Carbon Block Fire

Many thousands of pounds worth of fire damage was recently caused in a school which had not stored hot carbon blocks in a safe way. The blocks had been used for reducing lead oxide, and had then been put away hot, with the result that a fire started.

This was a common accident many years ago, but as the use of carbon blocks diminished they have become virtually unknown. If used, carbon blocks should not be put away until they are completely cool, and should then be stored in an air-tight metal box, such as an old biscuit tin.

(Taken from EiS No 140 Date November 1990 Page 30/31)