

Aged, Blind Among 350 Routed by Fire

A 2-11 alarm blaze today routed 350 residents—many of them elderly and several blind—from the Dorset hotel at 4943 Sheridan rd.

The fire started in a top floor apartment of the three story hotel, and caused many residents to flee in night clothes in near freezing temperatures.

No Injuries

Police said no injuries were reported.

Firemen of the 20th battalion ordered the building evacuated when it was feared the flames would spread to other floors. A fire department snorkel, and hook and ladder trucks were called to the scene.

Damage was set at \$15,000 to the building and \$500 to



[CHICAGO'S AMERICAN Photo]

POLICE OFFICER Al Clements helps blind Mrs. Bertha Smakler down stairs during fire at 4943 Sheridan rd. Fireman in background aids another woman tenant.