



WALL OF SHAME . . . Press-Herald columnist Larry Macaray, now in Berlin, stood on the observation tower pictured here to look across the Berlin Wall into East Berlin. Macaray said the sight of the wall was "nothing compared to the saddest day in my life." Mile after mile of the wall is etched with eartbreak, he reports.

... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

BERLIN—After a week in sunny Rome, it's a bit of a change to land in Berlin during a rainstorm. Everyone carries an umbrella—yet we have resisted buying one. It's always best to travel lightly if you possibly can. What a difference in people—not outgoing and friendly as the Italians, but somber and reserved.

What a pleasant change to find such honest and dependable taxi drivers, etc., in Berlin—not the "thieves" that I generally consider the Italians to be in their dealings with Americans. Even when we know it about them, the Italians seem to "take us" with a laugh and a smile—and who can resist Roman charm?

So few Americans are in Berlin. It has been rather difficult for us to eat—or I should say, to find a place to eat where they speak English. The food is excellent though—and the cooking does resemble some of our American ways of preparing food. Berlin is definitely not catering to the American tourist trade.

THE LAUGHTER and warmth that we thought was lacking in the German people was overwhelmingly thrust upon us in a most wonderful evening of eating and drinking with the family of a friend of ours in America. One of the main reasons for our coming to Berlin was to meet the family of Monika Sommer and to let them know how well she is doing in America.

How long a visit can one expect to have when only one person in the family has any knowledge of English—and perhaps only a small vocabulary? What does one expect with only an address and a verbal description of what we are to encounter? In any case, we found a large gathering of people waiting to meet "the Americans"—the whole block knew of our coming and the table was set with three large German cakes of fancy description.

Frau Hildegard Sommer was a delight, even though she spoke no English—her daughter, Dagmar, sparkles with personality and spoke excellent English—another daughter, Gisela, worked hard to prepare the food—Frau Held, the lady who owns the tobacco shop downstairs, "prosited" us all evening until I had to give up—all in all, the various others who came in and ate during the festivities made us feel happy to be in Berlin.

FROM HAPPINESS to sorrow in one day. If you think of the saddest day in your life—it is nothing compared to seeing the Berlin Wall and the heartbreak that is etched into every foot of it. Mile after mile of it—some with barb wire—some with steel prongs—and a great deal of it with assorted pieces of broken glass. Fences, barb-wire, and tank traps line the East Berlin side so that the East Berliners cannot get close to the wall. If they do, the vopos are there in their neat little pill-boxes with binoculars and rifles.

The sight of families being separated permanently and holding up children, dolls, etc., so that perhaps two or

three blocks away relatives can see them—well, it's tough to see—and more difficult to understand why this must be. Even this little act of love between friends and families has been pounced upon by the East Germans. Huge sight barriers have been built in the East Berlin side to obstruct as much of the view as possible.

Not to be outdone, the West Berliners have built many observation towers, some of them two or three stories high so that people can see and also take photos. Quiet and ominous—that's the way it looked from the tower. The sights that still ring in my ears are the simple wreaths that dot the base of the wall with fresh flowers placed on them daily—and a simple name and date—nothing more.

Accordion Festival

Accordion students from the Western United States started three days of competition Friday in Santa Monica as the Western States Accordion Festival opened.

Among the contestants will be 85 students from the Les and Peggy's School in Redondo Beach. Thirty-five of the students have just returned from the Northern States Accordion Festival in San Jose.

Area Band To Compete At Olympic

The Proper Strangers, a five-man band comprised of Carson High students, has earned a semi-finalist spot in Mark Royal's Countdown '65 Battle of the Bands. More than 143 bands participated in the first round of the battle, with 30 being designated as semi-finalists.

First-round competition was held at Ascot Stadium.

Semi-finals will be held at the Olympic Auditorium Sept. 10. The competition will be televised on Channel 13.

Members of the Proper Strangers include Paul Capitano, 15, Randy Gibson, 15, Tony Jiminez, 16, Rodger Ellis, 16, and David Wilson, 15. They are first and second year students at Carson High.

Capitano said tickets for the semi-finals are available at \$1 each and may be purchased from him at 602 E. 213th St.



SERVE WITH PRIDE IN THE NATIONAL GUARD

OBITUARIES

Gretchen Earle

Funeral services for Gretchen Morhring Earle of 911 Arlington Ave. were held Friday in the Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel of the Bells. Mrs. Earle died Aug. 18. Born in Ohio April 5, 1894. Mrs. Earle had lived in Torrance for 29 years. She was a real estate broker and active member of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors for 20 years.

Mrs. Earle is survived by two brothers, Carl Morhring of Woodland Hills, Calif., and Walter Morhring of San Francisco.

Interment will be in Independence, Kan.

John C. Ryan

Services for John Cullen Ryan, 43, were held yesterday at 2 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, San Pedro. Mr. Ryan died at his home, 1719 Mira Costa, San Pedro, Thursday.

Manager of the United California Bank in Lomita, he participated in numerous civic organizations including the Lomita Rotary Club. Mr. Ryan was president of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the March of Dimes and United Crusade.

He is survived by his widow, Josephine; son, Robin; daughter, Pamela; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ryan of Los Angeles; and sister, Mrs. Jerry Bates of Reno.

Interment at Green Hills Memorial Park followed the services. Halverson-Leavell

Mortuary directed arrangements.

Frank Watkins

Funeral services for Frank Benjamin Watkins, 904 Madrid Ave., were held Thursday at the Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel of the Bells. Mr. Watkins, who was 73, died Aug. 15.

Born Nov. 29, 1891, in Fredonia, Kan., Mr. Watkins was a retired city employee. He was employed by the National Supply Division of Armco Steel Corp. and the Columbia Steel plant prior to joining the city maintenance department.

He is survived by his widow, Clifford L.; a son, Leo; two daughters, Irene Frohnhoefer and Leona Straxrud; four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

Guest Pastor To Speak at Wayfarers'

Pulpit guest at The Wayfarers' Chapel today will be the Rev. Henry K. Peters of Long Beach.

Mr. Peters, who will conduct morning and evening services, has served as minister of the Church of the New Jerusalem the past 45 years.

Mr. Young, Chapel minister, is attending the annual meeting of the California Association of the New Jerusalem, in Bellevue, Washington.

We are sorry we have been unable to answer all mail and telephone calls that have been coming into our office during the past week.

We hope to be back on regular schedule next week and will do our best to answer all mail and telephone calls as quickly as possible.

COUNCILMAN JOHN S. GIBSON, JR. AND STAFF

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A Closed Case?

Board Gets New Report On 'Tainted' Records

The case of Young People's Records, twice buried by the Torrance Board of Education, was uncovered again Monday evening.

Trustees received a letter from R. E. Combs, general counsel for the California State Senate Sub-Committee on Un-American Activities, which said the committee had received no complaints in recent years on the firm.

Based on 26 years experience in this somewhat turgid and controversial field, Combs said, "I would strongly suspect that if (Young People's Records) has not straightened itself out we

writers and other artists listed on the record jackets.

She asked that the board place the report on a future agenda "for action," and added that a copy would be sent to Dr. Max Rafferty, state superintendent of public instruction.

"ALL THE information we get tells us the files on this are closed," Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, president of the board, told Mrs. Lee. Mrs. Watts said the board would forward the report to County Counsel Harold Kennedy.

"We have five records, all issued in 1948," Mrs. Watts added. "Every source tells us this is a closed thing. I don't know what else we can do." Mrs. Watts then asked S. E. Waldrip, substituting for vacationing Dr. J. H. Hull, to send Mrs. Lee's report and letter to Kennedy.

NOTICE

Those who received invitations to last week's Private Grand Opening at

CARRIAGE PLACE

and were unable to come are invited to attend the Private Grand Opening this week end.

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