

## “KEEPING PACE” - #9



### SUSPICIOUS BURN PATTERN:

The above photograph shows the interior of a basement garage door. A fire occurred in this basement garage in Huntington, West Virginia, three and one-half hours after a lady pulled her automobile into this garage. This was definitely a fuel (gasoline) fire and the fire looked suspicious. However, I traveled to where the automobile was being stored and poured five gallons of gasoline into its tank to check for any leaks. To my surprise, a one-quarter inch stream of gasoline emanated from the hole in the bottom of the fuel tank.



All we could conclude was that a stone had kicked up on the road and pierced the fuel tank. That opinion was vindicated a few years later when another car pulled into the parking lot of my office building trailing a similar stream of gasoline from a fuel tank puncture. No fire occurred in that instance, because I called the fire department to flush away the fuel.