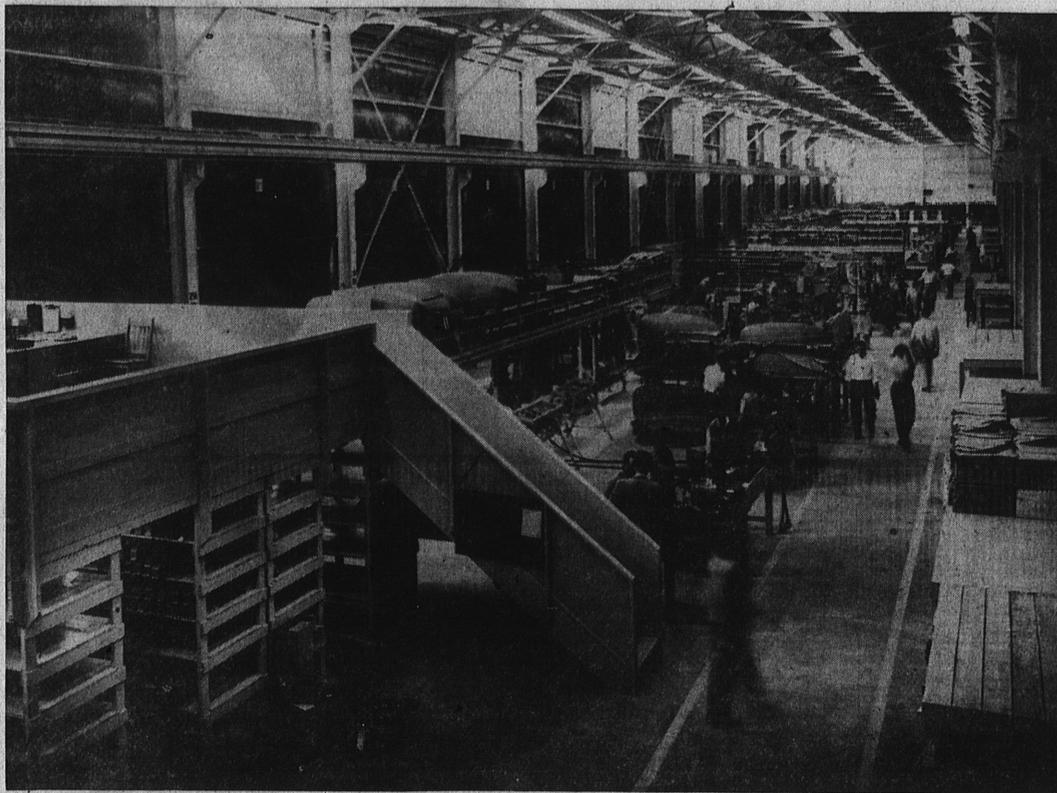


Douglas Plant Here to Hire 10,000 by Next Summer

Douglas Skyraiders on the Line

\$10,000,000 REHABILITATION JOB ON DOUGLAS PLANT MOVES ALONG



WORK UNDER WAY . . . On Aug. 18, just 21 days after rehabilitation started on the Douglas Torrance plant the interior of the first building had been converted to an aircraft assembly unit shown above. The new sub-assembly unit will cover 1,300,000 square feet when completed next year. The plant was built for operation during World War II by the Aluminum Company of America. In 1948 the huge site was acquired by the United States Steel Corp., who had announced plans to convert the plant into a huge cold-rolling

mill. Early this year, the Navy instituted condemnation proceedings for the plant and turned it over to Douglas El Segundo. At the present time, it is used as a sub-assembly for the powerful AD-Skyraider attack bomber which has been designated the "Scourge of Korea" by pilots attacking daily from Navy carriers off Korea. The single-engine Skyraiders carry bomb-rocket-torpedo loads of as much as 10,000 pounds, equal to loads carried by four-engine B-17 Fortress of World War II.

Expansion of the vast Douglas El Segundo Division operation is forging steadily ahead at the division's B-6 location in Torrance where 14 buildings originally constructed for the Aluminum Company of America are being converted to aircraft sub-assembly at the rate of about one a month.

Currently 1400 employees are assigned to B-6 Location where the major task is sub-assembly of AD Skyraider bombers for the U. S. Navy. Workers from the El Segundo plant are being added as buildings are completed at Torrance.

Early 1953 is expected to see near completion of the \$10,500,000 rehabilitation and modification job, and by mid-year an estimated 10,000 employees will be engaged in assembling Douglas attack planes, namely, Skyraiders; AD4-2; AD4-3; AD5; AD6, and the new turbo-jet, A2D.

A leader in attack plane development, more attack planes have been built from Douglas El Segundo designs than the total number of attack planes built by all the friendly nations of the world combined, nearly 20,000.

Built for Alcoa

The new Douglas El Segundo location was constructed for Alcoa by the Defense Plant Production Corporation during the first years of World War II. But its role in producing aluminum for defense was short-lived. Later it served as a storage warehouse for the War Assets Administration, then, in a real estate transaction passed to Columbia-Geneva Steel, but as a production plant it remained inactive.

The U. S. Navy acquired title as the result of negotiations with Columbia-Geneva, and on April 10, 1952 the one-time Alcoa plant became a unit of the Douglas El Segundo Division under the terms of a Naval lease.

Complex Change Over

Conversion by the Douglas Aircraft Company of an aluminum production plant into an aircraft frame assembly location involved a multitude of change-overs, installation and general reconditioning. The buildings needed by Douglas for its expansion program were there, but the tremendous difference between the production of aluminum and the assembling of airframes posed exacting administrative and engineering problems.

Aluminum plants are operated electrically by a relatively small number of employees. Materials and the finished product are shipped entirely by rail. Aircraft assembly, on the other hand, requires a large number of workers in diversified fields. deals with many vendors, and materials are shipped hourly by truck and rail, and by airplane.

Although extremely well constructed, the buildings had to be fitted to the exacting requirements of state laws governing the safety and general welfare of a large number of workers.

Changes Listed

This involved a complete washing of the interiors and painting of all surfaces; removal of brick floors in favor of concrete; installation of satisfactory lighting and power equipment, and incorporation of heating, and plumbing facilities.

Designated B-6 Location the new Douglas unit at Torrance was assigned the role of a feeder location to El Segundo Division, and under the supervision of El Segundo personnel the conversion program started.

By June 13, 1952, the change-over at B-6 was sufficiently advanced to permit the movement of jigs, cabinets, parts racks, machinery and materials for tooling and maintenance into the production area. In a mass move between June 13 and the morning of June 16 equipment enough to cover 56,000 square feet of floor space was transported from El Segundo, set up in the completed sub-assembly zones at B-6, and actual production was under way.

Seven Buildings Done

Now occupying seven finished buildings, representing 325,000 square feet of floor space, AD fuselages, wings, center sections and major installations are being fed to the main El Segundo plant.

In the Douglas Navy combat plane production picture major sub-contractors are receiving

fabricated parts from B-6 for assembly after which they are returned to Torrance for installation work. The final operation takes place at El Segundo Division—wing-to-fuselage mating, line installations and flight.

Ultimately B-6 will embrace 1,300,000 square feet of floor space. Added to this will be carbon baking pits, once used in the production of electrodes for aluminum reduction, now being converted to basements for tool storage. To further alleviate an overloaded condition at El Segundo Division B-6 will also serve as a storage site for raw materials and parts.

In the Navy's overall defense program Douglas El Segundo Division's B-6 location is expediting the assembly of vitally needed combat aircraft, and its role in this program seems destined to increase.

Owner Observes Anniversary at Torrance Lumber

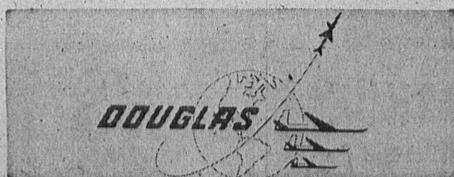
It is the 15th anniversary of the Torrance Lumber Company under this name and the ownership of A. H. Silligo, who purchased the yard in 1937. It had previously been known as the Montgomery Lumber Co. and was an old established Torrance building materials concern.

Silligo had been manager of the Consolidated Lumber Co. in Wilmington for several years prior to purchasing the local company.

Bob Leech, son of city treasurer Harriett Leech, is assistant to Silligo, while Helen Silligo is secretary-treasurer.

As well as providing materials for homes and businesses, Torrance Lumber does a large annual industrial lumber sales.

Douglas congratulates the City of Torrance on forty outstanding years of industrial growth. We are proud to be a new member of this progressive community.



DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT COMPANY, INC.