

National Guardsmen Observe 10th Anniversary While in Training

An anniversary rolled by at most un-noticed this week at headquarters of the 40th Armored Division, Southern California National Guard organization, currently taking 15 days field training at Camp Roberts.

It was the 10th year re-activation of the division after World War II and came while the 40th was in the midst of summer training.

Under terms of the Selective Service Act of 1940, the 40th was called up for one year on March 3, 1941. . . . But the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor resulted in an indefinite extension of service for everyone and it was to more than five years later, in June, 1946, before the 40th was released from active duty at Camp Stoneman, Calif.

In the years between, the Southern California unit had traveled a long, arduous path, to Guadalcanal, New Guinea, the Solomons, and finally the Philippines where it made an amphibious landing at Lingayen Gulf then fought its way into Manila.

Sent to Korea
The division was booked to land on Chigasaki Beach, on Tokyo Bay near Yokohama but the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki brought the war to a quick end and the 40th was sent to Korea instead, as an occupation force.

It was to be another six years, in 1951 during the Korean conflict, before the division finally reached Chigasaki Beach and then only on an amphibious training exercise.

Most notable event of the 40th's occupation of Korea was acquisition of the "Togo Eagle," a large bronze eagle atop the flagpole at Ching hae, Japanese Naval Base, commemorating Admiral Togo's defeat of the Russian fleet in 1905.

Now in California
The bird was presented to the State of California and now stands in front of Camp San Luis Obispo.

Meanwhile, the division was all but disbanded in Korea and

finally went out of business in June, 1946, at Camp Stoneman. Reorganization as a unit of the California National Guard started at once and the headquarters was activated on August 15 that year in Los Angeles.

Again in 1950, a national emergency brought a Federal call to the 40th and it went into active duty, training briefly at Camp Cooke then sailing for the Far East. After 10 months advanced training in Japan, which included the long-delayed Chigasaki Beach landing, first elements of the division again found themselves in Korea shortly after Christmas in 1951, not as an occupation force this time but as a frontline fighting unit.

Guardsmen Home
It relieved the Army's 24th Division then, in a salient jutting far into Chinese territory. Fortunately, the war was nearly stalemated and fighting was not extensive.

By June, 1952, the last National Guardsman was home and out of service, ready to reorganize the 40th once again in California. Activation of Division Headquarters came on Sept. 2 of that year.

On hand Wednesday to inspect the 40th, and to offer congratulations on its anniversary was Lt. Gen. E. T. Williams, deputy commander of the Continental Army Command, which has charge of the training of all Army forces on this continent. General Williams made a quick tour of training activities, then lunched with Maj. Gen. Homer O. Eaton, Jr., division commander, and his staff, before departing by air.

The current summer training session is the 40th's fourth since its Korean combat duty. The unit also has reached a new post-Korea peak in manpower, listing over 7000 men on its rosters.

Obituaries

John C. Frye

Funeral services for John Chester Frye, 73, of 18708 Florwood Ave., were held yesterday morning at the Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel with Rev. John Taylor, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Torrance, officiating. Mr. Frye, a native of Eureka, Calif., died here Monday.

Mr. Frye, a retired glove maker, is survived by his widow, Juanita Frye, and a son, John C. Frye, and two grandchildren, all of the Florwood Ave. address.

Clyde H. Henderson

Clyde H. Henderson, Sr., 66, of 25838 Cypress Ave., a resident of Torrance since 1921, died Sunday at a Long Beach hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, of the Cypress Ave. address; a son, Clyde, of Gardena; two daughters, Maxine Schaar, of Lynwood, and Marilyn Rice, of El Cerrito; a brother, Roy, of Wilmington, and seven grandchildren.

Party Bosses Pick Candidates Reporter At Convention Says

By JOHN MORLEY
Herald Columnist

SAN FRANCISCO — This 1956 Republican National Convention is a rare exception in picking a nominee, as President Eisenhower has been almost the unanimous choice of the professionals, delegates, and voters of his party. It was also true in the case of Franklin Roosevelt; and Herbert Hoover in 1928. It was not the case with Thomas Dewey, Harry Truman, or Adlai Stevenson.

It was not the case in 80 per cent of the nominees at the national political conventions since their origin in Andrew Jackson's time in 1832. In reality the president and vice president are usually selected by a small group of political professionals who are working at it 365 days of the year and by convention time the machinery is well oiled and rolling in the direction they previously arranged.

The fault lies in our antiquated political system leading up to national political conventions, in which a handful of men present a candidate or candidates, often not in accordance with the will of the delegates or party voters. This handful of king-makers appears to operate on the premise of one all important question: Who can best defeat the opposition in November. . . . in a mad rush to keep themselves in power. Most other considerations of a candidate's ability, experience, aptitude seem to be secondary.

Millions Voiceless
Party procedures leading to the national political conventions served a good purpose since 1832. Today they are out of date and tune with the times. For the national convention is an outgrowth of the precinct meeting in thousands of communities all over the nation, where a few local political leaders meet and act, usually upon orders of the county and state political organizations.

It is under such limited circumstances of a handful of party workers that delegates are chosen and in most cases go to national conventions to vote for a president and vice president. With this method millions of voters are given no choice whatever in the nominations, for less than one voter in several thousand ever takes part in these precinct, county, or state meetings that choose delegates to the national conventions.

Need National Primaries
From observing at close range the workings of county, state, and national political conventions, we are convinced that the only practical way in which the members of political parties and the voters in general can express their choice on the high offices of president and vice president is by extending the presidential primary to all the states, instead

of to only less than one-third of the states, as at present. If the national primary were adopted, the national convention would have the true popular mandate of all the party's voters. Professional politicians who are opposed to the national primary do so for fear that they will lose their power in choosing a candidate. In my rounds of political leaders at both conventions it appears very difficult to adopt the national primary. It would re-

quire an amendment to the Constitution . . . or congressional legislation authorizing the states to hold presidential primaries by law. People Should Pick President
Above all the high political offices of the presidency and vice presidency should be the choice of the people, not the political bosses or officials. Sometimes it occurs that the choice of the professionals is the choice of the majority of the party voters. But there are

'ROUND THE RIVIERA

Greers Entertain All Summer, Thirteen in House at One Time

By EM FRENCH
FR 5-1390

My apologies to three July babies—Kimberly Ann Baldwin was born on the twentieth, at the San Pedro Community Hospital, weighed 7 lbs., 10 ozs. She is the daughter of Howard and Ginny Baldwin, as is Bonnie, age 12. Michael and Mary Jill Mulady have been around since July 2, and are doing fine. Their parents are Capt. John and Jeanne Mulady, and they have a brother, Brian, 9½.

Emil and Hulda Huskamp, and daughter, Jean, and guest, Adele Mullin, have returned from vacationing at Lake Tahoe and Reno, Nev.

The Greers, of 142 Via Alameda, have had company all summer, namely, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Greer of Phoenix, Katherine Robb, and son, Mickey, of Phoenix; Mrs. Bertha Candler and Glen, from Dubuque, Ia.; and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vespoli and Mark and Tim, from Modesto, Calif. They weren't all here at once, but at one time there were 13 in the house. It's a case of where you love to see them come but all good things must end, thank goodness!

Elizabeth Scott, 127 Via Monte D'Oro, is entertaining her sister-in-law, Bernice Scott who is returning from Lima, Peru, to her home in Stockton, Calif. . . . Billie Meuziers, 456 Calle de Castellana, has as houseguests this week her sister and family from Denver. They are Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Garrison, and son, Butch, and daughter, Vickie.

Dr. Emory Luccock, who is chaplain of the University of Pennsylvania, was a dinner guest of the Hornbecks Sunday night. Marybeth first became acquainted with Dr. Luccock when she was a member of his church in Oak Park, Ill., several years ago. While here Dr. Luccock also visited with Arthur Owens, 413 Via Los Miradores, whom he knew in China when they were both doing missionary

too many instances where the choice of a candidate was not even considered by the voters of a political party. In these instances the voters were forced to choose between candidates hand-picked by party bosses for other than reasons of party unity or the national good.

Electoral Plan Outmoded

Like the need for a national primary, there is an urgency to improve and reform the electoral college system now in force. Most everyone agrees that this ancient system is as outmoded as the ox cart that prevailed during its origin. In general, the present electoral college system often flagrantly thwarts the will of the majority of the nation's voters.

In recent years, as in 1948, Harry Truman defeated Thomas E. Dewey by 24,105,812 to

TORRANCE HERALD

AUGUST 23 1956

Three

21,970,000, but Truman got 303 electoral votes to Dewey's 189, indeed a lopsided total in electoral votes with only 2,135,812 votes separating the two. It happened again in 1952 when Dwight Eisenhower defeated Adlai Stevenson 33,936,252 to 27,314,252, but the electoral vote gave Eisenhower 442 and Stevenson only 89, an unfair and deceptive ratio.

All or None

The present electoral college system is outmoded because in a populous state like New York, with 45 electoral votes, the candidate who gets 51 per cent of the popular vote receives all of New York's electoral votes. Thus 49 per cent of New York's voters are in effect disenfranchised. In 1944

Franklin Roosevelt defeated Thomas E. Dewey 25,602,505 to 22,006,278, but received 432 electoral votes to Dewey's only 99. Although Truman received 2,780,000 votes in New York in 1948, he didn't get a single electoral vote because Dewey defeated him with 2,841,000, by only 61,000 votes.

In the same year in California Truman defeated Dewey by only 18,000 votes, but got all of the 32 electoral votes of the state. It seems to this reporter that the only fair way to proportion the electoral votes is to split the electoral vote of each state in the exact mathematical relationship to the popular vote, including fractions and decimals, and elect a president on that basis.

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Dominguez Channel to Get Clean-up Job in Torrance

County flood control crews this week began a full scale clean up of Dominguez channel between Western and Rosecrans Ave., according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

The clean up operation started at Western Ave. and is proceeding up-stream. A drag line was put into operation expedite the job, which will consist of the removal of debris, sand-bars, and minor excavation work and some levee rebuilding.

This work will be completed in six weeks, Supervisor Hahn said, and should greatly increase the capacity of the channel to carry water during the winter months.

Other crews are working downstream from 120th and Crenshaw blvd, spraying the channel to eliminate weeds and to prevent mosquito breeding.

Plans are also being drawn for the permanent improvement of the channel reach between Denker Ave and Vermont Ave., and this project is scheduled to go to contract next spring, Hahn stated.

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