

1962: Big Boom Year

(Continued from Page One)

city is to be commended for hiring a highly competent municipal planner and the continued development of the city planning office.

"This group, working with our Chamber committees, has been extremely effective in resolving several of the growth problems of Torrance," Denn stated.

He also indicated the chamber in 1963 will continue working on community planning problems. Scheduled for study in the coming months are the master plan for the south Torrance oil fields area, downtown Torrance and peripheral areas, the municipal airport master plans, and the revision of zoning ordinances.

"In line with the chamber's interest in sound development of the city's unused 1,100 acres of industrial land, our Industrial Development Committee has been working most of the year on an economic base study of this property," Denn said. "We expect the committee to complete its work in the near future," he added.

"This base study will enable the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to actively

pursue new industry and at the same time encourage existing industries to expand," he said. "The Chamber will publish a brochure that will serve as an inventory of this undeveloped land for presentation to selected industries," Denn added.

"Our commercial growth also continues on the upswing. The Chamber this year has assisted in scores of openings and groundbreakings for new stores and other commercial establishments," he said.

"Probably one of the most significant factors in our growth pattern is the large number of banking institutions now located here. With the completion of the new Bank of America branch at Crenshaw Blvd., and Pacific Coast Highway we will have a total of ten banks and five savings and loan associations. This adds up to one for each 8,000 residents and far above the usual average. This proves that Torrance has become and will remain the headquarters city for southwest Los Angeles County," Denn stated.

"Further proof of our expanding commercial growth can be seen in the increased

revenue accruing to the city through the sales tax. This year we are 19 per cent ahead of 1961. Last year the city received \$1,363,436, whereas in 1962 the amount has risen to \$1,627,323," he added.

High on the list of projects tackled by the Chamber this year is the fight to locate the South Bay State College in Torrance. Denn said that knowing the college will have a tremendous impact on the future economic well-being of the city, the Chamber has given full support to the effort. He added that the businessmen of the community have appreciated the opportunity to have been able to work with the citizen's committee


appointed by the city in this effort.

Concluding the announcement, Denn stated, "The continued industrial and commercial development and the growing population offer a combination of factors that will ensure the people of Torrance a sound and balanced economic base. Our citizens are indeed fortunate during this period to have both an excellent city government and school system."

Both Mayor Albert Isen and Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent, are to be commended for the roles they and their associates have played in the development of this dynamic community."




SOLDIER OF MONTH, Stuart L. Buckalew of Torrance, receives congratulations from Maj. Gen. Chester A. Dahlen, commander of 7th Infantry Division, after being selected in competition in Korea. Buckalew is son of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert L. Buckalew, 1711 W. 236th St. He is a 1959 graduate of Torrance High School, and attended El Camino College. —U.S. ARMY photo



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