

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By FRED NEHER



"One of us is going to have to shovel the walk."

### Know Your Traffic Laws

Prepared in Cooperation With the Torrance Police Department

Traffic Box Score		
	1961	1962
Fatalities	0	0
Injury Accidents	39	33
Non-Injury Accidents	57	27

Box score of all accidents investigated by Torrance Police Department since Jan. 1, 1962.

We in Torrance don't have any freeways at this time; however, in the near future, the San Diego Freeway will be open and running through the city.

We as citizens of Torrance have many occasions to use other freeways, however, and freeway driving requires additional attention and special skills.

Today's column will cover freeway driving and some tips

### Douglas To Pay Dividend

A three per cent stock dividend payable in March of this year was announced by the Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc., following action by the company board of directors.

A net profit of \$5,957,000 for the fiscal year which ended Nov. 30, 1961, was reported. The profit, amounting to \$1.56 a share, was in contrast to a loss of \$19,429,000, or \$5.09 a share, in 1960.

Sales totalled \$791,312,000, compared to \$1,174,041,000 in 1960. Net profit for the fourth quarter of 1961 was \$1,471,000 or 38 cents a share, and sales were \$175,095,000.

**BACKLOG AS OF Nov. 30** was \$759,308,000, compared to \$1,030,177,000 on Nov. 30, 1960. Of the year end total, \$634,175,000 was in government work and \$125,133,000 was commercial, representing 83.52 per cent government and 16.48 per cent commercial.

Missiles and space contracts accounted for \$402,198,000, representing 63.42 per cent of the government work in the backlog and 52.97 per cent of total backlog.

A complete summary of the company's 1961 operations will be contained in the annual report to be mailed to stockholders in February.

**IN OTHER** actions the board named Robert L. Hoskinson vice president-corporate planning and control and Louis Lieber Jr., vice president-general counsel. It accepted the resignation of Gerald E. Donovan as vice president-finance and as a director of the company.

Hoskinson, a veteran of 25 years with the company, was promoted from the position of director of corporate planning and control. He previously had served as director of engineering-administrative and as director of flight and testing. Lieber, who joined the Douglas company in 1943 as an assistant counsel, has been general counsel since 1957.

Two Torrance men are serving with the Third Marine Aircraft Wing at the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station near Santa Ana.

They are Marine Pfc. James C. Erickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton H. Erickson of 4813 Carmelyst St., and Marine Pfc. Paul E. Groves, son of James K. Groves of 5214 Steveann St.

that should prove to be of value to you as you drive our vast network of freeways in the Los Angeles area.

- Listen to the radio for public announcements of traffic jams.

- Study a freeway map. Know your route and the names of one or two off-ramps preceding the one you plan to use.

- Never drive with poor tires or poor brakes.

- Check the fuel gauge often. Be sure you have plenty of gasoline.

- Don't drive with a car in poor mechanical condition, especially if it tends to stall, miss, overheat, or vaporlock.

- Stay off the freeways if you are tired, sleepy, emotionally upset, or for any reason not normally alert.

- You may find it convenient to use parallel surface streets during hours of peak congestion. It's always a good idea to have an alternate route in mind in case of a freeway blockade.

- Enter a freeway as nearly as possible at the speed of the traffic in the lane you are entering, except where it cannot be done safely or where prevented by a STOP sign.

- Don't follow too closely the car in front. One-third of all accidents on freeways are caused by following too closely.

- Avoid changing lanes except when necessary. Check traffic conditions, then be sure to signal your intentions.

- Avoid sudden slowing down and sudden stops. If unavoidable, give immediate, clear warning by hand signal and pump brakes to flash rear lights.

- Watch several cars ahead, not just the one in front of you. If they are slowing or stopped, slow down and warn the traffic behind you.

- Never stop in a freeway lane for a flat tire. Drive on it until you can get completely off the traveled roadway.

- Check your rear view mirror frequently. Know who and what is behind you, how closely they are following and how fast they are approaching. This is especially important when changing lanes.

- Drive at the speed of other traffic in your lane. This is not only the safest, most courteous and pleasant way to drive the freeways, it is usually the only lawful way.

**TO SUM UP** the freeway driving tips, then:

- Be dependable and predictable; signal your intentions.

- Keep your attention constantly on your driving; you are the pilot.

- Check frequently in your rear-view mirror.

- Stay far enough behind the car you follow — one car length for every 10 miles of speed.

- Keep pace with the traffic. Slow traffic should keep to the right.

- Check instruments often — especially for speed and fuel supply.

- Pull completely off the roadway if you must stop the car.

- On extended trips, stop off the freeway for refresher breaks and avoid fatigue-caused accidents.

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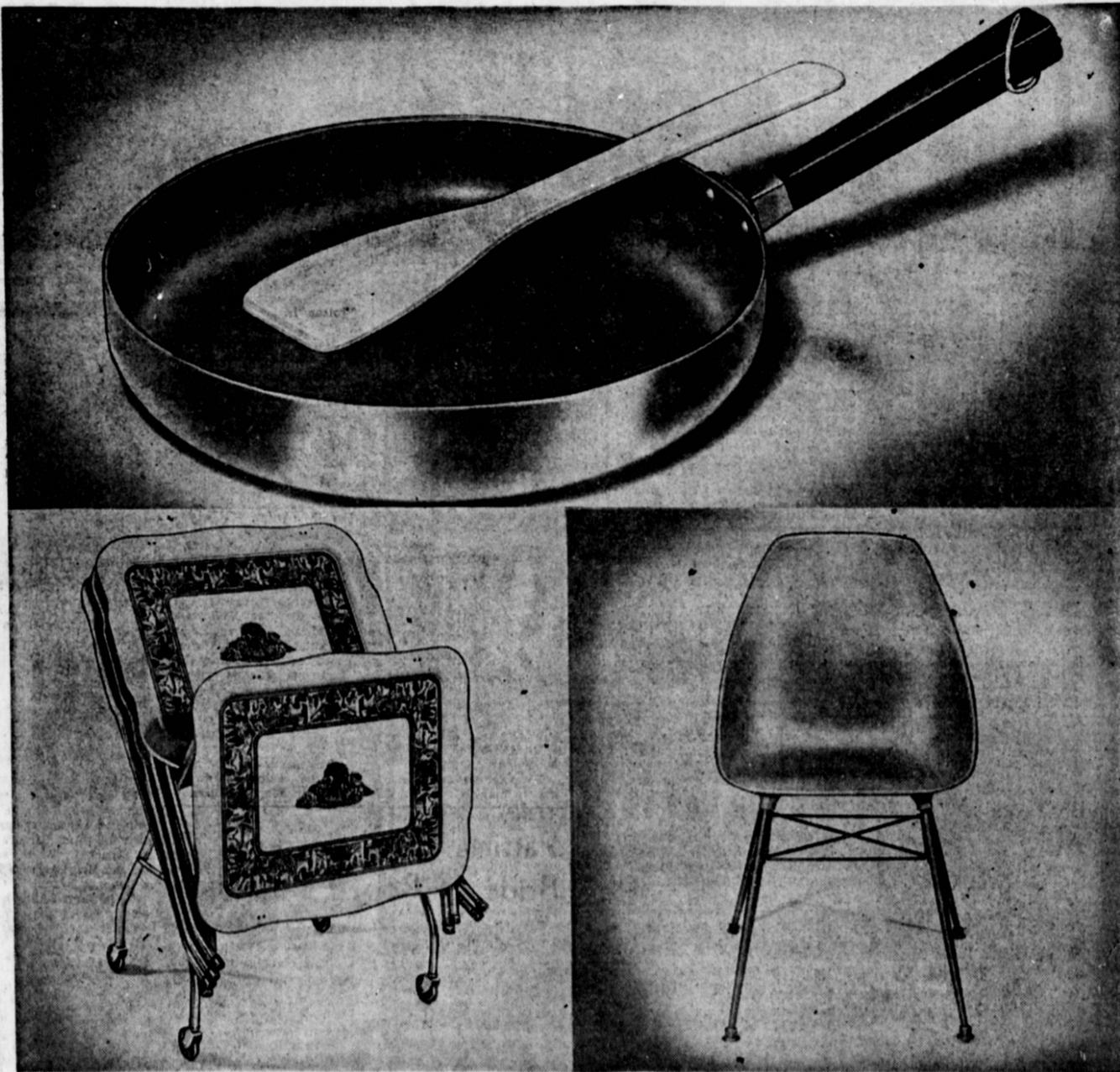
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