

Hahn Report

Freeway Telephones Get Credit for Saving Life

By KENNETH HAHN County Supervisor

There are 2,009 emergency call boxes on the freeways of Los Angeles County to serve the motoring public.

These phones are being used by approximately 8,000 persons in distress each month — or 96,000 a year.

To me, these statistics are among the most satisfying I have seen in the nearly quarter of a century I have been in public office.

They represent the climax to a 15-year personal effort I have made to see that a source of help is available to the stranded freeway motorist.

AN EXAMPLE of how the call boxes are serving came to my attention recently when I received a letter from Russel Hiles Jr. of 4173 Jasmine Ave., Culver City.

"On May 12, 1969, at 7:10 a.m., I was driving to North American Rockwell on the San

Diego Freeway," he said. "The reason for this letter is to inform you that because of you, I am alive today.

"My car stalled in the outside lane and I spotted a telephone call box. I coasted to a stop by the box and picked up the receiver. Within one hour, I was at work.

"Only your interest in people and travelers saved me."

THERE IS no other project I have undertaken which has

caused me more frustration with state and county agencies than the establishment of emergency call boxes.

However, since their installation, they have given me a great deal of satisfaction knowing that they have helped stranded motorists such as Mr. Hiles.

Our plans are to continue installing emergency call boxes as needed.

We presently have systems on the Harbor, Pasadena, San Diego, Hollywood, Ventura,

Santa Monica, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Golden State, Pomona, San Gabriel, Terminal Island, Marina, and Long Beach freeways.

TWENTY-FOUR will be placed north of Victory Boulevard on the Hollywood freeway this year, 24 are being installed on the Ventura freeway between the Golden State freeway and Pacific Avenue in Glendale, and 50 are being placed on the San Bernardino freeway.

Another 95 will be placed on the Colorado, Ventura, and San Bernardino freeways during the next two to three years.

Because of the success of the emergency call box system in Los Angeles County, other counties in the state have our program under consideration.

I urge that a system of boxes be installed on freeways statewide.

Many lives have been saved in Los Angeles County and many more could be saved statewide.

COLLEGE REPORT By ROBERT M. BERSI Assistant to the President California State College, Dominguez Hills

California State College, Dominguez Hills, as many people know, possesses a unique academic plan. Its concept of dual majors for undergraduates and its interdisciplinary approach to learning merits explanation.

"Interdisciplinary fields themselves are not new. In fact, many are older than disciplinary fields. It wasn't until the 19th century that college education began to break up into separate units like chemistry and geography.

"THE VALUE of the cross-fertilization is recognized increasingly today. For example, historians who combine with psychologists write more meaningful history.

"Dominguez Hills' interdepartmental (interdisciplinary) fields may be classified in four categories: "A. Area Studies (example: American, Asian, African, Latin American)

"D. Newly emerging fields which are interdisciplinary (Information Systems, Urban Studies, International Relations, Linguistics)

"IN CHOOSING an interdepartmental major, a student may follow what we might call the road of least resistance, that is, select a field closely related to his departmental field.

Eighteen events comprise the total Sea Festival program, ranging from sailboat and power boat races to such cultural events as the symphony concert and an art exhibit.

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