

CHAPTER 10

1940 – 1949

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* **DEMOGRAPHICS** *

The Alvarado population grew by almost 20% this past decade, with the largest single sector, the Portuguese, falling from 36.1% of the population in 1930 to 28.8% in 1940. As a whole the Portuguese population fell by some 30 individuals.

The Mexican population fell from 20.5% in 1930 to 14.3 % in 1940. As an individual count the Mexican population dropped from 387 individuals to 324 individuals, a loss of 63 persons.

The U.S. born population grew from 14.6% in 1930 to 32.6% in 1940. There are three reasons for this jump; first: the 1940 census did not include the native country of the persons mother and father, making it difficult to determine the first generation of foreign born; second: first generation of foreign born now have children who are now raising their own families, in other words, the maturation of the U.S. born from parents which were foreign born; and third: there was an influx into our area of dust-bowl victims and depression-hit families looking for jobs. Alvarado saw a limited amount of dust-bowl immigrants, but in other Washington Township towns the immigration created enclaves of the dust-bowl poor.

The U.S. born from U.S. born fathers & mothers increased from 276 persons in 1930 to 737 persons in 1940, an increase of 167.0%. The northern Europeans, who had commanded over one-third of the population in the 1870's, had now fallen to just 2.4% of the population. With the decline of the Northern Europeans came the decline of the Presbyterian Church. We also began to see more Portuguese and Spanish merchants in Alvarado, as well as the Portuguese were now on the Alvarado Grammar School Board of Trustees, and heading the Alvarado Post Office.

1940 Table:

Country	Number	Pct. Of Pop
Australia	0	0.00%
Bohemia	0	0.00%
Brazil	5	0.20%
Canada	5	0.20%
Cape Verde Is.	0	0.00%
Chile	0	0.00%
China	25	1.10%
Denmark	11	0.50%
England	4	0.20%
Finland	0	0.00%
France	0	0.00%
Germany	14	0.60%
Ireland	20	0.90%
Italy	87	3.80%
Japan	196	8.70%
Mexico	324	14.30%
Norway	0	0.00%
Philippines	60	2.70%
Porto Rico	26	1.10%
Portugal/Azores	651	28.80%
Rumania	0	0.00%
Russia	2	0.10%
Serbia	0	0.00%
Spain	67	3.00%
Sweden	1	0.00%
Swiss	28	1.20%
U.S.	737	32.60%
Totals:	2,263	100.00%

The closeness of the Portuguese community and their willingness to share their culture and celebrations with the people of the town gave all townspeople a warm feeling towards the Portuguese. And nothing was more apparent in the Portuguese community than that of the Holy Ghost. It was a time for gaiety throughout Alvarado, and I remember as a young Italian boy in the 40's and 50's that I immensely enjoyed the activities of the Holy Ghost, a celebration that was held from Ferndale to Fresno, and throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

The Italian and the Spanish population in Alvarado held constant during the decade of the 30's. But coming into prominence during the 40's (after the Second World War) was the Filipino community, who chose Alvarado as the headquarters for their Alameda & Contra Costa celebrations and social activities. The Filipino's would go on to increase in number in the 50's, but would really come into prominence in Alvarado after the creation of Union City.

As 1940 was the last Alvarado Census released from NARA I will not be able to carry the demographics forward as I have in other Chapter decades. I did find some demographic figures for Union City from 2012, which are very general, however they do give you an idea how diverse Union City (not necessarily Alvarado alone) had become.

2012	
Caucasian	25.00%
African-American	7.00%
Asian	44.00%
American Indian	1.00%
Hispanic	23.00%
TOTAL:	100.00%

The Asian population is predominately Filipino, and is mostly located in the Alvarado District of Union City. The Hispanic population is spread between Alvarado and Decoto, but the larger portion is located in Decoto.

*** CORPORATE BUSINESSES ***

Sugar Mill / Salt

SUGAR MILL:

The 1940's were rough years on the sugar mill at Alvarado, it was a decade that saw the mill closed for two out of the ten years due to World War II.

Change was also coming to Alvarado in the form of a sanitary district. For scores of years the sugar mill at Alvarado had pumped its effluent water out to the marshes as a disposal method. The Mosquito Abatement District found this area difficult to treat, and this lead to large amounts of mosquitoes about the Alvarado area.

The start of treating this effluent would be the installation of a clarifier, which would remove solid particles before they went down the flume to the marshes. The town of Alvarado became very interested in this clarifier as the town had no sanitary district or no sewage treatment facilities of its own. The entire town and the outlying areas all relied on septic tanks.

When Holly Sugar Superintendent Ben Koontz was questioned about whether they would be interested in combining with Alvarado in the use of the clarifier, he said he would have to get in touch with the main office at Colorado Springs. He said the clarifier had more capacity than Alvarado needed, and could handle the needs of a city the size of Hayward. In other words, the expense of upkeep for the eight months when the Sugar Mill was not operating beets, might be too much for the town to afford.

The 1940 beet run started on August 22nd. A good crop of beets, and increased facilities at the plant were expected to result in last years' 700,000-bag record being exceeded this year.

Two innovations marked the opening of the 1940 season, the completion of a clarification unit, which will take care of all waste-water and sewage at the plant, and the construction of a new feed yard where approximately 2,500 head of beef cattle will be brought to fatten for the 1941 market. Feed for the cattle are furnished by the 75,000 tons of wet beet-pulp, a by-product of the sugar manufacturing. Some of the pulp is dried, sacked, and sold for feed.

Most of the beets used at the plant are from the Bay area, San Leandro, Sunnyvale, Pleasanton and Washington Township, and some are from the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. Last year 220,000 tons of beets were processed.

In December 1940 the Grower/members of the Central Beet Grower's Association (which includes Alvarado) charged that the beet sugar companies have accepted the advantages which have accrued to them as a result of the Department of Agriculture regulation for stabilizing the sugar industry, but are now refusing to abide by the department's recommendations for prices to be paid to growers.

"Contracts now being offered sugar beet growers in Central and Northern California, do not give a proportionate share of profits to the growers because they do not follow the Department of Agriculture's recommendation for a fair contract," said Gordon Lyons, secretary of the Association.

"It is a well known fact that when sugar companies were losing money under the old 'minimum guarantee' contracts, they asked the growers to agree to a 'share of the profit' contract. This the growers did, but now, in the 1940 campaign, the Holly Sugar Corp., the American Crystal Sugar Co., and the Spreckels Sugar Co. are refusing to share the present profits of the sugar business with growers."

"In other words, by agreeing to a participating contract, the growers helped the sugar companies out when they were in desperate straits but now, when the grower profits are small and the company profits are high, the companies are unwilling to adjust the contracts to bring about an equitable distribution of the sugar dollar income."

The Alvarado harvest of sugar beets ended on December 17th in 1940. But the mill still received 42 carloads a day of beets from the Sacramento Valley. This was expected to keep the mill running until January 1st. However, because of the heavy yield of beets plus the extremely wet weather throughout January the season was extended well into March when normally the season ends about Christmas.

The 1941 sugar beet run was originally slated to start on September 6th. However a wet spring, which retarded the planting of the beets pushed back the start date. The sugar beet harvest from Pleasanton started on September 23rd, with seven carloads daily arriving at the sugar mill. The Pleasanton beets were expected to continue until mid December.

Most of the sugar being made at the Holly Sugar Mill is shipped in by Southern Pacific railway from various points. Thirty-five carloads a day comes in from Richmond, Morford, Asea and Lawrence station near San Jose. Also trucks bring in sugar beets from Centerville, Alvarado and Mount Eden.

The sugar mill completed a 4½-month season in December with work planned to resume next August. A total of 400,000 hundred-pound sacks of sugar processed from 130,000 tons of sugar beets were the season's output according to plant Supt. Ben Koontz. This was slightly less than last year due to government curtailment of crops.

For the 1942 season sugar mill executives said that they expect to beat last year's production. This is because the government had lifted the planting restrictions on the amount of acreage that could be planted. Also, the roads into the sugar mill are being paved and will be able to easily handle large trucks year around. Also the members of the Sugar Workers Union, AFL, were granted a 10% pay increase.

The 1942 season was immediately impacted by the labor shortage as most able-bodied men had been carried off to war. Mexican and Filipino labor was available in better numbers than anticipated, but not enough to conduct the harvest at normal speed

The mill was invaded by female processors for the first time in it's nearly 75 years of existence. Ladies have been employed for the first time in the processing dept., and they represent 75 of the 300 plant employees.

400 workers were harvesting and topping the beets. These workmen included 75 Mexican youths imported from Mexico City, 100 high school boys from San Francisco, 75 local beet workers, and another 150 service club men from the bay section who have signed up to spend weekends in the beet fields. The season would continue until the beginning of January.

In October 1942 the sugar mill hit the local newspapers looking for workers and talent:

SUGAR FACTORY:

Experienced and inexperienced help wanted. Mechanics, mechanics helpers, oilers, station operators and common laborers needed.

Apply to: Holly Sugar Company, Alvarado.

During the year the sugar mill shipped its refined sugar as fast as it could be made to San Francisco; some three carloads went by the S.P. daily with the sugar being stored in San Francisco by Holly Corp. under government protection. Four carloads were manufactured daily at Alvarado. Some beets were still in the fields by the beginning of January 1943, because of the rain. At Mulford Gardens in San Leandro, there were 3,600 tons of beets yet to be harvested. There was 7,000 tons yet to be harvested in A.K. Logan's district (Alvarado), and 5,000 tons expected by the end of the season from other sections. The season would stretch out until February, with only two thirds having been harvested.

A call for increased plantings of sugar beets in Alameda County for 1943 was issued by Herbert W. Young, chairman of the county AAA committee, who declared that earlier reports of farmers intentions to plant showed a prospective acreage below the level necessary to supply the nation's needs for the coming year. "Although sugar beets is not one of the crops of which an increased production is asked in 1943, plantings at about the same level as last year will be necessary if our needs are to be supplied without diverting ships badly needed to transport men and supplies to the fighting fronts," Young said.

Then in June 1943 came a blow to the Alvarado sugar mill. Holly Sugar announced that the mill in Alvarado would not process beets this year. The beets would be shipped to their Tracy mill for processing. The reason given is that late rains delayed planting of the crop and only 50% of the normal beet acreage was planted this year.

Failure to open the Alvarado plant resulted in the release of about 3,000 processors and 300 harvesters from the list of laborers needed in Washington and Eden Township during the fall of the year. The plant usually begins work on the season's crop during September and runs full force through December. The maintenance staff at the plant, it was explained, will be absorbed into other Holly plants or will transfer to other industries.

The Alvarado mill was the oldest sugar processing plant in the United States. It was established in 1869 and was taken over by the Holly Corporation in 1927. Its average annual output of sugar is from 500,000 to 600,000 100-pound bags, processed from about 200,000 tons of beets.

Workers who had previously worked at the sugar mill had to find other jobs. Some workers found work at other industries in the area, and many were transferred to work in Tracy, where Holly would be processing beets that should have been destined for Alvarado. Ben Koontz, Superintendent for the Alvarado mill went to work for the California Conserving Co. in Hayward, helping them with some building plans. Tom Patterson of Valle Vista went to work for the Pacific Bridge Co. in Alameda, and Walter Jorgensen is working around his house doing many improvements he hadn't been able to get to. Alvarado was not the only Holly Sugar Corp. plant that would not be working this year in California. Two others at Manteca and Hamilton City were also shut down.

Proving that necessity is the mother of invention, the ranchers of Washington Township and from surrounding territories, witnessed the second local demonstration of the new automated sugar beet harvester, which is expected to revolutionize the industry from a labor standpoint. The first demonstration was given in mid-November 1943, when local beet growers saw the machine dig, top, pile, and load beets all in one operation. Twenty of these machines can replace 500 hand-harvesters, according to Andrew Logan, agriculturist for the Holly Sugar Corporation at Alvarado.

Jeryl Frye, President of the Alameda County Farm Bureau, in an informal talk at the meeting of the board of directors of the Farm Bureau at Livermore on February 3, 1944, stated that despite wishes of Federal Bureaus at Washington, the sugar beet situation is not hopeful in Alameda County. And the bad situation is the fault of the local growers he feels.

Last season, he mentioned, sugar beet growers were given allotments and inducements so that they made a pretty fair investment in growing sugar beets, with hard work and careful planting. This year, officials in charge of the sugar beet production, have deferred definitely stating what Federal regulations would be for beet growers until it is now too late for many to plant crops here. And the outlook was that there may be as small a crop here as there was last year, though authorities at Washington want an increase over last year's figures.

The announcement in Washington of Government subsidies for sugar beet production came too late to aid Alameda County growers, it was claimed here. Despite a favorable price paid of \$12.50 a ton this year's crop, it will not be more than 25% of normal farm officials declared. Alameda County beet growers will receive a price substantially over the \$12.50. The tonnage price in this area will be \$10.60 with the Government and processor subsidies to be added, bringing the total to about \$13.90 a ton, 80 cents over that of last year.

While the Washington announcement of a base price of \$12.50 a ton to the grower was considered a fair price, many farmers who might have planted beets were deterred by uncertainty regarding the price ceiling which has existed for the past two months, beet growers instead say that they have turned to other crops, chiefly tomatoes, and are now unable to engage in sugar beet production.

A similar situation existed last year with the result that the Holly Sugar Mill in Alvarado, normally employing 300 men, remained closed. Local beets were shipped to Tracy for processing. While the company refused to make any announcement it was indicated that the same situation would prevail this year.

The War Food Administration announced in May 1944 the following rates for labor in the beet fields:

Blocking and thinning:	\$11 an acre or 55¢ per hour
Blocking and thinning:	\$9.25 per acre for segmented seed is used
First hoeing:	\$3.50 per acre or 50¢ per hour
Each subsequent hoeing:	\$3.50 per acre or 50¢ per hour
Each sub Hoeing/weeding:	\$2.50 per acre or 50¢ per hour
Blocking, thinning, hoeing and Weeding as a combined op:	\$17 per acre
Topping and loading:	65¢ per hour

To cope with the closure of the Alvarado mill, local growers of beets in Washington Township had to haul their beets to the Holly Sugar Mill at Alvarado, where they were loaded on railroad cars for processing at Tracy and Spreckles plants of the same company. Seventeen carloads were shipped via Southern Pacific railroad from Alvarado daily. The growers harvested local beets until mid December. The local sugar mill did not operate the past two seasons.

The Holly Sugar mill in Alvarado would resume processing in August 1945 for the first time in two years. About 300 people would be employed. The search immediately started for workers at the plant. This ad ran in the *Oakland Tribune* in August 1945:

Holly Sugar Corporation
An Essential Industry
Needs
Men and Women
For the Operation Season
To Start Soon

Openings for Experienced
& Inexperienced Men & Women
Process Operators, Welders,
Mechanics, Oilers,

Clerical Workers
Laboratory Workers

Some permanent positions still
To be filled. Room & Board
Available at plant for male workers
Wages and working conditions
Are excellent

Apply At:
Plant Office, Alvarado, California

Near the end of the 1945 season it was announced that 50 to 80 per cent of the sugar beet crop around Alvarado was successfully harvested by machinery

The sugar mill opened the year 1946 with prognostications of having a longer run at Alvarado this year, by gauging the larger tonnage of sugar beets expected from growers not only in Alameda County, but also from nearby sections. Andrew Logan, field superintendent, has cooperated with the farmers in the plans for planting of beets, and he says there will be about 6,000 acres planted to beets this year. Last year there was only about 5,000 acres. Arranging for the planting soon Mr. Logan was assisted by John Whipple and Allen Smith.

The Alvarado sugar refinery would become a "pilot" plant to test a theory of east coast scientists that more sugar can be produced without increasing the size of sugar beet crops. The new process, known as "ion exchange," which the scientists claim will filter sugar out of beets more efficiently than the present refining method, was announced March 10th in New York, according to the Associated Press. Here, it was learned that the American Cyanamid Company, which conducted preliminary experiments with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Louisiana State University, were negotiating with the Holly Sugar Corp. to install the pilot plant at the Holly refinery at Alvarado.

Holly Sugar worked three shifts a day, seven days a week. Superintendent Earl Browning and his crew are handling a big output of sugar from sugar beets in October 1946. Long lines of railroad cars delivering beets made the mill very busy.

The summer of 1947 saw the Alvarado Sugar Mill processing beets early from the Imperial Valley, the wastewater created by the plant is not usually a problem, but when they process early it runs into the mosquito season. The water ends up in the marshes and it breeds tremendous amounts of mosquitoes. This water could be treated or flushed into the bay but the salt companies object to the impurities in the water and the fact that the water will dilute the salt in the evaporation ponds. This is a tremendous problem with a not so easy answer.

Earl Browning, plant superintendent, expressed the possibility that the sugar mill in Alvarado would open August 15, 1947. The plant shut down July 26th after processing 125,000 tons of beets brought here from the San Joaquin valley area and since that date maintenance crews have been at work preparing the machinery for the late summer run. The majority of the beets for the second run will be from the fields of Washington Township, he added.

Holly Sugar Corporation's plant in Alvarado produced more than 95,000,000 pounds of sugar during the 1947 season, as the season closed at the end of November. The plant processed 278,000 tons of sugar beets. The plant was in full operation during the summer for the first time in its history, Browning said, providing employment for 250 persons. The beet yield in this area was 20 percent heavier than before.

Last year's 647,000 tons of sugar beets consisted of about 427,000 tons from Northern California and 220,000 tons from the Imperial Valley, Browning said. That made about 2,000,000 100-pound bags for 1947. The estimated crop for 1948 is 3,000,000 bags of sugar, approximately a 50% gain in Holly's total production as compared to 1947.

The sugar mill would cut its water consumption by almost half when the new season starts, announced Superintendent John Ratekin in March 1948. Holly Sugar's water usage is beginning to affect the water table level in the Eden-Washington Township area, and the Hayward Public wells are beginning to show the effects.

The Alvarado Plant of the Holly Sugar Co. was ready to begin operations on May 14, 1948, according to the announcement of Superintendent John A Ratekin. Persons who were employed at the plant last year and were interested in employment there again were urged by Ratekin to contact the office immediately.

Although field crops throughout the state, including sugar beets, were about two weeks late in maturing this year, the Alvarado Holly Sugar refinery was fully capable of producing sugar at such a pace that the season will come to a close in a manner to meet original estimates. Holly Sugar operated factories at Hamilton City (near Chico) Tracy, Alvarado, Santa Ana and Carlton.

One of the problems of sugar from beets is that many people prefer cane sugar to beet sugar. Holly felt this was just an education issue and put out newspaper advertisements such as the one below in the *Hayward Review* of October 1949:

Visit our booth...

Farm - Home - Industry Show

The Holly Sugar Company is glad to participate in another Southern Alameda County Civic Enterprise, and you will see us at the Farm, Home and Industrial Show.

Established in Alvarado in 1870, the Holly Sugar Company gives employment to 325 people.

We along with other industrial firms pay our share of support of Southern Alameda County tax supported institutions and projects.

We take the output of sugar beets from farms of the area increasing our agricultural payroll and income.

You will find our Holly Sugar on the shelves of retailers in the area and ask after seeing our exhibit that you buy our products for your future sugar needs.

HOLLY SUGAR COMPANY
Alvarado, California

SALT:

As this decade started the salt industry was dominated by one producer for the first time since the 1850's. The Leslie Salt Company had absorbed or merged with all major producers on the East Bay.

The salt companies about Alvarado were in same boat as the town of Alvarado itself. When you speak of boats about Alvarado you usually are speaking about flood waters. The local salt companies shared the misery of Alvarado's bane. At the end of February 1940, the Leslie Salt Co., one-half mile south of Alvarado was closed, as employees were not able to reach the plant due to flood waters. A half dozen families, who lived near Leslie Salt were marooned, as were a hundred sheep who marooned at the old Turk Island Salt works.

The misery laid at the doorstep of Leslie Salt was caused by the spilling of flood waters to the west of Alvarado, which removed the danger of the flooding to the town of Alvarado, and instead water surged onto property south of the town of Alvarado.

Salt production in the Mt. Eden, Alvarado, and Newark area really picked up during the war. By May 1941, some 12 carloads of salt were routed to Oakland every week from Alvarado for shipment by boat to Washington State. Many carloads were directed to Pittsburgh, Contra Costa County, for use in chemical factories.

However, by July 1941, the shipping of package goods from the Alvarado Salt Works via the Southern Pacific was closed down. Processing as Alvarado had been phasing out for decades and few processes continued in the area. The great masses of workers were now employed at the Leslie Salt Co. at Newark.

By January 1942, Leslie was shipping 125 carloads of crude salt at the company's Baumberg depot. The Southern Pacific reported that 175 carloads of crude salt were shipped from the Baumberg Depot during the month of March 1942.

In January 1944 the Leslie Salt Company joined many Alvaradan's who gave to the War Chest, to relieve the suffering of persons at home cause by the war. The Leslie Salt Company generously gave \$50 to the local cause.

Wartime continued to be boom time on the salt flats with Leslie selling all they could produce. After the war sales settled down, but salt producing was still profitable.

On a more human note comes this sad story from *The Oakland Tribune* of October 1945:

"Michael Palitka, 86, native of Estonia who had sailed the seven seas with merchant vessels, served as a mate on the old steamer, Pyramid, from Alvarado to San Francisco, and ended his working years as watchman at a Newark salt plant, died Monday at the San Jose Hospital.

"Mike" was never one to talk, fellow employees said, but chance remarks remembered and pieced together indicate there could have been a story of adventure worth recording.

Little is known of him except that he came to this county about 40 years ago, worked for various salt companies and was operating the Pyramid, hauling salt from Alvarado to San Francisco or up the river to Sacramento for about 30 years.

When Mike became too old for his job on the Pyramid, he became watchman at the Leslie Salt plant and six years ago retired. There were no known survivors."

*** BIOS OF NOTABLE CIIZENS ***

Automobile – Repair Garages / Automobile – Service Stations / Bank / Barber / Beauty Parlors / Billiard Rooms / Butchers / Cafés & Taverns / Carpenter / Clerks / Contractors – Farming / Doctors / Druggist / Dry Cleaners / Electrician / Farmers / Hotels / Leveling Service / Library / Liquor Store / Machinist / Manufacturing / Mechanics / Merchants / Newspaper Correspondent / Orchestra / Post Office / Printing / Railroad Agent / Restaurants / Saloons / Stenographer / Supt’s – Sugar Mill / Teachers / Trustees / Towing & Wrecking Yards

AUTOMOBILE – REPAIR GARAGES:

Joe Herzog / Manuel B. Machado / Mr. & Mrs. Rodrigues /

Joe Herzog:
Herzog’s Garage:

Joe Herzog lived at 1226 Alvarado Street in Alvarado. I could find no census records for Joe, although newspaper accounts give him bring married and having a family. In the mid 1940’s he was working at Hockinson’s Garage in Centerville as a mechanic. Joe took over the Tractor Garage, which had been operated by Anthony A. Bettencourt of the Alviso District. The shop was located across the street from the Alviso School.

Manuel B. Machado, aka Manuel Benites, Proprietor:

Manuel Benites was born in Spain circa 1880. His wife Eldora was born in Portugal circa 1891. The dates of their entry into the U.S. are not known. Their marriage date is also unknown, but their oldest child appears to have been born circa 1912.

The Benites’ had nine children: Mrs. Carmen Geminez, Mrs. Frances Molina, Mrs. Emily Sacramento, Mrs. Matilda Martinez, Miss Victoria Benites and sons Manuel Jr., Anthony, Jess and Candido.

Manuel came to Alvarado from Centerville in October 1941 to take over the former Reliance Garage. At this time he was known as Manuel B. Machado, not Manuel Benitez. He would go by the name Manuel Machado while living in Alvarado.

Manuel took over the old Reliance Garage, which sat on the corner lot where Joseph McKeown had his famous blacksmith shop in Alvarado. That location sits on the SE corner of Union City Blvd. and Horner Street in old Alvarado. Immediately upon taking it over, he painted the building yellow and installed Golden Eagle brand gasoline pumps in front of the building. The old Reliance

Garage was a cavernous building and Manuel devoted half of the building as a used part department.

Manuel called his place of business Machado's Garage. He had two employees, John Rodriguez of Oakland, and his son Anthony Benites. Manuel Machado carried both new and used auto parts, also new and second hand auto tires. He also sold and installed auto radios. You could even bring in your washing machine for repairs.

Manuel Benites Jr. would join his father at the garage in May 1943 as a mechanic. The father and son team did a big business in wrecking cars and in selling used parts to the public.

By the end of 1943 Manuel was selling used cars as well as used auto tires and used auto parts. Also by the end of 1943 it was reported that Manuel was selling Texaco gas and oil. The father and son team joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce in October of 1943.

Also near the end of 1943, Manuel bought the gas station known as "La Entrada" at the entrance to Alvarado from Mt. Eden, where they formerly sold Richfield gas under the proprietorship of Julian Yabut. Manuel stopped selling Richfield gas at this station and began to sell Golden Eagle Gas. Mr. Machado has the sole agency for Golden Eagle gas for Alvarado. His daughter, Emily Benites Sacramento had personal charge of this station.

At the end of WWII Manuel was still in the gas selling business, and in July 1946 he was happy to chip in some money for Fourth of July decorations for downtown Alvarado to celebrate the end of the War.

After WWII Anthony Benites, who was in the Field Artillery during the war, was discharged from the service went into business for himself. He opened the Alviso Highway Garage near Baker Road on the Alvarado-Centerville Highway (Baker Road is today part of Lowry Road east of Alvarado Blvd.). This young man used to be employed by his father, Manuel Machado of the garage in Alvarado. But since there is so much auto garage work these days, he wisely went into business for himself in the Alviso district. The building housing the Anthony's garage has been remodeled and is well located in the center of a large agricultural district where autos and tractors can be repaired.

Machado's Garage in Alvarado, as already mentioned, was cavernous building and in the late 40's Manuel leased part of the building to his daughter and son-in-law, Frank and Emily Sacramento for a diner called the Tanay Café.

Also housed in that building was another business owned by Mr. V. Osborne, who operated a radio repair shop. Of course, the building still housed Mr. Machado's Repair garage, used parts department, with gas pumps in the front of the building.

In July 1948 a truck accident wiped out the front of Machado's Garage. Prior to 1957 and the coming of I-880, Hesperian Boulevard, Levee Street, Horner Street and the Alvarado-Centerville Road were known as State Highway 17. So if you drove from Mt. Eden to Centerville you would head south on

Hesperian Boulevard until you reached the town of Alvarado when the road through town was Levee Street. When you reached Horner Street you made a left turn (90 degree turn), and headed towards Centerville past the Alvarado Grammar School. There was no stop sign on Levee Street south, so you just flew through the intersection (either straight onto Marsh Road and onto Newark) or you made the sharp left turn onto Alvarado Centerville Road. There were many accidents at this intersection. Here is the newspaper article from the *Oakland Tribune* about the July 1948 accident:

“Three persons escaped with minor injuries yesterday afternoon when a truck loaded with drums of oil overturned, striking a parked car at the intersection of Horner Street and Marsh Road in Alvarado. Two of the injured were involved when the drums rolled out of the truck and into a garage, striking two of the men in the garage’s office.

The injured were Elmer Charles Sylvester, 23, of Santa Maria, driver of the truck, and Manuel B. Machado, and Charles Baird, 64, both of Alvarado. Sylvester told police he was driving south through Alvarado and approaching a curve when a car suddenly drove in front of him, forcing him to swerve his truck. As the truck turned, the load of oil drums shifted, causing the truck to overturn and strike a parked car. The oil drums then became loose and crashed through the office of Machado and Baird.”

In October 1956 Manuel Benites passed away at his home on Watkins Street in Alvarado.

Mr. & Mrs. Rodrigues:

Rodrigues Garage:

February 1941: The Rodriguez Garage, at the old Steve Smith Garage corner at Alvarado, is going places and doing things. They sold batteries, recaps, and Goodrich Tires at their Steve Smith Corner location. The gas pumps were modernized and this corner was to become one of the most attractive and busiest in the township. So says Mr. & Mrs. Rodrigues, who operates the garage. Mr. Rodrigues is a good mechanic and he does auto repair work. This is the only information on the Rodrigues’ and the Rodrigues Garage. The Steve Smith Corner location, from what I can gather, was located at the NW corner of Levee Street and “V” Street.

AUTOMOBILE – SERVICE STATIONS:

Ambrose Loyola / Julian Yabut / Ms. Rose Souza / Tommy Wolfington / Joseph G. Silva / Joel Langdon / Joe Perez / Bill Ryan / Floyd Williams / Mrs. Winifred (Santos) Harper / Edward Bedell / Ronald Harper / William Silva / Manuel Andrade / Vernon Willard

Ambrose Loyola Automotive Service:

Ambrose Loyola, well-known businessman of Alvarado, took over the management and proprietorship of the Mohawk Gas Station in Alvarado on Monday, June 5, 1950. Mr. Loyola had operated for four years the garage at 972 Levee Street. He will continue to manage both places as the garage is situated across the street from the gas station.

The station will handle Mohawk gas and oil products as well as car accessories and general gas station merchandise. Later in the 50's Ambrose would switch the brand at the station to Flying "A" gas and oil products.

In December 1957 Ambrose commented on his business after the opening of the Nimitz Freeway (I-880). He said his gasoline volume has been half of what it was before the freeway opened, however, his automobile repair business was not affected.

Mr. Loyola was also an auto mechanic and did more than just sell gas and lube cars. He was a veteran of World War II; he was in overseas duty for a year in New Guinea and a half-year in the Philippine Islands where he met his wife Isabelle. He has two little children, Lou and Judy. Ambrose and Isabelle were both of Filipino ancestry.

Isabelle was the local reporter for the *Alvarado Pioneer* and she regularly plied the town looking for stories for the paper. Mrs. Loyola was also active in the Alvarado Mother's Club, and later the PTA, she was also chairman of the Alvarado Well-Baby Clinic.

Both she and Ambrose were members of the Paul Rivers VFW Post in Alvarado. Mrs. Loyola also participated in the annual Filipino Independence Day celebration held each July 4th in Alvarado.

Julian Yabut:

LA ENTRADA – Entrance to Alvarado from Mt. Eden:

I do not have a lot of information on Julian other than he was probably born in the Philippines. I do not even have the year of his birth, but he did have an influence on Alvarado history, although his time in Alvarado was brief.

Julian first came to light in Alvarado in October 1941 when he donated a case of Coca-Cola to the workers that were cleaning out brush at the mouth of Alameda Creek. At this time Julian was already the proprietor of the Alvarado Richfield Gas Station at the entrance to Alvarado from Mt. Eden.

His station was located on the west side of Hesperian Blvd. as you entered Alvarado and made the jog towards the old Alvarado Hotel.

In December 1941 Julian became involved with the Alvarado Boy Scouts with his affiliation with the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. Julian joined these other Alvarado notables in organizing the Alvarado Boy Scout Troop:

Anthony Silva	George Vargas	Charles Baird	Joseph Lewis
Anthony Rodgers	Frank Machado	Anthony J. Vargas	James Wasley
Mike Gardetto	Julian Yabut	Manuel Perry	

In March 1942 Alvarado Boy Scout Troop #1 was the newest addition to the Southern Alameda County Boy Scouts. Julian was still active as a director at this time.

By May 1943 Julian was serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. His Richfield Station was sold to Mr. Machado of Machado's Garage in Alvarado. Mr. Machado changed the gas brand to Golden Eagle Gas.

On February 11, 1944 the *Alvarado Pioneer* ran article about Julian stating that he had been killed in an auto accident a few months prior near his camp (location not identified) in an auto accident.

This is a sad story of a fine young man who had good prospects for the future.

Rose Souza's Service Station

The only reference I can find to this station was an advertisement placed in the *Alvarado Pioneer* newspaper announcing Rose's ownership of the Richfield Station on the west entrance to Alvarado. This was in January 1948. I could find nothing locally of a Rose Souza.

Tommy Wolfington:

Mohawk Service Station:

Tommy Wolfington became manager of the old Richfield Gas Station once run by Rose Souza. He changed the brand from Richfield to Mohawk gasoline. The last entry about Wolfington Service was an article in August 1948 when a power drill was stolen from their station.

There was no other data available about Mr. Wolfington, and I could find no census data for him. The location of his service station was given as: 975 Levee Street, Alvarado

Joseph G. Silva:

Mobil Gas & Oil Products:

Joseph G. Silva became the new retail General Petroleum dealer (Mobil Gas Station) in January 1940, taking the place of Al Schaub who departed for San Diego for his health. Joseph Silva, was a young man who was born and raised in Washington Township, and was well and favorably known. He was a graduate of the Alvarado Grammar School and the Washington Union High School class of 1938. He was the son Manuel F. and Lenore Silva of the Fair Ranch Road. Manuel Silva had been the secretary of the Alvarado Vegetable Growers Association, which for many years cooperated and kept up a fair price for tomatoes.

Joel Langdon:

Joel Langdon was born in California in 1885. His wife Forrest Power Langdon was born in California in 1884. The Langdon's had been in Alvarado since at least 1920. Joel was a farmer on the Creek Road.

In January 1939 Joel's wife Forrest passed away. Joel continued to farm on the Creek Road, and later in 1939 he took on a partner in the operation in the form of Fred Muller, the Oakland Oaks and Seattle Rainiers pro baseball player.

In January 1943 Joel Langdon took over operation of the Alvarado Mobil gas station from Joe Silva. He operated the station until June 1945 when he moved to Oroville to farm oranges. Joel was a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and the Alvarado Vegetable Growers Association.

Joe Perez:

Joe Perez was born in Spain in 1908 to Francisco L & Joaquina Perez, who was widowed in the 1940 census. Besides Joe, there was a brother Frank, who was born in Spain in 1907. The date of entry into the U.S. for Perez' is not known. In 1940 Joe was working as a laborer in the Sugar Mill, then in June 1945 Joe took over the Mobil Gas Station in Alvarado from Joel Langdon. Joe had his Mobil Service Station painted in February 1950.



The station got a fresh coat of white paint with red and black lettering. Joe Perez was quite proud of the new look of his service station. Joe had two hobbies that kept him busy besides running his station. One was homing pigeons; Joe was a member of the Alvarado Homing Pigeon Club. His other love was fishing in the ocean where he would take his friends out on the water for a day of fishing and relaxation.

In June 1946, Joe sponsored an Alvarado Junior Baseball team to compete in the Hayward Junior League. They played hardball games each Sunday, with Frank Gutierrez as the manager of the team. The team played under the name Joe Perez' Service.

The team turned in some heady baseball, at one point they bested San Lorenzo by a score of 19 – 0, behind the no-hit, no-run pitching of Johnny Ledesma. The heavy hitters were Dave Priego and Placie Paredes. Both were hitting around .840 mark. At the end of the season Joe's team ended up in a tie with the team from Decoto. Joe Perez' team took the championship in a playoff win against Decoto.

In July 1950 Joe had left the service station business, his new occupation I was unable to determine. His good friend at the Alvarado Pioneer said, "Joe has turned out to be a fine fisherman. He said he loved to be out on the sea, where he doesn't have to work too hard and yet have good returns."

Bill Ryan, Manager:

Bill Ryan was cited as being the manager of the Alvarado Shell Station in November 1941. Nothing was found for Bill Ryan in the 1940 census, and no articles mentioned his name after this date.

Floyd Williams:

Floyd Williams took over the Alvarado Shell Station on August 1, 1941. Floyd was a 25 year-old young man from Hayward California, who saw great potential in Alvarado and Shell gasoline. After this date nothing could be found for Mr. Williams.

Mrs. Winifred (Santos) Harper:

Mrs. Winifred Harper was the former Winifred Santos, daughter of the owner of the property, Antone Santos. Mrs. Harper was running the station as her husband, William Harper, was overseas in the war. Helping Mrs. Harper at the station was her cousin Alberta Menezes.

Shortly after the war, when her husband returned from overseas, Winifred gave up the service station.

Edward E. Bedell:

After Mrs. Harper gave up the station, Edward E. Bedell took over the operation. Mr. Bedell took over in November 1945 and placed the following ad in the Alvarado Pioneer, "Meet your new Shell man, a mechanic with 10 years' experience, who can help you with care for your car." Nothing is known about Mr. Bedell and I could not locate anything in the census or on line about him.

Ronald Harper:

In August 1946 Ed Bedell announced his intention to sell his business in the Shell Gas Station to Ronald Harper of Foothill Blvd., Hayward. Nothing further could be found out about this transaction of proprietorship.

William Silva:

William Silva was living in San Leandro when it was announced that he would wed Miss Lorraine Silveira, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Silveira of Granger Avenue in Alvarado. They were wed on May 12, 1941. At this time Bill was employed at the salt works in Alvarado.

The new couple settled down in Alvarado. When the War came William was called into the service. After the service he returned to Alvarado, and he and Lorraine lived with Lorraine's parents for a short period of time.

In January 1948 an advertisement in the Alvarado Pioneer placed Bill Silva as the proprietor of Alvarado's Shell Service Station. After about 1950 nothing further could be found on William Silva operating the Alvarado Service Station.

Bill Silva remained active in Alvarado civic and fraternal organizations however. He was a member of the Paul Rivers Post of the Alvarado VFW, the Alvarado Eagles, and Alvarado Chamber of Commerce.

Manuel & Aldena Andrade:

Manuel J. Andrade was born in Portugal in 1903. His wife Aldena was born in California in 1911. They had four children: three sons, Elmer, Ronald and Leroy, and a daughter Darlene.

In 1940 Manuel was residing on the Creek Road where he was employed as a farm laborer. In 1943 Manuel purchased the Chevron station of G.B. Cosso on the east side of Levee Street (today's Union City Blvd).



A photo of Andrade's Store, which featured a grocery mart and fresh produce store on the west the east end was a complete soda fountain, with an added room in the rear that served on-sale beer and wine. From the "Alvarado Walking Tour" booklet by Tim Swenson

The store was on the north entrance to Alvarado from Mt. Eden. It was directly across the street from Ambrose Loyola's 'Flying "A" gas station. The property included a small grocery store, two gas pumps, an oil and auto accessories room, and a complete soda fountain. Attached to the back of the soda fountain was a tavern where beer and wine was served. They sold Chevron gas and carried Standard Oil Products. In 1946 Manuel added a grease rack that was raised and lowered by air compression, which allowed Manuel and his oldest son Elmer to offer a full line of lube services.

In 1944 Manuel joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and he showed his civic pride by becoming a booster, and a sponsor, of the Washington Township Apricot Festival in June 1946. Here he joined with Sam Dinsmore, Frank P. George, John H. Ralph, A.A. (Tony) Lee, the Alvarado Eagles, the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and the Alvarado Firemen.

Manuel and Aldena purchased a 50-acre ranch in Mission San Jose where they intended to retire to sometime in the future. Mrs. Andrade said she intended to have a ranch style home built on the property when she goes to live there. Since Manuel devoted much of his time on the ranch, Mrs. Madeline Rocha was hired to manage the Alvarado Produce Market, along with the help of Mrs. Andrade. Andrade's son Elmer, and his good friend Gilbert Cicairos, also worked at the store and station. Mrs. Aldena Andrade passed away at her home in Mission San Jose in December 1957 at the age of 47. Nothing further was found after this.

Vernon Willard:

Vernon Willard was born in California in 1913. His wife Agnes was born in Canada in 1913. The date entry into the U.S. by Agnes is not shown. In the 1940 Alvarado census Mr. Willard shows as being an agent of an oil and gas company. He shows as being the owner of the company. Agnes Willard was appointed to the Emergency Nursing Service in Alvarado on December 19, 1941. After this date nothing further was found for either in Alvarado.

BANK:

Central Bank: January 1938

Bank of Alameda County: August 1910

The Alvarado Bank: February 1902

Robert A. Blacow / Walter M. Oakey II / Miss Mary Paniagua / Miss Frances Luiz / Bill Katzer

Robert A. Blacow:

Robert A. Blacow was from an old and prominent family in Washington Township. Robert graduated from Washington Union High School in 1907. He resided in Centerville with his wife Effie. In January 1912, Robert was listed as an Assistant Cashier for the Bank of Alameda County in Alvarado. In 1931 Robert was the Cashier for the bank. In 1943 Robert was the manager of the Niles Branch for the bank. In 1954 Robert A. Blacow retired after 42 years with the Bank of Alvarado, the Bank of Alameda County, Central Bank, and finally First Western Bank. After retirement he would continue to hold the position of Chairman of the Advisory Board for First Western's three offices in Washington Township at Niles, Irvington and Alvarado.

Walter M. Oakey II:

Walter Oakey did not live in Alvarado during the census years so making sure I have the correct Walter Oakey is not a sure thing. I was able to locate a Walter Oakey in Oakland in the 1940 census. He was born in 1909 in Utah, and his wife Dorothy was born in 1912 in Illinois. They had a son Walter Oakey Jr. who was one year old in 1940. Mr. Oakey was employed at an Oakland bank as a bookkeeper in 1940.

Walter Oakey had been with Central Bank since 1928, and in 1941 he was transferred to the Alvarado Office. He was promoted to the title Assistant Cashier at the Alvarado Branch in July 1943. (Ass't Cashier is the first level of bank officer and is not to be confused with the title "Teller.") In 1944 Walter was named Branch Manager of the Alvarado Office. In 1944 he also joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and in 1945 was elected president of the Alvarado Chamber.

Frank Katzer replaced Mr. Oakey as manager of the Alvarado Branch and Mr. Oakey took over as manager of the Niles Branch. But in 1948 Mr. Oakey was moved back to Alvarado when Katzer was reassigned to the San Lorenzo Village Branch.

Walter H. Oakey II was preparing to dismiss his three employees and close for the day on Friday, August 30, 1957, when two bandits, armed with a .32 automatic and a nickel-plated revolver, entered. They forced Oakey at gunpoint to empty \$6,000 from three teller windows. Then they herded him, his three co-workers, and two customers into the vault. After rifling the vault of more than \$30,000, the bandits slammed the door. The six victims faced the prospect of remaining there over the Labor Day weekend with only 10 hours of air. Oakey pulled two alarm switches inside the vault he had been able to reach while under the close scrutiny of the bandits. Half an hour later Donald E. Mayers, Manager of the bank's Niles Branch nearby, arrived. Oakey, shouting at the top of his lungs gave him the vault combination number by number through the locked vault door.

When I was very young, I recall being taken to the bank by my mother. This had to be about 1946 or 1947. I recall the noise my shoes made on the marble floor. When the teller took transactions they would stamp every piece of paper with a variety of stamps they had their workstations. When they slammed the stamps on the paper it sounded like gunfire going off as the

noise reverberated around the bank. I recall when we walked into the door my mother pointed to Mrs. Oakey, and said in a hushed tone that he was "the bank president." He wasn't, but that is how immigrants viewed persons in power.

Several years later the First Western Bank would leave its office in Alvarado and relocate in a strip mall adjacent to James Logan High.

Miss Mary Paniagua:



Miss Mary Paniagua grew up in Decoto. Mary was born in 1923 and graduated from Washington Union High School in 1940. The first mention of Mary at Central Bank was in April 1944, when she was noted as being a fine assistant to John (Jack) Blacow, so she must have been working for Mr. Blacow for some time.

When Walter Oakey became manager Mary would assist Mr. Oakey by training new employees in banking procedures. In 1948 Mary was honored by being made the Notary Public for the Alvarado Bank. Then in January 1950 Mary was advanced to the new San Lorenzo Village Branch after having been an assistant at the Alvarado Branch for many years. Mary was active with the youth of Decoto, in 1944 Mary was a member of the Ways and Means Committee of the Decoto Recreation Council.

Miss Frances Luiz:

Frances Luiz, daughter of Joe & Julia Luiz of the Alviso School District started at the bank shortly after graduating Washington Union High School in 1944. Here Frances was taught banking under able leadership of Miss Mary Paniagua. In October 1945, Manuel Duarte son of Henry Duarte returned, to Alvarado after service in the Italian campaign with the Army. It didn't take Manuel long to get engaged after arriving home. Manuel chose Miss Frances Luiz daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Luiz. Miss Luiz was employed at the Central Bank in Alvarado. Miss Bernice (Frances) Luiz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Luiz of the Alviso district, was wedded to Manuel Dutra of Alvarado at Reno in October 1946. After this Frances (Bernice) Duarte appears to have left Central Bank to become a domestic housekeeper.

Bill Katzer:

Frank W. (Bill) Katzer was born in California in 1917. In 1940 he was single living with his parents, Frank and Lucy Katzer, on Mowry Road in Centerville. At this time his employment was as a teller in a bank. By 1946 Bill was the manager of the Alvarado Branch of Central Bank. In October of 1946 Central Bank assigned Gene Clifford of the Irvington Branch of Central Bank to assist Manager Bill Katzer.

In March 1948, Manager Bill Katzer of the Alvarado Branch, was reassigned as Assistant Manager of the San Lorenzo Village Branch. George Oakey, manager of the Niles Branch would then return to the Alvarado Branch as manager. In January 1950 Miss Mary Paniagua of the Alvarado Branch would be promoted to the San Lorenzo Village Branch, where she would again be

working with Bill Katzer. Bill Katzer would be named the new branch manager of the Central Bank's Via Mercado Branch in San Lorenzo.

BARBER:

Anastacio Regalado, Proprietor:

Bataan Barber Shop:

Anastacio Regalado was a barber located on the east side of Levee Street two doors down from the Bank. His barbershop was located in the rear of the Bataan Pool Hall, which Anastacio also owned. Anastacio was very active in Alvarado civic affairs. He was a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and held several official positions in the Alvarado Filipino Community Organization. He was also active in the annual Filipino Independence Day celebrations held in Alvarado by the Filipino Community. The festivities were held on July 4th in conjunction with the U.S. Independence Day celebration. Unfortunately, I was not able to locate information on Anastacio's family.

BEAUTY PARLORS:

Mrs. Isabelle (Rodrigues) Mondragon / Mrs. Julia (Flores) Cuellar

Isabelle Rodrigues Mondragon:

Alvarado Beauty Parlor:

Isabelle Rodrigues Mondragon was the proprietor of the Alvarado Beauty Shop in 1940. She was born in Mexico in 1904. Her husband, Rafael Mondragon, was also born in Mexico but in 1888. Their dates of entry into the U.S. are unknown. Initially Isabelle was known as Isabelle Rodrigues, but after 1948 she went by Isabelle R. Mondragon, the name she used in the 1940 Alvarado census. Mrs. Mondragon operated the Alvarado Beauty Shop for many years; unfortunately I do not have the ending date.

The story of Isabelle Rodriguez starts with the Alvarado Beauty Salon, which was located on Smith Street on the east side of the old Catholic Church.

The beauty salon was started by Carmen Lambaren in 1934, which she operated for two years. She married Lawrence Luevano in 1936, and eventually moved permanently to Decoto.



The old Alvarado Beauty Salon as it sits today just east of the old Catholic Church (now an Islamic Mosque) on Smith Street.

In 1936 it was announced that the Alvarado Beauty Salon was now operating under the management of Mary Rodrigues. By 1943 the operator of the Alvarado Beauty Salon was Isabelle Rodriguez. In 1944 Isabelle was a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. In 1945 she received a sterling compliment from the *Alvarado Pioneer* newspaper for improvements she made to her property.

When the war ended in 1945 President Walter Oakey of the Chamber of Commerce appointed Leslie Maffey, the new Principal of the Alvarado Grammar School, to organize the town merchants into decorating their stores for the Christmas season to celebrate the end of the war. Maffey appointed Mrs. Annie Baird and Isabelle Rodriguez to canvass the town merchants to get them all on board. The Christmas season would officially open on December 5th with the arrival of trees and holiday decorations. The program was adopted by the California State Chamber of Commerce with the idea of offering a festive welcome to Alvarado's returning servicemen.

Isabelle was active in civic affairs by endorsing Alvarado's need for a sewer system in 1940. In 1952 Isabel was a ballot official for precinct two in Alvarado for the 1952 Presidential election, as well as serving as an officer in the Alvarado Eagles Auxiliary Aerie in 1953.

Isabelle was also very active in the Catholic Church and the local Portuguese societies and fraternities. She was a member of the S.P.R.S.I., and served as President of the organization in 1955. She was also a member of U.P.P.E.C., the Portuguese protective society. Isabel also served as an officer of the S.D.E.S. society of Alvarado in 1956.

Mrs. Julia Flores Cuellar, Proprietor: **Cuellar's Beauty Parlor:**

Julia Cuellar opened her beauty shop across the street from the bank on Levee Street in April 1946. Julia was a graduate of a beauty college in Texas, and an instructor in beauty culture, she has had 19 years' experience in her line.

She possesses a California State owner's and operator's licenses, she said, with modern equipment in her new shop. Newly decorated and painted a blue bird color, it presents a rather cheerful appearance, and it is predicted that she will be kept busy. This was the only article about Julia's business or Julia found for Alvarado.

BILLIARD ROOMS:

Joe Armada / Frank Macahilas

Joe Armada: **Alvarado Pool Hall:**

I could not locate any information about Joe Armada, but the street address places the pool hall between John Ralph's General Merchandise store and Priego's Store at the Corner of Horner and Levee Streets.

Frank Macahilas:

Francisco (Frank) Macahilas was born in the Philippines in 1907. He shows his date of entry into the U.S. as 1928. The 1930 census found him working as a farm laborer in San Benito County (Hollister-San Juan Bautista). The 1940 the census found him as single and living on Hiway 17. His occupation in both San Benito County in 1930 and Alvarado in 1940 was as a farm laborer.

The year 1946 saw a huge display of patriotism on the 4th of July. For it was in this year that the Filipino community decided to celebrate the 4th of July as the adopted date of the Filipino Independence Day by Filipino-Americans in Alameda County. The Alvarado business community got behind the joint celebration and it became an annual event in Alvarado. Frank Macahilas was among the Filipino's who labored ceaselessly to make this event an annual event a success. Frank joined the Diangson's, Regalado's, Frank Bolima, and Alex Bieto to make the 4th in Alvarado a special occasion for the both the citizens of Alvarado, and the Filipino-American community.

Because of the genuine outpouring of friendship of the people of Alvarado, the Filipino-American Community Club of Contra Costa and Southeastern Alameda County decided to hold their events in Alvarado. In January 1948 the club held a meeting at the Eagles Hall in Alvarado and showed movies of the Philippines to the audience. The meeting was set up by Felix Diangson, Frank Bolima and Frank Macahilas.

The Filipino Community of Alvarado and Vicinity met on March 13, 1949 at the Eagles Hall in Alvarado and elected officers. The president elected to guide the destiny of this large organization was the well-known Frank Sacramento, who had taken a big interest in all the big affairs of this organization. The previous year he was chairman of entertainment for the big Fourth of July celebration there. His wife, Emily Sacramento, had charge of the Queen contest, and she and her committee raised \$3,500. Also elected from Alvarado were Frank Macahilas, Ass't Secretary, Anastasio Regalado, Treasurer and Dora Regalado, Sgt-at-Arms.

Frank Macahilas owned a club and pool hall on the west side of Levee Street south of Maiden Lane. The club was a favorite gathering spot for Filipino's in Alvarado. Frank, and his clients, favored playing games of chance (which included cards, dice and dominoes), which at the time, was strictly illegal in Alameda County. Because of this there were occasional raids on his club, and he eventually was forced to cough up money to pay fines.

Frank joined with a group of Washington Township card room owners (which also included Tony Boliba of Decoto) in December 1954, to go before the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to change the ordinance concerning gambling in clubs. The representative of the clubs told the Board of Supervisors that they had almost no trouble at their clubs and that they did not employ "shills."

The owners said that the problem clubs were in Hayward, and not in Washington Township where they policed themselves. The present county ordinance made it a misdemeanor to permit or play draw poker or its variations commercially. The operators said they charge a fee for the use of

tables in their establishments, and that this is their only income in connection with the card games.

BUTCHERS:

Edward Mateo / John Novo

Edward Mateo:

Edward Mateo was born in Hawaii in 1916 to Francisco and Teresa Mateo. Francisco and Teresa Mateo emigrated to the U.S. from Spain and settled on "V" Street in Alvarado, the exact date not known. The Mateo's had five children, two sons and three daughters. The Mateo's are first mentioned in Alvarado in June 1926 when their eldest daughter, Mary, graduated from the Alvarado Grammar School.

Eddie married (wife's name unknown), and was divorced by the 1940 census. He had a son, Eddie Jr., who was born in 1936. In 1940, Eddie was home living with his parents, a brother and a sister, and his son. Eddie was employed as a butcher at the West Coast Meat Company in 1940.

John Novo Proprietor:

Bi-Rite Markets:

1026 Levee Street, Alvarado:

John Novo was born in Portugal in 1902, his date of entry into the U.S. is not known. His wife Mary was born in Hawaii in 1909. They had four children, three daughters, Marie, Jane and June, and a son Elias. The family resided on Hiway 17 in the Alviso District.

John was a truck driver for a salt company in 1940. Then in 1946 John purchased Damaso Diaz' meat market on Levee Street. Mr. & Mrs. Novo were well known in the Alvarado community.

Mr. Novo was formerly employed by the Leslie Salt Company. He wife was also well known; during the labor shortage she helped the war effort by working at the foundry at Newark.

JOHN NOVO Buys UNION MEAT MARKET

From Damaso Diaz

Choice Meats and Groceries

John Novo, formerly of LESLIE SALT CO.

Invites Friends and Neighbors to Call at His New Store

PHONE ALVARADO 63 1026 LEVEE STREET, ALVARADO

Store will later be called BI-RITE MARKET

The final newspaper article on the Bi-Rite Market is dated February 1950 when George Vargas opened his appliance store at that location. There was no indication on how long the building had been vacant.

CAFÉS & TAVERNS:

Anita's Place / Perfilio Enos & Lawrence Delgado / Frank & Mary De Mello / Felix Diangson / Emilio Castro / Cruz Figueroa / D. Carrillo / Frank Macahilas / Charles Marquand / James Nevis / Frank Moirao / Joseph Nobrega / Joe C. Alvey / Morris Davilla / Jack Cordoba / Frank De Salles / Tony Costa / Frank Sacramento

Mrs. Nellie De La Cruz:

Anita's Place:

In 1945 Nellie De La Cruz was the proprietor of Anita's Place in Alvarado. An article in the *Hayward Review* of February 12, 1945 read:

"Deputy Sheriffs are searching today for an unknown knife-wielder who late Saturday night slashed at Mrs. Nellie De La Cruz of Alvarado, sending her to Fairmont Hospital with a severe cut on her right hand. Ms. De La Cruz told sheriff deputies she was in the act of closing her establishment at 1235 V Street, when a man unknown to her requested some beer. When she refused, saying, "It was too late," the man slashed at her with a knife."

1235 "V" Street did not exist in 1945. "V" Street ran from Levee Street west to 10th St. East of Levee Street existed Horner Street and then only for one block between Levee and Vallejo Streets. South of Vallejo Street the highway was named the Alvarado Centerville Road. There was a 1235 Horner Street and it existed south of the Reliance Garage on the east side of the garage. No bio info was found for Ms. De La Cruz.

Perfilio Enos:

Lawrence Delgado:

Delgado's:

Notice was given on December 1, 1944 that Perfilio Enos and Lawrence Delgado proposed to sell alcoholic beverages at their location of 1457 Smith Street Alvarado. 1457 Smith Street places this location on the south side of Smith Street between the Catholic Church and the Alvarado School.

Nothing was found for bios on the principals, although Enos Delgado did join the Alvarado Eagles Lodge in mid-December 1944.

Frank and Mary De Mello:

DeMello's:

Frank and Mary De Mello applied for an "On Sale" beer license for the premises located at 1457 Smith Street, Alvarado. This was in July 1949; this is the same location as Delgado's above. Nothing was found for the De Mello's for bio and nothing was found in Alvarado after this date.

Felix Diangson, Proprietor:

Luneta Café:

1437 Smith Street:

Felix (Felimon) Diangson was born in the Philippines circa 1902. He entered the U.S. in 1923. He married Dominica Diangson in 1920, and they had two children as of the 1940 census: a son William and a daughter Barbara.

Felix and Dominica were in Contra Costa County in 1930, in a small town called Cowell, which is located four miles east of Pleasant Valley near Clayton. Felix and Dominica were in charge of a boarding house, with Felix as headwaiter and Dominica as waitress.

By 1940 the Diangson's had moved to Alvarado where Felix was the proprietor of a tavern and restaurant. Then in December 1941, Felix joined with other local Filipino's and started the Luneta Social Club of Alvarado as a non-profit, non-stock organization. The society was formed "to promote the general welfare of members of the Filipino race through education, economics and athletics; and to further Justice in cooperation with organizations local to the town of Alvarado."

Directors in the organization were:

Mac Armenio	Romaldo Cabales	Pedro Gonzales
Luciano Bernardo	Felix Diangson	Alfred Siason
Joe Tobang	Pacifico Timiman	Dissdao Cawaling
Alvino Manilary	Librado Tobang	Pacifico Yerro

The Diangson's were very active in Alvarado civic duties, for both the Filipino community and Alvarado community as a whole. Felix gave freely of his time and his finances for the betterment of the Alvarado community. In October 1941, he donated food to the workers who were cleaning brush from the end of the Alameda Creek, in the hopes of forestalling the seemingly annual flood.

In February 1943, the Filipino community donated money for the building of an Observation Tower on the Alvarado School grounds to spot possible enemy planes. This tower would be manned 24/7. Donating money from the Filipino community was:

Joe Ricamonte	Joseph Tabilog	M.N. Reontoy	D. Varvaling
Felix Diangson	C. Biete	D. Mogalit	A. Regalado

Felix was also active in the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department, becoming a member in January 1946. At this same time Felix was also an active member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce.

But it was not just Felix alone who worked for the betterment of Alvarado. In October 1944, the editor of the *Alvarado Pioneer* lauded Mrs. Diangson for her fine work on behalf of the Washington Township War Chest Drive. The article read:

"Wilbert Hendricks has appointed Mrs. Diangson as one of the local committee workers on the War Chest Drive. Mrs. Diangson has done a wonderful job in collecting funds from the Filipino colony. The Alvarado chairman is more than proud of this fine contribution to show the patriotism of our loyal Filipino Americans."

But Mrs. Diangson did not stop there; also in 1944 she participated in the annual Red Cross drive, which was led by Central Bank Manager J.R. Blacow. On his committee were:

Miss Flora McKeown	Mrs. Helen Goularte	Mrs. Joe Priego
Mrs. Helen Alameda	Mrs. Felix Diangson	Sam Dinsmore
Mrs. C.M. Anderson	Joe E. Lewis	J.H. Ralph
Mrs. Pearl Peterson		

Mrs. Diangson was also active in the Washington Township United Crusade and in September 1954 she was named to head the Alvarado drive.

But now I digress for a moment back to the days of WWII. Alvarado shared with its Filipino American citizenry a unified goal; the liberation of the Philippines from the Japanese invaders. Sometimes we forget that the Filipino citizens in the islands suffered greatly under the Japanese and that Filipino freedom fighters and American troops led by MacArthur, fought side-by-side for the freedom of the Filipino's and vanquishing of the Japanese.

After the Japanese surrender in 1945 there was, of course, great joy among all people of the United States. But in Alameda/Contra Costa Counties in 1946, the Northeastern Alameda County and Contra Costa County Filipino Association decided to celebrate the 4th of July as the date to celebrate their independence day. And for the place to celebrate they chose Alvarado. In June 1946, a committee was formed to put plans into place for the joint celebration of U.S. and Philippines Independence Day. On the committee was:

A. Regalado	Mrs. Felix Diangson	Mrs. Pacifico Sarabia
A. Delfin	Alex Biete	Frank M. Bolima
Frank Macahilas	Mrs. Don Agraviador	

The Alvarado Chamber of Commerce realized the importance of this event by naming a committee to cooperate in every way and especially decorate the business section with the aid of the businessmen on July 4th. Mrs. Bolima of Mt. Eden, Frank Macahilas, and D. Carrillo, businessmen of Alvarado, appeared before the Chamber of Commerce and was aided by Editor George Oakes and others.

The Chamber of Commerce suggested a parade for the 4th of July, in which all classes join and show our debt of gratitude for the fine work of the Filipino-Americans, who helped fight alongside our boys overseas. At home, during the Second World War Filipinos did a fine job in raising food in the fields, buying War Bonds, helping the Red Cross, etc.

On July 4, 1946, many thousands of Filipino Americans from Northeastern Alameda County and Contra Costa County gathered to celebrate the independence of the Philippines, and they saw that the Alvarado people were WITH THEM 100 PER CENT. They saw the President of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce Joseph Lewis, and hundreds of Alvarado people that were present to show their good will toward the Filipino Americans and their contribution toward helping us to win the recent World War.

Mrs. Felix Diangson of Alvarado, with as great a charm as we ever saw, gave a wonderful speech so complimentary to the accomplishments of her dear people. She was the former president of this Filipino Community of the two counties.

Barbara Diangson sang very sweetly and was accompanied by her brother, William Diangson. They were the son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Diangson. The United States National anthem was then sung, followed by the Philippine anthem, led by Barbara Diangson. The celebration so pleased the Alvarado and Filipino community that the joint celebration became an annual event.

Emilio Castro:

Gallito's Place:

In 1943 Emilio Castro sold his business, known as Gallito's Place, to Cruz Figueroa. The business was located at the corner of Maiden Lane and Levee Street. I did not find anything about Emilio other than he joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce several months after selling his business. Then in 1946 he came back into ownership of Gallito's Place again.

Cruz Figueroa:

Cruz Figueroa was born in Mexico in 1900. His wife Ruth was born in Mexico in 1909. Their dates of arrival into the U.S. are not known. They had a son, Cruz Jr. born in 1940. In 1943 Cruz bought Gallito's Place from Emilio Castro, but by 1946 Emilio was back in possession of the tavern.

D. Carrillo, Proprietor:

In May 1943 the *Alvarado Pioneer* writes that D. Carrillo, owner of the New Manila Pool Hall in Alvarado, had added another business. It was the former Half Way House sandwich shop, which he now called the New Manila Café.

Mrs. Dorothy Kelly:

La Curva Inn:

Mrs. Dorothy Kelly was the proprietor of La Curva Restaurant in Alvarado. Its location is not known. Mrs. Kelly was born in California in 1901, her husband Arthur Kelly was born in Arizona in 1901. They had two sons and a daughter and lived near Mt. Eden. They operated La Curva Inn from about 1938 to 1942, possibly at the same location as Kelly's Place.

Frank Macahilis, Proprietor

D. Carrillo, Proprietor:

Manila Café & Pool Hall:

New Manila Café & Pool Hall:

1045 & 1055 Levee Street:

This one was tough to figure out. Both gentlemen, Carrillo & Macahilas, seemed to own the place and the names Manila Café and New Manila Café seemed to be interchangeable.

Frank Macahilas:

See Frank Macahilas in Billiard and Pool Halls on page 23 above.

D. Carrillo:

I could find nothing about D. Carrillo, who apparently came to Alvarado in May 1942 and started the New Manila Pool Hall. A year later he added the former Halfway House to his holding and he called it the New Manila Café. This places the New Manila Café near the end of Smith Street on Levee Street.

In August 1946 the New Manila Inn and the Pool Room's address is given as 1045 Levee Street, which moves the café south a block near the Union Meat Market at Maiden Lane. It now appears Macahilas and Carrillo own the locations at 1045 and 1055 Levee Street. In 1949 this location is advertised as the New Manila Inn Café under the ownership of Carlos Carrillo.

Charles Marquand, Proprietor:

Nellie's Place:

1235 Alvarado-Centerville Hiway:

There is very little on Charles Marquand other than he purchased a service station in Alvarado (which one was not mentioned) in December 1946. In 1948 Charles was mentioned as proprietor of Nellie's Place. Although the address is given as 1235 Alvarado Centerville Road, it is the same address as 1235 Horner Street, this means this is the place that used to be called Anita's Place. This was the only information found for Mr. Marquand.

James Nevis:

Frank Moirao:

Nevis & Moirao:

Nothing was found for these gentlemen except for the notice of their intent to sell alcoholic beverages at their location: 1090 Levee Street. The notice was posted in December 1945. This street address places the location at the corner of today's Union City Blvd and Horner Street (the NE corner). This would later be Priego's Store.

Joseph Nobrega:

Joe C. Alvey:

Nobrega & Alvey:

Nothing was found for these gentlemen other than the notice of intent to sell beer and wine in October 1943 at their location on the corner of "V" Street and Marsh Road. "V" Street did not intersect March Road so they probably meant "V" and Levee Streets, which would put it in the same area as Nevis & Moirao.

Morris Davilla & Jack Cordoba Managers:

Morris Davilla:

Silver Dollar Café and Tavern:

Morris Davilla was the son of Antone Davilla and Marie Foster. Morris was born in Alvarado in about 1925. Morris was married to Mary P. Davilla, and was the father of Bonnie, Joe, Beverly and Toni Davilla.

Morris was employed as a commercial artist for an advertising firm, but later operated the Silver Dollar Café and Tavern for Antone Santos in partnership with Jack Cordoba. His last employment was tending bar at the Bear Cat Café for his brother-in-law Joe Dutra.

Morris received a 4-F physical rating from the U.S. Army, and was disqualified for service during the Second World War. However, this did not stop Morris from serving his country as he was among the first in Alvarado to volunteer as an Air Observer during the first years of the war. He also served in the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce during this time.

In 1941 Morris organized an orchestra from local young folks. It was called "Phil and Her Sweethearts," named after Phyllis Cordoba who sang for the orchestra. Other members were: Morris Davilla, trumpet; Manuel Priego,

accordion; Walter Fasolis, accordion; Andy Gardetto, saxophone; Joaquin Naharro, drums; and Marian Cordoba, guitar.

In April 1941 Morris Davilla's Orchestra played for the Chamber of Commerce at the school auditorium in Alvarado. The music was excellent and it served as a good advertisement to help get out the crowd the upcoming evening when they would play for a dance at the S.D.E.S. Hall in Alvarado. The members of the band are: Morris Davilla, trumpet; Andy Gardetto, 1st saxophone; Joaquin Ojedo, 3rd saxophone; Walter Fasolis, accordion; Marion Cordoba, guitar; Ernie Machado, drums; and Winifred Santos, piano.

On January 11, 1950, Morris Davilla, 35, of 984 V Street, Alvarado, was found murdered behind the Bear Cat Tavern in Centerville. Joe E. Dutra, brother-in-law to Morris, and owner of the Bear Cat Cafe, discovered his body. Mr. Davilla was employed at the tavern and had worked the previous night. Authorities sought an ex-con who was in the bar that night for questioning.

Mr. Davilla left a wife and two natural and two adopted children. He also left his mother, Mrs. Mary Davilla, and four sisters; Mrs. Isabel Menezes, Mrs. Clara Jacinto, Mrs. Mae E. Santos, and Mrs. Genevieve Dutra. All are from Alvarado.

Three days later the suspect was found and confessed, "I pulled a gun on him and told him I wanted the money. He reached for something under the bar so I shot him." Robert MacCauley Osborne, 51, ex-contractor from Richmond, confessed to Deputy Sheriffs Alfred Ayres and Pete Starasinic to the murder of Morris Davilla, 35, bartender in the Bear Cat Café at Centerville. Osborne, the number one suspect in the cold-blooded robbery slaying, had insisted since he gave himself up Friday night that he had been "too drunk to remember anything."

Yesterday he prefaced his confession by telling the interrogating Sheriff's Deputies: "Well I've been thinking this over since last night and I've decided to quit lying."

Jack (Joaquin?) Cordoba:

Jack Cordoba was born in California in 1915 to Peter and Bernice Cordoba. Morris Davilla and Jack Cordoba took over the Silver Dollar Café in 1946, and in 1948 they advertised: "a record player for dancing, off-Sale Beer, Wine, and Whisky."

Frank De Salles:

Tony Costa:

Silver Dollar Café and Tavern:

Frank De Salles was from Niles, for Tony Costa I could find nothing, as the name is too common. There were no Tony Costa's in Alvarado in 1940. De Salles and Costa ran the Silver Dollar until December 1949, when it was advertised as under new management.

Frank & Emily Sacramento, Proprietors:

Tanay Café:

Frank Sacramento was born in the Philippines. He fought with the First Division in the Philippines with the American Army against the Japanese. He married Emily Benites, daughter of Manuel Benites and Aldora Machado. They had three daughters: Donna, Jayne, Valentina and a son Frankie. Later in life they adopted another son.

In 1943 Emily Sacramento's father, Manuel B. Machado, bought "La Entrada" gas station situated at the entrance into Alvarado as you drove south from Mt. Eden. Manuel gave the operation of the station over to his daughter Emily. Julian Yabut had run this station before he entered the army.

In 1947 Frank and Emily would open the Tanay Café, which was located in the big building once known as the Reliance Garage, but was later known as the Machado Garage. The restaurant was fitted with modern appliances, two pool tables, and a poker table. The Sacramento's café served sandwiches and a merchant's dinner.

The Sacramento's became very civic oriented in both the Filipino Community of Alvarado and the town of Alvarado itself. In January 1948, Frank and Emily were elected officers of the Filipino American Community Society of Alvarado, with Frank being elected as Vice President and Emily serving as Ass't Publicity Director. For his efforts in helping to promote the Filipino Community in Alameda County Frank Sacramento was voted President of Filipino Community in March 1949.

Emily Sacramento served in an official capacity in the Alvarado Mother's Club, which like the PTA helped the students and school in Alvarado. In March 1954 when the Mother's Club was merged into the Alvarado PTA, Emily served as the first Vice President.

The Sacramento's first lived at 1144 March Road in Alvarado, but they later moved to 813 Watkins Street. Their previous home on Marsh Road served as a rental home for the Sacramento's. Mrs. Jennie Martin rented the home in 1958 and was seated at the kitchen table when the one-story frame house dropped. "I thought it was an earthquake," she declared. Mrs. Martin suffered no injuries, but was obviously shaken by the experience that partially collapsed a rear portion of the house, jammed a floor furnace through the linoleum, and broke up the floors between rooms. Porches and the roof also were damaged.

Mrs. Emily Sacramento told deputies that the house was probably a total loss. She estimated the damage at possibly \$4,500. Mrs. Sacramento theorized that past floods in the Alvarado area and water standing even now below the house caused four supporting timbers to rot over the years resulting in the collapse.

Over his years in Alvarado Frank Sacramento earned a reputation as an excellent barber, a trade he carried on in the town.

CARPENTER:
Anthony Jardin:

Anthony Jardin was born in Hawaii in 1892. His wife Marie was born in California in 1904. They had two sons and a daughter. In 1920 Anthony and Marie were living near Walnut Creek where Anthony was working on a farm. Near the end of the 1930's the Jardin's moved to Alvarado living in one of the Varni cottages at the east end of Smith Street. Here Anthony was employed as a carpenter.

CLERK:

Mrs. Aileen (Lee) Vargas:

Ailene Vargas was born in Alvarado in 1914 to Tony and Rosaline (Freitas) Lee. Aileen's grandfather Antonio Lee had been an Alvarado resident since before the late 1860's. In June 1935 Miss Aileen Lee, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Anthony A. Lee, became the bride of Anthony J. Vargas of San Jose in a ceremony held at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Alvarado. The couple settled in Alvarado. By 1940 the young couple had was living with Aileen's parents on Smith Street near Tony Lee's general store. Anthony worked at the salt works and Aileen clerked in the family store.

CONTRACTING – FARMING:

Richard Rigmaiden:

Rigmaiden Contracting:

Riverside Hotel, 1050 Granger Road:

See also Estelle Rigmaiden below under Riverside Hotel

Richard (Sonny) Rigmaiden was born in Louisiana in 1897. His wife Esther (Ovie), was born in Louisiana in 1901. They had six children, boys: Charlie, Richard, Antoine and Tom; and daughters: Selina and Mary. In the 1940 census they were located in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

The Rigmaiden's first appear in Alvarado in 1944 when they purchased the Riverside Hotel in December 1944. In September 1946 Richard advertised that he was a contractor for plowing, harvesting, planting and pruning trees.

DOCTOR:

Dr. Leon R. Rudnick:

In June 1948, the town of Alvarado learned that they would soon have a permanent doctor who was soon to open an office in the Alvarado Theater building. Dr. Leon R. Rudnick, just out of the Army, would open his office on July 1, 1948. He would be the only doctor in Alvarado and would specialize in general practice. By the end of 1949 Dr. Rudnick would relocate his office to San Leandro.

DRUGGIST:

Dr. Daniel Cubicciotti:

Dr. Daniel Cubicciotti was born in Italy circa 1881. His wife, Dr. Ida B. Cubicciotti was born in Italy in 1882. They had three children; two daughters, Beatrice and Yolanda, and one son, Daniel Jr.

In November 1939, Alvarado had lost its drugstore, the Russell Pharmacy. However, in that same month it was announced that a new druggist was interested in opening a pharmacy on Levee Street.

Damaso Diaz had improved the appearance of his store fronts on Levee Street, and this lured a pharmacist from San Leandro to open a new drugstore in Alvarado. Dr. Daniel Cubicciotti, owner of the Estudillo Pharmacy in San Leandro, leased the store in the hopes that the pharmacy would develop a great business.

Alvarado was indeed fortunate in having this new pharmacy, which opened the week of November 19, 1939. The store was newly remodeled and re-tinted, and the whole space within was used for drug store purposes. Dr. Cubicciotti displayed a complete stock of drug supplies and never before had such a complete stock been displayed in Alvarado.

His stock would do justice to a city the size of Oakland, and the owner, Mr. D. Cubicciotti, was an experienced pharmacist with the title PHG, Pharm. Dr., who first learned his profession over 35 years ago back in Philadelphia.

Mr. Cubicciotti had been in California for around eight years, having drug stores in San Jose and Santa Rosa, and had just opened the Estudillo Pharmacy at Foothill Boulevard in San Leandro. He had a very interesting family and an interesting business background.

He graduated from Temple University in Philadelphia, and got the gold medal (highest general average) on graduation. His high record gave him the privilege of becoming an instructor in pharmacy at that university from 1910 to 1915. He started a drug store in his spare moments and he operated a very successful business in Philadelphia from 1909 to 1931.

The doctor lived with his wife and three children on Bridge Street in San Leandro. Besides his complete line of drugs and health products, he also carried Kodak supplies and all types of stationery.

In November 1940 Dr. Cubicciotti joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. The doctor closed his store sometime after 1941, and I found him next operating a drug store in Ashland at 16707 Foothill Blvd.

Daniel D. Cubicciotti died on March 24, 1966 at a San Leandro Rest home. He was the husband of Dr. Ida B. Cubicciotti, and father of Beatrice Schwartz of Sacramento, Mrs. Yolanda Piziali of Santa Barbara and Dr. Daniel Cubicciotti Jr. of Los Altos. His wife, Dr. Ida B. Cubicciotti followed him in death on January 22, 1973.

DRY CLEANERS:

Henry Miller, Proprietor:

Henry Miller Dry Cleaners:

1050 Levee Street:

Henry Miller lived on Central Street in Centerville with his wife Alice and two children. Henry Miller operated a dry cleaning establishment on South Main Street in Centerville. But he also operated satellite offices in Niles, Newark

and Alvarado. In December 1945, Henry Miller opened a satellite office in Alvarado.

You could drop off your dry cleaning at the Alvarado office with Mrs. Flores, and clothes would be delivered to the shop in Centerville, cleaned, and then returned to the Alvarado office for your pick up. In Alvarado the office was located on the east side of Levee Street in the last office south of the bank just before the alley at John Ralph's general store. Mrs. Flores was the Henry Miller employee on duty at the Alvarado Office.

ELECTRICIAN:

Evan Cole:

Evan Cole was born in Colorado in 1909. His wife Esther was born in California in 1915. In December 1933 Evan Cole married Esther Hinkley of Alvarado. Their four-year old daughter Nancy was born in California in 1936. The Cole's settled down on Watkins Street in Alvarado where Evan worked as an electrician at the Sugar Mill. Sometime after 1940 the Cole's added another daughter Bonnie and they relocated to Hayward.

FARMERS:

John Varni:

Varni Bros. Produce:

John Varni was born in New York in 1904. His wife Claire was born in California in 1912. They resided in Hayward. Stephen Varni was born in New York in 1907. He was single and resided in Hayward.

John and Steve farmed extensively in Alvarado along the east side Alvarado Centerville Road from Watkins Street (behind the Catholic Church) south to nearly Fair Ranch Road. They also farmed a piece of land on the eastside of the railroad tracks south from Smith Street to Fair Ranch Road.

Much of this land had belonged to the Granger family, including their warehouses just across the railroad tracks from the Southern Pacific Depot on New Haven Street. John was known as the "Alvarado cauliflower king." His packing shed was the old Granger warehouse on the other side of the railroad tracks from the SP Depot. Here he shipped his produce on the SP system.

John Varni was also known in Alvarado for the Varni Cottages, a string of small homes he built on his property along Smith Street east of New Haven Street. He built nine of these cottages, all of which still exist today along Smith Street.

HOTELS:

Alvarado Hotel – Fernand Paredes

*Riverside Hotel – Bertha & Raymond Cushing / California Conserving Company / Mrs. Estelle Rigmaiden
Rigmaiden Rooms – Successor to the Riverside Hotel, Mrs. Estelle Rigmaiden, proprietor*

Alvarado Hotel:

The Alvarado Hotel continued to be operated by Fernand Paredes this decade.

Bertha and Raymond Cushing:

Riverside Hotel:

The Riverside Hotel appeared to be owned by Bertha and Raymond at the start of 1940.

The California Conserving Company:

Riverside Hotel:

In May 1943 The California Conserving Company purchased the Riverside Hotel. They were able to house some of their workers there

Mrs. Estelle Rigmaiden:

Riverside Hotel:

See also Contracting – Farm above

Richard and Estelle were both born in Louisiana. Richard was born on March 13, 1896 and Estelle was born on February 16, 1901. Richard Rigmaiden and Estelle Poole were married on Sept. 12, 1917, at Lake Charles, LA.

The Louisiana census shows Richard S. Rigmaiden under the name Sonny (or Sone) Rigmaiden, and Estelle Poole under the name Ovie (Poole) Rigmaiden. They would both be shown under those names in the 1920, 1930 and 1940 Lake Charles Louisiana Censuses.

The Rigmaiden's had 12 children, nine of which lived to adulthood. Their children were (years of birth are approximate): Helen 1918, Golden M. (daughter) 1921, Charles 1925, Cleveland 1928, Richard 1929, Selina 1932, Antoine 1935, Thomas 1939, and Mary 1940.

In January 1949, Mercedes Rigmaiden joined the Rigmaiden family in Alvarado from Lake Charles Louisiana. Mercedes was a relative of Mrs. Rigmaiden and attended Alvarado Grammar School in the sixth grade. In addition to Mercedes, the Rigmaiden's had three adopted children: Miss Delphine Rigmaiden, Mr. Sonny D. Rigmaiden, and Mr. William M. Rigmaiden, all of Alvarado.

In addition to the Rigmaiden's mentioned above, there was also a Miss Lucille Rigmaiden who graduated from Alvarado Grammar School in 1953 (one year before Mary Rigmaiden). I could not locate the relationship of Lucille Rigmaiden to the rest of the family.

The first mention of the Rigmaiden family in Alvarado is September 1944 when Selina Rigmaiden attended the Alvarado School. The Rigmaiden's became one of the first resident black families in Alvarado. Several months after arriving in Alvarado, the Rigmaiden's acquired the venerable Riverside Hotel on Granger Avenue, where they offered rooms for rent at \$5 and \$7 a week. Several years later the Rigmaiden's would change the name of the hotel from The Riverside Hotel to Rigmaiden's Rooming House. While it appeared that Estelle operated the hotel, Richard went into the labor contracting business advertising services to farmers for plowing, harvesting, planting, and pruning trees.

On September 12, 1949, the Rigmaiden's celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary at the old Riverside Hotel. Special guests on hand were Mr. Leslie

H. Maffey, Principal of the Alvarado Grammar School, and Mr. and Mrs. Graydon Spurlock.

In October 1952 Estelle announced that the Church of God in Christ had purchased the old Presbyterian Church in Alvarado at the corner of 18th and "V" Streets (today's Horner & Brooklyn Streets). The Presbyterian Church was built in 1902 (which replaced the one originally built in 1860), and served the Protestant Community of the town of Alvarado. However, over the years the number of parishioners waned and by the end the 1940's Sunday services were moved to the Presbyterian Church in Centerville. The church in Alvarado was used for Sunday School Services and special occasions.

On November 9, 1952 the new Church of God in Christ was dedicated in a ceremony held at the church property on 18th and "V" Streets. The new pastor was Rev. M. Mathias of San Jose, Calif.

Improvements of over \$1,000 were completed on the church building before a formal parade and dedication program initiated the services on November 9, 1952. The Reverend Milton Mathias of San Jose was the acting pastor for the church, with Estelle Rigmaiden as missionary. The church would officially be called the Unity Chapel Church of God in Christ.

An intensive evangelistic campaign got underway in February 1957. Scheduled was a two-day non-stop prayer session led by Evangelist Mattie Thomas of San Mateo, with the assistance of Estelle Rigmaiden, Missionary and Evangelist of Alvarado, Church Pastor G. G. Hannah of San Jose, and Richard Rigmaiden, Jr., of Alvarado.

In March 1957 it was revealed that Alvarado Unity Chapel Church of God in Christ was struggling to pay their \$2,300 mortgage. The tiny congregation had been holding bake sales, popcorn sales and periodic fund drives to make monthly payments on the debt.

Estelle suffered a grievous loss when a fire consumed part of the old Riverside Hotel on Granger Avenue on the morning of November 1, 1959. Estelle was conducting a Sunday school class in the hotel at the time, but she led all of the children out to safety. The Union City Fire Department did a commendable job in keeping the entire structure from burning to the ground. The loss was put at \$8,000.

Estelle's mother, Mrs. Mary Ella (Poole) Davis, died in an Oakland rest home at age 78 in March 1960. She had lived in Alvarado with Estelle for three years prior to her passing. Funeral services were conducted at the Unity Chapel Church of God in Christ in Alvarado.

Ovie Estelle Rigmaiden passed away on December 22, 1968 and was laid to rest in the Mt. Eden Cemetery. Besides her family, Estelle was devoted to her missionary work in the Unity Chapel Church of God in Christ in west Alvarado. Estelle also participated in the drive to get the citizens of Alvarado to get free chest X-Rays given by the Alameda County Health Department's mobile unit, and the Alvarado Baby Well-Care Committee to provide health care to the underserved.

Estelle also volunteered as a Gray Lady. Gray Lady's duties consisted of persons working at Hospital Wards, shopping for the bed patients, and arranging and giving parties.

Estelle was followed into the next world by her husband Richard on December 21, 1971. He was interred by her side in the Mt. Eden cemetery.

In the same cemetery is located the grave of Richard and Estelle's oldest daughter, Helen P. Rigmaiden, who was laid to rest on May, 15, 1975.

Mrs. Estelle Rigmaiden:

Rigmaiden Rooming:

See Estelle Rigmaiden Above

In January 1948, Mrs. Rigmaiden changed the name of the Riverside Hotel to the Rigmaiden Rooming House. They advertised complete service with meals served if desired. Eventually the nearly abandoned building would burn to the ground and be replaced by an apartment building, which still exists.

LEVELING SERVICE:

Frank Andrada:

Bulldozing, angle dozing, grading, trees pulled, carryall work, land leveling. Frank is located one half mile NE of Alvarado on Whipple Road. Frank operated a large ranch near the dogleg at Whipple Road with his brother Richard. They had a dairy ranch and also raised grain. It was in their barley field in March 1953 that a Trans-Ocean Airline DC4 crashed, killing all 35 passengers aboard.

LIBRARY:

Mrs. Anne Forbes / Mrs. Madelyn (Avila) Woodward / Mrs. Eldora Pinto



A photo looking down Smith Street from Levee Street east towards the Alameda Creek in the east. The photo was taken in the early 1920's. The building to the far right is the old Cosmopolitan Saloon, which would be replaced by the Bank of Alameda County in 1926. The building just behind it is the old Alvarado Post Office and Library. The Post Office/Library building was conspicuous by the overhang over the street. The Post Office building had been shown in the 1896 Sanborn Fire Map as a tanners shop. By 1950 it was old and decrepit and would be replaced by a new post office in January 1952.

Mrs. Anne Forbes:

[See Bio Chapter 9 Page 35](#)

Mrs. Madelyn Avila Woodward:

Substitute Librarian:



Miss Madelyn Avila was born in 1912 in California to Joseph G. & Mary Avila of Alvarado. Madelyn graduated from the Alvarado Grammar School in 1926, and the Washington Union High School in 1930. After graduating school Madelyn became a nurse for the Paso Robles school district. Shortly after the beginning of WWII, she married Don Woodward who was sent overseas. In May 1926, the first Holy Ghost was held in Alvarado with Miss Hazel Roderick as the queen. The maids for Miss Roderick were Madelyn Avila and Minnie Gomes. The following year, May 1927, Miss Madelyn Avila was crowned as the second Holy Ghost Queen from Alvarado.

In July 1928 the girls of Alvarado started a semi-pro team and began looking for other girl teams in nearby towns and industrial plants. The manager of the Alvarado team was Genevieve Davilla. The other players are:

Bernice Boyd	Helen Silva	Cecelia Andrade	Edith Mello
Madelyn Avila	Agnes Silva	Helen Baird	

In 1929, Madelyn showed her dramatic talents as part of the Alvarado Drama Club, which produced a three-act comedy for the benefit of St. Anne’s Church in Alvarado. The play, “And Ted Comes Home,” was said to be one of the cleverest staged by the club in many months. Those who appeared in the play are:

William Lazzarini	Hazel Roderick	Annie Flores	Sam Costa
Madelyn Avila	Clarence Flores	Mayme Roderick	Jim Callins
Edith Mello	Kenneth Ferry	May Avila	Joseph Lemos

By the mid-1930’s Madelyn turned her attention to her career, nursing, as she continued her education in this field at the Berkeley Visiting Nurse Association. Two years later she was the resident nurse for the Paso Robles School District.

Madelyn married Donald Woodward, whom she had met at the same camp she was assigned to as a Red Cross Nurse during WWII. At the end of 1943 Madelyn gave birth to a daughter, Donna, but Donald was overseas and was not at home for her birth.

When the Alvarado Librarian, Mrs. Anne Forbes, became ill Madelyn substituted for her until a new librarian could be found. This began in September 1944, the length of her service could not be determined, but I assume it was a relatively short period. The next librarian, Eldora Pinto, was first mentioned as librarian in August 1946.

In February 1949 the public health nursing staff of Alameda County came to full Staff with the naming of Mrs. Madelyn A. Woodard of Alvarado. Madelyn graduated from the Providence School of Nursing and the University of

California. While her husband was overseas during the war she lived with her parents in Alvarado, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Avila.

Mrs. Aldora Pinto:

Mrs. Aldora Pinto was born Aldora Duarte circa 1915 in California. She married Manual C. Pinto, Jr. who was born in Portugal circa 1910. They had two sons, Mervin born circa 1937 and Richard born circa 1940, both born in California.

Mrs. Aldora Pinto became librarian at Alvarado circa 1946. In January 1952 he relocated from the old building behind Central Bank, to the new Post Office and Library building on the north side of Smith Street near the Firehouse. Mrs. Eldora Pinto, of Alvarado became the new librarian in the mid 1940's. In January 1952 the Library (and the Post Office) was moved from behind Central Bank down Smith Street next to the Firehouse.

Besides being the Alvarado Librarian after Mrs. Anna Forbes, Aldora was active in the Mother's Club, the Alvarado PTA, the SPRSI, the SDES, and the United Crusade. In April 1975 Mrs. Aldora Pinto passed away.

LIQUOR STORE:

Manuel Silva / Joseph Martin

Manuel P. Silva:

Alvarado Liquor Store:

Manuel Silva is a very common name in Alvarado. I was able to find one Manuel Silva in 1940 who was in the liquor business. He was 39 years old and born in the Azores. He lived on Levee Street and was single. The liquor store was located on the east side of Levee Street abutting the bank on the south side. Manuel Silva was a staunch supporter of the U.S. during World War II. Manuel sold his liquor store to Joe Martin Jr. of Whipple Road in December of 1949.

Joseph Martin:

Joseph Martin was born in December 1898 to Manuel and Adelena Martin of Alvarado. Manuel and Adelena had a farm on the Whipple Road dogleg, near the Sugar Mill Road. The dogleg was also called Haines Road.

Joseph Martin farmed property located on Haines Road. In April 1921 he took out a license to marry Mae Amaral, 18, of Alvarado. They had two daughters, Mildred born circa 1924 and Wilma born circa 1926. In the 1940 census the family unit also included Charles Gonzales and Glenn Bachelor, although no family affiliation was given for either.

Joe was a very sociable and well-liked person in Alvarado. In 1938 Joseph was elected to the board of trustees for the Alvarado school. Prior to that in 1931, he joined the Alvarado Eagle Aerie and would remain a member for the rest of his life. In 1944 he served as President of the lodge and membership doubled under his guidance. In 1948 he was elected as the new president of the East Bay Eagles Council and would preside over that organization in Hayward on Wednesday nights.

Another society that Joe had a loving affinity with was the St. Anne's Catholic Church, where he would devote his time to the successful raising of funds for special activities of the church. Joe would spend decades working with the annual St. Anne's Catholic Church bazaar.

When the War broke out in Europe, Joe volunteered to man the observation post at the Hall Station outside Alvarado, and he took regular shifts looking for possible enemy airplanes in the sky.

In 1949 Joe purchased the package goods liquor store of Manuel Silva next to the Central Bank of Alvarado. Joe called his new venture the "Alvarado Liquor Store." Joe was anxious to please and serve the public, saying in Christmas week of 1949, "I plan to stay open on Christmas Day."

In 1956 Joe was the President of I.D.E.S. Council Vasco de Gama Lodge of Alvarado. Joe can best be remembered for the one unforgettable thing he did that always brought him to mind, his auctioneering skill at the annual Alvarado Holy Ghost Festival held at the SDES Hall on Watkins Street. Joe's voice could be heard throughout the grounds as he created the excitement necessary to loosen the change in people's pockets for the benefit of his beloved St. Anne's Church.

On January 21, 1975 Joseph S. Martin passed away in Alvarado.

MACHINIST:

Albert K. Culver: 1940

Albert K. Culver was born in Colorado in 1876. His wife Mae was born in Illinois in 1877. They came to Alvarado shortly after 1930 from Longmont Colorado where Albert had worked as a machinist in a sugar factory. At the Holly Sugar Co. in Alvarado he was put to work as a foreman in the plant. He worked there as a foreman for just about 10 years. While here his wife Mae was very active in the Presbyterian Church, especially in the Ladies Aid Society. Mr. Culver lived next to Mrs. Laura Orelli the Alvarado Grammar School teacher. He died February 14, 1941 in Los Angeles.

MANUFACTURING:

California Pinto Box Factory - Ray Soares / Hayward Box Company - James E. Warntjes, Santino Falco / Gerlamo Falco, Adolph Del Grande / Al's Mfg - Alvin Silvey / Monarch Box Company

Ray Soares, Manager:

California Pine Box Factory:

The California Pine Box Factory was located at the Hall Station, which was located just over the SP railroad tracks as you head south on Alvarado Boulevard. In April 1943 they received an order for 200,000 boxes for the U.S. Navy. Just six weeks later, Ray Soares the manager of the plant said that the plant had fabricated 2,869 boxes in one day.

After the war the California Pine Box Co. resumed making packing crates for cauliflower, lettuce and other produce for the township farmers and

packinghouses. They enjoyed such an increase in business that in June 1946 they were working on a double shift.

James E. Warntjes:

Santino Falco:

Gerlamo Falco:

Adolph Del Grande:

Hayward Box Company:

The above named individuals entered into the business named the Hayward Box Company in December 1947. They were located on the west side of Union City Boulevard as you headed towards Mt. Eden, about 100 yards before the SP railroad tracks. What type of boxes they manufactured was not stated. In March 1958 the Hayward Box Co. was torn down. The Campbell Chain Co. of York, Pa. built a 150,000 square foot building on that site July 1958. The company expected to hire about 300 employees.

Alvin Silvey, Owner:

Al's Mfg:

Alvin Silvey was born in California in 1917. His wife Genevieve was born in California in 1918. They had a son Alvin Jr. in 1939, and another son Leroy in 1941.

Alvin owned a triangular piece of property on Hesperian Boulevard and the SP railroad tracks about ½ mile north of the town of Alvarado. Here he owned an iron fabricating works. He manufactured truck bodies, trailers, and farm machinery; he had welding equipment, blacksmithing equipment, and woodworking machinery. He had a large stock of steel and lumber on the property, which included a large steel building and his home. Alvin was a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce.

In February 1957, Alvin petitioned the City of Hayward to have his property annexed into their city. Alvin's property sat on Hesperian Boulevard just south of the Hayward City Line.

Monarch Box Company:

In December 1940 the Monarch Box Company, which already had a box factory near the Alvarado Station, erected a warehouse near Hall Station to accommodate the needs of the Alvarado Vegetable Growers. This was the only article about this company in Alvarado.

MECHANICS:

Thomas Chester / Manuel D. Lewis

Thomas Chester:

Thomas Chester was born in Washington in 1891. He was married to Anne Gunn and their children's names were: Anna, Thomas and Rose Mary Gunn. In 1940 the couple lived on the Leslie California Salt Company Road where Nick was a master mechanic for the salt company. After 1940 nothing was found for Thomas Chester & the Gunn's.

Manuel D. Lewis:

Manuel D. Lewis was born in the Azores in 1901. His date of entry into the U.S. is not known. His wife Helen was born in California in 1911. They had two young boys Glenn and Nicholas. The couple lived on the Leslie California Salt Company Road where Manuel was a mechanic for the salt company.

MERCHANTS:

Alex S. Orcullo / Cloverdale Creamery / Ray Alvarez / Frank Gutierrez / Pablo M. Garcia / Lloyd Silva / V. Osborne / Peter Wheat Bread / C.A. Peterman / W.C. Kitchings, Raleigh Man / Mike Salido / Watkins Products / Tony Ybarra

Alex S. Orcullo, Proprietor:

Alvarado Fish Market & Grocery:

Fresh fish every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Beer & Wine, 1090 Levee St., Alvarado

This advertisement in the *Alvarado Pioneer* was the information about Mr. Orcullo. The location of the business would be today's Union City Boulevard and Horner Street in downtown Alvarado. This would later be the location of Joe Priego's meat market. After that ad nothing was found for Mr. Orcullo.

Joe Bauhofer, Proprietor:

Cloverdale Creamery Centerville, California:



Joseph Bauhofer was born in Switzerland in 1883. His wife Emma was born in Switzerland in 1882. Joe entered the U.S. in 1903 and Emma in 1906. Joe became a dairy farmer and later started the Cloverdale Creamery. Joe started delivery of dairy products throughout Washington Township, delivering to retail outlets and rural farms. By 1930 his sons, Joe Jr. 19 and William 17 were making delivery in vans. Cloverdale Creamery delivered their products to farms and rural areas of Alvarado each morning. Cloverdale Creamery is included in the Alvarado history because of their service and their presence in Alvarado.

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Alvarez, Proprietors:

El Progreso Market: 1090 Levee Street:

I found no information about Ray Alvarez and wife. Their store was located on the corner of today's Union City Boulevard and Horner Street on the NE corner. The first mention of Ray Alvarez and El Progreso market was in

September 1949. They appeared to operate the store in Alvarado until at least 1952.

Frank Gutierrez, Proprietor:

El Progreso Market:

1090 Levee Street:

Frank Gutierrez was the owner of Frank's Donut Shop. All I could find about Mr. Gutierrez was that he was the brother-in-law of Frank & Joe Perez of Alvarado. The donut shop was located on the SW corner of today's Union City Boulevard and Horner Street, where the Alvarado Sweet Shop had been before. Frank advertised "Plain & Chocolate Donuts."

Pablo M. Garcia, Proprietor:

Garcia's Fish Market:

1090 Levee Street:

Nothing was found for Pablo M. Garcia other than that Joe Priego rented him his corner store for a fish market and grocery store in March 1946. After that there was no further mention of Mr. Garcia in Alvarado.

Frank P. George:

See Bio in Chapter 10 page 64

George's Appliance & Variety Store:

981 Levee Street

Frank George was born in California in 1898. His wife Dolores was born in California in 1904. They had a son Clayton. Frank operated the General Petroleum Company office (wholesale Mobil gas & oil) at 981 Levee Street, directly across the street from the *Alvarado Pioneer* building. In the spring of 1945 Frank added appliances to his sales floor while also selling water heaters, toys, lamps, appliances, and household articles as well larger appliances such as wall furnaces, floor furnaces, circulating heaters, and floor lamps.

Frank George would be joined by his son Clayton in the business in the late 40's. In 1953 the pair added TV sets and TV repair to their business line-up under the name of F.P. George & Son. The petroleum company would continue on for several more decades in Alvarado.

Lloyd R. Silva:

Lloyds Electric:

1546 Smith St.:

Lloyd R. Silva was born in 1919 to Manuel A. & Mary Silva of Alvarado. Lloyd graduated from Washington Union High School in Centerville in 1937. After his graduation Lloyd became employed by a large electric store in Hayward. Lloyd's father, the local blacksmith, had a first-rate building erected on Smith Street between the Firehouse and his blacksmith shop in January 1949. The building would house "Lloyd's Electric," Manuel's son's new enterprise. The business lasted until the spring of 1950.

V. Osborne, Proprietor:

V. Osborne Radio:

Osborne Radio was located in Machado's Big Garage Building at the corner of Horner Street and Levee Street. The building had formerly been the site of

the Joseph McKeown blacksmith shop in the late 1800's. V. Osborne promised first class radio repair. The ad was placed in the newspaper in January 1948.

This is the only mention of V. Osborne in Alvarado.

Peter Wheat Bread:

Bread and bakery products were delivered to your door in rural Alvarado. I would always look forward to the next issue of the Adventures of Peter Wheat comic book drawn by Walt Kelley of "Pogo" fame.

Shown below are the Peter Wheat logo, and the front page of a Peter Wheat comic book from 1948. Here at the top of the comic is "KRUG" present, this is the name of the local bakery that supplied the comic book.



Peter Wheat would deliver fresh bread to your home, along with other bakery goods.

C.A. Peterman: **Peterman's 5 & 10 Store:**

Mr. C.A. Peterman was the proprietor of the 5¢ & 10¢ Variety Store in Alvarado. On June 5, 1948 Peterman had the gala grand opening of his 5 & 10 Store on Levee Street, just across the street from the Central Bank. Peterman's would specialize in notions, infants and children's wear, cosmetics, a complete hardware and household section, magazines, drugs, candy and ice cream, and a very complete toy department. They would stock their store with over 10,000 lines of goods and put them before the public.

Mr. C.A. Peterman owner of the 5¢ & 10¢ Variety Store in Alvarado announced on June 25, 1948, that he is to take over the other half of the new building on Levee Street across from the Central Bank to enable him to enlarge his store and expand his business. The public was invited to come in and see the new enlarged store with the new departments.

This was the final article found for Peterman's in Alvarado. When the store closed is not known.

W.C. Kitchings, "The Raleigh Man":



Mr. Kitchings delivered Rawleigh products to rural farms in Washington Township in his van.

Mike Salido, Proprietor S & N Variety Store:

Mike Salido was born in 1916 to Placido and Dolores Salido of Solano County. Dolores Paredes, wife of Fernando Paredes of the Alvarado Hotel was a sister to Mike Salido. Sometime in the 1930's, Mike came to Alvarado and married Miss Mary Naharro, daughter of Victoriano Naharro, and brother to Eliseo Naharro, owner of the Alvarado Theater. In 1949 Mike operated the S & N Variety Store in Alvarado, the location of the store I could not find. The store was not listed in the phone book of 1948, or in the phone book in 1951. Mike was a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and in connection with that organization became Scoutmaster for the Alvarado Boy Scout Troop.

In December 1956 he was on the Union City Steering Committee for the incorporation of the towns of Alvarado and Decoto. Later he would become a director on the combined Union City Chamber of Commerce.

Watkins Products:



Full line of home and personal items delivered to your door by the J.R. Watkins man.

Tony Ybarra: Ybarra's Grocery Store:

Tony Ybarra, former owner of Ybarra's Grocery Store, abandoned his business and has gone to study at the barber college. The store is doing business as

usual under the management of Donisio Hernandez, the owner of the location. The date of this article was Feb 1941, there was no further information as to location or to Tony Ybarra.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT:

Lois Hendricks:

Lois Hendricks was born California in 1918 to Enos and Emily Hendricks of Alvarado. Lois was named the Alvarado correspondent for the *Hayward Daily Review* in August 1934 when she was a junior at Washington Union High School. In her senior year at Washington Lois Hendricks was chosen as one of four Washington Union High School students who would work on the school newspaper, "The Hatchet" and to attend the press convention being held at the University of California at Berkeley.

ORCHESTRA:

Morris Davilla, Leader:

Phil & Her Sweethearts:

Morris Davilla organized an orchestra from local young folks in January 1941. It was called "Phil and Her Sweethearts," as Phyllis Cordoba the songstress for the orchestra. Other members were: Morris Davilla, trumpet; Manuel Priego, accordion; Walter Fasolis, accordion; Andy Gardetto, saxophone; Joaquin Naharro, drums and Marian Cordoba, guitar.

POST OFFICE:

Mrs. Genevieve (Davilla) Dutra was Post the Mistress this entire decade.

PRINTING:

Albert J. Cadero:

Cadero's Print Shop:

Albert J. Cadero was born in Portugal in 1884. His wife Marguerite was born in California in 1892. They resided on Lloyd Road in Newark. Mr. Cadero operated a print shop in Alvarado, where he printed all types of leaflets and banners on demand. His office was in the same little building as *The Alvarado Pioneer*.

RAILROAD AGENT:

Edward J. Wilson, Station Agent:

Southern Pacific Railroad Depot:

Edwin J. Wilson was born in Northern Ireland in 1894. Edwin entered the U.S. in 1910. His wife Ethel was born in Northern Ireland (or Canada) in 1900. The date of her entry into the U.S. is unknown. Their daughter, Mary Eileen was born in California in 1927.

Edwin was a telegrapher for the railroad in Brentwood in 1940. In 1941 he was promoted to Station Agent for the SP Railroad in Alvarado.

He immediately took a liking to Alvarado and its people. In September 1941 he volunteered to man a post at the Hall Station Air Raid Observer Station to scan the skies for enemy planes.

Two weeks later he joined Charles Baird, M. Silva, M.P. Perry, Clarence Flores, Frank Machado and E. Bailey to cut down and burn the dry willows at the mouth of the Alameda Creek to help prevent flooding in the coming winter.

It did not take long for the people of Alvarado to take note of this new energetic man at the train depot. George Oakes at the *Alvarado Pioneer* wrote in November 1941:

"E.J. Wilson, the Alvarado station agent of the Southern Pacific, is surely a civic-minded man and takes a big interest in the Chamber of commerce and Alvarado civic affairs."

Ed was also quick to join the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and they were quick to load projects on his broad shoulders. In January 1943, he was one of the men to help erect an eighteen-foot high tower in Alvarado to guard against the intrusion of Japanese airplanes. Joining him on this committee were J. C. Wasley and John Ralph. A \$30 donation from Fred Wiegman started the funds for construction. The cost of the tower was estimated to be \$270. The tower would enclose an eight-foot square glass enclosed room with a six-foot catwalk around the outside. It would be erected on the grammar school grounds.

In October of 1943, Ed was named the Pied Piper of Alvarado by the Chamber. He was named chairman of the committee to contact the County Health Officer to ask for cooperation for a united effort with local homeowners to help exterminate the rats, which have plagued Alvarado and many other East Bay cities.

Ed's name was called again at the meeting of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce held on January 20, 1944. There was a decision to get behind the Alvarado Troop of Boy Scouts, of which Mike Salido was Scoutmaster. The committee in charge of Boy Scout activities was: Charles Baird, Manuel E. Perry, Mike Gardetto, Ed Wilson, Frank Machado, James Wasley, Joe E. Lewis and A.J. Vargas.

A move to establish a recreation center for Alvarado boys was launched in May 1944 by the Alvarado Fireman's Association, which was endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce. Ed Wilson joined J.C. Wasley, Joe E. Lewis, and M.A. Silva Jr. in a committee to find a clubroom that young boys could use for recreational purposes.

In August 1944, Ed was called on by the Chamber to contact Holly Sugar and Adolph Oliver, about cleaning up the dead brush on their portions of the Alameda Creek before the fall rains begin. Peter Decoto and Ed Ahern offered to join Ed Wilson in getting property owners to clean up their portions of the creek.

After this article in the January 23, 1952 *Oakland Tribune* nothing further could be found for the Wilson family in Alvarado:

"Marriage license issued to Curtis Martin Kahara, 27 of Pleasanton to Mary Eileen Wilson, 25 of Alvarado."

RESTAURANTS:

Evelyn – Mary Naharro / Conchita Mata / Evelyn C. Miller / Natividad Saucedo

Evelyn or Mary Naharro:

Alvarado Sweet Shop:

Mary Naharro was born in California in 1814. Evelyn Naharro was born in California in 1922. Both were daughters of Victoriano and Julia Naharro of Alvarado. The *Alvarado Pioneer* ran this article about the Alvarado Sweet Shop in September 1940. It did not differentiate as to which Naharro daughter ran the Alvarado Sweet Shop:

"Next to the Alvarado Theater is the Alvarado Sweet Shop, which is a thing of beauty with modern interior decorating. Miss Naharro is in charge of this corner ice cream shop and she handles everything like an experienced person. The modern soda fountain must be seen to be appreciated, the tables and chairs make it very inviting for a party of friends to enjoy a cool soft drink these hot days, or light refreshments if desired.

Borden's Ice Cream is used and their ice cream guarantees an especially fine treat. Borden's desserts are kept in the refrigerator, and they make something excellent to take home and serve along with your dinner. All the delicious flavors of ice cream to be found in the big city are found here.

All the family pulls together and now the daughter is showing her remarkable ability in handling the new "Alvarado Sweet Shop," which has been open only a short time."

This is the only article I could find about the Alvarado Sweet Shop.

Conchita Mata, Proprietor:

Halfway House:

1003 Levee Street:

Conchita Mata was the proprietor of the Halfway House, a restaurant located on the west side of Levee Street at the end of Smith Street. The date first given for Ms. Mata in Alvarado is November 1941, and in January 1943 she was still in business. After that nothing further was found for Conchita Mata in Alvarado.

Evelyn C. Miller, Proprietor:

In June 1943 Evelyn Miller was announced as the new proprietor of the Half Way House in Alvarado. She served delicious cheese sandwiches and hamburgers. Evelyn was from Seattle and took over management of the shop across the street from Central Bank

Natividad (Nata) Saucedo:

Natividad (Nata, Nettie) Saucedo was born in Mexico in 1904, as was her husband Lupe also born in Mexico in 1904. Their date of entry into the U.S. is not known. Nettie operated the Halfway House, at Smith & Levee Streets in Alvarado, from October 1943 until at least 1955.

SALOONS:

Steve De Leon / Emma & Addie Kelly / Manuel Silva

Steve De Leon:

Kelley's Place:

Steve De Leon was born about 1907. His place of birth is not known. When he came to Alvarado and when he left Alvarado is also not known. He was known because of the following ad placed in the Hayward Daily Review in August 1935:

KELLEY'S PLACE
The Best Place in Alvarado
Spend a Night in the Atmosphere of Old Mexico
Beer, Wine and Amusements
MEXICAN DISHES OUR SPECIALTY
Chili Beans, Tamales and Menudo
Watkins St., Alvarado, One Block off the Highway
Steve De Leon

The location of Kelley's was on Watkins Street between Smith Street on the north and the Alvarado Centerville Road to the south.

Emma Kelly:

Addie Kelly:

Kelley's Café:

See also Kelley's Place above.

Emma and Addie Kelly were sisters, both having been born in Arizona. Emma was born in 1900 and Addie was born in 1907. In the 1940 census they found living in Alvarado just across Watkins Street from the Catholic Church. They ran a café and saloon called the Kelly Café, which had previously been known as Kelley's Place and run by Steve De Leon.

Manuel Silva:

Manuel Silva was born in the Azores in 1902. He entered the U.S. in 1920. In 1930 he was a soft drink salesman in Alvarado. In 1940, after the repeal of Prohibition, he became a bartender in a saloon in Alvarado. Which saloon Manuel operated could not be determined.

STENOGRAPHERS:

Miss Martha Faria / Mrs. Anna Mae (Logan) Fyffe

Miss Martha Faria:

Martha Enos Faria was born in California in 1913. She was the daughter of George and Virginia Enos of the Creek Road. She and her husband, who was

a farmer on the Creek Road, lived with Martha's widowed mother in 1940. Martha was a stenographer for the Farm Bureau in 1940.

Mrs. Anna Mae (Logan) Fyffe:

Anna Mae Fyffe was born in 1911 in California to Joseph and Margaret Fyffe of Alvarado. Margaret was one of the eleven children of James Logan of Alvarado. In 1940 at the age of 29 Anna Mae was still single and working as a stenographer at a chemical plant.

SUPERINTENDENTS – SUGAR MILL:

Ben Koontz / Earl Browning / John A. Ratekin

Ben Koontz:

Ben Koontz was born in Missouri circa 1889. Mrs. Vera Koontz was born in Utah circa 1899. They had one child, Richard L., who was born in Colorado in 1925.

Ben & Vera lived in Castro Valley after having moved there in July 1933 from Modesto. In November 1937 Ben is first mentioned as the superintendent of the Alvarado sugar mill. In 1938 he attended a Holly Sugar company conference in Colorado Springs. While at the conference Mr. Koontz visited the Colorado State College at Fort Collins, of which he was a graduate.

In 1940 the Chamber of Commerce for the town of Alvarado was busy investigating the implementation of a sanitary district. At this same time the Holly Sugar Company was installing a clarifier, which would remove solid particles before they went down the flume to the marshes. Ben Koontz was asked if the Holly Sugar Corporation would be interested in combining with Alvarado in the use of the clarifier, which Alvarado would use for their proposed sanitary district. Ben said the clarifier had more capacity than Alvarado would need and could handle the needs of a city the size of Hayward. But added Koontz, the expense of upkeep for the eight months of the year when the Sugar Mill is not operating beets, would be too much for the town to handle.

Three weeks after the start of WWII, the siren formerly used by the Holly Sugar Company in Alvarado for fire alarms and other signals was donated to the town of Alvarado for use in air raid warnings by Ben Koontz, superintendent of the Alvarado mill. The siren was installed on top of the Dinsmore General Store on Smith Street.

After the completion of the 1942 sugar beet season Ben Koontz announced that the Holly Sugar plant at Alvarado would not slice beets for the duration of the war. Beets would still be grown in Washington Township but they would be shipped by rail to the Holly Sugar mill in Tracy for grinding.

The year 1943 saw a tightening of the food supply of the nation, particularly a shortage in fresh vegetables and berries. To help alleviate this shortage of foodstuff the government established the Victory Home Garden program the Alameda County area. Ben Koontz, superintendent of the Holly Sugar mill in Alvarado (a resident of Castro Valley) was selected as the advisor in our area.

By July 1943 many Holly Sugar workers were finding work at other industries in the area and many had been transferred to work in Tracy, where Holly processed beets that should have been destined for Alvarado. Ben Koontz found work at the California Conserving Co. in Hayward, helping them with some building plans. Tom Patterson of Valle Vista worked for the Pacific Bridge Co. in Alameda and Walter Jorgensen is just working around his house doing many improvements he hadn't been able to get to.

In August 1945 the Holly Sugar mill announced that it would resume processing for the first time since the war started. About 300 people were employed. No mention was made about the employment of Ben Koontz.

On April 8, 1975 Ben Koontz passed away at his Castro Valley Home leaving his wife Vera and son Richard.

Earl Browning:

Earl Browning came to Alvarado (I believe from Orange County) to be the superintendent of the sugar mill to replace Ben Koontz. He stayed in Alvarado until 1948 when he was replaced by John Ratekin from the Tracy plant of Holly Sugar. Earl was promoted to the Holly Sugar Co. General Office in Stockton in 1948.

John A. Ratekin:

John A. Ratekin was born in Colorado circa 1902. Records indicate that John Ratekin was a veteran of the First World War. He was married to Edna M. Ratekin who was also born in Colorado in 1901. In 1923 John began working at the Holly sugar plant in Delta Colorado as a cooler and evaporator operator. Also in 1923 his son John B. was born.

By 1930 John was in Tracy California where he worked for the Holly Sugar Company as a foreman. With John in Tracy was his wife Edna and son John. In 1936 he was transferred to the Holly Sugar Plant in Hamilton City (Glenn County) as Ass't plant superintendent. The 1940 census shows John in Hamilton City with wife Dorothy and a baby daughter Beverly Jean who was eleven months old. His son John was not living with him. John had apparently gone through a divorce and remarried in the 1930's.

In 1944 John was transferred to the Holly plant at Tracy where Ratekin was made plant superintendent.

John was transferred again coming to Alvarado as the plant Superintendent in March 1948. One of the first challenges for John at this new plant was to reduce water consumption by half. Holly had been using so much water that it was beginning to affect the water table level in the Eden-Washington Township area and the Hayward Public wells were beginning to show the effects.

Going into the 1950 production campaign of beets in Alvarado John said he expected the 1950 output to be the largest on record. The Alvarado plant would employ 300 men in the season that begun on August 27th and would continue until the middle of December. Alameda County had a total of 5,000 acres in sugar beets, with Washington Township accounting for 3,588 acres.

The year 1954 looked like another large year for the Alvarado mill with nearly 100,000 tons of sugar beets that would need to be processed. It would require more than 300 men and the work would run for nearly two months. Production was expected to be between 26 and 30 million pounds of sugar.

The year 1955 saw turmoil in Alvarado as the City of Hayward planned to annex 2,400 acres of land in Alvarado and Decoto including U.S. Pipe and Foundry on Whipple Road, the American Pipe Company on Alquire Road and the Holly Sugar Plant on Alquire Road.

John Ratekin said in May 1955 that he favored Alvarado incorporation, "Holly Sugar will back you (Alvarado) 100%, and we will even put our lawyers to work on it."

By September 1956 the incorporation of Alvarado and Decoto into Union City was beginning to gain steam. Oscar Dowe of the Pacific States Steel Company of Decoto was appointed chairman of a committee to draw up by-laws for the recently approved Union City Chamber of Commerce. Other committee members were Manuel Seoane, J. A. Ratekin, and Joseph Lewis. Directors of the Alvarado and Decoto Chambers had already approved the merger into the Union City Chamber of Commerce.

Twelve members were elected to the board of the Union City Chamber of Commerce, six from Alvarado and four from Decoto. The new directors were: Frank Borghi Jr., Mrs. Charles Spencer, Bernie Joseph, and Oscar Dowe of Decoto; Frank George, Wilbert Hendricks, J. A. Ratekin, Fred Brown, William Machado, and Mike Salido of Alvarado.

Then in December 1957 Union City Steering Committee meeting it was revealed that a petition had been delivered to the City Council of Fremont in secret asking for the City of Fremont to annex the town of Decoto. One of the signers of the petition was an executive of the Union City Steering Committee. The tone meeting turned hostile as Oscar Dowe demanded the resignation of the executives that signed the petition, which they said they would do it immediately. Dowe scoffed, "Hell it's too late. The damage is done. If the annexation petition holds, Union City and its boundaries are dead."

Then John Ratekin stood and turned to the gathered members of the audience saying that Holly Sugar had been fighting Hayward for two years and then he added, "You people here still don't know what you want to do."

Wilbert Hendricks, head of the Alvarado School Board declared, chimed in "It looks like a sell-out to me."

Elvin Rose, President of the Alvarado Sanitary District, said Alvarado had been "railroaded" and "left in the lurch."

The Hayward Review printed this article of the meeting (except):

"Organized to halt Hayward's tactless 1955 attempt to annex most of the area's industrial land, the committee spoke commendably of providing leadership in assaying the future. Instead of that, however,

it retired to secret meetings in smoke-filled backrooms and proclaimed itself spokesman for the Alvarado-Decoto area.

Nothing could have been further from the truth. Much of the committee's work was unsubtly manipulated by several big industries, which wanted only to maintain the status quo. They displayed no interest incorporation, annexation or the area's needs. Union City, therefore, was a fraud, a legal gimmick set up to keep any form of city hood away from Alvarado and Decoto. The fraud became a laughing stock during the farce of creating yet another, New Haven.

The people of Alvarado and Decoto recognized the fraud and avoided the committee's "mass meetings" like the plague. Not one of them drew a crowd to equal a PTA bazaar. Even members of the committee began to realize they were being hoodwinked."

December 1957 was without joy in Alvarado and Decoto as far incorporation was concerned. Union City seemed dead. But in January 1958 the people of the two towns gathered their sea legs and decided to fight back. By March 1958 a new Union City Chamber of Commerce was formed with Kenneth Garcia as President. Other new officials included J. A. Ratekin, Holly Sugar Co. executive, Vice President; Frank George, Alvarado, oil company distributor, Treasurer; and Leslie Maffey, Alvarado School District Supt., Secretary. New members of the board are outgoing President Oscar Dowe, Henry Rivera, Charles Spencer and Mrs. May Watkins.

Oscar Dowe personally took on the effort to sign up property owners against the Fremont annexation of Decoto. He was successful and the bid of Decoto to become part of Fremont was doomed. Union City could now move forward to incorporation.

John Ratekin said, "This time we mean business. We're going ahead with incorporation, providing people want it," Ratekin said as head of the Alvarado plant of the Holly Sugar Company.

November 1958 saw candidates start filing for seats on the City Council should the incorporation effort prove fruitful. The first four to file the race for council seats if Alvarado-Decoto becomes Alameda County's thirteenth city on January 13th were: John A. Ratekin, 57, Holly Sugar Co. Executive; Manuel J. Hidalgo, Decoto merchant; Joseph E. Lewis, 65, Retired Oil Executive; and Leo J. Avelais, 40, Warehouseman. Others who still had papers out this time were Oscar Dowe, 51, Pacific States Steel Executive; Joseph L. Seoane, Jr., 41, Mechanic & Union Leader; and Irving A. Williams, 30, Contractor.

The Union City incorporation vote went overwhelmingly for city hood! In the race for council seat the tallies were:

Tom Kitayama, 35, Alvarado Nurseryman, 701 votes.

J. A. Ratekin, 57, Supt. Holly Sugar Co. Alvarado, 654 votes

Joseph J. Seoane, 41, Decoto Chemical Worker and Union Official, 574 votes

Oscar Dowe, 51, Decoto steel plant executive, 571 votes

Joe Lewis, 65, retired oil company worker, 428 votes

Besides being Superintendent of the Alvarado sugar mill and spending four years helping with the Union City incorporation John also had other civic duties and social duties. He was a member of the Alvarado Aerie of Eagles, serving on various committees and as an officer of the organization. His wife Dorothy was also a member of the Alvarado Eagles in the ladies auxiliary.

During the initial cold war scare with Russia when the U.S. had learned that they Russians had the bomb John Ratekin and Walter Oakey, bank manager of Alvarado, were named Washington Township Civil Defense Directors for Alvarado and were issued official Civil Defense I.D. Cards in October 1951.

John joined Leslie Maffey and Warren Silva as members of the zoning committee for Alvarado. Further, Ratekin was also selected, as the Alvarado chamber's representative to the countywide committee to help celebrate Alameda County's centennial celebration. The celebration was held in June 1953 to celebrate the 100-year centennial of Alvarado being named the first county seat of Alameda County.

In April 1956 John Ratekin was named as an officer of the advisory group to establish an atomic medicine and treatment facility in the proposed St. Rose Hospital. His name was also proposed at a meeting that featured election of officers to the advisory group for the hospital planned for construction on Tennyson Road near the East Shore Freeway in Hayward.

John was also a prominent member of The Men's Club of Washington Township. He was elected Vice President of the organization in October 1956. Prominent lawyer and future Superior Court Judge of Fremont E.A. Quaresma was the outgoing president that year.

John was named as one of fifteen directors in the South Bay Aqueduct Association in July 1957. The group was formed to promote the Alameda-Contra Costa-Santa Clara-San Benito aqueduct to bring San Joaquin Delta water to those four counties.

In May 1958 when the possibility of Union City actually happening a master plan to keep Alvarado from becoming "another Emeryville" was under study by a five-man committee appointed by the Union City Chamber of Commerce. Alvarado School Superintendent Leslie H. Maffey was named Chairman. Other members were Fred Brown, John Ratekin, Damaso Diaz and Maurice Cox. The idea of the master plan was to create a balanced community desired by residents, Maffey said. The committee would work with county planners and residents in mapping out new land uses, he asserted.

On June 1, 1966 John Ratekin retired from the Holly Sugar Company after 43 years. Several years' later production ceased at the Alvarado sugar mill and it was torn down to make room for residential homes. They did keep the driveway to the old sugar mill, however, it is off Dyer Street just across the street from Union City Landing, it is called Ratekin Drive.

Beverly Jean Ratekin:

Beverly Ratekin was born ca. 1938 in California to John and Dorothy Ratekin. Beverly was chosen in October 1952 to be one of the editors of "Pony Express," the student newspaper at Alvarado Grammar School. The four other

editors on the paper were Patricia Flores, Patricia Noia, Patricia Vargas and Carole Burns.

In June 1957 Beverly was installed as queen of Centerville Job's Daughters. The installing officer was Mrs. Renee Stiarwalt of Alvarado.

TEACHERS:

James C. Wasley, Sr. / Leslie Maffey / Mrs. Ruth K. Davis / Dwight Thornburg / Mrs. Elaine S. Sallee / Bernard Callery / Mrs. Laverne (Stivers) Dickerson / Mrs. Pearl Paterson / William Avila / Nathan Click / Mrs. Mary Gastelum / Mrs. Patricia (Renz) Alfors / Mrs. Betty Culbertson / Miss Shirley Everett / John Bond / Miss Dorothy Wespeiser / Miss Shirley Pearson / Mrs. Hilda (Hughes) Widdop / Tony Alexander / Mrs. Ruth Hellwig / Miss Lesda Sayles Mrs. Elsie Madruga (Alviso) / Mrs. Edith Wasley (Alviso)

James C. Wasley, Principal:

Principal until September 1944, see bio in Chapter 1930 – 1930, page 53

Leslie H. Maffey

Leslie H. Maffey was born in England on September 17, 1901 to Attilio Maffey and Lena Hodges Maffey. Atilio was born in Italy and Lena was born in England. They had three sons: Leslie b.1901, Dudley, b. 1906, and Jack, b. 1912; and two daughters: Ethel b. 1909, and Mary b. 1916.

Atilio Maffey arrived in the U.S. in 1911, and Lena and the children (except Mary who was born in California) arrived in the U.S. in 1913. The family grew up on Park Street in San Jose. Leslie attended San Jose State taking courses in education.

After graduating from San Jose State Leslie became a teacher at Warm Springs Grammar School in 1924. Circa 1927 he married Annie Maffey and they settled on Gifford Ave. in San Jose. Leslie and Annie had three children: A son Stanley born circa 1927 and two daughters: Doreen b. 1934 and Marilyn b. 1936.

By 1940 Leslie and Annie were living in the Mission San Jose/Warm Springs area. In September 1936 the new Warm Springs Grammar School opened with Leslie Maffey as Principal. Maffey had been with the school since 1924.

The eight towns of Washington Township had formed a basketball league some years prior, and in 1942 they again got together to play a round robin season of basketball. The 1941 season saw Centerville win the lightweight division and Warm Springs won the unlimited division.

The principals who directed the league in 1942 were:

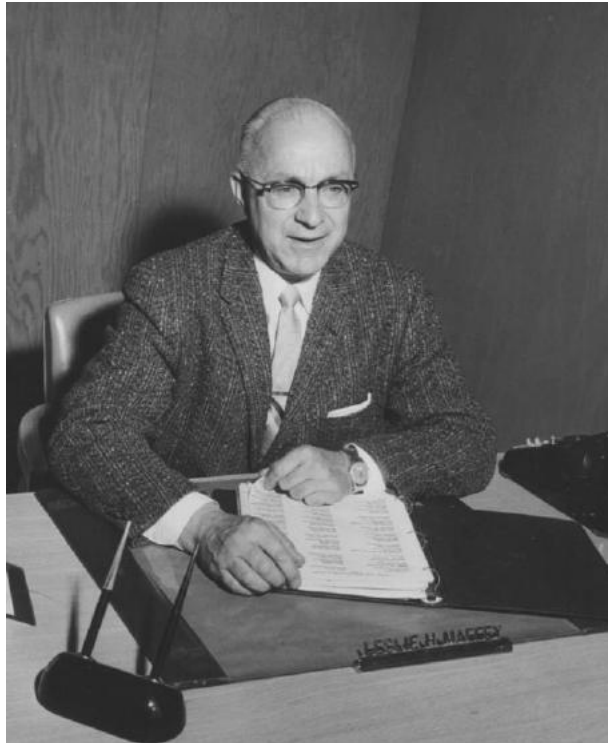
James C. Wasley, Alvarado
Thomas P. Maloney, Centerville
L.W. Musick, Decoto
Jack Prouty, Irvington
E.B. Hodges, Mission San Jose
John MacGregor, Newark
E. Dixon Bristow, Niles
Leslie H. Maffey, Warm Springs

James Wasley, Principal of the Alvarado school tendered his resignation in May 1944 to be effective at the end of June in that year. His place would be

filled by Leslie H. Maffey, principal of the Warm Springs Grammar School who had taught at that school for the past twenty years.

Mr. Maffey started teaching at Alvarado in September 1944 with following staff:

<u>Principal:</u>	Leslie H. Maffey		
<u>Teachers:</u>	Miss Charlotte Jung	Miss Hilda Hughes	Mrs. Isabel Lucas
<u>Custodian:</u>	Charles Baird		
<u>Trustees:</u>	Manuel P. Goularte	Frank Machado	George Hocking



Mr. Leslie H. Maffey

Mr. Maffey immediately set about to improve the school. The auditorium, halls, and Mrs. Lucas' room were sanded and refinished. Other floors were newly cleaned and polished, a new roof was put on the school, and the Nurses examination room was changed to a teacher's room and was newly decorated. The old auditorium kitchen was changed to the health room and redecorated. Floors in both these rooms were sanded and laid with lovely linoleum.

The Principal's office was very nicely redecorated. Holes in the yard were filled and an over-all seal coat applied. The grounds were cleared and improved. Shrubs were trimmed and many new ones were added. Flower and shrub landscaping was done by an expert.

The baseball and football field were scraped and leveled. The playground apparatus and backstops were painted. Holes in the driveway were filled and seal coat applied. Much of the work was done by Charles Baird with the assistance of Daniel Riley. They spent most of the summer vacation in this work of renovation.

Boys & girls clubs were started in the school and officers were chosen on October 1, 1944. They were:

The officers of the girls club were follows:

President: Clarabelle Silva, President
Vice President: Joelle O'Neill
Secretary: Delores 'Sa, Secretary

The officers of the boys club were as follows:

President: Bradley Martinez
Vice President: Glenn Bachelor
Secretary: Clyde Davis, Secretary
Treasurer: Henry (Dick) Andrade

In June 1945 Mr. Maffey, along with the school trustees, proposed building a dedicated cafeteria for the children so that they could have hot lunches in a comfortable atmosphere. The lunchroom opened on October 21, 1946, with Mrs. Mary Gastelum from Newark as Head Cook. The first week's menu was:

Monday: Italian noodles with hamburger, peas, carrots, bread and margarine, ice cream and milk.

Tuesday: Meatballs, gravy, potatoes, stewed tomatoes, bread and margarine, peaches, milk

Wednesday: Wienies, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, bread & margarine, pudding, milk.

Thursday: Hamburger and gravy, mashed potatoes, bread & margarine, ice cream and milk.

Friday: Tuna Casserole with potato chips, string beans, roll & margarine, applesauce and milk.

But Mr. Maffey did not forget his love of sports and the fitness and mental sharpness of his students. The 1947 Alvarado boys' volleyball team attended a tournament at Bret Harte School in Castro Valley. The Alvarado boys' volleyball team took home the Washington Township section championship.

But as well physical and mental sharpness Mr. Maffey was also a strict disciplinarian. To curb some of the nuisance problems at the school he instigated a Student Court. Nuisance problems were categorized as "sliding or loud talk in the hallways, use of native tongue instead of the English language on school grounds, chewing gum" or similar offenses, which called for the miscreants to appear before Judge Raul Villareal's weekly Student Court. Students found guilty were meted the dreaded "lines" as punishments; such as having to write out "I will not talk loudly in the hall" two hundred times.

By the year 1949 the teaching staff had grown at Alvarado school. The teaching staff at the beginning of the fall 1949 semester included:

8TH Grade: Mr. John Bond
6TH & 7TH Grade: Mrs. Isabel Lucas
5TH Grade: Miss Patricia Renz
4TH Grade: Miss Shirley Pearson
3RD Grade: Mrs. Hilda Widdop
2ND Grade: Miss Charlotte Jung

1ST Grade: Miss Betty Culbertson
Kindergarten: Miss Shirley Everett

Proving that a school can be more than just a place of learning, the Alvarado school was used as a haven from flooding in January 1952. Twenty-seven flood victims were sheltered at Alvarado School from January 13th to January 23, 1952. Meals were served to them in the school cafeteria by means of an emergency Red Cross set up, which also arranged sleeping quarters in the school auditorium.

The fall semester of 1952 saw the following staff members at Alvarado school.

Kindergarten:	Mrs. Zola Smith	
First Grade:	Mrs. Gladys Hersey	
Second Grade:	Mrs. Virginia Moy	
Third Grade:	Mrs. Hilda Widdop	
Fourth Grade:	Mr. Stephen Graves	
Fifth Grade:	Mrs. Evaline Griffin	
Sixth-Seventh Grades:	Miss Margaret Tetzlaff	
Eighth Grade & Ass't Prin.:	Mr. John Bond	
Special Class:	Mrs. Jane Dakin	
Cafeteria Manager:	Mrs. Mary Gastelum	
Cafeteria Ass't:	Mrs. Dorothy Vargas	
Bus Driver:	Mr. Serafine Noia	
Custodian:	Mr. Tony Alexander	
Crossing Guard:	Mr. Damaso Diaz	
Principal:	Mr. Leslie Maffey	
School Board Trustees:		
Wilbert Hendricks	Warren Silva	M.P. Goularte

In April 1955 the teachers of the Alvarado Elementary School District accepted salary recommendations of a teacher's committee, in granting \$150 *annual* increases, according to Leslie Maffey, Principal and school district superintendent.

Starting with a minimum of \$3,750 *per year*, the salaries advance to \$5,600 *per year*. The new schedule was based upon years in service, degrees acquired, and personal scholastic advancement while teaching.

On April 12, 1956 some 80 persons attended a mass meeting held at the Alvarado School to approve the trustee's plans to build an entirely new school. The meeting had been called to sound out public reaction to a \$169,000 bond issue election May 18, 1956, which would help finance the school along with that much or more in state aid. District Superintendent Leslie Maffey said no opposition was expressed to the plan.

One week later the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce gave its unanimous endorsement to the May 18th \$169,000 bond issue to build a new Alvarado Elementary School. Leslie Maffey, School Superintendent, told members "not a single piece of reinforcing steel" is present in the brick walls of the present structure.

He also pointed out that the roof merely sits on top of those walls. "We'll have to pray hard that no severe earthquake comes along until a modern school is built," said Maffey.

After the bond issue was approved by voters, the Alvarado School District sued John and Claire Varni, Alvarado produce farmers for 5.7 acres of land adjoining the proposed expansion of Alvarado School at Hiway 17 and Alvarado Street. Leslie H. Maffey, school superintendent, said the district planned to build an 11-room classroom structure, with an administrative wing and a multipurpose room.

Maffey said that the work would be financed with a state loan after using money from two bond issues, one for \$169,000, and the other for \$30,000, which was recently approved.

The district would qualify for state aid by acquiring the Varni property in order to meet the minimum requirement of a ten-acre site. The school has a present 4.33-acre site.

During 1956, talk continued on the building of the new school. When the fall semester of 1957 began, some 325 children were expected to report to Alvarado Elementary School.

Although this was only a few more than the previous years' peak enrollment of 310, double sessions was necessary in the First, Second and Third Grades. Grades Five and Six had to meet in the school auditorium, which Supt. Leslie Maffey said hampered other necessary auditorium activities.

The old school was built in 1924, and was condemned by the state as an earthquake hazard, but would have to serve for at least another year.

Ground was broken on December 4, 1957, for the new Alvarado Elementary School. The first shovel full of earth was turned over by Board Clerk Wilbert Hendricks.

On hand to observe the brief noon hour ceremonies were other trustees, William Machado and George Vargas, school Supt. Leslie Maffey, school employees, architects, and representatives of the contractors.

Destruction of the old Alvarado Grammar School finally reached the time capsule in August 1958, which was placed in the building in 1924. Mr. Leslie Maffey, Principal and Delores Vierra, Secretary opened the capsule and among the major finds was: The class picture of the 1924 fourth and fifth Grades taught by Charlotte Jung, who still resided in Alvarado.

Among the students in the 1924 class photo was Wilbert Hendricks, who now heads the school's board of trustees. Another picture in the capsule was the Alvarado girl's baseball team, champs of the Washington Township Girl's League for the years 1922 - 1924. Also included in the capsule was a history of the Alvarado School system stating that the first school in town opened in 1853 with only five students.

The new building would also have a time capsule. In addition to the 1958 mementos, the contents of the 1958 capsule will be buried in the concrete base of the monument, which would support the old school bell (the bell was later stolen).



Wilbert Hendricks is manning the shovel and Leslie Maffey is on the far right.

In June 1958 Mr. Maffey became involved with the Board of Trustees over the school's pay package.

"We're not going to sit down with teachers and discuss administrators pay!"

This was the flat statement made to the *Daily Review* on June 5, 1958 by Wilbert Hendricks, Clerk of the Alvarado School Board. The rhubarb between teachers and administrators and trustees developed over pay hikes for Vice-Principal John Bond and Principal-Superintendent Leslie H. Maffey. Teachers have refused to accept their \$200 (a year) across the board increases unless increases were also forthcoming for Bond and Maffey.

Hendricks charged "Maffey is supposed to be taking orders from us (the board). But it seems like the teacher are ones that are giving him the orders. Instead of coming in and sitting down with the board for a discussion of their salaries as we requested, Maffey and Bond preferred to go sit with the teachers," Hendricks declared.

"Bond is governed by the teacher's salary schedule and will get the flat \$200 pay hike, plus a \$200 increment this year," the board clerk continued. "But if we went along with the teachers, the administrators would be getting almost \$1,000 increases and we felt that the size of the school and the number of

students doesn't warrant that kind of increase." The Alvarado School District has 11 teachers and 300 students.

Hendricks indicated the board might be willing to review Bond's salary which is now \$6,000 a year, but Maffey is getting \$8,400 a year plus \$500 travel allowance, "which to my way of thinking is enough," concluded Hendricks. Hendricks explained that Maffey got a \$900 increase last year and if "we granted him a \$1,000 raise this year the taxpayers would hang us from the flagpole."

In June 1960 Maffey resigned his position as superintendent of the Alvarado School District. Maffey had been living in San Jose, and said it had cost him \$1,500 a year to commute from his home at 2045 Veronica Place. Maffey was making \$9,900 a year at the Alvarado school. Maffey had been the principal at the Alvarado school for 16 years.

This was the story of Leslie Maffey at the Alvarado Elementary School. By itself it paints a man of energy and vision. It took a lot of effort on his and the fellow trustees of the school to pull the Alvarado School into the modern era. But this was not all that this man accomplished in Alvarado, for he did much for the town of Alvarado and the City of Union City outside of being school superintendent for the town of Alvarado. This is the rest of the story.

In October 1944 Leslie Maffey joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. His contributions made through this organization would be further detailed in this story. One month after joining the Chamber Mr. Maffey joined the Alvarado Eagles. It must be remembered that Mr. Maffey lived in the MSJ/Warm Springs area of Washington Township. This was before I-880 came through in 1957. It was a long and arduous drive each morning and each evening winding through the streets of the township to reach the school. As this story unfolds please pay attention to the evening meetings held in Alvarado that Maffey attended, causing him to get home late.

In January 1945 Walter Oakey, the Alvarado banker, held a meeting at 7:30 pm at the Alvarado Branch of Central Bank. The meeting concerned the Chamber's backing of a Boy Scout Troop for Alvarado. Attending the meeting besides Oakey was Leslie Maffey, local school principal; Mike Salido, past president of the Chamber of Commerce; Charles Baird, Ed Wilson, Manuel Perry, Joe E. Lewis, Mike Gardetto, Tony Vargas and Manuel Silva Jr. Mike Salido were the Scoutmaster.

In October 1946 Mr. Leslie Maffey was accepted as a member of the Washington Township Men's Club.

In June 1952 Angelo Dekidos and Dan Riley joined Mr. Maffey in meeting with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in Oakland to discuss flood control in Alvarado.

Beginning the year 1953 Leslie Maffey, as secretary of the Chamber, was overseeing the new rezoning maps for Alvarado under the auspices of John Jay Thomas, Alameda County Planning Director.

In May 1953 the Chamber again called on Leslie Maffey to participate on a committee with the Alameda County Centennial Commission to prepare a program to observe our county's 100th anniversary. The town of Alvarado was named County Seat for the new Alameda County in March 1853, and the first Court of Sessions was held on June 6, 1853 at Smith & Church's General Store at the foot of Levee and Smith Streets. Named on the committee with Maffey were:

Frank P. George	John Ratekin	Warren Silva
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December 1953 saw a new slate of directors chosen for the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. Those elected to serve were:

Joe Lewis	George Vargas	Leslie Maffey	Warren Silva
Mrs. Susie Lemos	Damaso Diaz	Manuel Borges	Bill Gianella

Angelo Dekidos.

Mr. Maffey had served the Alvarado PTA for many years and in January 1956 he was awarded an honorary life membership in the PTA at the Founder's Day program. Maffey was the second person to be so honored, the year previous the PTA chose long time school trustee Manuel Goularte.

Although what Leslie Maffey accomplished as Principal and later Alvarado District School Superintendent was impressive in its own right what he accomplished from 1955 to 1958 is downright astounding!

For during these years not only did Mr. Maffey supervise the building of a new school in Alvarado (along with the Board of Trustees), he was also secretary of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and those duties were multiplied by the fact that Hayward was seeking Alvarado land and our beloved Holly Sugar Mill. I have already given a brief outline of the building of the new Alvarado School, now I will outline Maffey's actions to secure Alvarado as a district in the new Union City. These actions go far beyond what is expected from an educator, especially when you consider the long hours he spent in the town of Alvarado after school hours and the distance he lived from the town of Alvarado shows a man of much energy and dedication.

Early in 1955 the City of Hayward took action to annex Washington Township land in Decoto and Alvarado. In October 1955 Frank Borghi Jr., as chairman of the committee to incorporate the towns of Decoto and Alvarado into Union City and Leslie Maffey as secretary of the Union City incorporation committee took steps to deliver to Alameda County Board of Supervisors in Oakland a petition with the intent to incorporate the towns.

The Chamber of Commerce of Alvarado determined in November 1955 that more information and more public meetings were needed on the incorporation of Union City. To assure information on progress toward city hood, the Chamber approved the appointment of a special "prodding" committee to elicit public action from the Union City Steering Committee. Members of the Alvarado committee were Warren Silva, Henry Leidsen and Leslie Maffey.

On May 8, 1956 a notice of intent to circulate incorporation petitions for the formation of "Union City" in the Alvarado-Decoto area was again submitted to the Alameda County Clerk by Frank Borghi Jr., and Leslie H. Maffey. This was the third time that such papers had been presented. The area involved

included Alvarado and Decoto School Districts with the exception of El Rancho Verde, Hillview Crest, and Fairway Park subdivisions, which had already been annexed by the City of Hayward.

On July 25, 1956 the county board of supervisors officially received a fourth notice of intent to circulate an incorporation petition giving the group headed by Frank Borghi Jr., President, and Leslie Maffey, Secretary, another 50 days rights to the area. However, the incorporation group did not campaign for signatures at this time since as Borghi & Maffey were submitting the intent to circulate the petition as a ploy to keep Alvarado & Decoto's legal action open and alive.

The legal battle between the Union City incorporation proponents and the cities of Hayward and then Fremont continued to be played out until December 1957 when it was learned that persons in Decoto had petitioned the City of Fremont to Annex Decoto into the new City of Fremont. This left Alvarado alone to face the Cities of Hayward and Fremont.

Part of this was quickly settled when the Leslie Salt Co. asked the City of Hayward to annex their 11+ square miles of land in western Hayward and Alvarado. This was quickly accomplished and Alvarado was then cut off from the Bay as Hayward had annexed all Alvarado marshland up to the city limits of Fremont.

In January 1958 the Union City incorporation proponents were in deep despair. Forces loyal to the Union City Incorporation had petitioned the City of Fremont to annex Decoto. There was still an appeal to the Hayward annex, but two of those persons listed on the appeal had bowed out and sided with annexation to the City of Fremont. In Alvarado this left only Alvarado School Supt. Leslie Maffey and Mrs. Christina M. Anderson in the legal battle to fight for incorporation at this time. Maffey said he would make a decision whether to leave his name on the appeal following a mass meeting to be held at 8 p.m. January 8, 1956, at the Alvarado Elementary School on Smith Street.

However, Mrs. Anderson said she would continue to stay in the fight to end because she doesn't want to become part of Hayward. She owned 8.32 acres in that city's industrial annex.

Alvarado and Decoto would continue to fight for incorporation into Union City as the City of Hayward had dropped their plan to take the Holly Sugar Mill in Alvarado and the U.S. Pipe & Foundry in Decoto. The fight then became to fight the takeover of Decoto by the City of Fremont.

While the battle with Fremont raged on in May 1958, a master plan to keep Alvarado from becoming "another Emeryville" was under study by a five-man committee appointed by the Union City Chamber of Commerce. Alvarado School Superintendent Leslie H. Maffey was named Chairman. Other members were Fred Brown, John Ratekin, Damaso Diaz, and Maurice Cox. The idea of the master plan was to create a balanced community desired by residents, Maffey said. The committee would work with county planners and residents in mapping out new land uses, he asserted.

Leslie Maffey gave much of his effort to creating a livable Union City as well as a new Alvarado School system that would blend well into the New Haven School District of Union City.

Leslie Maffey passed away on February 9, 1989 in San Jose California at the age of 87 years. He should be praised highly for his efforts in providing a quality education for the students that Alvarado Grammar School produced in the his 16 years at the helm of the school, his joint effort in building the new school along with the district trustees, and his efforts in incorporating Alvarado and Decoto into the town of Union City.

Mrs. Ruth K. Davis:

Mrs. Ruth K. Davis was born in California in 1910. The 1940 census shows her as married, but she is living alone with Mrs. Anna Roderick on Vallejo Street in Alvarado. She was working at the Alvarado School teaching the 3rd and 4th grades. Mrs. Davis resigned before the start of the fall semester of 1943. I did find where a Mrs. Ruth K. Davis died on March 13, 2001, at the age of 91 years, in the Santa Cruz area. It was noted in her obituary that she had been a teacher in the Santa Clara County area since 1963. Her husband was Walter Davis.

Dwight Thornburgh:

Dwight Thornburg was born in Indiana in 1904. His wife Harriett was born in California in 1910. They had two daughters, Elaine and Nancy. Dwight Thornburg came to Washington Township in 1939. In 1940, Dwight and Harriet Thornburg were living on Mission Street in Irvington. Both Dwight and Harriet were four-year college graduates of music and both were music teachers.

Dwight was the music teacher for part of Washington Township (Alvarado, Irvington, and Niles). Mr. Thornburg had charge of music for the three school, which he covered three days week. He apparently was the music teacher for Washington Union High School for the other two days a week.

In March 1940, Joe Lewis and Bob Rogers, Washington Union High School band members from Alvarado, were chosen to perform March 29th in Long Beach California, as two of three members selected from our area to perform at the Music Educators National Conference. They would accompany Mr. Dwight Thornburgh, music instructor at Washington High, and his family who would chaperone them. A faculty member of the University of Minnesota led the symphony band.

The Alvarado Grammar School will opened on September 10, 1940 with the same teaching staff as last semester. The teaching staff consisted of J. C. Wasley, Principal and instructor of the Eighth Grade; Miss Isabella Ferry, Sixth and Seventh Grades; Mrs. Laura Orelli, Fifth and Sixth Grades; Miss Charlotte Jung, Third and Fourth Grades, Mrs. Ruth K. Davis, Second Grade; Mrs. Muriel Nelson, First Grade and music instructor; and Mr. Dwight Thornburgh, Orchestra Leader.

Bernard Callery of Santa Clara was engaged by several elementary schools in Washington Township in August 1944 to direct orchestra groups. He

succeeded Dwight Thornburgh who would devote his full time to music classes at Washington Union High School.

Mrs. Elaine S. Sallee:

Mrs. Elaine S. Sallee was born in the State of Washington in 1896. She had four children, 3 daughters and a son, from her divorced husband Harvey. They lived in Cottonwood California, but after the divorce Elaine was living in Redding teaching school. She came to Alvarado to teach in 1941. In 1945, it was reported that Mrs. Sallee was teaching at the Valle Vista School in south Hayward. After this Mrs. Elaine Sallee was found teaching in San Mateo. Mrs. Elaine S. Sallee passed away in February 1966 in San Mateo.

Bernard Callery:

Bernard Callery was born in California in 1913. His wife Mary was born in Oregon in 1912. Their daughter Mary Ann was born in 1939. In 1935 Bernard working in Sacramento on a Federal Music Program for the U.S. government. In 1940 Bernard was residing in San Jose, but in 1944 he came to Washington Township. He had been engaged by several elementary schools in the township to direct orchestra groups. He succeeded Dwight Thornburgh in 1944, who would go on to teach music classes at Washington Union High School. Mr. Callery apparently taught music at several township elementary schools. By 1948 nothing further was found for Mr. Callery in Alvarado.

Mrs. Laverne Stivers Dickerson:

Laverne Stivers Dickerson was born in California in 1909. Her husband, Floyd Dickerson was born in Oklahoma in 1908. Floyd was a chemist at the salt works. In October 1944 the Alvarado Grammar School received permission to hire two new teachers, one of them was Mrs. Dickerson to teach the 3rd grade. But in June 1945 it was noted that Laverne would not be back as she was listed as a substitute teacher.

Mrs. Pearl Petersen:

There was a Pearl Petersen in town in 1940, but she gave her occupation as a farmer, the same occupation as her husband Melvin. Pearl was born in Idaho and Melvin in Utah, both in the year 1906. However this could be the Pearl Peterson that taught at Alvarado as this Pearl had a four-year college degree.

In October 1944 the Alvarado Grammar School received permission to hire two new teachers, one of them was Mrs. Peterson to teach the 2nd grade. In 1946 Mrs. Petersen and family moved to Nevada where they had purchased a ranch.

William Avila:

William Avila, who lived directly across the street from the Alvarado Grammar School, was chosen to be the new custodian to replace Charles Baird in November 1944. Mr. Avila was mentioned as the school custodian until about 1950.

Nathan Click:

Nathan Click came to Alvarado to teach in the fall of 1946. He had previously taught in Albany Calif. He was hired to teach the 7th grade. In July 1948 he was named the new Principal at the Mission San Jose Elementary School. While in Alvarado, Mr. Click had served as the Vice Junior Commander of the Alvarado Paul Rivers post of the VFW.

Mary Gastelum:

Mary Gastelum was born in Texas in 1904, her husband Joe was born in Texas in 1897. They had three sons and two daughters. They made their home on Thornton Avenue in Newark. In October 1946 Mrs. Gastelum was chosen as head cook at the new Alvarado School Cafeteria. Mrs. Gastelum chose Mrs. Dorothy Vargas of Alvarado to assist her in the kitchen.

The lunchroom at the Alvarado School opened October 21, 1946. The menu for the first week was:

Monday: Italian noodles with hamburger, peas, carrots, bread and margarine, ice cream and milk.

Tuesday: Meatballs, gravy, potatoes, stewed tomatoes, bread and margarine, peaches, milk

Wednesday: Wienies, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, bread & margarine, pudding, milk.

Thursday: Hamburger and gravy, mashed potatoes, bread & margarine, ice cream and milk.

Friday: Tuna Casserole with potato chips, string beans, roll & margarine, applesauce and milk.

The Alvarado School belonged to the Southern Alameda County Food Service, an association for cafeteria employees in the Alameda County schools. In 1950 the association voted to become affiliated with the National Schools Food Service Association. Mrs. Mary Gastelum was voted Vice President of the Southern Alameda County Association. Mrs. Gastelum served well into the 1950's as head of the cafeteria.

Mrs. Betty 'Jensen' Culbertson:

In January 1948 the former Miss Betty Jensen of San Jose, second grade teacher at the Alvarado Grammar School, was married to Robert D. Culbertson, also of San Jose. Mrs. Culbertson stayed at the Alvarado School until June 1950.

Miss Patricia 'Renz' Alferts:

In January 1948 Miss Patricia Renz of San Jose, the third grade teacher at the Alvarado Grammar School, was engaged to Richard Alferts of Willits. Mrs. Alferts stayed at the Alvarado School until June 1950.

Miss Shirley Everett:

Miss Everett was teaching in the Alvarado School in 1949 but in June 1950 she left the school.

John Bond:

John Bond is first mentioned in Alvarado in January 1949 as part of the Alvarado Grammar School staff. One of his first duties (besides teaching) was to organize and train the Junior Traffic Patrol.

In April 1950 Mr. Bond was named as representative of the Alvarado Boy Scout Troop to the Southern District Scout Committee by Alvarado Chamber of Commerce President Walter Oakey III. In this same year money for summer activities was made available for the benefit of the children of the school, which was donated by the Alvarado Mother's Club, the Alvarado Fireman, the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and the local Community Chest, which Mr. Bond oversaw the program.

Mr. Bond received a promotion in September 1952 to Ass't Principal of the Alvarado School.

Mr. Bond went on to teach at the Alvarado School for many more decades before finally retiring. The background of John Bond is not clear, as thus far there is no census information available for when he was in Alvarado. However, having been in his 8th grade class in 1955 I recall him being in the U.S. Navy during WWII, and his talking about attending the University of Washington.

I was able to find his burial place in the San Joaquin National Cemetery in Gustine California. It shows he was born on December 14, 1913 and passed away on March 6, 2008. From this information I was able to locate a John H. Bond in Seattle WA in the 1940 Census. He was living as a lodger in Seattle and gave his birthplace as the State of Montana approximately 1913.

The 1930 census lists John Bond as 16 years old living the Seattle Area with his family. His parents were John P. & Lena H. Bond, both born in Montana. John had two brothers, Charles P. and Elmer and a sister Dorothy.

When John Bond arrived in Alvarado he was married to Isabelle Bond and they had a daughter named Ruth. Isabelle passed away many years before John. John Bond lived in Alvarado until his health forced him to live with his daughter Ruth in Gustine California. Ruth had entered the service of the Catholic Church as a nun and eventually left that service and settled in Gustine.

John Bond was remembered fondly by his students over the many years of teaching at the Alvarado School. He was feted with dinners of appreciation by his students who had matured and never forgot the impeccably dressed eighth grade teacher at school that instilled decency and hard work, and was a shining example of how to lead your life.

Miss Dorothy Wespeiser:

Miss Wespeiser came to the Alvarado School in the 1949 school term but was not mentioned after May 1950.

Miss Shirley Pearson:

Miss Pearson first appears at the Alvarado School in January 1949, but was not mentioned after May 1950.

Mrs. Hilda Widdop:

Hila (Hilda) Hughes was born October 31, 1889 to William and Alice Hughes near Placerville, Calif. Hila, who will be referred to as Hilda here after, was one of four children. She had a brother Leland born in 1886, a sister Laura born in 1883, and a sister Mary born in 1896. Hilda also had an uncle that resided in Alvarado, he was Mrs. Alice Williams' brother Albert Norris.

In the year 1900 Hilda was living in Diamond Springs, El Dorado County, Calif. with her mother, two sisters and her brother Leland. Hilda then went off to college to become a teacher, first at the San Jose Normal School (San Jose State), and then finished her college studies at College of the Pacific in Stockton.

Her first teaching job was in a rural little red schoolhouse near Placerville, where she had 29 students of various ages. She recalled in her later years that this was her toughest assignment.

In 1930 she was living with her sister Mary and her mother Alice in Sacramento. Her sister Laura had married and was then widowed and went to teach school in Alvarado in 1925. Her married name was Mrs. Laura Orelli.



Mrs. Hilda Widdop

In 1932 Hilda's mother Alice and her sister Mary moved to Alvarado. Mary was very active in Alvarado social and civic affairs and eventually became employed at the Frieden Calculator Co. in San Leandro.

In January 1934 Mrs. Alice Hughes passed away in Alvarado. Two of her daughters were living with her, Laura Hughes Orelli and Mary Alice Hughes.

Hilda Hughes was visiting Alvarado during the summer of 1934. She attended the Ladies Aid Society meeting in August 1934, and then the following week she departed Alvarado for her teaching duties in Escondido.

In 1943 Miss Hilda Hughes came to Alvarado to teach, and she was also one of the volunteers pulling a four hour shift on the Alvarado Observation Tower during WWII.

In August 1944 Leslie Maffey, the new principal at the Alvarado School announced the cadre for the Alvarado School. The teachers were Miss

Charlotte Jung, Miss Hilda Hughes, Mrs. Isabel Ferry Lucas, and Charles Baird custodian.

Miss Hilda Hughes, who had been ill, returned to her school duties the first week of June 1945. She was teaching the fourth grade at the time. Due to a needed change of climate, Miss Hughes left Alvarado at the end of the school year. She accepted a position as Third Grade teacher in the Lathrop School near Stockton.

Hilda Hughes returned to Alvarado to teach (return date not known), and she became married to an Alvarado gentleman, Alfred Widdop. In January 1949 Mrs. Hilda Widdop is listed as one of the teachers at the Alvarado School.

Mrs. Hilda Widdop retired from the Alvarado School in July 1955. Then three months later her husband, Alfred Widdop, passed away in Alvarado.

After leaving the Alvarado School, Mrs. Widdop went to teach in the Irvington Grammar School in September 1955. She taught there for another seven years, retiring in 1962. I have a date of her passing on January 11, 1973, although I could not verify it.

Tony Alexander:

Anthony J. Alexander was born in California in 1913. The first appearance of Tony I could find in Alvarado was in January 1934 when he took out a license to marry Mary (Mamie) D. Avila of Alvarado. Mamie was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Avila of Alvarado.

Tony & Mamie had been residents of Vallejo Street in Alvarado since 1935. They had a daughter Sharon Anne who was born on November 14, 1939. When Sharon was born Tony was employed by the Leslie Salt Co.

Tony was active in the Alvarado Catholic Church and donated his time for church projects such as the annual St. Anne's Church Bazaar. He was also active in Alvarado civic duties. In 1940 Tony joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce for which he was an active member involved in many Alvarado improvement projects.



Tony Alexander

Tony also joined the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department and in January 1943 was elected Sgt-at-Arms of the Alvarado Fire Dept. Association. Also serving with him as officers were J.C. Wasley, Fire Chief; Anthony J. Vargas, Vice

President; and Clyde Lewis, Secy-Treas. The Fire Commissioners at this time were Fred Wiegman, John A. Ralph, A.A. Lee, Joe Lewis and Fred Joyce.

Tony also volunteered for local duty to benefit the children of the community. One of his annual duties, which were greatly enjoyed by Tony and the children of Alvarado, was that of acting as a chaperone for the local children trick or treating in downtown Alvarado. For Halloween in 1946 Tony performed his usual annual role as chaperone for fifteen local children. He took the youngsters in tow making sure to keep them out of mischief. Among them were:

Sharon Alexander	Phyllis Faria	Beverly Spurlock	Marjorie Best
Kathleen Brownlee	Myrna Jean Dutra	Elizabeth Flores	Patricia Flores
Elaine Hocking	Carol Hocking	George Harvey	Vernon Perry
Stanley Anderson	Andrew Pimentel	Felix Ybarra	

Tony eventually left the employ of the Leslie Salt Company and joined staff of the Alvarado School. Tony took on the job of custodian and maintenance man of the heating system of the school.

But 1950 found Tony back to helping the children of Alvarado. The Alvarado Chamber of Commerce was the sponsor for the reorganized Alvarado Boy Scout Troop. The new Scoutmaster was Harold B. Delgado with Tony Alexander as Chamber of Commerce Chairman for the Boy Scouts. Assisting Tony were William Martinez, John Bond, Warren Silva and William Machado. They had 23 boys sign up in the charter.

But Tony did not neglect his devotion to the Catholic Church. He spent time in 1957 with Alvarado's annual Holy Ghost festa along with Manuel Perry, Frank Goularte, Manuel Martin, Jack Silva, Wilbert Hendricks, Frank George, Matt Machado, Ray Freitas, Ernie Quadros, Lee Anne Re and Peter Pinto; this in addition to the time he spent with the church bazaar.

Mrs. Ruth Hellwig:

Mrs. Ruth Hellwig was a substitute teacher at Alvarado, first noted in 1939 when she filled in for J.C. Wasley Principal and 8th grade teacher. In 1942 she was a long-term substitute after death took Mrs. Laura Orelli. Mrs. Hellwig was married to Erle Hellwig, grandson of Phillip Hellwig and son of Fred Hellwig.

Miss Lesda Sayles:

Miss Sayles is mentioned in an article in the *Hayward Daily Review* of January 27, 1931 that said, "A three-act musical comedy is planned by pupils of the Alvarado Grammar School for presentation early in February. Costume dances and songs will feature the play, which is under the direction of Miss Lesda Sayles."

I was unable to locate a Miss Sayles in Alvarado, however I did find a Lesda Sayles living in Newark who was born in 1905 and graduated from Washington Union High School in 1922. She attended both San Jose State and Stanford University's. She married Franklin Brown of Newark while she was a teacher at Washington High in the 1930's. She then settled down in Newark with her husband who was a farmer. Lesda did not abandon Alvarado,

however, as she was an active member of the Alvarado Rebekah's until mid-1940 as Mrs. Lesda Brown.

Elsie Madruga:

Elsie Costa Madruga was born in August 1896 to M.E. and Josephine Costa. She was raised on the family farm on Jarvis Landing Road in the Alviso District. Elsie graduated from Washington Union High School in 1915 and attended teacher's college. By 1918 Elsie had become principal of the Alviso Grammar School. In June 1924 Miss Elsie Costa married Frank Madruga.

Mrs. Madruga is the wife of Frank Madruga, who is equally civic minded, taking an interest in the Centerville Volunteer Fire Department, and owning a large corner garage building where Matt Whitefield's gas station and Centerville Garage was located. Frank and Elsie Madruga had no children as of 1940.

Elsie Madruga served for 29 years as the principal of the Alviso Grammar School, retiring in May 1948. Mrs. Madruga, who started her teaching career in 1917 at Stonybrook School (between Niles and Sunol in the Canyon), left there after one year to become principal of the Alviso School where she had attended as a child. She has seen the school grow from a two teacher school to a three teacher school. She has seen the old school replaced by a modern new school building with a cafeteria and a school bus. There are now 73 students enrolled at the school.

The school has grown under the leadership of Elsie Madruga. The school has a Mother's Club, which is very active and which helps the school with many of their projects. The school has Brownie and Intermediate Girl Scout Troops, which were organized last year.

Elsie continued as Principal of the Alviso School until her retirement in 1948. During that time she served as secretary of the Southern Alameda Principal's Association. In 1942 as the war had just started for the U.S. Elsie was selected as a canvasser for the Alviso District to gather funds for the War Bond Drive. In 1944 Elsie again answered the call to raise funds to fund our action in WWII.

Elsie was active in the following organizations:

- Elsie was a charter member of the United and Ancient Order of Druids of Centerville, an organization she would remain active for many decades.
- The DeGuadelupe Y.L.I. of Niles
- A member of the Girl Scout Advisory Board.
- Vice Chairman of the Alvarado Farm Home Department.
- Washington Township in the Alameda County Home Extension
- Volunteer for the American Red Cross
- Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of WWI, Fremont Barracks
- Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post 195
- California Retired Teacher Association
- National Retired Teachers Association
- The Altar Society of the Holy Ghost Church of Centerville
- The Fremont Homemakers Group.

Elsie Madruga passes away on April 6, 1964 in Fremont.

TRUSTEES:

Mrs. Francis R. Robie / Christian J. Skow / Antone E. Vargas / Joseph S. Martin / George Hocking / Manuel P. Goularte / Frank E. Machado / Manuel Perry / Wilbert Hendricks

Mrs. Frances R. Robie:

See Bio Chapter 9 Page 46

Christian J. Skow:

See Bio Chapter 6 Page 23

Antone E. Vargas:

See Bio Chapter 8 Page 39

Joseph S. Martin:

See bio under Liquor Store above

George Hocking:

George was born in Michigan in 1904 to Frank H. and Lucy B. Hocking of Marquette County, Michigan, in 1904. He had four brothers, Edward G., Francis, Ernest S. and Walter R. He also had three sisters, Jessie F., Lily M. and Bessie J.

The family moved to the Bay Area in about 1920. The first mention of George in Alvarado is his marriage to Marion Hocking on September 10, 1930; she was also originally from Michigan and was born in 1908.

Of George Hocking the editor of the *Alvarado Pioneer* said:

"George Hocking and wife, who reside in a lovely white modern home on the Creek Road, have two daughters who are pupils at Alvarado Grammar School. Mr. Hocking, by the way, is a trustee much interested in the welfare of that same school.

But he has other interests in the community at large. We refer to the work he is doing to improve the exterior and interior of St. James Episcopal Church at Centerville. You see George is part of the Bishop's Committee, which handles the contemplated improvements. Also on that committee from Alvarado are Mrs. Harvey Granger and Mrs. L.E. Bailey."

George was a lumberman by trade and worked as a yardman for a large lumberyard.

George joined the effort to the needy resulting from the war by joining the War Chest Drive in Alvarado. This splendid cause helped those families here at home that are in need of help because of the war, and it also aids the men in the service as well.

In April 1944 George became one of the top ten donors at the Washington Township blood procurement center, as he joined the Gallon Club at his last visit to the mobile unit, bringing his total number of pints given to a dozen. Also Represented from Alvarado in the Gallon Club was Mrs. Blake Hill.

Vaughan D. Seidel, County Superintendent of Schools, announced in July 1944, that George Hocking of Alvarado would be appointed to the post of Trustee of the Alvarado Elementary School District Board to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Frances H. Robie, who had just resigned. Hocking would serve with M. P. Goularte, clerk of the board, and F. E. Machado, President.

During the summer of 1945, the school board announced their plans to establish a cafeteria for the school children, as well as to paint the school inside and outside. At this time the school did not have a separate cafeteria. By the end of 1945, William Avila, school custodian, improved the lawns on the side and the front of the school building. The Board of Trustees purchased fertilizer for Mr. Avila's use. There were also plans in the future to improve the school's auditorium.

Also in December 1945, George Hocking joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and soon thereafter announced his plans for his reelection to a seat on the Alvarado School Board of Trustees.

While still on the Board of Trustees of the Alvarado Grammar School George joined the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department. Later he would serve on the Alvarado Fire Commission.

In July 1952 Warren Silva replaced George Hocking as a trustee of the Alvarado grammar School. Warren would join Manuel P. Goularte and Wilbert Hendricks.

But George would not lie idle for long. In 1955 George joined the movement to save Alvarado and Decoto property from a City of Hayward land grab in Washington Township. Among the treasures Hayward sought were the sugar Mill, the American Pipe Co., and U.S. Pipe and Foundry. In March 1955 George, was part of committee that included Graydon Spurlock, and Elvin Rose from Alvarado that gathered to inform the citizens of Alvarado to the dangers the City of Hayward was posing.

In May 1957 George joined the New Haven steering committee, an entity formed to save what was left of Alvarado and Decoto and cede to Hayward what they wanted to annex. Wilbert Hendricks was chosen as president of the committee and the officers of the committee included Kenneth Garcia, Secretary and Oscar Dowe, Treasurer. Other members who joined in the fight were: George Hocking, Mike Rodriguez, Herbert Harrold, Segundo Diaz, Joe Seoane, Ray Orozco, George Vargas, Bill Machado and Doctor John Bettencourt. Dowe, Hocking, Harrold and Rodriguez are also members of the Union City Steering Committee.

In December 1957 the Union City Incorporation plan imploded and the two little towns of Alvarado and Decoto were left rudderless in a sea of sharks. But the two little towns decided to stand to both Fremont and Hayward, who were trying to taken them over. So the Union City and New Haven Steering Committees merged to fight the common threat and continue the fight to become Union City.

Marion Hocking:

Marion served on the Alvarado observation Tower to spot enemy planes after the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. In just a few short months (February 1943) she had put in almost 140 hours on the tower looking for enemy planes.

Early in 1948 local mothers gathered to establish a Girl Scout Troop in Alvarado. They met at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Click. Those present were Mrs. Davis of the Staff Office at Hayward; Mrs. Kay Kettman, Hayward, Washington Township District Chairman; Mrs. Lydia Orsetti, Alviso; Mrs. Pederson, Alviso; Mrs. George Hocking and Mrs. Graydon Spurlock of Alvarado. By mid-February Troop 67 of Alvarado was established and the girls elected officers of the troop.

In January 1949 the Alvarado Mother's Club had the eyes of 250 children of the Alvarado Grammar School examined, and they found that 18 children were in need of corrective lenses for proper sight. Mrs. Alvina Brune was the head of the Mother's Club, and she was assisted by Teresa Carlson, Emily Noia, Annie Flores, Bernice Manuel, Pauline Silva, Winifred Harper, Mary Santos, Marian Hocking and Mary Spurlock.

Manuel P. Goularte:

Manuel P. Goularte was born in California circa 1898 to Joe S. and Rozaria T. Goularte. He spent his early life in the Alviso District of Washington Township growing up on Pacheco Lane. He had two younger brothers, Joe born circa 1901 and Frank born circa 1909.

Manuel was married to Aldina Goularte on April 27, 1920, and had two children, Margery born circa 1923, and Jeanette born circa 1927. In the 1930's he also had his nephew Clarence Pimentel living with him. Manuel was employed by the Graham Brothers foundry in Newark.

Manuel took a keen interest in Alvarado civic duties, his Portuguese heritage, and the Alvarado Catholic Church. Manuel would become an active participant in the Alvarado annual Holy Ghost Portuguese festival. For decades Manuel would officially serve on the committee to bring a successful and joyous Holy Ghost festa to the town of Alvarado. Alvarado was only one of dozens of towns in California that held this annual festival from Ferndale, in the tall redwood country; to Fresno in the fertile San Joaquin Valley. Manuel made sure that Alvarado's contribution to this Portuguese tradition was recognized and honored among the Portuguese people of California. Besides the annual Holy Ghost festival Manuel also participated in the St. Anne Festival for the benefit of the local Alvarado church.

Manuel was a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and in 1944 he ran for a seat on the Alvarado Grammar School Board of Trustees, which he won. He joined Mrs. Francis Robie and F.E. Machado on the school board. To this he added the duties of being on the Board of Directors of the Alvarado Sanitary District, another volunteer position assumed by Manuel.

In 1946, two years after Manuel joined the board, a cafeteria was added to the Alvarado Grammar School, which gave the children a hot meal at school at a very modest price. There is a first class water heater, a large stove from Wedgewood, an electric washing machine, refrigerator, and any number of

devices purchased by the trustees. The trustees Manuel Goularte, George Hocking, and Wilbert Hendricks, deserve credit for much time given to establishing this cafeteria to keep our school abreast of other schools.

Manuel continued his civic duties as a member of the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department, and as an officer in the Alvarado Firemen's Association. In 1952 Manuel served the Chamber of Commerce's planning and zoning committee for the betterment of Alvarado.

In February 1955 Manuel P. Goularte, who for nine years had been the clerk of the Alvarado School's District Trustees, was awarded the first honorary lifetime membership ever given by the Alvarado PTA, at ceremonies at Alvarado School. Mr. Goularte, who retired from the board two years ago, was instrumental in securing from the Armed Forces the auxiliary buildings now in use by Alvarado School.

The engagement of Emilio Re and Miss Marjorie Goularte, both of Alvarado was announced in February 1941. Marjorie was the daughter of Mr. M.P. & Mrs. Aldina Goularte. They were wed on Sunday May 18, 1941, at St. Anne's Church in Alvarado. For their honeymoon they went up Redwood Road to Eureka. When they returned they would occupy one of the attractive new homes built by John Varni.

Joe Goularte, father to Manuel, Joe and Frank Goularte, passed away in November 1941 at the age of 75 at his home on the Alvarado Niles Road. Rozaria Goularte passed away on January 16, 1952 at the age of 80.

Manuel P. Goularte passed away on May 3, 1968. He was a member of the SDES Lodge Alvarado, Woodmen of the World, Retired Volunteer Fireman Alvarado Fire Department.

Frank E. Machado:

Frank E. Machado was born in February 1884 in California to Antone & Mary Machado. Both Antone and Mary were born in the Azores (Portugal), Antone in January 1851, and Mary in January 1850. Antone entered the U.S. in either 1867 or 1870, and Mary in either 1873 or 1878. Antone started life in Alvarado as a laborer, and by the year 1900 he owned his own farm.

Antone and Mary had six children, three sons and three daughters: Joseph, Mary, Antone, Philomena (Minnie), Annie and Frank. Antone S. Machado died in 1931 and Mary E. Machado died in 1926.

By the year 1900 Frank was working on his father's farm at the age of 16. In the year 1907 Frank was married to Louise E. Machado, and in 1909 they had a daughter Veronica. The Machado's would have three children, but only one survived to adulthood, Veronica. At this time Frank was working at the sugar mill as a laborer.

1920 finds Frank & Louise living with Antone Machado, and Frank is working the farm with his father. In 1930 Frank & Louise were heading the family farm, with Antone, who had recently been widowed, living with them. Also living with them was their daughter Veronica and her husband Manuel Perry.

In 1940 Manuel and Veronica were heading the farm, and Frank and Louise lived with them on the SW corner of Smith and Vallejo Streets. At this time Manuel & Veronica had a 5-year old son, Vernon.

In 1944 Frank Machado passed away and was followed in death by his loving wife Louise in 1970.

Frank Machado was one of the most energetic and progressive citizens in the town of Alvarado at this time. He helped spearhead many projects and betterments for the town including:

- In March 1935 Frank Machado was elected to the Alvarado Grammar School Board of Trustees.
- He spearheaded the drive for an Alvarado Sanitary system in 1940.
- He was elected to the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce permanent committee.
- To put the Chamber back on a financial sound footing, Frank garnered dues from 80 Chamber members in 1940.
- He was on the 1941 March Dimes campaign to cure infantile paralysis.
- In 1941 he signed up 20 new members to the Chamber of Commerce.
- He led the 1941 drive to clear and burn debris in Alameda Creek to help stave off flooding in the town of Alvarado.
- Just before the onset of WWII, he started a drive to entice the young men of Alvarado to enlist in the U.S. Navy, both for their betterment, and the security of the U.S.
- Frank joined with James Wasley and George Oakes to get the Boy Scouts into Alvarado.
- In 1942, in response to Machado's agitation for better bus service, Peerless Stage Line instituted a bus through Washington Township for transport of citizens to local shipyards in Oakland. This was crucial as gas and tire rationing made it difficult for Alvaradan's to get to the shipyards.
- Frank Machado, through the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, presented each young man going into the service with a valuable wallet and a cheery goodbye.
- Frank Machado was named chief observer at the observation tower erected on the grammar school grounds to search the skies for Japanese planes during WWII. It was manned 24/7 for several years.
- Frank was a staunch supporter of St. Anne's Catholic Church, and in conjunction with the church initiated a Roll of Honor, which was enclosed in a wooden case to honor the local men who went off to war.
- In 1943 Frank Machado was forced to curtail his many exploits for Alvarado due to failing health.

George Oakes, editor of the *Alvarado Pioneer*, said of Frank's passing:

"The Editor still feels stunned by the death of Frank E. Machado of Alvarado, after a short illness, because he probably lost his best friend in this part of Washington Township. There would have been no Chamber of Commerce without him, because he single handedly, as its president for many years past, put the body on its feet. And we should know, because as secretary we worked shoulder to shoulder with him.

Without the Chamber of commerce there would not have been a modern \$45,000 sanitary disposal system or a modern red brick firehouse and fire truck with a possible combined value of \$40,000.

His leadership was in a class by itself. Frank's work in patriotic drives, and for his beloved St. Anne's Church, are surely written on records not seen by human eyes. He went to his Maker a grand man, fearless in all he did, and with a love of home that made his family life something for the community to admire.

Mr. Machado was a hometown man, having lived in this section all his life. He resided for many years on the Creek Road. Of recent years he occupied a prominent home on Smith Street. He and his wife, and his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Perry and their son Vernie were a happy family. We must not forget that he was also trustee of the Alvarado Grammar School, taking more interest than almost any trustee in this section of the Township.

The deceased was the husband of Louise Machado, the father of Veronica Perry and the brother of Mrs. Anna Roderick and Minnie Perry, all of Alvarado. The pallbearers were Joe Avila, Dan Riley, Manuel Goularte, Joseph Goularte, Manuel Borges and Frank Roderick."

Manuel Perry:

Manuel Perry was born in California in 1906. He married Miss Veronica Machado of Alvarado who was born in 1909. Veronica was the daughter of Frank E. & Louise Machado of Alvarado. On October 7, 1934, they became the proud parents of a baby boy, Vernon Perry.

Manuel listed his profession as farmer in the 1940 census. Besides farming Manuel was very active in the civic, fraternal, and religious community in Alvarado. In 1941, Manuel joined the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, and immediately saw the need for a Sanitary District in Alvarado. Besides endorsing the idea of a sanitary district Manuel became an officer in the movement to establish a sanitary district along with Fred Wiegman, Clarence Flores, Manuel Borges, and A.E. Vargas.

In February 1941, Manuel Perry was elected a commissioner of the Alvarado Sanitary District along with Frank Machado, Clarence Flores, Joe Dutra, Antone Vargas and Manuel Borges.

At the end of 1941, the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce held a meeting with William Lindsay of the Boy Scout Executive Council of the East Bay. All present were heartily in favor of forming a Boy Scout Troop in Alvarado, with headquarters at a clubhouse in the playgrounds behind the schoolhouse. Bob Whipple of Decoto, who had a Scout troop boosted the idea. Anthony Silva was elected Scoutmaster and George Vargas as Ass't Scoutmaster. Manuel Perry was elected as a Director.

One year later, at the beginning of 1943, Manuel joined the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department. The officers of the Alvarado Fire Department were:

J. C. Wasley	Fire Chief
Anthony J. Vargas	Vice President
Clyde Lewis	Secretary-Treasurer
Tony Alexander	Sergeant-At-Arms

Other active firemen were:

George Davis, Anthony Rogers, Joe Dutra, Edward Fantuzzi, Clarence Flores, Charles Baird, Mike Gardetto, and M.F. Silva

Serving as commissioners were:

Fred Wiegman, John H. Ralph, Tony Lee, Joe Lewis, and Fred Joyce.

Manuel Perry was appointed as a trustee for the Alvarado Grammar School upon the death of his father-in-law, Frank E. Machado, in September 1944. One of the first major tasks facing Manuel and the two other trustees, George Hocking and Manuel P, Goularte, was the establishment of a permanent cafeteria for the students. At the same time they undertook to paint the outside and the inside of the school.

Manuel was also very active within the St. Anne's Catholic Church in Alvarado. In November 1943 Manuel took charge of a booth at the annual St. Anne's Bazaar held for the benefit of the church. Manuel used his smile and cheerful bidding voice to interest local people, as well as folks from Alameda and Oakland, for his wheel of fortune game. This was good for over \$200 clear for the church!

In 1955 Manuel was the General Chairman of the annual bazaar, and in 1956, he again served the church in the annual bazaar under the chairmanship of Joe Martin.

July 1956 saw Manuel again toiling for the benefit of the church when he was elected President of the Alvarado S.D.E.S., the fraternity that along with the Church sponsors the annual Holy Ghost in Alvarado. In 1957 Manuel again served to bring the Holy Ghost to Alvarado when he served as a committee head.

Veronica Perry passed away on October 20, 1976. She was a member of S.P.R.S.I. Council #21 of Alvarado, and the St. Anne's Confraternity. Her husband Manuel preceded her in death but I was unable to locate an obituary or grave marker.

Wilbert Hendricks:

Wilbert Hendricks was the son of Enos S. Hendricks of Decoto, and Emily Dias of Alvarado. Enos settled in Alvarado and worked as a laborer for various employers. Wilbert was born in Alvarado circa 1912, and his sister Lois was born in Alvarado circa 1919.

Wilbert Hendricks graduated from Alvarado Grammar School in June 1925 along with Minnie Rivers, Mabel Amaral, Edith Mello, Conception Gomes, Edith

Amaral, Norma Peixotto, Rosalie Joyce, Genevieve Davilla, Bernice Boyd, Joe Lemos, Toshie Soto, Mamie Vargas, Melvin Skow, Raymond Hinkley, Madeline Goularte, Helen Baird, and Minnie Hizer.

Both Wilbert and Lois were active in the Alvarado social scene, with Wilbert especially active in baseball. In 1941 Wilbert played ball for the Silver Dollar Café & Tavern of Alvarado. The team was part of the Washington Township Softball League.

Wilbert worked at the Leslie Salt Plant just west of Alvarado on the marshes. Wilbert married Miss Anna Freitas of Alvarado, and in June 1935 they had a son Rodney.

Miss Lois Hendricks was chosen as one of four Washington Union High School students to work on the school newspaper, *The Hatchet*, in 1934. She was also the Alvarado correspondent for the *Oakland Tribune* and *Hayward Daily Review* at this time.

In April 1935 Lois joined with Mrs. Frances Robie, Mrs. Frances Luna, Mrs. Margaret Emery, and John Scribner in attempting to resurrect an active Circle of the Neighbors of Woodcraft in Alvarado.

On August 1, 1936, Enos Hendricks, a native of Alvarado, died in an Oakland hospital at the age of 61 years. Mrs. Emily Hendricks survived him as well as his son and daughter, Wilbert Hendricks and Lois Hendricks, and his grandson Rodney Hendricks. He was the brother to A. E. Vargas, and Manuel Hendricks of Alvarado.

At this time Wilbert became very active in Alvarado matters. In 1937 he became a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. After the start of the War, Wilbert was named by Alvarado School Principal as committee chairman to head a program to have a recreation hall in Alvarado where boys of high school age could go play games of volley ball, handball and games of pool. Mr. Wasley mentioned the need of a vigorous young man who understands boys, and Wilbert Hendricks was chosen as the man for the job! Along with Wilbert were Peter Pinto, Joseph F. Dutra, Frank George, James Wasley, and Charles Baird.

Wilbert was also chosen as the chairman for the Alvarado District War Chest Drive in December 1944. And with great satisfaction, Wilbert reported that Alvarado had gone over the top on their local drive with over \$1,000.

In 1945 Wilbert Hendricks added Alvarado Grammar School Board of Trustees to his civic duties and set about with the two other trustees, George Hocking, and Manuel P. Goularte to endeavor to establish a cafeteria for the school children so they can have hot meals at school. They also planned to paint the school inside and out.

On September 7, 1945 Mrs. Emily Dias Hendricks, widow of the late Enos Hendricks, passed away in Alvarado. Mrs. Hendricks was the mother of Wilbert & Lois Hendricks and the grandmother of Rodney Hendricks, all of Alvarado.

In January 1946 Wilbert became a volunteer fireman in the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department. Anthony J. Vargas was the Fire Chief, with Charles Baird Ass't Fire Chief and Manuel Silva Lieutenant.

The regular firemen were made up of:

Joseph Avila	Joe Goularte	Clarence Flores	Peter Pinto
Wilbert Hendricks	Manuel Perry	Joseph Dutra	Elvin Rose
William Machado	Manuel Goularte	Edward Martini	A.J. Cadero
Tony Alexander	Felix Diangson		

But Wilbert also found time to devote to St. Anne's Catholic Church. In May 1946 Wilbert helped fix up the S.D.E.S. Hall on Watkins Street for the annual Holy Ghost celebration. To shade the diners seated in the outdoor "Sopas" dining area Wilbert covered the dining area in palm fronds to shade the diners.

In 1948 the Alvarado School Board of Trustees added three classrooms and a permanent cafeteria to the grounds. Manuel P. Goularte, George Hocking and Wilbert Hendricks received hearty congratulations from a town that was proud of the job performed by these selfless men.

In 1948 Wilbert opened the Hendrick's Appliance Co. at 1975 Smith Street in Alvarado. Within a few years he had a wide arrangement of brands including Wedgewood, Fraser, Ruud Day & Night, Zenith, and Hoffman, and in June 1950 added the Maytag line of appliances.

In 1950 Wilbert & Anna Hendricks celebrated the arrival of their third child, Glenn.

Also keeping Wilbert busy was the Alvarado Eagles, who in 1955, elected Wilbert to the post of Vice President of the Aerie.

1955 saw the Washington Township area change dramatically. In 1955 Newark became a city followed by the incorporation of the City of Fremont. Alvarado and Decoto stood alone against the incorporation hungry cities of Hayward and Fremont. A long four-year battle with many turns and twists would have to be endured before Union City was born.

As a member of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce Wilbert Hendricks was on the forefront of the movement to incorporate. Early on Wilbert was not happy with the way the Hayward land grab of Alvarado and Decoto was being handled by the Union City Steering Committee. In May 1956 Wilbert attacked LeRoy Broun, attorney for the Union City incorporation saying, "If we do not get on the ball, one of these days Hayward is going to gobble us up." Many believed the Hendricks attack was prompted by the recent proposal of the City of Fremont to take over Alvarado and Decoto and beat Hayward's time.

Wilbert Hendricks was a very busy man among the many other things he had volunteered his time for he added a new duty in September 1956, when he was named a commissioner of the Alvarado Fire District.

Meanwhile the Union City incorporation struggle went forward the naming of the new Union City Steering Committee of December 1956 naming the following:

Representing Alvarado was: Frank George, Joe Lewis, John Ratekin, Wilbert Hendricks, Mrs. Mae Santos, Mike Salido and Mrs. Mabel Rogers.

Representing Decoto was: Bernie Joseph, Frank Borghi, Kenny Garcia, Oscar Dowe, and Manuel Seoane.

In March 1957, Oscar Dowe was installed as President of the Union City Chamber of Commerce at the International Kitchen in Niles. Other officers that were seated were Mike Salido, Vice President; Mrs. Florence Spencer, Secretary; and Frank George, Treasurer.

Directors of the combined Chamber of the two town were: Joe Lewis, Frank Borghi, Mrs. Spencer, Bernie Joseph, Wilbert Hendricks, John Ratekin, Oscar Dowe, Frank George, Fred Brown, William Machado, Kenneth Garcia and Mike Salido.

Then in March 1957, Wilbert Hendricks and Kenneth Garcia (of Decoto) initiated a new petition to incorporate the two towns into the City of New Haven, and thus scrap all of the work done on the Union City incorporation. The two men filed the petition with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on March 26, 1957.

When told he and Hendricks had been ousted by chairman Frank Borghi Jr., Chairman of the Union City Steering Committee, Ken Garcia retorted, "He can't kick us out, we quit! The reason we filed the petition was because the Union City group wasn't doing anything and we thought we would expedite matters. Garcia said he and Hendricks are "not interested in the Treeview annex. We just want to preserve what we have," Garcia said.

It all came to head in December 1957, when it was learned that a faction of Decoto residents had delivered to Fremont a petition to annex the town of Decoto to the City of Fremont. This drove a stake into the heart of the Union City incorporation. It now became a race to derail the Decoto faction's vote to bring Decoto into Fremont. To make matters worse, Alvarado had just found out that the Leslie Salt Company had filed an annexation proceeding taking their 11.3 square miles of Alvarado and Mt. Eden marshes into the City of Hayward. Alvarado was powerless to stop it and when the annex was complete the City of Hayward encircled Alvarado to the north and to the west and met up with the City of Fremont just west of Lowry Road.

On January 9, 1958, the town of Alvarado decided to fight back. A meeting headed by Wilbert Hendricks announced the formation of a new steering committee to oppose the Fremont annexation of Alvarado. A meeting of 10 citizens (the Alvarado segment of the defunct Union City Steering Committee) expressed the hope that a similar fighting unit would be formed in Decoto and the two could merge.

Before accepting the helm, Hendricks declared, "This committee will keep everything open, and the public will kept informed on what's going on through the newspapers and mass meetings."

Here then began the fight to defeat the Decoto faction to take the town of Decoto into the City of Fremont, and the real birth of Union City were formed.

Meanwhile Wilbert's oldest son Rodney, 22, would marry Miss Loretta Ann Ferreira, 19, of Decoto

Mrs. Anna Hendricks was very active in the Alvarado Catholic Church and the local Portuguese fraternities and lodges. She was a member and active official in the Alvarado UPEC Council Bernice, No. 131; and she also actively participated in the SPRSI Council No. 21, of Alvarado.

Wilbert E. Hendricks, a life-long resident of Alvarado, and a 20-year member of the Board of Trustees of the Alvarado Grammar School, died September 20, 1977 at the age of 67. Mr. Hendricks served on the Union City Planning Commission from 1969 to 1971, and was also a retired Alvarado Volunteer Fireman.

He worked for 43 years for the Leslie Salt Company in the shipping department, where he was also shop steward and business agent for Local 655 of the Warehouse Food Processors and Production Workers Union in Redwood City.

Mr. Hendricks was a member of the SES Council No. 8 of Newark, SDES of Alvarado, UPEC Council 131 of Union City, and the IDES of Hayward. He was also a member of the senior citizens clubs of Newark and Fremont.

He was survived by his wife Ann and a son Glenn, a sister Lois Field of Hayward, and a daughter-in-law Mrs. Loretta Hendricks of Fremont. His oldest son Rodney and husband of Loretta was killed in a tragic auto accident in 1968.

TOWING & WRECKING YARD

A & C Rozier / Angelo "Deke" De Kidos

A. Rozier and C. Rozier: Alvarado Wrecking Yard:

Alfred L. Rozier was born in 1908. I found nothing on C. Rozier, probably Alfred's brother. In early 1941 they established towing and wrecking yard in this part of southern Alameda County. It is described as the old Henry Henrickson place, but at that time it became known as the Reliance Garage. At this time he must have been sharing the space with Manuel B. Machado who had bought the Reliance Garage at about the same time the Rozier's appeared in Alvarado.

BUY AUTO PARTS AT HALF PRICE

ALVARADO WRECKING YARD

A. Rozier and C. Rozier
Corner Garage on the Henry Henrickson Property
ALVARADO, CALIF.

Angelo "Deke" De Kidos, Proprietor:
Dekidos Towing & Wrecking Yard:
10th & "V" Streets:

Angelo Dekidos was born in California in 1904 to Domingues and Mary De Kidos. Dominguez and Mary De Kidos were born in Portugal and entered the U.S. in 1888 and 1894 respectively. Angelo moved away from Alvarado to Hayward but he maintained his tow trucks and yard at the west end of "V" Street on Veasy Street.

The *Alvarado Pioneer* wrote an article about "Deke's" location:

"A.B. De Kidos has a garage known as the Union City Garage at the foot of "V" Street in Alvarado, which is big enough inside to house a couple of garages in the Township. Really, if you view the four big rooms with brick walls formerly housing the huge pumps which the water company used in pumping millions of gallons of water daily from below the surface, you would be surprised at the modern touch to modernize it to house a very big business. A tow truck is busy pulling in cars, and a repair crew is busy."

Angelo was in the tow truck business and there can be serious competition amongst the various companies in southern Alameda County. In 1958 Angelo became involved in controversy with the new City of Fremont. *The Daily Review* wrote:

"Union City Tow Company operator, A.B. Dekidos, will file suit against the city of Fremont to back up his claim he doesn't need a Fremont City business license. This is the second step in the action that started last Friday when the Fremont District Attorney's office issued a criminal citation against Dekidos for continuing to operate in Fremont without a business license.

The citation was never served because Dekidos' attorney made a last minute contact with Dep. District Attorney Bill Ahern, and had the arrest warrant recalled. His attorney, Harold Abram of Oakland, said the counter action would be filed in the "very near future."

Dekidos, long at odds with Fremont Police and deputy sheriffs over the "rotation system" on accidents, declared he is no longer interested in having his name on the rotation list. He charges the system "never did work out for me. I've monitored the radio, and can prove there were several times my turn came up and I wasn't called."

De Kidos contends that he is licensed by the state and that he operates his business from his Veasy Street home in Alvarado, which is outside Fremont city limits and jurisdiction.

"All I want is the right to pick up and deliver cars in the city, and be able to respond when someone involved in an accident specifically asks for me," he asserts. Dekidos added that he stopped taking out business licenses this year "because I was paying \$50 and it wasn't doing me a bit of good."

The fight continued on:

"A. B. (Deke) De Kidos, fiery operator of the Union City Tow Co. on Veasy Street in Alvarado, isn't the kind to be pushed around. Last month the City of Fremont had the district attorney issue a criminal complaint against the Alvarado tow operator for refusal to take out a Fremont Business License.

De Kidos got an injunction against the arrest warrant and has now started a lawsuit against the City of Fremont.

De Kidos claims he does not need a Fremont business license since his base of operations is outside of Fremont. Meantime, De Kidos trucks continue to be a familiar sight chugging around Fremont's streets.

Although the sight of him chugging around Fremont in a tow truck sounds like a small operation, Deke De Kidos had one of the largest tow trucks on this side of the Bay, which he had nicknamed "The Vulture."

* **ALVARADO AREA SCHOOLS** *

Alvarado Grammar School / Alviso Grammar School / Washington Union High School

ALVARADO GRAMMAR SCHOOL:

The New Decade / Alvarado Grammar School Graduates / Traffic Patrol / Alvarado School Sports / Alvarado School Plays / School Sports / Alvarado School Events

The New Decade:

James C. Wasley Sr. started the decade as the principal for the Alvarado Grammar School. James Wasley had become the principal of the school just prior to 1930. Mr. Wasley was a very busy man in the community, both as a school administrator, and also as civic citizen. But he was to become even busier as World War II broke out. Mr. Wasley became the Alvarado captain of the fire department, civil defense representative for Alvarado during the War.

Alvarado was also the first grammar school in Washington Township to give first aid instruction to all Eighth Grade students. A first aid unit was placed in the school auditorium and arrangements were made to have a staff on 24-hour duty if necessary. Then in May 1942, the newest of Alvarado School's duties would be as a sugar rationing registration site.

October 1942 saw old wagon wheels that helped carry settlers across the plains now being scrapped as part of Alvarado's effort for the Nation's war effort. J. C. Wasley, chief salvage warden for Alvarado, and Sam Dinsmore, his loyal volunteer, would invade Alvarado farms and carry away huge wagon wheels where the iron rims and hubs can be melted down for bullets, tanks and guns. Alvarado has already collected 80 tons of scrap metal and their goal is 100 tons.

Rats struck the west end of town, and again in this time of emergency, James Wasley was assigned the task of forming a committee to rid the town of rats! Mr. Wasley chose Clyde Davis and Charles Baird to help him on this project.

In 1943 the Alvarado School became the distribution point for ration books. You could not buy certain foods and strategic articles without the proper ration stamp. Mr. Wasley and his staff passed out 1,066 ration books to Alvaradan's in March 1943.

As evidenced by the civic duties James Wasley took on, being a school administrator was not just sitting behind your desk!

In June 1944, James C. Wasley, Sr., resigned his position at Alvarado to take on the responsibility of the new Tennyson School. His replacement was Leslie H. Maffey, the principal of the Warm Springs School

After settling in at the school Mr. Maffey instituted a program to show the pupils how to become better citizens and to also show how our judicial system and penal system works, on a small scale.

On April 1, 1946, Student Body President Vernon Perry led the meeting to institute a student court. George Apodaca was named chairman of the committee to form a student court unit, Robert Preciado was named chairman of the floor committee; others on his committee were: Rudolpho Barrera, Manuel Aranda, Ralph Labrado, Salvador Barrera, Teodosio Olacio and Harold Martinez.

Stanley Anderson suggested that we appoint a judge and jury to punish offenders of good manners. George Apodaca, Teodosio Olacio, Felix Ybarra, Emilda Dominguez, and Alice Moreno were appointed to the jury, with Harold Martinez clerk.

The students decided upon the sentencing for infractions would be the dreaded lines! The students decided that loud talking would be punished with 50 lines, for chewing gum the penalty would be 200 lines and for swearing the punishment would be 500 lines. If the president, judge or jury commits any offense, the penalty is double the regular amount.

The first student court was:

Judge:	Harold Martinez	
Jury:	Esther Renteria	Vernon Perry
	Raul Villareal	Yoshio Kamiji
District Attorney:	Felix Ybarra	
Ass't District Attorney:	Stanley Anderson	

Mr. Maffey also set about to improve the school grounds and building. The auditorium, halls, and Mrs. Lucas' room were sanded and refinished. Other floors were newly cleaned and polished, a new roof was put on the school, and the Nurses examination room was changed to a teacher's room and was newly decorated. The old auditorium kitchen was changed to the health room and redecorated. Floors in both these rooms were sanded and laid with lovely linoleum. The Principal's office was very nicely redecorated.

Holes in the yard were filled and an over-all seal coat applied. The grounds were cleared and improved. Shrubs were trimmed and many new ones were added. Flower and shrub landscaping was done by an expert.

The baseball and football field were scraped and leveled. The playground apparatus and backstops were painted. Holes in the driveway were filled and seal coat applied. Much of the work was done by Charles Baird with the assistance of Daniel Riley. They spent most of the summer vacation in this work of renovation.

In June 1945 Mr. Maffey, along with the school trustees, proposed building a dedicated cafeteria for the children so that they could have hot lunches in a comfortable atmosphere. The lunchroom opened on October 21, 1946 with Mrs. Mary Gastelum from Newark as Head Cook. The first week's menu was:

Monday: Italian noodles with hamburger, peas, carrots, bread and margarine, ice cream and milk.

Tuesday: Meatballs, gravy, potatoes, stewed tomatoes, bread and margarine, peaches, milk

Wednesday: Wienies, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, bread & margarine, pudding, milk.

Thursday: Hamburger and gravy, mashed potatoes, bread & margarine, ice cream and milk.

Friday: Tuna Casserole with potato chips, string beans, roll & margarine, applesauce and milk.

But Mr. Maffey did not forget his love of sports and the fitness and mental sharpness of his students. The 1947 Alvarado boys' volleyball team attended a tournament at Bret Harte School in Castro Valley. The Alvarado boys' volleyball team took the Washington Township section championship.

By the year 1949 the teaching staff had grown at Alvarado school. The teaching staff at the beginning of the fall 1949 semester included:

Principal:	Mr. Leslie Maffey
8 TH Grade:	Mr. John Bond
6 TH & 7 TH Grade:	Mrs. Isabel Lucas
5 TH Grade:	Miss Patricia Renz
4 TH Grade:	Miss Shirley Pearson
3 RD Grade:	Mrs. Hilda Widdop
2 ND Grade:	Miss Charlotte Jung
1 ST Grade:	Miss Betty Culbertson
Kindergarten:	Miss Shirley Everett

Alvarado Grammar School Graduates:

June 1941:

The Alvarado Grammar School graduated 19 students on Friday night June 13, 1941.

Those who graduated were:

Robert Benjamin	Ernest Bettencourt	Bertille Amaral
Jeanette Goularte	Emily Dominguez	Judy Hill
Henry Cheng	Betty Hernandez	Robert Lopez
Stanley Lewis	Doris Martinez	Manuel Priego
Lorraine 'Sa	Kay Sakamoto	Agnes Silva
Tatsuo Tanaka	Yatsuo Tao	Frank Pinto

Clifford Rogers

June 1943:

Graduation exercises at Alvarado Grammar School were held June 18, 1943. There were 21 graduates. They were:

Victoria Benites	Alden Chamnes	Florence De Vincenzi
Irene Doran	James F. Gardetto	Dorothy J. Eudy
Sophie E. Hernandez	Dolores M. Hernandez	Angelina Leon
Edward Michie	Jeanette Montalbo	Lena Pacheco
Placido Paredes	David Priego	Leo Ramirez
Anthony J. Roderick	Lawrence Samarron	Esperanza Saucedo
Betty Jane Silva	Manuel Villareal	Glenn E. Wallace

June 1945:

Graduation exercises at Alvarado Grammar School were held June 1945. There were 13 graduates. They were:

Florence Cheng	Clyde Davis	Leonard Dutra
Gilbert Faria	Tommy Gellerman	Bradley Martinez
Teddy Peterson	Frances Roderick	Dolores Santos
Joseph Silva	Eleanor Soares	Abel Villareal
Geraldine Warren		

June 1946:

The Alvarado Grammar School graduation program was held June 13, 1946. There were 15 graduates. They were:

Lorraine E. McClain	Georgia S. Davis	Madeline Hernandez
Anna E. Paz	Marion K. Ichimoto	Lelizea Adela Paz
Elizabeth A. Jacinto	Glenn E. Bachelor	Salvador Dominguez
John C. Ledesma	Robert L. Jones	Gilbert A. Villareal
Vernon M. Machado	Henry (Dick) Andrade	Yoshio Hisaoka

June 1947:

The Alvarado Grammar School graduation program was held June 13, 1946. There were 27 graduates. They were:

Arlen Amaral	Elmer Andrade	Ardith Andrew
Andrew Armendariz	Joseph Aranda	Rogelio Barrera
Betty Cheng	Gilbert Cicairos	Marie Jardin
Doris Jones	Cruz Cisneros	Albert Corrales
Nettie Lemos	Joe Leon	Evelyn Muela
Teodosio Olacio	Mervyn Perry	Joaquin Preciado
Dora Ramirez	Sara Ramirez	Carlos Renteria
Selina Rigmaiden	Connie Saucedo	Ruth Tomagi
Juanita Villegas	Juanita Walsh	Ernestine Ybarra

June 1948:

The Alvarado Grammar School graduation program was held June 13, 1946. There were 28 graduates. They were:

Stanley Anderson	George Apodaca	Manuel Aranda
Olivia Aranda	Rodolfo Barrera	Ronald Caeton
Emilda Dominguez	Donald Faria	Phyllis Faria
Elizabeth Flores	Tommy Gualco	Cora Garcia
Frank Guerra	Eugene Hernandez	Tumijo Hisaoka

Carol Hocking
Harold Martinez
Vernon Perry
Esther Renteria
Felix Ybarra

Jeanette Lagomarsino
Alice Moreno
Robert Preciado
Edward Soto

Julio Labrado
David Nieto
Freddy Sanchez
Billy Tanaka

June 1949:

The Alvarado Grammar School graduation program was held June 14, 1946. There were 17 graduates. They were:

Salvador Barrera
Rodney Hendricks
Elizabeth Lancaster
Lupe Melina
Angelita Preciado
Raul Villareal

Louis Burns
Masaharu Hisaoka
Mike Leon
Julio Moreno
Antoine Rigmaiden
Anne Wada

George Cicairos
Yoshio Kamiji
Eddie Mateo
Melvin Pimentel
Dolores Silva

Traffic Patrol

The Alvarado School had instituted a Junior Traffic Patrol, initiated under the auspices of the California Highway Patrol. The children were outfitted with uniforms and badges, and hand held stop signs to guard the children that cross busy streets in downtown Alvarado prior and after school. This insured the safety of the pupils.



The Alvarado Traffic Patrol passing in review at Hayward High School.



Alvarado receiving the winning trophy at the Hayward High march-off of Southern Alameda County Traffic Patrol units. Centerville (could be Jack Ferraris) came in second and Livermore on the far left came in third.

Alvarado Elementary School covered itself with glory, thanks to their Junior Traffic Patrol that won first prize on April 17, 1948, held at the Hayward Union High School in competition with other Southern Alameda County School's marching units. Much credit goes to Mr. Click who trained the group of boys and girls, and also to Principal Les Maffey, who cooperated nicely. But most of all, the credit belonged to the pupils who marched, and beat out the larger school of Centerville, which took second, and Livermore which took third.

The Alvarado unit had strong competition, because after the first parade, the three schools of Alvarado, Centerville and Livermore were in a tie. A second parade of the units judged Alvarado first at the review in Hayward.

The boys wore blue jeans, blue shirts, white belts and their regular traffic patrol caps. The girls and boys who took part in they were:

Captain:	George Apodaca		
Lieuts:	Antoine Rigmaiden	Julio Moreno	
Sgts:	Tommy Gualco	Yoshio Kamiji	Masaharu Hisaoka
	Robert Preciado	Rodney Hendricks	
Officers:	Johnny Gualco	Frank Velarde	Salvador Barrera
	Conrad Preciado	Andrew Pimentel	Leonard Barrera
	John Corrales	Manuel Garcia	Frank Corrales
	Tony Mata		
Reserve:	Julio Labrado		
Girls:	Elizabeth Flores	Carol Hocking	Fumijo Hisaoka
	Alice Moreno	Esther Renteria	Emilda Dominguez
	Anita Apodaca		

This shows that the teaching staff at Alvarado School is second to none in Southern Alameda County, and are among the tops in leadership. The Trustees can be proud of selecting such fine leaders. The Flag bearers were:

American Flag: Antoine Rigmaiden
Troop Flag: Julio Moreno
Bear Flag: Salvador Barrera
Captain (Saluting): George Apadoca

Alvarado Grammar School Sports:

The Alvarado School played a complete schedule of sports, both intramural and external. Outside the school, Alvarado took part in a league formed by the grade schools of Washington Township, and they also played higher profile games against other school in southern Alameda County.

On January 11, 1941, the Alvarado Grammar School basketball team played their first league game here at Alvarado.

The heavyweight team consisted of:

Marcellino Ledesma	Forward
Johnny Aguiar	Forward
Kay Matsumoto	Forward
William Martinez	Center
Robert Lopez	Guard
Frank Lewis	Guard
Oleogario Souza	Guard

The lightweight team consisted of:

Junior (Jesse) Jacinto	Forward
Johnny Samarron	Forward
Arthur SA	Center
Salvadore Sapeto	Guard
Bertell Amaral	Guard

In March 1946, the Alvarado Grammar School has entered a volleyball team in the Hayward Recreation, and the Alameda County Volleyball tournament that was held at Bret Harte School.

The members of the Alvarado team were:

John Ledesma	Vernon Machado	Robert Jones
Carlos Renteria	Gilbert Cicairos	Salvador Dominguez
Henry "Dick" Andrade	Gilbert Villareal	Glenn Bacheler
Joaquin Preciado	Albert Corrales	Yoshio Hisaoka
Cruz Rosendes	Teodosio Olacio	Elmer Andrade

Playing in the Bret Harte school gymnasium in Hayward, the Alvarado Grammar School boys won the volleyball championship of the tournament on March 9, 1946. Entering the tournament with Ashland, Castro Valley, Centerville, Sunset, San Lorenzo and Warm Springs, the Alvarado boys defeated three schools; Sunset, Warm Springs and Castro Valley.

In March 1947, Alvarado's Grammar School boys' basketball team flew the championship pennant of the boy's invitational tournament for the coming year. They

defeated Bret Harte 11 to 9 in the finals for the championship of the Alameda County Schools, and Hayward Recreational District tournament. On the Alvarado team was:
 Carlos Renteria Cruz Ciniceros Gilbert Cicairos
 Joaquin Preciado Rojello Barrera Teodosio Olacio
 Frank Garcia.

The Alvarado boys' volleyball team took the Washington Township Section Championship in the Hayward Rec and Alameda County Schools Tournament held at Bret Harte School in Castro Valley.

Leslie H. Maffey, Coach

Carlos Renteria	Gilbert Cicairos	Frank Garcia
Cruz Ciniceros	Albert Corrales	Mervin Perry
Mario Gonzalez	Rojello Barrera	Teodosio Olacio
Joe Leong	Joaquin Preciado	

Alvarado School Orchestra:

The Alvarado School fielded an orchestra during this decade under the direction of Dwight Thornburg and Bernard Callery. Both gentlemen served as musical director for several different township schools. Dwight Thornburg would later accept the full time music director of the Washington Union High School.

In April 8, 1946, seven local elementary schools joined together for a music festival at the Irvington School. Representing Alvarado were the following musicians:

Arlen Amaral	Glenn Bachelor	Georgia Davis
Elizabeth Flores	Hannah Fontes	Arnold Gardetto
Tommy Gualco	Madeline Hernandez	Carol Hocking
Betty Jacinto	Lorraine McLean	Evelyn Muela
Mervin Perry	Vernon Perry	Melvin Pimentel
Dora Ramirez		

In January 1948, the Alvarado Orchestra consisted of:

Frank Velarde	Mervin Pinto	Beverly Spurlock
Arnold Gardetto	Vernon Perry	Daniel Nieto
Marjorie Best	Elizabeth Flores	George Apodaca
Antoine Rigmaiden	Ronald Caeton	Elaine Hocking
Marlene Andrade	Andrew Pimentel	Carol Hocking

The orchestra was under the direction of Bernard Callery of Mission San Jose. He is a splendid director and leader, and is a credit to the teaching profession.

Tuesday, June 14, 1949 - 8:00 P.M.

Alvarado School Graduation:

Orchestra Selections:

"Legend of spring"

"Father of Victory"

"Little Annie Rooney"

"Caissons Go Rolling Along"

Orchestra Members:

Antoine Rigmaiden	Clarinet	Archie Delao:	Clarinet
Rita Cicairos	Clarinet	Arnold Gardetto	Trumpet
Beverly Spurlock	Trumpet	Frank Velarde	Trumpet
Naomi Muela	Bells	Natalie Cicairos	Trumpet

Margaret Pfau	Saxophone	Elaine Hocking	Saxophone
Marjorie Best	Saxophone	Ellen Louie	Violin
Jeany Cheng	Bass Drum	Mervin Pinto	Snare Drum
Marlene Andrade	Piano		
Bernard Callery	Director		

School Plays:

The December 1941 Christmas Pageant was performed under the direction of Mrs. Sallee, which was enjoyed by the community.

Outstanding in the cast were:

The Three Kings:	Manuel Villareal	Bob Lemos	Charles Gonzalez
The Madonna:	Irene Souza		
Violin Obbligato:	Haruwe Tanaka		
Saxophone Obbligatos:	Dave Priego	Andrew Gardetto.	

Miss Jung had three little angels for her song portrayal. Her third and fourth grades sang, "There Came a Little Child." Many songs were sung by combined groups with fine success. All the pageant depicted the Nativity scenes and gave the children and the audience the true meaning of what Christ and Christmas means to the world.



Tuesday, June 14, 1949 - 8:00 P.M.

A Mystery Comedy in Two Acts:

"A Scream in the Dark"

Marie Warren:	Anne Wada
Hal Warren:	Mervin Pimentel
Millie:	Dolores Silva
Mr. Warren:	George Cicairos
Mrs. Warren:	Elizabeth Lancaster
Edgar Milton:	Rodney Hendricks
Harriet Penrose:	Angelita Preciado
Bobby:	Eddie Mateo
Boy:	Antoine Rigmaiden
Prompter:	Yoshio Kamiji
Curtain Boy:	Julio Moreno

A comedy in One Act – By Anne Coulter Martens:

Wildcat Willie Gets Brain Fever"

Willie:	Arnold Gardetto
Gladys:	Natalie Cicairos
Mrs. Wilkins:	Sadako Kurotori
Joe:	Andrew Pimentel
Kathie:	Jeany Cheng
Vernon:	Tony Mata
Celia:	Frances Wayland
Miss Bond:	Marlene Andrade

Alvarado Grammar School – Events:

The one event that changed the Alvarado School (and all schools) the most was World War II. World War II was not like any other war we have seen since. The

Second World War had a profound impact on the civilian population in the U.S. Rationing and labor shortages being among two of the many facets of the war that affected the U.S. population.

As we approached the farm harvesting season of 1942, it became evident that we were seriously short of man power in the fields as the harvest season set upon us as late summer approached. Many of the available men were already being employed in the defense industry, which had to be serviced to supply our men overseas. Even women were now being employed in the war industry to make up for the men at the front.

When it came time for the tomato and sugar harvest (both of which were vital to our boys overseas) we had to scramble. Most of the grade schools the Township were on some type of delayed opening, so that students could remain in the fields to help the harvest. Some schools did not open until October.

Besides working in the fields, the upper classmen of the Alvarado Grammar School all became proficient in First-Aid procedures in case of an emergency attack. The school kept a kit of First-Aid supplies for the community in case of an emergency, and plans had been made for 24-hour service of First-Aid should the need arise.

The children partook in various drives throughout the war, tin-can drives were held, unused metal implements were collected, even keys were collected in a drive because of the nickel some keys had, which could be salvaged and reused. Corbin keys and Schlage keys being the two which held the most nickel content.

There was not Internet or Television at this time, only radio, and even at that many homes still did not have a radio set at home. Children were used to get the news out about when ration books were given out, when emergency home cards needed to be filled and returned for emergency purposes; any event which needed to get the community informed on a timely basis.

In March 1942, with the impending relocation of Japanese families to internment camps further inland, came the fear of the loss of population Japanese internment could cause a lesser need for schoolteachers in Washington Township.

A little less than 10 per cent of the total township enrollment of 2,427 pupils in the Washington Union High School and the 10 township grammar schools were Japanese, these totaling 216 pupils. At the high school 91 of the 632 students were Japanese.

<u>School:</u>	<u>Jap Students:</u>	<u>Other Students:</u>
Alvarado:	12	187
Alviso:	7	86
Centerville:	40	230
Decoto:	5	379
Irvington:	18	205
Lincoln:	0	7
Mission San Jose:	2	80
Newark:	7	191
Niles:	No Report	
Warm Springs	20	96

At this same time, exemplifying the part that the public schools were playing in the civilian defense program was the set-up which had just been completed at the Alvarado Grammar School under the direction of Principal J. C. Wasley, who is also Chief Air Raid Warden and special sheriff's deputy. The school auditorium was blacked out for the duration and an improvised foyer was built so that the interior could remain lighted even when entrances and exits were being made. The newest of Alvarado School's duties was as a sugar rationing registration site in May 1942.

The pupils of the Alvarado Grammar School held a paper drive the second week of December 1943, and gathered 14,320 pounds of newspapers and magazines. It averaged 100 pounds per pupil, surely a record of some kind. The collection was sold to the Livermore Junk Co., bringing in \$65.00. This money was used to help patriotic drives by the students for different causes like the Red Cross, United War Effort, and the U.S.O.

In July 1944, Frank Machado of the Board of Trustees, called attention to the splendid improvements, which the Board had made to the school building. The roof was redone, the floor in the auditorium was sanded, a general overhauling as new curtains, and needs were filled. The prevailing hourly wages for certain types of workmen who were involved in the renovation of the school was:

Carpenters:	\$1.50
Building Laborers:	\$1.00
General Laborers:	\$1.00
Truck Laborers:	\$1.00
Roofers:	\$1.50
Roofers (foremen):	\$1.75
Overtime, Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays:	Time and a half

At the start of the school year in September 1944, the Alvarado Grammar School announced it would continue to follow the practice of allowing the children to be excused for religious study at local churches on Tuesdays. The Catholic Children would attend Catechism at St. Anne's Church from 9 to 10 a.m. for grades 1 through 6. For grades 7 and 8 it was from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Protestant children attended at the Presbyterian Church west of Levee Street in old Union City, and later the old Riverside Hotel under the auspices of Mrs. Estelle Rigmaiden.

On May 8, 1945 the school had a VE-Day (Victory in Europe) program. Patriotic songs were sung, and Arnold Gardetto played "Taps." The principal highlights of World War II were reviewed, discussions were held on what students could do to help finish the war to a successful conclusion for the allies, and finally we listened to recordings of speeches of King George of England, Winston Churchill, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and finally President Truman's VE-Day speech.

With the end of World War II, local schools were expecting a drop in attendance as people were expected to go back to the Mid-West, but all local schools posted a net gain. Alvarado Grammar School posted a gain of 50 pupils. Last year (1944) the Alvarado Grammar School had an enrollment of 174, this year it is up to 224.

The Alvarado Grammar School cafeteria opened on schedule October 21, 1946. One hundred and fifty-five meals were served. The Alvarado Grammar School put out a call for volunteers to help out in the cafeteria. They also solicited the donations of fruit and vegetables from those who do not need them, the school was giving the

children a very fine lunch at a very low price, and the only way that can be accomplished was to have help from the district.

In conjunction with the new cafeteria, the members of the Alvarado School Board declared that, starting on December 2, 1946, no family sending the children to the Alvarado School would have to pay more than 30¢ a day for the school children from one family eating their lunches in the cafeteria. This means that you would pay 15¢ a day for each child only up to the first two children. The rest of the children from the same family would be given their lunches free.

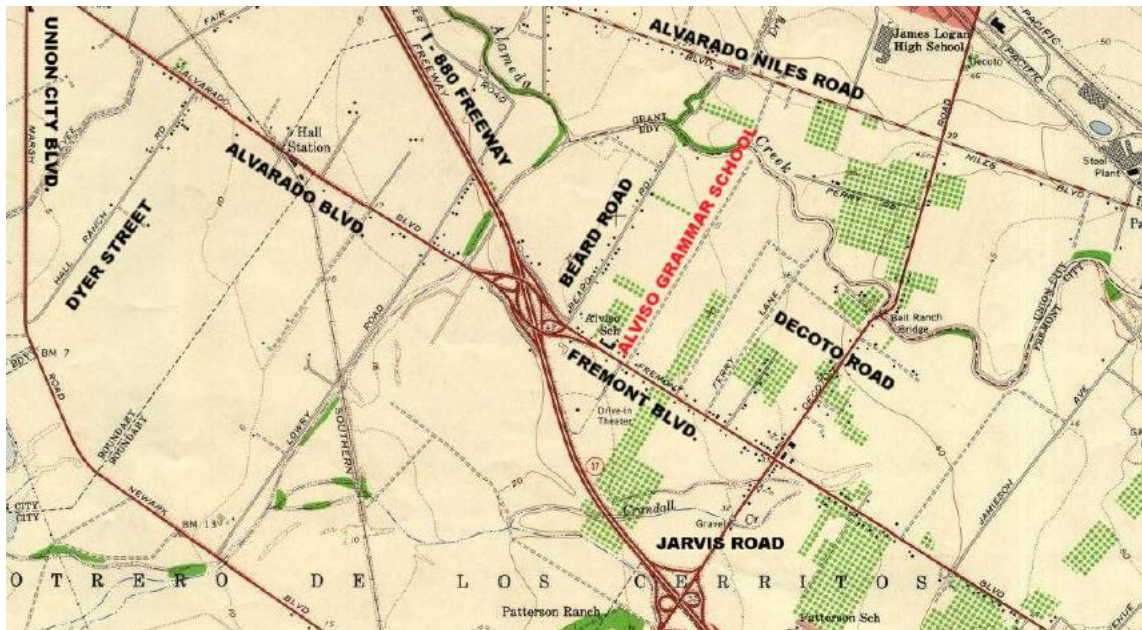
The school helped the Oakland Junior Red Cross in December 1946, when they packed twelve gift boxes to be sent overseas as Christmas presents to students in the war devastated areas. These boxes contained items which were considered necessities in the United States but, which are hard to get in post-war Europe.

December 1948 saw the instituting of special classes to those children who were slow learners. The class would be limited to 15 to 18 children, and would have as its aim the development of competence in the use of materials, and tools common to the daily problems of living as children and adults. It is also designed to build up the self-confidence of its pupils and their relationships with other people in their community.

ALVISO GRAMMAR SCHOOL:

Alviso new School / School Events & Faculty / Alviso Grammar School Graduating Classes / Alviso Grammar School Mother's Club / World War II

New School:



The location of the Alviso Grammar School (now destroyed) located to the left of the "Alviso Grammar School" printed in red.



The new Alviso Grammar School was finished in October 1940.

In 1945, Washington Township still had a one room schoolhouse, the Lincoln School, which lay north of the town of Newark near the Patterson Ranch. In January 1946 the boundaries of the Lincoln School were adjusted giving part of that district to the Centerville School and the rest to the Alviso School.

The area of the Alviso School District was approximately doubled with the addition of the Lincoln School District. The Lincoln School was then dissolved because of a decrease of school attendance. Up to April 1946, no students from the former Lincoln School District had been enrolled in the Alviso School District

School Events & Faculty:

In June 1940, Mrs. Elsie Madruga principal of the Alviso Grammar School announced that all teachers would be returned. Besides Mrs. Madruga, the school teachers were Mrs. Edith Wasley and Mrs. Marie Dutra. Meanwhile the new Alviso Grammar School was under construction. The school would open in the fall semester of September 1940 with 87 students.

In April 1944, Mrs. Mamie Roderick, long time clerk of the Board of Trustees for the Alviso Grammar School, reported that all was well with the school, and that an October 1945 survey of the Alviso School revealed a pleasant surprise. The Alviso Grammar School had 91 students enrolled, an increase of 6 students over last year. It was feared that after the War, attendance would drop in local schools as many people had come to the area during the War for the availability of local jobs and it was feared that those people would leave after the War ended.

In April 1946, the Alviso School Board of Trustees was, Manuel S. Abreu, Frank Faria, Jr., and Mrs. Mayme Roderick.

Students from the Alviso Grammar School participated in the annual Junior Traffic Patrol March Day held at the University of California in May 1946. First prize went to Centerville. Schools that participated besides Alviso and Centerville were: St. Michaels's School of Livermore, Newark, Castro Valley, Decoto, Irvington, Livermore, Mt. Eden, Niles, Pleasanton, Niles, San Lorenzo, Russell City, Ashland, Valle Vista, and Tennyson.

The Alviso Grammar School opened its new cafeteria on Monday, October 5, 1947 with an attendance of 70 students. Quarters were established in the auditorium, which would also serve as an extra classroom. Former plans to construct a cafeteria annex supplied by a bond issue over a year ago were abandoned and present plans are to build a new auditorium. Mrs. Irma Brown has been made manager of the cafeteria.

In February 1948 the school district of Alviso thanked Mrs. Mayme Roderick for her 20 years of service on the board of trustees.

Frank Duarte, a candidate for the Alviso Grammar School Board of Trustees, was appointed to that position to replace Manuel Abreu who resigned in April 1948. The election for the trustee position will be held in May. Frank Pimentel is also a candidate for the trustee position in Alviso.

For the first time in its history the Alviso Grammar School has school bus transportation for its rural pupils. Otto Olson, our local garage man was engaged to drive the bus. The bus was purchased in May 1948 from Joe Adams Ford of Centerville.

The Alviso Grammar School Board of Trustees held a meeting at the school on May 17, 1949 to explain an increase the Alviso School District from 80¢ to \$1.30. The meeting discussed the reasons why the large increase was needed. The total attendance at the meeting was 12 persons: Vaughn Seidel, Alameda County Superintendent of Schools; F. Nelson Vassallo, Seidel's chief deputy; Principal James Nunes and his wife; three school trustees and the daughter of one of the trustees; the school crossing guard, one teacher, and the cafeteria manager.

School people present: 12

Taxpayers present: 0

On May 21, 1949 the results of the election was announced. The tax increase failed 92 to 69.

The first meeting of the Alviso Student Body for 1949 was held on October 11th.

Officers were elected:

President: Leon Mings

Vice President: William Emery

Secretary: Rina Ciarlo

Treasurer: R. Hailey

Sergeant at Arms: Darwin Hall and Geo. George

The Alviso School Christmas pageant for 1949 was performed on the evening of December 16th. The play this year was "Christmas in Mexico." Performers in the play were:

Santa Claus: Remo Cerutti

Father: Geo. George

Mother: Patty Bettencourt

The five children of the household:

Pedro:	Dino Ciarlo
Carmen:	Linda Hermosa
Elena:	Marlene Azevedo
Petra:	Norma Orsetti
Maria:	Judy Obedoza
2 Angels:	Georgia Brown and Diane Orsetti

Alviso School Orchestra, 1949:

Shirley Mello	Marlene Peeks	Jim Bettencourt
George Harvey	Jerry Pimentel	Piero Cerruti
Anita Bailey	Ann Pederson	Joanne Castro
Richard Andrade	Joseph Abreu	Marion Hermosa
Leon Mings	Leroy Faria	

Alviso Grammar School Graduating Classes:

1944 graduates:

Evangelina Alvarez, Norberto Alvarez, Joyce Harvey, Adele Ferreira, Albert Spaulding, Elden Andrade, Helen Soares and Henry Goularte.

1946 graduates:

The June 1946 graduation of students was held on June 8, 1946 when 12 students received their diplomas.

1947 graduates:

Robert Peeks, Bernadine Abreu, Donald Emery, Margaret Lebon, Joey Orocchi, Billy Baker, Shirley Priester and Elias Novo.

1948 graduates:

Marlene Peek, Alice Gerrard, George Harvey, Vondell Mings, Sara Almanza, Marvin Hermosa, Elaine Dias, June Novo and Leroy Faria.

1949 graduates:

Richard Andrade, Anita Bailey, Jimmie Bettencourt, Howard Bigbey, Piero Cerruti, Michael Logan, Walter Luiz, Shirley Mello, Kenneth Mello, Frank Murakami, Anne Pederson, Jerry Pimentel Wynemia Sudbury.

Alviso Grammar School Mother's Club:

The Alviso Grammar School Mother's Club was similar in function to a school PTA. The organization would raise funds for projects for the benefit of the school children that were not covered in the school's budget. They would also put on plays and hold dances at the school for the benefit of the student.

The Alviso School Mother's Club presented two plays on February 22, 1941, one in Portuguese and the other in English. The Portuguese play, "Father Takes Mother's Place," was given by the following cast:

Anna Martin	Mary Cardoza	Carrie Andrade	Rita Perry
Mamie Santos	Francis Mello	Mamie Mello	

The English Play "Moving Day," was presented by:

Eleanor Azevedo Mayme Roderick Lou George Lydia Orsetti
Letizia Silva

Mrs. Carrie Andrade, president, had general charge of the arrangements.

In October 1947 the club held installation ceremonies for new officers. They were:

President: Mrs. Frank Madruga
Vice President: Mrs. Mary Dias
Secretary: Mrs. Ruby Olsen

The Alviso Mother's Club held a dance to raise funds for the club's activities on November 6, 1948. Arrangements were made by Mrs. Pauline Faria and Mrs. Delinda Pimentel, who were assisted by newly elected officers of the club: Mrs. Mary S. Dias, president; Mrs. Mary Bettencourt, vice president; Mrs. June Olson, secretary; and Mrs. Pauline Faria, treasurer.

In October 1949 a den of Cub Scouts in the Alviso District was organized by the Alviso Grammar School Mother's Club.



In November 1948 the Alviso Elementary School's Girl Scout Troop inherited a part of a former classroom for use as its headquarters. Receiving the key to the structure from Principal James Nunes was Mrs. Asta Pederson, Scout leader while Girl Scouts Wynemia Sudbury and Margaret Reina look on. The school's troop was organized at the Alviso Grammar School a year ago.

World War II:

WWII did not pass the Alviso by. In March 1942 a survey of Japanese families in the Alviso School District revealed that 18 of the 86 children enrolled were Japanese.

In May 1942 a War Bond Drive was organized in Washington Township to sell U.S. Defense Bonds to help finance the War. A.J. Rathbone, Principal of Washington Union High School led the effort for Washington Township and named Mrs. Elsie Madruga to head the Alviso District campaign effort.

In late fall of 1942 the students of the Alviso School picked up seventy-five pounds of walnuts from the trees located about the school playground. The students cheerfully did their part to aid the war effort by donating the nuts to the USO.

In September 1943 L.R. Burdick was named chairman of the current War Bond sales Drive for Washington Township. Representing the Alviso District was Louis Amaral.

WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL:

August 1940:



In August 1940 Mr. Kibby (left) purchased the Campbell Press from the *Alvarado Pioneer* newspaper. Mr. Kibby, who had been teaching at Washington High since 1920, teaches Print Shop at Washington High. The press was used in the school printing department, where the school paper, *The Hatchet*, and other material was published. Mr. Kibby, instructor in print shop at W.U.H.S., arranged for the purchase of the press and deserves credit for the fine type of work that he does with students there.

September 1942:

Washington Union High School in Centerville opened yesterday morning and closed at noon to keep students in fields and canneries another two weeks. Norbert George, Student Body President, urged students to resume studies or find jobs in the harvest of tomatoes and sugar beets because "our fighting men are depending upon us as we are depending upon them." At Alvarado and Irvington the grammar schools remained closed on opening day and will not reopen until October 5th. Students were urged to help harvest crops in the area as part of the war effort. Other schools in the township are all on some type of farm harvesting schedule.

October 1942:

Washington Union High School, the Alvarado and Decoto Grammar Schools and the high school and grammar schools of the Livermore Valley have turned out their students to pick tomatoes. On Tuesday afternoon the board of trustees decided to suspend classes for the remainder of the week to help pick the tomato crop in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, where farmers are hard pressed to save their crops.

January 1943:

Alvarado's representatives at Washington Union High School have shown such outstanding leadership that Ernie Machado, son of Matt Machado, has been given great honors. He was elected president of the California Student Body Federation. Another Alvarado young lady has been honored by being elected secretary of the Washington Union High School senior class. She is Miss Lorraine Alameda of "V" Street.

March 1943:

In March 1943 the entire student body at WUHS was immunized from smallpox by free vaccination given by Dr. W.L. McWhirter, school physician, assisted by the Volunteer Graduate Nurses Corps. A campaign was also under way in the grammar schools seeking total immunization against both smallpox and diphtheria and parents were urged to cooperate.

December 1943:

Alvarado pupils will again be back in classes at Washington Union High School on Monday, January 3rd. Among those from the business district are

Jesse (Jos. Jr.) Jacinto	Joaquin Naharro	Stanley Lewis	David Priego,
Andrew Gardetto	Laverne Diangson	Placido Paredes	Adrian Silva
Doris Martinez	Cecilia Martinez	Norma Bettencourt	Dorothy Eudy

February 1944:

The following students from Alvarado and Alviso attend the Washington Union High School:

Alvarado:

Placido Paredes	Betty Silva	Andy Gardetto
Angela Leon	Florice De Vincenzi	Laverne De Vincenzi
Lawrence Samarron	Sofie Hernandez	Stanley Lewis
Cecilia Martinez	Doris Martinez	Sally Logan
Johnny Aguiar	Bonnie Scott	Joaquin Naharro
David Priego	Dorothy Eudy	Glenn Wallace
Esperanza Sanchez	Joseph Roderick	Adrien Silva
Dolores Hernandez	John Samarron	Jessie Jacinto
Thelma Jean Logan	Norma Bettencourt	Ardis Hulse

Alviso:

Edith Perry	Norman Mello	Melvin Mello
Edward Cardoza	Janet Hermosa	Alice Berrios
Emily Soares	Millie Soares	Vivian Reina

June 1945:

Alvarado folks at the Senior Ball at Washington Union High School were:

Norma Bettencourt	Ronnie Silva	Norman Andrade
Ernie Andrade	Stanley Lewis	Frank Pinto
Bobby Montalbo	Jeanette Goularte	Doris Martinez
Marjorie Re	Joanna Martinez	Joe Lewis
Grace Maciel	Andy Gardetto	Dave Priego
Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Manuel		

November 1945:

Township School Pupil Increases:

The table below shows the Increases/ (Decreases) in school enrollment this year over last year for the ten schools in Washington Township.

School	Attendance	Inc (Dec)
Alvarado	224	50
Alviso	91	6
Centerville	235	20
Decoto	420	40
Irvington	240	0
Mission San Jose	65	(10)
Newark	243	30
Niles	371	41
Warm Springs	92	15
Washington High	569	44
	2,550	236

*** FILIPINO COMMUNITY ***

There are no more patriotic people in Alvarado than the Filipino community. Throughout WWII the Filipino's were active in Alvarado to back the war effort for

both the Americans and their home country the Philippines. There had been a small Filipino presence in Alvarado even before the start of the Second World War.

In December 1941 the Luneta Social Club of Alvarado applied to the California Secretary of State for articles of incorporation as a non-profit, non-stock organization. The society was formed "to promote the general welfare of the members of the Filipino race through education, economics and athletics; and to further Justice in cooperation with organizations local to the town of Alvarado."

Named as directors were:

Mac Armenio	Romaldo Cabales	Pedro Gonzales
Luciano Bernardo	Felix Diangson	Alfred Siason
Joe Tobang	Pacifico Timiman	Disdao Cawaling
Alvino Manilary	Librado Tobang	Pacifico Yerro

Early on, in the Second World War, the Filipino's stood up for the freedom of their homeland. Four days after the war began, Filipino's in Southern Alameda County showed solidarity for the cause by refusing to harvest crops of Japanese farmers. It was reported that the Philippine Islanders, whose homeland had been attacked by the invading Japanese armies, would not work the land for the Japanese under any consideration.

The few Filipinos that did inhabit Alvarado during WWII worked diligently to raise funds in their own community to benefit War Bond drives and the Red Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Felix Diangson, who owned a business on Smith Street, besides being proud members of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, led drives in their community for the War Chest Drive.

Wilbert Hendricks, who was the chairman of the Alvarado drive for war funds in 1944 as part of the Washington Township drive, had appointed Mrs. Diangson as one of the local committee workers. Mrs. Diangson did a wonderful job in collecting funds from the Filipino colony. The Alvarado chairman was more than proud of this fine contribution to show the patriotism of our loyal Filipino Americans. Two dances were arranged for October 21 and 28, 1944, at the local SDES Hall, under the auspices of Mrs. Diangson and the Filipino community. The funds raised went for the War Chest Drive. Mrs. Diangson collected almost \$700 from the Filipino community for the Drive.

After the end of war the Filipino Community of Northeast Alameda County and Contra Costa County chose to celebrate their first Independence Day on the same day as the American Independence Day, July 4th. They chose the town of Alvarado for their celebration in July 1946.

The Alvarado Chamber of Commerce realized the importance of this event, by naming a committee to cooperate in every way, and decorate the business section with the aid of the businessmen on July 4, 1946. A big program and dance was held at the SDES Hall at Alvarado to help celebrate the Fourth, and the Mayor of Hayward and councilmen were on hand as the honored guests.

Mrs. Bolima of Mt. Eden, Frank Macahilas, and D. Carrillo, businessmen of Alvarado, appeared before the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce suggested a parade for the 4th of July, in which all classes would join together and show our debt of gratitude to the fine work of the Filipino-Americans, who helped fight alongside our boys overseas. Besides fighting alongside with our boys in the Philippines, the

Filipinos at home front did a fine job in raising food in the fields, buying War Bonds, helping the Red Cross, etc.

So the Independence Day of 1946 July 4th was celebrated by the American community and the Filipino community as a show of solidarity and love for freedom loving people. The Filipino's truly have something to be happy over, by wresting control of their homeland from the invading Japanese during WWII. It is also a day of celebration for Americans whose boys fought right alongside the Filipinos.

Joseph Lewis, president of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, chose a Chamber committee to gather money from Alvarado merchants to decorate the stores and business streets, particularly some streamers across the streets. Money was collected by Charles Baird, John Ralph, and Manuel Silva to decorate Alvarado. The following merchants gave generously to fund the gala decoration.

Manuel Andrade	Joe Perez	Frank George
E. Castro – Tavern	John H. Ralph	Manuel B. Machado
Manila Rest. & Pool Room	Union Service Station	Mike Salido
Half Way House	Richfield Service Station	E. Naharro –
Alvarado Theater	E. Castro – Restaurant	Jess Jacinto
Pablo M. Garcia – Fish Market	J. Sanchez – Donut Shop	Alvarado Pool Hall
John Menezes – Barber Shop	Alvarado Liquor Store	Genevieve Dutra
Alvarado Fire Department	Hellwig Meat Co.	Tony Lee
Ed Bedell – Shell Station	Bi-Rite Mkt – John Novo	Bataan Barber Shop
Sam Dinsmore	M.C. Pinto – Shoe Shop	T. Matsumoto
Felix Diangson	Alvarado Beauty Shop	Addie Kelly
Charlie's Place – John Silva	Manuel A. Silva, Jr.	Matt Machado
Alvarado Hotel	Alvarado Pioneer	Central Bank
Silver Dollar		

The program began at 6 o'clock, on the evening of July 4, 1946, at the SDES Hall on Watkins Street, Alvarado. Hayward Mayor John Harry delivered an address; Councilman William Wilson was there, and Attorney Lester Foley of Hayward also spoke. Pacifico Sarabia, prominent Filipino leader, and Frank M. Bolima, former president of the Filipino community of San Francisco, would also give speeches.

There was fine entertainment, including songs and dances by Filipino artists, and musicians, followed by a dance for all. The Chamber of Commerce had a fine singer, Ray Hansen of Newark, and he was invited to be one the main singers and entertainers. Miss Eileen Wilson of Alvarado would accompany Hansen on the piano.

Felix Diangson, one of the best known leaders of the Filipino American group worked hard to achieve a great success for this 4th of July celebration, when over 4,000 came to Alvarado to celebrate. Father Julio A. Martins, of All Saints Church, Hayward, gave the invocation, followed by an address by Mrs. Felix Diangson.

Alex Biete acted as Master of Ceremonies in a splendid manner, giving the welcoming address. Miss Faustina Regalado followed with a piano selection. A 4-year-old little hula dancer, Little Critina, won the hearts of everyone. A vocal solo was given by Miss Dardene Agraviador followed by a stirring speech by Pacifico Sarabo of the Philippines.

Mrs. Felix Diangson of Alvarado, with great charm gave a wonderful speech so complimentary to the accomplishments of her dear people. She is the former president of this Filipino Community of the two counties.

Crispin Dela Cruz, noted radio singer, really was a second Bing Crosby. Frank M. Bolima of Mt. Eden gave one of the most important speeches, on "The Birth of a Nation." He is the former president of the Filipino Community of San Francisco.

Barbara Diangson sang very sweetly and was accompanied by her brother, William Diangson. They are the son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Diangson. The United States National anthem was then sung, followed by the Philippine anthem, led by Barbara Diangson.

Members of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and invited guests sat down to a wonderful banquet at the SDES Hall about 3 o'clock, and it was a wonderful banquet indeed. The program started about 6:30 after the public joined in dancing with their hosts. Editor George Oakes paid a compliment to the large turnout of Alvarado people on this occasion to show their appreciation of the loyal efforts of the Filipino Americans.

Veterans of Bataan and other places were introduced: Capt. E.L. Torres Jr., Lt. Jose Alcid, Lt. Nick Franco, Lt. Antonio Franco, Lt. Cesar Delfino and Lt. Jose Gomes.

In December 1946 Alex Biete, President of the Filipino Community of Northeastern Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, announced that the community would observe a Rizal Day commemoration on December 30, with a celebration at Mt. Eden School Auditorium. The national holiday is observed in the Philippines in memory of the martyrdom of Dr. Jose Rizal, who met death before a Spanish firing squad in 1896 for his defense of human rights and decent government, Biete said. A committee from the community was appointed to arrange a celebration at a meeting held in Alvarado on December 14th.

On the night of January 10, 1948, at the Eagle's Hall in Alvarado, the Filipino Inter Community of America installed the following officers:

President:	Alex Biete	
Vice-President:	Frank Sacramento	
Secretary:	Miss Pilar Lozado	
Treasurer:	Anastacio Regalado	
Ass't Treasurer:	Geronimo Sane	
Auditor:	Carlos Carrillo	
Sgts-At-Arms:	Joe Tabilog	Tecquio Omalza
Advisor:	Felix Diangson	

The new board of councilors included:

Chairman:	Johnny Dawal	
Publicity Director:	Mrs. Felix Diangson	
Ass't Publicity Director:	Mrs. Frank Sacramento	
Hospitality Chairman:	Mrs. Mac Armenio	
Councilors:	Josue Ricamonte	Clemente Barcede
	Nicitas Ibardolaza	Simeon Sumaylo
	Dominador Agraviador	Frank Bolima
	Manuel Quiray	Rodil Vidal
	Leo Diola	

Mrs. Frank Sacramento of Alvarado acted as Master of Ceremonies and introduced each of the speakers. Alex Biete extended his welcome to all and then gave a talk on the history of the organization, which was originated in 1941. Arillio Ramos, who is the Vice Consul of the Philippine Islands, also spoke to the group. He talked on the cooperation between the United States and the Filipinos from the day the U.S. first occupied the Islands until today. He also stated in what high regard the Filipinos held the United States and its policy toward them.

The Filipino Community of Alvarado and Vicinity met on March 13, 1949 at the Eagles Hall in Alvarado and elected officers. The president elected to guide the destiny of this large organization was the well-known Frank Sacramento, who has taken a big interest in all the big affairs of this organization. Last year he was chairman of entertainment for the big Fourth of July celebration there. His wife, Emily Sacramento, had charge of the Queen contest, and she and her committee raised \$3,500. This shows how successful they were. Frank was elevated from vice-president to president. The other officers elected were:

President:	Frank Sacramento	
Vice-President:	John Dawal	
Secretary:	Agnes Tacang	
Ass't Secretary:	Frank Macahilas	
Treasurer:	A. Regalado	
Ass't Treasurer:	G. Sape	
Auditor:	S. Masinda	
Sgt-At-Arm:	Dora Regalado	P. Agraviador
Advisor:	Alex Biete	

Mr. Sacramento invited the elder Filipino-Americans to join in this organization and to encourage the younger generation to participate in the noble ideals of what the Filipino-Community stands for. The Filipino Community would be holding a Fourth of July Celebration in Alvarado, and Frank wrote to the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce to co-operate like they had in the past. No definite plans had yet been made as to the type of celebration, but they soon will be announced after a special meeting.

The Filipino communities of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties would again observe the joint celebration of Independence Day for the Philippine Islands and the United States at Alvarado on July 4, 1949.

Alex Biete would be the master of ceremonies and guest speakers were the Vice Consul of the Philippines, Juan Dioniso, and George Oakes Jr., deputy district attorney. Special dances will be given by Mr. & Mrs. Placido D. Lazaro, Miss Connie Cipriano, Donna Sacramento and Johnny Agraviador

The celebration went on without a hitch although Hayward City Councilman Carlos Bee would like to know what he said over an Oakland radio station and to an audience of 1,000 Filipino's at Alvarado last Sunday.

It seems he received a frantic call from Alvarado, which told him that the Filipino community there had a giant celebration under way, and that the Mayor of Hayward had not appeared to crown the beauty queen or to give a talk. Bee was begged to fill in the gap.

"As soon as I got there, I was told I was to give a ten-minute speech, and would go on the air in exactly one minute." Bee was cautioned by the radio station representative not to say anything political. Bee said he still wonders what he said. "I didn't even know for sure what the Filipino's were celebrating," he confessed afterwards. Actually, they were celebrating their own Independence Day. America's grant of freedom to the Philippines became effective July 4, 1946. It was later learned that the Mayor of Hayward had taken an unannounced fishing trip.



The Filipino community of the East Bay will again celebrate Philippine Independence Day in 1949 with the town of Alvarado as they celebrate American Independence Day. Several times now the Filipino Community of Alvarado, and its vicinities have been celebrating the Independence Day of the newly formed Philippine Republic by giving the most entertaining and unusual program to the public running to several thousands of dollars. One year ago there was a big barbecue, queen contest and radio broadcast.

July 4, 1949 an outstanding and unsurpassed program that included well-known and well-liked participants. Others are even professionals in their line. Led by Mike Cuevas, well-known Filipino orchestra leader from Oakland, and his merry makers, the program started at 7 p.m. and went as follows:

- 1) Opening Remarks: Mr. Alex Biete, Master of Ceremonies and past President of the Filipino Community.
- 2) Selection by Orchestra: Mike Cuevas and his Orchestra.
- 3) Dance, "A La Jota Cataiana" Mr. & Mrs. Placido D. Lazaro
- 4) Song: Miss Muriel Abrescy, accompanied by the orchestra
- 5) Hula Dance: Connie Cipriano
- 6) Guest Speaker: Honorable Vice Consul of the Philippines; Honorable Juan Dionisio
- 7) Dance, "Carinoza: (Young Folks): Donna Sacramento and Johnny Agraviador
- 8) Guest Speaker: By George Oakes Jr., Ass't Editor Washington News and Deputy in the District Attorney's office.
- 9) Dance, "Carinoza: (Older Folks): Mr. & Mrs. Placido Lazaro
- 10) Closing Remarks: Frank Sacramento, President of the Filipino Community of Alvarado

Picnic starts at 12 noon.
Dancing in the afternoon and evening until 1 a.m.
Games for children in the afternoon.

 * **FARMING** *

Farming has always been one of Washington Township's most important occupations, and so it was with Alvarado. As other Alameda County cities grew from farm towns into cities, Washington Township remained a close-knit farming community. A unique landscape kept Washington Township a farm area as Hayward and San Jose pushed closer to the Washington Township line.

This remained well into the 1950's when the towns lost their individual identities (except Newark) and formed the Tri-Cities. The death knell of the eight small towns was brought about by flood control, Hetch-Hetchy Water, improved sanitary districts, and the Bayshore Freeway (I-880), all of which conspired to make the rich farmlands suitable for tract housing and heavy industry.

Alvarado did have some industry for most of its existence, mainly the sugar and salt works. There was also a thriving merchant section in town plus some small cottage industries. But Alvarado subsisted mainly on farming, as did the rest of the township.

In the early years farming was mostly in the areas of the sugar beet, chicory, vegetables, and late in the 19th century a growing number of fruit orchards.

As the 20th century started Alvarado began to take advantage of its wonderful climate (along with the rest of Washington Township) to grow a variety of vegetable crops, most notably cauliflower, lettuce, tomatoes, peas, fava beans, potatoes, and onions, most notably, although there was a spate of other vegetables grown. After WWI we saw the rise of farmer cooperatives and packing houses for vegetables arise in Washington Township, with H.P. Garin, Lloyd Bailey, the Williams Brothers, the Varni Brothers, and others being prominent.

In Alvarado the two prominent vegetable shippers were the Alvarado Vegetable Growers and the Varni Brothers.

The Varni Brothers, Steve and John, were from Hayward California, but they farmed extensively in Alvarado. They farmed land behind the old Catholic Church east to Fredi Street (the Alvarado Grammar School). They also farmed the old Granger place west of the SP tracks to the Alvarado Centerville Hiway, and used the old Granger barns on New Haven Street (formerly Granger Road) as their packinghouse. They also farmed a stretch of land east of the SP tracks, south of Smith Street, and west of Dyer Street to Santa Susanna Street. They farmed well into the 1960's. John Varni earned himself the nickname of the "Alvarado Cauliflower King."

The Alvarado Vegetable Growers was formed in the late 1920's of a consortium of some one dozen farmers who farmed along Lowry Road, Beard Road, Hall Ranch Road, Fair Ranch Road, and the Alvarado-Centerville Hiway.

It is interesting to note the growth of the small farmer in Washington Township. Beginning in the late 19th century there was a rise in the amount of small farmers in our area. Most, at this time, were the Portuguese (from both Portugal and the Azores) who had worked hard and saved their money. They then bought small plots of farmland to raise vegetables or plant fruit orchards.

The Portuguese were well known to have overpaid for the land they purchased. Said one large land owner, "I would rather see a Portuguese man with money in hand, than have the railroad go through my land."

After the start of the 20th century the Spaniards and the Italians started immigrating to Washington Township, although nowhere in the amounts of the Portuguese. My father came to the U.S. in 1920 and came to Alvarado. Here he worked on the farm of Mr. Louie Lagorio, who owned a cooperative ranch on the west side of Alameda Creek, north of Decoto Road and east of today's Paseo Padre Parkway.

My father worked for Mr. Lagorio and saved his money until he could buy a share of the cooperative. When he had bought his share he continued to work in the fields, but each month he received a dividend check as a share of the profits. When he had saved enough money to buy his own farm, my father sold his share to an Italian that had saved his money.

With the money my father made, he bought 14 acres of land on Fair Ranch Road. Here he had a house and barn built, and had a well sunk.

Another large Italian cooperative was found on Lowry Road and that helped spawn many Italian families on Lowry Road to buy their own small farms. Among the families here were the Accinelli's, the Tachella's, the Cerutti's, the Fazio's, and the Isola's. Also on Lowry Road (at the time called the McKeown Road), was Weston Emery and Wallace McKeown.

This formula was not only used in farming by the Italians, but also by the many garbage companies of the Bay Area. The largest and most notable of these was the Oakland Scavenger Company, which was owned solely by Italians, and only Italians could buy into the company or inherit shares in the company. Italians of the correct lineage could work for the company, and if they saved (or had financed) the cost of a share, they became partners and shared in dividends. In the 1930's the City of Oakland declared the Oakland Scavenger Company as the representative to collect garbage, which eventually spread as far south as Washington Township.

A blessing at first, this municipal contract was to be the death knell of the company, as the 60's and 70's drew forth people who objected to company ownership being allowed to Italians only. Discrimination was the word of the day, and due to the company's tie to municipality they were forced to eventually sell their company to Waste Management.

Another group of thrifty people began to immigrate to the U.S. shortly after the turn of the 20th century. These were the Japanese who became masters of farming small acreage farms. They were very successful, but they were stripped of their farms (for which they were paid a sum), and sent off to internments camps for the duration of WWII.

So following is a chronological timeline of the farming events for the Alvarado-Alviso area for the decade 1940:

Weston B. Emery:

Weston B. Emery was one of the four founding members of the Alvarado Vegetable Growers Assoc, which was founded in 1928. Weston B. was the grandson of Weston F. Emery, and the son of Orman J. Emery, both of whom came to Alvarado from Maine in 1872. Both men were carpenters and Orman gained fame as a master builder of dairy barns in California. Wes maintained his farm on Lowry Road and was an active member of the association as late as the 1950's.

The Harvey's:

The Harvey's were the largest of the farming families in the growers Association. Sylvester Harvey was the first of the Harvey's in Alvarado, arriving here in the early part of the 1850's. He farmed 100 acres of what is today the S.P. Harvey Park just south of the Union City/Fremont boundary. His sons Edward and Fred were both

members of the association as was Fred's son T.P. Harvey, and Ed's son George Harvey. Sylvester's daughter, Susan Harvey, married Farley Granger Jr. and their son, Harvey T. Granger, was also a member of the association.

Lloyd E. Bailey:

Lloyd astounded Washington Township farmers in 1921 when he managed to produce 200 sacks of potatoes from a single acre. Just fresh from college, Lloyd insisted that his modern farming methods would increase potato yields. He credited careful analyzation of soil, and the replenishing nutrients that he found lacking. Lloyd would go on to be one of the township's most progressive young farmers. He was among the first to use crop dusting by airplane, and he promoted farmers entering into marketing agreements. He was a member of the Alvarado Vegetable Growers, which shipped vegetables out of the Hall Station in Alvarado, and he was also an independent that shipped out vegetables from his own packing house located at the Centerville S.P. Depot.

Wallace McKeown:

Joseph and James McKeown were both Alvarado pioneers. Joseph was a blacksmith who owned a carriage shop of considerable fame on the corner of Horner and Levee Streets (Levee Street is now Union City Blvd). James McKeown farmed 100 acres on the NE corner of Lowry and Marsh Roads (Marsh Road is now Union City Blvd). James had three children who stayed to manage the homestead: Flora, Nancy, and Wallace. Wallace was a member of Alvarado Vegetable Growers Assoc.

Farming was one of the main industries of Washington Township. The big farmers got all of the press. So listed below are farmers listed in the 1940 Alvarado-Alviso Census District. Farmers are listed as (F), dairymen are listed as (DY), livestock raisers are listed as (LV), and those in the poultry industry are listed as (PO). No one in the 1940 census claimed to be orchardists, although I am sure there were many.

Frank C. Abreu (F)	Joseph Abreu (F)	John Accinelli (F)
Tom Accinelli (F)	Dominic Allegre (F)	Frank Amaral (F)
Joseph Amaral (F)	Louis Amaral (F)	Luis Amaral (F)
Christian Anderson (F)	Frank Andrade (F)	Henry Andrade (F)
Joseph R. Andrade (F)	William Andrade (F)	Joseph Avila (F)
Manuel A. Avila (F)	William Avila (F)	Lloyd Bailey (F)
Thomas Barclay (LV)	William Barclay (LV)	Antone A. Bettencourt (F)
Giovanni Binasco (F)	Antone J. Borges (F)	Frank Borghi (DY)
Ernest G. Brown (F)	Floribel C. Brown (F)	Alfred Caeton (F)
Manuel Caeton (F)	John Cardeniz (DY)	Frank Cardoza (F)
Manuel Cardoza (F)	John Cease (F)	Remegio Cerutti (F)
John Cerutti (F)	Chogun Cheng (F)	Low Cheng (F)
Wah Sing Cheng (F)	Washow Cheng (F)	Severino Ciarlo (F)
Angelo Cosso (F)	Carmello Cosso (F)	Domingos DeKidos (F)
John Dee (F)	Taneo Dowke (PO)	Anthony Duarte (F)
Joseph Duarte (F)	Maria C. Duarte (F)	Martin Duarte Sr. (F)
Martin Duarte Jr. (F)	Thomas Duarte (F)	Antone Dutra (F)
Filbert Dutra (F)	John F. Dutra (F)	Frank Dutra
Henry Dutra	Joseph Dutra (F)	Manuel Dutra (F)
Hiroji Egashira (F)	Wes Emery (F)	Frank Enos (F)
Frank Enos (F)	John Espinola (DY)	Frank Faria (F)
Joe E. Faria (DY)	Joe S. Faria (F)	John F. Faria Sr. (DY)
John Faria Jr. (DY)	Joseph Faria (F)	John B. Fazio (F)

Nick Fazio (F)
Henry Flores (F)
Manuel C. Gaspar (DY)
Joseph Gonsalves (F)
Harvey Granger (F)
Fred C. Harvey (F)
Joe Hendrickson (F)
Frank Horat (DY)
Louis Isola (F)
Nobumori Kubota (F)
Joel J. Langdon (F)
Frank C. Lemos (DY)
Joe D. Lewis (F)
Ralph Logan (F)
Wye Low (F)
Joseph D. Luiz (F)
John Machado (F)
Antonio S. Martin (F)
Manuel Martin (F)
Tony Martin (F)
Wallace McKeown (F)
Manuel Mello (F)
Noburo Nakashima (F)
Manuel Nunes (F)
Attilio Orrochi (F)
Joseph Pacheco (F)
William D. Patterson (F)
Ernest Perry (F)
Tony Perry (F)
Joe N. Pires (F)
Antonio Reina (F)
Joe Rocha (DY)
William Rodrigues (F)
Manuel D. Rose (F)
George Santos (F)
George Sciutto (F)
Alfred Silva (F)
Johnnie Silva (F)
Melvin J. Silva (F)
Tom Smyrl (F)
Antonio Soares (F)
Manuel Soares (F)
John Souza (F)
Kamei Tsuno (F)
George Udihara (F)
Vierra Sr. (DY)
Buford Wycoff (F)

Manuel Ferry (F)
Joe L. Flores (F)
Manuel George (F)
Frank Goularte (F)
G.B. Gualco (F)
George Harvey (F)
Tora Hikido (F)
Frank Imlig (F)
John Jess (F)
Kenji Kumacoi (F)
Enos Leal (DY)
Manuel S. Lemos (F)
Louie Lin (You) (F)
Manuel Lopes (F)
George Lowrie (F)
Thomas Lopes (F)
Louis Marchy (DY)
Henry Martin (F)
Manuel G. Martin (F)
Manuel Mattos (F)
Frank P. Mello
Andy Moffitt (F)
Sumi Nagashima (F)
Katsui Oku (F)
Virgil Orsetti (F)
Thomas Parodi (F)
Luigi Perata (F)
Frank E. Perry (F)
Melvin Peterson (F)
Charles W. Priester (F)
John G. Reina (F)
Manuel R. Roderick (F)
Clarence R. Rose (F)
Sasumo Sakamoto (F)
Manuel Santos (F)
Andrew Schuler (DY)
Henry R. Silva (F)
Luis Silva (F)
Victor Silva (F)
George Souza (F)
Frank Soares (F)
Alfred S. Soito
Michael Tachella (F)
Hideyoshi Tsutsui (F)
Joe Vargas (F)
Fred H. Wiegman (F)
You (Lung) (F)

Manuel Fields (F)
Anton Freitas (F)
Roy J. Gomes (F)
Joe Goularte (F)
Edward S. Harvey (F)
T.P. (Ted) Harvey (F)
William Hooper (F)
Frank Isola (F)
Frank Joseph (F)
Louis Lagorio (F)
Manuel A. Lebon (F)
Elmer F. Lewis (F)
John A. Logan (F)
Frank Loretz (F)
Jose Luiz (F)
Manuel C. Macedo (F)
Alfred Martin (F)
Joseph Martin (F)
Manuel S. Martin (F)
Alfred Mazza (F)
Kenneth Mello (F)
Frank Monez (DY)
Shigeru Nogami (F)
Shizao Oku (F)
Amerigo Orsetti (F)
Henry Patterson (F)
Manuel Perreira (F)
Joe F. Perry (F)
Tony Pimentel (F)
George J. Ray (F)
Antone Reivere (F)
Joe D. Rodrigues (F)
Joseph Rose (F)
Anthony Santos (F)
Antonio Scarpenti (F)
Joseph Shuler (DY)
Joe G. Silva (F)
Manuel Silva (F)
Zeto Silva (F)
Rumaldo Trejo (F)
Joseph Soares (F)
Arthur R. Soito (F)
Joseph Tosta (DY)
Maranori Tsutsui (F)
Peter Vergano (F) John
Anthony Williams (F) Louie

*** FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

At the start of the 1940's, the Alvarado Fire Department was in desperate need of a centrally located fire station and some modern equipment. The first step was taken when the Alameda County Board of Supervisors agreed to purchase land from Ed Farley on Smith Street for the purpose of constructing a new firehouse. The purchase price was \$750.



The old Alvarado Fire Station completed in September 1942. Today it houses the Union City Historical museum.

Ed Farley owned most of the land on the north side of Smith Street from Watkins Street on the west, to near the Alvarado Grammar Street to the east. This stretch of land was formerly part of the Little Tijuana section of Alvarado that burned to the ground in July 3, 1927. It would eventually house the new Post Office and the new Fire Station.

By the end of 1941 the Board of Supervisors had approved a new 350-gallon capacity fire engine to cost approximately \$7,000. The firm in Stockton, from which it was ordered, was expected to be delivered at Alvarado in about 90 days.

At this same time plans for a new fire hall was in the hands of the Alameda County architect and the site for the new building was purchased on Smith Street not far from the grammar school. School Principal J. C. Wasley was named Fire Chief of the reorganized department. Commissioners were A. A. Lee, Joe Lewis, Fred Joyce, John Ralph and Fred Wiegman. Also the Alvarado Fire District was enlarged about a year prior to assume the same boundaries as those of the school district. Prior to that only the town of Alvarado received fire service and outlying areas were pretty much on their own.

The ongoing war effort (WWII) made material for the new fire hall at Alvarado difficult to come by. But by August 1942 it was hoped that the new \$5,000 brick fire station would be completed early in September 1942. Plans were already being made to hold an open house to honor Fred Wiegman, president of the fire commission, who had devoted many hours to bringing this project to conclusion.

The first unit of the fire hall was 34' by 29' with brick walls and tar and gravel roof. It would have space for two engines and later an annex to include a clubroom and kitchen.

At the beginning of 1943 about \$250 worth of furnishings had been installed in the social room of the Alvarado Fire Department Assn. Then a committee to outfit the new fire hall was comprised of Fire Chief James Wasley, two assistant fire chiefs, George Davis and Anthony J. Vargas, and Fire Commissioner Joe Lewis. They bought card tables, curtains, chairs, a magazine rack, rug, etc.

The firemen were notified of fires by the Alvarado Telephone Operator who had the right to sound the siren on top of Sam Dinsmore's Store, and this warning would bring an immediate response from our volunteer fireman.

One prized piece of equipment the Alvarado Fire Station received was a resuscitator machine. The firemen were trained in the use of the machine, which was a first aid means of often saving lives. The Fire Commissioners deserve the credit for buying this up-to-date apparatus. It cost some \$400.

In January 1943 the yearly organization of the Alvarado Fire Department was completed with the following officers elected:

J. C. Wasley:	Chief and President of the Fireman's Club
Anthony J. Vargas:	Vice President
Clyde Lewis:	Secretary-Treasurer
Tony Alexander:	Sergeant-At-Arms

Other active Firemen:

George Davis	Anthony Rogers	Joe Dutra	Edward Fantuzzi
Clarence Flores	Charles Baird	Mike Gardetto	M.F. Silva
M. E. Perry			

Serving as commissioners are:

Fred Wiegman	John A. Ralph	A. A. Lee	Joe Lewis
Fred Joyce.			

In October of 1944 *The Alvarado Pioneer* saluted Fred Wiegman as the real "father of the Alvarado Fire House." As Alvarado's Fire Commissioner Fred Wiegman steered the construction of the firehouse to completion. The Chamber of Commerce officers started the crusade for a Fire House, but without the personal guidance of Mr. Wiegman, the building of the fire station would not have gotten to first base.

Besides being a volunteer force for the town of Alvarado, the firemen were also interested in the youth of Alvarado. Charles Baird, who put much energy into the founding of a Boy Scout Troop in Alvarado, found a group of enthusiastic men in the form of the Alvarado Fire Dept. Many of the firemen were members the Chamber of Commerce Committee on Boy Scouts. But this is just one of the programs these

volunteer firemen participated in for the betterment of Alvarado citizens and Alvarado youth.

On December 11, 1946, the Alvarado Firemen’s Association played hosts to their wives and families at a turkey dinner and dance held at the firehouse on Smith Street. The men took care of all the arrangements including cooking, decorating and entertainment. The wives were not allowed to do a single thing but eat and enjoy themselves.

The members were all very capable with Joe E. Dutra, who is known for his culinary abilities, as head of the kitchen committee and such amiable helpers as Manuel Silva Jr., Clarence Flores, Anthony Vargas, Peter Pinto, and Elvin Rose, all cooperating on entertainment. Wilbert Hendricks, Charles Baird, Tony Alexander, Joe Avila and Joe Dutra, were in charge of decorating and organization.

Those who attended were:

- Fire Chief: Anthony J. Vargas and wife
- Mr. & Mrs. A.A. Lee
- Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dutra
- Mr. & Mrs. Manuel E. Perry and son Vernon
- Mrs. Louise Machado
- Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Flores and daughters Patricia and Elizabeth
- Mr. & Mrs. Tony Alexander and daughter Sharon
- Mr. & Mrs. George Hocking and daughters Carol and Elaine
- Mr. & Mrs. Elvin Rose and son Danny
- Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pinto and daughter Elaine
- Mr. & Mrs. M.P. Goularte
- Mr. & Mrs. Wilbert Hendricks and son Rodney
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Machado
- Mr. Jose Avila
- Mr. John Ralph
- Mr. & Mrs. Fred Joyce
- Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Silva Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Antone Rogers

 * **FLOODS** *

This decade started off with a flurry of floods, but by 1943 the fury seemed to abate, and any flooding after 1943 seemed hardly noteworthy.

The new decade started off with a bang with ten inches of water covering the Marsh Road on January 11, 1940 at the Patterson Slough. Several hundred acres of grazing land were inundated near Alvarado as the Alameda Creek overflowed its banks. Some minor damage was reported on the young peas and spinach crops.

On February 28th rising water in the Alameda Creek near Alvarado flooded many roads. The Marsh Road south of Alvarado was under water for more than three miles, as were sections of the Valle Vista-Alvarado Road (Alquire Road) and Canal Street (Marsten Ave.). The rain continued until the end of February.

The spilling of the storm waters in the west portion of Alvarado removed the danger of the town itself being flooded. Only a few homes on the outskirts of the community were surrounded by water.

The Leslie Salt Plant, one half mile south of Alvarado, remained closed as employees were unable to reach the plant over flood blocked roads. A half dozen families were marooned near the plant. Meanwhile near the Turk Island salt works one hundred sheep were marooned.

One silver lining of the storms was to insure an ample water supply for well and agriculture. Meanwhile this extra rain caused the Alameda Creek to continue its flooding of low-lying areas around Alvarado. Homes in the outlying area of Alvarado are surrounded by water.

In March 1941, a flood visited Alvarado farmers south of Alvarado to Newark. The March and April harvest of cauliflower saw 150 carloads flooded out in the fields and were made unfit for harvesting, crating, and shipment. The Alvarado Vegetable Growers Association has managed to ship out 25 or 30 cars the past 10 days. They expect only 10 or 15 carloads more of this March and April harvest.

On January 23, 1943 the rain-swollen Alameda Creek reached flood stage near Alvarado and hundreds of acres of farmland are under water, but agricultural directors said that it would help rather than hurt the farmers. They said the water could be particularly good for the cauliflower crop and would help grazing land, orchards and plants newly set out. This was the last flood worthy of mention this decade.

*** SOCIAL, CIVIC & RELIGIOUS ORGS ***

4-H Club / Alvarado Boy's Club / Alvarado Girl's Club / Alvarado Red Cross / Alvarado Service Club / Birthday Club / Boy Scouts / Bridge Club / Chamber of Commerce / Christmas Seals / Echoes of Portugal / Farm Home Center / Fraternal Order of Eagles / Galloping Goose Pinochle Club / Girl Scouts & Brownie Scouts / International Order of Odd Fellows / Japanese-American Club / Ladies Aid Society / Library / March of Dimes / Miss Pan America Club / Mother's Club / Native Sons of the Golden West / Order of the Eastern Star / Post Office / Presbyterian Church / PTA / Rebekah's / Sanitary District / SPRSI / St. Anne's Catholic Church / Veterans of Foreign Wars / UPPEC

4-H Club:

Mervin Pinto was elected president of the Alvarado 4-H Club on November 25, 1949. The organization was recently established at the Alvarado Elementary School under the direction of the Agricultural Extension Department of the University of California. Other officers elected were: Eddie Maldonado, vice-president; and Marjorie Best, secretary. The adult leaders were Manuel Pinto, Mrs. Gladys Best and F.M. Phillips.

Alvarado Boys Club:

Merchants of Alvarado voted to support the proposed Boy's Club in Alvarado in 1941. So much has been seen of the result of no well-directed play for boys that the merchants thought it was something worth encouraging. Especially as seeing that an experienced boys activities leader was willing to volunteer his time gratis. He is

Chester Phillips of Decoto, who is the WPA playgrounds coach at Alvarado School. This young man, about 23, has had some fine experience coaching the Alvarado boys this summer in their baseball games on Friday afternoons with teams of neighboring towns.

Another move to establish a recreation center for Alvarado boys was launched in May of 1945 by the Alvarado Fireman's Association and endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce. A clubroom was being sought where pool tables and other recreational facilities can be installed, and tentative plans are that members of local civic organizations would volunteer as directors. Other civic and fraternal groups to be contacted for assistance were the Eagles, the Odd Fellows, and the I.D.E.S. The committee was:

J. C. Wasley	Joe E. Lewis	M. A. Silva Jr.
Ed Wilson		

Alvarado Girls Club:

A Girls Social Club was organized at Alvarado on July 19, 1946. The meeting was held at the home of Emily Dominguez of Alvarado. They named the new club MISS PAN AMERICA. Officers elected were:

President:	Emily Dominguez
Vice President:	Angie Leon
Secretary:	Hope Saucedo
Treasurer:	Irene Ramirez
News Reporter:	Tillie Benitez

The rest of the members were:

Angie Aranda	Josephine Aranda	Madeline Hernandez
Julia Marino	Sarah Ramirez	Connie Saucedo
Jennie Villegas	Socorro Rodriguez	

The purpose of the club was to help a needy situation in the case of a family member or family. Membership age is from 14 years up and a resident of Alvarado.

The first social activity would be a picnic at Alum Rock Park near San Jose. The next meeting would be at the home of Hope Saucedo. This was a noble and wise object, to join together so many splendid Americans, many of whose parents came from great republics to the south of the United States.

Alvarado Red Cross:

The Alvarado Chapter of the Red Cross met every Wednesday at the Odd Fellows Hall in 1941 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the upstairs hall. The ladies were doing something very patriotic with their knitting and sewing, and they would like still more workers to put their shoulder to the wheel and turn out. Mrs. James Logan directed the group and was assisted by:

Mrs. Vargas	Mrs. Mello	Mrs. Gardetto	Mrs. Robie
Mrs. Rivers	Mrs. Baird		

In the beginning of 1942 the Alvarado Red Cross sewing room furnished bandages and dressings for the Emergency Nursing Services. Mrs. Rebecca Logan was named to head up the sewing room for Alvarado. About nine or ten ladies have been sewing at the Odd Fellows Hall in Alvarado on Wednesdays for the Red Cross. They have had

Mrs. Rebecca Logan as their leader. More ladies were asked to help this charitable work along.

In September 1942, Mrs. Wes Emery has gathered a group of 30 ladies for instruction in First Aid at the Alvarado Grammar School. The ladies met on Thursday of each week. More were invited to come to the class, which was under the instruction of a qualified Red Cross person.

At this same time the Alvarado Red Cross sewing room made more than 600 articles in Sept. 1942. Among the 17 women who sew at the Odd Fellows Hall each Wednesday afternoon were Mrs. Fyffe, who has knitted numerous caps, mittens, socks and 39 sweaters, and Mrs. Annie Logan who is completing her 41st sweater. Articles completed include dresses, skirts, snowsuits, trousers, rompers and other wearing apparel. Mrs. Logan's daughter, Mrs. J. V. (Tillie) Goold of Centerville, has assisted with making 350 buttonholes for some of the above name garments. Also among the star knitters were Mrs. Susie Davis and Mrs. George Enos.

Mrs. Mary Rivers of Alvarado received a commendation from the Red Cross for being so active. In 1943 she recruited 16 Alvarado women for the Red Cross bandage work. Among these women were:

Mrs. Mary Rivers	Mrs. Mike Gardetto	Mrs. Hubert Jacinto
Mrs. V. DeVincenzi	Mrs. Joe Lewis	Mrs. F. Silveira
Mrs. Charles Baird	Mrs. E. Borges	Mrs. A. Perry
Mrs. J. Utile	Mrs. F. Machado	Mrs. Anthony Lee
Mrs. M. Perry	Miss Angie Borges	Miss Josephine Borges

The 1944 American Red Cross drive started on March 1st, with J.R. Blacow, Central Bank Manager, heading the drive for Alvarado. He had the following committee:

Miss Flora McKeown	Mrs. Helen Goularte	Mrs. Joe Priego
Mrs. Helen Alameda	Mrs. Felix Diangson	Sam Dinsmore
Joe E. Lewis	Mrs. Pearl Peterson	J.H. Ralph
Mrs. C.M. Anderson		

Also important during the war was the Red Cross blood donation drives. Ten donors at the Washington Township blood procurement center joined the gallon club in April 1944, at the last visit of the mobile unit, bringing the total number to a dozen. The Alvarado gallon donors were George Hocking and Mrs. Blake Hill.

The list of blood donors from Alvarado are:

Mrs. Pat Hill	Donated nine times
Viola Dinsmore	Donated seven times
Joseph E. Dutra.	Donated five times
Mary A Silva	Donated twice
Mary Perez	Donated twice
Johnnie Smyrl	Donated twice
Vernie Perry	Donated for the first time.

With a quota of \$16,715, an increase of 30 percent over 1944, the Washington Township Branch of the Oakland Chapter of the Red Cross began a two-week's drive for the annual war fund on March 1, 1944, under the leadership of Robert Blacow. The local town chairman for Alvarado was Walter Oakey, and for Alviso is Mrs. Mayme Roderick.

Commercial Advertising:

YOUR RED CROSS MUST HAVE FUNDS

The Tide of Victory is rolling on...

But the tide of casualties is rolling on too. This year, more than ever, American fighting men needs the help the Red Cross gives...more wounded, many different battlefronts, more prisoners, more families of service men needing help. So...give generously to the Red Cross. Your gift will help to ease the burden of someone who is giving everything he has for you. Keep the Red Cross at the side of your fighting men!

CENTRAL BANK
Alvarado

Alvarado Service Club:

The Alvarado Service Club worked on a testament to the Alvarado fighting boys in the war. Begun in November 1943, the work is a list of names of Alvarado boys who have served in the Armed Forces during WWII. The testament was made possible by the work of John Ralph, who served on the committee of the Chamber body. He reported that he has received cooperation from Morris Davilla for painting the frame. Also mentioned for their work was Tony Pine, who fashioned the frame molding at the planing mill, and from Miss Perry of the Grammar School staff of teachers who wrote in the names.

Birthday Club:

The Alvarado Birthday club, one of the oldest social organizations in Washington Township, organized over 50 years ago, continued to hold meetings and celebrate birthdays this decade. Persons honored and persons participating in this decade were:

Mrs. Dora Tainton	Mrs. Walter Robie	Mrs. George Hellwig
Mrs. August May	Mrs. Dora Richmond	Mrs. Jennie Rutherford

Boy Scouts:

The decade starts off with the Alvarado Boy Scouts being disbanded. At the end of 1941 interest again surfaced with having an active Boy Scout Troop in Alvarado. Frank Machado, George Oakes, and James Wasley, Sr., began the formation of an Alvarado Troop in November 1941. By the middle of December the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce picked up banner to revitalize the Scouts. Chamber President Frank Machado asked W.T. Lindsay, field executive of the Oakland Area Boy Scout Council to be the speaker at a Chamber meeting on December 18th. All parents who were interested in scouting were invited to attend.

At the C of C meeting held with William Lindsay, all present were heartily in favor of forming a Boy Scout Troop in Alvarado with headquarters at a clubhouse in the playgrounds behind the schoolhouse. Bob Whipple of Decoto, who has a Scout troop there, boosted the idea. The following Boy Scout leaders were chosen at the meeting:

Scoutmaster:	Anthony Silva		
Ass't Scoutmaster:	George Vargas		
Directors:	Charles Baird	Joseph Lewis	Anthony Rodgers
	Frank Machado	James Wasley	A. J. Vargas
	Anthony Silva	Mike Gardetto	Julian Yabut
	Manuel Perry	George Vargas	

Southern Alameda County greeted its newest addition to the fold in March 1942 with the admission of the Alvarado Boy Scout Troop 1. The troop will be under the leadership:

Scoutmaster:	Anthony J. Silva		
Ass't Scoutmasters:	James C. Wasley Jr.	George Vargas	
Troop Committee:	Charles W. Baird	Joseph E. Lewis	Julian Yabut
	J.C. Wasley Sr.	Frank Machado	Manuel Perry
	Mike Gardetto	A.J. Vargas	

In June 1942 five boys were chosen from the Alvarado Troop to attend the Boy Scout Camp in the Sierra's, about 30 miles from Yosemite. The boys are:

John Samarron	Lawrence Samarron	Walter Diangson
Bob Lemos	Alden Chambers.	

The 1945 Boy Scout Committee was headed by Walter Oakey, of Central Bank, and assisted by:

Leslie Maffey	Mike Salido	Charles Baird
Ed Wilson	Manuel Perry	Joe E. Lewis
Mike Gardetto	Tony Vargas	Manuel Silva Jr.

The Scoutmaster is Mike Salido.

In July 1945 the Alvarado Scouts welcomed three new members:

Gilbert Cicairos	Clyde Davis	Tom Gellerman
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Six scouts were raised to second-class. They were:

Joe Lewis Jr.	Vernon Machado	Glenn Bachelor
Carlos Renteria	Richard Faria	Ted Peterson

Bridge Club:

The Alvarado Bridge Club reported very little activity this decade, this article being only mention of the club.

The Bridge Club met in September of 1941 at the home of Mrs. Louis Musick of Decoto. Two members were missing from their regular places since they had moved away from the community. They were Mrs. Walter Ziegler and Mrs. Harvey Granger. Two new members were slated to take their places. The members of the club are: Mrs. Ted Harvey, Mrs. Alwyn Searles, Mrs. Andrew Logan, Mrs. Lloyd Bailey, Mrs. Milton Munger and Mrs. Louis Musick.

Chamber of Commerce

This decade saw a resurgence of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. Along with this was the reporting of the *Alvarado Pioneer*, which documented many meetings and activities of the Chamber.

The Alvarado Chamber of Commerce had been inactive for a period of years when Frank Machado revived the organization with a drive for paid up members. Following is the list of the new members, and the old members as of November 1940, who has joined for the coming year, paying their \$2.00 apiece to Mr. Machado:

Frank Machado	Charles Baird	John Menezes
Clarence Flores	Frank Silveira	A.A. Lee

Angelo Cosso
 Joseph Jacinto
 Mi Fujita
 D. Cubicciotti
 Sam Dinsmore
 Erle Hellwig
 A.E. Vargas
 Fernando Paredes
 George Hellwig
 Manuel B. Azevedo
 M.A. Silva Jr.
 John Brugge
 Manuel Hendricks
 Joe F. Paris
 J.R. Blacow
 Joe S. Dutra
 Frank Perez
 Joe Silveira
 Joaquin Vargas
 Morris Davilla
 Antone Dutra
 Richie Mattos
 Elvin Rose
 Peter Rose
 Ray Cushing
 Mike Salido
 E.M. Cooper
 Clifford Dinsmore
 Joe W. Silva
 Lloyd R. Silva
 M.P. Munger

D. Diaz
 K. Matsumoto
 John Ralph
 Joe E. Dutra
 George Oakes
 Matt Machado
 Manuel August Silva
 James C. Wasley
 M.C. Pinto
 Joe Marcellino
 Edward Fantuzzi
 Michael Gardetto
 M.C. Gaspar
 George Thayer
 John Varni
 A.J. Cadero
 Seraphine Suarez
 Frank Mattos
 Joe Utile
 Stanley Roderick
 S. Diaz
 Seraphine Daviner
 Frank Vargas
 Cipriano Diaz
 Wilbert Hendricks
 Joe S. Avila
 Rich A. Silva
 Arthur Murgula
 Manuel S. Rose
 Frank Silva Jr.
 Tony Brune

Antone Santos
 Ramiro Machado
 Fred Hafen
 A.S. Mello
 Edward Mateo
 Joseph H. Priego
 Manuel Goularte
 Isabel M. Mondragon
 Tony Alexander
 M.E. Perry Jr.
 Joe Alameda
 Joe Flores
 Anthony Rivers
 Martin Rose
 Fred Wiegman
 Dr. F.B. Bettencourt
 John F. Machado
 Sam Dinsmore Jr.
 Steve Smith
 Peter Pinto
 A.J. Vargas
 Joe Montalbo
 Ramon Diaz
 Virginia Mottershaw
 Harold Mottershaw
 Primitivo C. Gonzalez
 Serafine Noia
 William Machado
 M.C. Lemos
 Frank S. Mello
 James Hunter

New Officers will probably be elected as new members and new programs will add interest to the meetings.

With nearly 100 paid-up members the, Alvarado Chamber of Commerce, after a period of inactivity for several years, reorganized at the Alvarado Grammar School in December 1940 with more than half of its members present.

Frank Machado, who is credited with signing up much of the members, was unanimously elected president. The officers elected were:

President:	Frank Machado		
Vice President:	Joe Lewis		
Secretary:	George Oakes		
Treasurer:	John Menezes		
Directors:	John Ralph	Joe Dutra	Clarence Flores
	A. E. Vargas	Manuel Azevedo	E. Perry
	J. C. Wasley.		

One major issue discussed at the initial meeting was the formation of an Alvarado Sanitary District. The membership heard from J. N. Stage, consulting engineer, from the L. Cedric Macabee Co., on the prospect of setting up our own district.

NOTE: The full story of the Alvarado Sanitary District in the 1940's is told in its category in this work. A wonderfully happy ending to the historic Alvarado Chamber

of Commerce meeting were the refreshments served by the committee of ladies. Sandwiches, coffee, cake, pickles, olives, etc., were arranged on daintily decorated banquet tables in on section of the auditorium. The good cheer bespoke the success of the ladies' effort. Chairman of the refreshments committee was:

Chairman:	Mrs. Mike Gardetto	
Assistants:	Mrs. F.E. Machado	Mrs. M.E. Perry
	Mrs. M.B. Azevedo	Mrs. Nora Vargas
	Mrs. J.C. Wasley	Mrs. Charles Baird
	Mrs. George Oakes	Mrs. Joe Lewis

The Chamber of Commerce continued to grow, adding three new members in April 1941. They were:

Adam Lewis	James Wasley, Jr.	Gregory Perry
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On Friday night, April 18, 1941 a big turnout of around 130 people filled about three-fourths of the space of the Alvarado Grammar School auditorium to play whist with the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. Merchants were liberal with their prizes and President Frank Machado desired to thank them for their generous donations. They gave enough donations to total 75 fine prizes of real worth. Special credit must be given to Frank Machado, Manuel Perry, Peter Rose and others for soliciting the prizes from the merchants.

In the fall, all minds of Alvaradan's turn to the expectation of the possible annual flood. Deciding to be pro-active in 1941, the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce had workers burning brush at the mouth of the Alameda Creek on Sunday Sept. 28th and Oct. 12th. President Frank Machado said there were 15 workers, who donated their time on Sunday Sept. 28, 1941, and burned the lighter brush, but the heavier wood could not be reached on account of the heat, so it was finished on October 12th.

Numbering houses in the town of Alvarado would go forward with the arrival of numbers on November 23, 1941, for 281 homes and business places in the town; together with a map showing which locations receive their respective numbers. Distribution to individuals went forward under the auspices of Peter Rose and Charles Baird. The residence numbers will be distributed at 50¢ each to householders by the Chamber of Commerce.

Election of officers of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce for 1943 was held on December 16th at the Odd Fellows Hall. Frank Machado, who has done such a wonderful job of single handedly make it what it is today, even collecting 110 memberships a year at \$2 each, declined to run for president, and suggested that some young blood be added as leader. Charles Baird nominated Mike Salido, who has shown a wonderful interest in Boy Scouting here as scoutmaster. He was elected the new president. The new officers are:

President:	Mike Salido
Vice President:	Charles Baird
Secretary:	George Oakes
Treasurer:	John Menezes

Directors:	John Ralph	D. Diaz	Frank Machado
Manuel Silva Jr.	Matt Machado	Joe Priego	Joe Langdon

S.P. Station Agent Ed Wilson had a fine report to make regarding the big campaign to have local people cooperate in exterminating rats. Wilson told how the Agricultural

inspector furnished poisoned grain free and how it had succeeded in killing many rats. Those who had used it and reported success included J.C. Wasley, Charles Baird, D. Diaz and others.

Our blacksmith, M.A. Silva, Jr., is probably the liveliest citizen in Alvarado today. Lots of members had talked about the need of collecting of funds to clean up debris from the Alameda Creek bed, as advocated by the *Alvarado Pioneer* newspaper and the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. But everyone was too busy with other patriotic drives it seemed. So it remained for our blacksmith, M.A. Silva, Jr., to make up his mind that the chance of flooding his property as well as the town needed action. So he got busy and secured \$190. Some of the growers had already pledged to the Chamber, but no one got busy until Silva this week took our breath away by his business like work. Here is what he collected:

M.A. Silva, Jr., \$25	D. Diaz, Union Meat, \$5	Adolph Oliver, \$25
Fred Wiegman, \$25	Weston Emery, \$5	Joel H. Langdon, \$10
Manuel E. Amaral, \$10	Clarence Flores, \$5	Matt Machado, \$15
Sam Dinsmore, \$10	Felix Diangson, \$5	William Avila, \$25
Mrs. August May, \$25	Manuel Andrade, \$5	Miss Lottie Jung, \$ 5
John Ralph, \$ 5		

The Chamber of Commerce has also pledged to add \$25 to the fund.

Walter Oakey, President of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce had a "plan" to end all plans of the younger set to indulge in Halloween depredations, following a check-up of damages. The 1945 Halloween "tricks" around the town of Alvarado was especially bothersome this year. Oakley would have an ordinance or State law authorizing a school worker's brigade to operate November 1st in the removal of all soap, paint, shoe polish, dye and tomato stains from all public buildings. "If the kids weren't responsible, they'd see to it that it wasn't done here," said Mr. Oakey.

The Chamber voted to appropriate funds for street decorations during the 1945 Christmas season. This is the first group in Washington Township to sponsor a town-wide decoration program. Merchants interviewed during the past month by Mrs. Annie Baird and Mrs. Isabelle Mondragon indicated they would cooperate in decorating their stores, the women reported. President Walter Oakey appointed Leslie Maffey, principal of the local grammar school to supervise overhead street decorations if highway authorities grant permission for them. The Christmas season will officially open here December 5th or upon the arrival of trees and holiday decorations. The program was adopted by the California State Chamber of Commerce with the idea of offering a festive welcome to Alvarado's returning servicemen from the War.

Through the decade the Chamber took on various responsibilities and activities. Among them:

During the early war years the Chamber lobbied the Peerless Stage Lines for transport from Alvarado to local shipyards in Oakland and other national defense work sites. Another project of the Chamber was to give every departing Alvarado boy going into the fight a wallet as a cheery good bye and something to remember the hometown people. Frank Machado made it a point to personally present the wallets to each man as he left home. Later the wallets were changed to money belts.

In 1946 the Chamber proposed the appropriation of funds to install a town bulletin board, purchase caps for the Junior Traffic Patrol, and distribution of 500 leaflets printed by the *Pioneer* describing the town assets.

In 1948 the Chamber of Commerce petitioned the Alameda County Board of Supervisors requesting a portion of 18th Street be taken into the county road system. Old Union City had three surviving north south streets between "V" Street (today's Horner Street) and "W" Street (today's Marston Avenue). They were 17th Street (today's Bulmer Street), 18th Street (today's Brooklyn Street) and 19th Street (today's Brier Street).

18th Street had been a gravel road and was not under county maintenance as the other numbered streets were. Change came when E. Naharro (owner of the Alvarado Theater) opened up the old 18th Street to Maiden Lane. This made 18th Street a much more important road as now Maiden Lane could be reached from both Levee Street (today's Union City Boulevard) and "V" Street. Today Maiden Lane is closed off from Union City Boulevard and is accessible only by Brooklyn Street (old 18th Street).

Christmas Seal:

The Christmas Seals campaign was held annually, at about Christmas time, to benefit the fight against tuberculosis. Here are the Alvarado campaigners noted throughout the decade, Miss Mildred Nauert, Mrs. August May, Mrs. W.S. Robie, Miss Alice Menezes, and Mrs. Genevieve Dutra.

Echoes of Portugal:

The Echoes of Portugal, an Alvarado girl drill team have been making a great showing for their town this summer (1941). Ever since the Alvarado Holy Ghost celebration, they have been drilling every Sunday at different festas. They have gone to Crows Landing, Newman, Santa Clara, Stevenson, Patterson, San Jose, Livingston and are expected to drill in several other places.

The girls in the Drill Team are:

Mrs. Delinda Pimentel, Captain	Mrs. Mary Re, Lieutenant	Mrs. Marjorie Re
Miss Lorraine Alameda	Miss Florence Molina	Miss Evelyn Correia
Miss Ernestine Rabello	Miss Doris Martinez	Miss Isabel Monte
Miss Emile Mesquite	Miss Julia Pagan	Miss Lucille Fonseca
Miss Alexia Lezand	Miss Beatrice Fields	Miss Jean Goularte
Miss Phyllis Cordoba	Miss Betty Medeiros	Miss Jean Silveira
Miss Laverne Medeiros		

Farm Home Center:

The Alvarado Farm Home Center will have a picnic meeting at the Hayward Memorial Park on August 28, 1940 according to plans made at a recent meeting at the home of Mrs. Lena Bettencourt in Alvarado. Committees appointed to arrange the affair include:

Mrs. Mary Gastelum	Mrs. Lena Bettencourt	Irma Brown
Lou George	Mae Rogers	Adeline Santos
Mrs. Joe Williams	Mrs. John Williams	Mrs. Amaral
Ida Rogers.		

Defense Stamps were awarded at a series of card parties to be given by the Alvarado Farm Home Center at the home of Mrs. Rita Oliveira during March 1942. A St. Patrick's party was also planned for March at the home of Mrs. Marcella Davilla, according to Mrs. Mary L. George, publicity chairman.

Fraternal Order of Eagles:

The Eagles were again very active during this decade. In 1946 the Eagles purchased the IOOF Hall, which then became known as the Eagles Hall. Here are some of their members and their activities:

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1941 Eagles were:

President:	Angelo Cosso
Vice President:	William E. Silva
Chaplain:	W.C. Bettencourt
Secretary:	John Menezes
Treasurer:	C.W. Baird
Conductor:	Robert Francis
Trustee:	A.E. Vargas
Inside Guard:	M.P. Rose
Outside Guard:	John Delcrew

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1944 Eagles were:

President:	Joe Martin Jr.
Vice President:	Frank Cardoza
Chaplain:	George Davis
Secretary:	John Menezes
Treasurer:	C.W. Baird
Conductor:	Joe P. Roderick
Trustee:	M.F. Silva
Inside Guard:	A.J. Rodgers
Outside Guard:	Alfred P. Silva

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1945 Eagles were:

President:	John H. Holland
Vice President:	Serafin Caldeira
Chaplain:	Clarence Rose
Secretary:	John Menezes
Treasurer:	C.W. Baird
Conductor:	C. Marshand
Trustee:	M.F. Silva
Inside Guard:	Alfred Perry
Outside Guard:	M.P. Rose

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1946 Eagles were:

President:	Serafin Caldeira
Vice President:	Clarence Rose
Chaplain:	Walter W. Texeira
Secretary:	John Menezes
Treasurer:	C.W. Baird
Conductor:	Arthur Soito
Physician:	Dr. W.L. McWhirter
Trustee:	M.F. Silva

Inside Guard:	Clifford Serpa		
Outside Guard:	Frank Cunha		
Delegates:	Clarence Rose	Arthur Soito	M.F. Silva
Alternates:	C.W. Baird	Frank Delgado	W.J. Gordon

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1948 Eagles were:

President:	Walter W. Texeira
Vice President:	Arthur Soito
Chaplain:	Raymond W. Cunha
Treasurer:	C.W. Baird
Conductor:	Edward A. Silva
Physician:	Dr. W.L. McWhirter
Trustee:	Joseph S. Martin
Inside Guard:	Ernest A. Quadros
Outside Guard:	Tony Dutra

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1949 Eagles were:

President:	Arthur A. Soito		
Vice President:	W. Cunha		
Chaplain:	Edward A. Silva		
Treasurer:	C.W. Baird		
Conductor:	Ernest A. Quadros		
Physician:	Dr. W.L. McWhirter		
Trustee:	Joseph E. Lewis		
Inside Guard:	Maurice Leal		
Outside Guard:	Ervin Williams		
Delegates:	John E. Santos	Raymond Cunha	J.S. Martin
Alternates:	Tony Dutra	Serafin Caldeira	M.S. Abreu
	W.E. Silva		

Members:

A.E. Quaresma	Antone Lawrence	Joe Martin
Angelo Cosso	William Silva	Joseph E. Lewis
Vernon J. Rose	John Menezes	W.C. Bettencourt
C.W. Baird	Robert Francis	M.P. Rose
John Delcrew	Louis Silva	M.F. Silva
Frank Cardoza	A.J. Rodgers	George Davis
Joe P. Roderick	Alfred P. Silva	M.F. Silva
Manuel Silva, Jr.	M. Machado	Enos Delgado
George Roderick	Jack Soares	Frank Isola
Martin Phillips	Leslie Maffey	Bill Machado
Lloyd R. Silva	Nick Fazio	Henry Dutra
Manuel Ferreira	Henry Martin	M. Santos
Walter Oakey	George Pacheco	Leonard Silva
Clarence Peyton	William D. Hurd	John H. Holland
Serafin Caldeira	Clarence Rose	C. Marshand
M.P. Rose	Alfred Perry	Walter W. Texeira
Arthur Soito	Dr. W.L. McWhirter	Clifford Serpa
Frank Cunha	Frank Delgado	W.J. Gordon
Manuel E. Benites	Walter Fasolis	Alfred Lebon
William Martinez	Ernest A. Machado	Joseph A. Brune
Harold Cardoza	Manuel S. Souza, Jr.	Louis Muller
Eugene J. Bathe	Edward L. Perry	F.P. Oliveira

Raymond W. Cunha
Tony Dutra
Ervin Williams

Edward A. Silva
W. Cunha
John E. Santos

Ernest A. Quadros
Maurice Leal
M.S. Abreu

Eagles Auxiliary:

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1948 Eagles auxiliary were:

President:	Mrs. Mabel Rodgers
Vice-President:	Mrs. Aurora Lewis
Chaplain:	Mrs. Grace Texeira
Conductor:	Mrs. Madeline DeQuadros
Inside Guard:	Mrs. Irene Dutra
Outside Guard:	Mrs. Josephine Delgado
Treasurer:	Miss Alice Menezes
Rec. Secretary:	Mrs. Susie Davis
Trustee:	Mrs. Esther Gardetto

The newly elected slate of officers for the 1949 Eagles auxiliary were:

President:	Mrs. Joe Lewis	
Vice-President:	Mrs. Adeline Quadros	
Chaplain:	Mrs. Alvina Leal	
Conductress:	Mrs. Josephine Delgado	
Secretary:	Mrs. Susie Davis	
Treasurer:	Miss Alice Menezes	
Inside Guard:	Mrs. Constance Holland	
Outside Guard:	Mrs. Evelyn Silvestri	
Trustees:	Mrs. Esther Gardetto	Mrs. Mamie Silva
	Mrs. Ruby Gordon	

Mrs. Grace Texeira	Mrs. Madeline DeQuadros	Mrs. Irene Dutra
Mrs. Josephine Delgado	Miss Alice Menezes	Mrs. Susie Davis
Mrs. Esther Gardetto	Mrs. Helen Goularte	Mrs. Tessie Maciel
Mrs. Adeline Quadros	Mrs. Alvina Leal	Mrs. Constance Holland
Mrs. Evelyn Silvestri	Mrs. Mamie Silva	Mrs. Ruby Gordon

Galloping Goose Pinochle Club:

The Galloping Goose Pinochle Club of Alvarado enjoyed a combined Halloween and Pinochle party Thursday evening, October 21, 1948 at the home of Mary Dudinsky of Alvarado. All members and guests came dressed for the occasion in their quaint masks and costumes. Very clever costuming was designed by the individuals.

Top prize went to Marguerite Cadero, as she was unable to be identified and very cleverly dressed. Honorable mention went to Mrs. Bertha Best as she artistically designed a very unique costume with orange and black accessories down to the very minute detail.

First prize in Pinochle tournament went to Rubye of San Francisco and Gladys Best of Alvarado. Second prize went to Betty McIntosh of Alvarado, the Galloping Goose went to Elizabeth Best of Alvarado.

Girl Scouts & Brownie Scouts:

Alvarado Brownie Scouts:

Nineteen Brownie Scouts were invested at the Alvarado Grammar School in February 1948 under the leadership of Mrs. Emily Noia and Mrs. Emily Click. The girls receiving their pins were:

Sharon Alexander	Frances Alvarez	Virginia Araya
Carol Bowersox	Jeanny Cheng	Nancy Conrad
Myrna Jean Dutra	Patricia Flores	Mercedes Hernandez
Grace Gillimay	Ellen Louie	Patricia Noia
Madeline Mata	Margaret Pfau	Aurora Sanchez
Geraldine Silva	Helen Vasquez	Patricia Vargas
Helen Villalobos	Rosemary Urrutia	Jo Ann Boon

Girl Scouts:

Organization of Alvarado's first Girl Scout Troop has been completed with 15 girls prepared to receive their second-class awards. Their first hike was made on May Day 1943.

Troop Leader:	Mrs. Anelda Hulse.	
Officers:	Barbara Diangson	Betty Silva
	Delores Santos	Betty Diangson
	Ardis Hulse	

A public investiture service and court of awards was held by the Lone Troop Girl Scouts of Alvarado at the Alvarado Grammar School in June 1943 by Mrs. Anelda Hulse, leader in charge. Twelve girls were raised to second-class rank:

Betty Ann Jacinto	Margarette Hulse	Joyce Layton
Joelle Andrada	Sherry Davis	Clarabel Silva
Delores Santos	Barbara Diangson	Eleanor Rose
Janet Layton	Betty Jane Silva	Madeline Hernandez

Girl Scout week the past week (November 1943) was observed by all the girls going to church and attending mass. They wore their uniforms too. In fact they showed their colors all week, most of them wearing it to school too. Its leader, Mrs. Anelda Hulse, who has three daughters in the troop, gives fine leadership to the Girl Scout Troop.

Among the girls in the troop are:

Ardis Hulse	Anelda Hulse	Marguerite Hulse
Betty Ann Jacinto	Clarabel Silva	Joelle O'Neil
Betty Silva	Joyce Layton	Janet Layton
Madeline Hernandez	Georgia Davis	Cherry Davis
Eleanor Rose	Dorothy Eudy	Barbara Diangson

Mrs. Oakes, executive of the big Hayward area of Girl Scouts paid the Alvarado Girl Scouts and their leader, Mrs. Hulse, a big compliment when she saw the list of awards given out in June 1944 as the largest single awards program that took place in all of southern Alameda County. Many of the girls received several awards. Those winning awards were:

Betty Jacinto	Barbara Diangson	Cherrie Davis
Joyce, Layton	Janet Layton	Margaret Hulse
Clarabel Silva	Dora Ramirez	Joelle Andrada
Dolores, 'Sa	Georgia Davis	Madelyn Hernandez
Anelda Hulse	Dolores Santos	Betty Silva
Dorothy Eudy	Julia Picetti	Marie Jardin
Nettie Lemos	Ardis Mae Hulse	

Troop 67 of the Alvarado Girl Scouts elected officers at the February 1948 meeting. The girls elected are:

President:	Joan Conrad
Vice-President:	Carol Hocking
Treasurer:	Elaine Hocking
Secretary:	Delores Silva
News Reporter:	Marlene Andrade
Sunshine Nurse:	Joyce Caldeira

Awards were presented to six members of Alvarado's first Girl Scout Troop at a recent party held at the elementary school at Alvarado in December 1948.

Those honored were:

Myrna Dutra	Patricia Noia	Sharon Alexander
Margaret Pfau	Grace E. Gellerman	Patricia Flores

The Troop leader is Mrs. Emily Noia and her assistant is Mrs. Pauline Silva.

Troop 67 Alvarado Girl Scouts surprised their leaders with a farewell party for the year on Wednesday, June 1, 1949. Refreshments were served and games played. Assisting the girls were the principal, Mr. Leslie Maffey, and 6th & 7th Grade teacher Miss Wespeiser. They made large scout insignias thanking each leader; Marian Hocking and Mary Spurlock for their efforts during the year. Girls participating were:

Aurora Sanchez	Virginia Araya	Marlene Andrade
Marjorie Best	Joyce Ann Caldeira	Elaine Hocking
Beverly Utile	Jeany Cheng	Ellen Louie
Margaret Pfau	Francis Wayland	Beverly Spurlock

IOOF:

The Crusade Lodge of the IOOF for Alvarado was consolidated into the Sycamore Lodge of Hayward.

Consolidation of the Crusade Lodge, IOOF, of Alvarado with the Sycamore Lodge of Hayward, took place at the meeting of the local lodge on Monday night, October 13, 1947. Members of the Alvarado Lodge joined the members of the Hayward Lodge for the amalgamation under the auspices of Fred Ballew Sr., of Stockton, Grand Master of the State Lodge, who presided over the ceremonies.

Along with the Crusade Lodge, the Civil War Battle Flag carried off to war also ended up in the Sycamore Lodge. This is the flag that the Alvarado Hundred (actually the Alameda County Hundred) carried through the Civil War as part of the Massachusetts 2nd Cavalry. It was kept in the IOOF Hall after the Civil War and was later presented to Crusade Lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 93 of Alvarado, when the Alvarado Guard (the local militia, not the force that fought in the Civil War) was absorbed in the new National Guard. Crusade Lodge No. 93, IOOF has since consolidated with Sycamore Lodge, No. 129, bringing the flag with them. (The flag has since found another new home in the Mission San Jose Odd Fellows Hall.)

Japanese-American Club:

Members of the Southern Alameda County JACL and their friends spent a day of relaxation and fun at Pebble Beach, south of Pescadero on April 30, 1949. The group left from James Fudenna's farm in Alvarado at 8:30 a.m. Refreshments were served by the chapter. There were prizes for the youngsters and adults who participated in

games. Later in the afternoon everyone took part in a wiener bake. The following stores made donations for this occasion:

Shell Oil Co., Hayward

B. F. Goodrich Co., Hayward

Sam Dinsmore Store, Alvarado

The Matsumoto Company, Alvarado.

The committee chairman was Tak Fudenna, who was assisted by Charles Yuhara, Kay Mayeda, and Tak Murakami.

The Southern Alameda County Japanese American Citizens held a dance at the Washington Union High School gymnasium on June 25, 1949, according to Misaya Matsumoto of Alvarado, social chairman. The league has enrolled 85 members and holds monthly meetings under the direction of Kazo Shikano, President.

Ladies Aid Society:

The Ladies Aid Society reported only one meeting in the 1940's and that was a reorganization meeting in May 1944 after a two-year period of inactivity. Interest was revived again in July 1949 when there was speculation that the Presbyterian Church on "V" Street was to be reactivated.

Library:

The Alvarado Library was headed by Mrs. Ann Forbes in the beginning of the decade. Because the County had no funds to pay for a substitute librarian for Alvarado, the local branch closes for the two-week period of her vacationing.

Mrs. Forbes stopped by the *Alvarado Pioneer* newspaper to say that the Alvarado Library has just received some top-notch books in November 1943. Here are some of the new titles:

["An American Doctor's Odyssey,"](#) by Victor Helser, backed by the Rockefeller Foundation, he has probably more movements to save and prolong life than any other person.

["Keep Your Powder Dry,"](#) by Margaret Mead.

["Forgotten Waters"](#) By Randolph Seigh.

["The Moon is Down,"](#) by Steinbeck; the scene of the book is any conquered country in any time. Although the weapons and ideologues may be of the present they are only vehicles for the theme that a free people are unconquerable.

The year 1948 saw Mrs. Eldora Pinto as our Alvarado Librarian. She reported that she has several new books in the library just sent out from the Main Library in Oakland.

March of Dimes:

The March of Dimes was a national organization to find a cure (or a vaccine) for infantile paralysis, or polio as it was more popularly known. Polio would strike without warning causing paralysis in its young victims. In Alvarado this happened to Henry (Dick) Andrade Jr. of Fair Ranch Road, who spent his entire life paralyzed from this disease. He developed the disease in the late 40's.

Actively engaged in fund raising efforts in Alvarado to help combat this disease were:

J. C. Wasley

Mrs. August May

Jack Blacow

Mrs. Genevieve Dutra

Frank Machado

Mrs. George Oakes

Miss Pan America Club:

See "Alvarado Girls Club"

Mothers Club:

The Alvarado Mothers Club was an organization dedicated to the improvement of the quality of education at the Alvarado Grammar School. Their only reporting of activities was for the year 1949, but in that year they paid for the examination of children's eyes at the school. Of the 250 students examined, 18 needed corrective lenses, which would be taken care of. Mrs. Alvina Brune, head of the Mother's Club, did a fine job of eye testing. She was assisted by members who were:

Teresa Carlson	Emily Noia	Annie Flores
Bernice Manuel	Pauline Silva	Winifred Harper
Mary Santos	Marian Hocking	Mary Spurlock

The Alvarado Mother's Club held an election of officers for 1949. The officers are:

President:	Alvina Brune
Vice-President:	Lorraine Silva
Secretary:	Marian Hocking
Treasurer:	Winifred Harper
Publicity Chairman:	Esther Gardetto
Sunshine Chairman:	Emily Noia

As part of its fund raising activities the Mother's Club of the Alvarado Elementary School held a card party at the school on June 24, 1949. Mrs. Esther Gardetto announced the committee for this fundraiser:

Mrs. Alvina Brune	Mrs. Lorraine Silva	Mrs. Mary Silva
Mrs. Ethel Borges.	Mrs. Emily Noia	

The Alvarado Mother's Club has announced that Mr. Hayden Cook of Redwood City will act as playground director the Alvarado Elementary School for the 1949 summer vacation. Mr. Cook will be at the Alvarado School grounds Saturday morning, June 18th at ten o'clock to meet the children and to start the summer program. The hours each day will be from ten o'clock in the morning to five in the afternoon. The Alvarado Mother's Club has been able to secure this teacher for the Alvarado children with the help of the following clubs: the Alvarado Eagles, Paul Rivers Post of the VFW; Alvarado Chamber of Commerce; Alvarado Firemen; Alvarado Chapter of the Farm Bureau; and members of the Rhythm Winders (the Folk Dancing Group).

Native Sons of the Golden West:

Consolidation of the Alvarado and Centerville parlors of the Native Sons of the Golden West would be decided at a meeting of the Washington Parlor in Centerville Tuesday, August 5, 1941, when a proposition by the Wisteria Chapter of Alvarado is considered. If the local parlor votes for the amalgamation, the matter will be referred to the Grand Parlor for a decision.

The Wisteria Chapter (Alvarado) is one of the oldest in the state, having been organized May 17, 1888. The two remaining active charter members are Peter L. Decoto and E.M. Foley.

Other members and their dates of initiation are:

Ed S. Harvey, 1890
J.M. Scribner, 1891

J.L. Olson, 1895
J.A. Richmond, 1897
A.B. Nauert, 1897
George P. Hellwig, 1897
S.A.D. Buchanan, 1901
H.S. Haines, 1903
A.J. Rutherford, 1909
Herbert S. Harrold, 1931
H.S. Haines of Decoto is President and John Scribner of Livermore is Secretary.

Wisteria Chapter had been comparatively inactive for many years. It is understood there is a considerable sum of money in the treasury.

Order of the Eastern Star:

Willa Jane Hellwig of Alvarado brought big honors to Alvarado in October 1944 at the Grand State Convention held in the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco. She headed the installation of officers of the Grand Chapter, acting as Grand Marshal, in her usual charming and genuinely friendly way. As the past State president of the O.E.S., she was at ease before the some 6,000 delegates and visiting members. Joining her from Alvarado at the convention was Mrs. Marguerite Cadero, Associate Matron of the Orient Chapter of Centerville.

Post Office:

This decade starts with Mrs. Genevieve Dutra (wife of Joe E. Dutra) as Postmistress of the Alvarado Post Office. The post office was located behind Central Bank on Smith Street. As a youngster I remember going into the post office with my mother, and even an early age I recognized the age and the poor condition this building. Mrs. Dutra's assistant in the post office was her niece, Miss Alice Menezes. Both women would serve the Alvarado Post Office throughout this decade.

The Alvarado post office was classified as a third class operation in 1944. Other post offices in the townships were rated:

Centerville	Second Class
Niles	Second Class
Newark	Second Class
Alvarado	Third Class
Decoto	Third Class
Irvington	Third Class
Mission San Jose	Third Class
Warm Springs	Fourth Class

Postmaster Genevieve Dutra gave out information for the sending of Christmas packages overseas, along the lines suggested by the Postmaster General. "Save strong string and box material and start to plan shopping," the Postmaster General advises Americans in announcing the rules for mailing of Christmas gifts for Army and Navy personnel overseas. Packages must be mailed between September 15th and October 15th to make it to their recipients.

Said the *Alvarado Pioneer* of the Alvarado Post Office:

"When the Alameda County Postmasters Association met last month they honored a lady of Washington Township, Mrs. Genevieve Dutra, who is not

only efficient and gracious, but with her niece, Alice Menezes, represents the most fashionably dressed women in any post office in Southern Alameda County, so many people tell us. And there are many fine women busy in the southern section. But ask anybody if Genevieve Dutra and Alice Menezes don't look like they came out of the styling department of *Vogue*, the women's style magazine. And ask many of our fine businessmen too.

You see, Mrs. Genevieve Dutra is postmistress of the Alvarado Post Office, and her assistant is Miss Alice Menezes, who is the daughter of John Menezes. John is a prominent barber and secretary of the Alvarado Aerie of Eagles.

Postmistress Dutra has a well-known husband in business with Ray Bettencourt in Centerville; Joe Dutra is a member of the Alvarado Fire Department."

Frank Vargas and his wife, Mary Diaz Vargas, purchased the old Alvarado Post Office property and the adjoining corner house in a real estate transaction completed in May 1948. Mr. Vargas is the son-in-law of Damaso Diaz, who owns business property on Levee Street nearby. Already the grounds around the house are being improved and the garden is being fixed up. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Vargas reside in a nice cottage on the property of D. Diaz, located in the space in the rear of Nova's Bi-Rite Market on Levee Street. No plans have been announced for the new purchase, but we might suggest a new post office building for such an up-and-coming town and such progressive people as Postmaster Genevieve Dutra and assistant Alice Menezes.

Presbyterian Church:

There was not much activity reported by the church this decade.

The Rev. Jackson L. Webster, pastor of the Sitka Alaska Presbyterian Church for the past 12 years, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Washington Township Presbyterian parish, including churches at Newark, Centerville, Alvarado and Irvington. He and his family, which includes his wife, a daughter, Mary Ellen aged eight years, sons David 16, and Richard 17, both of who will register at Washington Union High School as a junior and a senior respectively. Another son, Dan, is a student at Cornell University. They plan to be settled by the beginning of January 1940.

Sometime in the 1940's the Alvarado Presbyterian Church became inactive and the membership had to travel to Centerville for Sunday worship. In July 1949 there was speculation that the Alvarado Presbyterian Church may be re-activated and hold regular services again. Regular church services were not being conducted in Alvarado, although the Church is used for local religious education classes during the school term.

PTA:

The Alvarado Grammar School PTA was active this decade but reported few activities. Persons who took part in activities in this decade were:

Miss Mary Hughes
Mrs. Leonard Silva
Mrs. George Davis
Miss Isabelle Ferry*

Mrs. Mike Gardetto
Mrs. Joseph Lewis
Miss Bernice Daviner

Mrs. George Davis
Mrs. Manuel Silva
Mrs. Mae Santos

*Miss Isabel Ferry, Alvarado School teacher, would marry and stay a teacher at Alvarado as Mrs. Isabel Lucas.

Rebekah's

The Rebekah's were very active for best part of the decade. They held regular meetings and conducted many activities. Those who took part were:

Mrs. Elsa Mikkelson	Mrs. Elsie Clarkson	Mrs. Margaret Anderson
Mrs. Effie Kenezevich	Mrs. Henrietta Graff	Mrs. Annie Baird
Mrs. Mary E. Bernard	Mrs. Laura Orelli	Mrs. Myrtle Hizer
Mrs. Grace Reinking	Mrs. Mildred Logan	Mrs. L.H. Miller
Mrs. Joseph Langdon	Mrs. Noble	Mrs. Ethel Elliott
Mrs. Mary Williams	Mrs. Wilma Miller	Mrs. Leda Brown
Mrs. Ernest Lange	Mrs. Joe McKeown	Mrs. Mary Lang
Mrs. Katherine Anderson	Ms. Julia McKeown	Mrs. Alice Sayles
Mrs. Esther Williams	Mrs. Thelma Ripping	Mrs. Henrietta Wilhoft
Mrs. Christine Hygelund	Mrs. Lillie Christensen	Mrs. Helen Klements
Mrs. Petra Gronley		

Sanitary District:

Gerald L. Worthley, coordinator for the Castro Valley and Oro Loma Sanitary District board of directors, was called in by the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce June 20, 1940, to assist Alvarado with its growing sanitation problem. At the close of an enthusiastic meeting of Chamber members and residents, Mr. Worthley and Cedric Macabee, engineer for the Castro Valley District had agreed to run a quick survey of sewer possibilities for Alvarado and report back at a later meeting. Mr. Worthley pointed out that Alvarado, being near the Bayshore, would have comparatively little expense for an outfall sewer line, which would carry off water (water, i.e.: untreated liquid human waste) from the treatment plant, under a suggested plan.

Engineer Cedric Macabee met with George Oakes and Charles Baird on June 21st and stated that the sewer district boundary would approximate those of the old fire district, with a property valuation of about \$230,000. He said that his estimate of 90 cents a \$100 would have to be increased to at least \$1.00 a \$100, as he had figured on a higher valuation.

Charles Baird motored around the district with Mr. Macabee, and noted that there was a possibility of Alvarado having its own disposal plant by buying the already large reservoir formerly owned by the People's Water Company on the Union City Road, that is now a part of the Alameda County Water District. He said that this reservoir could be used as a foundation, and a plant built around or near it, with most healthy conditions pervading it all.

When the plan for a sewage collection system was communicated to various people around town the sentiment was generally one of acceptance. Comments from some of the individuals in town were:

Fritz Hafen:

"I will give \$100 when the district starts working as I believe it is one of the finest things to help Alvarado."

Sam Dinsmore:

"I am for the sewer district as it will fill a long needed improvement and I will be at Thursday's meeting."

A.A. Lee:

"I am in favor for the sewer district, which will improve conditions in Alvarado at a reasonable cost, which the taxpayer can handle."

James Wasley:

"I have talked to many people and they have realized that like the County Health Officer has said, that sooner or later a real epidemic will occur if we don't act soon."

Frank Machado:

"I have lived in this district for long time and have seen that Alvarado needed a sewer district to permanently care for the needs of the district and help her grow. It will lead to more homes and better living conditions."

Matt Machado:

"Count me as a big booster for the sewer district"

Supervisor Hellwig:

"I will try to be at the July 18th meeting and I will always try to do the best thing for the townspeople. I will study the proposition thoroughly."

Residents of Alvarado attended a mass meeting on July 18, 1940, at which time the possibility of organizing a sanitary district and installing a sewer system was discussed. Two possible methods of providing a disposal plant were noted. The first is building a large reservoir on Union City Road on property now owned by the Alameda County Water District. The second is to use the clarifier now being built by the Holly Sugar Mill.

There was plenty of enthusiasm to secure the needed sanitary district for Alvarado shown by the 35 people who attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting. Joseph Lewis presided over the meeting in the absence of Charles Baird, who was on vacation. George Oakes was Secretary. Engineer Cedric Macabee and his assistant had real good news for the large assemblage of Alvarado business people and property owners. They had surveyed the district and had a map showing the probable limits to be served. They had studied the sewer district from every angle and felt that they could make a success of the district. The Chamber's permanent committee was appointed to go ahead and cooperate with engineer Macabee. The committee included Charles Baird, Frank Machado, John Ralph, A.A. Lee, George Oakes, Fred Wiegman, and A.E. Vargas.

The next step was to hire an engineer to make a survey of the cost of the sanitary district. Alvarado merchants and citizens generally have guaranteed a fund of \$250, each agreeing to pay \$5. The list was signed after a report was heard from engineer Cedric Macabee of Hayward, who would be employed to make the survey.

Joseph Lewis, chairman at the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, suggested that with sewers be installed in this city. Alvarado would then be in a position to offer acceptable homes to more Holly Sugar and Leslie Salt employees who now live elsewhere.

When individuals and businesses were asked about backing Alvarado's effort to create a sewer district, the following persons reacted with positive comments:

John H. Ralph	Joe H. Priego	S. L. Smith
Joseph Jacinto	Fernando Paredes	Mrs. Lena Cosso
Damaso Diaz	A.A. Lee	N. Fujita
Sam Dinsmore	Matt Machado	M.A. Silva Jr.
Fred H. Wiegman	August May	George Hellwig
Manuel A. Silva	A.J. Cadero	Isabelle Rodrigues
K. Matsumoto	A.S. Mello	O.P. Heitmuller
Mrs. George H. Oakes	Fred Hafen	Mildred Nauert
Martin Rose	Frank E. Machado	A.E. Vargas
M.P. Goularte	A. Freitas	Central Bank, Alvarado
John M. Menezes		

The *Alvarado Pioneer* added:

"Folks! You should have attended the Sewer District meeting and seen the enthusiastic endorsement of the proposal of putting sewers in the Alvarado District. The Flood Control meetings used to draw larger crowds and then when the flood receded so did the interest of the people. But no so with the Sewer District meetings, because they are getting more enthusiastic with each meeting.

At the mass meeting held recently, Joseph Lewis made a motion that the sewer district should be formed and upon seconding by Frank Machado, the district was definitely on its way toward formation. The next step was the OK put on the boundaries of the district, which were practically the same as those of the old fire district."

The *Hayward Review* said in August 1940:

"Alvarado is working quickly to install sewers in town. Cesspools are inadequate and the sewer system is sorely needed. There is no doubt that Alvarado needs sewers. Their cesspools have been condemned by the County Health Officer, and a sewer system in Alvarado would greatly enhance property values."

In November 1940 one of the important routine matters in the preparation for the anticipated passage of the Alvarado sewer District by the voters was attended to by Frank Machado, Tony Vargas and Mr. Azevedo; it was the \$400 bond, which was secured from E.A. Ellsworth, the insurance man at Niles. The premium was paid, and just in case the district is not formed, this \$400 provides for the advance work of the engineers. But it is a sure thing that the bonds for sewer will be passed as the people are unanimous for their needed public improvement. One change has recently been made to district boundaries and that was the cutting out of the ten acres of William Avila near the S.P. tracks from the sewer district.

On Thursday morning, December 19, 1940, before the Board of Supervisors in Oakland, Alvarado citizens witnessed the approval of the report of Engineer Cedric Macabee regarding the Alvarado Sanitary District. Those present from Alvarado were: Frank A. Machado, A.E. Vargas, Joseph Priego and Damaso Diaz. Supervisor George Hellwig was present to see that everything was well taken care of and gave his town, Alvarado, a good boost.

The meeting served as a hearing for protests, but everything went off nicely, and much credit must be given especially to the largest holders of acreage in the proposed sanitary district for the willingness to accept added taxes in order to give Alvarado a chance to grow by reason of having the modern convenience of sewers. Frank Machado took particular interest in explaining to the Board how necessary all of the boundaries were as selected by the engineer in order to give a financial success to the district. Thanks must also be given to Mr. Vargas for taking time, off as well as to Mr. Priego and Mr. Diaz. The bond election date has been set for Saturday, January 25, 1941.

The election to establish a sanitary district in Alvarado was held on Saturday, January 25, 1941 and the polls were open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. The polling place and election officials were:

Polling Place:	Alvarado Grammar School	
Inspector:	Anna J. Roderick	
Judges:	Edith Mello	Annie Baird

With the added impetus of an epidemic some months ago due to sewage conditions, the town of Alvarado voted to establish a sanitary district similar to Castro Valley and Oro Loma, and expect to vote some \$42,600 in 40 year bonds sometime in March. Officers named for the new sanitary district were

Fred Wiegman	Clarence Flores	Manuel Borges
Manuel Perry	Joe Dutra	A. E. Vargas

The next regular meeting of the commissioners of the Alvarado Sanitary District was set for Tuesday night, March 11th, at the home of Frank Machado. Members of the commission were:

President:	Clarence Flores	
Secretary:	Joe Dutra, Secretary	
Directors:	M. E. Perry	Antone Vargas
	Manuel Borges.	

Further steps toward establishing the sanitary district were taken at the meeting.

It was decided that Alvarado citizens should go to polls on March 29, 1941 to approve the sale of sewer bonds for the town of Alvarado. The polling place would be the Alvarado Grammar School building on Smith Street.

On April 4, 1941 the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce celebrated its great victory in passing the Sanitary Bonds at last Saturday's election. At that election the vote was 151 to 2. This vote was the splendid reason for giving three big reels of moving pictures, and special music by an orchestra topped off with a feed put on by the women of the community. Joe Lewis and Peter Rose took the lead in securing a movie about the part petroleum has had in the development of our modern civilization. George Oakes secured the baseball sound picture, "Play Ball America" featuring National League ball players.

Morris Davilla's Orchestra was the featured entertainment. The music was excellent. Here are the members of the band:

Morris Davilla	Trumpet
Andy Gardetto	1 st Saxophone
Joaquin Ojedo	3 rd Saxophone
Walter Fasolis	Accordion
Marion Cordoba	Guitar

Ernie Machado Drums
Winifred Santos Piano

Pete Rose looked cute in his organdie apron, when Mrs. Gardetto put him to drying dishes after the Chamber of Commerce feed on Friday night. All he needs is few more lessons and he'll be all right.

The banquet was special and the committee desires to thank the following ladies for cakes and sandwiches:

Mrs. Alvina Brune	Mrs. Corinne Munger	Mrs. Joe Flores
Mrs. V. Perry	Mrs. Nora Vargas	Mrs. Annie Baird
Mrs. Mary Silva	Mrs. Frank Machado	Mrs. Anna Roderick
Mrs. Isabelle Menezes	Mrs. Aurora Lewis	Mrs. Annie Flores
Mrs. Frank Silva	Mrs. Antoinette Pinto	Mrs. M. Rose
Mrs. J.C. Wasley	Mrs. Tony Mello	Mrs. Angelo Cosso
Joe Dutra	Joe Silveira	Frank Mateo
Peter Rose	James Wasley	John Ralph
D. Diaz	Joseph Priego.	

On September 5, 1941, a large truck load of pipe was delivered to Alvarado. It was brought from the California Pottery company plant in Niles Canyon. The pipe is the 8-inch size and was distributed alongside the Union City Road (today's Veasy Street) near the site of the reducing plant, which will handle the sewage in the most modern plant for its size on the coast.

The digging begun for the laying of sewer pipes to the processing plant near Union City Road. There were 29 men employed, and they are getting paid good union wages. The ditch digger has had to skip quite a few big gas mains and water mains, which run across Union City Road. They even ran into an old wharf, used in the old days when steamers crossed part of what is the Union City Road. The old wharf had long ago been forgotten.

Among other things the engineers found Friday was a 15-inch concrete jacket built around a water main to prevent leaks. It was built across Union City road by Ed Richmond of the Water Dept. many years ago. Another big pipe they had to excavate under was a huge storm sewer, also near the concrete jacket mentioned above.

By the beginning of October 1941 the pipes were laid up to around Levee Street with much of the work being done on Maiden Lane, extending from "V" Street toward the back of Naharro's property. The right pipeline of the sewer pipe toward the disposal plant site on lower "V" Street has been scientifically followed by the engineers. This means that Alvarado will have a job, when completed that will be second to none in the country.

On October 24th Frank Machado reported that the sewer pipe would be laid across the highway in town, from "V" Street across to John Ralph's store. The pipe is being laid deep underground without cutting though the surface of the street.

From the *Alvarado Pioneer*:

"You have to give credit to the engineers in charge of laying the sewer pipe along the Alvarado Streets for their efficiency. They have done their job with speed, aided by some very good workmen. The mechanical ditch digger has been working to perfection. Lately it has been digging along Smith Street as

far as the S.P. tracks, after digging ditches along the rest of the business and residence sections.

The work of installing pipes is expected to be completed this month. Following that the disposal plant will be built on the acre of land purchased near the old Union City Pumping Plant (Water Works).

The drainage leading this lower part of town has been nicely gauged by the engineers. This means that the sewage will run naturally to the disposal plant."

By December the men were installing a pump station on a lot alongside V Street, which will boost the sewage a distance of 1,800 feet to the sewage disposal plant, which will be erected in the spring on an a 1-acre site next to the old Union City Pumping Station (the old Water Works).

It was announced that it was planned that by the end of February 1942, the Alvarado Sanitary system would be hooked into homes and business houses. The laying of sewer mains has been completed. Preliminary to the installation of a disposal plant at Alvarado the sewers would empty into the sloughs west of town, a temporary pumping station to be installed. The system will probably be completed by next summer.

The hookup to the Alvarado sewer system for businesses and homes did not go according to plan because of the lack of manpower due to the war. It was announced in September 1942, that hookups would be carried forward without delay. Two large concentration tanks have been erected on "V" Street.

By January of 1943 inspector Frank Machado reported that 90 connections to the sewer had been made. More connections would be made when the wet weather ended.

In July of 1943 the Alvarado Sanitary District invited the property owners to help them to see that all homes are connected with the sewer, as required by law. The cooperation of those who have already signed was greatly appreciated.

Later in the summer season of 1944 the plans called for extending the uncompleted section of the sewer beyond the SP tracks east to the John Varni section of homes (between New Haven Street and the Smith Street Bridge).

The Alvarado sanitary system was a primary phase facility, where the sewage is collected in large tanks. Solids are periodically removed from the tanks; liquids carrying a quantity of suspended solids are discharged into the bay via Alameda Creek. Odors that are discharged are released into the atmosphere.

S. P. R. S. I.:

(Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Saint Isabel: S.P.R.S.I. is a women's fraternal benefit organization in the State of California)

This society was very active in the 1940's. Following is a list of persons who were actively involved in the society's business:

Mrs. Mary Borges

Mrs. Angie Vargas

Mrs. Mabel Rogers

Mrs. Carrie Mattos
Mrs. Manuel Goularte
Mrs. Borghi
Mrs. Evelyn Silva
Mrs. Flora Flores
Mrs. Mary Rivers
Mrs. May Santos

Mrs. Edith Mello
Mrs. Emilio Re
Mrs. Eleanor Azevedo
Mrs. Mamie Roderick
Mrs. Clara Martin
Mrs. Mary Perry
Mrs. Helen Goularte

Mrs. Nora Vargas
Mrs. Mary Amaral
Mrs. Vera Enos
Mrs. Aurora Lewis
Mrs. Anna Amaral
Mrs. Mary Silva
Mrs. Helen Alameda

St. Anne's Catholic Church:

St. Anne's Church / Alvarado Holy Ghost

Under this banner will be all the articles pertaining to St. Anne's Church and the Alvarado Holy Ghost for the 1940's decade.

St. Anne's Church:

Father Flatly, the priest for St. Anne's left the parish in March of 1941. He was replaced by Father McLaughlin, the new pastor for both Alvarado and Newark Parishes.

The 1941 annual St. Anne's Church Bazaar was held in November this year under leadership of Mrs. Genevieve Dutra and Mrs. Manuel F. Silva. The annual bazaar was followed in March of 1942 with a food sale at Ralph's General Store on Levee Street. Again this was held under the leadership of Genevieve Dutra.

To honor the men of St. Anne's Church who are serving in the U.S. military, the church would have a roll of honor of their local men printed on a list called a Roll of Honor, which would be enclosed in a wooden case. This patriotic move was made possible by the money donated locally by our good people, the sum of \$222.50 being raised. Frank Machado collected \$181.50 and Matt Machado collected \$41.00

The St. Anne's Church annual bazaar was held on Friday & Saturday nights, November 12th & 13th in 1943. The bazaar realized over \$1,000. The committees and all of the parishioners united with all our local people to make it a success. We heard many expressions of appreciation of the cheerful leadership of Father McLaughlin, a tireless worker himself, his table at the bazaar brought in almost \$200. Manuel Perry used his smile and cheerful bidding voice to interest local people as well as folks from Alameda and Oakland for his fortune wheel. This was good for between \$200 & \$300.

Frank Machado handled the tickets for the \$25 Bond, and over \$100 was realized on this. We understand he sold around 2,000 tickets. He was paid a public compliment for his outstanding work. Frank Roderick won the calf, and \$65 was realized on this. The ladies who took care of the kitchen surely deserved a big vote of thanks for their painstaking labor, and wonderful refreshments. They brought in a fine sum too. Mrs. Mary Rivers, Mrs. Borges and Gertie Machado were the leaders here.

Many well-decorated booths were well patronized. Committee members were:

Mrs. Eleanor Azevedo

Mrs. Manuel Borges

Clarence Flores

Joe Dutra

Henry Flores

Joe Goularte

Mrs. Emilio Re

Tony Alexander

Mrs. Mary River

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Roderick

Gertie Machado

Mrs. Borges

We understand that the \$1,000 raised by Alvarado was more than the bazaar at Centerville's Catholic Church made. Both did well, however.

Holy Ghost:

The Alvarado Holy Ghost for the year 1941 took place on May 10th & 11th. Starting with a parade Saturday at 8 p.m. the Holy Ghost Festival for Alvarado was under way. The parade formed at the S.D.E.S. Hall and went to the home of the Queen, Bernadette Martin. Then with the queen and her maids, Mildred Martin and Joy Anne Secada, the parade returned to the Hall. Fireworks and dancing then ensued.

Sunday morning there was a Grand Parade at 9:30 a.m. in which various organizations took part. It passed through the streets of Alvarado on to St. Anne's Church where the coronation of the queen took place, followed by a Solemn High Mass at 11. At noon there was a free lunch with dancing at 2 p.m. at the Hall.

After May 1941 there was not another Holy Ghost celebrated for the duration of the 2nd World War. The festa was reintroduced May 1946. Fireworks, a parade of queens and their courts from neighboring festas, dancing and auctions were being planned. Arrangements for the celebration set for May 19th are being made by:

Frank G. Roderick	Manuel Martin Jr.	John Menezes
Tony Lee	M. F. Machado	Joe Lezand
Martin Phillips		

Work started by a faithful committee working at the SDES Hall and grounds in Alvarado getting things ready for the annual celebration of the Holy Ghost. President Frank Goularte appointed Manuel Goularte to take charge of the improvements and Manuel sure had magnificent cooperation from some 18 gathered together. They included:

Manuel Goularte	Tony Lee	John A. Silva
Frank Gaspar	Martin Phillips	George Hocking
Frank Silveira	Manuel Rose	John Aguiar
Norman Silveira	Ray Freitas	Peter Pinto
Elvin Rose	Manuel Pinto	Frank Goularte
Henry Dutra	Seraphine Noia	

The benches were improved and a bandstand built, and the place where the barbecue is held alongside the SDES Hall will be a splendid arrangement. Even overhead the diner's outdoors, Wilbert Hendricks had arranged palms to cover the upright and lend plenty of shade.

This year's queen was Bernadette Martin.

The 1947 Alvarado Holy Ghost began on May 3rd. The committee that put on the festa included Martin Philip, John Menezes, Tony Lee, John Silva, M.P. Goularte, Alfred Silva, and Frank Goularte. Miss Thelma Correia was the queen assisted by Ida Soares and Mildred Soares. Joyce Ann Caldeira was the baby queen assisted by Pat Noia and Diana Mendonca.

The SDES Committee of Alvarado held their 1948 Holy Ghost Fiesta at Alvarado on Saturday and Sunday, April 24th & 25th. The parade was held Saturday night, followed with a grand array of spectacular fireworks and dance (American style), with music furnished by Manuel Pinto's Famous Orchestra. They will dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Miss Clarabelle Silva, daughter of Mrs. Amelia Silva of Whipple Road was the queen of the Alvarado Festival. Her Maids of Honor were Miss Genevieve Mello and Miss Shirley Mello, both of the Alviso district. The bar girls were Marlene Andrade, Joyce Ann Caldeira.

The Baby Queen was Miss Diane Mendonca of Irvington; her Maids of Honor were Patricia Noia of Alvarado and Janet Perry of Hayward. The Bar Girls were Myrna Dutra, Loretta Valle, Lee Vargas and Helen Moore.

The annual Holy Ghost fiesta season for 1949 will open in Southern Alameda County on May 14th and May 15th at Alvarado. Frank Goularte is chairman of the two-day festival here. Miss Shirley Mello will be the queen with her attendants being Marlene Andrade and Joyce Ann Caldeira. The bar girls were Loretta Valles, Diane Mendoza, Sharon Alexander and Frances Alvarez. The small queen was be Patricia Noia and her attendants were Janet Perry, and Myrna Jean Dutra. The bar girls were Yvonne Vargas, Carol Ann Noia, Kathie Silva and Nelda Emanuel.

VFW:

A new Veterans of Foreign Wars post named in honor of Paul Edward Rivers, first serviceman from the community of Alvarado to lose his life in WWII, was instituted in the Eagles Hall in Alvarado on January 1, 1947. The new unit, Paul Edward Rivers Post No. 7906, was installed by T. A. MacDonald, Department Auditor, and Department of California Veteran of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Paul was the youngest of nine children left to the care of Mrs. Mary Rivers when their father died twenty-six years ago. Prominent in student affairs, athletics and dramatics at Washington Union High School, Paul enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in July 1941, and won his pilot's wings before transferring to the Marine Corps in May 1942.

He went overseas immediately and was reported missing in action during the Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal) campaign in August (1942). He was "presumed dead" in a Government letter of February 19, 1945, and was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

While in high school, Paul served as President of his class in his junior and senior years, as Vice President of the Future Farmers of America, President of the Boy's Club and a member of the Student Council. He was a star football and baseball player and active in dramatics and public speaking. He graduated in 1939.

Edward M. Martinez of Alvarado, adjutant of the post announced that Mrs. Mary Rivers, mother of Paul Rivers, would be the honored guest at the installation ceremonies.

Three months later an auxiliary to the post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7906, was being formed. This was announced after the regular meeting held at the Eagles Hall, Alvarado on February 26, 1947. Commander Ed Martinez presided at the meeting.

Committee reports were made by Ernie Machado, chairman of the athletic committee, and J. Jacinto, chairman of the post colors committee, who reported on ticket sales. VFW caps were being ordered for the members, it was also announced.

The officers for the year 1947 for the Alvarado VFW, Paul Rivers Post No. 7906 were:

Commander:	Eugene Martinez
Sr. Vice Commander:	Norman Silveira
Jr. Vice Commander	Walter Fasolis
Chaplain:	John Aguiar
Adjutant:	Ed Martinez
Quartermaster:	Ernest Machado
Quartermaster Sgt.:	Joe Barrera
Post Surgeon:	Dr. Joseph Brune
Judge Advocate:	William Martinez
Officer of the Day:	Salvador Paniagua

The Paul Rivers Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars elected the following officers for the year 1948. The officers are:

Commander:	Bill Silva
Sr. Vice Commander:	N.E. Click
Officer of the Day:	E. Cortez
Quartermaster:	Rufus Lebon
Chaplain:	Paul Torres
Trustee (3-Years):	Gene Martinez
Trustee (2-Years):	Alfred Leonard
Guard:	Laverne De Vincenzi
Surgeon:	Lester Amaral
Judge Advocate:	Joseph Bettencourt
Sergeant Major:	Norman Silveira
Quartermaster Sgt:	Joseph Brune

The officers for the for the year 1948 for the Auxiliary of the Paul Rivers Post, No. 7906, of Veterans of Foreign Wars, were installed Saturday evening, April 17th, in the Eagles Hall, Alvarado. Those installed were:

President:	Mrs. Amelia Silva
Sr. Vice President:	Mrs. Dorothy Click
Secretary:	Miss Cecilia Martinez
Treasurer:	Miss Doris Martinez
Chaplain:	Mrs. Marjorie Re
Conductress:	Mrs. Ginger Martinez
Guard:	Mrs. Esther Gardetto
Patriotic Instructor:	Miss Florence De Vincenzi
Historian:	Mrs. Mildred Silva
Musician:	Mrs. Wilma Silva
First Trustee:	Mrs. Carrie Andrade

UPPEC:

Uniao Portuguesa Protectora do Estado da California, a Portuguese benevolent society of California.

Newly elected and installed officers of the UPPEC Council Bernice No. 131 of Alvarado for 1948 were:

President:	Mabel Rogers
Vice President:	Jean Rose
Secretary:	Martha Faria

Treasurer:	Alice Menezes	
Emcee:	Angie Vargas	
Marshall:	Mae Fields	
Guard:	Clara Belle Silva	
Directors:	Anna Hendricks	
	Helen Goularte	
	Irene Dutra	
Pianist:	Elvamae Rose	
Doctor:	W.L. McWhirter	
Dean:	Mrs. Mamie Martin	
Ex-President:	Mrs. Mae Santos.	
General Committee:	Jessie L. Perry	Esther Sobral
	Mae P. Machado	Mary E. Costa
	Mary E. Medina	Mary Borges
	Mabel Rogers	Mary I. Lewis
	Margaret Geminagni	Mary V. Caldeira
	Mary C. Ramalho	
Choral Group:	Anna Cardoza	Minnie Ramos
	Alympia Perry	Jessie L. Perry
	Carole B. Kelly.	

 * **WORLD WAR II** *

Alvarado Heroes / Preparing for WWII / Alvarado Servicemen (and 1 Dog) in the Service / Alvarado Boy's Write Home from Overseas / WWII Rationing and the OPA / WWII Enemy Aliens / Ground Observer Corps Watch Tower / Civil Defense / Alvarado Red Cross / Paying for the War / War Chest Drives / WWII Labor Shortages

This morning, December 7, 1941, the Japanese unleashed a sneak attack upon our battle fleet at Pearl Harbor and strategic areas on the island of Hawaii. This was the start of World War II for the U.S.

On December 11, 1941 Adolf Hitler of Germany, and Benito Mussolini of Italy, joined Japan in declaring war on the United States.

The World War had officially begun for the United States. But in other parts of the world the war had been raging for a decade. The Japanese invaded Northeastern China in 1931 setting up the puppet state of Manchuko. The Spanish revolution of 1936 gave Germany a training ground for its new weapons and blitzkrieg strategy. The NAZI takeover of Austria in 1938 was by an 'anschluss.' This was followed by the German entry into Czechoslovakia. This was followed by Germany's outright invasion of Poland in Sept. 1939. In May of 1940, the NAZI's invaded the Low Countries and France, and finally, the NAZI's invaded Russia in June 1941.

Alvarado Heroes:

No narrative of the Alvarado boy's efforts to help free the world of Fascism would be complete without first paying tribute to those Alvarado young men who gave the final measure of their devotion to freedom. These four young men should forever remain in the hearts of all Alvaradans:

Paul Rivers Joseph Allegre Joseph D. Peters Joseph Borges

PREPARING FOR WORLD WAR II:

War was not unknown in the world by the time of the December 7, 1941. But becoming *militarily involved* was. Even before December 7th, there were signs of change on the national front. This was even evident in the little town of Alvarado. Here are some news articles from June 1941 to December 5, 1941 concerning war preparation:

June 17, 1941:

"Alvarado was the first town in Southern Alameda County to reach its goal of donations to the USO, an organization that helps support our troop's morale in the service. J.R. Blacow, Chairman of the Alvarado Committee, says Alvarado's \$100 goal had already been achieved with the conclusion of the drive set at July 1st."

July 11, 1941:

"The following Alvarado young men have answered the call and duly registered with the Niles Draft Board No. 75, they having reached 21st birthday. They were: Edward Fantuzzi, Marion C. Cordoba, Angel C. Ledesma, Refugio P. Gonzalez, Seraphine E. Daviner, Tony J. Roderick, Manual C. Mello and Clifford V. Dinsmore."

July 14, 1941:

"Sergeant Edward Doyle of the California Highway Patrol was the speaker Monday night at the second meeting of the Southern Alameda County Civilian Defense committee at Alvarado, according to Division Chief Webb of the Hayward substation who is directing the work. Classes were being conducted in Alvarado and would soon be started in Hayward to train civilian workers to assist in policing the communities in event of an emergency."

July 20, 1941:

"Handsome window stickers, on which the words "We Will Give Aluminum for Defense" were emblazoned against the background of an American fighting plane, were distributed to every home in Alameda County this weekend.

Oakland homes received the stickers yesterday, and distribution in other cities will commence tomorrow. Persons having aluminum to give for defense purposes place the stickers on the windows of their homes so that volunteer workers can be aided in making house-to-house collections starting Tuesday.

In Alvarado the Chamber of Commerce and the Junior Chamber of Commerce would supervise collections, with Frank E. Machado, Adam Lewis, and James Wasley Jr. in charge."

July 25, 1941:

"Of the first 10 numbers drawn in the Nation's second draft lottery at Washington, Thursday, the second and seventh designated men registered at Draft Board No. 75 at Niles. Among those chosen was one Alvarado youth, Yoshio Nakagawara."

July 26, 1941:

"Chester Flint, a staff member of the District Attorney's Office, was the speaker Monday night at the Alvarado civilian defense-training meeting to be held under the direction of Sheriff H.P. "Jack" Gleason. A series of such meetings are now being held in southern Alameda County for the purpose of training as many civilian workers as possible to serve as emergency aides to the Sheriffs Department in the event of some major catastrophe."

September 15, 1941:

"Alameda County Sheriff Jack Gleason deputized 100 men in Alvarado, and an almost same number in Pleasanton, as this county marches forward in the drive to be ready for any defense emergency. The two communities have been conducting classes during the last three months preparing the men.

Two thousand fingers (with but a few missing here and there) were massaged over a fingerprinting pad Monday night as 100 emergency deputy sheriffs were organized at Alvarado under the direction of Division Chief Douglass Webb and Detective Richard E. Condon of the Hayward substation.

Each man had to be fingerprinted twice, once for Alameda County Records and once for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

September 19, 1941:

"Ten men have volunteered to man an air raid observation station to be located near the Hall Station. These men were asked to volunteer an hour or so a month and be ready to telephone to headquarters in case of invasion by airplanes. The men who volunteered were:

Joe Jacinto	Ed Fantuzzi	Joe Paris
Angelo Cosso	Tony Rivers	James Wasley
Peter Rose	E.J. Wilson	D. Diaz
Frank Silver"		

September 19, 1941:

"The Alvarado Chapter of the Red Cross met every Wednesday at the Odd Fellows Hall from 1 to 4 p.m. in the upstairs hall. The ladies were doing something very patriotic with their knitting and sewing, and they would like still more workers to put their shoulder to the wheel and turn out. Mrs. James Logan is directing the group and last week she was assisted by Mrs. Vargas, Mrs. Mello, Mrs. Gardetto, Mrs. Robie, Mrs. Rivers, and Mrs. Baird."

September 26, 1941:

"Washington Township has been split into four districts to act as Air Raid Lookouts. The Alvarado district will be headed by:

Head Administrator:	T. P. Harvey	
Chief Observers were:	Andrew Logan	Joseph Jacinto
	Robert Whipple	
Chief Assistants are:	Wesley Emery	Joseph Martin
	John Logan	Anthony Almeida
	Peter Rose	Frank Best
	Joe Dutra	Morris Davilla
	Domaso Diaz	Clarence Flores
	Gregory Perry	Angelo Cosso
	James Wasley Jr.	A. E. Vargas

Manuel Amaral

September 29, 1941:

"Southern Alameda County was assured of plenty of protection should an emergency arise after 100 special deputies were sworn in at exercises to take place in Alvarado. Sheriff Jack Gleason was present to make the men official members of the Alameda County Sheriff Department as attaches of the Civilian Defense Corps."

October 14, 1941:

"James Wasley, Principal of Alvarado Grammar School, has been named the Civil Defense representative for Alvarado. He will represent Alvarado at the Alameda County Civil Defense Corps."

October 31, 1941:

"Frank Machado, President of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce has proclaimed the opening of the Navy campaign (a campaign to recruit men to bring the U.S. Navy to full strength for national defense), and urgently requested that merchants, business firms, and newspapers cooperate in this laudable undertaking, and further urged that heads of the American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Women's Clubs, and all influential citizens act as a nucleus for arousing public and community interest in the Navy campaign.

Merchants Who Back Navy Recruitment Drive:

Mello's Liquor Store
John Meneze's Barber Shop
Cloverdale Creamery (Centerville)
M.A. Silva Jr.
La Curva Inn
Alvarado Theater
Julian Yabut, Richfield Service
Hellwig Meat Co.
D. Diaz & Sons, Union Meat
Isabelle Rodrigues' Beauty Shop
Manuel B. Machado, Garage & Auto Wreckers
Alvarado Liquor Store
Bill Ryan Shell Station
Halfway House, Conchita Mata, Proprietor
Luneta Café

December 5, 1941:

"Friends should have these men (names purposely omitted) contact the selective Service Board immediately! In a letter addressed to Allen G. Norris, Chairman of Selective Service Local Board No. 75, the State Director of the Selective Service System requested that a list of registrants failing to comply with the requirements of the selective Training and Service act to be made available to the press for publication."

Alvarado Service Men (and 1 Dog) in WWII:

U.S. Selective Service Draft Classification / Those who did not come back from the War / Tribute to Mom / Alvarado Boys Write from Overseas / Alvarado's Canine Soldier

Registration of the potential manpower in California for America's military services was completed in February 1942, when the third Registration Day during the present emergency was held throughout the state. The State Director of Selective Service pointed out that it affects every male resident in California between the ages of 20 to 45, with a few exceptions made by Congress. All male persons not previously registered, who attained their 20th birthday on or before December 31, 1941, and who have not attained their 45th birthday on or before February 16, 1942 must register at one of the registration places between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on the registration days. The registration place for Alvarado males is the IOOF Hall in Alvarado.

U.S. Selective Service Draft Classifications:

Draft registrants are classified in four general groups from I to IV, with subdivisions under the first and last. Class I is the first to be called, in general, Class II the second and so on. The keys to the classification are these:

- I-A Available and fit for general military service
- I-B Available and fit for limited military service
- I-C Members of the land and naval forces
- I-D Students fit for general military service
- I-E Students fit for limited military service, available later
- II-A Men necessary in civilian activity
- III-A Men with dependents
- IV-A Men who have completed service
- IV-B Officials deferred by law
- IV-C Non-declarant aliens
- IV-D Minister of religion or divinity student
- IV-E Conscientious objector
- IV-F Unfit for military service

This was the criterion for the drafting of young men into the armed forces of the United States. Draft Boards (which had already been in effect) geared up for the induction of boys into the service. The Induction Notices were mailed out with the date and the place where the inductee was to report for their physical inspection.

Those who passed their physicals then went home and awaited their Induction Notice, which read something to the effect:

Greetings:

Your friends and your neighbors... (That's how mine read in October 1963).

You were told where and when to appear to receive your basic training in the military. And after "Boot Camp" you may have gone into further training in your particular field of expertise.

Following is a list of men who served in the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marines, U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. The list is not complete but it includes all the names I could glean from local newspapers

Also included are few letters home and a short story of Flash, the Alvarado German Shepherd who served overseas during WWII.

Joe Abreu

John Aguiar

Everett Alameda

Melvin Allegre

George Andrade
 Jack Binder
 Arnold Borges
 John Cardoza Jr.
 Frank Cordoba
 Sam Dinsmore, Jr.
 John Dutra
 Walter Fasolis
 Donald Flores
 Benny Gonzalez
 William Harper
 Hubert Jacinto
 Benny Joyce
 Delphino Ledesma
 Clyde Lewis
 George Lucas
 Albert Martinez
 Richard Mateo
 Charles R. Nauert
 Joseph Otto
 Anthony Paredes
 Raymond Perry
 Manuel Pine
 Anthony Rivers
 Robert Rodgers
 Ernest (Doc) Rose
 Raymond Serrato
 Joseph Silva
 Warren Silva
 Norman Silveira
 Isao J. Tsuno
 Julian Yabut

Louis Apodaca
 Albert Borges
 Manuel Borges
 Manuel C. Cardoza
 Marion C. Cordoba
 Harry E. Doran
 Albert G. Escandon
 Tony Fields
 Ernest Foster
 Harvey Granger
 Ernest Hermosa
 Jesse Jacinto Jr.
 Lawrence J. Leal
 Marcellino Ledesma
 Frank A. Lewis
 Francisco Macahilas
 Edward Martinez
 Dr. R.O. McGowen
 George P. Oakes
 Karl Otto
 Fred Paredes
 Johnny Pimentel
 William E. Pope
 Lawrence A. Roderick
 Alfred Rodrigues
 Fred Sanchez
 Rufus Serrato
 Leonard F. Silva
 William Silva
 Edward Soares
 Jesus Valencia
 Robert Ziegler

Raymond Bautista
 Alexander Borges
 Manuel A. Braga
 Mervin Christiansen
 Seraphine Daviner Jr.
 Manuel Duarte
 Manuel Escandon
 Albert Figueroa
 Walter Garetto
 Prescilliano Gurrea
 Edward Hernandez
 Elliott Jardine
 Rufus Lebon
 Edward Leon
 Joseph Lewis Jr.
 Santiago Macahilas
 Eugene Martinez
 Mike McKeague
 Walter M. Oakey II
 Paniagua
 Mencho Paredes
 Anthony Pine
 Robert Ramirez
 Stanley Roderick
 Ernie Rodrigues
 Joe Sanchez
 Johnny Shestack
 Louis Silva
 Arthur Silveira
 Oligario Souza
 James Wasley Jr.

Jessie Benites
 Armand Borges
 Joseph Brune
 Howard Conley
 Raymond Diaz
 Frank Dutra
 Edward Fantuzzi
 Cyril Flores
 Clayton George
 Ronald Harper
 Robert Hernandez
 William Jimenez
 Acension Ledesma
 Adam Lewis
 Joe Linhares
 Ernie Machado
 William A. Martinez
 Richard Munger
 Albert Otto
 Paniagua
 Manuel Perry
 Eugene Pine
 Emilio Re
 Clifford Rodgers
 John Rodrigues
 Tony Santos
 Anthony Silva
 Manuel H. Silva
 Manuel Silveira
 Yoshio Tomimatsu
 Donald Woodward

Those who did not come back home WWII:

Killed in Action / Missing in Action

Killed in Action:

Joseph Allegre: On the Aleutian Island of Attu, reported on June 22, 1944
 Joseph D. Peters: In Asia, reported on September 8, 1944
 Joseph Borges: On the Island of Luzon, Philippines, reported on July 1945

Missing in Action:

Paul Rivers: Missing in the Solomon's (Guadalcanal), reported Dec. 1942.

Tribute to Mom:

Lieutenant Richard Munger of Alvarado dipped the wing of his big plane as he signaled from the sky last Sunday, March 21, 1943, to his mother Mrs. Corinne Munger of Alvarado. She waved her handkerchief in recognition of the high tribute she was paid by her son before he swung away and headed for his destination. Munger enlisted in the Air Corps last April after graduating from the Washington Union High School and completing two years at the University of California. Richard was the youngest of three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Munger of Alvarado.

Alvarado Boys Write from Overseas:

Francisco Macahilas / Marcelino Ledesma / William A. Martinez / Ernie Machado

Francisco Macahilas:

Dear Sir:

I have been on this rock for a year next month and I longed and missed lots of news from our hometown, but I didn't realize it until this day. I think it wise to get hometown news like most of the boys here in Hawaii. I have been in that town (Alvarado) for the last eight years and it seems to me that it's now my birthplace to me. So please send me every copy of the *Alvarado Pioneer* and I'll certainly appreciate your kindness.

But you can count me as one subscriber and let me know the price to subscribe for a year.

Respectfully yours,
Francisco Macahilas
18th Infantry Co. K
April 12 1943

Marcellino Ledesma:

Why not write a letter to an Alvarado boy who fought for you and me, and who was injured in combat. His address at this writing is: Marcellino C. Ledesma, 39149549 2304th General Hospital, APO 246, Unit 4, care of Postmaster, San Francisco.

Angel C. Ledesma, his brother writes, to all of Marcellino's friends:
Marcellino C. Ledesma, a son of Alvarado, informs all his friends that he was wounded in action at Okinawa and would appreciate it very much if all his friends would write him. He fought in the battle of Leyte, where he and some comrades knocked out three Jap tanks. He also fought in the central part of the Mariana's, and then was in the battle of Okinawa. Make him feel better by writing to him will you?
Thanks for mentioning the *Pioneer*, June 29, 1945

William A. Martinez:

William A. Martinez, S 1-C, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Martinez who is aboard the battleship West Virginia, sent home the following, showing a patriotic part in active fighting for our Alvarado boys in the South Pacific:

The battleship West Virginia, which was damaged so severely by the Japanese attack of December 7, 1941 that she sank in her Pearl Harbor berth steamed proudly into Tokyo Bay with the naval force taking over Japan's greatest industrial area.

Crewmen crowded on the decks to see the Japanese home island, which has been their goal since the West Virginia returned to the Pacific was at the heart of the Japanese empire, with Mt. Fujiyama's cloud shrouded peak looming in the distance.

For the West Virginia this was a glorious moment; a grand reward for a year of bitter fighting during which she had participated in every major island invasion in the northward drive toward Japan. On the bridge was Captain Raymond W. Halsinger, USN, who had commanded the warship since late April.



The U.S. Navy battleship USS *West Virginia* (BB-48) anchored in Sagami Wan, Japan, outside of Tokyo Bay, circa late August 1945. She is painted in Camouflage Measure 32, Design 7D. Mount Fuji is in the background.

The *West Virginia* is one of the U.S. Fleet's "old" battleships, commissioned on December 1, 1923. She bore the brunt of the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor. Two bombs and at least six torpedoes struck her, leaving her a flaming wreck as she settled to the bottom

Patched up with what plates were available, the *West Virginia* was raised and she steamed back under her own power to a West Coast Navy Yard. Battered and torn, she seemed suited only for the scrap heap. But the modern genius of our shipyards made a different story. Stripped to her main deck, the ship was rebuilt and she emerged from the yard practically a new vessel, equipped with the most modern weapons of warfare

Following a brief shakedown cruise off the West Coast, she set a westerly course under the Command of Captain J.W. Wiley, USN, to seek revenge upon the enemy that had so nearly ended their existence. On this trip there was one memorable occasion, the ceremonies in conjunction with crossing the Equator. Just out of range of enemy forces, pollywogs by the hundreds were initiated into the mysteries of that deep in the salty presence of King Neptune and his royal party.

The *West Virginia*'s first chance for vengeance came with the opening of the Philippines campaign. Flying the same colors she had up on December 7, 1941, she led the column of battleships into Leyte Gulf and poured salvo after salvo into the Japanese forces before our troops went ashore. Here she shot down her first enemy plane, on the starboard beam.

But with the Leyte beachheads secured, an enemy threat was developing. Hoping to catch our forces off balance, a Japanese fleet was steaming toward the beachhead. This was the setting for the famous battle of the Surigao Straits.

Ernie Machado:

November 23, 1945

Dear Dad, Bell, Elsie and Dennie:

Hope that all of you are in the very best of health. As for me, I am fine. I guess by now all of you have heard about the big typhoon that hit the island. It was the worst one in twenty years. The wind got up to 150 miles and hour on the southern part of the island, but only 110 here. We are sheltered between hills and that sure helped a lot.

Ninety thousand are homeless, without tents, clothing, etc. After the typhoon, our commanding officer let us use what wood left to build ourselves huts. We made a house and if this one ever goes down it is time to get the hell off this island.

I lost all my gear except a pair of pants that I saved and the gear that I was wearing during the typhoon. I put in a claim for a new sea bag. Oh I hope we get the hell out of here, as I don't want to go through another typhoon.

Two head yeomen are leaving for the States Monday. They sent most of their gear home and saved just enough gear to take on the plane. If we happen to get two yeomen in, then it will be my turn to leave for the States. I hate to think of being put in charge of the office. That is going to be some job.

How is everything at Home? It has been over a week since I received any mail and probably another week or so before I receive any. You probably won't hear from me either, but that is because they aren't sending any mail out of the island until facilities are put up to handle the mail.

The weather today is swell. The sea is out and it is warm. It doesn't seem as if we had a typhoon here. I think we are about the only ones who didn't get too much stuff ruined. Very few tents were damaged. The one I was in came down.

Hope Dennie is all right. I'll have to close, haven't much time. Write soon and God bless and watch over all. Ernie

Alvarado's Canine Soldier:

Frank George, wholesale agent for the General Petroleum Co. in southern Alameda County is proud of his dog Flash. In June of 1943, Flash was accepted for service by the U.S. Army. Flash would join the "Dogs for Defense: Dept. of the U.S. Army." Flash had been sent by Mr. George to police school at San Pablo where they trained Doberman dogs and the Army appreciated this early training, thus they decided to continue his development along this line.

Many dogs, which are not previously trained, were put in the sled hauling teamwork. But Frank is happy now that he encouraged Flash to become proficient in guard and attack tactics, as well as detective work. Flash is now undergoing advanced training for sentry work at San Carlos in San Mateo County.

In October 1943 Frank received word that his splendidly trained dog Flash had arrived somewhere in Europe by the U.S. Government. Frank's hobby of training the intelligent Doberman dogs and also the German shepherd type has paid good dividends for the Government. The dogs that Frank trained are super intelligent and even now the U.S. Government has its eye on another trained dog from Frank called Judy.

In November of 1945 Frank wrote a letter to the Quartermaster General, a branch of the War Dept. asking of his dog Flash.

Frank received this reply:

In further response to your letter covering your dog Flash, Brand No. 27T, enclosed is a copy of the Dog Record showing Flash's assignment:

"At the present time he is still overseas with the 40th War Dog platoon. However, this office has no information when that platoon will be returned to this country. Thank you again for your generous contribution of your dog to serve in the war effort. He is performing his duties in a satisfactory manner."

JOHN J. GRIMES, Major, QM Ass't.

In March of 1946 Flash received his discharge from the U.S. Army. He came home via the Southern Pacific train and arrived at the Alvarado train station. Station agent Ed Wilson notified Frank that Flash had arrived and Frank's brother, Tony George, had the honor of calling for him on March 5th.

The dog arrived from Virginia after having landed there from overseas duty on February 26th. Flash looked as beautiful as ever and is a noble animal. He was a year and half with the 40th Infantry doing scout duty. He has an honorable discharge, as fine as any soldier. The dog got all excited when he first saw Frank, and his master immediately put him through his line of tricks, showing that Flash had lost none of his cunning.

World War II Rationing & the OPA:

Rationing, a National Outlook / Rationing in Alvarado / Rationing Stories / Scrap Drives / the OPA

Rationing, a National Outlook:

With the onset of World War II, numerous challenges confronted the American people. The government found it necessary to ration food, gas, and even clothing during that time. Americans were asked to conserve on everything.

In the spring of 1942, the Food Rationing Program was set into motion. Rationing would deeply affect the American way of life for most. The federal government needed to control supply and demand. Rationing was introduced to avoid public anger with shortages, and to not to allow only the wealthy to purchase commodities.

While industry and commerce were affected, individuals felt the effects more intensely. People were often required to give up many material goods, but there also was an increase in employment. Individual efforts evolved into clubs and organizations coming to terms with the immediate circumstances. Joining together to support and maintain supply levels for the troops abroad meant making daily adjustments. Their efforts also included scrap drives, taking factory jobs, goods donations, and other similar projects to assist those on the front.

Government-sponsored ads, radio shows, posters and pamphlet campaigns urged the American people to comply. With a sense of urgency, the campaigns appealed to America to contribute by whatever means they had, without complaint. The propaganda was a highly effective tool in reaching the masses.

Rationing regulated the amount of commodities that consumers could obtain. In one of the ironies of this war, sugar was also on the ration list in Alvarado.

Registration usually took place in local schools. Each family was asked to send only one member for registration, and be prepared to describe all other family members. Coupons were distributed based on family size, and the coupon book allowed the holder to buy a specified amount. Possession of a coupon book did not guarantee that the commodity would be available. Americans learned to utilize what they had during rationing time.

While some food items were scarce, others did not require rationing, and Americans adjusted accordingly. "Red Stamp" rationing covered all meats, butter, fat, and oils, and with some exceptions, cheese. Each person was allowed a certain amount of points weekly with expiration dates to consider. "Blue Stamp" rationing covered canned, bottled, frozen fruits and vegetables, plus juices and dry beans, and such processed foods as soups, baby food and ketchup. Ration stamps became a kind of currency with each family being issued a "War Ration Book." Each stamp authorized a purchase of rationed goods in the quantity and time designated, and the book guaranteed each family its fair share of goods made scarce, because of the war. Rationing also was determined by a point system. Some grew weary of trying to figure out what coupon went with which item, or how many points they needed to purchase them, while some coupons did not require points at all.

In addition to food, rationing encompassed clothing, shoes, coffee, gasoline, tires, and fuel oil. With each coupon book came specifications and deadlines. Rationing locations were posted in public view. Rationing of gas and tires strongly depended on the distance to one's job. If one was fortunate enough to own an automobile, and drive at the then specified speed of 35 mph, one might have a small amount of gas remaining at the end of the month to visit nearby relatives.

Rationing resulted in one serious side effect: the black market, where people could buy rationed items on the sly, but at higher prices. The practice provoked mixed reactions from those who banded together to conserve as instructed, as opposed to those who fed the black market's subversion and profiteering. For the most part, black marketers dealt in clothing and liquor in Britain, and meat, sugar and gasoline in the United States.

While life during the war meant daily sacrifice, few complained because they knew it was the men and women in uniform who were making the greater sacrifice. A poster released by the Office of War Information stated simply, "Do with less so they'll have enough." And yet another pleaded, "Be patriotic, sign your country's pledge to save the food." On the whole, the American people were united in their efforts.

Recycling was born with the government's encouragement. Saving aluminum cans meant more ammunition for the soldiers. Economizing initiatives seemed endless as Americans were urged to conserve and recycle metal, paper and rubber. War Bonds and stamps were sold to provide war funds, and the American people also united through volunteerism. Communities joined together to hold scrap-iron drives, and schoolchildren pasted saving stamps into bond books.

Others planted "Victory Gardens" to conserve food. For a small investment in soil, seed and time, families could enjoy fresh vegetables for months. By 1945, an

estimated 20 million victory gardens produced approximately 40 percent of America's vegetables.

Training sessions were held to teach women how to shop wisely, conserve food and plan nutritious meals, as well as teach them how to can food items. The homemaker planned family meals within the set limits. The government's persuasion of people to give up large amounts of red meats and fats resulted in healthier eating.

The government also printed a monthly meal-planning guide with recipes and a daily menu. Good Housekeeping magazine printed a special section for rationed foods in its 1943 cookbook. Numerous national publications also featured articles explaining what rationing meant to America.

Then there were the food manufacturers who took advantage of the wartime shortages to flaunt their patriotism to their profit. The familiar blue box of Kraft Macaroni and Cheese Dinner gained great popularity as a substitute for meat and dairy products. Two boxes required only one rationing coupon, which resulted in 80 million boxes sold in 1943. Food substitutions became evident with real butter being replaced with Oleomargarine. Cottage cheese took on a new significance as a substitute for meat, with sales exploding from 110 million pounds in 1930 to 500 million pounds in 1944.

After three years of rationing, World War II came to a welcome end. Rationing, however, did not end until 1946. Life resumed as normal and the consumption of meat, butter, and sugar inevitably rose.

Rationing, in Alvarado:

Besides rationing for the war effort, there was also a concerted effort to stop black marketing (the selling of rationed goods illegally), and price gouging via the OPA (Office of Price Administration). Also several drives were made for strategic materials for the war effort.

Rationing began in January 1942 with a tire rationing board that operated locally out of the Centerville Justice Court. J.R. Blacow served as chairman of the board with other directors, Mrs. Helen C. Ford and George C. Roeding of Niles; with Mrs. Edward F. Chadbourne of Irvington serving as secretary. Frank George of Alvarado was named as one of the alternate inspectors for the board.

Alvarado Grammar School became the distribution for sugar in Alvarado as the rationing of this substance began in May 1942.

Only four new cars were apportioned to Washington Township Rationing Board area in July 1942, this being three less than last month's quota. New cars purchased in June were granted to:

- 1) Manuel F. Silva of Alvarado, farmer
- 2) Bart K. Vink, Newark, dairyman
- 3) Harry Raes of Alvarado, labor contractor
- 4) Arthur Kimber of Niles, defense worker
- 5) Herbert Harrold of Decoto
- 6) Benecia Arsenal
- 7) Leslie Salt Co. of Newark.

Nine new members of the Washington Township Rationing and Price Control Board were appointed in October 1942 to take care of increasing work of rationed products. Added to the three present members of board these 12 persons would work in groups of three in handling rationing of tires, gasoline, clothing and food. One of the new members appointed to the board was L. E. Bailey of Alvarado.

On January 1, 1943 the Government announced plans to introduce a meat-rationing program. In the meantime, the Rationing Board asked Americans to voluntarily cut back on meat and the government would introduce a "Meatless Day" program later in the year.

"The tightening of the food supply of the nation, particularly a shortage in fresh vegetables and berries, made imperative an extension of the Victory Home Garden program in Washington Township," said T.O. Morrison, county farm advisor in February 1943. Ben Koontz, superintendent of the Holly Sugar mill in Alvarado, and a resident of Castro Valley, was selected as the advisor in our area.

In 1943 range patrols were established by stockmen in the Southern end of Alameda County to prevent cattle thefts expected from the result of the meat shortage. In July 1943, five men were taken into custody for shooting at livestock from a county road in Mocho District, Niles Canyon. Cattle in isolated locations were being slaughtered and butchered on the site.

Rationing Stories:

Everyone in the township was looking for ways to increase the variety and the amount of food they could serve their families, or to stretch the amount of resources given them under rationing. Victory Gardens was one way to increase your food supply and some individuals found some clever ways to cope.

Joseph Travers, 62, didn't worry about gasoline or rubber rationing, not as long as he cycled to his work daily at the sugar mill at Alvarado. Travers could run three years on \$6 worth of tires. He bought his first bicycle in 1906 and his second in 1916. He has never owned an auto and doesn't want one, or need one.

And now comes the meat-rationing story that tops them all. Deputy Sheriff Richard E. Condon was on patrol near Alvarado when he spotted a car weaving in an erratic manner on the highway.

"Hmmm," muttered Condon, "a drunk driver, and at this time of the day." He waved the car to the side of the road and then approached the driver with the intention of issuing a citation.

"Pretty bad job of driving," Condon said in opening the conversation.

"Oh, I didn't notice; you see I'm hunting for meat," the man replied.

Hunting meat, a likely story, Condon thought, and then he glanced in the back seat of the car; there sat two streamlined greyhound dogs, and beside them four dead jackrabbits.

The driver explained, "I just drive down the highway until I see a rabbit, then I release the dogs and they catch it and bring it back to me. It beats standing in line at the butcher shop and the meat is good."

Scrap Drives:

World War II was an industrial war. And metals were needed to build the weapons that won the War. The shortage of rubber was the most serious impediment to the Allied war effort, but metals of all kinds were also needed and in huge quantities. Building tanks, ships, planes, and other weapons required massive amounts of metals, more than any other war in history.

An Army Sherman M-4 tank required more than 20 tons of metal. A Navy battleship needed more than 900 tons. And building the world's largest Air Force meant that aluminum would be needed in unprecedented quantities. Thus the Government, after Pearl Harbor, either cut off the supply of metal to the consumer economy or strictly rationed it. Everything from barbed wire to farm equipment was rationed. Kids were unable to get bicycles, tricycles, and pedal cars, both because of the metal and the rubber.

Expanding mine production took time. And increasing imports meant that ships had to be built which also took time. There was metal that was immediately available. One estimate suggests that 1.5 million tons of scrap lay useless on U.S. farms. And there were also large quantities in the cities as well. The Government urged Americans to turn in scrap metal for recycling, and schools and community groups like the Scouts across the country held scrap metal drives.

Celebrities pitched in to help promote these drives. The metals that could be obtained through scrap drives included aluminum, copper, iron, nickel, steel, and tin. Given the need for aluminum for aircraft production, drives were launched for old pots. Cans and even tin foil was collected. People saved tin foil from gum wrappers. Often they made tin foil balls, which were taken to the collection sites.

The Victory Key campaign was launched as some keys (especially Yale and Corbin) contained large quantities of nickel needed by the Navy. Americans got caught up in the patriotic feeling and sometimes brought historic cannons or even monuments to the collection sites that after the War they wished they had saved.

Here are some local instances of scrap drives in Washington Township and Alvarado:

October 16, 1942:

"Old wagon wheels that helped carry settlers across the plains are now being scrapped as part of Alvarado's effort for the Nation's war effort. J. C. Wasley, chief salvage warden and Sam Dinsmore, loyal volunteer, invade an Alvarado farm and carry away huge wagon wheels where the iron rims and hubs can be melted down for bullets, tanks and guns. Alvarado has already collected 80 tons of scrap metal and their goal is 100 tons."

January 8, 1943:

"All those persons who sold scrap iron at the time of the last Scrap Metal Drive and wish their money for same were asked to turn in their receipts to the Alvarado Fire Department as soon as possible and they will receive their payment. Receipts can also be turned in any time at A.A. Lee's store on the corner of Smith & Watkins Street."

October 17, 1943:

"J.V. Goold, principal of the Washington Union High School in Centerville, chairman of the tin can drive, has asked school children to assist in collecting cans, which are to be picked up by Oakland trucks from a central dump site in each town. Town chairmen have been appointed as follows:

Alvarado:	J.C. Wasley
Warm Springs:	Leslie H. Maffey
Alviso:	Mrs. Elsie Madruga.

Cans must be dry and clean, free of wrappers, and flattened after the tops and bottoms have been removed."

The OPA:

The OPA (Office of Price Administration) became an independent agency under the Emergency Price Control Act of January 30, 1942. The OPA had the power to place ceilings on all prices except agricultural commodities, and to ration scarce supplies of other items, including tires, automobiles, shoes, nylon, sugar, gasoline, fuel oil, coffee, meats and processed foods. At the peak, almost 90% of retail food prices were frozen. It could also authorize subsidies for production of some of those commodities.

When the OPA came on the scene in 1942, price control was foreign to many people. Radios were still not in every home in the U.S. Hence word had to get out about the OPA. So local Boy Scouts delivered an OPA leaflet entitled: "What you should know About Price Control." Its intent was to get everyone on board in accepting price controls and not becoming involved in black marketing or price gouging.

The Washington Township War Price and Rationing Board tried to educate the public that the OPA was assisting dealers and consumers, rather than "snooping" on them. 14 volunteer assistants to the price panel were appointed in Washington Township to instruct the public on the duties and the mission of the OPA. Two of the volunteers from Alvarado were Mrs. A. K Logan and Mrs. George Harvey.

As with many of the U.S. Government information services for the public, many were volunteers to aid in educating their fellow Americans. Service award certificates from the Office of Price Administration were presented to these volunteers based upon their service. Topping the list for the Washington Township War Price and Rationing Board was Mrs. Blake Hill of Alvarado with 940 hours of volunteer service. Second was another Alvaradan, Miss Nancy McKeown with 568 hours.

Did these agencies take their jobs seriously? You bet they did! American boys were dying in Europe, North Africa, and the Pacific. The Japanese even had a foothold in the Aleutian Islands in North America. Nonsense, black marketing, and consumer fraud was not tolerated in the U.S. during the Second World War!

Case No. 1:

George Hellwig, Alvarado meat magnate and County Supervisor, had an injunction filed against him and his firm, and was charged with exceeding meat quotas by 80% in the quarter ended December 1942. His company had exceeded its quotas in the amount of 82,914 pounds of meat during the period of January 1st to March 12th, 1943. Said Stanley Weigel, an OPA official, this action was part of the OPA's drive against black market operations on the west coast.

Case No. 2:

J. Hohener, who operated a slaughterhouse on Hesperian Boulevard near Alvarado, was charged with selling pork on the black market. Two Alvarado men, Bernale Ugale and Faustino Cabaran, told officials that they had visited Hohener's place last week with the intention of buying chickens, but had been convinced by Hohener to buy pork instead. They said he had no chickens and sold him five pounds of pork for \$1.95.

WORLD WAR II ENEMY ALIENS:

This part of World War II is one of the most regretted actions by the U.S. done upon some of its citizens. Soon after the Japanese bombing of December 7th, and the subsequent Japanese running wild over most of the Pacific Theater, the U.S. gained their equilibrium and started into action an effort to drive the Japanese back to their home islands.

At the beginning of 1942 the issue about what to do with enemy aliens (Germans, Italians, and Japanese) in the U.S. arose. A census of enemy aliens and where they lived and worked was begun. By the middle of February it was determined that there were about 235 enemy aliens that had registered at the Niles Justice Court (as was required after the start of the war). It was pointed out that many enemy alien residents of Washington Township had registered at other points and, in some cases, in other counties. Of the number registered at Niles about 190 were Japanese, 40 were Italian and 5 were German.

At this same time there was a drive in Northern California to capture enemy aliens thought to be "potentially dangerous." The raids netted 182 Japanese, Italians and Germans. The predominate number were Japanese. Those picked up in Alvarado were Shoto Fugita, 53 and Keai Katoba, 38.

Hints of a possible mass evacuation of Japanese aliens from California and other Pacific coast defense areas to abandoned CCC Camps, was received in the East Bay on February 21, 1942, as a special Congressional committee meeting in San Francisco opened hearings into the enemy alien population. California State Attorney General Earl G. Warren, appearing before the committee headed by Rep. John Tolan of Oakland, warned, "We too, will have a Pearl Harbor unless something is done immediately. California is the most likely objective of the first blow of fifth columnists."

Warren said he believed the greatest potential threat lies with American born Japanese, and not Japanese Aliens. He said that all enforcement officers with whom he has consulted are of similarly convinced. There are twice as many Japanese who are United States citizens, he said. And the majority of Japanese aliens, he added, are elderly, about 55 years of age. He asserted that while the aliens have become "far removed" from their native land, many of their children have gone to Japan for their education and have become "indoctrinated with the ideas and policies of Japanese Imperialism."

A logical plan to safeguard American citizens from a possible fifth column attack quickly degraded into a witch-hunt. Jack Gleason, Chief of the Alameda County Sheriff's Department revealed on February 28th, portions of the contents of a Tokyo published dictionary of the Kendyusha Japanese Language School at Alvarado.

Gleason was the authority for the statement that the text had been used there and had been found in the possession of M. Tsutsui, secretary of a Japanese association who was taken into custody on February 21, 1942. After stating in the foreword "should emergency arise, offer yourselves courageously to the State; and thus guard and maintain the prosperity of our Imperial Throne co-equal with heaven and earth," the text adds.

"The way here set forth is indeed the teaching bequeathed by our Imperial Ancestors, to be observed alike by their descendants and the subjects, infallible for all ages and is true in all places."

"The text was apparently written primarily for Japanese subjects but had been utilized," Gleason said, "in local language schools."

By March 5th, the state of California had mapped the locations of Japanese households. The maps showed that Alameda County's 1,785 alien and 3,382 American-born Japanese were settled on property along main railroad lines, adjacent to the Livermore airport, entirely around the Newark power station, along the Hetch-Hetchy aqueduct at Mission San Jose, near approaches to both the Dumbarton and San Mateo-Mt. Eden bridges, and adjacent to the Alvarado sugar refinery. (Apparently no thought was given to the fact that the Japanese may have lived near where they were employed).

Two days later F.B.I. Agents and deputies from the Hayward Sheriff's Substation, armed with presidential warrants, conducted raids in Southern Alameda County and arrested two Japanese aliens. Arrested was Jingo Takeuchi, 54, Box 215, Alvarado, father of eight children, who said he formerly taught in a local Japanese language school, but now is a carpenter by trade. The only contraband found in his home, it was reported, was an eight-inch dagger. Also taken into custody was Tsuno Minoru, 57 year-old farmer of Alvarado, father of six children, of Box 154 Alvarado. The two men were booked enroute to immigration authorities.

Speculation grew on March 9th whether the Southern Alameda County hamlet of Alvarado was a pre-war nerve center of the dreaded Black Dragon Society, as Japanese groups in San Francisco quarreled among themselves in an attempt to achieve unity on an evacuation plan. From one quarter came the report that while Alvarado was the "ostensible" National Headquarters of the half-century old group whose "front" organization was the mysterious Military Virtue Society or Botoku-kai, San Francisco furnished the actual directive force. This theory was supported by Sheriff Gleason who declared that it was "merely a coincidence" that some of the Black Dragon leaders lived in Alvarado, and that it was a remote control organization with financial and administrative headquarters in San Francisco.

There were some calls for calm from organizations such as the American Civil Liberties Union of New York City, who asked its California branches to seek moderation in evacuating Japanese to internment camps. It stressed its position that the Japanese should receive individual hearings before relocation. But this too was for naught, for eventually the Japanese were rounded up and sent off to camps around the West.

A list of some of the Japanese families who had lived in Alvarado before WWII or who relocated to Alvarado after their internment during WWII and had spent time in the camps is listed below:

<u>Akinaga:</u>					
Fujiko	George	Hisako	Hisaye	Kazuko	Kenji
Misao	Nobuo	Osamu	Sunao		
<u>Dowke:</u>					
Calvin	Edna	Henry	Mabel	Masake	Sachiye
Taneo					
<u>Egashira:</u>					
Asaye	Eiko	Hiroji	Meiko	Rikizo	Sakiko
<u>Fujita:</u>					
Masaaki	Michihico	Toshiaki	Toshima	Yoshika	
<u>Hayashi:</u>					
Gene	Harumi	Hatsuie	Noburo	Susumo	Takano
Yutaka					
<u>Hikido:</u>					
Noboru	Tokano	Tome			
<u>Hikido:</u>					
Toranosu	Umeno	Mikio	George	Kayo	Helen
Tomoko					
<u>Hisaoka:</u>					
Fumiyo	Masaharu	Okaya	Tadao	Toranosu	Yoshio
Yukiko	Yukio				
<u>Iwamasa:</u>					
Hatsue	Shizuyo	Utaka			
<u>Kataoka:</u>					
Fred Masao	Geo. Hibu	Nobuko	Yumi	Jas. Yoshiharu	
<u>Kubota:</u>					
Ito	Tamotsu				
<u>Kumachiyo:</u>					
Kamiji	Sakuye	Sachiko	Michiko	Yoshio	
<u>Kurotori:</u>					
Tamaye	Toji	Sadao	Nobuko	Sadako	Nobuo
Hiro					
<u>Maruyama:</u>					
Fujiko	Hatsutarō	Mystune	Osamu	Sanaye	Yoshiyuki
<u>Matsumoto:</u>					
Fusa	Fusaka	Misayo	Tsutomo	Sumiko	Katsusaburo
<u>Nakashima:</u>					
Gerald	Gladys	Noburo	Naoko	Sumiko	Yaeko
Yoki					
<u>Nakashima:</u>					
Harry					
<u>Nakashima:</u>					
Tetsuo					
<u>Nakashima:</u>					
Yoki	Naoko				
<u>Nakamura:</u>					
Masataku	Michi	Satoru	Shigiharu	Shinsuke	
<u>Nemoto:</u>					
Chiye Eliz	Ichiro Geo.	Hachiro	Yoneko Lilly	Chiyoko Elaine	
Manaru	Shimo	Miyeko Mabel			
<u>Nishi:</u>					
Momoyo	Teisuke				

Nogami:

Herbert	Hisdaye	Sakaye	Shigeru	Shigeko	Tomatsu Tom
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Toshiko

Tsutomu (Ben)

Oku:

Hisaku	George	Henry	Kazue	Norishigi	Katsui (Hana)
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Sakamoto:

Hisaka	Kay	Michiyo
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Sakata:

Fusako	Harry	Mitsuko	Montaro	Robert
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Sugimoto:

Rinzo	Han	Akio
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Takeuchi:

Goro	Joseph	Keigo	Kenji	Kiwa	Mamoro
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Shozo**Tamura:**

Inomi	Tomiko
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Tanaka:

Fusie	Haroye	Nikubo	Tatsuo	Yoshiro	Fusaye
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Toda:

Sakae	Suye	Takako	Ikuko	James	George
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Tsuno:

Akira	Chieko	Iwao	Kamei	Minoru
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Tsutui:

Kimiko	Masanori	Masuju	Teruo	Taiko
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Tsutui:

Hideo	Hideyoshi	Kiyoko	Shoji	Toshika	Yoshi Yuki
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Ujihara:

Mosanobu	Kimi	George
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Ushijima:

George	Harry	James	Sugino
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Yoshimura:

Cherry	Harold	Helen	James	Madelyn	Misuyo
Mitsuru	Tadao	William			

Ground Observer Corps Tower:

Washington Township was put on alert almost a full three months before the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor. An air raid observation post was set up at Hall Station (Hall Station is located where the SP Railroad tracks cross Alvarado Blvd. south of Dyer Street) and was manned by volunteers from Alvarado. They were to search the skies for enemy aircraft and report them to the authorities. They were provided with a tent to shield them from the elements.

On September 26, 1941 Washington Township was split into four districts to act as Air Raid Lookouts. The Alvarado district was headed by T. P. Harvey.

Chief Observers were:

Andrew Logan	Joseph Jacinto	Robert Whipple
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Chief Assistants were:

Weston Emery	Joseph Martin	John Logan	Anthony Almeida
Peter Rose	Frank Best	Joe Dutra	Morris Davilla

Damaso Diaz	Clarence Flores	Gregory Perry	Angelo Cosso
James Wasley Jr.	A. E. Vargas	Manuel Amaral	

After the attack on Pearl Harbor the call went out for additional volunteers to be lookouts for enemy aircraft throughout Washington Township. Any resident of the Township was eligible, but middle-aged persons were preferred. Four stations were put in place and manned. Alvarado had their observation post up and running since September 1941. But now they were to be manned 24/7. The stations were located at the following locations:

Niles:	George Rose
Newark:	John Dutra
Centerville:	Clyde Jones
Alvarado:	T. P. Harvey

As winter dragged on the tent at Hall Station proved to be less than satisfactory quarters to house our observers. Assistant Chief Observer Andrew Logan moved the Air Raid Observation post from the Hall Station location to the Sugar Mill. The gatekeeper's office was used by the kindness of the Holly Sugar Corp., and especially secured through Andrew Logan who was an employee of the sugar company. The new location was warmer than the tent at the former location, which in the preliminary stages was appreciated until the cold weather set in. The men kept watch four hours a week, instead of two hours, three times a week. Andrew Logan also donated the wood for use in the stove.

By the end of 1942 there was talk of the need for an observation tower, which would provide a much better view of the horizon than was available at the gatekeeper's office at the sugar mill. Chamber of Commerce President Frank Machado made a Herculean effort in securing cash from local businessmen for the supplies necessary to build a tower on the school grounds in Alvarado. The following list of businessmen and concerned citizens made donations to make the tower a reality:

Fred Wiegman, \$30	Matt Machado, \$5	F.E. Machado, \$5
Henry Dutra, \$5	Manuel Goularte, \$5	J.C. Wasley, \$5
A.J. Vargas, \$5	Sam Dinsmore, \$5	P. Carrillo, \$5
J.E. Lewis, \$5	E.J. Wilson, \$5	Manuel P. Rose, \$5
M.A. Silva, \$5	Miss McKeown, \$5	J. Binder, \$4
D. Diaz, \$5	John H. Ralph, \$5	Joseph H. Priego, \$5
Manuel V. Machado, \$5	Joe Jacinto, \$2.50	Antone Santos, \$5
Central Bank Alvarado, \$20	John Varni, \$10	Mrs. August May, \$5
Manuel J. Andrade, \$2.50	John J. Bettencourt, \$5	Peter L. Decoto, \$5
Ramiro Machado, \$1	F.C. Harvey, \$5	E. Naharro, \$5
Gregory Perry, \$2.50	Joe Langdon, \$2.50	Frank George, \$5
Felix Diangson, \$1.50	Concha Mata, \$2.50	Ed Le Bon, \$5
Analito Carrillo, \$1	Helen Marquez, \$2.50	Alvarado Eagles, \$20
Manuel S. Hendricks, \$5	G.B. (Bocci) Gualco, \$5	Ted Harvey, \$5
Alvarado Veg. Growers, \$20	Emma Kelly Deleon, \$2.50	Edward Fantuzzi, \$2
Hellwig Meat Company, \$10	A.A. Lee, Paint & \$10	Nilon Silva, \$1
Ramiro Machado, \$1.50	Gene I Rapiz, \$2	Joseph Tobilog, \$1
A.P. Delfin, \$1	M.N. Reontoy, \$1	D. Varvaling, \$1
Felix Diangson, \$1	C. Biete, \$1	D. Mogalit, \$1
Manuel E. Perry, \$2.50	A. Regalado, \$3	Joe Ricamonte, \$1
P.C. Hansen Lumber Co., \$22.90	Joe Perry, \$1	John Menezes, \$1

The plan was to build an eighteen-foot high tower on the Alvarado Grammar School grounds to guard against the intrusion of Japanese airplanes. J. C. Wasley, John Ralph and E. J. Wilson were on the building committee. The cost of the tower was \$270. The tower enclosed an eight-foot square glass enclosed room with a six-foot catwalk around the outside.

By February 1943 the plan was coming together. The place of the tower (behind the basketball court at the grammar school) was chosen and the materials were purchased and/or donated.

The donation of the frame for the tower came from the bottom of Manuel Silva's tank house on the Creek Road. The men who helped tear down the tank house were:

Joe Maciel	Charles Baird	F.E. Machado	Manuel Rose
Frank Silveira	Seraphin Noia	Martin Rose	

A small army of carpenters descended on the school grounds to help erect the tower. The names of those who helped erect the tower:

Manuel Goularte	Joe Maciel	A. Jardine	Clarence Flores
Charles Baird	Manuel P Rose	F.E. Machado	Manuel Silva, Jr.
Frank Goularte	Frank Dutra	Joe Lewis	George Davis

Painting the structure were:

Andy Anderson	Charles Baird	Manuel Silva Jr.	Manuel Hendricks Sr.
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Linoleum Layers were:

Manuel Goularte	A. Jardine
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Ladies in charge:

Mrs. Annie Baird	Mrs. Corinne Munger
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In March 1943, the tower was ready to be manned and serve its purpose. Frank Machado, the chief observer was assisted by Manuel P. Rose and Charles Baird. In April 1943, Frank Machado stepped aside due to a busy schedule and illness and Joseph Jacinto, Sr. took over the responsibility of being the chief observer. The ladies section was led by Mrs. Corinne Munger and Miss Flora McKeown

The tower was manned 24 hours a day, seven days week (when there were enough volunteers to fully implement all watches). Persons stood guard for four hours, usually in pairs, although many daylight hours were manned only by a single person. Following is a list of persons who volunteered their services for the good of Alvarado:

John Aguiar	Helen Alameda	Hilda Allegre	C.M. Anderson
Helen Anderson	Stanley Anderson	Annie Baird	Charles Baird
Manuel Benites Jr.	Mary Borges	Viola Dinsmore	Weston Emery
H.L. Eudy	Clara Flores	Beck Garcia	Manuel B. Garcia
Andy Gardetto	Esther Gardetto	Charles Gonsalves	Helen Goularte
George Harvey	Ruby Harvey	Ruth Hellwig	Victoria Henry
Blake Hill	Judy Hill	Patricia Hill	Marion Hocking
William Hooper	Hilda Hughes	Betty Jacinto	Clara Jacinto
Joseph Jacinto Jr.	Joseph Jacinto Sr.	Muriel Jacinto	Charlotte Jung
Rose Lee	Bobby Lemos	Manuel C. Lemos	Aurora Lewis
Joe Lewis	Stanley Lewis	J.M. Logan	Sally Logan
Vivian Logan	Ernie Machado	Frank Machado	Manuel Machado
Matt Machado	Ramiro Machado	William Machado	Isabel Martin

Flora McKeown	Nancy McKeown	Wallace McKeown	Andrew Moffitt
Corinne Munger	Emily Noia	Mervin Perry	Rose Perry
Vernie Perry	Vernon Perry	Melvin Peterson	Pearl Peterson
Teddy Peterson	Antoinette Pinto	Frank Pinto	Peter Pinto
Emilio Re	Marjorie Re	Helen Roderick	Joseph Roderick
Tony Roderick	Clifford Rogers	Mabel Rogers	Elvin Rose
Joseph A. Rose	Manuel P. Rose	Floyd Russell	Elaine Sallee
Floyd Scott	John Silva	Manuel Silva	Manuel Silva Jr.
Mary Silva	Mrs. Lenore Silva	Mary Silveira	John Smyrl
A.J. Vargas	Angie Vargas	Elizabeth Wallace	Glenn Wallace
Bob Wasley	Edith Wasley	James C. Wasley	James C. Wasley Jr.
Peggy Wasley	Eileen Wilson		

In July 1944 the observation tower was deemed of no further use and the Chamber of Commerce asked for bids to buy the structure. One year later the tower was still up for sale. Whether it was sold or not I could not find out. However, my oldest brother Tom Gualco recalls the top of the tower residing in back of the Alvarado Beauty Parlor next to the old Catholic Church on Smith Street for many years. I could not verify this, however.

Civil Defense:

As early as July 1941, the Alameda County Sheriff's Department was conducting Civil Defense classes in Alvarado. Sheriff Jack Gleason had deputized a crew of almost 100 men in Alvarado by the mid September 1941 for the purpose of training them in how to handle "catastrophic" emergencies.

By December 9th Sheriff Gleason had hired twenty-five special deputies for duty during the Pearl Harbor crisis. Gleason said that 200 volunteers had enrolled as a special sheriff's office squad and were fully trained and ready for any emergency. They had received fourteen weeks of training in the prevention of sabotage, handling of traffic, fire prevention, first aid, and laws of arrest. Half of them were serving in Washington and Eden Townships under the direction of Douglass Webb, deputy sheriff, and J. C. Wasley, Principal of Alvarado Grammar School.

Nearly the entire corps of 120 sheriff's deputies of Washington Township met at the Alvarado Grammar School on Monday evening, December 15, 1941, to receive instruction from Sheriff Gleason and Deputy Webb of Hayward. Felt armbands bearing the official blue "CD" seal and the words Sheriff's Deputy in black letters were issued.

The men were instructed to take a census and keep a written list of the number of persons living in every house in their towns, so that in case of an accident, the number of occupants in the house would be known.

An air raid warning siren was needed for Alvarado, and the siren formerly used by the Holly Sugar Company for fire alarms and other factory signals was donated to the town of Alvarado for use in air raid warnings. The siren was installed on top of Sam Dinsmore's General Store, and in a test made several days later the siren proved to be very effective throughout Alvarado.

After the first of the year (1942) towns in the Washington Township area received instructions in civil defense at the Washington Union High School. The classes were

held under the auspices of Division Chief Douglass Webb of the Hayward Sheriff's Department.

It must be remembered that at this time there was no Internet, television, and not everyone owned a radio set. Getting information out to everyone was almost a person-to-person operation.

Throughout the month of January 1942 courses were provided to citizens as follows:
Civilian Defense plan:

- Extinguishing small fires
- Incendiary bombs and their effect
- Explosive bombs and their effect
- Chemical warfare and its effect
- Equipment and duties of Civilian Defense Wardens
- First Aid
- Communications
- Identification of person and property
- Public Relations

In March of 1942 a committee to co-ordinate civilian defense actives in Washington Township was appointed by Deputy District Attorney Ralph E. Hoyt. Frank Dusterberry of Centerville was named chairman for the new group, which was composed of persons in charge of various phases of civil defense work in the township. Other members of the committee and the civilian defense activities they had charge of were:

Mrs. O. W. Ebright	Centerville: Health Center, Public Health
John Galvin	Niles: Highway maintenance, demolition, and rescue
George Hellwig	Alvarado: Air raid precautions and shelters

But Civil Defense was not limited to the just the adult population of Washington Township. Exemplifying the part that the public schools played in the civilian defense program was that of Alvarado Grammar School, which the school completed in March 1942, with the entire school auditorium being blacked out for the duration and an improvised foyer being built, so that the interior could remain lighted even when entrances and exits are being made.

Alvarado Grammar School was also the first grammar school in Washington Township to give first aid instruction to all Eighth Grade students. A first aid unit was placed in the school auditorium and arrangements were made to have a staff on 24-hour duty if necessary.

Registration of more than 10,000 Washington Township residents, who received metal identification tags, took place at the grammar schools in mid-July. This was the only opportunity for persons in this district to receive the tags for all members of the family. Adults as well as children were urged to call at their respective grammar schools at the specified time.

A double file was made of all township registration cards to be filed at the district attorney's office at Washington Union High School. Air raid wardens were asked to distribute the white cards to be filled out at home and returned to the schools. At the Alvarado Schools Mrs. Erle Hellwig was in charge of distributing the cards.

Mock air raid tests were conducted to simulate an enemy attack. In July 1942 Alvarado turned out its first test incident, when a simulated bombing was staged there. The call for help was sent to the Hayward Sheriffs, which relayed the alarm by short wave radio to township officers and the mobile first aid unit at Niles. The Alvarado Fire Department, under the direction of Chief J. C. Wasley, extinguished three "planted fires," and several victims were given first aid under the direction of Mrs. A. B. Leask, graduate nurse in charge of the Niles first aiders. The affair was conducted by Dr. T. C. Wilson, Niles first aid chairman at the request of Mrs. S. I. Lemos of Alvarado, Alvarado first aid chairman.

Finally comes this tidbit from the *Alvarado Pioneer* about war secrets and keeping things to yourself:

"If you know what ship a sailor is on, or what company or regiment a soldier is with overseas, then you know a military "secret," the Office of Censorship in Washington warns.

This secret ought not to be published. This is why: A general needs to know the strength of his opponent; how many men, how many guns, ships, planes there are in each theater of war.

The Nazis and the Japs want to know this thing about our forces. Their agents assemble the information like this. From one slip of paper an item reveals the 600th Infantry is in Australia; another, the 206th Tank Battalion is in North Africa. Add hundreds of these bits of information together, and our enemies have a too accurate estimate of American military strength.

These are OUR soldiers, Americans all of whom we endanger by these "little slips." This is not a 'blackout' on the news about our soldiers. Considerable latitude in reporting personal experiences gives the enemy little military information, if the troop units and the ship names are kept secret. But in articles about soldiers and sailors and in the addresses for them, don't give away their fighting units."

Alvarado Red Cross:

The American Red Cross' mission during WWII was to give comfort, give aid, and help care for the wounded. In many instances it served as a conduit between a belligerent country and Americans held prisoner. And, of course, it headed drives for blood to save lives on the battlefield and in hospitals. During WWII the American Red Cross delivered 13.3 million pints of blood to wounded troops.

As early as September 1941, the Alvarado Red Cross held sewing sessions at the IOOF Hall in Alvarado to make warm clothes, socks, bandages, and dressings for the war torn people of Europe. So there existed in Alvarado an active Red Cross cell at the time of the Pearl Harbor bombing.

Heading this effort was Mrs. Rebecca Logan, wife of James Logan. Between September 1941 and March of 1942, more than 600 articles were made at the Alvarado sewing room. Among the 17 women who sewed at the Odd Fellows Hall each Wednesday afternoon were Mrs. J. Fyffe, who knitted numerous caps, mittens, socks and 39 sweaters, and Mrs. Annie Logan who completed 41 sweaters. Articles completed included dresses, skirts, snowsuits, trousers, rompers, and other wearing apparel. Mrs. Logan's daughter, Mrs. J. V. (Tillie) Goold of Centerville, also assisted

with making 350 buttonholes for some of the above named garments. Also among the star knitters were Mrs. Susie Davis and Mrs. George Enos.

In 1943, canvassing for the Red Cross roll call and war fund was made in the township, contributors were asked to double the amount they gave last year, if possible. Chairman of the drive was:

J. R. Blacow	Alvarado, campaign chairman
Loren Marriott	Centerville, Treasurer
F. T. Dusterberry	Centerville

In 1944 the annual American Red Cross drive started March 1st with J.R. Blacow, Central Bank Manager, in Alvarado. He had the following committee members:

Miss Flora McKeown	Mrs. Helen Goularte	Mrs. Joe Priego
Mrs. Helen Alameda	Mrs. Felix Diangson	Sam Dinsmore
Joe E. Lewis	J.H. Ralph	Mrs. C.M. Anderson
Mrs. Pearl Peterson		

The 1945 Red Cross drive started with an ambitious goal \$16,715, an increase of 30 percent over last year. The local town chairman for Alvarado was Walter Oakey and for Alviso is Mrs. Mayme Roderick.

In 1945 the war continued to turn in our favor, but the need for help on the front did not abate. Central Bank of Alvarado in conjunction with the *Alvarado Pioneer* placed this notice in the local newspaper:

“YOUR RED CROSS MUST HAVE FUNDS

The Tide of Victory is rolling on...

But the tide of casualties is rolling on too. This year, more than ever, American fighting men needs the help the Red Cross gives...more wounded, many different battle fronts, more prisoners, more families of service men needing help. So...give generously to the Red Cross. Your gift will help to ease the burden of someone who is giving everything he has for you. Keep the Red Cross at the side of your fighting men!

CENTRAL BANK
Alvarado”

The Alvarado Pioneer singled out one Alvarado lady as an exemplary role model to be followed:

“The tale of the Red Cross would not be complete without naming one of Alvarado's finest ladies. This lady did fine work for the Red Cross in Washington Township, and also worked hard for St. Anne's Catholic Church. She also went out and sold War Bonds.

Step up Mrs. Mary Rivers and take a bow as one of Alvarado's most worthwhile and patriotic citizens. Why? She lost her son (Paul Rivers) when he was reported missing almost two years ago by the Canadian air Corps. And here is what you call faith; do you know what she told the *Alvarado Pioneer*?

"You'll see, maybe my boy will come yet," folks that is courage, which many a younger couldn't portray.

And to top it off this smiling lady of some 65 summers has lately adopted a little girl from the Catholic Charities organization of San Francisco. She is Annabelle Velarde. You're indeed a lucky girl Annabelle to get such a fine home. Why don't more folks follow such a noble example?"

Paying for the War:

To repeat the impact of World War II today would require a truly massive effort. Replicating the six-fold increase in the federal budget that was seen in the early 1940s would result in a nearly \$20 trillion budget today. That equates to \$67,000 for every man, woman, and child in the country. Surely, the tremendous GDP growth created by such spending would make short work of the so-called Great Recession.

To a degree that will surprise many, the US funded its World War II effort largely by raising taxes and tapping into Americans' personal savings. Both of those avenues are nowhere near as promising today as they were in 1941. Current tax burdens are now much higher than they were before the War, so raising taxes today would be much more difficult.

The "Victory Tax" of 1942 sharply raised income tax rates and allowed, for the first time in our nation's history, taxes to be withheld directly from paychecks. The hikes were originally intended to be temporary, but have, of course, far outlasted their purpose. It would be unlikely that Americans would accept higher taxes today to fund a real war, let alone a pretend one.

That leaves savings, which was the War's primary source of funding. During the War, Americans purchased approximately \$186 billion worth of war bonds, accounting for nearly three quarters of total federal spending from 1941-1945. Today, we don't have the savings to pay for our current spending, let alone any significant expansions. Even if we could convince the Chinese to loan us a large chunk of the \$20 trillion (on top of the \$1 trillion we already owe them), how could we ever pay them?

So here then is how the citizens of Washington Township helped pay their share of the cost of WWII:

The first war drive began in January 1942 with Oakland's drive to raise \$250,000 for the War Relief Fund of the American Red Cross. Among the larger contributors in this district were:

Caterpillar Tractor Company	\$2,000
The Japanese-American Citizens League	\$1,350
Friden Calculating Machine Corp.	\$ 500
Chrysler Motor Parts Co.	\$ 500
American Trust Bank of America	\$ 100
San Leandro Police Ass'n,	\$ 100

F.T. Dusterberry, chairman of the Washington Branch, reported that Alvarado and Alviso districts had collected \$700, which put them over the top for the quota assigned.

In May 1942 Washington Township's war bond drive was organized at a meeting and air raid wardens were asked to assist in the house-to-house canvas, in which it was hoped each person would pledge at least 10 per cent of his income for bond

purchases. Subscribers were given window cards to show they cooperated in the war bond campaign. Captains for each town were appointed by A. J. Rathbone, Chairman. Erle Hellwig was appointed to represent Alvarado.

The *Alvarado Pioneer* joined in the effort to raise money for the war with this article printed in the August 18, 1942 issue:

"If we don't get busy right away and realize we are at war and buy more bonds, and gather more scrap iron to build battleships, we may lose the war say national leaders. There are many fine people buying bonds, but there are plenty of people who are making good wages and are making very little effort toward great sacrifices.

War Bond drives continued throughout the war, each with its own number. The original War Bond drive, the Second War Bond drive, the third War Bond Drive, etc. The drives were boosted by many patriotic Alvaradan's who gave part of their business and personal incomes to buy bonds.

One notable example was E. Naharro, owner of the Alvarado Theater, who would partner with Central Bank and the Post Office to sell bonds, and give a free ticket to the movies at his theater:

"The Alvarado Theater will hold a War Bond Premiere on Wednesday evening July 5, 1944. To gain admission it will be necessary for you to present a ticket showing that you have bought at least a \$25.00 War Bond. There will be a swell picture, and possibly local singing talent.

E. Naharro, manager of the Alvarado Theater, is very public spirited and has donated the big show house for the occasion. He is cooperating with Mr. Walter Oakey II, of the Central Bank here, who is the local man in charge of the drive.

The extraordinary picture "The Story of Dr. Wessell" starring Gary Cooper will be shown. This is a top-flight picture and ought to be the means of drawing a crowded house. Here is exactly how to be one of the lucky people to see this picture, and class yourself as one who helped put the drive over the top: Buy a bond of at least \$25 from the local bank or post office, and they will give you a show pass."

Let's Put the 7th War Loan Over the Top Now!

Oakland Tribune, May 17, 1945

"Now is the time to really pour it on, to give our fighting men every help, because make no mistake, the Jap is set to give us a harder fight than the Germans did.

Don't under estimate the Japs. They're tough. There are 4,000,000 of them in the army now, and 2,000,000 more in reserve. They are prepared to waste 10,000,000 lives and take 50 years *just to hold on to what they have!* And remember, fighting in the Pacific is rugged, rougher than in Europe.

That makes it more imperative than ever that we meet the call of the Seventh War Loan fully and quickly. So do your part...now!"

War Chest Drives:

A War Chest was started in Washington Township to assist the needy resulting from the war. Begun in November 1943, Joseph Lewis of Alvarado was appointed by Niles Postmaster Enos to be the Alvarado chairman.

Mr. Lewis had the following Alvaradan's to assist him in his fund raising efforts for the War Chest:

Sam Dinsmore	In Charge of Fraternal Organizations
Genevieve Dutra	In charge of the Business District collections

Individual Solicitors:

Mrs. Joe Flores	Mrs. Ethel Borges	Mrs. Helen Alameda
Mike Salido	Miss Mamie Silveira	Mrs. Aurora Lewis
Mrs. Marjorie Re	Miss Amelia Silva	Mrs. Melvin Peterson
Mrs. Harvey Granger	Manuel Amaral	George Hocking
Mrs. Felix Diangson	Jesus Martinez	Joseph Rose
John A. Silva	James C. Wasley	Gregory Perry
Mike Salido	Wilbert Hendricks	Mrs. Felix Diangson
Joel Langdon		

WWII Labor Shortages:

It is said that approximately 16 million men and women served the United States military and its auxiliary services during WWII. Naturally this led to labor shortages in agriculture and in our factories. How did we cope?

Agriculture became part of many Washington Township students curriculum in both the grammar schools and high school. Most particularly as laborers to replace those that went off to war. In May 1942, thirty Washington Union High School students completed their first farm project as part of the youth victory program to aid agriculture. The boys, under the direction of O. C. Brown, instructor, spent four hours daily thinning beets on the Andrade ranch near Centerville. The students remained in classes until noon, and then were transported to the fields in school buses. The project was under the joint supervision of the ranch owner and the Holly Sugar plant of Alvarado, and arranged through the Federal Employment Office at Hayward. Other farmers have also become interested in this program, but first they had to be cleared through the employment office in Hayward.

Back to school was substantially different in September 1942 than it was in September 1941. Washington Union High School in Centerville opened on the morning of September 21st and closed at noon to keep students in fields and canneries for another two weeks. Norbert George, Student Body President, urged students to resume studies or find jobs in the harvest of tomatoes and sugar beets because "our fighting men are depending upon us as we are depending upon them."

Meanwhile at Alvarado the grammar school remained closed on opening day and was not scheduled to reopen until October 5th. Students were urged to help harvest crops in the area as part of the war effort. Other schools in the township were all on some type of farm harvesting schedule.

Near the end of September the long awaited imported Mexican laborers began to arrive to top beets in Southern Alameda County. The men were billeted at a bunkhouse on the Andrade property. The Mexicans were served a meal after they

arrived. Then they had to decide whether they would cook for themselves or eat FSA (Federal Security Administration) food at a \$1.40 a day.

In October of 1942, the Alvarado sugar mill was invaded by female processors for the first time in its nearly 75 years of existence. The mill opened its 1942 season to turn out millions of pounds of sugar from beets grown mostly in the area. The season's output would consist of 200,000 tons of sugar beets, which produced about 600,000 100-pound bags of sugar from Alvarado alone.

Ladies were employed for the time in the processing department, and represented 75 of the 300 plant employees. Another 400 workers were harvesting and topping the beets; workmen, including 75 Mexican youths imported from Mexico City, 100 high school boys from San Francisco, 75 local beet workers, and another 150 service club men from the bay section, who signed up to spend weekends in the beet fields. The season would continue until the beginning of January.

The tomato-harvesting season began in October 1942 with students from Washington Union High School, the Alvarado and Decoto Grammar Schools, and the high school and grammar schools of the Livermore Valley turning out their students to pick tomatoes. On the afternoon of October 27th, the board of trustees decided to suspend classes for the remainder of the week to help pick tomato crop in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, where farmers were hard pressed to save their crops. The farmers paid the students and teachers for their work, and the high school would furnish as much transportation as possible in its buses to the fields. In this way the pupils did their part in winning the war, and a most necessary part it was, too.

Other pickers even included a Boy Scout Troop from Oakland, which lent 10 boys and two troop leaders as tomato pickers in Alvarado. The boys put in their labor but overall enjoyed themselves at contributing to the war effort.

The harvesting season of 1943 saw a repeat of what had been done in 1942, with putting up a limited number of colored workers in tents in Alvarado. In 1943 that number was doubled to about eighty workers. They earned a fine reputation for neatness and the thrifty work they accomplished.

From the *Alvarado Pioneer* came this article about migrant farm worker camps:

"The terrific need of getting migratory workers to pick the ripening crops in California caused the problem to arise of how to house the more than 50,000 workers who had come lately from parts outside of California. This problem was immediately solved by men in the employ of our great Governor, Earl G. Warren. They decided to erect some 20 migratory camps right away. So on July 1, 1943, the construction firm of Nelsen and Ewing of Hayward was awarded a contract to supply for the State of California some 20 migratory camps.

When we refer to these migratory camps, we mean dwellings that are comfortable and people can enjoy living in them. The contractors furnished only the buildings, with the plumbing and electrical work to be done on the site of the home.

These prefabricated homes were transported by the trucks to the sites. One building can be put together in a few hours, and a whole camp can be

assembled in less than a week with this method. You see, the speed was necessary to compete against the ripening crops."

Well they say necessity is the mother of invention. Ranchers of Washington Township and from surrounding territories witnessed the second local demonstration of the new automated sugar beet harvester, which is expected to revolutionize the industry from a labor standpoint. The first demonstration was given in December 1943, when local beet growers saw the machine dig, top, pile, and load beets in one operation. Twenty of these machines, and as many men, can replace 500 hand-harvesters, according to Andrew Logan, agriculturist for the Holly Sugar Corporation at Alvarado.

With the end of the War came the end of the contract for Mexican National workers housed in the U.S. In October 1945, it was estimated that half of the 4,000 Mexican nationals were "missing" in California (did not return to their native Mexico). They were now considered to be in the U.S. illegally, and were now being rounded up by the U. S. Immigration Service (La Migra) in the two county area. The disclosure came in the wake of new "raids" in the Alvarado and Centerville areas of Southern Alameda County, in which more than 10 Mexican nationals were taken into custody for deportation.

With the end of World War II local schools were expecting a drop in attendance as people were expected to go back to the Mid-West. All Washington Township schools posted a net gain! Alvarado Grammar School posted a gain of 50 pupils. Last year at this time Alvarado Grammar School had an enrollment of 174, this year it is up to 224.

* **MEMORABLE EVENTS** *

January 1940:

John Davilla Passes:

John Davilla of the Creek Road, died at his home Tuesday, January 2nd, bringing sorrow to many friends and relatives of Alvarado. He was a resident of Alvarado, but was born on the St. George Island in the Azores. He was 64 years old. He leaves a brother, Antone Davilla of Alviso, and two sisters in Bedford, Mass. He also leaves nieces here in Alvarado who are Mrs. Tony Santos, Mrs. John Menezes, Mrs. Joe Dutra and Mrs. Joseph Jacinto. Mr. Morris Davilla is a nephew.

March 1940:

Needed Rain Arrives:

The arrival of more than five and a half inches of rain the past week is expected to be of vital benefit to Southern Alameda County farming operations this year, some damage was inflicted on crops planted in the lowlands, the Bayshore areas of San Lorenzo, Mt. Eden, Tennyson, Alvarado and Newark. Considerable acreage planted to spinach and sugar beets were flooded during the rains, and water is still standing in some parts.

May 1940:

Henry G. Henricksen Passes:

Another part of our pioneer heritage left Monday night, May 6th, with the passing of Henry G. Henrickson, age 73. He had been a blacksmith in Alvarado since 1892.

June 1940:

Miss Isabelle Pinto Weds Wilbert Martin:

Isabelle Pinto, orchestra leader, became the bride of Wilbert Martin at a ceremony performed at St. Anne's Church. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Pinto and the groom is the son of Manuel Martin, all of Alvarado. Both young people graduated from Alvarado Grammar School.

July 1940:

Angelo Cosso Pranked:

Anyone wishing to seek information on the raising of canaries should see Angelo Cosso. We understand he has been trying to teach a cage full of brown canaries to sing and to his surprise they turned out to be sparrows. They were a gift from a friend. Someone is having a good laugh.

August 1940:

Death Takes August May Jr.:

Stricken by an apparent cerebral hemorrhage yesterday morning, August 24, August May, 73, of Alvarado, organizer of the former Alameda County Bank, and member of a pioneer family, died suddenly last night at an Alameda hospital. His parents, Mr. & Mrs. August May Sr. settled in Alvarado in 1852. News of his death was withheld from his wife, who is ill in a San Francisco Sanatorium.

September 1940:

Henry Patterson Replaces August May:

Henry Patterson, prominent Newark rancher, was elected chairman of the advisory board of the Alameda County Bank, filling the position vacated with the passing of Mr. August May.

February 1941:

Burrel Bain Passes:

Burrel L. Bain, a resident of Alvarado for 20 years, passed away Tuesday morning, February 4th. He was Assistant Superintendent at Holly Sugar Mill.

March 1941:

John Varni Feted:

We need more men like John Varni. He has a record of building some nine homes the past few years on Smith Street east of New Haven St. This week he bought 5.5 acres of land back of the St. Anne's church. He bought it through A.E. Vargas and other men handling it for the Catholic Church.

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**Thomas Abreu Dies:**

The death of Thomas Abreu, at Highland Hospital, removed a picturesque character from Alvarado. Mr. Abreu had lived in a little cottage at the end of the Union City Road for nearly fifty years. He was about 72 years of age at the time of his death. He was a very interesting character to those who knew him well. They remember that he was always a jolly fellow, who took part in local celebrations. At the turn of the century he went each year to Alaska with the salmon fisheries. Tom was short in stature, and as old age caught up with him we saw him walking slower and slower on

his way home along the Union City Road. He was nicknamed the "Mayor of Alvarado" by many people. There were many men around here who were very kind to him, Frank Machado, Jim Wasley and others, calling on him often to see if he needed help. Last month they took him to Highland Hospital.

**April 1941:**

**Eleanor Rose 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday:**

Miss Eleanor Rose celebrated her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday last Friday. Friends who attended her birthday party were:

|                  |                   |                  |              |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Joe'll O'Niel    | Betty Ann Jacinto | Cherrie Davis    | Betty Silva  |
| Sally Cordoba    | Agnes Silva       | Barbara Diangson | Dolores Pine |
| Clarabelle Silva | Mary Ann Silva    | LaVerne Medeiros | Dorothy Eudy |

**June 1941:**

**Judge Lincoln S. Church:**

Judge and Mrs. Lincoln S. Church, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at the Hotel Oakland. Among the treasured mementos showered upon them was a picket from the fence of the home that the Judge's father built in Alvarado in 1853 from wood shipped around the horn. Mr. Church was born in Alvarado May 12, 1865.

**July 1941:**

**Antone Freitas Passes:**

Many friends and relatives attended the funeral services of Antone Freitas, a native of Alvarado who worked for F. H. Wiegman for 37 years. He was the father of Alvin Freitas of Hayward, Mrs. Irene Hendricks and Mrs. Irene Freitas of Alvarado, brother of Joseph Freitas of Hayward, Mrs. Rosie Lee and Mrs. Nora Vargas of Alvarado, grandfather of Rodney Hendricks and Barbara Jean Freitas.

**September 1941:**

**Creek Bed Cleaned:**

Protection against possible winter flooding of Alameda Creek has been carried out under the joint auspices of the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce and private citizens. The chamber donated \$50, a sum that was matched by a resident of Alvarado, to pay laborers to clean out the creek bed. About a mile of the channel was cleared of brush and debris, which will be burned Sunday under the direction of Frank Machado, President of the Chamber of Commerce.

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Louis Amaral Elected to Water District:

Louis S. Amaral, Alvarado rancher and president of the Canning Vegetable Growers Association, has been elected a member of the board of directors of the Alameda County Water District. He succeeds Emanuel S. George, Deputy County Tax Assessor for 41 years and one of the water district organizers in 1914. Amaral is 47 years old and lived in the Alviso district between Alvarado and Centerville since 1900.

October 1941:

Paul Rivers Writes Home:

Paul Rivers, alumnus of Washington Union High School, has written to Principal A. J. Rathbone from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, where he is connected with No. 4 I.T.S. Royal Canadian Air Force. Rivers volunteered and was given a send-off by the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce several months ago. The hospitality of the Canadians and the necessity of a good foundation in mathematics for would be pilots

are commented on in the letter. "It's a pity to see a boy handle a plane smoothly and easily, then get washed out because he doesn't know his navigation," writes Rivers.

A visit to a German prison camp where a thousand Germans "seemed very pleased that they are out of it all," and flights over Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper Park are among the experiences related in the letter. "I also saw the Duke of Kent when he came to our station for inspection. He stopped and asked me if Canada was treating me well," the letter said. Rivers said he would be glad to correspond with high school students as "letters from home are worth their weight in gold."



Fred Joyce Jr. Injured:

The serious head injury in an accident at the Holly Sugar Mill here two weeks ago came close to ending the life of Fred Joyce, Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Joyce of Alvarado. A centrifugal machine went to pieces and threw a part toward Fred, who was working near there. It hit him on one side of the head near the top of the brain, and it was a miracle that he was not killed. He was rushed to Hayward Hospital where he was operated on by Dr. Crockett and Dr. Allen, a brain specialist from Oakland. Slight hope was held for him at first but his condition has improved, so that he seems on the road to recovery. All Alvarado is glad to know that this fine young man will live.

December 1941:

Sue Harvey Granger Taken by Death:

Sue H. Granger (nee Harvey) died on December 16, 1941, following her late husband Farley B. Granger Jr. She was the mother to Mrs. Roland J. Morgan, Farley B. III, and Lieut. Harvey T. Granger. She was the sister of Fred C. and Edward S. Harvey of Alvarado.



Four Generations of Alvaradans:

David Anthony Brune, born recently in Hayward Hospital, completes the fourth generation of an Alvarado family. The great grandmother, Mrs. Mary Foster Davilla was born in Alvarado 69 years ago. The grandmother, Mrs. Mae Davilla Santos and the mother Mrs. Alvina Santos Brune were also born in Alvarado.

January 1942:

Water District Buys Alvarado Water Works:

Several years ago the electors of the Alameda County Water District voted favorably on a bond issue of \$250,000 to provide funds with which to purchase the right of East Bay Municipal Utility District to pump 11,000,000 gallons of water daily from the underground supply at Alvarado. At that time 50¢ on the \$100 assessed valuation was required to pay the small district overhead and to pay \$12,500 annual interest on the bonds and to retire \$10,000 par value of the bonds each year. When all the bonds are retired the present decreased rate should decline almost to the vanishing point, the board's report indicated.



Death Takes Mrs. Laura Orelli:

Mrs. Laura Orelli, Alvarado Grammar School teacher for 18 years, died January 24th of complications from a stroke suffered January 20th. She was 58 years old. She leaves two children and was active in the Orient Chapter of the OES, Alvarado Rebekah's and National Education Association.

March 1942:

Intention to Wed:

Melvin A. Allegre, 24, Niles
Hilda C. Pinto, 19 Alvarado

June 1942:

Isabelle Ferry Engaged to George Lucas:

Miss Isabel Ferry, teacher at the Alvarado Grammar School for nine years, has announced her engagement to George Lucas of Niles. The wedding will take place in late summer. Miss Ferry is the daughter of Mrs. M. D. Ferry of Alvarado.

July 1942:

Alvarado Seeks Bus Service:

A concerted effort by the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce to obtain bus service to Oakland for Washington Township workers in the national defense work areas in Oakland. Peerless Stages will supply the buses if they can win government approval of extra buses and locals can guarantee a basic level of patronage.

October 1942:

Dead Man Sighted Near Train Tracks:

The engine crew members of a Western Pacific freight train passing through the Alvarado junction near Valle Vista early Friday morning, saw the body of a man lying along the railroad right-of-way, surrounded in blood. Deputies from the Hayward division of the sheriff's office were notified. Speeding to the scene they found the body of Francis Stover, 68, resident of 219 Alvarado Road, dead; dead drunk. The blood that surrounded the body turned out to be a basket load of crushed tomatoes he was carrying when he "passed out." Stover was booked at the Hayward Police Dept. for being drunk in public.

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**ALVARADO: WANTED ONE PIED PIPER!**

This was the appeal added to the manpower search in Alvarado after the Chamber of Commerce heard complaints from local grain farmers that rats from the dump on Union City Road were raiding local grain fields and devastating shocked grain. In view of the danger from possible epidemics and plague carrying propensities of rats, the Chamber appointed a committee at its October meeting to contact Alameda County health officials regarding an extermination campaign. J.C. Wasley, Clyde Lewis, and Charles Baird were empowered to take steps necessary in this regard. A previous warning had issued by Fred Duffie, agricultural inspector for the district, that exterminations of rats be placed among the top items on the home front defense program.

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Death Takes Erle Hellwig:

Final rites for Erle E. Hellwig, 44, Alvarado banker and nephew of Alameda County Supervisor George Hellwig, was held Thursday, October 30th. A native of Alvarado, he had been connected with the bank here for twenty years.

November 1942:

Frank Mateo Passes:

Frank Mateo, 57, of Alvarado died November 7, 1942. He was the loving husband of Theresa Mateo, loving father of Mrs. Mary Perez, Mrs. Annie Murgla, Mrs. Remedía Gamardo, and sons Richard and Edward. A native of Spain he made his home at 1085 V Street, Alvarado.

January 1943:

Supervisor George Hellwig:

Supervisor George Hellwig of Alvarado deserves much credit for getting the Board of Supervisors to improve the Granger Road leading to the Southern Pacific Station at Alvarado. This week the County road crews put a fine lot of hard rock on the road after the property owners had given rights of way last month to widen the road two feet on each side. Property owners who deeded land bordering on the street that deserves credit for the public spirit and cooperation were: John Varni, Warren Hendricks, and William Jacobsen. Granger Road has been accepted as a County Road, which means that from now on it will be kept in good condition by the County Maintenance Crew. A palm tree near the Hendricks place will probably be removed soon to make the width correct.



Alvarado Boy President of Calif. Student Body Assoc.:

Ernie Machado, son of Matt Machado of Alvarado, has been given a great honor. He was elected president of the California Student Body Federation, which comprises pupils in all parts of Alameda County. Ernie Machado will preside as president of the CSF when it meets in the East Bay. Miss Lorraine Alameda of "V" Street is the secretary of the senior class.

February 1943:

Ed H. Clawiter Passed Away:

Edward H. Clawiter, prominent rancher, civic leader and businessman from Mt. Eden died, February 2, 1943, after a short illness. His wife Annie S. Clawiter preceded him in death the previous year, they having been married in 1877. Mr. Clawiter is one of the last of Alvarado's pioneers, having been born in the Union City portion of Alvarado on November 27, 1852. His sister, Union Clawiter, was the first white child born in Union City on August 7, 1851.

April 1943:

J. Jacinto Appointed Chief Observer:

Joseph Jacinto, Sr., local grocer, 49, has been appointed chief observer of the Alvarado Observation Post for the Fourth Fighter Command. He succeeds Frank Machado who resigned because of other civic duties and illness. Jacinto has served more than 400 hours at the post where plane spotting is a family affair. Mrs. Jacinto has put in more than 100 hours and even Betty, 11, assists her mother in the tower.

May 1943:

Riverside Hotel Sold:

The California Conserving Company has purchased the Riverside Hotel in Alvarado last year. They have been able to house some of their workers there.

June 1943:

Sgt. Joseph Allegre Dies in Battle:

Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Allegre of Alvarado-Niles Road received a telegram that their son, Sgt. Joseph Allegre, 39, was killed in action of the Island of Attu in the Alaskan Aleutians. A telegram from the War Department was received by Sergeant Allegre's widow in Berkeley. He was inducted in April 1941, and returned home for a furlough last April. His brother, Melvin Anthony, was inducted a few weeks ago. He was the brother of Angie Vargas and Pauline Dutra.

July 1943

Ramiro Machado Moves:

Ramiro Machado, our popular barber at Alvarado, will move his barbershop location to the new shop built by Matt Machado next to his famous wine depot. Matt Machado's Café and Tavern has been the town's social center for many men. Matt had a room built onto his café to house Ramiro's barber shop. Matt and Ramiro are bothers. At present Ramiro is housed at the building adjoining the former Tony Mello Café. For about 20 years Ramiro has had a steady business there.

August 1943:

Alameda Creek:

(This is a report from the Hayward Review's wandering reporter)

"The other afternoon I was out scouting about trying to learn more about our great Southern Alameda County. I was talking to some farmers down below Alvarado and found that Alameda Creek, which runs through Niles, disappears in a gravel bed west of town, and reappears as a lot of smaller streams that finally reach the bay. All the little concrete bridges you drive over on the highway between Alvarado and Centerville cover little fingers of the Alameda Creek. Farmers like the creek water to pass over their land slowly, to deposit the silt it carries to enrich their soil. Most of that water comes from the Calaveras Dam, above Milpitas."

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##### **Ledesma Home Destroyed by Fire:**

While the Ledesma family was in their home, flames started pouring from their house, and despite the heroic efforts of the Alvarado Fire Department the house was half burned. It seems that neighbors noticed the fire first and turned in the alarm. Not an awful lot of their belongings were saved. The house is owned by John Ralph. The house was located next to the poolroom, which would have burned except for the prompt response of the firemen with their fine apparatus. A fine stream of water promptly subdued the fire. Al Cadero played an important part in operating the truck and fire hose, and so did Manuel Silva Jr., the blacksmith.

#### **September 1943:**

##### **Township MIA's:**

Of the approximately 1,000 boys enlisted or sent from Draft Board No. 75 (Niles), only four have been listed as missing: PFC Joseph Bernardo, 32, of Centerville, tank corps at Bataan; Paul Rivers of Alvarado, U.S. Army Air Corps in the Solomon's; Sgt. James Sinclair 26, of Irvington, Infantry in New Guinea; and Lieut. Douglas Rorabeck of Sunol, bombardier in the European area. The first casualty from the township was

Pvt. Ernest Azevedo of Mission San Jose, who died while in training in the United States.

**November 1943:**

**Ducks:**

We hear reports on the Union City Duck Club members getting their limit on ducks. Surely this is one of the best clubs around here. Among those getting their limits lately were Nick Lewis, Al Searles (from Decoto), Joe Dutra, Clarence Flores, and William Buchen.



**William Diangson:**

William Diangson of Alvarado has been making a fine record at the Brown Military academy at Pacific Beach, San Diego, California. This is the news the Academy wrote to us this week: "On Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Cadet Diangson was awarded the Commandant's Ribbon for conduct in the Brown Military Chapel." His folks are very fine citizens, very patriotic, and their son William comes by this wonderful leadership naturally. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Felix Diangson, who are in business on Smith Street. They belong to the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Diangson is collecting funds from local Filipinos, and even before the War Chest Drive had started here, she has collected over \$100 already. She is a real fine woman and Mr. Diangson is a fine man.

**December 1943:**

**Passing of Anthony E. Vargas:**

There wasn't a finer man in Alvarado than A.E. Vargas. Tony was interested in his hometown Alvarado practically his whole life. His passing is a hard blow to an equally fine citizen, his good wife, Mrs. Nora Vargas. There was a love match if ever there was one, and in recent years when both had sieges of illness, there was that devotion that we call 100 percent. We went to that home weekly, and it was a happy home, too. Tony had been conducting business in this city and later became a fruit buyer for a large fruit concern. His smile and cheery ways were known in fraternal orders like the Eagles, and by his large number of friends all over Alameda County.



**Alvarado Canaries:**

We didn't know that Anthony J. Vargas had such a fine hobby of thoroughbred canaries until the other day, when we had the opportunity to see them. We met Tony Vargas at his father-in-law's store, A.A. (Tony) Lee's Grocery Store. Well we got to talking about these birds and Tony invited us to see some 75 birds, all with a pedigree. He has a record of each one. Right now he is getting ready to exhibit some of birds at a big show.



**Eastshore Freeway (I-880)**

New East Shore Freeway Route Close to Being Set:  
(The East Shore Freeway, A.K.A.: New Hiway 17, the Nimitz Freeway, and is today's I-880.)

Speculation has been rife the past several years as to the final routing of the proposed East Shore highway to run from Oakland to San Jose. Traffic is so congested in normal times that Oakland complains bitterly that its traffic cannot get through bottlenecks to the south.

The fear in Hayward has been that the roadway would be so far west, in the mud flats, that traffic would by-pass Hayward entirely. However, it is definitely indicated that final plans calls for location of the freeway to run through the western edge of Hayward, a half mile west of the pickle factory, but east of the present Hesperian Boulevard.

Surveyors have been busy locating the new route and getting everything in readiness for post-war building, to give idle men work. The new speedway will be six-lanes, 200 feet wide, with underpasses. It will not use the present right-of-way of Hesperian Boulevard (Hiway 17) but will join that roadway just south of Alvarado near Beard Road in the Alviso District.

**January 1944:**  
**Death of Victoriano Naharro:**

A pioneer of Alvarado, Victoriano Naharro, passed away at the age of 68 years, having lived here in Alvarado over 30 years. Here he prospered through thrifty methods and progressive ways in his shoe store and shoe repair shop. His acquisition of much property here proved him an exceptional businessman, and with his good wife, raised fine of children who are a credit to the community. A son, E. Naharro, owns the Alvarado Theater and the corner building block in which the theater is located. The children grew up here and have always called Alvarado their hometown. One of the Naharro daughters is married to Mike Salido.



**Birth of Donna Woodward:**

News is received just so often from Donald Woodward, who is overseas in England, by his wife, Mrs. Madeline Woodward (nee Madeline Avila, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Avila of Alvarado). Mr. Woodward is with the U.S. Armed Forces. He left here five or six months ago and has not seen his darling daughter, Donna, born about four months ago. He fell in love with our beautiful Alvarado girl while Madeline was busy at the same U.S. camp at her duties as a Red Cross nurse. Another daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Avila is the charming Mrs. Tony Alexander, who round out a happy, happy family circle at the Avila home. They have a four-year-old daughter, Sharon. Mrs. Alexander is the former Mamie Avila. Tony is one of our prominent firemen.

**February 1944:**  
**Martin Rose Passes:**

Martin Rose, 59, resident of Alvarado for 30 years was given final rites at St. Anne's Church February 9th. He died at his home after a long illness. He was the husband of Minnie Rose and the father of Elvin Rose and Mrs. Peter Pinto.



**Freeway to Pass Through Alvarado:**

Marking the most important post-war highway improvement program so far designed for this area, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors today granted the State a 12-mile freeway stretch in Southern Alameda County. The freeway extends from the southern Oakland city limits, near the Oakland Airport, to a point between Alvarado and Centerville (Alviso district), from thence to join with a proposed new highway into San Jose, forming the completed link in the proposed super-highway from Richmond through Oakland and into San Jose.

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Julian Yabut Killed in Auto Crash:

Julian Yabut, who used to conduct the Richfield Service Station before he was inducted into the service about a year ago, was killed recently in an auto accident near where he was stationed.

March 1944:

Catherine Maciel Taken by Death:

Funeral services for Catherine A. Maciel, 77, who died in Alvarado on March 12th, will be held at the Chapel of the Palms. She was the wife of Manuel B. Maciel and the mother of several children including Mrs. Aurora C. Lewis of Alvarado. She was a native of Pico, the Azores.

May 1944:

Nauert's Hold Reunion:

On Mother's Day there was a home gathering at the Nauert home in Alvarado, that lovely pioneer home place set amidst a bower of beautiful roses and lovely trees and geraniums just opposite from our Post Office. Miss Mildred Nauert was surrounded by her loved ones as a delightful dinner and pleasant time was enjoyed. Attending was: Mr. & Mrs. Henry Nauert and daughter Rosalyn of Oakland
Mr. & Mrs. John Boyd (Dot Nauert) of San Francisco
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Heitmuller (Oscarna Nauert) of Oakland

July 1944:

Frances Retires from School Board:

Mrs. Frances H. Robie, who resigned as Clerk of the Board of Trustees at Alvarado, was the longest in length of service of all the trustees in southern Alameda County, over 32 years. She has been one of the most patriotic, friendly and helpful members of our community.

August 1944:

Creek Weed Cleanup:

After being contacted by Ed Wilson about the weeds and brush in their part of the creek, Holly Sugar has graciously offered the help of a work crew to clean up their side of the creek. The town is in fear of a flood this year if the rains are heavy. Mr. Jack Ahern and Peter Decoto assisted very nicely a couple of years ago.

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**Frank E. Machado Dies:**

From the *Alvarado Pioneer*:

"The Editor still feels stunned by the death of Frank E. Machado of Alvarado after a short illness, because he probably lost his best friend in this part of

Washington Township. There would have been no Chamber of Commerce without him, because he single handedly, as its president for many years past, put the body on its feet. And we should know, because as secretary we worked shoulder to shoulder with him.

Without the Chamber of commerce there would not have been a modern \$45,000 sanitary disposal system, or a modern red brick firehouse and fire truck with a possible combined value of \$40,000.

His leadership was in a class by itself. Frank's work in patriotic drives, and for his beloved St. Anne's Church, are surely written on records not seen by human eyes. He went to his Maker a grand man, fearless in all he did, and with a love of home that made his family life something for the community to admire.

Mr. Machado was a hometown man, having lived in this section all his life. He resided for many years on the Creek Road. Of recent years he occupied a prominent home on Smith Street. He and his wife, and his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Perry and their son Vernie were a happy family. We must not forget that he was also trustee of the Alvarado Grammar School, taking more interest than almost any trustee in this section of the Township.

The deceased was the husband of Louise Machado, the father of Veronica Perry, and the brother of Mrs. Anna Roderick and Minnie Perry, all of Alvarado. The pallbearers were Joe Avila, Dan Riley, Manuel Goularte, Joseph Goularte, Manuel Borges and Frank Roderick."

#### **October 1944:**

##### **Creek Road May Become 4-Lane Highway:**

The possibility that the Niles-Alvarado Creek Road may become a four-lane highway in view of the fact that it will be one of the main feeder road connecting with the East Shore freeway, was commented on here this week by Wallace B. Boggs, county surveyor, at a meeting of the Niles Chamber of Commerce. If the Niles-Alvarado Road should become a four-lane highway it would be divided with a central strip of from four to eight feet, but if it remains a two-lane road, it will be modernized and probably raised in portions now subject to winter floods. It would connect traffic from Niles Canyon with the freeway somewhere near Alvarado. Another survey is to be made is that along Alameda Creek between Alvarado and Newark to eliminate the annual winter flooding.

#### **December 1944:**

##### **Fernand Paredes Has Operation:**

Ferdinand Paredes of the Alvarado Hotel is back from the hospital at San Jose, where he had a hernia operation. Ferd was a wonderful patient. He says he should have had the rupture taken care of 18 years ago. He went into the hospital "under his own power" and told the doctor to get out his knife and sewing kit any time. Already he's making those famous hamburgers.

#### **May 1945:**

##### **Manuel B. Machado Loses Right to Sell Gasoline:**

A suspension from using gasoline as long as it is rationed has been imposed against Manuel B. Machado, 1144 Marsh Road, Alvarado, for an inventory shortage of 2,202 gallons at his service station, the OPA announced today.

**September 1945:**

**Mrs. Emily Hendricks Passes:**

Mrs. Emily Dias Hendricks, widow of the late Enos Hendricks, died on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Hendricks is the mother of Wilbert Hendricks and the grandmother of Rodney Hendricks, both of Alvarado.

**October 1945:**

**Salvage Fats:**

The need for salvage fats has not slackened since V-J Day. The Office of Price Administration (OPA) has increased the rate of turned in salvage fat from two red points to four red points per pound and can be exchanged at the butcher shop when the fats are turned in.

**November 1945:**

**Creek Slough Cleaned of Debris:**

For the first time in many winters residents of Alvarado have been relieved of the threat of floods in streets and homes of the town, a recent report of the flood committee indicated at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. Completion of the cleaning of the slough at the mouth of the Alameda Creek was marked by a vote to pay Frank Andrada, local dairyman, \$500 instead of \$447 for the fine job he performed.

**December 1945:**

**5-Inch Grasshopper:**

The finding of a five-inch grasshopper at Alvarado scared the pants off of agriculturists. Was nature going to make them bigger? Would they be hungrier and more destructive than the ordinary type? And where was this going to stop? How would anybody know that grasshoppers the size elephants wouldn't some day come zooming in out of the south? Nothing came of it, however. The 5-incher died and he must have been the last of his line because none have been seen here since. But he sure scared the pants off everybody for a while and made us pull the covers over our head at night.

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Empty Milk Bottle Returns Sought:

Bring any and all of your deposit milk bottles to Holland's Food in Centerville. 5¢ will be paid for each bottle. And, in addition, an S&H Green Stamp will be given for every two bottles returned. Many children cannot get milk because unused bottles are collecting dust. Do your part to help alleviate this critical shortage.
HOLLAND FOOD
Centerville

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**Manuel B. Bettencourt:**

A mile or so east of Alvarado beside what is known as Creek Road, which links Alvarado and Niles, dwells Manuel B. Bettencourt. There is nothing pretentious about this man who lives quietly on his 20-acre farm. Eph L. Musick says that it was on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 92 years ago today; the patriarch of Washington Township was born on the island of Fayal in the Azores. He left when he was a boy and sailed a whaling

ship for a few years. Deserting his ship on the East Coast, he migrated to California more than three quarters of a century ago. He worked for 50¢ a day cutting wood on the Patterson Ranch near Newark. When asked if his employer was one of the Patterson brothers now living in that area, he replied he worked for the father of those old timers (the Patterson Boys). He acquired a small ranch in Newark and raised three sons and a daughter, that small ranch is still in his possession. When seen at his Alvarado home several weeks ago, Mr. Bettencourt, the "nonagenarian" was still able to get about and "roll his own."

**January 1946:**

**Miss Agness Silva, Stenographer:**

Agnes Silva, graduate of Alvarado Grammar School and Washington Union High School, is the very capable stenographer and secretary for Attorney Edward Quaresma at his splendid law office at Niles. Mr. Quaresma was formerly president of the Alvarado Eagles. Miss Silva resides on the Creek Road with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Silva.



**Miss Carmen Paz to be on Radio:**

Carmen Paz of Alvarado will be among four prizewinners who will read their essays over radio station KLX next Saturday at 1:45 p.m. Miss Paz was a local winner in the recent Victory Essay Contest presented by the Latham Foundation. Mr. Leslie H. Maffey, principal of the Alvarado Grammar School will be the program chairman.

**March 1946:**

**Mrs. Viola Dinsmore III:**

Many friends regret to hear of the illness of Mrs. Sam Dinsmore, who has been missed for a month or so from her accustomed place assisting at Dinsmore's Store in Alvarado. She is undergoing treatment up north and her husband has been keeping in close touch with her, besides handling his big business at Alvarado. Too much credit cannot be given their son, Sam Dinsmore Jr. for his conscientious work in assisting them at the store.



**Flora McKeown:**

"The next vacation I take will be spent some place in California." Thus spoke Miss Flora McKeown of Alvarado, who returned via air last week from a trip to Mexico, Guatemala, and the Yucatan, in the company of three other companions, Mr. & Mrs. John Stevenson and Harry Stevenson of Centerville.

You can gather from Miss McKeown's above remark that the trip to Mexico wasn't too successful. "The accommodations are not good at all," said Miss McKeown. "You see, there are 20,000 tourists going through Mexico every day. With the increase in the number of tourists, you get a corresponding decrease in the quality of service."

"For instance," she continued, "in many hotels the water is turned on for only a couple hours every day from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. And it was always cold! After traveling for several hours and looking forward to some good hot water it was most distressing."



However, Miss McKeown added that part of their trip was very enjoyable indeed. The trip into Guatemala, for example, where they had delicious fresh strawberries and other lush fresh fruits and vegetables. The party also felt that the Mayan ruins in Guatemala were well worth seeing. This was Miss McKeown's second trip to Mexico."

**April 1946:**

**Homes are Getting More Costly:**

Clearly indicating that low-cost housing goals are far from achievement, a report today by the San Francisco office of the Federal Housing Administration reveals that 50 per cent of the priorities issued to date are for homes costing more than \$8,500. Only 12 per cent are in the lower brackets, costing \$6,500 or less.

The report covers operations of the office for all of Northern California up to last weekend. The \$8,500 to \$9,500 home is the most popular, with 27 per cent in that price range. Second place is held by the \$9,500 to \$10,000 group, at 23.5 per cent, while the \$7,500 to \$8,500 class is a close third at 23 per cent. Homes costing from \$6,500 to \$7,500 make up 14.5 per cent of the total. Only 7 per cent is in the \$5,500 to \$6,500 bracket, once set as the desirable maximum, while those in the \$5,000 to \$5,500 class comprise only 3 per cent, and those homes under \$5,000, only 2 per cent.

Under customary financing practices, an applicant must show an income of approximately \$175 a month to obtain a \$5,500 loan. The requirement jumps to around \$250 a month for \$7,500, nearly \$300 a month for \$8,500, and at least \$350 a month for a \$10,000 loan."

**May 1946:**

**Roderick Church Dies:**

Roderick W. Church, former Oakland City Clerk and brother of Superior Court Judge Lincoln S. Church, died in Stockton Saturday at the age of 91. Mr. Church was born in Alvarado in 1855, the son of Augustus M. Church, who in 1852 became partners with Henry Smith in the building that was to become the first county seat for Alameda County.

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George Hocking Active in Episcopal Church:

George Hocking and wife, who reside in a lovely white, modern home on the Creek Road, have two daughters who are pupils at Alvarado Grammar School. Mr. Hocking, by the way, is a trustee much interested in the welfare of that same school. But he has other interests in the community at large. We refer to the work he is doing to improve the exterior and interior of St. James Episcopal Church at Centerville. You see George is part of the Bishop's Committee, which handles the contemplated improvements. Also on that committee from Alvarado are Mrs. Harvey Granger and Mrs. L.E. Bailey.

June 1946:

Work Begins on Eastshore Freeway:

Work will begin on the East Shore Freeway. Work was halted by the war when the ramps were completed to the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge. Work will begin on the dual level overpasses between the Oakland Army Terminal and the city of

Oakland. Phase one will be through the city of Oakland, then overland to San Leandro, extend past San Lorenzo Village, through Hayward and then onto Alvarado on its way to San Jose.

July 1946:

Washington Township Heritage:

Suggestions for the Pageant for the Mission San Jose, June 1947. Suggested for the statewide celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Mission San Jose de Guadalupe:

First: Coming of the three Fathers from Santa Clara Mission, accompanied by ten soldiers, in costume, and Indian guides.

Second: Padres and Indians erecting a great cross preparing for the first religious ceremony.

Third: Dedication of the church building, 1808, and a native festival at the close of the season. A Cross made of sheaves of wheat. Father Doran and his fine Indian Orchestra in the dedication.

Fourth: Trading with the whalers. The Fathers going to the embarcadero at Alvarado to trade with the shrewd Yankee Whalers, driven in their great two-wheeled carts "volante" drawn by six white mules, accompanied by their Indian satellites. Showing the extent of accomplishments both in converting the Indians and in the produce they had to offer.

Fifth: The procession usually attendant on a bullfight, or some great religious celebration or both. Specifically showing the methods of travel by the two-wheeled carts, usually accompanied by horsemen, eager to display their horsemanship.

Sixth: The coming of the first American. Messenger arriving with a letter to the Padre asking permission to come to the Mission from Jebediah Smith, who had lost his way. Also, the coming of John March and his imprisonment on suspicion.

Seventh: The discovery of gold, procession of miners from the Alvarado ferry with their laden burros, up through the Mission to the Stockton Pass. They only road at that time into the interior valleys. Their return and reckless gambling away of their gold.

Eighth: The first American farmers, the breaking up of the great rancheros. Oxen, horses and wagons loaded with hay, grain, fruits, etc. The coming of buggies of various types to replace the old ox carts.

Ninth: The carrying of the mail in the old fashioned Concord coaches. Passengers in costume of the time. Perhaps Joaquin Murietta might stage a hold-up.

Tenth: The coming of the iron horse, the railroad that succeeded the mail coach. A miniature train of some kind full of costumed people. Could be a scene of great excitement. School children with books, soldiers, etc.

Eleventh: The old-time gas buggy; the high-wheeled bicycle, as well as fire-fighting apparatus.

Twelfth: Developments of sports in schools, boy scouts and vester choirs representing the churches. Organization of the Native Sons and Daughters.

Perhaps, in its proper place, the Fremont adventure, he came through the Mission, and the raising of the Bear Flag."

August 1946:

Death Takes Victor La Grave:

Victor A. La Grave, 67, of Hayward passed away on August 10th. Mr. La Grave was a former partner with George Hellwig of Alvarado in the meat packing business. At their height La Grave & Hellwig owned butcher shops throughout Washington Township and Hayward.

September 1946:

Harvey Granger of Decoto:

Harvey Granger, a trustee of the Decoto Grammar School, who resides on the Alvarado Creek Road, has the sympathy of his many friends because of the recent passing of his sister, Mrs. Helen Granger Morgan of Piedmont. Both Harvey Granger and Mrs. Helen Morgan were the children of Mr. & Mrs. Farley B. Granger Jr. (Mrs. Farley Granger Jr. was the former Miss Sue Harvey). Both Harvey Granger and Helen Granger Morgan were born in Alvarado and had their first schooling in the Alvarado Grammar School. It was in 1912 that the Granger family moved to the Broadmoor District of San Leandro where the children grew up and finished their education in the public schools. It was in 1934 that Harvey Granger moved back to Alvarado and established his home on the Creek Road and became interested in civic matters of the town of Decoto.

November 1946:

Death Takes John Roderick:

John P. Roderick of Alvarado passed away on November 19th. Mrs. Emily Roderick, his wife survives him as well as his sons, John P. Roderick, Joseph P. Roderick, Lawrence A. Roderick and Anthony J. Roderick, all of Alvarado. He also leaves a dear sister, Mrs. Frances Gomes of Alvarado and brothers and sisters in Fayal, the Azores.

December 1946:

Teacher Lost in Fog:

Mr. Click, Alvarado teacher, got lost in the fog. On Tuesday, December 10th, Mr. Click was out supervising Physical Education on the far side of the field. The dense fog cut off his vision from the school. So he could not tell when Physical Education was over. Mr. Maffey had to send messengers to call them in.

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##### **Alvarado Boy Signs Major League Contract:**

Jesse Jacinto Jr., 20, former Washington Union High School athlete has been signed by the St. Louis Browns (forerunners of the Baltimore Orioles) of the American League as a shortstop and will leave in February for six weeks training at San Antonio, Texas.

#### **March 1947:**

##### **DDT Used in Marshes:**

The Alvarado Gun Club has reported using DDT kerosene spray on the marshes in August of 1946 west of town in the flooded areas around their club. The keeper

reported that he observed a marked reduction in "sick ducks." "We do not have any idea as to the reason for this observation, but it might be worth investigation by wildlife conservation agencies. Mosquitoes are transmitters of bird malaras, and certain virus infections of birds, but whether these infections were involved is not known," the report says.

**April 1947:**

**Water Rationing:**

Facing what may be one of their driest years, the residents of Hayward are 20 per cent closer to water rationing than at this same time last year. The water level at Hayward's main well is almost 22 feet lower than it was last year. Winter recovery of the underground water was not reached until November this year instead of the usual October. Rainfall this past six months is 25 per cent below normal. Making matters worse is the Holly Sugar Mill in Alvarado will begin processing this year in May rather than in the fall as they have done in past years. The sugar refinery is one of the largest users of water in the county, and they pump it from their wells in Alvarado, drawing on the same supply Hayward uses. And farmers, faced by the lack of rainfall, will attempt to pump more for irrigation.

**June 1947:**

**Manufacturing Plant for Sale:**

REALTY ELSEWHERE:

A local business manufacturing truck bodies, trailers, and farm machinery; welding equipment, blacksmith equipment; also woodworking machinery; large stock of steel and lumber, etc. Large steel building, property and home included, located on main roadway one half mile north of Alvarado alongside railroad tracks in Alameda County, \$45,000 cash.

Contact: Alvin Silvey, Alvarado, California.

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Country Club of Washington Township:

The Country Club of Washington Township brought district recognition two years ago and State recognition a year ago, for their accomplishments during World War II. War work wasn't a matter of uniforms and prestige to these women, many of them "saw service" at the controls of a tractor. Serving as a director of the board for country club during the war years was Miss Nancy McKeown of Alvarado. Elected as Financial Secretary this year was Mrs. George Harvey of Alvarado.

July 1947:

DDT Kills Mosquito Larvae:

A check of subterranean vaults used by utility companies that were sprayed with DDT in June 1946 shows no mosquito breeding in any of the vaults, and it is possible that spraying every other year would be sufficient, says the report. Similarly, street inlets, (catch basins) have been sprayed, and the experience in 1946 indicated they will not need to be sprayed this year. "This is certainly an improvement over the situation before DDT was available, when we had to respray at least once a month during the summer," the report observes.

August 1947:

Ed Martinez Taken by Death:

Died, in Alvarado, August 17, 1947; Edward M. Martinez, loving husband of Joanna Martinez, loving father of Mildred Janice Martinez; son of Edward and Gertrude Martinez, brother of Eugene, William, Doris, Cecelia, Bradley and Harold Martinez, aged 25 years. The service to be held August 20th at St. Anne's Church in Alvarado with closing ceremonies to be held at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Hayward. Mr. Martinez was a member of the Paul Rivers Post of the VFW, No. 7906 and the Alvarado Aerie of Eagles No. 1695.

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#### **Filipino Club Destroyed by Fire:**

A \$12,000 fire in Alvarado yesterday destroyed the Filipino Club at 1087 Levee Street and damaged an adjoining house at 1154 V Street. The blaze was first detected at 4:00 a. m. yesterday morning when Mrs. Isabelle Menezes, who lives near the Filipino Club, was awakened by the noise of crackling flames. Upon investigation she found the entire rear of the club's dance hall in flames. She called an operator who set off the fire siren. Ray C. Ward, whose home is at 1154 V Street, awoke to find the entire back of his home on fire. Damage to the Filipino Club is estimated at \$10,000 and the damage to Mr. Ward's home was fixed at \$2,000. Felix Diangson of Alvarado is owner of the Filipino Club.

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Alameda Creek 1821 - 1840:

From "The Knave" Section of the *Oakland Tribune*:

"Actual organized trans-bay transportation (Eastbay - Westbay) did not develop until 1851, but prior to that time, in the period of greatest economic richness of the missions (1821-1840) an extensive though irregular freight trade was carried on between Mission San Jose and the merchant vessels from New England, which anchored near the little settlement of Yerba Buena (then the name given to San Francisco). The Boston trade consisted of an exchange of goods manufactured on the east coast of the United States for the hides and tallow of the missions. Mission San Jose was so located that the long boats of the Boston ships could, by going far down the bay to the estuary near the town of Alvarado, load on the trade commodities of the mission, and return to the waiting vessels in the harbor."

October 1947:

County in Desperate Shape for Water:

The Alameda County Water District, in a letter now being circulated by the Pacific Rural Press, paints a dark picture of water conditions in Southern Alameda County. The farm magazine says in a preface: "50,000 agricultural acres in Southern Alameda County face a desperate water situation. Water levels drop and salt water rushes in to take its place. The areas involved are around Alvarado, Decoto, Newark, Centerville, Niles, Irvington and Mission San Jose."

January 1948:

Motorist Crashes into Home:

Tremendous excitement was caused by an auto driven right through an Alvarado home and just missing twin babies by a narrow margin. The home is between Joe Priego's corner store building and Jesse Jacinto's home and almost across from the Machado Garage. One evening a week or more ago the, driver failed to make the

turn coming from the direction of Centerville. He hit the house (formerly a café) and knocked the partition in such a way while going through that it threw the crib of the twin babies to one side, thereby saving their lives. The damage done is about \$1,500, or thereabouts, will paid for by the owner of the car, as it is said by Mr. Priego that he admitted his responsibility.

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Water Problems for Washington Township: (From the Alvarado Pioneer)

"The problem of water for Washington Township and adjacent areas is becoming more acute as each day passes without rain, and a northerly wind adds to the dryness of the soil. When the white man first discovered this region, there was an abundance of water. Regions that are now becoming sterile because of the infiltration of salt water once produced two crops a year by means of sub-irrigation.

The loss of water began in 1870 when the Spring Valley Water Co. of San Francisco managed to get sufficient riparian rights to give them the benefit of the Alameda Creek watershed. Local citizens, alarmed at the prospect formed the Washington and Murray Township Water Company, but while they obtained some concessions and spent \$11,000 in building dams and ditches, they lost out. San Francisco got the water.

Nor was this all, the Contra Costa Water Company came in (actually it was the Oakland Water Company who later sold out to Contra Costa Water) and bought up the artesian well district around Alvarado and began pumping millions of gallons of water daily to Oakland.

Now the ditches for irrigation are filled up, Alameda Creek is almost dry, and the salt water is seeping into the former artesian wells, as well as others along the area fronting the bay, even reaching now into Centerville and Irvington.

In 1930 the Spring Valley Water Company was taken over by the City of San Francisco and the Hetch-Hetchy program begun. When this was completed the district was entitled to the overflow, but that is not sufficient. Oakland sold the Alvarado pumping plant back to this district, then organized as the Alameda County Water District for the sum of \$250,000. Bonds were issued to pay for them and this issue is almost paid off. Considering the amount of water taken from the district that price was rather high.

Oakland now has the Mokelumne project completed and an abundant supply of water, while we are faced with a dangerously low water supply, partly because of the water drained from the artesian well district by that city.

It would seem from the facts in the case that both San Francisco and Oakland owe this region help now. One good turn deserves another they say. We helped both cities in their need, why not they help us now in our need? There is another reason for this help, that is, this region is a very valuable hinterland for both cities. Would they want to see it become arid waste?

The people in this region are largely in favor of the Reber Plan, which promises to restore the underground water levels and keep this region from

becoming a desert wasteland. Whether or not this is the needed solution remains to be seen, but it is our contention that both San Francisco and Oakland have a duty to perform in helping to solve this very vital question, which is of concern to the whole area. No more expansion can be made unless there is an abundant water supply not only for the industrial plants that are looking in this direction for future construction, but also for the increasing population, as well as the needed food, which is supplied from the farming district of the southern part of Alameda County"

February 1948:

George Hellwig Passes:

Last rites of the Masonic Order were held for George P. Hellwig, former member of the Alameda County Supervisors and prominent Alvarado meat dealer, who died at a local area hospital yesterday after a long illness. Pallbearers at his service were E. A. Richmond, Pete Decoto, John H. Ralph, John Brugge, Wallace McKeown and Fred Wiegman, all close friends and pioneers in Southern Alameda County. Mr. Hellwig was a native of Alvarado and prominent in area social organization. His wife Mrs. Willa Jane Hellwig survives him.



WUHS Future Farmers:

The Washington Union High School Future Farmers, Chapter 113, carried on National Future Farmer Week with window displays in stores throughout the Township. Participants in Alvarado were Ernest Andrade, Joe Lewis, and Ronald Silva. From the Alviso district was Frank Hermosa and Joe Perry.

April 1948:

Ezra Decoto Jr. Passes Away:

Former Alameda County District Attorney and Superior Court Judge Ezra Decoto Jr., 72, died yesterday. He was the son of Ezra Decoto and Janet Lowrie Decoto, both from Alameda County pioneer families. Among his family that survived Ezra was a sister, Mrs. August May of Alvarado. Among his close friends he counted the present Governor of California Earl G. Warren.



Death Takes Dominic Allegre:

Dominic Allegre, 71, died at the Alameda Hospital after an extended illness. He was the husband of Frances Allegre, and father to Mrs. Angie Vargas and Mrs. Pauline Silva, all of Alvarado. A son, Victor Allegre lives in Hayward, and another son, the late Sgt. Joseph Allegre was a WWII casualty. He was a native of the Azores.

May 1948:

Kelly's Return from Arizona:

Mrs. Addie Kelley, and mother Mrs. Jesse Kelly, her sister Emma Kelly, brother and sister-in-law Mr. & Mrs. Art Kelly, and her daughter Ellamae, have just returned from a trip to Arizona and south of the border. They visited a brother, Bert Kelly of Bisbee, whom Mama Kelly has not seen for twenty years. It was a happy meeting for the family. They spent a few days with their brother enjoying his company. They all went for a ride to see the Huachuca Mountains where their father was prospector, and to see the beautiful mountain region where they used to roam and walk five miles to

school. They also found the big oak tree on Miller Canyon where they lived and found a big sign on the tree, which was named for them, Kelly Oak. They also visited Cananea, south of the border, and an old mining town where their dad was superintendent for many years. They went to Nogales where they bought many beautiful souvenirs.

June 1948:

Presbyterian Bible School:

Vacation Bible School opened on June 21st at the Presbyterian Church in Alvarado with Mrs. Ethel Roberts in charge of the group. Mrs. Roberts is a missionary who is sent out here by the Missionary Board of the Presbyterian Church in Oakland and is well trained to work with the children. She also conducts a Bible Class once a week the year around for the children.



Henry Heitmuller Dies:

Henry D. Heitmuller, 67, of Oakland, died Friday in Alvarado at the home of his sister-in-law, Miss Mildred Nauert. His wife, Oscarna P. Nauert Heitmuller, survives him. He was the manager of a San Francisco Tool Company. Mrs. Heitmuller, an Alvarado native, was the daughter of C. Nauert, manager of the George H. Tay Stove Foundry in Alvarado.



Mrs. Elizabeth Harvey Passes Away:

Mrs. Elizabeth Hebbner Harvey died suddenly Tuesday, June 29th, at a San Jose hospital. Mrs. Harvey was the wife of Mr. Theodore Perkins Harvey of Alvarado, she was 37 years old. She leaves a son, Robert I. Harvey and two daughters Sarah Sue and Patricia Ann Harvey.

July 1948:

Antone Davilla Taken by Death:

Funeral rites for Antone Davilla will be held at All Saint's Church in Hayward and entombment will be in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery. Mr. Davilla was the husband of Mrs. Mary Davilla, and Father to Mrs. Isabelle Menezes, Mrs. Clara Jacinto, Mrs. Mae Santos, Mrs. Genevieve P. Dutra and Morris Davilla, all of Alvarado. He was a native of St. George, Azores.



Car Runs into Train:

Three persons suffered minor injuries when the car driven by Foro Olivencia, of Decoto drove into the side of a Western Pacific train at the Whipple Road crossing. All the victims were taken to Fairmont Hospital to be treated for abrasions and shock. The two listed as injured besides the driver was: Natalie Cicairos, 12 and her sister Rosalie Cicairos, 10, both of Alvarado.

October 1948:

Funeral Services for Sgt. Allegre:

Private funeral services will be held tomorrow for Sgt. Joseph M. Allegre, who was killed in action with the Army in 1943. He was 29 years old at the time of death. Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Frances Allegre, brothers Victor and Melvin Allegre; and her sisters Angie Vargas and Pauline Silva, all of Alvarado.

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#### **Alvarado Polling Places:**

Alvarado has been split into three polling places for the presidential election. They are:

##### **Alvarado Precinct No. 1:**

Polling Place: The IOOF Hall, Vallejo Street

Inspector: Marguerite Cadero

Judge: Isabel Menezes

Clerks: Anthony J. Vargas, Annie L. Baird

##### **Alvarado Precinct No. 2:**

Polling Place: Fire House, Alvarado

Inspector: Mabel M. Rogers

Judge: Mary M. Amaral

Clerks: Mary R. Borges, Esther R. Gardetto

##### **Alvarado Precinct No. 3:**

Polling Place: Alviso School, Alvarado

Inspector: Mayme Roderick

Judge: Josie Duarte

Clerks: Pauline Faria, Mary F. Sanders

#### **December 1948:**

##### **Death Takes Fred Harvey:**

Frederick C. Harvey, 75, son of a pioneer Alvarado family, died in San Jose yesterday. He was the husband of Mrs. Bessie C. Harvey, father to Theodore Perkins Harvey, and brother of the late Sue H. Harvey (Granger) and Edward S. Harvey. He was grandfather to Eleanor Jeanne, Robert Ingemund, Sarah Sue, and Patricia Ann Harvey. Harvey, a retired merchant and farmer, lived at the family home on 1310 Smith Street in Alvarado. He was a native of Alvarado.

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Judge Lincoln S. Church Dies:

Retired Superior Court Judge Lincoln S. Church, 83, of Oakland died yesterday after a long illness. Born in Alvarado on May 12, 1865, Church graduated from Grammar School in Livermore and high school in Oakland. He had a long and illustrious career in the legal profession. He was born in Alvarado to Augustus M. Church, the first Alameda County Recorder

January 1949:

Flood District:

A countywide flood control and water conservation district for Alameda County was authorized today, and the State Legislature was asked to give its stamp of approval. The Board of Supervisors late yesterday approved an act creating the district and memorialized the legislature to give its sanction. The Supervisors ordered the act last

summer when the county's water table around Newark, Centerville, Alvarado, Pleasanton and Livermore dropped to an alarming low. The act calls for:

1. The sale of bonds, levying of and collection of taxes and assessments on land within the district.
2. Management and control of the area, with officers and the supervisors acting in that capacity.
3. The right of eminent domain in the district.
4. Measurement and study of the water supply and rights within the territory.
5. Planning and operation of a system of parks, playgrounds, and benches on land required for the district's uses.

February 1949:

Public Health Nursing Staff:

The public health nursing staff of Alameda County is now at its full allotment with the naming of Madelyn A. Woodard of Alvarado. A native of Alvarado, Mrs. Woodard attended the Alvarado School and Washington Union High School. Later she was graduated from Providence School of Nursing and the University of California. While her husband was overseas during the war she lived with her parents in Alvarado, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Avila.

June 1949:

Best's Retire from Gun Club Caretaking:

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Best have recently left the Gun Club in Alvarado after being employed there for over 18 years. They left Monday morning for National City to visit their son, Lloyd Best for a week. Then they will head for a visit in Idaho. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Falkowski and daughter Diana Lee have moved to the Alvarado Gun Club where the Frank Best's were employed for a period of 18 years. The Falkowski's are from Spokane, Washington, and he was recently in the service spending a considerable time overseas.

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#### **Fifty years ago this month:**

An albino squirrel owned by J. Barton Rose of Hayward was interred in the Rose Cemetery last Sunday. The deceased was a native of Alvarado and had lived in Hayward only a few months. Suitable ceremonies were held at the interment with Mr. Rose delivering an affecting eulogy over the remains.

#### **July 1949:**

##### **Map Available at Mobil Wholesale Office:**

General Petroleum Corp. has a distributor whose office is at Alvarado, who has something free for you. When you take to the highways this summer on your vacation trip, why not see the very latest highway guide map available, in panel form, which instantly opens to the panel, by letter and number, pointing the exact way in any of the four Western States. It is a honey. See Frank P. George at his main office at Alvarado, he will gladly give you one free.

#### **August 1949:**

##### **Death Takes John Scribner:**

John M. Scribner, 77, a native Californian, passed away recently. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary E. Scribner, a son, Dr. J. M. Scribner, a dentist from Hayward, and a daughter Mrs. Henry May. He was the brother of Mrs. Dora Richmond, Mrs. Lou Winegar, Arthur and Fred Joyce, and the late Alice Lampher. He was born in

Alvarado and was in the grocery business with John Ralph, operating under the name of Ralph and Scribner Grocery, in Alvarado.

**September 1949:**

**Jess Jacinto MVP of Clovis Team:**

Jess Jacinto, second baseman of the Clovis Pioneers, of Clovis, New Mexico, was presented with the "Most Valuable Player Trophy" on August 31<sup>st</sup>. The secretary-manager of the Clovis Chamber of Commerce made the presentation for the Clovis Chronicle, sponsor of the contest. A total of 825 votes were polled by the popular second baseman in the contest in which more than 2,000 ballots were cast. It was not a close race as the next players to Jess had 450 votes. Jess is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Jacinto of Alvarado.



**Rigmaiden's feted:**

On Monday evening at 8 o'clock p.m. the Rigmaiden children honored their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rigmaiden with a dinner celebrating their 32<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary. Mr. & Mrs. Rigmaiden were married Sept. 12, 1917 at Lake Charles, LA. They became the parents of 12 children, 7 sons and 5 daughters, eight of which are still living. They are:

From Alvarado:

Mr. Charles Q. Rigmaiden  
Miss Selina Rigmaiden  
Thomas L. Rigmaiden  
David P. Miller

Mr. Richard Rigmaiden Jr.  
Antoine Rigmaiden II  
Mary N. Rigmaiden

Mrs. Jeff McMillon of Keatchle, LA.

They have six grandchildren and four adopted children:

Miss Delphine Rigmaiden                      Mr. Sonny D. Rigmaiden  
Mr. William M. Rigmaiden                      Mercedes Rigmaiden, all of Alvarado

Attending the party from Alvarado were Alvarado School Principal Leslie H. Maffey and Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Spurlock.



**Homebuilders Start looking at South County:**

Homebuilders and real estate professionals are looking to the future of home building around Hayward and its environs. With the coming of the East Shore Freeway there will be an appetite for affordable housing in the south county region. The fear is that the cost of land is quite expensive in the south county for homebuilding. Presently there is a plan to build 6,000 homes to the east and west of Hesperian Boulevard south of Jackson Street and north of Tennyson Road. Builders have learned that \$8,000 to \$9,000 homes will sell, but the margin for profit is slim. The high price of raw land in Washington Township will force growth somewhere else. They say that future growth might then go to Contra Costa County where land prices are more reasonable.

**November 1949:**

**Real Indian Chief Visits Alvarado School:**

Chief Hallstrom, a full-blooded Cherokee Indian Chief visited the children of the Alvarado Elementary School on Thursday morning. The children were quite

impressed as Chief Hallstrom did real Indian dances, sang authentic Indians Songs and told them of many of the customs of the North American Indian.

**December 1949:**

**Birthday Party for Marlene Andrade:**

Marlene Andrade, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Andrade of Fair Ranch Road, celebrated her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The guests included young people of Marlene's age and relatives of the family. All enjoyed dancing and playing games.

Those present besides the hosts were:

|                           |                     |                  |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Mrs. Ida Flowers          | Mrs. Violet Andrade | Dick Andrade     |
| Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Andrade | "Pimmi" Pimentel    | Elaine Hocking   |
| Mervin Pinto              | Beverly Davilla     | Marjorie Best    |
| Frank Velarde             | Shirley Mello       | Stanley Anderson |
| Rodney Hendricks          | Sadako Kurotori     | Arnold Gardetto  |
| Joyce Caldeira            | Johnny Perry        | Beverly Spurlock |
| Kenneth Mello, Jr.        | Darryl Spurlock     | Johnny Gualco    |