

# POLICE SEEK CURVED STEPS OF SEX FIEND'S KIDNAP, RAPE HIDEOUT

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## PROPOSE ONE-WAY SARTORI TRAFFIC

### City Traffic Committee Now Studying Plan

A change in the traffic pattern of downtown Torrance was suggested this week as a possible solution to the snarls which develop through the business section during peak hours each week.

Under study by the city's traffic committee is a proposal that one-way traffic only be permitted on Sartori between Torrance Blvd. and Cabrillo Ave. and that parallel parking be installed along the busy thoroughfare.

The traffic committee is composed of Police Chief John H. Stroh, City Manager George Stevers, City Attorney James Hall, and Councilman Nick Draie.

Under the proposal being studied by the committee, cars would be allowed to go south only on Sartori between Torrance and Cabrillo. Parallel parking on both sides would give motorists a lot wider street and would speed up the flow through the business district, according to Chief Stroh.

"The way it is now," Chief Stroh said, "cars go around and around the block looking for a place to park." This merry-go-round is slowed down by drivers creeping along waiting for someone to back out of a valuable parking spot and the traffic piles up throughout the whole downtown section.

No definite decision will be reached until merchants in the area and motorists who use the street have been sounded out on the proposal, the Police Chief said.



ARTIST AIDS POLICE . . . When police gave the Torrance Herald a description of a man who abducted and raped a 10-year-old girl here Sunday, the editors enlisted the aid of Dean Fisher, a Torrance cartoonist. Patrolman Gus Rethwisch (left) and Sgt. D. C. Cook took the victim to Dean's studio apartment at 325 1/2 Sartori Ave. where he pencil-sketches a likeness of the man sought for attacking the girl. Dean created a sketch of the man on a description furnished by the girl. When the drawing was completed the girl (arrow) looked at the picture and said: "That's him." Dean is author of the cartoon strip Windy Windup and draws for a national cartoon syndicate.

## City Snatches Land From Under Redondo's Nose

### Lightning Fast Torrance Makes Annexation Move (See Map on Page Two)

The City Council of Redondo Beach may not know it yet, but the city fathers of our own city moved with almost unheard-of swiftness Monday noon and made a move to annex a large tract of land which Redondo was about to pick off as a rich plum to feed its tax-hungry treasury.

On Sunday the Torrance Herald published a story exposing Redondo Beach's plan to grab a 2000-acre tract in West Torrance. At noon the following day, the Torrance City Council met after Mayor Mervin Schwab called a special meeting and passed a resolution of intention to annex the property. Actually two resolutions were passed: one concerning a large peninsula of county territory surrounded on three sides by Torrance and another concerning the annexation of certain uninhabited areas of the El Nido district.

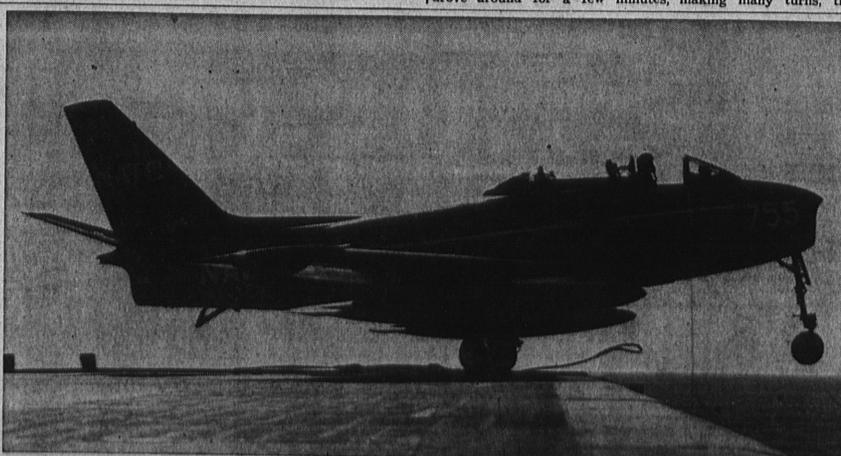
With his hand on the knob of the door which was slammed on Redondo's toehold, was Councilman Willys Blount, who had no trouble of enlisting the aid of the mayor and Councilmen Harvey Spielman and Nick Draie, all of whom helped close the door by voting "Yes" on the resolutions.

The strategy used by Council-

man Blount was this: Since the piece of land in question was surrounded in three sides by Torrance, all that the city would need do to forever cut off Redondo Beach was to close in the fourth side of the peninsula of county land by annexing a narrow strip of land of the fourth side in which there are no residents. The actual width of the strip is not important—it could be a mile in width or one inch—just so long as Redondo Beach no longer abutted the property. Under present laws a city can not annex territory to which it is not contiguous.

Actually what has happened to Redondo Beach is "tit for tat." Approximately a year ago Redondo Beach pulled exactly the same maneuver on the area known as Clifton Heights. Nine

JUMPING OFF PLACE . . . With its nose wheel already past the flight deck, a North American Aviation F3J Fury is about to become airborne as it is catapulted from the deck of the Navy's giant carrier, the USS Coral Sea. Note catapult cord just dropping from belly of plane. Pilot's canopy and other plastic parts for the swept wing Navy



## Police Ask Citizen Aid in Clue Search

Someone, somewhere in Torrance holds the clue which will help identify a sex fiend who kidnaped a 10-year-old choir girl Sunday morning and threatened to kill her while he ravaged her in an apartment near here.

Police here appealed to every citizen in Torrance to help solve the crime.

What is needed, says Sergeant D. C. Cook who is in charge of the investigation, is the location of a peculiar set of cement steps. "Somebody in the vicinity of Torrance can tell us where these steps are located," said Sgt. Cook.

### LOOKING FOR CURVED STEPS

This is what Cook and his partner, G. R. Rethwisch, are looking for:

An entrance, front or back, to a house, hotel, or apartment building which has three to five curved steps leading to the door. Leading up to the steps will be a cement, not black top, driveway or approach.

The little girl said she saw underneath her blindfold as she was being led to the room where the attack took place and said she stepped out of the car onto cement, walked a short distance on the cement and then mounted three to five curved steps. There was no curb between the car and the steps. This led police to believe that the steps were adjacent to a driveway or concrete parking area.

### CITIZENS URGED TO CALL POLICE

Anyone person knowing of any building having such an entrance is urged to contact the Torrance Police Department or the Torrance Herald immediately.

Sgt. Cook is of the opinion that the scene of the crime is in the City of Torrance or very close.

"The girl told us that he did not drive for very long after he grabbed her and shoved her on the floor of his car at the Torrance City Park. He made a lot of turns, possibly to throw her off track, but did not drive for any great distance in one direction," Cook said.

### VICTIM GIVES DESCRIPTION

The little girl gave this description of the man:

Caucasian.

Approximately 30 years of age.

Five feet, nine inches.

150 to 165 pounds.

Light brown hair with a single wave in front.

Clean, neatly kept hands.

Neat appearing.

White shirt and light pants, possibly gray or tan.

Smooth shaven, with a pleasant face.

The child gave this description of the auto used to abduct her:

A late model car in the Chevrolet or Ford class. Light-colored paint splattered by muddy water near the bottom. It had but two doors. The condition of the rubber floor mat was good but muddy. This fact, coupled with the girl's description of other details of the car, led officers to believe the car to be a 1951 or 1952 model.

### ON WAY TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

The crime took place about 9 a.m. Sunday. At about 8:40, enroute to Sunday School, as the child was crossing through the City Park near the corner of Cabrillo Ave. and Santa Fe Ave., a man jumped out of the bushes near the men's rest room. After telling her to come to him because he wanted to talk to her, he grabbed her, placed a hand over her mouth and then as she fought and scrambled to break loose he dragged her to his parked car. There he blindfolded her and then threatening her with a wrench he had pulled from his pocket, told her to lie down on the floor and not to scream.

After turning right off Santa Fe onto Arlington Ave. he drove around for a few minutes, making many turns, then

## Do You Know This Man?



WHO IS HE? . . . From a description furnished by a 10-year-old choir girl who was kidnaped and raped Sunday morning Artist Dean Fisher created this drawing in an effort to help local police find the fiend. For a fuller description of the criminal see accompanying story. Anyone knowing this man is urged to contact either the Torrance Police Department or the Torrance Herald immediately.

pulled up to the scene of the vicious attack. She walked across the cement approach up the curved steps into an entrance hall. He told her to wait while he entered a room, pulled down the shades and then pulled her into the room.

There he took off his clothes and then stripped the girl.

### THREATENS TO KILL HER

When the fiend hurt her she screamed out and the attacker clapped her across the face and told her:

"Shut up! I'm going to do this if I have to kill you."

Minutes later, still blindfolded, the child was led from the building and let out near the YWCA building at Plaza del Amo and Carson St. She walked home, crying and told her mother what had happened. Police were summoned immediately.

The child was taken to the Harbor General Hospital where doctors examined her and confirmed the attack.

## Now Before Assembly

## Urge Women to Back Stiffer Dope Bill

By AGNES BOLTER

Recognizing the strength of the distaff side in political matters, Charles Edward Chapel, assemblyman for the 46th District sent out a call this week to Torrance women to get behind the new Assembly bill which would impose stiffer sentences

on those who sell narcotics to minors.

The bill, written by Chapel and now before the Assembly for consideration, would make it mandatory for judges to impose life imprisonment as a sentence for the first offense of peddling narcotics to young people, and death as the punishment for the second offense.

Women's clubs all over Southern California, giving the lie to a recent contention made by an organization in this area that the female sex is uninterested in politics, instigated the new bill by thousands of letters sent to Chapel and all other members of the Assembly.

Chapel, who represents the coastal section of Torrance, is now appealing to his constituents to write him in support of the proposal. Those living outside his district should write their own assemblymen and senators, he said.

Women started the ball rolling, now it's up to them to carry it through for a touchdown, he believes. The female of the species should band together to "support the Anti-Narcotic Bill for severe sentences to those who peddle narcotics to minors."

## Alondra Park Fact-Finders In First Meet

Meeting last night for the first time was the recently created five-man fact-finding commission appointed to "go dig up the facts" concerning the annexation of Alondra Park.

Chairman Earl E. Lloyd, appointed by Mayor Mervin Schwab to head the sleuthing quintet, called the meeting for 6 p.m. in the council chambers.

Results of the commission's meeting and the action taken were not available in time to make this issue of the Torrance Herald which was being "put to bed" as the commission met.