

# TALK OF VIGILANTE COMMITTEE HEARD AFTER BEACH GANG FIGHT

## Guns, Knives Used in Melee

Formation of a vigilante committee to combat alleged rowdiness at the Torrance Beach was being discussed among residents of the area yesterday, THE HERALD was reliably informed.

A resident who asked to remain unidentified said their request for added police protection on the beach area apparently could not be granted because of the limited police force, and that the vigilante committee had been suggested as an alternative.

Police officials admitted that they had been unable to locate the youths who were involved in the fight on the beach Friday afternoon in which nearly a score of youths were involved.

More than 400 residents and onlookers were attracted by the melee, police reported. Witnesses said the youths were using guns, knives, a black jack, tire irons, and other deadly weapons in the turmoil. Police yesterday said the guns were apparently being used to shoot blank cartridges.

A 22-year-old Los Angeles man, William Grondahl, was booked by local police on charges of disturbing the peace and suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon. Spectators told police that Grondahl had fired a gun during the fight, but no weapon was found on him when arrested.

Torrance and Redondo Beach officers poured into the area when the call on the gang fight was broadcast. The police were armed with teargas grenades and shotguns loaded with shells containing the gas.

Teenagers at the beach when the outbreak started formed what one officer termed "an impromptu vigilante" committee on the spot and surrounded many of the browsers, pummeling and roughing them up before police arrived.

It was during this period that the shots were heard, but police reported no one was hit. Several of the rioters were cut and bruised by the younger assailants, witnesses reported. Several of the punks had their clothes torn badly before getting away from the crowd.

## Bullet Strikes Man in Knee

A 26-year-old Redondo Beach man was hospitalized yesterday after a small caliber bullet smashed into his right knee at the police range south of Pacific Coast Hwy. on Crenshaw.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital was Bill Chase, 2403 Grand Ave. Attending physicians reported the bullet taken from the victim's knee was of small caliber, possibly a .22.

Officer Bob Jones, who investigated the accident, reported that the bullet apparently came from down range, and could have been fired by boys hunting rabbits nearby. An all-out search of the area was conducted after the accident was reported.

## Rodeo Queen Contest Open

Applications for the "Rodeo Queen" contest to be held in conjunction with the annual Ranchero Days celebration may now be obtained from the Chamber of Commerce at 1345 El Prado, it was announced this week by D. C. Cook, parade chairman for the event.

Entries must be between the ages of 15 and 22 and be able to ride horseback. The winner will receive a Western outfit, Cook said.

The Ranchero Days celebration is scheduled for the week end of July 25th.

## Local Executive to Enroll at Stanford

W. T. Ayer, superintendent of engineering and maintenance at the Torrance Columbia General Steel plant, is one of 50 top-level executives enrolling today in Stanford University's Graduate School of Business.

The men will take part in the school's seventh annual summer executive development program.

## Chic Chilean Visits Friends To Learn of United States

A chic young Chilean is in Torrance getting some first hand information on America and its people.

Miss Raquel Steinman, currently a guest of the Harold Tennysons, 2003 W. 180th St., originally came to the United States in January, one of 34 young men and women taking part in an "Experiment in International Living." The exchange program is privately endorsed.

The visitor, along with the others, lived in American homes in the eastern states and attended American colleges and universities. When the other 33 returned home, Miss Steinman started out to see the country.

Mrs. Tennyson, a native of Chili, her husband and daughter, Sandra, had visited the young woman two years ago in her country and the invitation to Torrance was extended at that time.

Miss Steinman, who holds a university degree equivalent to this country's Ph.D., is employed by the Chilean Army. She works for the Institute

Geografico Militar in Santiago and when she returns home will continue her work compiling a gazetteer of Chilean cities.

While here, she's compiled quite a glimmer of American geography, traveling across the country with an American family.

She likes California. With the blessing of the state's Chamber of Commerce, the dark-haired attractive visitor vows she likes California best.

"California is much like Chile," she says, "and the influence is seen everywhere, and the people are so friendly."

How does the United States differ from her country?

First, she says, everyone is in a hurry here. "They hurry through work, hurry through dinner, they even take naps by the clock."

Also, the kitchen is a thing of amazement. "We never eat in the kitchen... that's a place for the maids and the cooks... about here, year after year, Chileans are the most important

room in the house. They're so beautiful."

In answer to a query concerning how her people felt about the Americans, she replied:

Bianca Morley: "It's difficult to generalize, but if the Chileans have any wrong opinion about Americans, part of the blame should be placed on American movies. Many of the films show Americans as gangsters."

With a smile, she admitted to being a little afraid of New York. "I've heard that's where the 'gangsters' are supposed to be."

Another thing she remarked, that is different is the freedom allowed American women.

"In my country, girls must live at home until they are married, no matter how old they are, it is not respectable to live alone."

Chaperones Busy: "It is not permissible for Chilean women to go out at night unaccompanied."

Despite the fact, she holds a responsible position in addition to university degrees in history, geography, civic education, psychology, and speaks four languages. Miss Steinman says the South American country is slow to give recognition to women.

"But, as in most other countries, women are attaining more stature and more respect in the professional world."

Proof of this is the fact her sister is a dentist. "She's a good one, too," the visitor declared.

Another recession: "Chile currently is in the midst of a recession with inflation making things extremely difficult for those of the poor class."

It's evident Miss Steinman thinks America's temporary recession can not be compared with that in her country.

"You have so much here... everything is new... everyone has a new home, furniture, cars, television... it's all so wonderful."

An experiment in international living is being conducted... a young Chilean is also covering all Americans are not gangsters... and Americans are discovering that Chileans are nice to know.

## Check Stolen Here

Dorothy Dressler, 10510 Daphne Ave., reported to police her home had been entered by burglars and a government check for \$50.42 was missing.



MISS RAQUEL STEINMAN  
... Visitor From Chile

## Two Industrial Parks Foreseen

Impending plans for development of two large industrial areas of the city were revealed this week in separate actions before the city planning commission.

In one, officials of the Santa Fe submitted plans to develop an industrial park north of Maricopa St. between Crenshaw and Maple Ave., complete with streets and railway sidings.

As proposed by the company, an industrial street would funnel traffic through the tract between Crenshaw and Maple Ave., and would provide access to plants west of Maple Ave. directly from Crenshaw.

A plan to have one street open onto Maricopa Ave. was ruled out by the commissioners who suggested that the 50-foot buffer zone along Maricopa Ave. remain unbroken.

Single family residences in the Torrance Gardens tract are located just south of Maricopa Ave.

## Hit Research Plant

Is another action, filing of a petition for a variance by a Melville C. Branch Jr., described as agent for the developer, touched off reports that Ramo-Woodridge Corp. may be planning a cancer research project in north Torrance.

A HERALD inquiry to Ramo-Woodridge officials brought no comment on the matter Friday.

The property in question has been described as a tract of approximately 60 acres north of 110th St. between Crenshaw Blvd. and Arlington Ave.

Plans to develop a multi-million dollar electronic research plant on the site were foreseen in the action.

Friday's announcement that Space Technology Laboratories, a former division of Ramo-Woodridge, was being incorporated into a separate unit gave rise to speculations here that the parent company may be interested in establishing its operations at the north Torrance site, leaving Space Technology firm at the present company site near the Los Angeles International Airport.

A Ramo-Woodridge spokesman told THE HERALD, however, that the two were not related.

Planning Director George Powell said Branch explained that the proposed plant would be basically designed for experimental development of electronic devices. He said a small amount of light manufacturing and fabricating would be necessary.

A meeting between city commissioners and Branch is being planned early this week to discuss the variance.

## Summer Class At North High Open Tomorrow

Summer school classes will begin at North High School tomorrow at 8 a.m. with all students meeting in the gym for their class assignments, according to Principal Dale Harter.

Classes meeting from 8 to 10 a.m. include social studies, driver education, algebra, geometry, general math, general science, basic typing, language arts and drawing. The 10 to 12 classes are American history, California history, algebra, general math, science, biology and modern science, basic typing, language arts, English, and reading.

## Playgrounds Use Themes

The theme of the month at Torrance's six parks and 15 playgrounds will be Knights of Old.

Some of the new games to be used on the areas are "Storm the Castle," "King on the Hill," "Group the Best," and "Play the Dragon."

### A Penny for your Thoughts

Petitions are now being circulated requesting state legislation making it a mandatory sentence of 30 years for persons convicted of selling narcotics.

Localities were asked by THE HERALD'S reporter what effect they thought this law would have on the flourishing narcotics trade.

L. W. Browner, 1628 Greenwood Ave., steel worker:

"I think it would do away with a lot of the peddlers. The penalty would be so severe that fewer persons would risk selling the drugs. The proposal should be supported by every citizen in an effort to crack down on drug peddlers."

Herman Sankha, 2594 Matfield Dr., electrician:

"It should have a terrific effect... and would get rid of a lot of pushers. We would save the lives of many youngsters with such a law. If this proved to be successful, an even stronger penalty could be enacted later."

Don Harding, 2747 Onrado St., clerk:

"Such a law will definitely curtail the narcotics situation... maybe as much as 90 per cent. This is only the first step, and a stiffer penalty should come later."

Virginia Sandstrom, 1514 Madrid Ave., student:

"I think narcotics peddlers should get life. The use of drugs ruins many people's lives. The law should be tougher — 30 years is not enough in my opinion."

Mrs. Russell Carroll of Redondo Beach, a housewife:

"It's hard to say what effect such a law would have. I would hope that it would curtail the sale of narcotics. At least it's a step in the right direction. I have three sons growing up — I'd like to see something done."

Ants Demidovich, 4026 Bluff Rd., a housewife:

"I certainly think it would help alleviate the situation and discourage most of the future violators. We've long needed a stiff penalty. The law has been too lax."

## Final Session On Budget Set

The final session of the current city budget hearings is set for 8 p.m. Tuesday before the city council. A decision on requests for pay raises by city police and fire forces is expected to highlight the hearing.

Other items on the Tuesday agenda include a session with representatives of the Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss parking meter funds. The discussion was requested by Del Nadeau, president of the merchants' group.

A notice that the insurance rate for the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines is being boosted 25 per cent because of the loss record of the system also will be presented to the council. The underwriters notified the city this week that the premiums had to be hiked to cover the claims against the policies.

The city council also will be asked to approve an ordinance establishing a 35 miles per hour speed limit on 190th St. from Western Ave. to Hawthorne, and calling for installation of "lantern-type" traffic signals at the intersections of Maricopa, El Prado, and Post on Sartori, and at El Prado, Maricopa, and Hawthorne on Graveness.

Additional stop signs throughout the city and other traffic regulations are also contained in the proposed ordinance.

## PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIP

Winner of the scholarship offered by the Chi Gamma fraternity at El Camino College was Ray Susanna Kiyada, a member of the graduating class of Torrance High School. Presenting the award which will defray the cost of Kiyada's trip to Japan was Walter Beckes of Gardena, a member of the veterans' fraternity and president-elect of the college student body.