

DOCUMENT NO. 404126

FILED JUL - 6 1949

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Comm. - Rush Douglas
re dangers to swimmers
in San Diego area
by speed boats

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JUL 12 1949

July 3rd. 1949

To the:
Honorable Mayor and Honorable Council:
Civic Center
San Diego, Calif.

Gentlemen:

I just read a story in the paper of a very sad misfortune, that of a sweet young girl by the name of Imogene Wittsche, age 13.

This poor child had both of her legs cut off by a speed boat whose operator was careless and had no regard for human life.

The pilot will say he is sorry and that it was a terrible accident but little Imogene will have to go thru life in a wheel chair or be carried around by some one and not be able to enjoy the beautiful things that life has in store for her.

The reason I am writing this letter to your honorable body is because I personally went through the same ordeal several years ago at Coronado Tent City, I was swimming in the bay in front of the reviewing stand when all of a sudden a speed boat coming at a terrific speed ran over me and a moment later I saw my own leg floating away several feet from me, so you can understand my personal feelings towards this poor child.

The same condition can happen again and again unless the laws prohibiting this practice are made very strict, I am therefore asking your honorable body of representatives of the citizens of San Diego, post warnings in all important locations about San Diego where there is a possible chance of any such boats going so as to remove this dreadful hazzard from San Diego.

You may all receive the blessing of God by hepping prevent such accidents in and around our city.

Respectfully yours,

Ruth "Jacobson" Douglas

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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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