



REUNION . . . The office of J. G. Caldwell, (center) Torrance veterans adviser, was the scene of a reunion of four war veterans when Walter Hager, Gardena, Walter Allen, Gardena, Edward Griffith, Wilmington, and George Barham, 22120 Moneta, Torrance, (left to right above) met together for the first time in quite a while. All four wear the Purple Heart, were members of the 59th Coast Artillery Battalion on Corregidor at the time of Pearl Harbor, and each served more than three years in Jap prison camps. (Torrance Herald photo).

Consideration Of Water Fight Said Assured

Recent visit here of members of the House Public Lands committee to inspect Hoover dam and the water installations in Southern California virtually assures consideration of the Arizona-California water controversy at the next session of Congress, Preston Hotchkiss, president of the Colorado River Association, stated yesterday.

"These members of Congress interrupted their congressional vacation to come all the way out here to study our water picture," said Hotchkiss. "As a result, I believe that at its next session Congress will consider referring the controversy to the Supreme Court for adjudication."

He explained that, following the refusal of Governor Osborn of Arizona, to accept the offer of Governors Warren and Pittman of Nevada, either to negotiate, arbitrate, or litigate the long-standing differences over water rights in the Colorado river, a resolution referring the dispute to the Supreme Court was introduced in the House and the Senate just before adjournment. Congress must give consent to a Supreme Court suit because the United States is a necessary party. The high court will be asked to interpret disputed points in the Colorado River Compact and the Boulder Canyon Project Act.

"It is essential that the people of Southern California be awakened to the importance of the stake which the state has in the Colorado river," Hotchkiss declared. "It is our last waterhole, and every legitimate effort must be made to protect and preserve it."

LOMITA MAN FINED \$100 FOR DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

Frank J. Angus, 25344 Pennsylvania ave., Lomita, was fined \$100 by Judge John A. Shidler in Torrance City Court last week for driving while intoxicated.

Angus pleaded guilty to the offense which had occurred October 2 and his driver's license was suspended for 90 days.

4 CORREGIDOR SURVIVORS MEET IN VETS CENTER HERE

A reunion of four veterans, all survivors of Jap prison camps during the war, was held last week when Geo. Barham, Walter Allen, Walter Hager and Edward T. Griffith met in the office of J. G. Caldwell at the Torrance Veterans Service center.

All four men wear the Order of the Purple Heart and all were captured by the Japanese in the fall of Corregidor in May, 1942. After more than three years in various prison camps, the ex-GI's were rescued by American forces.

Barham, who now resides at 22120 Moneta ave., was attached to the Army mine planting ship Harrison, but was transferred ashore where he joined the other three in the 59th Coast Artillery Battalion in Corregidor.

He was almost killed when, during a Jap air raid, he was buried and crushed by a direct hit on the ammunition room where he was on duty. After he was captured he was held in the infamous Bilbidid prison and later at the prison camp in Cabatuan.

In 1944 the Japs took Barham to Nagasaki; he was 40 miles from the city when the second atom bomb hit there.

Allen, 18504 Dalton st., Gardena, was also with the 59th CA and suffered a leg wound in Corregidor. He later lost part of his hand while working in a mine near Fukuoka. His imprisonment included time at Bilbidid and Cabatuan. When rescued by American forces he was at Bison camp No. 17.

Hager, who lives at the same address as Walter Allen, lived through the brutal "Death March" from Bataan after being wounded three times in the leg, twice by machine gun fire and once by shrapnel.

He enlisted in 1938 and had been in the Philippines for some time when he was taken prisoner. He, too, was at Cabatuan and also at O'Donnell prison. The Japs forced him into labor at the Osaka shipyard.

Griffith, the fourth member of the group, who lives at 123 E. N. st., Wilmington, was credited with saving the lives of many of his buddies during the siege of "The Rock," as Corregidor was known. He, like the other three, spent time in Bilbidid and Cabatuan prisons, later being sent to Mukden, Manchuria.

Forced into working in a Ja-

pinese munitions factory, Griffith seized the opportunity to sabotage the Jap war effort and did all in his power to slow down production.

In December, 1944, he suffered shrapnel wounds from a B-29 raid on the factory where he was working. A British soldier saved Griffith's life by removing the shrapnel fragments from his chest and shoulder using as surgical instruments only a pair of pliers, a knife and a fork. Griffith was rescued by the American forces in August, 1945.

The quartet are civilians once again, with their harrowing experiences behind them. Meeting in Caldwell's office, they had much to talk over and many memories, some good but more bad.

Dr. Reeder Is P.V.C. Council Co-Chairman

Dr. Paul A. Reeder, of Palos Verdes Estates, professor of psychology and philosophy at Los Angeles City college, has been elected co-chairman of the Advisory Council of Palos Verdes college, newly-organized co-educational two-year college in Rolling Hills. Dr. Reeder will serve jointly with Earle E. Parkhurst, of Palos Verdes Estates, who was elected to the chairmanship recently.

Purpose of the council is to develop sound relationships between the new college, which opened September 29th, and the community. The council will also assist in fund raising activities for the college's future growth.

Members of the Palos Verdes college Advisory Council include Mr. and Mrs. Earle E. Parkhurst, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kingman, Mr. and Mrs. John B. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Winfield Scott Rash, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart A. Ripley, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. B. Roessler, Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Schaeffer, Capt. and Mrs. Adolph F. Schneider, Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Y. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Kelvin C. Vanderlip and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard van der Steen.

Freeway On L.A. River To Get New Study

The County Board of Supervisors has ordered a study of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby's proposal to build a freeway in the Los Angeles river bed, downtown Los Angeles and San Fernando valley.

Darby suggested that two 54-foot highways be built in the 160-foot wide bed, with a 50-foot drain channel in between.

The supervisor said his plan would make possible the creation of the freeway in the immediate future and at a saving of millions of dollars over a previous proposal to build the freeway along the river bank.

The plan would eliminate the need of condemning valuable industrially built-up property and relocation of existing bridges which would be required for the freeway along the river. Instead of it, he said.

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