

News Of Servicemen

Jimmie A. Bales, radio man third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Bales of 958 W. 204th St.; Albert L. Heptig, aviation structural mechanic third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack T. Heptig of 5359 Bindewald Rd.; and John W. Peterson III, fireman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Peterson Jr. of 2745 Cabrillo Ave., all of Torrance are serving aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS Bon Homme Richard, which participated in "Exercise Peach Tree" off the coast of California the week of June 22 to 29.

The seven-day exercise involving 10 ships and 8,000 men of the First Fleet, centered around a fast carrier striking force opposed by submarines and aircraft. Air opposition was provided by jet and propeller-driven aircraft, including medium bombers, using all types of weapons.

Ships participating in the exercise were an aircraft carrier, a guided missile frigate, a cruiser, three destroyers, two replenishment ships, two submarines and several aircraft units operating from aircraft carriers and land bases.

The exercise was commanded by Vice Admiral R.T.S. Keith, Commander, First Fleet.

Robert L. Baker, machinist's mate third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis W. Baker of 624 14th St.; Edward D. Strong, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Strong of 23845 Park St.; and John W. Zuber, seaman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Zuber of 1571 W. 213th St., all of Torrance, are serving aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea, recently helped to make life for the Chinese refugees streaming into Hong Kong a little more pleasant.

During a recent visit to the British colony the crew members of various detachments aboard donated blood to the British Red Cross to be used by needy refugees. In addition money was collected with which to buy

food for them. The Hong Kong assistance marked the second time in past weeks that men aboard the ship had answered the call for help. While in Kobe, Japan, the crew also gave blood to help victims of a recent train disaster near Tokyo.

The 63,000-ton carrier is presently operating in the South China Sea as a unit of the Seventh Fleet. She is scheduled to return to the U.S. in July.

Paul J. Blaine, engineman third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Blaine of 4709 Moresby Dr., Torrance, is serving aboard the fleet oiler USS Manatee, operating in the Western Pacific as a unit of the Seventh Fleet.

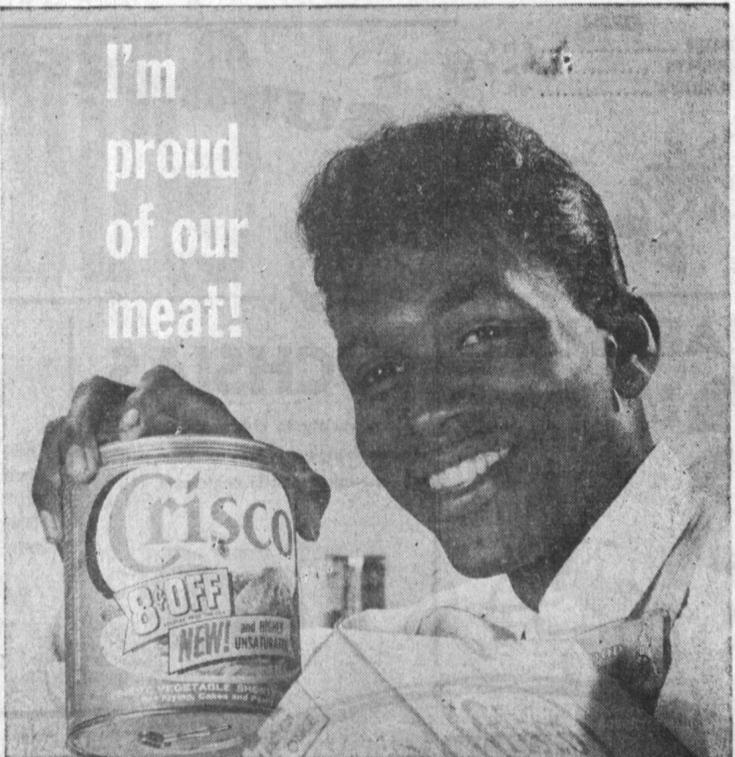
The oiler recently hosted scores of Japanese civilians during an "open house" celebration of Armed Forces Day. Crewmembers of the ship conducted tours of the vessel and helped marines of the Marine Corps Air Facility, Iwakuni, Japan, conduct tours of that installation.

Over 1,700 civilians visited the ship during the display.

Pfc. Johnnie D. Brown, USMC, of 22038 Island Ave., Torrance, and Pfc. Donald M. Johnson, USMC, of 2433 W. 238th St., Torrance, are serving with "L" Company of the reinforced Third Battalion, Ninth Marines, Third Expeditionary Unit, camped near Udorn, Thailand.

Located approximately 400 miles from Bangkok and 40 miles south of the Thailand-Loas border, the Marines are undergoing normal training operations and, in addition, are busily preparing for the forthcoming "monsoons," which are expected at this season of the year. The "monsoon" is another name for typhoon or hurricane.

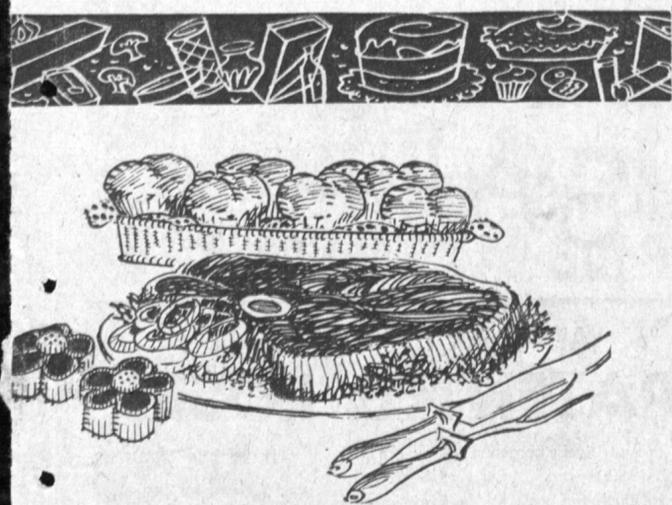
The Ninth Marines is a segment of the Third Marine Division, headquarters of which are on Okinawa. The expeditionary unit is in Thailand at the invitation of that country's government and includes ground aviation and seaborne elements.



Parker Mims, Grocery Clerk at Food Giant/Torrance

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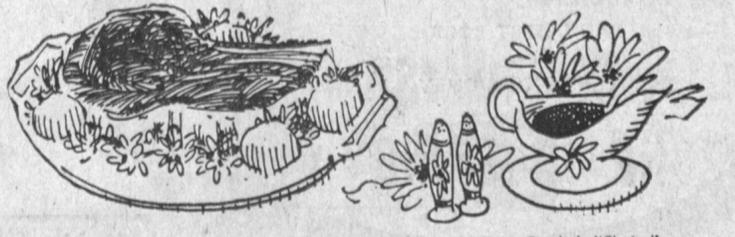
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