



CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

MORGEBY HOUSE, 85 BAKER STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telephone: WELbeck 4420

Ex. 746.

Telegrams: Centroform London

Your reference _____

Our reference FM.274.

15th September, 1955.

Dear Tom,

The attached details in connection with a big CIVIL DEFENCE RALLY AND EXERCISE at CAMBRIDGE, on Saturday, 24th September, might be of interest to you.

I hear that the competitions set will be both difficult and spectacular, but we are unable - for obvious reasons - to get full details of these tests, now!

Yours sincerely,

F. Watts

F. WATTS,
Films Division.

*Seems best
to want full
details before we
the event if we
to cover it*

G. T. Cummins Esq.,
Associated British-Pathe Ltd.,
Pathe House,
133-135 Oxford St.,
W. 1.

More to be

Please check sent 22/9/55



CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

EASTERN REGION

BLOCK A, GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, BROOKLANDS AVENUE, CAMBRIDGE

Telephone: Cambridge 58911 Ext. 464

Telegrams: Centroform Cambridge

21st September, 1955.

Dear Sir,

I have been asked by Mr. Fred Watts of Central Office of Information, London, to send you the attached information on the Eastern Civil Defence Region Rally and Finals of Exercise "Challenge", to be held on Midsummer Common, Cambridge, on Saturday 24th September 1955.

I am hoping to arrange for two heavy rescue vehicles to be stationed at Points A and B, which will give you some camera height, and the two towers marked No. 5 and 6 on the plan may also be used except when required for the Industrial Civil Defence Competition.

If you are sending a cameraman to cover this event, he should contact me when he arrives at the Press tent and I will be very pleased to see that any information or assistance he may require is forthcoming.

Yours sincerely,

R. G. Venmore-Rowland
Information Officer.

The News Editor,
Pathe News,
Pathe House,
133 Oxford Street,
London, W.1.

EASTERN CIVIL DEFENCE REGION.CIVIL DEFENCE RALLY AND EXERCISE
"CHALLENGE".**Large Parade planned to greet C.D. Director-General.**

It is expected that more than 1,500 members of the Civil Defence Corps from all over the Eastern Region will be on parade at Midsummer Common, Cambridge, on Saturday, 24th September, 1955, when they will be inspected and addressed by the Director-General of Civil Defence, General Sir Sidney Kirkman, G.C.B., K.B.E., M.C.

Prior to the parade, and beginning at 3 p.m., the finals of the Regional Exercise "Challenge" will take place in a special area.

This Exercise, in which 106 teams originally took part, covers Sectional Competitions similar to last year's, for Wardens, Ambulance, Rescue and Welfare Care of the Homeless and, in addition, competitions for Headquarters Section, Welfare Emergency Feeding and Industrial C.D. Service Rescue Section.

It is known that some 3,000 members and friends of Regional Corps Authority will be coming to Cambridge for this event, and it is expected that their number will be swelled by a considerable number of spectators who will come to see this essential service in action.

Brief details of some Events. Finals of Exercise "Challenge".

- 3.0 - 3.45 p.m. WELFARE SECTION - CARE OF HOMELESS.**
Chief Umpire: Miss M.E. Gray, C.B.E. W.V.S. Administrator, Midland Region. Directing Staff: Miss B. Hayward.
- 3.0 - 4.0 p.m. WELFARE SECTION - EMERGENCY FEEDING.**
Chief Umpire: G.H.B. King Esq., Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, London. Directing Staff: H.S. Haxton Esq.
- 3.05 - 3.35 p.m. AMBULANCE SECTION.**
Chief Umpire: A.G. Naldrett Esq., O.B.E., Min. of Health, London. Directing Staff: Major G.K. Strugnell.
- 3.40 - 4.10 p.m. RESCUE SECTION - INDUSTRIAL C.D. SERVICE.**
Chief Umpire: S.M. Evans Esq., M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A., County Chief Rescue Officer, Middlesex Co. Co. Directing Staff: S.A. Potter Esq.
- 4.25 - 4.55 p.m. WARDEN SECTION.**
Chief Umpire: T.N. Storer Esq., Ass. Chief Training Officer, Home Office. Directing Staff: G.B. Jordan Esq.
- 4.25 - 4.55 p.m. RESCUE SECTION - CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS.**
Chief Umpire: S.M. Evans Esq., M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A. Directing Staff: S.A. Potter Esq.
- 5.15 - 6.0 p.m. INSPECTION OF CONTINGENTS from C.D. Corps Divisions and Industrial C.D. Units. Presentation of Trophies and Address by the Director-Gen. of C.D., Gen. Sir Sidney Kirkman, G.C.B., K.B.E., M.C.**

EASTERN CIVIL DEFENCE REGION

CIVIL DEFENCE RALLY AND EXERCISE "CHALLENGE"

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NOTE TO EDITORS

Exercise "Challenge" is a competition held annually in the Eastern Region, between the various Corps Authorities. The first was held during 1954, when, at the finals on Midsummer Common, Cambridge, on 25th September, the guest of honour was the Home Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, G.C.V.O., Q.C., M.P..

	<u>Comparison</u>	
	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Teams participating ...	62	106
Sections participating ...	Warden Ambulance Rescue Welfare (Care of homeless) (4)	Warden Ambulance Rescue Welfare (Care of homeless) Welfare (Emergency feeding) Headquarters Industrial Civil Defence Service Rescue Section (7)
No. of C.D. personnel on Inspection Parade at finals ...	1,050	1,520
No. of teams in each final ...	4	2
No. of competitors ...	88	90

The latest C.D. recruitment figures for the Eastern Region are attached.