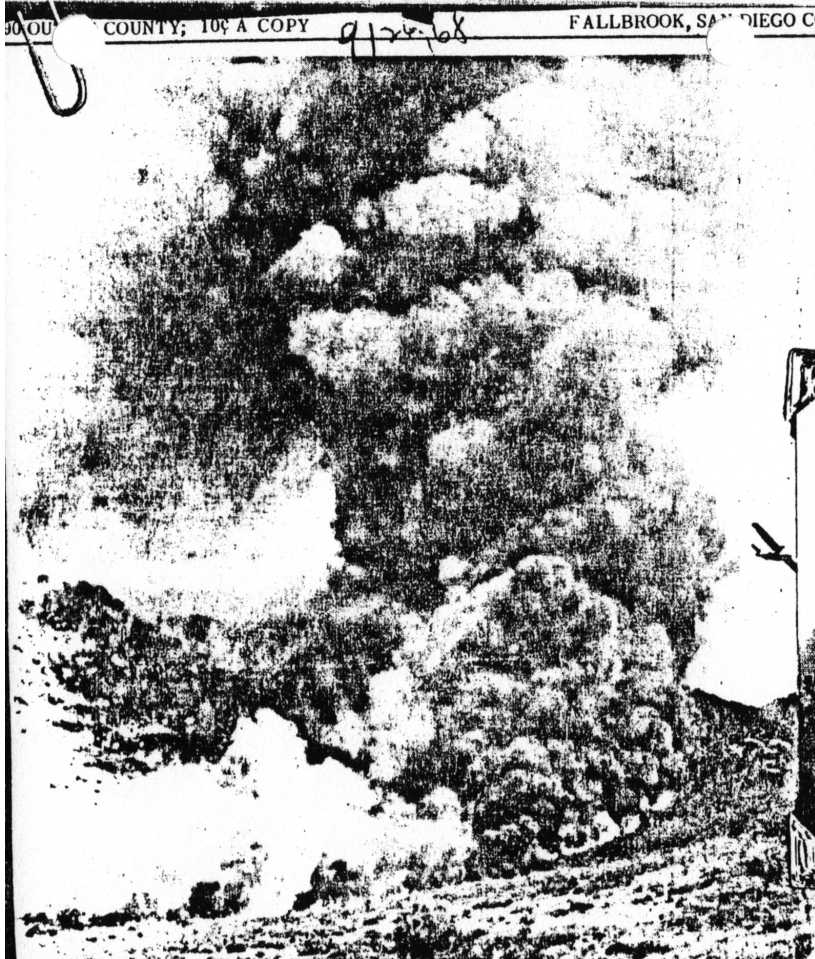
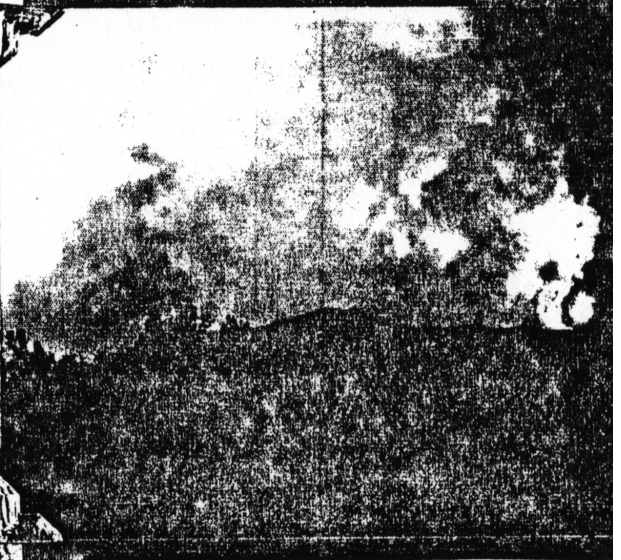


Fires in De Luz 1949 and 1975



30.00 COUNTY; 10¢ A COPY 9/24/68 FALLBROOK, SAN DIEGO CO

NORTH OF FALLBROOK --- A plane flies out of a cloud of smoke after dropping borate on a fire which broke out shortly before noon just west of DeLuz Road, five miles from Fallbrook. The fire was moving towards Sandia Canyon and two families, the George Yackeys and the Charles Sawdays, were known to be evacuating their homes. Units from the Fallbrook Fire Department, California Division of Forestry, and Rainbow Honor Camp were on the scene. All cars going from Fallbrook along DeLuz Road were stopped by the Highway Patrol.



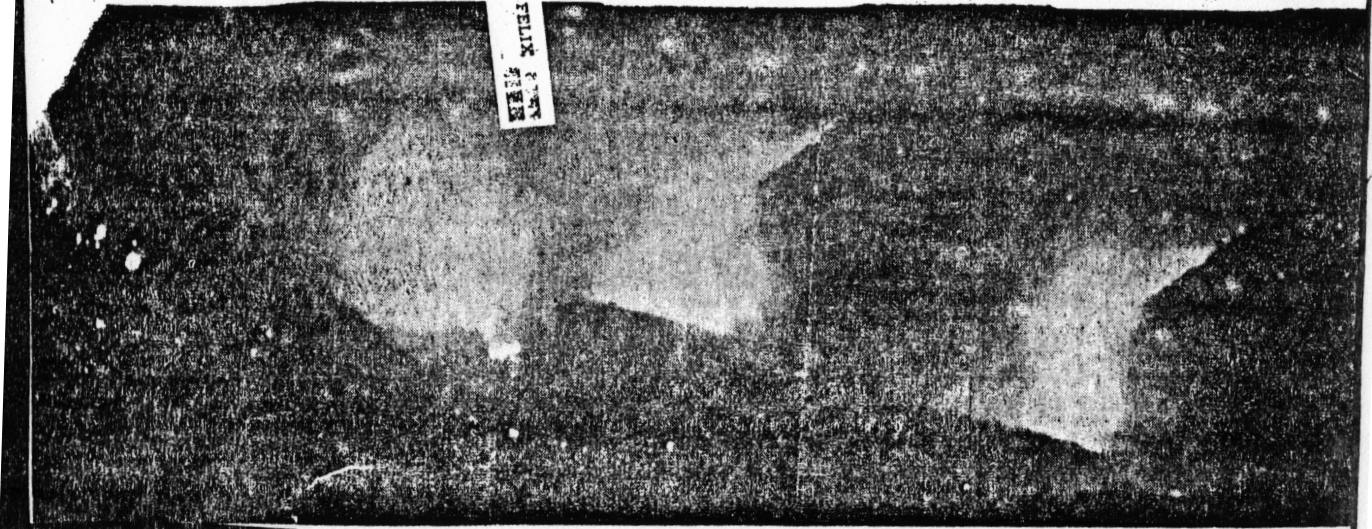
In 1949 on the 7th day of the forest fire, the 2 fires joined over the Baxter place with a terrible roar.

The Fallbrook Enterprise

CITRUS FALLBROOK — BONSALL COVERING NORTHERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S AVOCADO AND CITRUS EMPIRE RAINBOW VALLEY PALA LIVE OAK CANYON

VOL. 39 \$3.00 PER YEAR FALLBROOK, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA Friday, August 26, 1949

De Luz Canyon Fire Raging



CARNEY, FELIX
Box 1

IN FULL BLAZE — Night view of burning brush and trees in De Luz Canyon. Last report was that over 8000 acres have burned, including the Guy A. Bisbee and Baldy Stag ranches. Many wild and domestic animals perished in the flames. Eight hundred Marines from Camp Pendleton fought the fire. Ranger forestry equipment was brought from Riverside, Orange and San Bernardino as well as San Diego County. Los Angeles Times Photo by Vic Westfall Jr.

ation In The County anches Imperils Others 000 Acres Go Up In Smoke s 1000 Battle Six-Day Fire

With rumors and reports running as high and varied as the smoke-banks which rose and fell over Fallbrook since last week-end, the devastating De Luz Canyon fire continued out of control Thursday as the Enterprise went to press.

Original estimates of 10,000 acres burned had been reduced to approximately 8000 acres, according to Roy H. Blood of the U. S. Forest Service, San Diego.

Two ranches known to have been destroyed by the flames were the Guy A. Bisbee and Baldy Stag properties, neither of which were occupied.

Ranger E. S. Miller, in charge of San Diego County, attributes the start of the fire to operations on the Camp Pendleton Reservation Saturday. It broke out of control about 10 a.m. Monday calling into action fire-fighting equipment from forestry stations throughout District 8, which takes in San Diego, Riverside, Orange and San Bernardino counties. Many of these fire trucks were rushed from the fire near Lake Wohlford which had barely been brought under control after two days strenuous fighting.

Alvin and Allen Davis, well-known diggers, are credited with heroic work in helping save the main buildings of the Bryant ranch, although the barns and pens were destroyed. They were drilling on the ranch, and after fighting the fire as long as possible, hastily loaded all dynamite and gasoline back in their truck and got out just in time. They brought into Huscher's deep freeze locker plant the largest of the five pigs they saw burned to death on this ranch.

Electric Company helped save the Hollinsworth ranch when they went to the rescue of Mrs. Alfred Hollinsworth who was alone on the property at the time, according to L. E. McDade, chief of party. They loaded her prize belongings in their truck then back-fired around the ranch house in time to save it. However they were trapped at the house for two hours as 200 foot flames surrounded them, fanned by a 40-mile wind that caused jump fires 500 feet apart. One window of their truck was

TRAPPED 2 HOURS
A crew of the San Diego Gas

(Continued on page 12)

Worst Fire

(Continued from page 1)

broken by the heat when they finally managed to get out. In the crew with McDade were M. S. Hunter, James Junkin, and Bill Rick. They were surveying a new electric power line for De Luz.

More than 1000 men have been called into service to battle the stubborn fire which has extended from a few miles north of Fallbrook, on beyond the De Luz postoffice and school to within half a mile of the Cleveland National Forest. These include 500 Marines working out of the De Luz camp, center of Ranger action, and 300 more on the Roblar canyon rim in the Pendleton reservation. In addition are 200 federal forest and state forestry fire-fighters. James K. Mace, deputy state forester, and Truman Holland from the Riverside Division of Forestry, are directing the operations along with E. S. Miller from La Mesa, in charge.

MEN HURT

Several minor accidents to men have been authentically reported, in the face of many other rumors of more serious nature which cannot be verified. C. E. Slater, HM3, in charge of the U. S. Navy medical ambulance assigned to the De Luz camp, said he took two Marines to the hospital after their jeep had turned over while on radio duty. Their condition he said was not serious. Another Marine was chopped in the shoulder while laying hose in an area being cleared of brush.

Fire swept northward on the hill east of the De Luz postoffice, skipping it, the school house, and the Bleeker-and-Mason ranch by a bare 200 feet. Mrs. Homer McDowell says only prayer saved their ranch. The Butler movie location ranch was rimmed with flames but escaped destruction. Fears expressed for Nellie and

pres. and
Jack Smith, marooned in Wise-carver Canyon, were alleviated when Miller stated they and their ranch were saved.

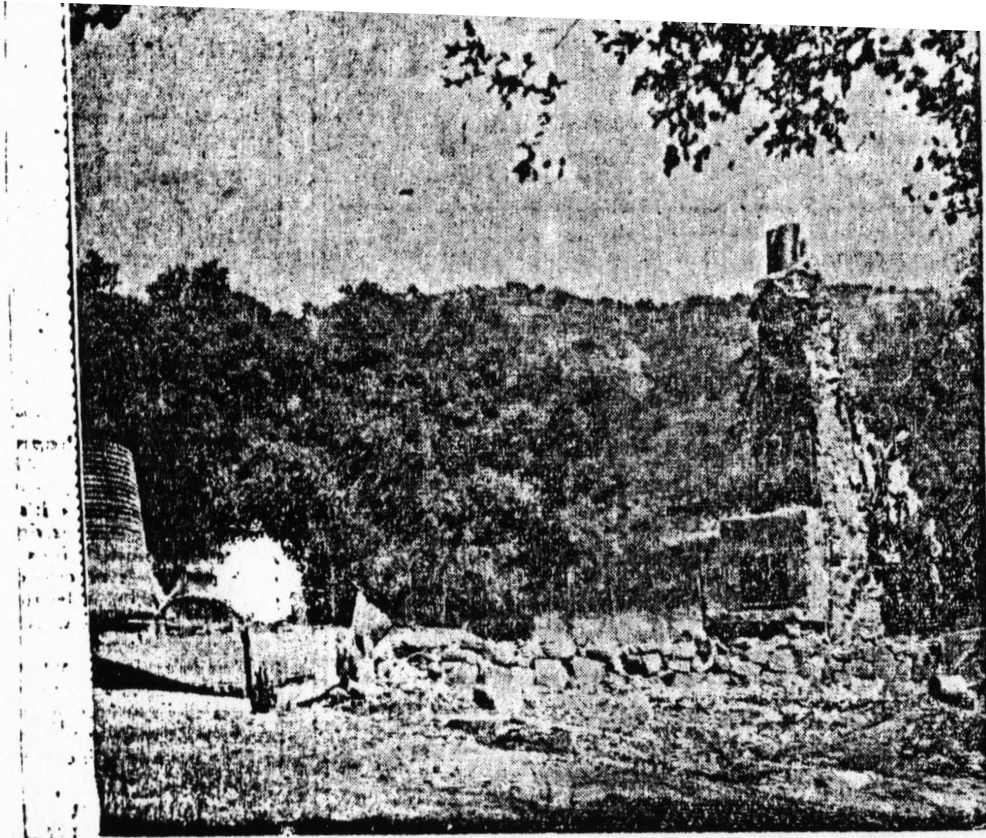
EQUIPMENT

The marines have 3 tanker trucks and 11 bulldozers on the scene; the State had four bulldozers and 25 pumper trucks; and the U. S. Forest service four bulldozers, eight tankers, a helicopter for observation, and a 30-man "hot-shot" crew from the Pamo Guard Station. The "hot-shot" crew manned 5000 feet of main hose line with seven "cross lays" which were playing on the hotter fire spots. The line was fed by a pumper truck and nurse tankers.

Several men were injured slightly in three accidents involving motor vehicles, while two others figured in the dramatic rescue of a sorely-needed bulldozer stalled in the path of the flames on a steep hillside.

FAMILIES EVACUATED

Five families were evacuated from the community of De Luz to near-by Fallbrook after flames threatened their homes. Over the dirt road connecting with Fallbrook went 84-year-old William Dunlap and others, including members of the Pyeatt,



Scene of the Guy A. Bisbee ranch, known to many as "the Stoner place," which was completely destroyed by the De Luz canyon fire. Rangers state the building might have been saved had it been occupied. Los Angeles Times Photo by Vic Westfall

Gills and Bryant families.

Forestry men reported seeing the carcasses of hundreds of deer trapped by the flames in narrow draws and on canyon ledges.

Late in the afternoon the flames reached Sunnyside Resort, an unoccupied nudist camp in De Luz Canyon. Firefighters again used their backfiring technique to swing the flames around the camp with the loss of only three small outbuildings.

A swimming pool on the 160-acre ranch of Mr. and Mrs. Homer C. McDowell supplied water which enabled firemen to save the ranch buildings after the acreage already had been burned over.

CAMP SET UP

The Marine forces, under the command of Chief Warrant Officer O. S. Bowers, are working in relays from the fire camp set up by the State Forest Service on the Ben Mosher Ranch. At this operating base the foresters set up an elaborate commissary kitchen and station of supply for everything from food and drink to hand tools and repair parts for machinery.

The equipment was being directed by an over-all radio network installed in the central camp on the Mosher Ranch.

De Luz area fire burns 10,000 acres

Control

When the Santa Ana wind
blew late Tuesday afternoon
the De Luz fire which had slow-
ly gained renewed
force and was moving forward
to the southeast and southwest
banks.

As of Wednesday morning the
blaze was heading for the
De Luz schoolhouse and the
De Luz Fire Station, officials
said.

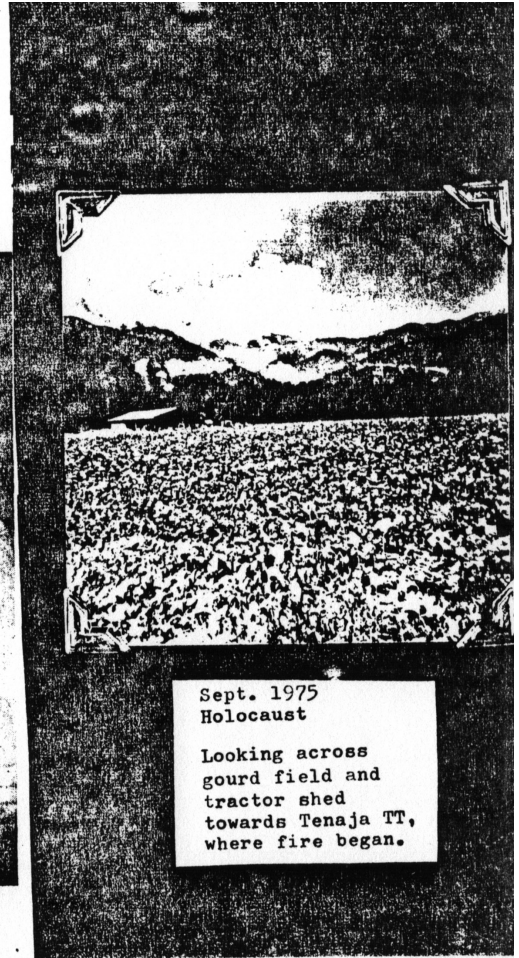
The fire information center
in Riverside reported three
Please turn to page A-2)

Opposition
to
Set
Community

slow in setting up a date for the
meeting with Orange County
supervisors.
The meeting was first an-



LOCAL RESIDENTS were able to get a spectacular view of the De Luz fire, about 10 miles to the north, Tuesday night as the burned area neared 10,000



Sept. 1975
Holocaust

Looking across
gourd field and
tractor shed
towards Tenaja TT,
where fire began.

200 flee De Luz fire; 7 buildings

By SCOTT STEWART
and OZZIE ROBERTS

DE LUZ — Two hundred people
were evacuated from their homes
and seven structures destroyed here
today in a roaring brush fire that
burned 7,500 acres and threatened
De Luz Elementary School.

The blaze is burning in both River-
side and San Diego counties, with
the eastern extension of the fire
roaring through dry brush 11 miles
south of Lake Elsinore.

The blaze, called the Tenaja fire,
is being battled by more than 1,000
fire fighters from the state Division
of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service,
Riverside County, Marine Corps and
California Air National Guard.

The National Guard is using giant
C130 transports to bring in men and
equipment from northern California.

Meanwhile, another brush fire has
burned 11,000 acres on Camp Pen-
dleton, with flames visible last night
along Interstate 5 near San Onofre.

The Pendleton fire is burning out
of control eastward, base officials
said, and aerial tankers were to be
called in this morning.

A fire that burned 4,000 acres in
the San Pasqual Valley was con-
tained yesterday at 3 p.m., the Divi-
sion of Forestry said, with fire crews

working to extinguish hot spots
today.

Two occupied dwellings, one unoc-
cupied home and four sheds were
destroyed in the Tenaja fire, the
Division of Forestry said.

Mrs. Felix Garnsey, who lives on a
ranch 11 miles west of Fallbrook on
De Luz Rd., said the fire was out of
control, with high temperatures and
winds between Tenaja Truck Trail
and Oak Slope.

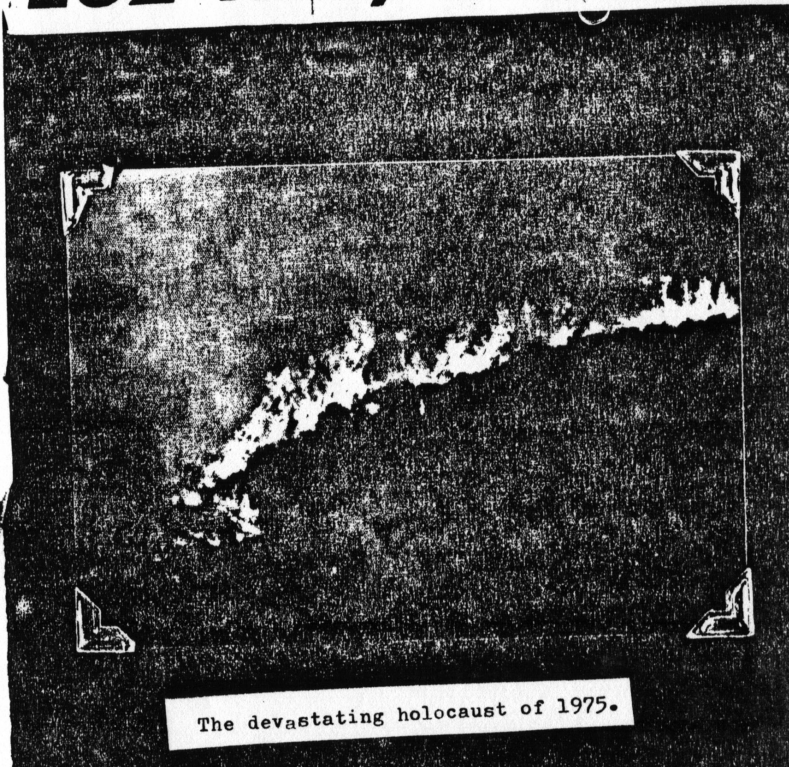
"The winds shifted at a very high
speed at 4:30 this morning and by 5
a.m. we had a fire storm blowing
right through De Luz Canyon," she
said. "The entire northern end of the
canyon has been destroyed and, be-
cause of the smoke, I can't even see
the road in front of my house 100
yards away."

Diane Guy, a neighbor of Mrs.
Garnsey, said the two occupied hous-
es destroyed by the fire were on the
Arberry Ranch here, located on
the Piette Truck Trail.

All 800 acres of the ranch had been
blackened, she said.

Mrs. Garnsey said the fire
destroyed the Derling Nursery
and a home owned by Mrs. Lucie
McDowel. The Division of For-
estry also reported that a 1,000-gallon

(Cont. on page A-3, col. 1)



The devastating holocaust of 1975.