

WOMEN RUSH TO RESCUE AS A-BOMB RIPS CITY

Disaster strikes, and minutes afterward, Torrance women, through the Civil Defense program, go into action, taking over registration and communication procedures at the control center in City Hall and directing evacuation and welfare work.

About 20 city employees are the first to take charge. At City Hall switchboard (upper left) Mrs. Wayne Jewell takes incoming damage reports, while Mrs. Maurice Gorchester records the information on the typewriter.

Mrs. L. H. Deininger (upper right) then sends out information, given by Mrs. Marshall A. Chamberlain, extreme right, to alert Perry PTA civil defense leaders. Waiting their turns to alert other groups in the city are, front row, left to right, Mesdames J. F. Stock, F. J. Andrus, Gorchester, N. P. Giacinto, C. D. Lowen, Evelyn Coles; and back row, left to right, Miss Beverly Whitney and Mesdames Pat Scott and Leo A. Di Mayle.

The PTA leaders (center left), Mesdames John Arensmeyer, Rodney Baillie, J. E. White, A. F. Kupka, and M. Garrity, then check Perry School facilities for sheltering bombed-out citizens. Simultaneously, other PTA leaders and trained personnel, about 600 women in all, are arranging for mass care at the Civic Auditorium, Torrance High School, McMaster Park, Waleria School, El Retro Park, Seaside School, North Torrance School, Fern Ave. School, the YMCA, the YMCA, Nativity School, Fish Shanty, Waleria Park, and Riviera Clubhouse. The group is under the general supervision of Mrs. Gordon Jones, chairman of Red Cross Evacuation and Welfare Services, who is assisted by 20 Red Cross workers, 50 members of the Civil Defense casualty committee, and 50 disaster personnel chairmen, who have on hand names of all volunteers to be contacted.

Throughout the emergency, first aid is given by nearly 400 women trained by the Red Cross. At the Wal-

teria Recreation Center (2 col.), Mrs. Meade Ferguson, first aid chairman, bandages the chest of Mrs. Marlon Austin, 23322 Primm Way, Waleria.

While their mothers are busy with this detail, children gather at the homes of various "block mothers," about 40 in all. At the North Torrance home of Mrs. Glenn Blake (center right), are Tommy Garrity and Jerry Blake, who were on their way home from school when disaster struck. Assisting Mrs. Blake, center, are Mesdames A. McKenzie, right, and Glen Runsted, left, who anxiously scan the streets for other children.

Downtown (lower left) a call from City Hall for aid bears fruit as the Bloodmobile arrives from Los Angeles to give Arthur Moore, National Supply worker, a transfusion.

Later in the day at one of the mass care centers (lower center) Mesdames Walter Coon, B. M. Pearson, W. A. Felker

and their co-workers set up a canteen for hungry reserve policemen trying to preserve a semblance of order in the city of panic.

These photos and this story describe not what did happen here, but what would if the ravages of war struck this city. The women shown in the photos are only a part of the story; there are hundreds of volunteers throughout Torrance ready to do their part in the event of such an emergency. Hundreds more volunteers can and should lessen the burden resting on those now actively participating, according to George Powell, assistant director of civil defense. Anyone wishing to become one of the trained personnel may contact him at 1755 or 627, or W. A. Felker, chairman of the local Red Cross, at 3447.

PHOTOS BY MILT SVENSK

