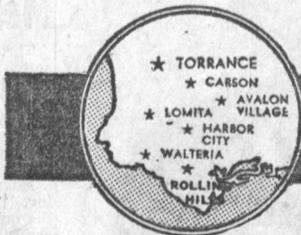


Torrance Man Hospitalized After Crash

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Three Dead as Plane Plunges into Ground

Torrance Man, Friends Crash After Takeoff

Three Torrance residents died Friday night, as their light aircraft crashed shortly after takeoff from Torrance Municipal Airport.

Found dead in the wreckage were John Strech, Jr., 41, of 3124 Hwy. 101, local restaurateur, and two companions Stephen Starkey, 39, of Redondo Beach, and Carol Lynn Farmer, 21, of Torrance.

Scene of the crash was an empty field near the intersection of Hawthorne and Lomita Blvd. Portions of the plane were scattered over a wide area although the craft did not burn.

Investigating officers said the force of the impact was so great that keys in the pockets of the victims had been bent double.

UNKNOWN CAUSE

Cause of the crash is unknown, although investigating officials assumed that engine failure forced the plane down.

Torrance police logs show that the plane took off at 9:55 p.m. while the first reports of the crash were listed at 10:07.

Stretch, owner of the Hickory Stick Bar-B-Que, across the highway from the airport, was active in civic and social circles in Torrance. He was a former member of the Chamber of Commerce board of directors and of the Kiwanis Board. He was also active in programs of the Walteria Businessmen's Club.

An active boating and flying enthusiast he had been flying for nearly four years.

Friends of trio speculated that Stretch closed his restaurant at 9 p.m., as usual, and then decided to go for a

short spin with Starkey and Miss Farmer. A high fog that kept other planes grounded may have been a contributing factor in the accident.

FAA authorities will conduct an investigation on the cause of the crash.

Polio Inoculation Programs Slated Here Next Week

Dollar polio vaccinations will be given at three locations in Torrance next week, it was reported yesterday by March of Dimes officials.

Shots will be administered August 23, 2-3, 7-8 p.m., at the Bain Medical Clinic, 2093 Torrance Blvd., August 25, 12:30-2:30 p.m., at Von's Market, 5035 Pacific Coast Highway; and August 26, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the J. C. Penney Store, Del-Amo Shopping Center, corner of Hawthorne Blvd. and Carson St.

Chairmen of the projects are Dr. Martin F. Bain, Mrs. Lester Morley, and Douglas Hedde. Chairmen urged parents to protect children and themselves against paralytic polio before the high incidence season in late summer and early fall.

DEATH SCENE—Three Torrance residents were killed Friday night following their takeoff from Torrance Municipal Airport. Dead in the crash were John Strech, Jr., 41, of 3124 Pacific Coast Highway, Stephen Starkey, 39, of Redondo Beach, and Carol Lynn Farmer, 21, of Torrance. Left, workmen struggle to untangle the wreckage at the scene of the crash, near intersection of Hawthorne and Lomita Blvd. Investigating officers theorized that the trio were taking a short spin before going home when plane engine failed. Local police and FAA officials will conduct separate investigations to determine cause of the crash. Strech, pilot of the plane, is well known in Torrance civic improvement circles, was former member of Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, and Walteria Businessmen's Club. He was owner of restaurant across street from airport entrance.



PRIME PROJECT—County, Rolling Hills Estates and Torrance city officials Friday officiated at the formal opening of Hawthorne Blvd., between Silver Spur Road and Palos Verdes Drive North. Long a prime project in Torrance, new section is another step forward in extending Hawthorne south. Officiating at the official ribbon cutting were City Councilman J. A. Beasley, also a member of the Inter-City Highway Commission, Mayor Raymond B. Slaney of Rolling Hills Estates, and Supervisor Burton Chace.

\$585,101 LOW BID ...

East Torrance Storm Drain Contracts to Be Awarded; Completion by July, 1962

Filing of an apparent low bid of \$585,101.30 by Norco Construction Co. of Artesia for storm drain work in the East Torrance area was announced this week by county officials.

Bids were opened in the offices of County Flood Control District Chief Engineer M. E. Salbury. A total of 10 proposals were filed, with the highest being \$848,280.

The contract will be awarded in about 10 days. Streets to be partially affected by construction include Del Amo Blvd., Arlington Ave., 190th St., Crenshaw Blvd., 188th St., Western Ave. and Torrance Blvd.

Completion of the contract is expected about 11 months after formal award by the Board of Supervisors.

Plans were prepared under the direction of Torrance City Engineer W. M. Nallac, and flood control district engineers will oversee construction, operation and maintenance.

Although special arrangements have been formulated to ease traffic congestion in the construction zone, officials urged motorists to exercise caution while driving in the area.

ALREADY PAID
Project will be paid for from the \$225,000,000 storm drain bond issue of 1958.

In a second announcement it was reported that an allocation of \$19,000 to the City of Torrance for street improvements on Eshelman Ave. and Cabrillo Ave. between Sepulveda Blvd. and Lincoln Ave. was approved last week by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace said work will consist of paving, construction of cross-gutters and railway signal relocation on this segment of the County master plan secondary highway.

This allocation is a portion of the \$5,300,000 currently budgeted by the county to assist cities in the maintenance and construction of streets which are of general interest. This \$5,300,000 and other allocations to cities represent more than 36 per cent of the total County highway construction budget.

Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County is one of the few in the state that provides financial assistance to cities from its motor vehicle fund.

"This type of cooperation makes possible the continuous development of highway projects across jurisdictional boundaries to add to the continuity and efficiency of our highway systems," Chace said.

New Torrance Firm To Build Parts For Space Units

Organization of Space Equipment corporation of Torrance, to design, develop and manufacture missile, space and industrial products was announced Friday by Edward J. Horkey, founder and president.

Horkey, a pioneer in aircraft design and missile development, has had 26 years of experience in divisional and corporate management responsibility as well as technical direction of a large number of major weapon systems programs.

Horkey said the new aerospace engineering firm will be active initially in electro-mechanical and electronic ordnance systems and components, and high-strength structures of high-temperature plastics and rubber.

FILLS OUT TERM ...

Torrance Education Association Selects James Armstrong to Succeed Andreason

James Armstrong, Torrance High School teacher, has succeeded Willard G. Andreason as president of the Torrance Education Association. Andreason, who taught last year at North High School, resigned to accept an administrative post in Felton, California. This would have been his second year as president of the Torrance teacher's group. Irma Wilson, South High School teacher, has been appointed vice-president. She had opposed Armstrong for the post last May.

New president announced that while the Association's program for the 1961-62 school year is still in the formative stage, standing committees have been appointed and will be functioning by September 1. "During the coming year, we plan to work cooperatively with the Board of Education and the district administration to bring our teacher's salaries, up to the competitive standards set by comparable school districts," said the new presiding officer.

SALARY STUDY

Armstrong pointed out that at present, even with the adoption of current proposals, maximum salaries and average elementary and high school salaries would be well below salaries paid in comparable districts in surrounding areas.



JAMES ARMSTRONG
... T E A p r e s y

Other areas of emphasis in the Association program include the Good Teaching Conference in the spring, the annual charity fund drive, and an increased emphasis on public relations within the community, according to the new president.

Armstrong, who resides at 608 Avenue 'D' in Redondo Beach with his wife, Anne, and daughter, Julie, earned his Bachelor's degree at Pepperdine College, Master of Science in Education at U.S.C., and has done advanced study at U.C.L.A. He is a Navy veteran.

The new president joined

the school district in 1954 and taught at Howard Wood Elementary until 1960 when he moved to Torrance High School.

Two Hospitalized After Arlington, 190th St. Crash

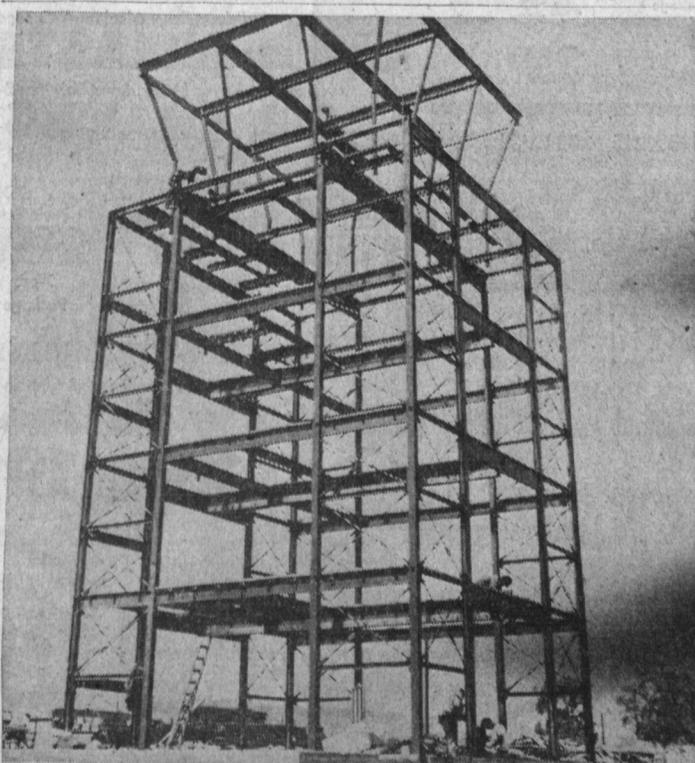
A Torrance man was seriously injured and a Wilmington woman, riding in the other vehicle was also hurt Thursday in a car crash at the corner of Arlington and 190th St.

In fair condition at Little Company of Mary Hospital are Rudolph, Wahl, 24, of 1567 W. 203rd St., driver of one of the vehicles, and Patricia Simms, 17.

Both victims of the crash suffered multiple lacerations and head injuries.

Driver of the second car was Huldah Bundy, 18, of 3308 W. 186th St. She was released after emergency treatment for numerous lacerations.

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GOING UP—Long awaited control tower, now being erected at Torrance Municipal Airport, is about 35 percent complete, airport officials reported yesterday. Structure will be completed in early November and FAA officials reported that it will take them

an additional 90 days to install equipment. \$115,000 tower will be operative on February 1, they said. Until officially open, field will continue to use present facility. Cost of the new building was shared by the city of Torrance and by federal agencies.