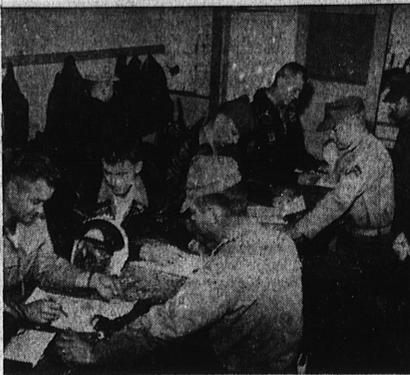
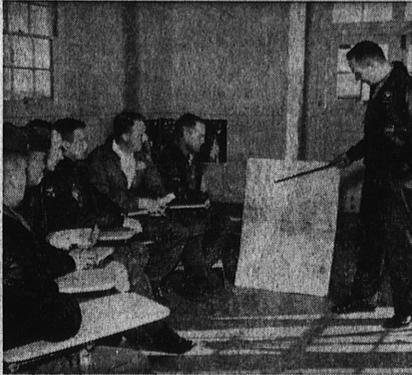


(ESTABLISHED JAN. 1, 1914)

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1956



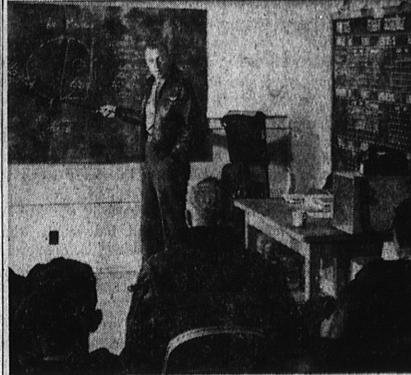
LINE SHACK . . . Pilots sign the Naval Aircraft Flight Record accepting their aircraft for flight. Pilots from left: Major C. H. Judden, assistant operations officer; Lt. Joe Jordan, Lt. Carl Lawrence, and Major J. R. Martin, aircraft maintenance officer.



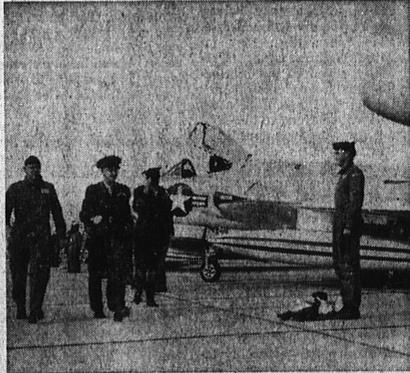
WHITE FLIGHT . . . "This is a high altitude intercept mission. Rendezvous at Bakersfield." Operations Officer Major Joe Lynch gives his pilots the necessary flight data for the day's mission. From left: 1st Lt. C. R. Groeschel, Lt. Carl Lawrence, 1st Lt. John Buren, 1st Lt. Harry Sexton, Capt. R. D. Swanson, and Lt. Earl Chaney.



SECTION ATTACK ONLY . . . Major Les Brown, executive officer, briefs Red Flight on a practice interception mission. "Combat rated thrust to target. Number two fly attack cover position. Control and ordnance are S.O.P." From left: Brown, Flight Surgeon Lt. M. E. Schoeffel, 1st Lt. C. H. O'Brien, 1st Lt. A. K. Robinson, Capt. W. H. Heintz, and 1st Lt. T. C. Muller.



PLAY IT CALMLY . . . The pilots listen intently as Squadron Commander Spanjer explains the simulated flame-out procedure.



INSPECTION . . . Major General Marion L. Dawson, center, inspects the squadron's aircraft. Lt. Col. Spanjer, left, and Col. Marion Carl accompany the general.



MAINTENANCE OFFICER . . . Maj. J. R. Martin, recently attached to the Naval Air Test Center at Patuxent River, Maryland, where he flew many high performance aircraft, is in charge of the maintenance personnel of the squadron.

Skyrays Checked In Daily Flight

"Mojave tower. Alpha echo two. Request . . . take the duty . . . for burner take-off."

The calm, matter-of-fact voice of Lt. Col. R. H. (Smoke) Spanjer came through the tower radio while his Torrance-made F4D poised at the end of the runway.

"Roger. You're cleared." Spanjer released the brakes. With the assurance of a veteran Marine combat pilot, his left hand pushed the throttle forward and the Skyray rapidly picked up momentum. In an incredibly short run, the F4D was in the air—streaking just off the runway. Momentarily blending with the distant hills, the Skyray suddenly appeared—silhouetted against the bright blue sky as it climbed vertically for the upper atmosphere.

Squadron Commander Spanjer, and the pilots of VMF-115, made daily flights from Mojave while the maintenance personnel were completing the field modification program. Permanently based at El Toro, the first Marine squadron to receive the F4D's flew to the desert station the latter part of August for an intensive training program. VMF-115 has a proud history. Spanjer is the newest of a long line of outstanding commanders. In World War II, the celebrated Joe Foss led the squadron, which was the first in the Marine Corps to meet the Japanese in combat. In Korea, VMF-115 expended more ordnance than any other Navy or Marine squadron. All of the present senior officers served during World War II and Korea. They are men of vast experience, with the exceptional qualifications needed to fly the Navy's new supersonic interceptor. The F4D was designed by the El Segundo Division of the Douglas Aircraft Co. and is produced at the Torrance location.

Know the Planes
The casualness of these Marine pilots, who daily fly at extreme altitudes and supersonic speeds, is not a pose. They know their airplane, and with the confidence born of experience, each flight is one of precise maneuvers. The air of quiet competence, which is so evident in the squadron, is the result of long hours in classrooms where every possible contingency is analyzed. Nothing is left to chance, for these men know the dangers of flying high speed aircraft. By preparing thoroughly for each mission, they remove most of the hazards of flying.

The briefing before each launching covers the entire mission, with special emphasis on safety procedures. Simulated flame-out approaches are part of every flight so that a deadstick landing, if it becomes necessary, is as routine as possible.

Pre-Flight Check
Following the briefing, the pilots report to Line Chief T/Sgt. Morris Williams at the line shack where they sign the Naval Aircraft Flight Record and accept their aircraft for flight. On the line, each pilot gives his airplane a thorough pre-flight inspection. When he is satisfied with its condition, he starts the engine. The pilot then ground checks the aircraft before requesting permission of the tower to taxi.

Once in the air, the pilot proceeds to execute the mission as planned. When it is time to return to the station, he radios the runway duty officer for permission to commence a simulated flame-out approach.

Mission Completed
With mission completed, the pilot gives his aircraft a thorough post-flight visual inspection and reports to the pilot's ready room for a debriefing by the flight leader. The runway duty officer also comments on the pilot's approaches and landings. When the squadron returned to Toro Nov. 20 a brief ceremony welcomed the squadron's officers and men. Following a formation flight of 10 aircraft, the planes landed and Major General Marion L. Dawson, commander of the Third Marine Aircraft Wing, congratulated them for completing the modification program ahead of schedule.

A certificate of appreciation was presented to the maintenance men by W. L. Whittier, chief service engineer of the El Segundo Division, on behalf of the Douglas Aircraft Co. T. E. Springer, vice president-general manager, and E. H. Heinemann, chief engineer of the El Segundo Division, expressed their heartfelt thanks for the outstanding cooperation of the maintenance personnel in completing the modification program.



OKAY, I'M READY TO TURN UP . . . Lt. Col. R. H. Spanjer directs the line personnel to start the engine.



RETURNS TO EL TORO . . . With their wives and children waiting for them at squadron headquarters, the pilots fly over the station in formation.



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION . . . is presented by W. L. Whittier, chief service engineer of Douglas Aircraft's El Segundo Division, to M/Sgt. Gary Bellsmith, squadron maintenance chief, for the outstanding field modification program which Bellsmith's maintenance personnel completed at Mojave. Others from left: N. A. Allen, El Segundo senior service representative at El Toro; Lt. Col. Spanjer, squadron commander of VMF-115; Major General Marion L. Dawson, commanding general Third Marine Aircraft Wing, and Col. Marion Carl, commanding officer of Marine Aircraft Group 33.

John Fedor New President Of Local Reserve Police

John Fedor was elected president at the regular meeting of the Torrance Reserve Police, held recently at the Torrance Police Station.

Steve Schmidt was elected vice president and Jerry Alter was elected as secretary.

The Torrance Reserve Police, now with over 30 active members are averaging over 100 man hours per week devoted to learning police work or gaining actual experience working with the regular police.

Many regular police have been recruited from the ranks of this reserve group which was originally started in the early part of World War II, and these reserves have been called on for help in many emergencies since then, including our earthquake and flood. A more pleasant duty, although an important one, is assisting in traffic control during parades, shows and civic functions.

Servie Without Pay
The Torrance Police Reserves all own and maintain their own uniforms, side arms

and ammunition, and are available to be called out for any emergency. They are all residents of Torrance and serve without pay.

Assistant Chief Percy Bennett has been given full charge of this reserve group and with the aid of Sgt. Wright and other regular officers, maintain a constant training program for the group, including lectures, educational films and actual police work with regular officers. Most of this is done without pay.

Team Studied
Bennett announced at the meeting that he was in favor of forming a motorcycle team as part of the reserves. This group would have a dual purpose of being available in an emergency as well as being of great publicity value in parades and other civic functions, like the present Torrance Mounted Police.

Anyone interested in the Torrance Reserve Police should contact Steve Schmidt of Star Furniture; Bud Walsh, city building inspector, or Jerry Alter, Alter Realty & Insurance.

City of Hope Explained to Rotary Club

How the City of Hope is battling against dread leukemia was portrayed in color motion pictures for Rotarians at their Thursday dinner meeting.

Presiding at the meeting was Jack Schmidt of Pacific Smelting with Glenn Koger, City of Hope "godfather" for Torrance, acting as program chairman.

The Duarte institution's cobalt bomb, described as one of the smallest yet most effective in the country, was depicted as well as patients undergoing treatment. Mrs. Helen Fisher, speaking for the unique hospital's staff, emphasized the fact that the City of Hope is non-sectarian in its attitudes and that no patient accepted for treatment is ever required to pay.

Three Given Rome Cable 10-Year Pins

Three employees of the Torrance plant of Rome Cable Corp. have been inducted into the company's 10-year club and presented 10-year pins by Glenn Koger, vice president-general manager of the Torrance plant.

Membership in the club is limited to employees with 10 or more years of service with the company. Receiving their pins from Koger this week were Spencer V. Bonanomi, plant engineer, who joined the company on Sept. 3, 1946; Floyd O. Nelson, chief electrician, who joined the firm on Sept. 13, 1946; and Joseph S. Sistok, maintenance man, Sept. 3, 1946.

A number of plant personnel will be eligible for membership in the club next year, Koger stated.

1st Annual YMCA Football Game Slated December 15

The YMCA of Torrance announced plans this week for a full Christmas program for the youth of the community.

On Saturday, Dec. 15, the festivities begin with the first annual YMCA Football Bowl. This will consist of a huge exhibition football game with over 30 boys' teams playing in the one game that extends from 9:30 a.m. until noon that day. There is no admission charge, and all citizens are invited to attend.

That evening all of the 400 YMCA Football League members will meet at the "Y" to see a Rams' football movie, hear an outstanding coach speak, and receive their block Y letter awards for the 1956 Y football season.

Fun Club Set
For boys from 9 to 12 years of age, a four-day Christmas Fun Club will be operated by the Torrance YMCA from Dec. 19 through 22. This will be open to all boys and will include movies, Marineland, a trip to the mountains, "Cinema Holiday," a Christmas party, and many other activities. A fee of \$5 is charged for this program. For high school students,

YMCA trucks will take them caroling several evenings during the Christmas holidays. In this way the youngsters will combine a service to hospitals and elder residents of the city and also enjoy an evening of fun.



PERFECT LANDING . . . Following the prescribed simulated flame-out approach procedure, a VMF-115 pilot lands his F4D almost on the "bull's-eye." This is a painted circle on the runway that is used as a reference point.

Windows were broken at three spots in Lomita by vandals, sheriff's deputies reported Sunday. A window at Narbonne High School, 25425 Walnut St., was smashed when a boulevard stop sign was hurled through it, school officials reported. There was apparently no attempt at burglary, they said. Glenburn Carvill, 2343 Lomita Blvd., told sheriff's deputies that vandals heaved a rock through a \$150 window and slashed his door screens.