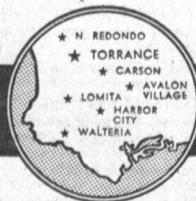


# Pilot Killed in Crash at Airport



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### CONTROL FAILS ON LANDING

A man who once was the youngest licensed pilot in the United States met his death last Tuesday night when attempting to land at Torrance Airport.

Charles Callis, 33, of Hawthorne, was killed instantly when his light plane smashed full throttle into a bean field just north of the runway.

#### Controls Fail

Probable failure of the plane's controls was given as the reason for the crash by Jim Sinclair, 23, co-owner of the craft.

Callis was landing the plane on its last flight before it was to undergo a yearly safety check required for re-licensing under the Civil Aeronautic Administration, according to Sinclair.

#### Witness

Sinclair, who witnessed the smashup while he was standing on the airfield, said Callis was approaching the field from the east at an altitude of about 900 feet. The pilot seemed to realize he was too high for a good landing and seemed to gun the motor just before the plane banked to the right to crunch nose-down into the soft earth.

Sinclair, who had flown the Ryan PT22 monoplane just before Callis took it up, said the victim had been in the air about 10 minutes and did two snap rolls at 4,000 feet before starting to come down.

CAA Inspector Frank A. Allen of the Long Beach air safety office is checking Sinclair's theory that the controls of the plane failed just before the accident at 6:15 p.m.

Sinclair said they bought the plane for \$850 last May 6 and had flown it frequently since then.

#### No Trouble

"It had never given us any trouble, but something must have gone wrong with the controls. Charlie was a crack-jack pilot... he's been flying since he was 14 years old," Sinclair declared.

Callis, who served in the Army Air Force during World War II, was employed as an inspector by the North American Aviation Co. He received his pilot's license at the age of 16.

### 2nd Rabies Clinic Set For Tonight

Anti-rabies shots were administered to 240 dogs last Thursday at the first of three clinics slated for Torrance.

The second clinic will be held this evening at McMaster Park, 172nd and Yukon st., between 7 and 9 p.m., according to Frank Fallon of the South Bay Humane Society.

Four veterinarians will be on duty so dog owners will not have to wait for the shots. The inoculations, which will be good for two years, will cost \$1.50 and will be given under the auspices of the Southern California Medical Assn.

The third clinic is scheduled for next Thursday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. at Torrance Park, on Arlington north of Sepulveda.

A new city and county law demands that all dogs be vaccinated against rabies.

# PARENTS FIND BOY HANGING IN GARAGE

## Child Fights for Life at Hospital

A 10-year-old Torrance boy is still in serious condition at Harbor General Hospital today after his parents found him hanging in the garage of their home last Sunday evening.

The boy, Johnnie Alton Wagner, was found by Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Wagner at about 6:30 p.m. when they returned from a shopping trip. The home is at 4753 Deelan st.

Lt. D. C. Cook, Torrance police department juvenile officer, reported that doctors at the hospital advised him not to question the child until today.

#### Cotton Rope

The boy was found hanging by a cotton rope around his neck from a storage rack near the ceiling. Police investigators were unable to determine if it was an accident or attempted suicide.

The parents rushed the boy to an emergency hospital in Redondo Beach. He was taken from there by ambulance to Harbor General.

Physicians had to put a tube down the boy's throat so he could breathe. They said he had apparently not been breathing for some time before arriving at the medical center in Redondo Beach, and expressed fear that brain damage or pneumonia may result because of lack of oxygen.

#### Good Spirits

The boy's parents stated that he had been in good spirits and had not been punished recently. The boy was seen about 10 minutes before his discovery by

two sisters, Barbara, 16, and Emma Lou, 14, who said he left the house with them as they departed for a religious meeting. Two other children, Gerard, 13, and Bonnie, 8, were in the house watching television and were unaware of their brother's plight.

## Name Second Finalists In Photo Contest

A sparkling photograph of the California state capitol at Sacramento took top honors in the second week's judging of the Torrance Press annual photo contest. The picture was submitted in the amateur division by Donald R. Ogden, 902 Patrollela ave.

R. D. Wollard, 1434 Fern ave., captured the semi-pro division laurels with his picture of a high-leaping roller skater. Camera fans, in both classifications still have four weeks in which to compete for prizes totalling \$140.

Entrants are asked to identify their photos and include their name, address, and phone number, as well as the type of camera and film used.

## 5 Injured When Auto Jumps Curb

Five persons received injuries when the car in which they were riding jumped a curb and hit a tree at 171st street and Delia avenue.

Driver of the car, Benjamin P. Huffman, 22, 316 North Gertrude, Redondo Beach, told Torrance police that his foot slipped from the brake onto the gas pedal as he was rounding the corner.

Receiving minor injuries were Loreta May Willbanks, of Torrance; Norma Butler, of Wilmington; William Delahanty, of Hermosa Beach; Bob Girard, of Redondo Beach, and the driver.

## DR. BAY QUILTS SCHOOL BOARD

The resignation of Dr. Joseph A. Bay from the Torrance Board of Education was accepted by the Board Tuesday night.

Dr. Bay, who had served two years of a four-year term, recently moved his residence out of Torrance. A Board ruling requires that members reside within the city limits.

Clinton B. Cook, 35, a general superintendent of the fabricating department at National Supply Co., was unanimously nominated to fill the unexpired two years of the term. The nomination will be sent to the Los Angeles county board of education for approval.

A six-year resident of Torrance, Cook has three children, two attending North Torrance Elementary school. They are David, 8, Carolyn, 6, and Michael, 3. The Cooks reside at 16216 Wilton Pl.

Cook has worked for National Supply since 1939 with the exception of a period during World War II when he served with the US Navy.

## Plane Crashes on Douglas Lot

An empty gas tank led to trouble last Saturday for Pilot Charles Holcomb of Compton. He found himself right smack in the middle of a fence at the Douglas Torrance plant parking lot. The pilot was not injured, but the plane was declared a total loss.

## LAD SAVES DROWNING 5-YEAR-OLD

An 11-year-old boy who can't swim emerged a hero last Sunday when he went into water over his head to rescue another child.

Donald Clark, 11, had been wading at the Alondra Park pool and was leaving for home when he heard a woman scream. "My boy's in there, and he hasn't come up."

Donald plunged in, found five-year-old Gary Toya in five feet of water and dragged him to the surface. Lifeguards took over and revived little Gary.

Donald finally climbed out of the pool shaking and told a lifeguard he couldn't swim.

When asked how he saved the child, Donald said, "I guess I was excited."

## Press Keeps Iron Busy Full Time

There's never an idle moment for Mrs. W. W. Scott, of 18211 Burn ave., since she ran a Torrance Press classified ad for ironing and baby sitting.

This busy lady is sold on the low cost and high results of the Press classifieds.

This small ad brought really "full time" results for Mrs. Scott.

WANTED—Ironing, \$1 hr. Also care for children, infants to school age. Fenced yard. FR. 6-1269

You can get the same results, and save money, too, by using Press classifieds. It's easy! Just call FA 8-2345.

## Jewish Center Picnic Sunday

The Gardena Valley Jewish Center will hold its seventh annual picnic this Sunday, July 22, at Torrance park, Arlington avenue, one block north of Sepulveda.

Food will be available, and games have been planned for all ages. There will also be a talent show in the band shell of the park at 1:30 p.m., under the supervision of the Torrance Recreation department. Members and friends are urged to come and spend the day.

## Lt. Governor Powers to Speak at Dedication

California Lieutenant Governor Harold J. Powers will be the principal speaker at the dedication of the new civic center, Aug. 11 and 12, it was announced this week by Mayor Al Isen.

Other speakers will include county supervisors Burton Chace and Kenneth Hahn, As-

semblyman Vincent Thomas, General Homer O. Eaton, commander of California's 40th armored division, and local civic officials, Isen said.

"We are proud and pleased that Lt. Gov. Powers has accepted our invitation to participate in the dedication," the mayor stated.

Parade Marshal He also announced that Los Angeles County Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz will act as parade marshal for the dedication parade.

The festivities, which will last two days, will be the largest celebration ever staged in Torrance. Plans call for, in addition to the speakers and parade, a street dance, an aquacade and an art and flower show.

#### Floats

Local civic clubs and labor unions, under the direction of J. A. Beasley, are planning to arrange for 100 floats and decorated cars, and the Long Beach Car Club will contribute 20 ancient "horseless carriages," it was disclosed.

The Torrance area Youth Band and other musical groups will provide parade music and will give band concerts at the civic center on both afternoons.

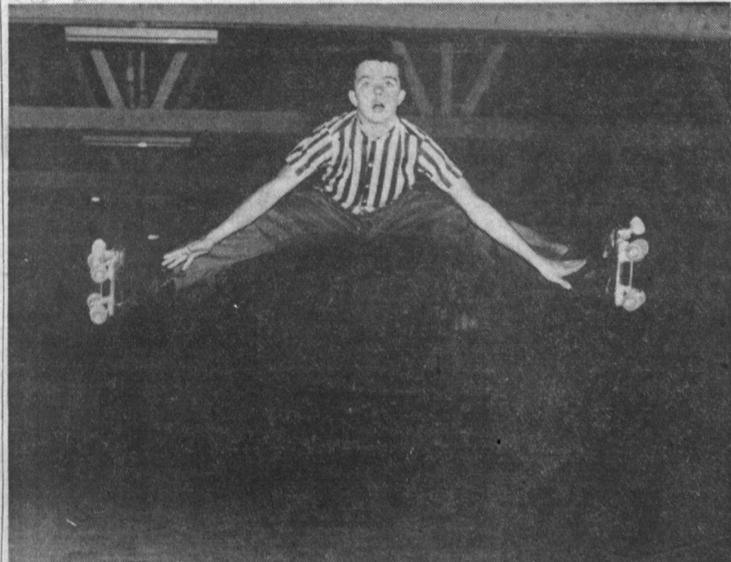
In conjunction with the civic center dedication, Torrance will also observe National Guard Day on August 11, according to a proclamation issued this week by Mayor Isen.

A presentation of equipment and a drill exhibition by the National Guard unit is planned, along with an address by Gen. Eaton, it was disclosed.



### CONGRATULATIONS, HONEY

Mrs. Abe Robinson plants congratulatory kiss on her husband as both receive gavels at installation ceremonies held last Saturday for the Torrance Lions club and Lionesses. The ceremony was held in San Pedro.—Press Photo.



#### SECOND FINALIST IN SEMI-PRO SECTION

High speed action caught by a camera was this week named the second finalist in the Torrance Press photo contest. The picture was taken by R. D. Wollard, 1434 Fern ave. His photo was entered in the semi-professional classification. The photo of the finalist in the amateur division is reproduced on page 14.

## Multi-Million Dollar Catholic Hospital Set

A 125-bed hospital, to cost \$2½ million, will be built on a ten-acre site on Torrance blvd., near the new civic center, it was announced this week by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles.

Construction of the four-story building will begin as soon as state approval of the plans is received. It will

be a general hospital with full medical, surgical and obstetric facilities, according to Rt. Rev. Thomas J. O'Dwyer, hospital director for the archdiocese.

The hospital, to be located on the northeast corner of Torrance blvd. and Earl st., will serve approximately one-half million people within the Torrance and Redondo area and the South Bay cities.

#### Tell Plans

Gene Verge, architect, disclosed that plans call for a building which can be doubled in size when needed and a parking area which will accommodate 500 cars.

The hospital will be conducted by the Little Company of Mary, a community of nursing sisters. They conduct four other hospitals in the United States and one in Rome, Italy. This will be their first hospital in California.

Monsignor O'Dwyer said that Torrance was chosen for the hospital because of its central location and the availability of a suitable site.

#### Financing

One third of the cost of the project, he said, will be raised by subscription, and two thirds will come from state and federal aid hospital appropriations. Both federal and state aid are available on an equal basis to any area suffering a shortage of hospital facilities. The monsignor disclosed that this area is number two on the federal priority list for California.

"The South Bay area needs 640 more hospital beds if the necessary minimum of three

beds per 1000 population is to be achieved," he said.

The new hospital will be designed so that its capacity can be doubled to 250 beds, it was reported.

Future plans call for the construction of a private chapel to serve the hospital and a convent for the nursing sisters.

The architect stated that plans for the hospital will be completed this year and construction will begin early next year.

George W. Schneider, a Torrance resident and a partner in the Orange County Land Development Co., represented the archdiocese in acquiring the property.

## Rites Saturday for Local Airman Killed In Crash

A full military funeral will be held Saturday for Airman 3/c James Vernon Cordes, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Cordes, of 3338 Newton st., Walthers, who was among 45 persons killed last Friday when a military air transport plane crashed in a swamp near Trenton, N. J.

Airman Cordes, who was a Torrance high school graduate, was on his way to a station at Burtonwood, England, following a month's leave at home, when the crash occurred.

#### Color Guard

Rev. Clyde Fleming, chaplain of the Long Beach Air Force Base will officiate at the service at Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel on Saturday at 1 p.m. Six airmen will act as pallbearers and a color guard and firing squad will attend at the graveside service at Green Hills Memorial Park.

Cordes graduated from Torrance high school in June, 1955,



Crash Victim

and entered the Air Force four days later. During his high school years he had delivered a San Pedro paper after school and on weekends.

#### Survivors

He is survived by his parents, two brothers, Michael of the home address, John of Wilmington; and a sister, Mrs. Sally O'Neil of Torrance. Also surviving is his fiancée, Miss Carole Bernansconi of Greenfield, California.

The plane, with 66 military and civilian persons aboard, crashed shortly after take off from the Fort Dix military reservation, at 4 p.m. Friday.

# Rolling Hills Files to Create New City

See Story Page Two