

Stores Offering Bargain Day Values

ARMED TRIO TERRORIZES FAMILY TWO HOURS; RANSACKS HOUSE

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

Torrance Herald

Phone
FA 8-4000

Published Monday and Thursday—
Entered as second class matter Jan. 25, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

42nd Year—No. 34 12

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1956

CIRCULATION OFFICE FA 8-4004

40 PAGES

TORRANCE AIRMAN ESCAPES IN AIR FORCE PLANE CRASH



LT. GEORGE A. WHITING
... Escapes in Plane Crash

Former Herald Writer Unhurt

First Lieutenant George A. Whiting, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford A. Whiting, of 1719 Arlington Ave., narrowly escaped injury in the crash of an Air Force C-47 near Greiner Air Force Base Tuesday.

Whiting was co-pilot of the plane which crashed seconds after taking off. He was accompanied by three other crewmen and nine passengers, none of whom was hurt in the mishap.

The plane was bound for Port Knox, Ky., where the passengers were to have made an inspection tour.

Lieutenant Whiting, former HERALD sports writer, is a graduate of the University of California. While attending col-

lege he entered the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps and upon graduation was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force. Prior to entering college Whiting attended Torrance High School, graduating in 1949.

Whiting started his Air Force training at Goodfellow Air Base, San Angelo, Tex., in 1953.

Lions Club Helps 50 Children With Sight Conservation Aid

Over 50 needy Torrance children have already had free eye examinations and glasses when needed during the past year as a part of the Torrance Lions Club blind and sight conservation program and one Braille writing machine has been ordered for a blind child, according to President Mott Farrell.

Each fall, the members of the Torrance Lions Club participate in their White Cane Day Drive to secure funds for the program of providing the free glasses and eye examination for needy Torrance children.

John F. Nussall, M.D., a member of the Torrance Lions Club and a Torrance Ophthalmologist is giving extensively of his time in this program. Dr. Nussall is a member of the blind and sight saving committee along with Lions A. K. Peterson, Frank Pagac, and Chairman Warren W. Hamilton.

Aids Listed
A survey of the children who have benefited from the program shows that the Lions Club program has not only provided eye examinations and glasses if needed but also has included some eye therapy for the strengthening of eye muscles; the wearing of an eye patch to rest, protect, or strengthen a particular eye, and other help.

The program does not provide these services for children from

families who are receiving aid from the County or the State through the Bureau of Public Assistance since these children are eligible through the County program. The children who are eligible are usually those from families where the provider has been injured or ill for a period of time and it has been impossible for the family to have the child's eyes taken care of.

To Conduct Drive

The Torrance Lions Club will conduct its annual White Cane Day Drive in the fall to secure funds to carry on this worthwhile program next year. Each penny of the money secured in Torrance is put in a special fund for sight-saving and eye conservation and all of it is spent in Torrance. The budget for this Sight Conservation program is over \$1200 for the 1955-56 fiscal year.

Blasts Rock School in Lomita Area

Three explosions shortly after 1 p.m. Monday startled pupils and teachers at the 259th Place School in Lomita, but sheriff's deputies said there was no damage reported.

A custodian at the school told authorities that the first explosion was followed by two smaller ones, all originating in an incinerator. School officials said the container was used for burning refuse from students' lunches and was lit at about 1 p.m.

Deputies were investigating the possibility that the explosives used in the blasts were stolen from Chandler Sand and Gravel Co. at 28311 Narbonne Ave., which was burglarized over the week end.

Two boxes of dynamite caps, with 100 caps in each box, were taken in the burglary, authorities reported.

A padlock on the front door of the establishment was tried off to gain entry for the theft, deputies said.



GENE M. COLLIER
... Spine Wield Tale

Police Question Tale of Murder

A story by a Gardena man that he shot and killed persons in Kentucky and Indiana turned out to be unfounded when detectives said he sobered up after being arrested here on a drunk driving charge at 174th St. and Arlington Ave. early Monday.

Detective Capt. Ernie Ashton said Gene M. Collier, 24, who was picked up on the driving count, later repudiated his "confession." After checks were made with police in both Henderson, Ky., and Evansville, Ind., the stories were broken down by detectives.

Collier now is in the county jail serving 30 days on the drunk driving count, Ashton said.

"Confessions"
He earlier had told detectives Don Hamilton and Ted Morris that he had killed a woman in Indiana. Police checked out the stories and found that both murders actually had taken place, but that both had been solved.

The Indiana killing has been tied in with Leslie "Mad Dog" Irvin, who was apprehended a few months ago in San Francisco on charges he murdered a number of people during a reign of terror in the middle west. Evansville authorities told Ashton that the evidence in the murder there was positively tied in with Irvin, he said.

Collier finally told detectives the stories were made up to provide him with a quick trip out of state, a necessity he claimed was brought about by recent family trouble. Ashton said that Collier told him he figured the "confessions" would enable him to leave this area quickly.

He told Hamilton and Morris during questioning Monday that he was a native of Anderson, Ind.

\$600 in Cash Silver Stolen

For more than two hours a woman and two men were held captive by three youths while their home was ransacked last Tuesday night.

Victims of the youthful intruders were Carl Leslie Smith, 51; his wife Helen, 46, and brother Clifford Smith, 47, who were surprised in their home at 1710 W. 257th St., Harbor City.

Smith said he and his brother were watching television in the living room after his wife had gone to bed when a pair of the marauders came through the living room door, armed with an automatic pistol and a double-barreled hand gun.

Men Bound
The men were bound hand and foot with electrical cord and belts and forced to lie on the floor. Their eyes and mouths were covered with adhesive tape.

When the third of the trio appeared Mrs. Smith was bound with her stockings and pieces of clothing and left lying on the bed.

The bandits, all wearing work clothing and dark glasses, then proceeded to ransack the house and garage, taking time to eat sandwiches and apples before leaving the house around 11:30 p.m.

The Smiths, who operate apparel cleaning plants in Torrance, San Pedro, and Wilmington, told police "they seemed to have the idea that we had a large amount of money around the place, we were afraid they were going to torture us."

Moved Too Slow
Only Carl Smith was assaulted when he lay on the floor too slowly to suit the bandits.

Police revealed that the loot taken by the three youths totaled \$601, including \$130 in cash removed from the men's wallets and Mrs. Smith's purse, a set of sterling silverware, a shotgun and two wrist watches.

The men said they thought the intruders were practical jokesters before they brandished their weapons and ordered the Smiths to "lie down. We're not fooling."

The description of the trio places them in their early 20's, of dark complexion, possibly of Mexican descent, and appearing to be under the influence of narcotics.

Navyman to Graduate

Harold J. Duprie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold B. Duprie, 22331 S. Vermont Ave., is scheduled to graduate Saturday from the Naval Training Center, San Diego. It will mark the end of a nine-week recruit training program for Duprie.



(Herald Photo)
DANIEL DESMOND
... New Moose Governor

Moose Officers To Be Installed Here on Sunday

Installation of officers of the Loyal Order of Moose for the coming year will be held Sunday afternoon at the Moose Hall, 1744 W. Carson St.

To be installed as governor of the lodge will be Daniel Desmond, who served in that capacity once before. J. H. Johnston will be investing officer and he will be assisted by the Women of the Moose escort team.

Junior governor for the year will be William W. Olson, while Dave Harrison will be prelate, Fred G. Lydy, treasurer, and Marvin P. MacArthur, trustee.

Man Takes Life Here

A 48-year-old Torrance man apparently committed suicide yesterday morning by taking an overdose of medicinal pills, police here reported.

Idris Ball, of 2308 Gramercy Ave., was found by his mother at about 9 a.m. when she attempted to wake him for breakfast. He had been in ill health, but a doctor said his illness was not serious.

Doak Aircraft Gets Research Contracts

The Doak Aircraft Co. of Torrance will share in a project to combine the vertical take-off and landing abilities of the helicopter with the high speed capabilities of today's transport planes, the Army announced yesterday.

The Army stressed that contracts are not for development of operational aircraft, but for the conduct of applied research to achieve the announced target.

The Torrance company's share of the research project amounts to \$341,673. The Fairchild Aircraft Co. at Hagerstown, Md., received a \$1,007,057 contract for its share of the joint project.

The Army said the new-type aircraft to be designed will be used to investigate and establish advanced aerodynamic design principles for possible aircraft which will enhance the ability of all three military services to operate from extremely short landing fields.

Research along these lines by the military services ultimately is expected to benefit small communities now unable to afford airports requiring long runways and expensive terminal facilities.

The Army project calls for the construction and evaluation of research aircraft at a much reduced scale in size and time, and at 10 to 20 per cent of the cost required for developing a complete airplane.

Differing in some respects from the "Convertiplane," or convertible airplane, with which the Army currently is experimenting, the new research aircraft to be produced by Doak and Fairchild will incorporate a number of unique high life devices which the Army hopes will make for quicker takeoffs and shorter landings.

Local Kiwanis Observe U.S.- Canada Week

Joe Doss, president of the Torrance Kiwanis Club, announced that the local Kiwanians are participating this week in U.S.-Canada Good Will Week.

The local group is joining other members of Kiwanis International in the observance of the 138th anniversary of the demilitarization of the U. S. Canada boundary line.

According to president Doss the Kiwanis International in the past 20 years has set up 25 markers along the 3000 mile border. These markers bear the following inscription:
"The unfortified boundary line between the Dominion of Canada and the United States should quicken the remembrance of more than a century-old friendship between these countries; a lesson of peace to all nations."



PLANNING CONCERT . . . Making plans for the sixth annual concert of Los Candeleros June 8 and 9 in the Redondo High auditorium are (left to right) Don Bremer, director; Ray Wallace, production manager; and Barbara Wallace, general chairman. Los Candeleros will combine classic choral music with a light second half production, "Whale of a Tale," for the concert. Wallace has written the original "Whale of a Tale" script and currently is designing marine sets for use in the production.