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SLOUGH EXPLOSION:

A mystery explosion followed by fire, wrecks a paint factory as drawn breaks over Slough trading estate. Damage is estimated at £50,000 and at nearby factories night shift workers were showered by broken glass.

Had this factory also been working a night shift, the death toll would have been heavy, but by a miracle no one was killed. Fifty firemen worked four hours to prevent worse havoc.

County Council and fire service officials seek possible causes. How it happened is still unknown, but police rule out sabotage.

What would have happened if the blaze had ignited a thousand gallons of petrol and drums of gun cotton stored 30 feet away, no one dares to think.