



Brig. Gen. Carl Gray Jr., director general of military railroad service in North Africa, hurries his lunch while on an inspection tour of a new railroad line. He is in charge of the transport system backing up the Allied invasion of Italy.

### J. C. Smith, Prominent Realtor, Dies After Lingered Illness

Death came last Tuesday, Aug. 3 to John C. Smith, and brought to a close a career in Torrance of business enterprise and civic promotion that had covered a period of 23 years. Mr. Smith passed away at the Torrance Memorial hospital after six months of illness from an incurable disease, which is believed to be the aftermath of an automobile accident two years ago in which he was injured and his wife was instantly killed.

Mr. Smith was born in London, Madison county, Ohio, in January, 1870, and was 73 years of age at the time of his death. He spent the years of his early business career in Kansas and came to Torrance in 1920 where he engaged in the real estate business under the firm name of the Torrance Investment Co. in partnership with J. W. Macdowell who later withdrew and the business was carried on by Mr. Smith for many years.

During this time, Mr. Smith not only promoted many important business transactions in real estate, but he took an active interest in the affairs of the community and lent his aid to all projects that promised the upbuilding of Torrance and its surrounding area. His shrewd knowledge of values made him a worthy counselor in affairs of business or civic undertakings.

He was a member of the Masonic lodge, Shrine, and of the "Mitza," 32d Masonic degree. Mr. Smith is survived by his widow, Mrs. Cecilia Smith, 1451 El Prado, whom he married less than a year ago; a sister, Mrs. Home Swick, of London, Ohio; a brother, William Smith, of Cleveland, and a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lenore Clitch, soloist, sang his favorite hymn, "A Guide With Me."

Funeral services were held this morning at 10 o'clock at Stone & Myers chapel, Rev. H. W. Roloff of the Central Community church officiating. Mrs. Lenore Clitch, soloist, sang his favorite hymn, "A Guide With Me." Pallbearers were chosen from among his close friends and associates; J. W. Macdowell, of Pacific Palisades, R. A. Huber, Otto A. Kresse, Tom Waters, C. T. Rippey and L. B. Kolsky.

The remains were placed in the mausoleum at Inglewood Park cemetery. Tom Waters, real estate dealer, paid the following tribute to Smith's memory: "In the passing of J. C. Smith, I am sure that the greatest booster for Torrance and its industries, since my residence here of 16 years, has been removed. Like any good citizen and as an Elk, we shall write his faults on the shifting sands of Time and his virtues on the tablets of love and memory."

Recognizing the urgent need, the American Legion took the lead on a nation-wide collection campaign. Final results cannot be known for some weeks—not until all the shipments have come in to be counted and weighed. But the total tonnage is sure to run into impressive figures.

It has been a typical American activity. "We see our duty and we do it." But there is just one weakness with this method. People are inclined to let down, to forget the emergency as soon as the intensive effort is relaxed. Families and individuals are

### Oil Drilling May be Revived As Promising Sands are Struck

Renewed drilling in an extension of the old West Torrance oil field was forecast this week as a result of encouraging showings in the first well drilled by George Nordenholt on the Redondo Improvement Co. holdings, west of the C.C.M.O. lease. Oil sands were encountered between 2950 and 3250 feet, according to field scouts. The well has been cased off and preparations are being made to drill through within the next few days. Tests made before cementing off indicate that the well will be commercially profitable but no large production is anticipated. Nordenholt and associates have 100 acres leased south of Torrance blvd. and east of Sepul-

# TORRANCE HERALD

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## Torrance Omitted In Allotment Of 6,000 New Houses

While six thousand additional new housing units were authorized this week to alleviate housing shortages elsewhere in Los Angeles county, the Torrance area was not included in the districts to be benefited. Despite the critical need for several thousand new homes to house workers in Torrance war industries, a study of the announcement by Eugene Weston, Jr., regional representative, Region X, of the National Housing Agency, discloses that none of the 6000 new dwellings may be built in the Torrance area.

Creation of an additional 3,000 family units by conversion of existing properties was also approved for the county at large, in which the Torrance-Lomita area may participate to the full extent of properties available for that purpose. Previously, a total of 1361 new housing units were allocated to the Torrance area, most of which are now either completed or under construction. However, under a new ruling of the federal housing agencies, it was learned by this newspaper today, any allotments which had not been taken up by builders prior to Aug. 1, are to be returned to the national pool.

None for Torrance. Kelvin C. Vanderlip, N.H.A. senior housing representative for Southern California, said a total of 6000 new family dwelling units has been authorized for construction by private builders. Two thousand of these are allocated to the harbor area, bounded by Narbonne, Sepulveda, Figueroa, Rosecrans and Atlantic blvds. and 2500 are authorized for the Inglewood area, bounded by Pico, Western, Slauson, Figueroa and Redondo Beach blvds. An additional 500 are scheduled for Long Beach east of Atlantic and south of Rosecrans. Also authorized are 1000 in the eastern part of the Los Angeles city, bounded by Figueroa, Rosecrans, Rosemead, Anaheim Telegraph road, Rio Hondo, Beverly blvd., Olympic blvd., Soto st. and Slauson ave. Maximum authorized shelter rentals are: \$50 for 3-bedroom, \$42.50 for 2-bedroom, and \$38 for 1-bedroom units. No more than 15 per cent of any project may be 1-bedroom. Preference will be given to those projects incorporating refrigerators and stoves and favorable consideration will be given to builders supplying furniture.

Added to the already authorized quota of 1925 conversion units throughout the county is a new allocation of 3000 family units, 15 per cent of which is intended for racial minorities. The new conversion program consists of 1500 units from conversion of existing buildings with private capital and another 1500 with public funds through lease to the National Housing Agency. The administration of these 3000 conversions lies with the War Housing Centers under the direction of Kenneth S. Wing, 1148 South Hill st., or any of the other 12 War Housing Centers throughout the county. Full information and assistance on public and private conversion priorities and financing will be given by Pat Macdonnell, director of War Housing Center, Sartori and Post aves., Torrance.

The private conversions are limited to a maximum of \$40 shelter rent and, together with the public conversions, may be located anywhere in Los Angeles county east of Sepulveda blvd., south of the San Gabriel mountains, and west of the San Gabriel and the Puente hills.

Cities Agree Upon Emergency Exchange Of Fire Equipment. In the event of a major fire catastrophe, Torrance has agreed to render mutual aid to other nearby cities, according to an agreement authorized by the city council Monday. The action was taken at the request of the County War Council and is in conformity with the newly-enacted State War Powers Act, according to Fire Chief McMaister who requested the agreement. He and Mayor Tom P. McGuire were authorized by the council to sign the mutual aid pact.

Under the agreement, Los Angeles would be required to furnish up to 12 fire pumps, but Torrance—which owns only two pumps—would be required to send only one to other communities. Each community is permitted to retain one power pump as a standby, Chief McMaister said.

Hot Time Ahead. "Hardly had we finished speaking when Lambert's voice came over the intercom, raised in excitement: 'Here they come! 11 o'clock! 11 o'clock! Give 'em hell!'" At the same instant the bombardier's nose gun started to chatter three feet ahead of me. There they were, 1000 yards ahead, four Focke-Wulf fighters, easily recognizable. . . . The next half-hour was warm. . . . Much of the conversation at this point was unrepeatable, but left nobody in any doubt of the feelings of the crew towards the Hun. The nose was filled with the chatter of the guns. Way behind us the Fortresses ploughed their way relentlessly forward, while Focke-Wulfs and Messerschmitts darted around them like flies around a honey pot.

Just then I saw with a start of surprise that the bomb doors were opening on the "Dallas Rebel" and glancing

Patricia Anne Carlin, daughter of Mrs. James L. Carlin, 716 Acacia ave., is the latest recruit to join the women's division of the U.S. armed services. Miss Carlin, who has been working at Douglas El Segundo plant, enlisted recently in the WAVES and will leave Sunday for New York to train at Hunter College.

From his base overseas come letters from Lieut. Carroll Joe Bender to his mother, Mrs. William Hiatt, 21502 South Berendo ave., giving latest news of the exploits of the American Air Force, which is taking gallant part in the bombing and strafing of enemy bases in Europe. Lieut. Bender . . . or it is probably Capt. Bender now . . . took part in the raid over Le Bourget in July, when that aerodrome was blasted into a smoking ruin. Bastille day in France

## Patricia Carlin Joins the Waves

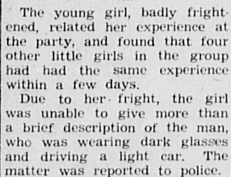
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## Capt. Bender Takes Part in Raid Over Le Bourget

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## 'Wolf' Pursues Young Girls Here

Police and residents of the western part of Torrance are keeping an alert eye open for the reappearance of a man who has been reported accosting young girls on the street, inviting them to ride in his car. Last week a young miss was approached at the corner of El Dorado and Beech aves., but she gave the man a curt refusal and kept on her way. The "wolf" drove slowly along beside her for two blocks and only desisted when she arrived at her destination.



RAIDER—Capt. Carroll Joe Bender flies over France on devastating mission.

## New Employees Not to Receive Seniority Credit

For the duration of the war period, any new employees engaged by the city of Torrance will be classed as "emergency employees" and they will not receive seniority credits for their services under Civil Service.

The action, approved by the city council Monday, was taken on motion of Councilman Vern Babecek. All present city employees now classed as "temporary workers" are also to be reclassified as "emergency employees," the council decided. The ruling applies to all municipal departments.

Those "emergency employees" who may wish to become permanent employees after the war period, will be required to take the same examinations as if they were just beginning work with the city, it was explained. Likewise, they will receive no seniority credits, under Civil Service, for their work during the war emergency.

## Japanese Raids on Coast are Still Strong Possibility

More interest should be shown in the practice incidents, and calls for instruction in civilian defense projects, says Police Chief John Stroth, who is somewhat disturbed at the indifference shown by some of those who have signed up for this work.

At the last call for practice, only 217 out of a possible 600, or about one-third of the workers, showed up last Tuesday night. According to observers who have made tours of the Pacific war zone recently, this is no time to relax in vigilance on the coast for possible raids to come, for there is a strong indication that Japanese raids on the coast will yet be undertaken.

Chief Stroth requests that a majority of the defense personnel turn out at the next call.

Deer Season Opens Sept. 16. Numerous enquiries are being received by the State Division of Fish and Game regarding the opening of deer season. There will be no deer hunting in California prior to Sept. 16.



SUPER-SALESMAN — Scout Dean Wickham, 1011 Cota ave., who last week sold a \$4,000 War Bond.

## Boy Scout Sells \$4,000 Bond

For his "good turn" last week 12-year-old Boy Scout Dean Wickham, 1011 Cota ave., sold a \$4000 war bond, thus topping the list of juvenile bond salesmen in this area. And just to round out his record, Scout Wickham also secured buyers for three \$25 bonds, all of which was credited to the J. C. Penney Co. quota.

The name of the buyer was withheld by request, but Hillman R. Lee, chairman of the Torrance war bond committee, testifies to the authenticity of the purchase. When the proud cruiser U. S. S. Los Angeles takes its place in the battle line of the U.S. Navy, Scout Wickham can point with pride to the important part he played in making its construction possible.

Dean's father, R. A. Wickham, joined the Navy six months ago and is now a seaman first-class, stationed at San Diego. Dean hopes that his dad will be assigned to the U.S.S. Los Angeles when it is commissioned.

Scout Wickham is a member of Troop 241, sponsored by St. Andrew's Episcopal church.

## First Parent Cited to Court Under Curfew

The Torrance juvenile curfew adopted three weeks ago has teeth, Melvin D. Bard learned Tuesday when he appeared before Municipal Judge Otto B. Willett to answer charges preferred by city police. Bard's son, Melvin Douglas, Jr., was the first offender to come under the law within two days after its adoption, and he was picked up on the city streets for the second time last Saturday night.

On his first appearance young Bard was cited to the juvenile court, but on his second brush with the law, both the boy, age 14, and his father were given summonses. Bard was fined \$15, suspended on condition that the boy should not leave the yard at the family home, 110 West 219th st., after sunset and is never again arrested for violation of the curfew law.

Young Bard was again turned over to the juvenile authorities and placed on probation until some time in October. The parents are both employed, his father explained.

## Blood-Bank Unit Coming Monday

Red Cross headquarters, Post and Cravens, is calling for at least 300 registrants to fill the quota of 240 pints of blood plasma which will be taken on the next visit of the blood bank, Monday, Aug. 9. The additional number is required so that the places of those who find at the last minute that they are unable to donate blood may be filled.

Hours will be from 3 to 7 p. m. to accommodate workers on shifts in defense plants. Those who have contributed blood during the past ten weeks should not register at this time, says Mrs. Kresse.

Donors should eat no solid food for at least four hours prior to their visit to the blood bank headquarters at the Civic Auditorium. Prospective donors may call the Red Cross at 1524 or Mrs. Kresse, 253.

## Group of Apartment Buildings Totaling 68 Units Launched

Construction of four modern apartment buildings, comprising 68 family dwellings, located in block 12 of Torrance tract, near the Fern Avenue school, was begun this week by Thrifty Builders, Inc.

Included in the four structures are 40 one-bedroom units and 28 two-bedroom apartments. They will occupy practically the entire block between Greenwood, Hickory, El Dorado and Sonoma aves. The entire improvement represents an investment of \$350,000, according to L. H. Boyar, general manager of the firm. Boyar states that he hopes to have the first 20 dwellings completed within eight weeks.

To comply with Federal Housing Administration requirements, the Torrance city council Monday agreed to improve the streets adjacent to the apartment buildings with one-inch rock and oil paving within a reasonable time after completion of the buildings. Thrifty Builders, Inc., are to provide sidewalks, curbs and gutters at their own expense. At the council meeting Monday, Boyar retracted a statement he made at a previous meeting when he said the city had agreed to provide all street improvements. He explained that upon checking his records he found that the council had promised to provide only the roadway paving.

During the past five years, Thrifty Builders, Inc., have erected over 3000 dwelling units in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, Boyar stated. Plan More Houses. The way was also cleared at Monday's council meeting for the early construction of another large housing project along 203rd st., west of Western ave., within the city of Torrance. An exchange of lots and readjustment of setback lines was agreed upon between the council and California Builders, Inc., in order to meet F.H.A. requirements. However, the council rejected a request of the builders that the city install sewers at municipal expense. City Engineer Glenn Jain explained that the county was contemplating a trunk sewer line which would serve the area. The housing project planned on 203rd st. represents an investment of \$375,000, according to estimates.

Meanwhile, the 223-unit housing project, across Western ave., along 203rd and 204th sts., by Southwest Homes, Inc., got under way this week. Large quantities of lumber and other building supplies have been unloaded on the site and excavations are being made for foundations.

Wandas recovered his feet and ran into the barroom, Roberts said, and was followed by several men, now quite angry. When the men crowded in on Wandas, Roberts reports, he fired again. His aim was deflected and the shot went into the ceiling.

A fourth shot was fired which struck Moore in the chest, striking through his body and striking Rupp. The men then withdrew, Roberts said. Sheriff's deputies from the Vermont ave. sub-station and additional officers from the Palos Verdes police force, arrived shortly after and restored order, Roberts said.

An inquest to inquire into the matter of the death of Gildner is set for tomorrow morning at 9:30. Rupp and Diamond's barring complications, are expected to recover.

## Stroh Asks Return Of C. D. Gas Masks

Members of local Civilian Defense units who have been issued gas masks have been requested by government officials to return them immediately to the Torrance police station, according to Police Chief John Stroth.

The present gas masks, which are the Army type are badly needed by the armed forces. Civilian Defense personnel are to be furnished new civilian type gas masks, Stroth reports.

## War Bond Dollars Finance Cruiser and Two Destroyers

War Bond dollars of Los Angeles county citizens not only financed the building of the cruiser "Los Angeles" in July but also underwrote the cost of two escorting destroyers! The Treasury Department announced that bond sales during the 31-day countywide drive totaled in excess of \$60,000,000. Goal of the campaign was only \$40,000,000.

Negotiations already are under way with Secretary of the Navy Knox for naming two new destroyers in honor of Los Angeles county heroes of the present war, it was announced. Secretary Knox, who officially opened the cruiser drive in two Los Angeles appearances June 30—at the Biltmore Bowl and the Hollywood Bowl—promised then that destroyers would be set aside for that purpose if the required amount in bond sales was raised in excess of the cruiser cost.

Though none of these committees had reported final figures, Scott said unofficial tabulations show that an estimate of \$20,000,000 above the quota is conservative. The official figures, he forecast, will reveal that more than 1,000,000 persons in the county bought bonds during the drive, thus sharing the pride of having had a part in building the first heavy cruiser ever to bear the name of the city and county.