Torrance Men Take Part in Army Exercise

Two soldiers from Torrance Frank A. Batts Jr., recently par-Division in "Exercise Side Step," Pfc James B. Hussey and Pvt. ticipated with the 4th Armored a NATO command post exercise in November, 1958, and arrived Batts, whose parents live at n Germany.

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and black candy! And get a noisemaker for yourself . . . to startle the spooks!

of the division's 54th Infantry in my he was employed by the Her-Heilbronn. He entered the army bell Drilling Co., Long Beach.

overseas last May. He is a 1954 139 W. 223rd St., is assigned as Hussey, son of Mr. and Mrs. graduate of Torrance High a mechanic in Headquarters Battery of the division's 22nd Artillery in Zirndorf. He entered the army in September, 1958, completed basic training at Fort Hood, Tex., and arrived overseas last May. He is a graduate of Banning High School, Wil-

> Use Press classified ads to buy, rent or sell. Phone FA



## is a supply clerk in Company A College. Before entering the ar-LOOSELEAF NOTEBOOK

## **Gur Fearful Safety Experts** Real Halloween Spooks

By ALAN ANTHONY Why did you not observe National Newspaper Week? Mrs. M. H. LOMITA

We did-by putting out our customary two editions, contrived to inform the reader as to what is taking place in the

community. There is a conspicuous relationship between the failure of a newspaper to do its job and the furor it raises over its imaginary successes.

.The more incompetent the management of a newspaper, the stronger its protestations

that it is the guardian of truth (while running retractions every day or so), defender of public morals (as it drools over its Page 1 of rape, murder, guts, and gore), and champion of the people's right to be informed (as it quietly kills off every story that might offend an advertiser).

If the captain of the vessel were so insecure that he continually found it necessary to call attention to his importance, half the passengers would jump ship before it left the harbor.

Competence lies in quietness and confidence and attention to the job-not who's watching.

> Our eight-year-old, fed up with safety warnings, lectures, pamphlets, and movies taking the joy out of living, recently "Don't think I'll get up today. Might get hit by a me-

That's the state they've got us in. So worried are the insurance companies over paying out, instead of taking in, that all sorts of "safety councils" spring up. And where you have a council, you have a press agent. The safety-council press agents spend their time thinking up all sorts of disagreeable eventualities, because they don't want to work themselves out of a job.

This week it's the time to continue the annual project of making Halloween as damp and dismall as possible.

The guardians of your conduct already have turned the Fourth of July from a gleeful national celebration into a day of mourning. Instead of a few burned fingers-which we used to expect and didn't mind a bit-we now have highway fatalities and drownings. The safety experts long ago took the fun out of driving.

Old dad will choke on some of the current Halloween activities, approved by a bunch of milquetoasts whose watch-

word is "don't make no fuss." "Motorists are reminded that many more children will be out in the evening . . ." states one press-agent release.

In our day, we needed no reminding. You couldn't drive anyway, because all four tires were flat. If you escaped that - plus soaped windows and having the distrubutor rotor removed - the first rotten egg to hit the windshield was enough of a reminder that children were out in the evening.

There used to be nothing more heartwarming than the squshy splat of an overripe tomato landing on the countenance of an old goat (now a senior citizen) who made things tough for kids the re-

mainder of the year. There was no music so beau-

emanating from an overturned outdoor retiring room, which by good fortune happened to was retiring.

overturned while someone It was basic with most kids (they were called kids thennot siblings) that nothing was

undertaken that would cause injury or permanent damage. The old buzzards (anyone over 30) were perfectly able to get their gate down from the telephone pole or wash the soap off the windows or clean

the garbage off the porch next Those kids fortunate to break an arm in pursuit of spooking the neighborhood-or spend a few hours in jail-were the heroes. They gloried in relating the circumstance and so warmed to the occasion that they told a different story each

It was fun. We got hurt. Today if a sibling (junior citizen) is hurt, the resident -who did not invite him onto his property—may lose his life savings. In better days, Johnny would get hurt worse when e got home.

The safety experts now are worried lest a patio chair be left on the lawn "and cause a serious tumble." Thirty years ago we were hurt more on purpose than by accidents today.

It is recommended that teenagers (formerly a collection of wild, wonderful, happy humanity now described as a "problem") go down to the community center to be herded about like goats and play drop-thehandkerchief.

"An accident need not spoil the fun . . ." continue the selfappointed monitors.

It used to be no fun without an accident. So have fun, kids, bobbing

for apples, tooting a tin horn, saying boo to one another. quietly blackmailing your neighbor into a handout of dime-store candy, and keeping off the grass.

There was a day when you wouldn't get 10 lectures from the morals instructor for pulling a trick instead of being bought off by a treat.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce has challenged two other cities in the United States to a population derby.

The other two (Lynn, Mass., and Pueblo, Colo.) are 99,000, We didn't read any farther. Want to get home and have a brandy before discovering what

the Chamber has in mind to

implement these sweepstakes.

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