

First Del Amo Center Tower Dedicated

Torrance

Press-Herald

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PRESENT FLAG . . . Congressman Alphonzo Bell (at left) presents a flag which has flown over the Capitol in Washington, D. C., to Harry J. Volk, president of Union Bank, during ceremonies marking the dedication of the Union Bank tower in the Del Amo Financial Center. The flag, a gift of Senator Thomas Kuchel, was flown for the first time at the center yesterday. Dedication ceremonies for the tower building were held Monday afternoon. (Press-Herald Photo)

Military, Civic Leaders Participate in Ceremony

Military and civic officials joined representatives of the business and industrial communities here Monday afternoon in a patriotic dedication ceremony for Union Bank's new South Bay regional head office in the Del Amo Financial Center.

Formal dedication ceremonies for the Union Bank Tower, major structure in the first phase of the \$30 million center, were led by John M. Heidt, the bank's regional vice president.

Opening ceremonies featured a patriotic musical salute by the 72nd U. S. Army Band from Ft. MacArthur in San Pedro. The Very Rev. Charles S. Casassa, S. J., president of Loyola University, gave the invocation.

In his initial comments, Heidt welcomed guests and set the theme for the dedication. "This center is a product of our wonderful system of free enterprise," he said, "a system that guarantees religious freedom; educational, commercial, and industrial opportunity; and representative government. We want to salute the representatives of those areas as well as the military who protect these important privileges."

D. Loring Marlett, vice president and general manager of Great Lakes Properties, Inc., hailed Union Bank for its "foresight to see the dynamic growth potential of the South Bay" and "the courage to contribute to it."

"We have had independent research organizations tell us what a dynamic area the South Bay is," said Marlett, who also serves as a director and vice president of the Regional Plan Association of Southern California. "We believe that this financial center will be focal point of the whole area."

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Republican Bell, whose 28th district includes much of Torrance as well as the South Bay, Santa Monica, and north county beach areas, said principally that America's foreign policy "must serve our nation."

Speaking at the September membership meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, Bell touched on the two areas at the root of much of today's special, high-voltage tension: foreign policy and urban affairs.

City Cites Ball Team, Supervisor

City Councilmen saluted a victorious American Legion baseball team and a veteran County Supervisor during a relatively short meeting Tuesday night.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace, who has represented the 4th District on the County board since 1953, was lauded in a City Council resolution for his 14 years as a supervisor and for his many contributions to the development of Torrance during those years. He was cited for his efforts in locating the Superior Court building here and for showing an "unfailing interest in the City of Torrance and the welfare of its citizens."

THE CITY'S American Legion team which won the state championship recently was saluted publicly by councilmen and resolutions of congratulations were presented to Coach Jerry Melvaine, Legion sponsors, and members of the team. Many of the team members were present for the official commendation. Title plaques of (See COUNCIL, Page A-2)

Special guests and speakers at the ceremonies included Col. Patrick D. Mulcahy, commanding officer of Ft. MacArthur; Cmdr. Donald A. Gary, USN (Ret.), who holds the Medal of Honor for service in World War II; Rear Adm. Horace V. Bird, commander of the U. S. Pacific Fleet Mine Force; Col. Joseph Quilty, Marine Corps Air Station at El Toro; Col. J. B. Summers Jr. of the Air Force;

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Many of the problems which bring on today's tensions are not likely to subside soon, he said.

Referring to such urban ills as air pollution, crime, and the impairment to education by explosive urban growth, Bell called for a substantial investment in education as a response to the challenge of poverty and crime.

"YOU HEAR about the war on poverty," he said. "Education is our first line of defense in that war. Today—in the area of knowledge—we tend to leave people behind faster than we can set up facilities to train them."

Solutions to these problems lie at the local level, Bell warned.

"The days when all the domestic troubles of this nation can be passed along to Washington are over — and over forever," he said.

HE URGED strong participation in local affairs with particular emphasis on city

and county legislative bodies and commissions.

Putting our own house in order will give us "more resources and better credentials — later — to help our foreign friends in dealing with these same problems," he said.

The Congressman, whose district is one of the state's largest, won re-election by overwhelming majorities in 1964 and 1966, his 1966 margin cited as the widest in any U. S. Congressional race.

HE WAS introduced by Brian K. Bell, assistant to the president of Hi-Shear Corp. and membership relations chairman for the hosting Chamber of Commerce.

Congressman Bell was the first speaker in the fall series of membership meetings. Chamber President Larry Bowman said. Joining him at the head table were Mayor Albert Isen, Assemblyman Robert G. Beverly, Pastor Lloyd C. Warneke of the Ascension Lutheran Church, and Leonard Ensminger, administrator of Torrance Memorial Hospital and first vice president of the Chamber,

34,400 Trek to School

Summer unofficially came to an end for 34,432 Torrance youngsters this morning with the official opening of the 1967-68 school year at 41 Torrance schools.

For 2,700 of those youngsters, today marks the second day of the school. High school freshmen reported to school yesterday for orientation programs at four high schools.

Open for the first time this fall are two new elementary schools — Sam Levy School, 3420 W. 29th Place, and Grace Wright School, 3915 Spencer St. — and a continuation high school — Kurt T. Shery High School, 2600 Vine Ave.

A NEW girls' gymnasium at North High School also has been opened.

Boundary changes this fall involved four schools. Former Walteria School youngsters who live in the area north of Pacific Coast Highway and west of Hawthorne Boulevard will be attending Meadow Park School.

Students living in the area west of Redbeam Avenue between Carson and Laurette streets reported to Anza School today instead of Sepulveda School.

BOUNDARIES also were adjusted in the Victor, Anza, and Meadow Park School areas to establish attendance zones for the two new elementary schools.

New principals were assigned to nine schools this fall as the district named three new principals and (See SCHOOLS, Page A-2)

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Catalina Island Crash Kills Torrance Couple



NEW COORDINATOR . . . Members of the three volunteer groups which support Harbor General Hospital chat with the hospital's new director of patient programs, Frank Crase during a reception held for him Monday. Pictured with Crase are (Front row) Mrs. John Nino and Mrs. Ruth E. Riley, members of the Women's Auxiliary, and (back row) Tom Crispen, 17, a member of the Candy Strippers; Mrs. Kenneth Geer, president of the Volunteers for Children; and Libby Hovey, 17, another Candy Striper. (Story on Page A-2) (Press-Herald Photo)

Murder Suspect Waives Hearing in Extradition

Jerry Lee O'Brien, a 34-year-old prison escapee, who is accused of killing Torrance Police Officer David N. Seibert last Aug. 10, is on his way back to Torrance.

Torrance Police Lt. Myles Hamilton and Officer James Farrar, who have been assigned to the case since Aug. 10, left here Tuesday to escort O'Brien back to Torrance, according to Captain Phillip Wilson of the Torrance Police Department.

They are expected to arrive here some time tomorrow. Captain Wilson told the Press-Herald.

O'BRIEN told a Utah judge Monday that he would waive extradition formalities and return to Torrance. Plans are for the trio to return by plane, providing O'Brien's doctors approve the trip.

O'Brien, who is accused of killing Officer Seibert in the course of a \$15,000 market robbery last Aug. 10, was injured in an automobile accident near Tooele, Utah, Aug. 25. He has been in custody in the Tooele County Hospital since that date.

Captain Wilson said extradition paperwork had been nearly completed when O'Brien told the Utah judge Monday he would not contest the action. Had O'Brien continued to fight extradition, his return to Torrance would have been delayed until the governors' offices in California and Utah completed the papers, Captain Wilson reported.

CAPTAIN Wilson said he did not know when O'Brien would be arraigned on the murder charge. "It will depend on his condition," he said.

A warrant issued by South Bay Municipal Court also charges O'Brien with robbery and assault.

Some \$15,000 was taken

from the Foods Co. Market at Crenshaw and Artesia boulevards in the robbery in which Seibert was killed. Utah authorities reported finding "a large sum" of money in O'Brien's car following the Aug. 25 crash.

SHERIFF'S Sgt. Jack Vaughn led a rescue party from Avalon into the area through heavy brush to the crashed plane. Identity of the four victims was not determined until several hours after the crash.

The Phillippi's three children, all under 10 years of age, were taken to the home of a family friend after news of a family friend after news (See CRASH, Page A-2)

Market Damaged by Fire . . .

A fire believed to have originated in an office did an undetermined amount of damage to Toshi's Market, 23747 Arlington Ave., Sunday morning. The fire broke out just before 10 a.m., but was confined to a 22-by-60-foot office, according to Battalion Chief Ray Flagg of the Torrance Fire Department. Smoke damaged other parts of the market, Flagg said. Firemen controlled the blaze in about 25 minutes and spent three hours on mop-up operations.

Burglars Hit Two Homes . . .

Goods worth nearly \$3,500 were taken from two Torrance homes, according to reports filed with Torrance police Monday. Kenneth Y. Takahashi, 29, of 16327 Van Ness Ave., reported the loss of a color television set, a stereo unit, and a \$500 coin collection from his home. The loss was estimated at \$1,970. The second burglary, which occurred during the weekend, was reported by Jose Janez of 16215 Wilkie Ave. He said someone pryed open a back door while he was vacationing in Mexico. Jewelry and cameras worth \$1,529 were taken, he said.

Woman Named Planner . . .

Mrs. B. W. (Velma) Shelbourn, 18303 Fairview Lane, was unanimously approved as a member of the city's Planning Commission Tuesday night to succeed Edward J. Talbert, appointed last month to the City Council. Mrs. Shelbourn, active for several years in community and homeowners organizations, has been serving as chairman of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Community Improvement. Her nomination by Mayor Albert Isen was made following a closed door meeting by councilmen prior to Tuesday's regular meeting. "Thank you, I appreciate the honor," Mrs. Shelbourn said after her nomination and approval.

Parents Of Wife Also Die

A Torrance mother of three, her parents, and her pilot husband were killed in a landing crash near the Catalina airport Tuesday afternoon.

Killed in the island crash were:

Frederick Conrad Phillippi, 28, 5002 Newton St.
Mrs. Sally Phillippi, 27, his wife and mother of three children.
Gilbert S. Renbarger, 61, of Buchanan, Mich., Mrs. Phillippi's father.
Mrs. Arlene Renbarger, 60, her mother.

The red and white plane, identified as a Piper Comanche, flew from Torrance Municipal Airport yesterday afternoon, carrying the two couples to Catalina for a pleasure visit.

SHERIFF'S deputies at the scene were told the plane was approaching the airport atop a 2,125-foot island peak when the pilot pulled up. The plane stalled, fell over onto one wing, and crashed into the mountain below the airport.

Reports from the island indicate a light haze shrouded the airport. Phillippi may have misjudged his approach to the mountain-top landing strip, it was indicated.