

Fall Into Tub of Hot Water Fatal to Tot

HOLD PAINTER ON MOLESTING CHARGE

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HONORED POSTHUMOUSLY ... Capt. Robert Laden, a B-29 pilot killed as a result of enemy action over Korea, chats with a native boy on Okinawa a short time before he was killed last November. This week his wife and daughter, both of Torrance, accepted medals awarded to the air hero for his actions on the fatal mission.

Posthumously Awarded Medals Go to Widow, Daughter of Hero

An Oakleaf Cluster to the Distinguished Flying Cross and the sixth Oakleaf Cluster to the Air Medal were presented posthumously last Friday to the Torrance wife and five-year-old daughter of a B-29 pilot killed in Korea last November.

Accepting the medals during a solemn ceremony held at the Long Beach Air Force Receiving Training Center was the airman's pretty wife, an ex-mo- Mrs. Mary M. Laden, and daughter Alexa, of 2180 Andreo avenue.

Captain Laden, a veteran of 13 years in the service, was killed on November 5, 1950 enroute back from a mission over enemy territory in Korea. Capt. Laden, a pilot of a B-29 type photo reconnaissance plane, had dropped to 13,000 feet to get much-needed photographs of enemy activity. He was jumped by Red jet fighters and had one engine shot away. In spite of this, the crew is credited with downing one Red plane. He continued his photo run in spite of air opposition and heavy anti-aircraft fire from the Reds. Enroute back to his base a second engine went out. Realizing that the plane would never make it back to the base, he alerted the crew for a crash landing, delaying the action while his crew prepared for the impending crash. His actions and unsflinching devotion to duty are credited with saving the lives of seven crew members.

Mrs. Laden, who was living in Japan with her husband at the time of the crash, accompanied his body to San Jose, California, his hometown, where he was buried. He attended San Jose State College before entering the service.

The war hero's widow moved to Torrance after the funeral to be near her mother, Mrs. S. O. Gooding, 125 W. 219th place. Captain Laden, a B-17 pilot during World War II with the 306th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force, had 35 missions to his credit in the European Theater. He has been awarded the Purple Heart with Cluster and the Victory Medal.

Making the presentation of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal last Friday was Colonel Lee Q. Wasson, commanding officer of the 2347th AFRTC, Long Beach.

The Weather

Slightly warmer tomorrow. Night and morning cloudiness tending to clear toward afternoon. Not much change in the weather picture from the past three days.

Painter Held To Answer on Rape Charge

A father of three children, 33-year-old Wesley Harold Gossett, 17114 Ardath avenue, was bound over to Superior Court last Thursday to answer a charge of attempted rape of a seven-year-old Perry Elementary School girl.

City Judge Otto B. Willett who conducted the preliminary hearing of the North Torrance painter continued the \$5000 bail under which Gossett was being held. He is scheduled to appear in Superior Court in Long Beach on June 18.

The suspect has continuously denied any implication in the crime. He has been arrested in recent months by the Manhattan Beach Police Department on sex offenses.

Gossett was three times identified, twice in person and once by photograph, by the victim as the man who lured her into a grassy field near Perry Elementary School and there attempted to rape her. Capt. Ernie Ashton of the Torrance Police Department pieced together a visual picture of the suspect from the description given by the victim and later arrested Gossett while working on a new home tract in North Torrance.

Guard Unit In Japan Tackles Bridge Jobs

YAMOTO, Japan.—Torrance's Company A, 374th Engineers Combat Battalion, has headed for the field again to take over road and bridge repair projects near Sendai.

This is the Torrance unit's second such assignment, it having returned recently from a week of rebuilding narrow, rutted roads and bolstering rickety bridges for use by Army traffic.

The battalion, which had two companies located in Torrance before its induction into federal service last September, is in the midst of a rigorous unit training program along with

Exercises Tonight:

Party for 159 Seniors To Follow Graduation

City to Get Treasury Bond Flag

Torrance has qualified to become a U. S. Treasury Department Flag City—the first in California.

For the city it will mean considerable publicity on a National scale, according to treasury department officials who plan to make an "example" of Torrance.

The campaign to qualify Torrance as a Minute Man Flag City was sparked by the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce under the chairmanship of George Post. The Jaycees met and topped a goal of 80 per cent signers to a pledge by employers that they would make defense bonds available to employees through payroll deductions. The Juniors are attempting to give other cities a real mark to shoot for by obtaining a 100 per cent sign-up of employers in the area.

Planned for later this month is a treasury-sponsored parade including marching units from the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, according to Stanley Switzer, deputy director of the treasury savings bond division. Motion picture stars and government bigwigs are to attend the celebration, he said. Newsreels and television coverage is expected, Switzer said.

Already, according to the treasury department official, National Supply Company has 34 per cent of its employees taking advantage of the payroll deduction plan. Columbia Steel has topped that mark and now has 79 per cent of its workers buying savings bonds through a payroll deduction plan.

Exact date of the parade and celebration is to be announced sometime next week.

Board Hires Appraisers

Employment of two real estate appraisers at the rate of \$50 per day was authorized by the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night.

The County Counsel demands an appraisal of the Ellinwood site in Walteria before they will proceed on condemnation proceedings on the proposed high school site.

Token Pay Hikes Given to School Administrators

Token salary raises were voted Tuesday night by the Board of Education for the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Manager of the school district.

William H. Tolson moved that the Superintendent, Dr. J. H. Hull, be granted a \$200 per year increase and that Emmett Ingram, assistant superintendent and business manager, be given a \$300 increase.

"Actually," Tolson said, "it is far short of what they deserve."

Commenting on the increases, Judge John A. Shidler, president of the board, said: "With the district growing as it is I am certain that the superintendent and business manager are putting in far

Board OK's Price Tag on Land for Kettler School

The Torrance Board of Education considered an asking price of \$20,000 for a six and a half-acre site for the proposed school to serve the Kettler Knolls area a "reasonable" one Tuesday night and directed the county counsel to negotiate for the purchase of the property.

The property is located at 235th street and Narbonne avenue. Owners of the property would retain the oil and mineral rights while the school district would acquire all surface rights to the land.

Instructor To Have Jury Trial

A jury trial on July 10 was set by Federal Judge Pierson M. Hall on Monday of this week to hear the case against Clarence H. Vetterli, El Camino College instructor, charged by the FBI with perjury before a Federal Grand Jury.

Although Vetterli waived a jury trial Judge Pierson expressed the opinion that the case should be heard by a jury. Earlier the college journalism instructor had entered a plea of guilty on one of the charges in the court of Federal Judge William M. Byrne who refused to accept his plea and entered a not guilty plea for the 41-year old instructor.

Vetterli, who lives at 17107 Crenshaw boulevard in North Torrance, is charged by the FBI with giving false testimony before the grand jury two years ago during a Red espionage investigation.

He is currently on voluntary leave from the college pending the outcome of the trial.

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GORDON P. ROBINSON
... War Dead Returns

Special Mass Set for Soldier Killed in Korea

A special Mass will be celebrated in the Catholic Church of Nativity here Tuesday morning for Staff Sergeant Gordon Phillips Robinson, a former Torrance High School student who was killed in Korean action last September.

The body of the 19-year-old soldier was returned to the United States last week, and will be buried in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego with full military honors Wednesday.

The son of Mrs. L. E. Phillips, formerly of 2016; Andreo avenue, Robinson was killed in a big push against the North Koreans last September 12. He was serving with the 8th Cavalry Division at the time.

Military rites for the soldier will be held at the National cemetery in San Diego at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, according to his mother. Orders for flowers should specify that they be sent directly to Ft. Rosecrans, Mrs. Phillips said.

Second Tot Dies After Tumble in Scalding Water

Second recent death of a small tot falling into scalding water was reported this week when 17-month-old Kathleen Dill fell into a bathtub of steaming water last Sunday evening.

The accident occurred when the baby tumbled into a tub of hot water her mother, Mrs. Jackie Dill, had drawn in the bathroom, investigators said. The Dill home is at 1636 West 203rd street.

It was on April 1 that 3-year-old Maria Rebecca Orneal fell into a bucket of scalding water at the home of her uncle, Edward Parano, at 4380 West 182nd street. Little Maria suffered severe burns, but lived until April 26.

Funeral services for Kathleen were held yesterday in the Chapel of Chimes at Inglewood Park Cemetery. Interment there followed the rites.

She leaves her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray B. Dill and a sister, Linda Lee, at the home address, Stone and Myers Mortuary handled funeral arrangements.

Injured Lad Doing Well

Reported out of danger and "doing very well," yesterday was four-year-old Robert Frederickson, of 802 Sartori avenue, who was injured seriously Friday by an auto at the corner of Arlington and Sartori avenues.

Attendants at Harbor General Hospital said yesterday that the lad was being held for further observation. He suffered a skull fracture and cuts and bruises.

He was injured, investigators said, when he ran into the street and collided with an auto driven by John Streetmaker, 35, of 17308 Glenburn avenue, North Torrance.

All Night Party Set For Grads

Today's the day for 159 Torrance High School seniors.

And a long day it will be too, with classes starting off this morning and with a breakfast at 4 o'clock tomorrow morning, closing the dawn-to-dawn celebration.

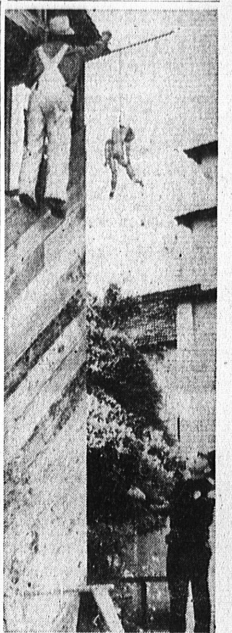
Today, "G-Day," is graduation day for the 83 girls and 76 boys comprising the Class of '51.

Graduation will be held at 8 o'clock this evening on the high school athletic field. Following graduation most of the graduates will head for the spacious Campus Center at El Camino College. There, dancing to Allan Gordon's seven-piece band featuring Vocalist Gloria Gray, recording artists, will hold away until 3 a.m. At 4 a.m. the weary graduates will be served a breakfast and shoed home-ward with graduation regalia to the classification of a neophyte.

The graduation exercises, open to the public, will start with the professional "Pomp and Circumstance" by the High School Orchestra under the direction of Harold Dunn, instructor. Jerry Downing, class president, will lead the graduates and audience in the salute to the flag. The invocation will be given by Rev. Arthur E. Bello of the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Grace Lafferty, lovely high school singer, will offer "Ave Maria." The commencement presentation "End of a Perfect Day," will be given by four senior speakers. Ted White will speak on the past; Glynn Boyce, the present; Don Mitchell, the future; and Gary Carter on a summation.

"Estrellita" will be sung by Elaine Rehwald. John Steinbaugh, principal. (Continued on Page 5)



FRANK ... Police, answering a call that "a body is hanging from the new Episcopal Church building," found that pranksters, unable to resist the suggestion offered by an overhanging yard arm, had "strung up" a life-size baby doll, L. B. Potter, a carpenter on the job, cut the loose-jointed creature from its aerial perch into the waiting arms of Officer Gale Whitacre. (Herald photo).

Summer Vacation Starts Tomorrow For 4750 Pupils

For the 4750 Torrance school children who dread going to school tomorrow because it is report card day there is some consolation in that it is also the last day of school.

Starting at 10 a.m. in the morning in the elementary schools, the vacation-bound children will start bubbling out singing an old song about no more books nor teacher's looks.

The school bus schedule has been revised for the day. Morning session students will be picked up at 8:30 a.m. and will return home about 10 a.m. Afternoon session pupils will be picked up at 9:30 and returned home at 11 a.m.

For the high school students the morning pickup will be as usual. Buses will pick up at the high school at 12:50 p.m. and will pull out at 12:55 p.m.

School sessions will resume on September 17.

Summer school for elementary students will start on June 18. There will be no summer classes for high school students although they may enroll in one or more of the adult education classes planned during the summer.

Jaycee Election Set for Tonight

New Junior Chamber of Commerce officers will be elected tonight at a joint meeting of the retiring board of directors and the recently elected board, according to Ed Karlow, president of the Jaycees for the past year.

The new board of directors, which was elected in balloting which closed June 1, includes Marvin Goetsch, Ed Karlow, Bert Lamb, Harold E. Massie, Clinton J. Meadway, Robert Owens, Howard Percy, Charles Schultz Jr., and Walter Sharon. Installation of the officers to be elected tonight will take place at a dinner-dance scheduled for Thursday night, June 21, at the Riviera Beach Club. Barry Hinshaw is chairman of the dance arrangements committee.

FIREMAN BURNED

Escaping gas from an oil well burst into flames yesterday burning Bob Moffitt, a member of the Torrance Fire Department who was working on the well on his day off.

He was taken to the Torrance Memorial Hospital where he was treated for burns on the face, arms, and legs.



TOP SCHOLARS ... Lions Club President Al Ewalt (right) presents Barbara Jackson and Irwin Kasten, two Torrance High School seniors, with \$50 scholarships which were awarded to the pair Tuesday noon. Witnessing the presentation were Mrs. Albert Jackson, wife of a former City Councilman and Board of Education member; Irwin's mother, Mrs. Kasten, and Mr. Kasten, a General Petroleum employee. Barbara plans to use the scholarship at Willamette University while Irwin plans to attend USC. (Herald photo).