



INSTALLED IN UNIQUE CEREMONY . . . C. Earl Conner was installed as commander of Torrance Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Mrs. Clara Conner, his wife, as president of the post's auxiliary, at a double installation held at the Civic Auditorium last Thursday. Shown above are the officers who participated, left to right, Alvin Kime, Fourth district commander; Hazle Garety, Fourth District auxiliary president; Lester E. Stanley, past commander of the local post who was installing officer; Commander Conner, Rolla McFall, department of California commander, and Mrs. Conner. (Photo by Bill Husbands)

City-Wide Water System May Result From Survey Of WALTERIA Area Needs

Steps toward ultimate service of all of Torrance with a municipal water system may result from the filing with the City Council of a survey of the needs of the Walteria area leading toward establishment of a water district there.

Completed by Taylor and Taylor, consulting engineers, of Los Angeles, the survey gives the people of the Walteria area and as many additional property owners as desire to participate in the district the choice of three programs:

1. Acquiring the Quandt system and utilizing only parts which are up to standard or will do, and improving the system to put it in first class condition, estimated total cost: \$187,000.
2. Extending a pipeline from Metropolitan main and using that water exclusively, estimated total cost: \$143,600.
3. Developing an independent, separate water supply and system, estimated cost: \$144,200.

The engineers appraised the Quandt property at \$44,161, and in addition to the purchase price, they estimated the following costs would be necessary: Well pumping plant, \$2,000; reservoir, \$18,000; 10-inch pipelines, \$32,700; 8-inch pipelines, \$20,000; 6-inch pipelines, \$35,000; 4-inch pipelines, \$8,400; valves and fittings, \$5,000; fire hydrants, \$2,700; office equipment, \$1,000; contingencies and engineering, \$12,000; organization expense, \$10,000. In the \$187,000 figure, the purchase price was lumped at \$40,000 "without significance as to what we consider the Quandt system

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Torrance Hills Accepted; Goes Out With Cargo

Twenty-fourth of a series of forty-one 8,250 horsepower turbo-electric tankers named for leading Petroleum fields of California, the SS TORRANCE HILLS sailed away from the construction docks of Marinhship Corporation on Thursday, April 12.

The ship, named for the important oilfield located in the city of Torrance, was put through her trial runs and accepted by the Maritime Commission trial board members only 63 days after keel laying. With her name painted off the bow, she sailed away into the obscurity of wartime censorship, prepared to start her important task of ferrying gasoline and petroleum products to all parts of the world. The large gasoline carrying ship is expected to be particularly valuable in view of the naval war in the Pacific.

The 523-foot tanker was launched on March 29 at enormous cost. Celebrating Marinhship's third anniversary, sponsor was Mrs. Glen A. Reutzel, wife of a Marinhship production superintendent. Since that time, the ship has been at the outfitting docks undergoing intensive work, readying her for the role of a modern, fast-fighting merchant ship.

Torrance oilfield was discovered in 1922, and since that time it has produced over 107,000,000 barrels of petroleum. Marinhship yard is located at the north end of the Golden Gate Bridge on San Francisco bay, where a \$17,000,000 plant has been built by the Maritime Commission.

The name for each ship of the "Hills" class is formed by taking the key word for an important oilfield, such as "Torrance" and adding to it the class designation "Hills."

TORRANCE SCHOOLS WILL PROVIDE FOR CHILDREN OF NEARBY LOS ANGELES AREA

Torrance will provide classrooms for all children within the immediate vicinity of Torrance on a contract or tuition basis, as well as provide for its own children, when an independent, locally controlled and operated school system is established. This is required by the California Education Code of all school districts.

Patterson Is Wounded Third Time, Report

S/Sgt. Edward Patterson, serving with the infantry and attached to the Third Army, has



been wounded in action for the third time, according to his mother, Mrs. Gladys Dye, of 1670 W. 218th st.

A telegram from her from a U. S. hospital plant advised: "Your son is making normal recovery from a penetrative wound in the left thigh."

A letter from her son states: "Don't worry about me, I'm getting along fine."

His earlier wounds were an ankle injury in November, 1944 and in January, 1945 when both legs were wounded in battle in Germany.

Hours On Local Ration Board Are Adjusted

Office hours of the Torrance area war price and ration board at 2300 Carson st. have been shortened to give volunteer workers ample time to process the hundreds of applications. For rations received daily, Chief Clerk F. W. Daniels said yesterday setting at rest rumors that the office is closed.

"We have cried and cried for additional volunteer help," Daniels said, "and while the response has been good, it has not been sufficient. The only alternative was to shorten hours, and this we are doing."

The new hours are: Monday, 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.; Tuesday, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.; Saturday, 9:30 a. m. to 12 noon.

R. L. Stambook Dies in Action On Iwo Jima

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Stambook of 1228 Acacia ave., have been notified of the death of their son, Robert Leo Stambook, a private, USMC, March 14, in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

The deceased was 19 years of age, has two brothers in service, Lt. Richard E. Stambook, stationed at Los Alamitos Naval Air Station, recently returned from overseas duty, and Private Donald William Stambook, AAF, who is attending radio school.

Stambook was graduated from San Pedro High school with the class of '44.

LEWIS ENDS Mrs. W. C. Chlanda has returned to her home in San Francisco following a two weeks' visit here with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Chlanda, of 1720 Marina ave.

Gilmeister Is Hawthorne C. of C. Secretary

Leo J. Gilmeister took over his duties as secretary-manager of Hawthorne Chamber of Com-



merce Monday, the first full-time secretary that the organization has had in several years, it is announced by Harold E. Crozier, president of the chamber.

Gilmeister served for nine years as secretary-manager of the Torrance chamber and as secretary of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce.

Since leaving Torrance, Gilmeister has been active in public relations work for private corporations and in public fund raising campaigns.

Big Memorial Day Program Planned By Torrance and Gardena Veterans

Torrance and Gardena will honor their war dead with joint Memorial Day programs on May 27, 1945, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion posts and auxiliaries of the two cities, with other veterans' groups, the American Red Cross, the Boy Scouts and troops of the California State Guard invited to participate.

This announcement was made by C. Earl Conner, commander of the Torrance VFW post who took office last Thursday evening in impressive ceremonies, though saddened by the sudden death of President Roosevelt, in the Civic Auditorium.

Commander Conner and Commander Lester C. Fix of Bert S. Crossland post, American Legion, visited Gardena on Sunday with representatives of their auxiliaries, and arrangements were made for a two-fold program to include a parade, memorial service and dedication ceremony in Torrance, and a memorial program in Gardena at Roosevelt Memorial park.

The Torrance program will open at 4:30 p. m. on Sunday, May 27, with a parade in which the Gold Star Mothers and Fathers, members of the veterans organizations and auxiliaries, the Red Cross, Boy Scouts and

others will ride or march, with the 2nd Battalion State Guard band and troops of Co. H, 2nd Battalion, 39th Regiment, commanded by Capt. R. L. Lewellen, and Co. A, 4th Battalion, commanded by Capt. C. Van Steenwyk invited to participate. This will be followed by a ceremony in El Prado Park, at Cravens ave., in which the roll of World War I and II dead will be called and a plot of ground dedicated by the City of Torrance to their memory.

Also planned are introduction of Gold Star Mothers and Fathers, returned veterans and heroes of World War II, patriotic numbers rendered by the band, sounding of taps and firing of a volley over the dedicated Memorial ground in the park.

The Gardena program in Roosevelt Memorial park will start at 1:30 p. m. and it will be featured by a similar program in honor of the war dead of that community. There already is a plot in that park dedicated to the war dead of Gardena valley, and crosses are erected in memory of each hero.

Torrance veterans will participate in that ceremony, and Gardena in turn will aid in the Torrance ceremony, Commander Conner said.

Rezoning of Torrance Blvd. Area Denied

Torrance City Planning Commission Tuesday night rejected the plan of Chamstor-Cannfield Midway Oil Co. for rezoning of the section of Torrance Blvd. west from Cronshaw Blvd. to Madrona ave.

After two public hearings in which the protests were heard from more than 100 residents with property adjacent to the area proposed to be rezoned from agricultural and residential to heavy manufacturing, the planning commission decided to inform City Council that it is the commission's recommendation that the zoning change be denied.

A public hearing before the City Council will be conducted at an early meeting, probably May 8, it was indicated. "No one appeared in support of the petition of C. C. M. O., and the company merely said that it desired the rezoning to permit the establishment of factories there requiring railroad sidings.

At one time, it was indicated that C. C. M. O. would not sell its land on Carson st. west of International, Derrick and Equipment Co. to IDECO unless the zoning change was granted, and it was reported Tuesday night that the firm does not intend to allow sale or subdivision of the Torrance Blvd. land for any purpose other than that of heavy manufacturing.

Torrance, Like Nation, Hit by Roosevelt Death

News of the tragic death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt stunned and shocked the world last week, but even though grief-stricken by the nation's loss, there was no letup in the tasks at hand — the winning of the war.

Torrance picked up its war tools with a grim determination to stay on the job and finish the job. But though war plants hummed, the rest of the community's activities were subdued as sober citizens devoted themselves to work and prayer.

Mayor William H. Tolson proclaimed a 30-day period of mourning, and business closed down during the funeral services for the late president. Industrial plants observed with wheels stopping for a few moments of silence.

Fundamentals of memorial services, epitomizing the nation's great war leader, were held here and throughout the nation — in churches, in synagogues, by veterans' organizations, by fraternal orders, by labor unions, in schools.

It was a strangely sober Torrance last weekend. Life will resume its normal bustle now that the first shock has passed, but Franklin Roosevelt will be mourned much longer than the decreed 30 days period.

Veterans Aid Program Is Functioning

The Veterans Assistance Program of the selective service boards and U. S. Employment Service, is now functioning in many different lines, according to J. G. Caldwell, chairman, local Veterans Service Committee, 1339 Post ave.

Assistance is rendered in making application for pensions; applications for hospitalization; emergency aid; home building; to engage in business; for employment; for temporary places to sleep; rooms or for homes.

The service is offered the veterans at both offices, 1339 Post ave. or 1927 Carson st.

Ralph Wagner Reported as Nazi Prisoner

Staff Sgt. Ralph Wagner, AAF, reported missing as of last December, has now been declared a prisoner of war in Germany.

Wagner is son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wagner of Lyons, N. Y. Overseas 18 months, he had completed 65 missions, and would have arrived here on furlough.

Miss Korena J. Carlin of 716 Acacia ave. is his fiancée.

PERMANENT NAVY SUPPLY DEPOT, FLEET HOME BASE SEEN FOR HARBOR DISTRICT

Plans are well advanced for the construction of a permanent naval supply depot at Los Angeles-Long Beach harbor, with the port expected to be the home base for the United States fleet as soon as the war in the Pacific ends, LeRoy M. Edwards, president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce informed

Reed Parkin, president of Torrance Chamber of Commerce, today.

Herman Jones Dies in Action On Iwo Jima

Mrs. Arthur Barnett of 815 Cota ave. received word her son, Pfc. Herman W. Jones of the



Third Marine Division, had died of wounds received on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, March 2. He enlisted in the Marine Corps, March 8, 1944.

Jones was born in Lomita, March 13, 1926, where he lived until July, 1938. Then the family moved to their home on Cota ave. He graduated from Torrance High, June 1943. He was employed at Shell Refinery in Wilmington at the time of enlistment, but was a former employee at Torrance Safeway store and butcher shop.

He was active in Boy Scout work and was a member of the First Christian Church of Torrance and worked with the young people continuously. He was president of the conference club one year, and was later elected president of the state conference held at Idyllwild, Calif.

He leaves his mother and stepfather Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Barnett, his father, John F. Jones of North Long Beach; two sisters, Hazel Livingston of Lomita and Helen Dennis of Seattle; two nieces, Karen Livingston and Verna Livingston, a nephew, Blake Livingston.

Joyce Kilmer Has Bad Night Over Tree Controversy

Messages from the "Spirit World" said that Joyce Kilmer had a bad night Tuesday.

The immortal author of "Trees" seemed to be aware that the beautiful eucalyptus tree was the subject of renewed controversy along El Prado.

First the "north-westerns" had their say, and they called the tree beautiful — that the eucalyptus were planted long before the "south-easterns" built their homes on El Prado. They want them kept.

Then the "south-easterns" said the trees were a nuisance, requiring constant care to keep yards, roofs, downspouts cleared of fallen leaves and twigs. They want them removed.

The "north-westerns" said that the eucalyptus are what make the street beautiful.

The "south-easterns" said that when the "north-westerns" see how beautiful their new trees are, they will want them too. The Planning Commission just sat there.

After virtually every resident on El Prado had his or her say, they decided the issue was too evenly divided, and continued the matter. A recommendation to the City Council will be made later, it was said.

AT OVERSEAS BASE Charles W. Woodington, S 1/c, R.M., U.S.N.R.S., a son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woodington, of South Gate, and formerly of radio school, March 9. Following 5-days' delayed orders, Woodington left for duty at an overseas base.

The announcement followed a report submitted to the chamber's board of directors by Captain C. H. Gilliland, commandant of the temporary U. S. Navy Supply Depot at San Pedro, who revealed for the first time that the depot already is in the "big business" class, handling supplies valued at \$87,000,000 and servicing 587 Navy ships in the quarter ended March 31.

"I am in a position to state," Captain Gilliland said, "it is reasonable to assume that when our victorious fleet comes sailing home it will drop anchor at the most logical port on the west coast of the United States, and that is your harbor. The fleet will have to have tremendous amounts of supplies for maintenance and operating facilities with which to turn from war to peacetime operations. All of these will have to be provided by the Navy Supply Depot here."

President Edwards of the chamber of commerce declared that the peacetime business operations of the Navy Supply Depot will run between \$25,000,000 and \$40,000,000 a month, with the Navy purchasing locally-produced supplies wherever possible.

Captain Gilliland told chamber directors that the temporary depot is now situated at San Pedro on Los Angeles-owned property leased to the government. "A permanent site will be chosen, however," he said, "by transferring a portion of Fort MacArthur from the Army to the Navy. The Bureau of Yards and Docks has appropriated more than \$5,000,000 to acquire a site and construct the permanent supply depot."

"The Navy will build and extend a wall for a distance of 4800 feet, which will permit us to berth simultaneously at least four large ships and a number of smaller craft. This will give us a site of approximately 225 acres. There is also the possibility that the Army some day will release to the Navy the remaining portion of Fort MacArthur for expansion of the Navy Supply Depot if the need arises.

"The Naval Bureau of Supply and Accounts," Captain Gilliland continued, "plans the most modern construction possible on the permanent site. Administration buildings and associated structures

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Torrance Police Cooperating in Brakes Drive

Members of the Torrance Police department are cooperating with other peace officers engaged in a nationwide program designed to focus interest on the necessity of keeping brakes in good condition, according to Chief of Police John Stroh.

The program, which started last Sunday and will run until June 1, is sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Safety Council and other organizations. The sheriff's office and all chiefs of police of Los Angeles county are cooperating.

Chief E. Raymond Cato, of the California Highway Patrol, is acting as statewide coordinator. Local phases of the program are directed by Chief of Police Stroh.

Motocists stopped by the officers for any reason will be asked to submit to a simple test, taking less than 60 seconds, to determine whether their brakes are in good working order. Only in extreme cases will arrest citations be issued as the program is educational in character.

The test will be made by placing a small precision-engineered wooden block under the brake pedal. If the brake, when depressed, touches the block it is regarded as engineering proof that repairs or adjustments are needed.

The local police chief has requested the cooperation of all vehicle owners of Torrance in making the program a success in the interest of traffic safety.