

Air Crash Kills Torrance Man

Your Complete Community Newspaper—Every Sunday and Thursday

Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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LOCAL MAN TO DIE FOR MURDER

Bahamas Jury Orders Death For Two Men

A Torrance man and his companion from Arkansas have been sentenced to hang for the piratical slaying of a Florida boat skipper in the Bahamas, press reports from Nassau said yesterday.

Alvin Table Jr., 25, of Torrance and Billy Wayne Sees, 23, of Arkansas, were sentenced Friday to be hanged for the murder last April of Capt. Angus Boatwright of Islamorada, Fla., aboard a charter fishing boat off Elbow Cay.



ALVIN TABLE JR. Gets Death Sentence

REPORTS FROM Nassau said Table and Sees showed no emotion at the sentence or at the verdict by the jury which deliberated an hour and 26 minutes.

No notice of appeal was filed, and the two Americans will hang unless spared by the Bahamas' governor or on appeal to Britain's privy council.

COURT ATTACHES in Nassau told reporters Bahamas executions are normally carried out within two weeks.

Table and a girl identified at the time as Barbara Table, his wife, had been shipwrecked along with Sees, and Boatwright was shot when he grabbed a rifle after Sees pulled a gun on him. Sees admitted on the witness stand that he shot Boatwright.

The trio had tried to force Boatright to take them from the island.

The Torrance man testified that he was not on the boat at the time of the shooting, and other witnesses on the boat confirmed that he was ashore at the time.

HOWEVER, it was testified that Table came aboard after the shooting and told Sees that all the survivors should be killed to silence them. The boat later crashed on the north coast of Cuba.

Although Tables was prosecuted as an accessory, the Bahamas law does not classify murder by degrees, and he

stood trial on a plain murder charge.

THE WOMAN was released without prosecution shortly after the April incident. His wife, Beverly, told police here last April that she was in the process of divorcing Table. At the time of the incident, Table was on parole after being convicted of burglary in Redondo Beach, and was being sought in several states on bad check charges.

Contest Deadline

Torrance residents have until 5 p.m. Monday to enter the annual Christmas Decoration Contest sponsored by the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce. Entries may be made at the Chamber of Commerce office, 1511 Craven Ave.



CALIFORNIA "SNOW" . . . Residents along Toucan St. in Southwest Park area of Torrance were busy yesterday afternoon blanketing their lawns with Christmas "snow" as the whole street went about its annual task of creating a fairy land of candy canes and reindeer for the holidays. Santa Claus is appearing nightly from 6:30 to 8 p.m., giving candy and a word of cheer to all. The wintry touch, by the way, could be mistaken for cotton by a Scrooge. (Herald Photo)

A Penny for your Thoughts

"What do you think could be done to eliminate customers having to stand in line at post offices during the Christmas rush season?" This question was asked five persons waiting to mail packages at the Torrance Post Office.

Mrs. Louis Casey, 723-B Sartori, housewife:

"I think they could set up an auxiliary outside to take care of the overflow—just for packages. I really think there should be more sub-stations scattered around. They would help a lot."

Mrs. Hilda Sellers, 23701 Western Ave., housewife:

"That's kind of a hard question. I think more attention should be called to the fact that people should mail their packages earlier in the month. Maybe it would be a good thing to have publicity to this effect on television."

Mrs. Bea Cormier, 1856 Cabrillo, housewife:

"I was here once and had to walk away. The Post Office was jammed right to the doors. They don't have many windows but I guess it is the best they can do. A larger Post Office building is the solution and more sub-stations."

H. T. Morales, 715½ W. 214th St., Shell Chemical:

"I guess they hire as many extra people as they can. What they need is a larger Post Office with more windows to meet the demand of the public. Sub-stations are very good, if they have enough of them, to keep large groups from coming down to the main office."

C. E. Peele, 2115 Cabrillo, retired:

"There is nothing much you can do without a larger Post Office. Of course, when this rush is over, it returns to normal again. More sub-stations would take the burden off the main Post Office. I thought I was coming down here early Saturday at 9 a.m. but it was jammed already."

Served On Crew Of DC-8

A gala party was scheduled yesterday for Rickey Prewitt who reached his second birthday—Daddy was going to be home in time to help with the party and to help decorate the tree for Christmas.

But there was no party, a friend of the family told the HERALD yesterday afternoon. Rickey's father, Flight Engineer Richard E. Prewitt, had been among the members of the United Airlines DC-8 crew that was killed in Friday morning's New York City air tragedy.

A PREMONITION of the crash may have entered the dreams of Prewitt before he left Thursday night for the New York flight, a neighbor told newsmen after the crash. The neighbor said the flight engineer had told of dreaming about a plane crash, saying "it was so real I can remember the number of the plane."

Prewitt, who was a pilot as well as an engineer, was told by his wife, Millie Ann, that she was superstitious, and didn't want to hear about it, newsmen were told.

IN ADDITION to his wife and son Rickey, Prewitt leaves (Continued on Page 2)

After Mix-Up

Santa's Visit to Family's Home Back on Schedule

Santa Claus is going to visit the Frank Magana household at 22127 Dolores St. after all. There was considerable doubt about it for a while this week after Mrs. Magana

had gone on a Christmas shopping tour, and wound up with nothing but tired feet for her efforts.

It was a one-in-a-thousand (or more) coincidence that cast doubts on Santa's visit next week end.

MRS. MAGANA had been shopping at an area shopping center, she told the HERALD yesterday, and had accumulated about \$50 worth of toys and gifts for members of her family.

She took a huge load of the gifts from the store to her car, unlocked the trunk, placed the gifts inside, and returned to the store.

RETURNING later after completing the shopping tour, she double-checked the trunk to make sure she had completed her pre-Christmas chores.

The trunk was empty—except for a few other items which had been in there earlier.

Then she realized what had happened. She had placed the packages in the trunk of an identical car which had been parked almost adjacent to her own.

HAVING AN auto of identical make, color, and style nearby, and having her key fit the trunk lock was one-in-a-thousand chance, she said.

But Friday, all was righted, and it will still be Christmas at the Magana home next Sunday.

MRS. JANE DOKI, who resides at 3560 W. 168th St., and who had been shopping at the same center, arrived home and found extra bundles in her car. Checking labels, she found the name and address of Mrs. Magana's neighbor on a lay-away package, and returned the gifts that evening.

"It sure gives meaning to find somebody as thoughtful as Mrs. Doki," Mrs. Magana told the HERALD.

"I'm going over there tonight and take her a present," she added.

Mechanic Shot

One man was under arrest yesterday and police were seeking a second after a 27-year-old Torrance mechanic was shot in the hand during an argument. Ros J. Williams, 3909 Cathann St., was wounded during the melee in Redondo Beach early yesterday.

During Testimonial

Nation Facing Perilous Time, Congressman Says

Congressman Cecil R. King sounded a serious note Thursday evening, at a testimonial given in his honor, when he asserted the nation faces perilous times as a new president prepares to take over.

"I fear for the economy of

the country and the pressures of an upset world as the youngest president in our history faces up to the task of leadership. When an election is over, and this one certainly is, although it has been the closest, as do millions of others

I forget I am a member of a political party and think only of the welfare of the nation.

"Such bi-partisanship is possible in our country because of the two-party system, a system which I thoroughly believe in. It has worked in the past and it will work for us all in the future."

THE BANQUET, at the Elks Club in Redondo Beach, was sponsored by Ronald Moran and I. H. Hawkins, both prominent in South Bay business and civic activities.

A surprise speaker at the event, attended by 125, was Miss Jean Moran, 17-year-old daughter of the automobile dealer, who has been an exchange student in Italy from Oakland Tech high school.

MISS MORAN, a vivacious brunette, discussed the effects of Communism on the Italian political scene. In Italy she lived with an Italian family and discovered they accepted the Communist party as a political group along with seven others which appeared on the ballots.

She explained how the Communist local parties have taken over small towns through Italy by entering every phase of community life even to the extent of giving some towns their first newspapers.

"I COULD talk 20 hours on my experiences in Italy," she said, "but I have time only to tell you I think the exchange student program is the answer to better international understanding."

"The spread of Communism is frightening and we must all be made aware of how it is accomplishing its goals," she said.



CONGRESSMAN FETED . . . Congressman Cecil King was guest of honor Thursday night at a testimonial dinner in his honor at the Redondo Beach Elks Club. With him here is Jean Moran, who spoke of her experience in Italy as an exchange student; and standing, I. H. Hawkins (left) and Ronald Moran, sponsors of the event. (Herald Photo)



NEW CITIZEN . . . Erika Muhl, (right) who was made an American citizen in ceremonies conducted in Los Angeles this week, is congratulated by Edith Simplear of the Torrance Recreation Department after receiving the happy news. Erika, a native of Austria, has been in the United States for three years, and has been employed by the Recreation Department for two and one-half years. (Herald Photo)