

# Eight-Year-Olds Say 'Aloha' Here to Hawaiian Teacher

By RONNIE SAUNDERS

A ship sailed for Hawaii last week. Among the passengers standing at the rail as the ocean-going liner slowly edged out of its berth in Los Angeles harbor, was a shy young lady returning to her homeland whose purse was stuffed with scribbled addresses of three dozen Torrance eight-year-olds.

The young woman was Miss Harriet Kobashigawa, and the addresses were those of the students of a second-third grade combination class at Sepulveda School whom she had student-taught during her last months in this country.

**Textbook Incidental**  
As often happens when the paths of a gifted teacher and a class converge, the lessons in the textbook become merely incidental to the things her students learned.

Language units in Hawaiian that were never listed in a school-year lesson-plan, insights into another culture far more meaningful than words on a page, and songs that were never taught would-be teachers in any college methods-course became an everyday occurrence as the pretty young

university student visited the class each morning.

As the students became more familiar with the language and customs of their student-teacher's native land, interest was expressed in preparing a program for parents. Plans were made to sing Hawaiian songs, recite facts about the country, and perhaps serve a little poi. The program was set for the week before school was to let out.

Little girls asked mothers for permission to wear loose-fitting muu-muus to school the day of the program, and adventuresome boys talked of sporting flowered shirts.

**Packed Classroom**  
Thirty mothers packed the classroom that Thursday afternoon, expecting to hear a few bits of song and some well-memorized speeches.

What met their eyes when they entered the room was surpassed in its unexpectedness only by the program that followed.

A Torrance classroom had been transformed into an island retreat. Fresh pineapples and coconuts had been flown from Hawaii to adorn the hibiscus-decked tables which contained all the ingredients of a lunch-time luau. Hawaiian artifacts were hung from the walls, and Miss Kobashigawa was dressed in a floor-length native gown.

Following the program prepared by the children, the soft sweet strains of recorded hula music filled the room as Miss Kobashigawa performed the graceful movements of her native dance in a second-grade classroom at Sepulveda School.

**Surprise Feast**  
When the dance ended

the mothers were invited to a surprise luau feast which had arrived by plane from the islands that morning.

Children who appeared in the program were: Ken Johnson, master of ceremonies, Leslie Stadler, Jan Hall, Ellen Young, Andy Palouquin, Diana Paschall, John Jones, Patti Cohour and Mike Charness.

One day this week a ship will pull into Honolulu and dock. Some body will say "aloha" and place a lei around the neck of a pretty young lady who will be teaching in a Hawaiian school this fall. And in the years to come, as she teaches the boys and girls of her native land, perhaps her experiences in the states will breath meaning into their geography lessons just as the richness of her back-

ground made social science come to life for the 30 children whose names are scribbled on the papers in her purse.

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**MILLING AROUND** classroom, following luau before close of school were students in second-third grade combination class. Students invited mothers to Hawaiian program. Following presentation, native foods were served.



## Dr. Lyle Dearden Gets Consultant Post With NSF

Lyle C. Dearden of 3329 W. Artesia, professor of anatomy at the California College of Medicine, has been appointed a consultant to the National Science Foundation, Dr. W. Ballentine Henley, president of the college, has announced.

As consultant, Prof. Dearden will tour eight colleges and universities this summer to confer with science teachers and department chiefs on various administrative and academic matters concerning grants they have received from the foundation.

His tour of duty will include three weeks service at National Science Foundation headquarters in Washington D.C. He will return to his duties at the California College of Medicine with resumption of classes this fall.

Prof. Dearden, who received his Ph.D. degree at the University of Utah, has taught at the University of Massachusetts, University of Utah, University of Southern California Medical School, and the George Washington University Medical School.

A Navy pilot during World War II, he holds the rank of lieutenant commander in the navy reserve. Prof. and Mrs. Dearden are parents of a son, Craig, 17, and two daughters, Connie Lyn, 12, and Susan Joan, 9.

## Bank Promotes Cashier in Its Torrance Branch

Rosemarie MacDonald of 1005 Hickory Ave. has been promoted to assistant cashier in the operations department at Bank of America's Torrance branch, it was announced by Manager Bruce Jones.

Jones said that Mrs. MacDonald succeeds Charles H. Milner, who has been assigned to the South Redondo Beach branch as operations officer.

Mrs. MacDonald has spent her entire banking career in the Torrance branch, joining the bank in 1951 as a teller. She worked her way through the ranks to bookkeeper and escrow clerk before moving into the operations department.

Born in Hazelton, Penn., she graduated from high school there and furthered her professional education at the American Institute of Banking.

She and her husband, Gerald, are both active in the Sobada Dance Club of Torrance.

The couple has two children, Judy Ann, 7, and Dana, 3.

**ISLAND DRESS** is worn at classroom luau by (l-r) Michael Charness, Miss Harriet Kobashigawa of Hawaii, and Ken Johnson. Miss Kobashigawa taught class native songs and customs while student-teaching at Sepulveda School. At luau which concluded study unit, she performed hula dance.



**MEANING OF HAND** movement in hula dance is explained by Mrs. Odessa DeBerry, second-third grade combination teacher at Sepulveda Elementary School. Class did study unit on Hawaii when student-teacher from the islands became Mrs. DeBerry's assistant during last three months of spring semester.

## JFK Gives Nod To Seniors' Riviera Group

President Kennedy has sent a letter of acknowledgment through his special assistant regarding the history of how Hollywood Riviera residents and merchants joined together in helping to organize the Hollywood Riviera Senior Citizens Club in El Retiro Park.

Because of Kennedy's interest in the elderly, a documentary was compiled by Mrs. Humphrey Owen describing the united efforts

of individuals who were instrumental in working for this community goal. This was sent to the President for the purpose of aiding other areas in the country that would like to organize similar clubs for their elder's social welfare. The President's communication states that the procedure has been fully noted and is being brought to the attention of appropriate government officials.

The Hollywood Riviera Senior Citizens Club meets every Friday in El Retiro Park from 1 to 5 p.m. It is under the leadership of president Norma Price. The club is open to membership from the Riviera and surrounding areas. Torrance recreation director Harry Van Bellehem and his staff are cooperating to assure continued success for the group.

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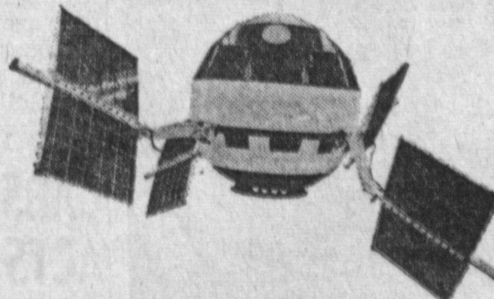
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