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TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1954

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PHONE FAIRfax 8-4000



BIG PROBLEM . . . During the mock atom bomb test Monday, called "Operation Alert" across the nation, Civil Defense officials in cities all over the United States banded together to solve various problems caused by the raid. Above, Sgt. D. C. Cook of the Torrance Police Department, left, points to one of Torrance's major problem points—Crenshaw Blvd. and Highway 101—where the road was blocked for an hour. Radio operator C. Yeaman, seated, and Assistant Civil Defense Director George Powell, look on in the radio control room, nerve center for civil defense in Torrance.

Refugees Fill Torrance In Mock Atomic Attack

A swarm of 2300 hysterical refugees from a hypothetical atomic bombing in Long Beach fled to Torrance for food and shelter Monday as one small result of "Operation Alert," the huge Civil Defense exercise conducted throughout the nation.

Though no one except Civil Defense personnel actually took part in the exercise, a prepared script of happenings told local persons exactly what would have happened, in theory, in Torrance if the atomic raid actually had taken place.

As Assistant Civil Defense Director George Powell marshalled his forces in the City Hall to prepare for the raid, the following events were listed as happening: 7:45 a.m.—President Eisenhower notified the nation that an "Aggressor Force" had been identified within our continental limits.

10 a.m.—A "Red Alert" was sounded in the Los Angeles area notifying fire and police stations that enemy action had been identified. Two Bombs Explode 10:15 a.m.—Two enemy atomic bombs, estimated at ten times more powerful than the Hiroshima or Nagasaki bombs, exploded over Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The Los Angeles bomb struck 4000 feet above Fifth St. and Central Ave. and another bomb was detonated at the same height above Atlantic Blvd. and Anaheim St. in Long Beach. As reports poured in, local Civil Defense whistles began to grind into action.

Although no structural damage was caused in Torrance by the Long Beach attack, it was estimated that the bomb would have killed 56,250 persons and injured 43,043 in Long Beach. Highway 101 and Crenshaw Blvd. was blocked by the blast and Torrance buses were called to help evacuate the steady stream of wounded from the drop area.

Tent Cities Built As the initial shock of the blast began to wear off of its victims, the slow business of finding and patching the wounded and providing shelter began. Tent cities were thrown up at the Walteria School and in the Lomita Recreation Area to provide shelter for an estimated 1500 people. Eight medical centers in Torrance were activated and provided care for 800 more refugees.

Powell estimated that these 2300 refugees could have been taken care of adequately here. He said that there are enough supplies—food and medicine—on hand to take care of 2300 persons. Torrance also was to send supplies and food to provide six meals each for 100 refugees of Manhattan Beach, which

was done, according to Powell. Other results of the blast were: Oil Line Breaks, Ignites A break was reported in a South Torrance oil field oil line with a resulting fire, which was taken care of by the local fire department.

All contractors in the area were alerted to be prepared to form debris clearing and rescue teams to enter the blast area. These teams were not needed, however, Powell said. From the law enforcement division of local Civil Defense, 25 men were called for to assist in the Lawndale area, and were dispatched.

An inventory of all gas and diesel oil storage in Torrance was asked for by the District "G" Control Center in Inglewood, which is the center of Civil Defense for Hawthorne, Gardena, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach and Inglewood.

Requests for bulldozers to clear the highways were sent, and also reports on the status of equipment in the city were asked for. Block Western Ave. Traffic controls were set up to keep curiosity seekers from going east of Western Ave. Thirty men parked their cars in intersections of all streets crossing Western to prevent mass evacuation from South Torrance as well as to keep unneeded persons from going into the area. It was estimated that the Los Angeles blast wiped out most of the downtown area, killed 175,000 and injured 350,000. A total of 39 cities throughout the nation suffered direct hits by atomic bombs in the theoretical raid by a fleet of 400 enemy bombers. The staggering death toll reached 21,250 and 393,000 were injured.

First National Exercise The exercise was the first ever held on a national scale and helped show strengths as well as weaknesses of Civil Defense preparedness across the United States. At 11 a.m. the "White Alert," signifying "All Clear" was sounded. Heads of the various local Civil Defense divisions participating in "Operation Alert" were City Manager George Stevens, director; Powell, assistant director;

Ron Bishop, engineering; John Patrick, public works; Angus McVicar, utilities; Marshall Chamberlain, transportation; Fire Chief J. J. Benner, fire; Police Chief Willard Haslam, police; Hugh Sherfy, corner; Bob Johnson, supply; and Mrs. M. Miller, Red Cross.

Cliff Graybehl, director of Torrance YMCA Day Camp, announced this week that he has signed part of his staff for the opening of this program on Monday, June 28. As assistant counselors, Graybehl has signed Kenneth Wheat of 2468 Sonoma St.; Gerald Bloomfield of 17224 Wilkie Ave., and Larry Lippincott of 265 Andalucia, Redondo Beach. Counselors are Jerry Moore of UCLA and Al Roberts of El Camino College.

Boys enrolled in YMCA Day Camp will have swimming lessons on Mondays and Wednesdays at the San Pedro YMCA. Beginners will have a special class and the advanced group will have special instruction. Miss Valerie Daniels will teach crafts in the Day Camp on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Boys and parents interested in this Day Camp program are urged to contact the Torrance YMCA at FAirfax 8-1272. The North Torrance Voters' Assoc. named Ed Williams president for the coming year at an election of officers held Friday. Other new officers are E. Francis, vice-president; Josephine Bilotti, secretary; Bonnie Gray, treasurer; Carl McComb, auditor; and Tony Bilotti, representative.

A non-partisan group, the Association was formed to get voters to turn out on election day, according to Jim Gray, publicity chairman. Information can be obtained by calling John Gist, membership chairman, at ME 4-6986.

Man Who Claims Flying Saucer Flight To Talk

Even though a televised lie detector test showed his story to be "deceptive," Daniel Fry still insists he flew to New York and back from New Mexico in a flying saucer and will tell Harbor area residents all about it tonight.

Fry, who was given a lie detector test on the Paul Coates "TV show recently, will appear as main speaker tonight at the Redwood Beach Woman's Club. He will tell how he flew from New Mexico to New York and back on a flying saucer in 80 minutes—or at a "10,000 miles per hour.

Fry told his story to a Coates lie detector and it disagreed.

Fry claims, however, that he crossed up the lie detector operator by deliberately giving him false information about his personal life, which was not detected.

The two-night session of saucering, which began last night, is sponsored by the Saucer Research Foundation, according to William H. Gilroy, director.

Kids Warned To Be Alert For Drivers

"Kids, watch out for the careless driving of your elders."

With school closed for the summer, vacation-bound youngsters received this bit of advice from the California Highway Patrol this week. The advice is based on figures for deaths and injuries to children 10 years and younger during 1953.

Last year 281 youngsters under age 15 met death in traffic accidents in California. Of these, 109 were pedestrians. In the rural areas of the state 49 of 200 fatal fatalities were foot travelers—the remainder were either in or on vehicles.

"Many youngsters are actually being killed while riding in the vehicles of their parents or other persons supposedly mature enough to care for them," declared Police Commissioner B. R. Caldwell.

"The biggest single killer of children 1 to 14 years old is not the much publicized polio, nor pneumonia, nor even the dread leukemia. It is the motor vehicle accident," Caldwell pointed out.

During 1953 a total of 16,872 children in the 1 to 14 age bracket were injured in traffic, 9911 in cities and 5961 in unincorporated areas.

Staffers for 'Y' Camp Told 250 Bikes, Other Items To Be Sold

Tuesday, June 22, will be bargain day at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office.

Twice a year a public auction sale is held under the supervision of the business office of the Sheriff's Department when personal property legally in the possession of the Sheriff's Department is sold.

Many bargains can be found, and Sgt. William Stevens of the Sheriff's Civil Division will drop the gavel and start the bidding precisely at 9 a.m. The auction will be held in the basement of the Hall of Justice.

Included in the legally saleable property are some 250 bicycles, radios, rifles, hand tools, lug gage, electric toasters, blankets, coffee makers, garden hoses, tires, and check protectors.

All money collected from the auction will be placed in the County General Fund as revenue.

Cpl. Robert Smith Working in Korea

Cpl. Robert D. Smith of Torrance has been contributing to the more than 400 man-hours of work recorded by his Army unit in the Armed Forces Assistance to Korea program.

Corporal Smith, son of Mrs. Alice W. Smith, 21418 St., is a member of the I Corps' 71st Chemical Smoke Generator Company, which has been hauling materials for the construction of public health and safety projects on the war-torn peninsula.

He entered the Army in June, 1952, and arrived in Korea last October.



VETS HELPERS . . . Installed Tuesday night as new officers of the Veterans Service Center here were, seated, Helen K. Dill, director; standing, left to right; C. J. Mead-

way, vice-president; Pat MacDonnell, president; and C. M. Weber, secretary-treasurer. Rites followed dinner at the Western Club.

Tartar Teen Talk

By PEGGY WOOD

FA 8-7293

Torrance High alumni have been strengthened by an addition of 223 graduates. These alumni were graduated from Torrance High School last Thursday evening at the impressive exercises presented in the football field.

After the commencement all the members of the Class of 1954 went to the Riviera Beach Club for their all-night party. The terrific band of the Elliot Bros. played until 2 a.m. This was followed by the movie, "I'll See You in My Dreams," and the party was concluded with a delicious breakfast. Prizes were given all night with the top prize, a portable radio, going to Lorraine Miller. Every one attending, including the chaperones, had a very tiring but enjoyable time.

With the seniors of '54 gone, of course, a new class enters THS. This coming year the class of 1958 has an enrollment of more than 600 students. Welcome freshmen and fellow Tartars.

This coming Monday, June 21, is the beginning of summer school at Torrance High. Classes will be held every Monday through Friday until July 30. Those being offered are typing from 8 to 10 or 10 to 12 in Room 205 with Mrs. Kinzlins as the instructor; typing from 8 to 10 in Room 202 with Mr. Sibert; shorthand from 10 to 12 in room 201 with Mr. Sibert; mathematics from 8 to 10 in Room 105 with Mr. Halle; algebra I from 10 to 12 in Room 105 with Mr. Halle; science from 8 to 10 in Room 107 with Mr. Lifton; and English from 10 to 12 in Room 107 with Mr. Lifton.

All those wishing to attend are reminded to sign up in the room of the class you are taking.

Tonight a beach party will be held for the Class of 1955 only. All new seniors are invited. Meeting place and time may be obtained by phoning Judy Wright at FA 8-2101, Judi Reid at FR 5-4698, or Larry Stamper at FA 8-5492.

Last Wednesday afternoon at the Senior Tea marked the initiation of the new tea sets purchased for the Student Body.

Sally Sprout and Clayton Mallard were honored Monday by being asked to attend a TEAC luncheon. The Tartars of '54 discussed the cost of the senior year in high school. The discussion was enjoyed by all.

Council Adds "Under God" to Opening Pledge The pledge of allegiance usually recited at the opening of City Council meetings included the words "under God" this week.

The pledge was led by Councilman Wills G. Blount and was the first time these words had been used by the Council following the signing into law of the addition to the pledge of allegiance by President Eisenhower last Monday.

The pledge now reads: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States and to the republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Veteran Center Officers Named

Pat MacDonnell took office as president of the Veterans' Service Center Tuesday night when the group held an installation dinner at the Western Club in Gardena.

Assisting him in giving aid to local veterans through the Center facilities will be C. J. Meadway, vice-president; C. M. Weber, secretary-treasurer; and Helen K. Dill, who was named director for another term.

Summer Camp Filling Fast

There are only 38 places left in Camp Round Meadow, YMCA summer camp for boys, according to Stan Roberts, camp director.

A group of 88 boys have signed up for the trip to the mountains, which begins July 13 and lasts eight days. Aspiring campers should send in their applications right away, Roberts said.

"We need more dads to volunteer for cabin leaders," the "Y" director stated. "Dads will have a wonderful experience with the campers in their care."

Latest dad to sign up for the trip is Charles F. Mullen of 1313 Pines Ave. Cabin leaders have held one meeting and their names will be announced after June 21, Roberts said.

"Untrained Volunteers" Organizations are handicapped in that most of their service officers are untrained volunteers," he said. "Center workers are trained and have available at their fingertips information about all veterans' legislation."

The Centers, he continued, help vets find jobs, obtain legal advice, get financial aid for home construction or schools, and receive counseling or marital or domestic problems.

"A Veterans' Service Center," Alstrom concluded, "is a one-stop service for veterans, designed to help our fighting men return to normal community life."

Dinner music was provided by "The Hungry Five" Torrance High School students under the direction of J. M. Baum, music director.

Scholarships Won by Pair

In recognition of outstanding scholarship achievement and student leadership, Frank M. Sheffield and William Allen Whitting, THS seniors, have been awarded scholarships to the University of Southern California beginning in September.

Award includes up to full tuition for four years of college work. It is renewable each year upon completion of satisfactory studies.

Nine capped and gowned residents of Torrance were graduated June 11 with Bachelor of Arts Degrees from Long Beach State College and two received their Master of Arts degrees. The class, which held 620 students, made the largest commencement exercise in the five-year history of the college. Graduates from Torrance were Frank Bentwood, 1313 Greenwood Ave., (BA); Verno Alan Berry, 23121 S. Western Ave., (BA); Luella Bowlds, 2019 Gramercy Ave., (BA); Bernard Burke, 1629 Crenshaw Blvd., (BS); James Galbreath, 22401 S. Moneta Ave., (BA); and William Wernet, Jr., 1315 Beech Ave., (BA).

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