

# FBI Urges Counter Attack Against Young Thugs

## Juvenile Crime Menace to Nation

AN EDITORIAL

Although the daily log at the Torrance police department seldom fails to list several complaints or law violations involving minors, juvenile delinquency here is probably no more prevalent, and maybe less so, than in other cities of comparable size; but the very frequency of such complaints locally justifies publication in full of a bulletin dated Oct. 1 and addressed to all law enforcement officials of the country by J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Identification.

The PRESS heartily commends it to the attention of all parents of teenagers. Here is what Director Hoover had to say in urging all-out action against this nation-wide menace:

"One of the most shocking developments in our present American society is the volcanic upheaval of youthful lawlessness. Long indifferent to the problem of juvenile crime, the public now stands appalled at the spectacle of rampaging teen-age criminals. This tragic consequence of public apathy is now at a crisis and calls for an all-out counterattack against vicious young thugs.

Blazing headlines of torture, sadism, murder, and gang warfare toll the depredations of teen-age menaces. The black figures of crime statistics present an even more doleful account. In 1958, arrests of juveniles under the age of 18 increased 8 per cent, while arrests of adults rose 1.8 per cent. Alarming, not only the frequency of youth crimes but the savagery of these offenses is mounting day by day, year by year.

"The problem of youth crime—truly a monster of frightening proportions—exists not only in the densely populated metropolitan centers, but in each and every community in the land. Violent crime sprees and the bizarre escapades of young hoodlums, wily and hardened beyond their years, fire the imagination of other young punks across the Nation. Unfortunately, any escape from justice by youthful lawbreakers—through weak court systems, public indifference, soft-headed sentimentality, senseless preference for the rights of the criminal instead of for his victim—can only give encouragement to other young thugs.

"Action against this youth menace must not be delayed. Past public ignorance of the problem, misguided sentiment for the tender age of these lawbreakers, and the fallacy of economizing in the quantity and quality of our juvenile courts must be abolished. It is imperative that the American public stand shoulder to shoulder with the undermined and overburdened law enforcement authorities in combating the youth crime attack.

"It is my firm conviction that the all-out campaign against these flagrant young criminals who commit serious crimes must include publishing their names and crimes for public information, the ready availability of past records for the information of appropriate law enforcement officers, and fingerprinting of these young lawbreakers for future identification.

"A valuable ally in the fight against crime, the news media of the Nation can afford further public service in focusing the spotlight of public opinion on those members of the judiciary who, in the face of the present crisis, persist in endangering the public by unleashing young terrorists apprehended at great risk by law enforcement officers.

"Parents who, through bad example, indifference, or lust for worldly gain, inflict upon their fellow men the scourge of vicious offspring deserve to feel the sting of public indignation and to face legal and financial responsibility for the criminal acts of their children.

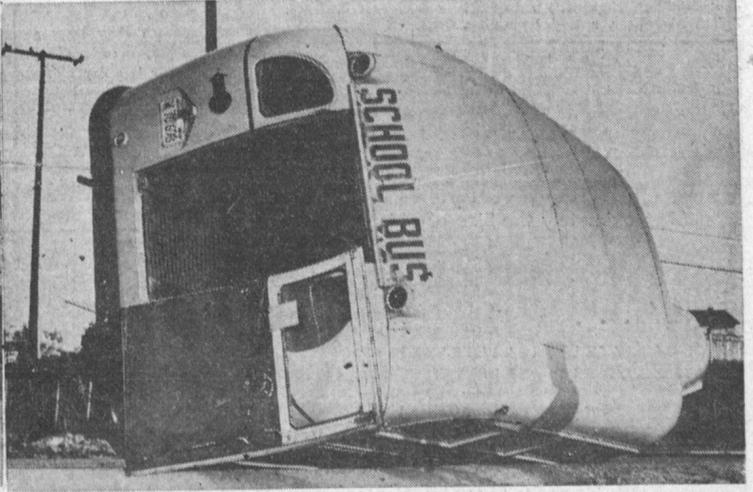
"At this time, when the increase in youthful crimes constitutes the bulk of the shameful rise in our national crime, serious consideration should be given to lowering the age distinction between a juvenile and an adult violator. We are dealing with vicious young criminals, and they should be treated as such.

"The prevention of juvenile destruction lies in the establishment of juvenile discipline. Assuredly, this is the responsibility of every individual interested in his own safety and the welfare of his country."



WHAT'S LEFT of car after it skidded on a stretch of muddy pavement on Vermont Ave., south of 208th St., at 4:50 p.m. Friday and crashed into a Los Angeles City Schools bus. The driver, Robert Klein, 36, of Los Angeles,

miraculously escaped with only minor injuries and was released from Harbor General Hospital following emergency treatment. Woman beside the car was driver of the bus.



OVERTURNED by the impact of the collision, here's the school bus, showing open rear door through which passerby removed the driver, Mrs. Margaret Lemke, 47, of Wilmington, and the sole passenger, Beatrice Williams, 14, of

Wilmington. Neither sustained serious injuries and were also treated at Harbor General Hospital. Gasoline leaking from broken tank of the bus did not ignite.

—Press Photo

The Largest Circulating Newspaper between Los Angeles and Long Beach



# TORRANCE PRESS

1406 CRAVENS AVE.—FA 8-2345

10c PER COPY

NUMBER 48

VOL. XI

1 • 2 •

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1959

# Hit By Skidding Auto, School Bus Overturned

## 10 Children Discharged Just Before Collision

The woman driver and one remaining girl passenger in a Los Angeles City School bus had a narrow brush with death when the vehicle was struck nearly head-on by a skidding car and overturned on Vermont Ave., about 500 feet south of 208th St., at about 5:40 p.m. Friday.

Almost miraculously, 10 other school children had left the bus a few blocks way only a few minutes before the crash, preventing what might have been a far more serious accident.

The bus was knocked over on its right side, preventing escape from the front entrance door, but while gasoline was still streaming from a broken tank, passers-by brought the driver and girl out of the rear safety exit.

Driver of the bus, Margaret Lemke, 47, 951 11th St., San Pedro; the girl passenger, Beatrice Williams, 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Williams, 1100 East Court St., Wilmington, and the driver of the 1951 Pontiac which struck the bus, Robert Klein, 36, of 810 1/2 South Burlington, Los Angeles, were all treated at Harbor General Hospital for painful but not serious cuts and abrasions.

Klein and the Williams girl were taken to the hospital by ambulance, but Mrs. Lemke remained at the accident scene for some time before going to the hospital for treatment.

Klein's car reportedly went into a skid when it struck a long stretch of pavement with a coat of slippery mud and he lost control of it.

If the accident had occurred a couple of hundred feet north, impact of the crash very likely would have caused the vehicle to go over a six-foot embankment.

The injured girl and all of the children who had been in the bus are pupils at the Henry Clay School, 122nd St. and Vermont Ave.

Robert Watson and other officers of the California Highway

## Woman Says She Was Thrown Out of Attacker's Car

Patrol division at Compton, together with a detail from the sheriff's office, took charge at the accident scene, rerouting traffic on Vermont until the bus and car were hauled away from the highway.

A rig from the county fire department was also dispatched to the scene to prevent the possibility of fire from the leaking gasoline.

The woman, who was discovered by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Caerres, 1048 17th St., Santa Monica, while they were driving by, did not elaborate further and did not identify the man.

Officers Daly and Solis, who took the woman's report, told her that Torrance police could not investigate further unless she filed a formal complaint. Up until yesterday, she had not done so.

## Council, Airport Commission, Meet Jointly Monday

So many matters affecting the Torrance Municipal Airport came before the attention of the City Council last Tuesday night that a special adjourned meeting was scheduled for tomorrow at 5:30 when a joint session will be held with members of the Airport Commission.

Highlighting the agenda will be consideration of another airport improvement bond issue, recommended by the Airport Commission.

## Heart Attacks Take Two Torrance Men Only 2 Hours Apart

Two Torrance men died from heart attacks at their homes Friday approximately two hours apart.

First to die was Herbert Herman Smith, 38, of 19409 Anza, whose wife, Sybil, said he arose about daylight, complaining he couldn't sleep. She discovered him unconscious and called the police at 6:48 a. m. He hadn't been ill or even seen a doctor since seven years ago, when he suffered a head injury, she told police. His body was removed to Halverson-Leavell Mortuary, Torrance.

The second victim, Frank Crane, 85, of 2405 West Carson St., sustained his attack about 8:30 a. m. Taken to Harbor General Hospital by Goodhue Ambulance Service at 8:43 a. m., he was pronounced dead on arrival there by Dr. Bluchet.

## Driver Asleep at Wheel When Auto Crashes Into Tree

Laurence Louis, 3734 Hazelbrook Ave., Long Beach, who told police he must have fallen asleep at the wheel of his Ford Thunderbird, required emergency treatment for lacerations of the face and lips after his car struck a tree on Pacific Coast Hwy. at 2 a. m. Friday. He said the last thing he remembers was stopping for a red light at the intersection of Prospect Ave.

## 'Hiss' Like Female Boa May Get You \$10 Reward

Residents of the Palos Verdes peninsula are hoping that some one will soon claim the \$10 reward offered by Attorney Sam Major, 4108 Miraleste Dr., for the return of what he described as a "perfectly harmless" 6-foot long boa constrictor, as big around as a man's arm, which escaped from his home Wednesday and was still at large on Friday.

Captured in the jungles of Brazil three years ago, the reptile is a "pet" of Major's two sons, Lonnie, 7, and Mitchell, 12; and is called "Pierpont," but there's no guarantee that he will answer to that name if found.

However, a "hiss" like that of a female boa constrictor will attract his attention, Major said.

## Torrance Schools Will Test Use of TV in Classrooms

Television sets, which will be used in four schools to test the value of educational TV, arrived last week and will be in use shortly, according to school officials in Torrance.

Sets will be used at Riviera and Casimir Elementary Schools and at Torrance and South High Schools. Various methods of showing the programs from Los Angeles will be tested, Assistant Superintendent Albert Posner said.

South High, for instance, will have one set which will be used by only one class at a time in such fields as science, social studies, careers, and English.

Torrance High, on the other hand, will try using two sets at once in its auditorium, with TV programs shown to several classes at once.

Casimir, which has two, and Riviera, which has one set, will also try various methods. After study of whether children learn better with TV supplementing regular instruction and the best methods of presentation, officials

## Pennies, Nickels, Dimes Add Up to Memorial for Carolyn Jones

Pennies, nickels and dimes added up to a living memorial for a small child recently.

Contributions from over 300 friends and playmates of little Carolyn Jones made possible the presentation of a live wall incubator, to Torrance Memorial Hospital yesterday morning.

The gift in memory of Carolyn, who died last summer of a rare disease, was spearheaded by James A. Miller and William Zecher, principal of Seaside Elementary School, as a tribute to her and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jones.

Parents of Seaside children, where Carolyn attended kindergarten last year and where her father formerly served for five years as principal, decided on the incubator as a way of sharing her memory with countless others.

The incubator, a self-contained unit, will be used for all newborn babies during the first few hours of their life.

The plaque which accompanies it reads: "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die. Presented in loving memory of Carolyn Jones by her friends at Seaside School."

Jones, who helped so many other children during his years at Seaside, is now the city's curriculum consultant. He and his wife have two other children, a son, 14, and Carolyn's twin brother, 6.

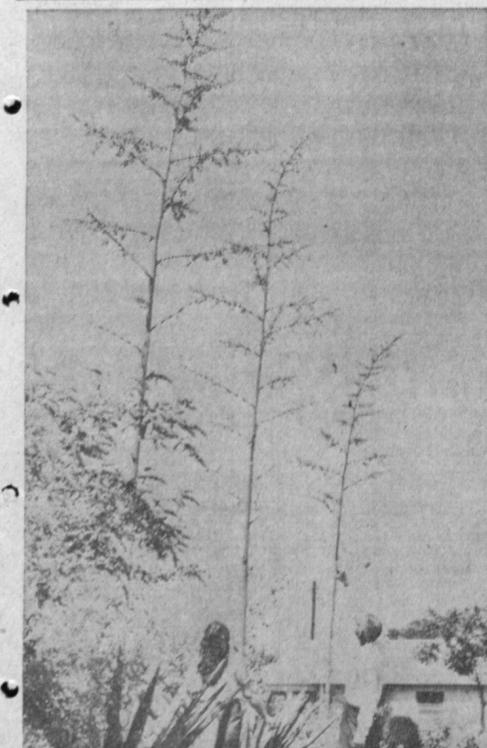
## Redondo Beach Asks City to Share Cost of Traffic Signals

A request from the city of Redondo Beach that the city of Torrance participate in the expense of installing traffic signals on 190th St. at Inglewood Ave., Anza Ave. and Rindge Lane, which would require appropriation of special funds, was referred by the City Council last Tuesday to the Traffic Commission for further study and report.



WHAT DID YOU LEARN?—That is a question that teacher James K. McDonell is asking students in his seventh grade class at Riviera School after the children watched an educational TV program on the history of man. Four

Torrance schools are trying out various uses of educational TV to determine its effectiveness. Programs are used to supplement regular classroom material.



MYSTERY PLANT located in yard of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Riddle, 25606 January Dr., started from a shoot which they secured five years ago at Banning Park, has suddenly grown approximately 15 feet in the last two months. The couple think it may be a century plant, but aren't sure. Whatever it is, you can almost see it grow, they state.