

UL v. Carteret (Sayreville)

12/1/75

my newspaper article

→ letter re: supplement to Sayreville's answers  
to interrogatories

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pgs. 2

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KARCHER, REAVEY & KARCHER, P. A.

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December 1st, 1975

David H. Ben-Asher, Esq.  
134 Evergreen Place  
East Orange, New Jersey 07018

Re: Urban League of Greater New Brunswick,  
et al. v. The Mayor and Council of the  
Borough of Carteret, et al.  
C. A. No. 4122-73

Dear Mr. Ben-Asher:

The enclosed is sent as a Supplement to Sayreville's  
Answers to Interrogatories.

Very truly yours,  
KARCHER, REAVEY & KARCHER, P.A.

AJK:ab  
Enc.  
cc: All Attorneys of Record

By: Alan J. Karcher

# DuPont explosion injures

By LONNIE MACK

Home News staff writer

SAYREVILLE — A fiery explosion injured two persons and damaged a four-story manufacturing building at the E.I. DuPont Co.'s fabrics and finishes plant early today.

Ted Gasik, 42, of South River was admitted to St. Peter's Medical Center with second and third degree burns to the hands, arms and neck. He is listed in satisfactory condition.

Donald Hahn, a former borough fire chief employed by the plant, was working when the

explosion occurred and was treated for minor burns and released from St. Peter's.

The impact of the 1:30 a.m. explosion could be felt throughout the community, firemen said.

The fire subsided within minutes after a reactor, a 3,000 gallon tank, exploded and threw a fiery spray high above the metal building.

Patrolman Daniel Pavlik was patrolling in nearby Kennedy Park when he heard the explosion. "When I looked up and saw the sky, I thought the

whole plant (about 100 separate buildings) was burning.

"Then a few minutes later you could see no signs of a fire.

James F. McGettigan, plant manager, said the explosion apparently was triggered by a pressure buildup in the reactor.

He described the reactor as a steam-heated 3,000 gallon metal vessel used to produce resin — a liquid made with chemicals — which is used in the manufacture of paint.

He said the reason for the

pressure build up in the tank and an assessment of the damage had not yet been determined.

A "very preliminary investigation" indicated the pressure buildup got out of control and sent fumes into the atmosphere, which then ignited, causing the explosion, McGettigan said later this morning.

He estimated the damage at "a quarter million to a half-million dollars."

"How soon we get the facility

EW BRUNSWICK, N.J., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1975

## two in Sayreville

back into operation is the big question mark," he said.

About six other workers were in the building, estimated to be about 200 feet long, when the explosion occurred. They were not injured.

The damage, said McGettigan, was confined to the end of the building where the reactor was located.

He said there appeared to be little damage to the exterior of the structure.

Firemen, equipped with strong fumes, remained on the

scene for about two and a half hours to hose down and cool off the building.

About 75 employees were working on the plant's third shift when the explosion occurred but none of the other buildings in the plant were affected.

Employees at Sayreville include Co. Melrose Fire Co., Morgan Fire Co. and President Park Independent Fire Co.

One truck from the President Park Independent Co. skidded off Washington Road and became stuck in mud en route to the fire.

Borough workers with a peep leader were still trying to pull the truck out when the fire department returned to quarters.

The victims were transported to the hospital by the Sayreville First Aid Squad. The Morgan and Mt. Bridge rescue squads were also at the scene.

# Four hurt in blast at DuPont

By VERA STEK  
News Tribune staff writer

SAYREVILLE — Four men were injured in an explosion and fire at the E.I. du Pont Co. on Washington Road early this morning. One of the four is reported to have been seriously injured with second and third degree burns.

According to a spokesman at St. Peter's Medical Center, New Brunswick, Ted Gasik of South River, a building operator at DuPont, was admitted to the hospital following the 1:30 a.m. incident.

Donald Hahn, a Sayreville fireman and employee at DuPont, was treated and released from St. Peter's with burns around his legs.

Two other DuPont employees, Harold Kremen and Leonard Ambrozick, were treated at South Amberg General Hospital for smoke inhalation.

Pressure build-up

According to J.F. McGettigan, plant manager at Du Pont, the explosion and brief fire which followed were caused by a pressure build-up in a reactor on the second story of a four-story building on the Du Pont complex.

A liquid resin, a synthetic material used in the manufacture of paints, was being made in the reactor at the time of the explosion, which was heard about a half mile away.

Firemen from Sayreville Engine Co. No. 1, the Melrose Hose Co., President Park Fire Co., and the Morgan Hose and Chemical Co. reportedly had the fire under control within a short time after the explosion.

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