

Re: Burning Magnesium Under Water: Mr. Wizard Strikes Out

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- *From:* ol3@xxxxxxxxxx (Oscar Lanzi III)
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One thing to consider about putting Mg fires out with water: while immersion in LIQUID water will do the trick, a large amount of burning Mg will BOIL the water from the available heat. And once boiled into steam, water is going to feed the Mg its oxygen and liberate hydrogen (boom!).

Didn't I read one time on this NG about putting out a Mg fire and getting an AMMONIA smell? That's magnesium nitride hydrolyzing, after having formed by the burning of the magnesium in the NITROGEN of air!

--OL

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