

# VOTERS APPROVE EL CAMINO TAX PROPOSAL

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# Torrance Herald

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OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

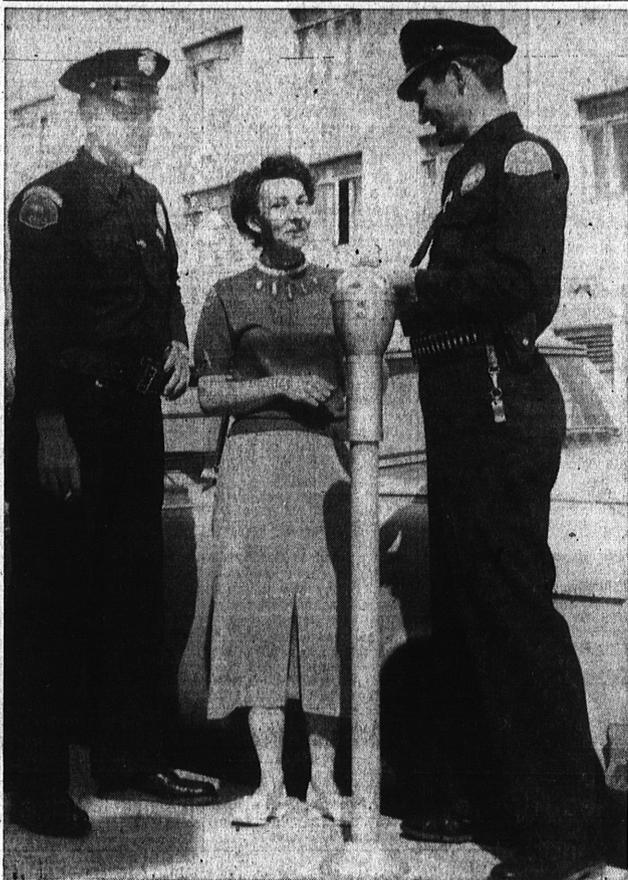
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# Viet Nam President Visits City



RECRUITING DRIVE . . . Officers Bob Jones and Gene Erbetta try to talk Patricia Sant into signing up for the new city job as parking enforcement matron, dubbed Meterette. Patricia admits the two officers impressed her. Women between the ages of 21 and 30 may apply at the City Hall from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday. Examinations will be held June 8 for the job which pays \$338 monthly to start.

## Sees Operation At GP's Refinery

President Ngo Dinh Diem of the Republic of Viet-Nam heard Manager A. E. Thompson explain the workings of the Torrance refinery and then took a firsthand look at the operation of the huge General Petroleum plant here yesterday during a state visit to the Los Angeles area.

Arriving at the refinery with a party of American and Vietnamese officials, President Diem was greeted by Thompson who outlined the refinery process. The Vietnamese leader was accompanied by President Robert L. Minckler of General Petroleum.

Following a tour of the refinery, the party returned to Los Angeles for a private luncheon, and then visited the production offices of General Petroleum in Santa Fe Springs. A banquet sponsored by the Los Angeles Council of World Affairs last night at the California Club wound up the Southland visit. He left last night for Honolulu.

Traveling with President Diem were Tran Van Chuong, Ambassador of Viet-Nam to the United States; Nguyen Huu Chau, Secretary of State for Interior; Tran Le Quang, Secretary of State for Public Works and Communications; General Tran Van Don, Chief of Staff of General Staff; Huynh Van Diem, Director

General Planning; Vu Van Thai, Administrator General of Foreign Aid; Vo Van Hai, the President's chief private secretary; Ton That Thien, chief of the President's press and information service and interpreter; and members of his personal staff.

American officials with the party included Wiley T. Buchanan Jr., chief of protocol, and Elbridge Durbrow, American Ambassador to Viet-Nam.

## Possible City Operation of Airport Hinted

An indication that the city of Torrance may be considering taking over Torrance airport was revealed Friday when job descriptions of the airport engineers, airport superintendent and director of aviation were put on the Tuesday City Council agenda.

The job descriptions were submitted for background information only and no action was asked. Its purpose is to acquaint the council with the necessary administrative function in managing the airport facilities.

An airport superintendent must supervise and assist in the maintenance activities of a large airport and to assist the director of aviation in public relations and purchasing work.

The director of aviation is subject to legislative determination of policy. The job's function is to plan and direct the operation of a large airport. He has charge of airport property, services and facilities and must promote the development and use of airport facilities.

The airport currently is operated privately on a lease basis.



"WELCOME TO TORRANCE" . . . Ngo Dinh Diem, president of the new republic of South Viet-Nam, yesterday made a tour of the General Petroleum Corp. Here, he is greeted by President R. L. Minckler of GP as he arrived at the plant, as an unidentified Vietnamese official smiles approval. The leader of the free part of old French Indo-China is making a tour of leading industrial plants in this country after conferring with President Eisenhower in Washington.

## 3-Year-Old Dies After Gulping Aspirin Tablets

The 3-year-old daughter of a north Torrance couple died at Harbor General Hospital Friday after gulping down an estimated 100 grains of aspirin, according to Torrance police.

Dead is Sandra Esch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Esch, 18520 St. Andrews Pl. She became ill after eating the aspirin late Wednesday. A private physician to whom the child had been taken had the child rushed to the hospital.

Death came despite efforts to save her including a complete change of the girl's blood.

McMillan Mortuary in Gardena is handling funeral arrangements.

## Planners Hold Hearing On Zoning of El Nido

The long-discussed rezoning of El Nido will come up for a second hearing at the next regular meeting of the Torrance Planning Commission on June 5, as plans for the action were discussed at a Wednesday night hearing.

Residents appeared to ask questions about the zoning for the area, which is roughly as follows:

**Commercial zoning**—all land between Hawthorne and Burin Aves., from 182nd to 186th Sts.; some of the land west of Hawthorne along 182nd St.; and the triangle southwest of 186th and Hawthorne, except school property.

**Park**—the present El Nido Park.

**Residential**—the remainder of the tract, except for a few isolated lots.

**Plans Sought**

The El Nido area was annexed to Torrance last year, and planning officials have been meeting with residents to draw up a plan for the area since then.

Plans for construction of the Thiem Manufacturing Co., makers of electronic computers, at 1948 W. 174th St., were recommended for approval, providing Henry Thiem, president of the firm, sends a letter guaranteeing to install safeguards against excessive noise.

The application requested a change from light to heavy manufacturing zoning for the property.

**Not Noisy**

Commissioners Ken Uyeda and William A. Mason said they had visited the firm's Gardena plant and found it not excessively noisy. The 20,000-square-foot plant would be built away from nearby buildings, Thiem said. The commission gave its ap-

proval to a change of zone from commercial to single family residential on property at 166th and Arlington Aves. Don Appenfeldt, 16334 Arlington Ave., was assured that the rezoning would not affect a small business he runs in his garage. The matter will go before the city council.

A second hearing was scheduled for June 5 on the proposed zoning of property just behind the old City Hall, El Prado and Cravens, for parking purposes. Commissioners heard a suggestion that the front of the property be set back for planting purposes to make it as attractive as possible.

**Committee Named**

The request of Wayne L. Nelson for a variance to realign the garages on property he plans to build at Ainsworth Ave. and Redondo Beach Blvd. was sent to committee for further study. He seeks to realign the garages from the original design approved by the city.

The petition of Miguel and Clara Niguez for a variance to set up a retail store for package off-sale liquor, beer, wine, groceries, delicatessen, drugstore, and accessories was sent to committee. The proposed store would be located at 18107 Cranshaw Blvd.

**Trailer Plan Eyed**

Commissioners suggested that a committee studying regulation of trailers or large



TINY VICTIM . . . Michael Jerome DeGoche, 2, receives first aid from an ambulance attendant after being injured in a two-car crash at Spencer and Earl Sts., late Friday. He was riding in a car with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Eugene DeGoche, 4405 Emerald St. and collided with a vehicle driven by Rebecca Crabtree, 16, Redondo Beach. The boy was reported improving yesterday.

## Man to Face Dope Charge Here Monday

A 19-year-old Torrance man will be arraigned tomorrow in South Bay Municipal Court on charges of narcotics possession, after he was nabbed Thursday in a field near Madrona Ave. and Sepulveda Blvd. by an alert police officer.

James Ellis Thompson, 19, 1436 W. 226th St., was arrested by Sgt. Don Nash, who spotted the youth bending over in the field. Nash said when he asked the youth what he was doing, Thompson said that he was cleaning his car. Nash, however, noted that the car was clean, except for green, leafy particles on the floor.

Investigating, Nash found a box of the green particles and cigarette papers under the seat. Thompson told Lt. D. C. Cook that the substance was marijuana and that he had been rolling cigarettes. The material, he said, had been obtained from a "friend."

## Temperatures

	High	Low	Rain
Sunday	67	49	.07
Monday	68	52	
Tuesday	67	54	.01
Wednesday	71	47	
Thursday	74	50	
Friday	74	51	

## Leaking Gas Tank Blamed In Explosion

A match apparently ignited gasoline from a leaky tank causing an explosion and some fire damage at 3418 Redondo Beach Blvd., Thursday, Torrance firemen reported.

Kenneth Frey told firemen that he was using a welding torch to dismantle an old car in his garage.

He stepped outside for a cigarette, he said, and tossed his match on the ground, where a thin trickle of gasoline was running. An explosion resulted, causing considerable damage to the garage roof and the car.

## Thieves Use Stolen Tools to Rob School

Burglars who broke into the Narbonne High School shop Thursday used the tools they stole there to break into the school business office, where they obtained \$900 cash and \$600 in checks.

Sheriff's deputies are seeking the intruders who broke into one safe, but failed in an attempt to get the second one open.

As deputies reconstructed the crime, the burglars apparently forced open a door of the metal shop, where they took \$100 worth of tools, including a power drill and an assortment of screwdrivers, hammers, chisels, drill bits, tin snips, and wood chisels for use in their further adventures. Then, they apparently broke a window in the school to gain

## Only 2000 Vote Here on Issues

Voters throughout the El Camino College district gave their overwhelming approval of the continuance of the 20-cent tax to provide funds for the building program while Torrance voters returned incumbent Jack N. Dabbs to office as a college trustee unopposed.

With all but one of the district's 87 precincts reporting yesterday, the unofficial vote for the tax proposal was 13,607 yes and 5517 no.

Even in Inglewood, where the voters turned down a second proposed bond issue within a few months, the El Camino proposition carried 5505 to 2406.

**2000 Vote Here**  
Dabbs, serving as president of the board of trustees, sought re-election unopposed and received 2005 votes while 24 scattered votes went to write-in candidates. Among those receiving at least one vote were Councilman Nick Drale; Clarence Cooke, member of the Torrance board of education, and John De Le Haye, member of the El Camino faculty.

**Other Precincts**  
The 20 precincts of the South Bay area voted 3993 to 2003 for the tax issue.

El Segundo's four precincts voted 289 to 57 for the proposal and the Centinela Valley said yes by 1930 to 771.

The five-year extension of the current El Camino tax rate will permit construction of new classrooms, laboratories, and other college facilities to meet demands of an ever growing student population, school officials said.

"We at the college are extremely grateful," President Forrest G. Murdock said yesterday.

(Continued on Page 2)