

## Big Bang Bedlam in Buncefield



The explosion on the 11<sup>th</sup> December

By Luc, chief journalist

**Is it a bird is, it a plane? No it is Hertfordshire exploding yesterday morning, thanks to an oil tank.**

Yesterday (Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December) tank 912 started to overflow very early in the morning: ghostly vapour slithered over the Buncefield site enwreathing it in the vapour grasp. The security light went off, setting the oil alight the first of several explosions took place at 06:01 am, the shock wave was felt from Holland and the coal black smoke can be seen from London.

Soon after flames shot into the sky: fire engines flew into the night using gallons of water to put the fire out. Terrified and cautious, neighbours peered out of windows and stepped out front doors, they then retreated quickly recognizing it was dangerous. "I live a few minutes walk away from the explosion with my brother, I thought it was a plane crash and he believed it was an earthquake, this morning we evacuated our home

and are staying with friends who live further away." Jane Walker, Resident. Other residents say that "the explosion lit up the sky like a volcano" and they were "terrified and worried" while some people did not wake up at all! Dave Macenberry, Hemel Hempstead's MP said "we recognize it is a very distressing time for all of Hemel Hempstead and apologize to all the people evacuating their homes, but the fire fighters are containing the fire and keeping the closer residents safe". Relivingly, there were no injuries though it is a miracle that the explosion fell at this time on a Sunday morning as any other day or time would be fatal. However residents have been warned to stay in side as falling ash could be very dangerous and there could be further explosions in the aftermath. The government also warn anyone who knows someone from Hemel Hempstead not to visit for their own safety. Luckily, all the residents from Hemel Hempstead are completely safe.