

# SPELMAN MOVE ENDS RIVIERA BUS LINE

## Stevens Admits Promise To Close City Dump Surprise Motion Cancels Service

### RECREATION AREA PLAN SUPPORTED

City Manager George Stevens admitted to the City Council Tuesday night that he had sent a letter to John Kettler, developer of Kettler Knolls, promising that the city dump would be closed and made into a recreation area, but declared that there was no time stipulated in the letter.

Stevens' statement came upon request of Councilman Nick Draie who again made his motion to close the city dump, condemn and close the private dump adjoining, and acquire property sufficiently distant from habitation so as to not be a health menace.

Again, the motion was lost for want of a second.

This is the third time Draie had made the motion, and the third time the other four councilmen had chosen to ignore the wishes of the hundreds of families living in new homes in nearby areas.

They charge that the dump is infested with rats, mice, flies and other filth.

Archie Watson, 2427 Border Avenue, backed Draie's plea, and told the councilmen that "the Council should take a little interest in the people they are supposed to represent." He continued, "let's get down to business and do something about this dump. Please, it is a terrible situation."

Mrs. Inez Brady, 1880 Plaza del Amo, declared the flies from the dump are terrible and the odors are "terrific," and again pleaded for closing down the dump now.

City Manager Stevens said that they will close down the dump "within a year," but Draie and the residents nearby want it closed at once.

### Helicopter Mail Saved For District

The latest threat to continued use of helicopters for air mail pick-up and delivery in the Torrance and Los Angeles area, as well as in other metropolitan districts of the nation, has been defeated, according to word to the Torrance Press from Washington.

Use of helicopters has greatly speeded delivery of mail to the Torrance area, it was said.

By a vote of 147 to 56 the House removed a provision in the Post Office Department appropriation bill which would have given the Postmaster General authority to use any means of transportation he found less costly and equally satisfactory.

The bill later was passed and sent to the Senate.

The provision eliminated did not mention helicopters specifically, but a minority report said it was directed particularly against helicopter mail service.

### Heart Attack Suffered By Charles Rippey

Charles T. Rippey, 1611 El Prado, prominent Torrance lawyer and property owner, for years local representative on the Metropolitan Water District, suffered a heart attack last Sunday morning at his home.

He has been under treatment in Torrance Memorial Hospital, where Mrs. Rippey reported he was "doing as well as can be expected."



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## 578th Leaves Camp Cooke Tomorrow

### TORRANCE MEN HEAD FOR JAPAN

The 578th Engineer Combat Battalion, of the 40th Division, is moving out of Camp Cooke, lock, stock and barrel—after a training period which has extended since September when the Division was called into federal service.

Destination: Japan.

It was reported this week that some 165 Torrance area men would be among the 40th Division personnel to depart by rail late Thursday and early Friday, from Camp Cooke for an embarkation station, enroute to the Orient.

WRITE TO THE BOYS  
If you want to write to the boys of the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion, 40th Division, here is how to address your letter:

- Soldier's name.
- Serial number, if you have it.
- Company designation.
- 578th Engineer Combat Battalion.
- 40th Division.
- Care APO No. 6.
- San Francisco, California.

The boys enjoyed their last freedom on pass on state-side last weekend, when many of the soldiers were home.

The 578th, formerly headquartered at Torrance Municipal Airport, was called into active duty with the 40th Division of the National Guard.

Many of the men, soon to be sent to Japan, are 18-year-old lads just graduated from high school and others are World War II veterans, leaving families behind.

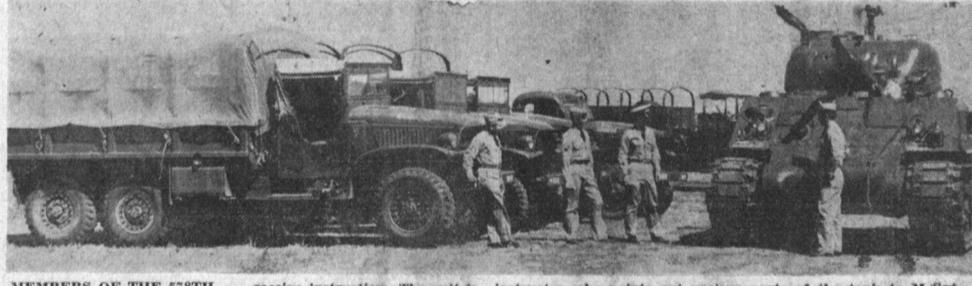
### Water Supply Lags Behind Growth Here

Torrance is growing and many of her growing pains are located in the water arteries of the spreading municipality.

According to William Stanger, superintendent of the Torrance Municipal water districts, Torrance now has facilities for delivering 6,500,000 gallons of water per day for all its three districts, but if growth continues at the same rate as it has been here, Torrance, in less than five years, may need 10,000,000 gallons of water a day to supply its fast-growing populace.

The daily consumption, at the present, per day for Torrance is 5,000,000 gallons of water.

Included in the \$2,000,000 wa-



MEMBERS OF THE 578TH . . . receive instruction. The unit is to leave tomorrow for Japan from Camp Cooke where they have been stationed. Pictured above is M/Sgt. Clyde Garver, local instructor who points out various parts of the tank to M/Sgt. Vernon Crawford, M/Sgt. Azael Garcia, Sgt. H. Woodrow Dyar, and Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Vaughan (in the tank).

### Thomas Keeps Torrance In His District

With the State Assembly battling over changes in the Assembly Districts of California completed, it appeared that Assemblyman Vincent Thomas had been able to keep Torrance in his 68th district. The Assembly voted 54 to 29 on Tuesday in favor of its Elections Committee plans for redistricting the state.

Redistricting of areas served by Congressmen was to be voted on yesterday, but it appeared the 17th Congressional district would remain intact.

As of last week, Thomas expressed the fear that by lopping off 25,000 population from his district, he might have to give up Torrance.

However, now Thomas expects to lose Delos Verdes, Miraleste and Catalina Island, but likely will be given the Dominguez area north to the Compton boundary.

San Pedro, Wilmington, Harbor City, Lomita and Torrance remain in the 68th, he said.

Thomas said the areas to be taken from his district will be added to the 46th assembly district, which fronts along Santa Monica bay.

### Vista Highland Streets Soon To Be Finished

Streets in the Vista Highlands district, getting curbs, gutter, and street pavement will be completed in a few weeks, according to City Manager George Stevens.

The property owners in the district have assessed themselves to pay for the curbs and gutters. The city is paving the streets. The area being improved includes portions of streets of Sonoma, Greenwood, El Dorado, Fern, Elm, and Date, all north of Carson St., and west of Crenshaw.



EVEN TANKS—Are among the many items of equipment used by the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion in accomplishing its mission. Tanks used by combat engineers are normally equipped with 'dozer blades so that men may work on combat construction projects and have adequate protection right along with them. Getting a lesson in operation of the big fighting machines while at Camp Cooke are (left to right) standing, Sgt. Norman Baker, of 1518 Amapola St., Torrance; and Sgt. Jesse J. Puckett, of 26309 Governor Ave., Harbor City; in tank, Pvt. Elton Russell, of 1735 Date Ave., Torrance, Sgt. Neal Silence, of 2372 Maricopa St., Torrance, and Cpl. Rudy Flores, of 2010 203rd St., Torrance. The men are members of Headquarters and Service Company, which was stationed at the Torrance Municipal Airport before being ordered to active duty with the 40th Infantry Division Sept. 1. They are to leave for Japan tomorrow from Camp Cooke, it is reported.



KEEP 'EM ROLLING—Drivers and mechanics of the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion are shown getting thorough instruction in how to operate their vehicles and how to repair them when something goes wrong. Master Sergeant Don Townsend (left), of 2220 Gramercy St., Torrance, briefs two men on what makes their "jeep" tick. Listening carefully are Pfc. Oliva Hanson of 3136 West 133rd St., Hawthorne, and Pvt. Sumo Omatsu, of 3501 Torrance Blvd., Torrance. The Battalion has been training with the 40th Infantry Division at Camp Cooke, and will leave tomorrow for Japan, it is reported.

### Postal Notes To Be Discontinued

The sale of postal notes will be discontinued with the close of business on March 31, 1951, announced Clara Conner, postmaster. The postal notes will be replaced by a new money order form to be placed on sale July 1, 1951.

During the interim, the present money order will be used. Money order applications will have to be filled out both for the present money order and the new ones. The new money order will have the advantage of being cashable anywhere in the United States.

At the main Torrance Post Office on Marcelina Ave., money orders will be on sale until 5:30 p.m. at the Carson station, 21732 So. Avalon. They will be on sale until 6 p.m.



OFFICERS OF THE 578th . . . are shown after being promoted while still stationed in Torrance. They are, left to right, Lt. Col. Dallas I. Downs, commanding officer of the unit which is moving out of Camp Cooke tomorrow for Japan; Major William L. Geissert, and Major Lee W. Gibbons. Major Geissert is battalion executive officer, and Major Gibbons is division engineer. —Photo Arts Studio Photo.

### Move Toward City Parking Meters Seen

"Parking meters" became a public topic again Tuesday night as the City Council ordered City Attorney James Hall to prepare proceedings to acquire full title to all streets in the original (central) Torrance tract.

The land involved was dedicated to the City of Torrance for exclusive use as streets and sidewalks.

Before the vote on the motion made by Mayor Bob Haggard, Councilman Nick Draie

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### Thomas Bill Asks For Torrance Court

Early action on bills introduced by Assemblyman Vincent Thomas to provide Torrance with a Municipal court, under provisions of the recently enacted Inferior Courts program, is anticipated, it was said this week.

Assemblyman Thomas, not satisfied with the way the court program is being set up in the area, introduced a bill providing for the constitution of the municipal court in a district embracing the City of Torrance, and prescribing the number and compensation of the judges, officers and attaches thereof. It was referred to the committee on judiciary. A similar bill was introduced embracing the City of Palos Verdes Estates and adjoining areas.

In another act, introduced by Thomas, provision is made that "notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Legislature shall prescribe the number of judges in each judicial district in which Municipal courts are established."

Thomas was told by Councilman Nick Draie that his 68th Assembly district had been deprived of a Municipal court under the program of the Board of Supervisors which establishes the court to serve the Torrance area in Redondo Beach. Also he was told that 25 percent of all cases handled by all the courts of the South Bay area communities originate in Torrance.

### Draie Plea For Alondra Hearing Lost

A request by Councilman Nick Draie that public hearings be held on the proposed annexation of Alondra Park to Torrance was lost Tuesday night when Draie's motion was lost for want of a second.

Draie told the Council that people in the areas involved and in Torrance want to have something to say about the annexation.

Mayor Bob Haggard told Draie, after his motion went unseconded, that "when it comes along, something will be done about it."

### City Orders Reconditioning Of Streets

Twenty blocks of five local streets are slated for improvement under a bid call announced this week by City Manager George Stevens.

Proposals for the projects, to be completed by summer, are to be received by the city council at 8 p.m. on April 10.

Slated for reconditioning are Cravens avenue between Marcelina and Post avenues, Arlington avenue between Carson street and Torrance boulevard, Post avenue between Sartori and Arlington avenues, Sepulveda boulevard.

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### Forger-Car Thief Nabbed In Nevada

An alleged forger and his colleague who decided to take a 1949 Ford Coupe from the Shultz and Peckham car lot last Saturday night for a little jaunt to Las Vegas was apprehended at Boulder City Sunday, according to Capt. Ernest Ashton of the Torrance Police Department.

The car is back on the Shultz and Peckham lot.

At a Las Vegas jail awaiting arrest by F.B.I. officers is Vernon James Bruce, charged with

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### Local Realtors Plan Educational Confab

Final details of the 1951 Educational and Sales Conference scheduled for local Realtors on Tuesday, April 3, were approved at a meeting recently held in Torrance.

Members of Realty Boards from Torrance, Lomita, Inglewood, Hawthorne, San Pedro, and Redondo Beach, were in attendance for the session with Jac. Pontius, educational director of the California Real Estate Association, and Bob Clayton, who is a member of the Association Educational Committee.

C. J. Ryan, president of the Torrance-Lomita Board, attended the joint meeting with W. E. (Continued on Page Three)



JUDGE WILLIAM MCKESSON, (extreme right) . . . Los Angeles Superior Court Judge and District Governor of District 4D-1 of Lions International congratulates A. Robinson, local owner of Lawson's Jewelers who was initiated into the club Tuesday, March 20. Other new members initiated into the club are, left to right, Alvin Peterson, of the Hunza House, and Charles Huber, insurance broker. —Torrance Press Photo.