Six Injured In Blaze At Auto Body Shop

By Alice M. Peckelis

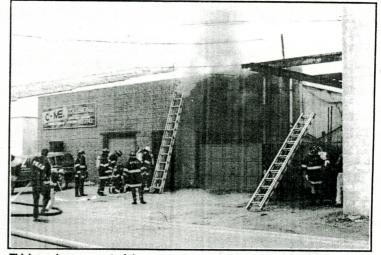
Six people, including four firefighters, sustained minor injuries in a late afternoon fire that erupted in an auto body repair shop in Manhasset Isle on Monday, April 12th. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

The six people injured were trasnported to St. Francis hospital and treated for smoke inhalation. One of the victims, Sergio Yanos, 28, of Port Washington, an employee of the repair shop, also sustained minor facial injuries. All were released.

According to Geoffrey Cole, newly elected chief of the Port Washington Fire Department, an alarm came in at 5:29 p.m. that there was a car fire. While on the way, they learned that the building itself was on fire and a second alarm was sounded for additional equipment and manpower.

When they arrived on the scene, flames and heavy smoke were pouring out of the building which houses C-Me Collision at 18 Secatoag Avenue. According to Cole, it took twenty-five minutes to get the fire under control using ninety firefighters and ten pieces of equipment. The scene was secured at 9:00 p.m.

Damage to the building and vehicles inside the shop are estimated at \$250,000. Several cars were destroyed.



Thick smoke pours out of the garage door at C-ME Collision on Manhasset Isle during a fire on April 12 th that slightly injured six people and destroyed several cars.

Photo by Joe Fico