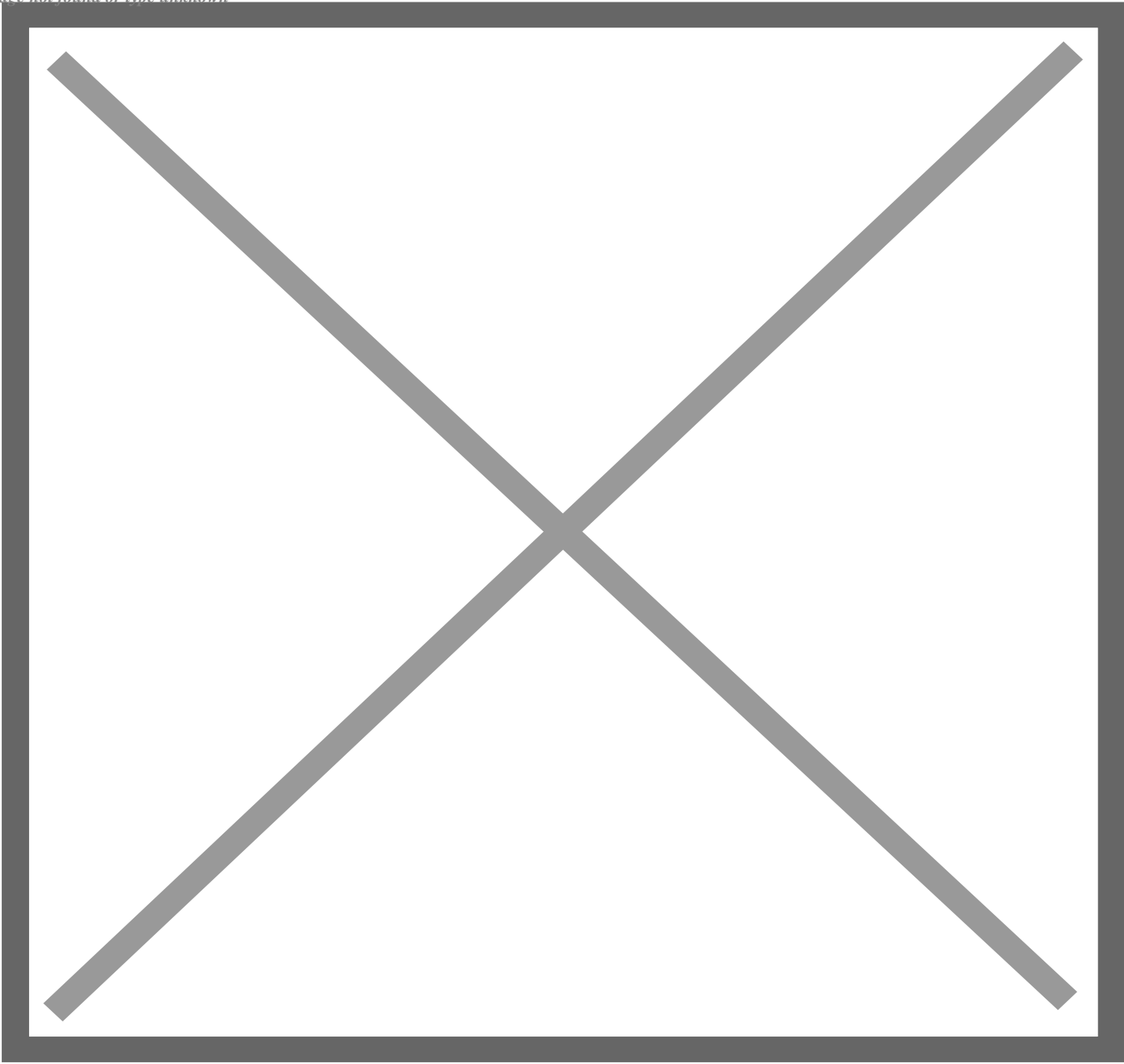


Lid of third oil tank collapses ,confirms Matanzas Governor

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Havana, August 8 (RHC)-- The lid of the third oil storage tank in Matanzas industrial Zone has collapsed, the Governor of the province, Mario Sabines, confirmed Monday morning.

In remarks to the media group of the Office of the President, the official said that aerial pictures show that the dome of the tank collapsed after fuel spilled from the second one, further compromising the situation in the early morning hours.

According to Sabines, "the risk we had foreseen occurred."

Currently, there is little visibility due to the smoke surrounding the Industrial Zone provoked by the fire in the surrounding areas.

Mario Sabines said Air Force helicopters poured water to prevent the fire from spreading to other areas.

The Governor compared the flames of this third tank to a cauldron or bonfire, without fuel spillage so far.

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