NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

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Accident Delays Work at WTC Site

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Work was stopped briefly at the World Trade Center disaster site yesterday afternoon when a 55-gallon drum was punctured accidentally by a piece of machinery.

Once hazardous-material investigators determined that the drum contained cleaning fluid and not anything dangerous, work was resumed, according to the Fire Department.

The incident occurred shortly after 2 p.m. when a grappler, a backhoe-type machine, punctured the drum.

Meanwhile, on the outskirts of the rubble site, at Rector and Washington streets, during a compressed-air test on a new 12-inch gas main, a pipe came apart and some air escaped, causing some windows in buildings nearby to blow out. A Consolidated Edison power company worker, a civilian and three police officers suffered minor injuries in that incident.

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