



TORRANCE PRESS

LOCAL FAMILY MAINTAINS HOPE THAT SAILOR ALIVE IN PACIFIC AIR DISASTER

Wife Expecting Baby; Prays Husband Alive

By RALPH GOMPERTZ

A 19-year-old Torrance youth, who joined the navy because he loved the sea ever since he can remember, may now be fighting for his life against a cold, vast, impersonal Pacific.

Ironically, it was a plane rather than a ship which betrayed him, dumping him and 66 others into the sea. "If there's a raft out there, he's on it!"

This is the faith and the hope to which members of his family here cling doggedly ever since hearing of the C97 Military Transport disaster about 200 miles from Tokyo, Friday, March 22.

Reported Missing
Reported missing is Seaman Ronald John Kordich, 19, whose wife, Sharon, lives at 5120 Newton st., Welteria. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kordich, 24427 Madison st., and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Wearden, 24448 Ward st., Welteria.

Kordich, according to his aunt, Mrs. Marco Mazarovich, had a premonition of disaster before leaving San Francisco. "I don't think I'm coming back," he wrote his wife. But after writing this, he phoned, saying that he was sorry about what he had written.

Upon seeing a bulletin about the missing plane flash over TV Thursday, Mrs. Mazarovich had a violent inkling of disaster even before the family was notified.

"I didn't know he was on that flight," she said. "But when I saw the bulletin I went screaming out of the house telling my husband that he was on that plane."

The family was notified that Kordich was on the plane Friday morning. The telegram from the chief of Naval Personnel stated that he was missing but not to give up hope.

Wife Pregnant
"His wife doesn't believe that he is dead and won't believe it," Mrs. Mazarovich said. "She is expecting a baby. She says she (Turn to Page 5)



SEAMAN RONALD J. KORDICH MISSING. He had a premonition of disaster before boarding ill-fated plane.

Sea View Zone Issue Up to Court

By the sea, by the sea, by the beautiful sea... there's trouble brewing.

Owners of sea-view lots in Hollywood Riviera are trying to obtain permission to allow the development of apartments and a resort hotel on the ocean front.

They're being opposed by members of the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners assn., who argue that larger buildings would block their view of the shoreline and ocean.

The Torrance Planning Commission will have nothing to do with the zoning plan until a (Turn to Page 5)

Man Killed, Falls 40 Feet

Killed last Thursday when he fell 40 feet from the top of an oil storage tank at the Richmond Oil co. plant in Wilmington was Jesse W. Sanders, 1324 W. 216th st., Torrance.

Sanders, an employe of Southwest Welding Manufacturing co. which had a contract to build storage tanks, was dead on arrival at Long Beach Seaside hospital.

Police Officers Caught In San Francisco Quake

Two Torrance police officers, who were caught in the recent San Francisco earthquake, said they didn't feel secure until they hit the city limits of Torrance.

Lt. D. C. Cook and Sgt. Gus Rethwisch, attending the Eighth Annual Conference of the California State Juvenile Assn., found themselves right in the middle of the worst quake to hit San Francisco since 1906.

"I was standing in the mezzanine of the Lemington hotel when it started to rock and roll," Lt. Cook said. "Don't think for one minute the hotel didn't shake—it shook for 30 seconds and I didn't think it would quit."

"I knew what was happening immediately," he continued. "The plaster was coming down and I said to a man I was talking to 'Let's move under this beam.' I thought the building was coming down. It was a weird feeling."

Rethwisch, at the time, was on the fourth floor of a department store looking through the glassware section. The glassware came tumbling down around him.

Rethwisch headed for the hotel. "Clear the way, let's go for Torrance," he exclaimed as he rushed up to Cook.

"When I heard of the earthquake I was confident I'd be promoted head of the juvenile bureau," Officer Leo Gonzalez said down here joking wryly.

Cook said he was impressed at the calmness of San Francisco residents. The radio announced (Turn to Page 5)

Daylight Raid Nets Man \$5000

Entering a self-service station at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach blvds. silently, a bandit threatened Leo Levy, 43, station manager, with a black revolver and then made off with \$5000.

Levy said the money was in a canvas bag which he had just taken from a floor safe preparatory to cashing payroll checks for customers.

"This is it. Give me the sack," the bandit ordered.

Investigators said the robber had apparently planned the hold-up carefully, having observed the station's policy for some time.

Amusement Park Passes Inspection

Inspection of the equipment at Welteria Kiddie land, 3860 Pacific Coast hwy., scene of an accident last week, shows it to be in good condition, according to Lee Schless, superintendent of building.

Schless indicated that an inspector went out after Jimmy Tim Lehner, 8, and Rodney Karr, 6, fell from a ferris wheel, injuring themselves.

The superintendent also stated that owner of the park indicated that he is covered by insurance.

Rabies Shots Set For Friday

About 800 dog owners availed themselves of three rabies clinics held in Torrance last week, according to Frank Fallon of the South Bay Humane society.

One other public clinic will be held this Friday, March 29, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Redondo city park, Torrance blvd. at Pacific, he stated.

Shots are \$1.50. All Torrance dogs are required to have rabies shots, according to law. Violators will be prosecuted as of April 1, according to City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer.

Moose Club Votes \$500 For Hospital

A check for \$500 was voted to be given to the Little Company of Mary campaign by the Torrance Moose Lodge, according to Daniel Desmond, governor, and Joe Piatt, public affairs chairman.

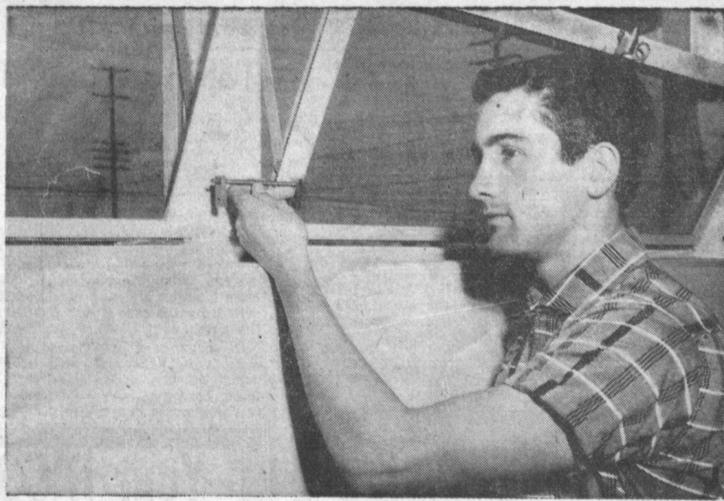
Consistent with the avowed principles of the organization, members will ask that the money will be used for the children's ward.

The auxiliary of the chapter was expected to take action on its donation last night.

\$500 To Be Given Away By Merchants

One-hundred free gift certificates for \$5 each will be given away by the Downtown Retail Merchants division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Entry blanks may be obtained from any of the participating merchants. No purchase is necessary to enter. On Monday, April 1, the drawing will be held at the Chamber of Commerce, 1395 El Prado.



SIMPLE SOLUTION

James Rone, 17, North High school junior, figured out a safety device for windows, which, until now, opened at a dangerous angle. Rone then made the safety catch in machine shop. It is now in use on all windows.—Press Photo.

EDITORIAL

Freedom From Promoters

Bond issues are often complicated. And because they are citizens often vote against them, even though the issues may be very important.

One reason why bond issues fail is because voters frequently do not understand them properly.

To solve this problem, a firm—J. E. Hanauer & co.—has approached the City Council offering its services as "financial consultants."

Part of the firm's job would be to promote bond issues which the City Council has voted to place on the ballot.

The firm would be paid anywhere from three-fourths of one per cent to one and three-fourths per cent of the total bond issue.

We believe that such a policy is not only fundamentally wrong, but dangerous.

The City Council—a political body—does not have the right to hire individuals to promote issues which are fundamentally political.

This right is reserved strictly to citizen groups desiring either the success or defeat of the civic and political issues involved.

An agency, hired by the city, would necessarily defend the view of its employer.

Not only would the money at the agency's disposal place opposition forces at a disadvantage, but democratic government would be placed in jeopardy when the majority opinion of a political body can hire promoters whose financial power could virtually silence opposition.

We agree that the public has the right to be properly informed regarding political issues. That is the duty of a free, competitive press.

But the merits of an efficient promotion agency working for a political body such as the city are far outweighed by the potential evils.

Democracy, even when it stumbles and bungles, is safer in the long run than political efficiency which tends to become dictatorial and ultimately tyrannical.

Realtor Week Observed By Real Estate Board

Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors will begin the observance here on March 31 of Realtor Week, joining hundreds of similar boards across the country during this same period in presenting to the public the high aims and obligations of realtors, Roy A. Shaw, board president, announced today.

Shaw explained that Realtors are those real estate brokers who have taken on the duty of providing individual and community services beyond the call of ordinary commerce.

(Watch for special realtor page next week.)

These obligations, immensely important to the persons dealing with and through realtors, arise from the realtor's membership in the local board and in the National Association of Real Estate boards, he said.

And, only by membership in these bodies may a broker use the term realtor.

Shaw added: "In joining the local and national realtor organizations, the incoming broker must pledge himself to act in accord with the realtor's strict code of ethics which is based upon the Golden Rule and embodies these words: 'Whatever you would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them.'"

"The standards of this code are higher than those set forth in state license laws, and the local board is empowered to see to it that its members live up to its provisions. Those cited for violation of the code's terms face loss of membership."

"Realtors throughout the country are recognized as a group who work closely with all citizens for the betterment of their communities," Shaw said.

NHS Student Praised For Ingenuity

The ingenuity of James Rone, 17, a junior at North High, caught the attention of school officials this week, including members of the Board of Education.

Rone solved an acute safety problem which had been puzzling school authorities for over a year, according to Dr. Al Posner, assistant superintendent, educational services.

The problem was how to prevent classroom windows from opening into the classroom at a dangerous angle.

Rone figured out a safety device which was simple to make and to install, which limits the degree to which the windows will open, thus removing the danger of anyone walking into them.

Posner indicated that Rone has saved the district many dollars. The catches are now used on all windows.

Terry Fryer, also a junior, helped Rone with the project. John Crowle, American Heritage teacher, stimulated the boys' interest in the problem while William Schuchman, machine shop teacher, helped with the technical aspects of making the catches.

City Asks Additional County Funds

Torrance, wanting to get its fair share of the county's recreation money, will make a strong pitch before the Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

The City Council authorized Mayor Albert Isen and City Manager George Stevens to write letters asking for the adoption of a newly proposed plan which represents a fairer apportioning of funds.

For the past four years the city has only received \$4800. If the new formula is approved, the city stands to receive \$13,200 for recreation purposes during the coming fiscal year.

Some cities with less valuation than Torrance have actually been getting as much as three times as much money as Torrance.

While the new formula has been approved, some of the cities standing to lose former revenue are protesting it.

Increased Council, Mayor Elected at Large Studied

A study to create a seven-man council with the mayor elected at large (six councilmen and a mayor) is being considered by the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, according to Douglas (Dutch) Hurlander.

Such action would require an amendment to the present city charter which now calls for a five-man council, one member of which acts as mayor by majority vote of the councilmen themselves.

The matter will be discussed by a panel consisting of Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Nick Draie, with City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer acting as moderator April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Club Alondra, 16411 Prairie ave. The event is open to the public.

The clubs' dinner precedes this part of the program. Reservations may also be made for that by calling FR. 2-4285.

The Torrance Press came out recently urging such a move.

Man Faces Jail, Fine Over Sump Violation

Facing a maximum penalty of \$1000 fine and 180 days in the county jail, E. B. Kenney, 66, of 2351 W. 230th st., will come up for arraignment March 28 on two counts of violating Torrance's "Kathy Fiscus" ordinances.

The oil producer is charged with failing to provide fencing around two of his oil well sumps and failing to install a muffler for an alleged noisy pump engine.

Kenney was warned about these violations but never complied with the requirements, George C. Powell, planning director, stated.

The oil man was issued a warrant by the South Bay Municipal Court to answer to charges on January 2, but failed to appear in court.

A warrant for his arrest was issued this week and he was released on \$500 bail.

Know Your Gold Seal Merchants

Gold Seal Merchants who are outstanding leaders in their particular fields have been selected for their integrity and honesty and are especially pledged to uphold the highest code of business ethics.

Displayed in their window will be a Gold Seal which is the symbol of satisfaction when shopping.



ELDON J. BOWEN, vice-president of SOUTHWEST SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSN., and manager of the Torrance branch, is busy this week preparing for the grand opening of the new headquarters at 1603 Cravens, on March 29, 30 and April 1. The association is also celebrating its third anniversary in Torrance—the main office is located in Inglewood. Business hours are 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and Fridays from 11 a.m.—7:30 p.m. Bowen, and his wife, Lois, live at 2259 W. 236th St.



At 101 BEAR SERVICE, 25855 S. Vermont, Harbor City, California Safety Service specialists offer dependable service to all their patrons. Manager JAMES BETTIS JR., boasts expert brake, wheel alignment, frame service and motor tune-ups. His fine reputation attracts customers from all over the South Bay area who are looking for a "better deal." According to Bettis, "Safety Means Longer Life," and the 101 Bear Service does everything possible to insure that safety. He is a member of the San Pedro Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Press Offers Evening Classified Ad Service

Classified advertisers are being offered a new evening service starting today.

When you call after regular business hours when the office is closed, you may leave a message with an electronic ad-taker.

You will be given 30 seconds to leave your name, address, telephone number and message.

By writing down your classified ad in advance, you will have sufficient time to dictate it to the machine.

If there are any questions about the ad, a classified girl will call you back in the morning.

Should you desire help in wording your ad, just leave your name, address and telephone number and a classified girl will call you back at any time you designate.

Cost of a classified ad is \$1.30 for 15 words.

Downtown Merchants Hold Month-End Sale