or, in cases where repairs are undertaken in the Council's workshops labour and establishment charges which would have had to be incurred if no air raid fire precautions had become necessary;
- (iii) a brief report of the circumstances in which the expenditure was incurred accompanies the claim and a certificate is rendered to the effect that the damage was not due to any of the causes specified in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Regulation 5 (2) of the Air Raid Precautions (Loan of Fire Appliances) Provisional Regulations, 1938.

The Clerk of the London County Council,
The Town Clerk,
The Clerk to the Urban District Council,
The Clerk to the Rural District Council.

(Note that it is proposed to amend paragraph (a) of that regulation to read as follows:-

"(a) use of the appliance at, or in connection with, a fire other than a fire caused by enemy action or for the purposes of training.")

and that (iv) receipted bills accompany the claim.

2. All possible measures should be taken to effect the speedy repair of emergency appliances after damage.

3. If repair will necessarily take any considerable time to carry out, and the machine cannot be replaced from those in the hands of the brigade, without reducing the number of units which can be effectively manned, application for the temporary issue of a machine to replace it may be made to the Regional Fire Brigades Inspector, who will have discretion to authorise the provision of a machine from reserve machines under the control of this Department, while the repairs are being executed.

4. It will be a matter for decision by this Department in the light of the circumstances as reported, whether a charge for repairs to a damaged appliance should be made against the Fire Authority on any of the grounds stated in the Air Raid Precautions (Loan of Fire Appliances) Provisional Regulations, 1938.

A copy of this circular is enclosed for transmission to the Chief Financial Officer of the Council.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

J. M. Lee

Copies sent for information to:-
Chief Constables,
Chief Officers of Fire Brigades in England and Wales.