Fire in the Cockpit

Public Service Broadcasting

Astronauts Virgil I. Grissom, Edward White and Roger Chaffee were killed tonight in a flash fire during tests of the Apollo Saturn 204 vehicle at Cape Kennedy
The fire occurred while the astronauts were in the spacecraft during the countdown of a simulated flight test
The accident occurred at 5: 31 Houston time
Or at T-10 minutes prior to the planned, simulated liftoff
The spacecraft was atop the centre launch vehicle some 218 feet above the launchpad
The hatches on the spacecraft had been closed
Emergency crews were hampered by deathly smoke in removing the hatches
And an unknown number of launch crew workers were treated for smoke in halation
At the Cape Kennedy Dispensary
The crew had entered the spacecraft at 2 o'clock this afternoon
Minor difficulties had been encountered during the countdown
The difficulty was the Environmental Control System
And the Communication System
All recorded data has been impounded pending an investigation into the accident that claimed the lives of astronauts Grissom, White and Chaffee
Song Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

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