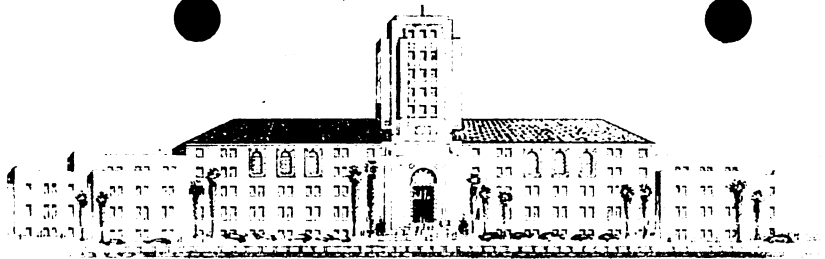




OFFICE OF
CITY MANAGER



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Feb. 19, 1948

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

GENTLEMEN:

Returned herewith is Document No. 374680, a communication from the National Rifle Association requesting that an indoor rifle range be constructed in the basement of the Ford Building in Balboa Park, and operated as part of our recreational program.

This project has been discussed with Mr. Echols, Field Representative of the Association, and other officials of the organization upon several occasions. The matter has also been considered by the Park Commission, and they are willing that such a rifle range be installed in the basement of the Ford Building. A preliminary estimate of cost for the initial installation is about \$23,000.00. Some modifications of the plans will undoubtedly bring this figure down considerably.

Additional information is being obtained from the National Rifle Association relative to minimum standards of construction. The Public Works Review Board has included this project in the 6-year Public Works Program, as Item No. 92, at a probable cost of \$15,000.00. Funds for the immediate construction of the rifle range are not in sight.

It is recommended that the communication be filed with the understanding that the project will be kept under consideration as part of our long-term Public Works Program.

Respectfully submitted,

F. A. Rhodes,
City Manager

NDS/bb
Encl-1

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

FEB 20 10 02 AM 1948

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

583208

DOCUMENT NO. _____

FILED FEB 20 1948

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Comm. from City Manager
reporting on request from
National Rifle Assn.
for indoor rifle range
in basement of the Ford
Building.

Blase
Dail

Read & filed
(Notified)

FEB 24 1948

June 21, 1947

City Council
City of San Diego
Rm. 352 Civic Center Bldg.
San Diego 1, Calif.

Gentlemen:

For the past several years the Sheriff's office, County Supervisors, Police Department, and possibly your body have been receiving complaints from farmers and ranchers in the immediate vicinity of San Diego regarding promiscuous and destructive rifle shooting by teen-age boys. According to members of the West Coast Rifle Club and others interested in National Rifle Association activities, many attempts have been made here to form junior rifle clubs which would teach these teen-agers the safety rudiments and discipline which the National Rifle Association advocates in rifle shooting which would eliminate this practice. However, because of the lack of accessible range facilities and an over-all city wide program, these efforts have been fruitless. Last year there were sixteen youths shot in hunting accidents within a radius of 15 miles of San Diego and there were two shot last month, one, a girl, was shot through the back, a bullet passing through her left lung and out her chest. All this, coupled with many reports from ranchers concerning the killing and wounding of stock, and continuous reports from the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company concerning the breaking of insulators and other equipment finally brought about the presentation of an ordinance by Undersheriff Henry J. Adams to the County Commissioners for their action which restricts shooting of firearms in certain areas adjacent to the city limits of San Diego to land owners, their tenants and their guests. The ordinance passed unanimously, and a further resolution was passed whereby the County Board of Supervisors directed Undersheriff Adams to confer with me in an effort to ascertain where a suitable range could be set up and a large active junior program instituted,

whereby these teen-age boys would be given ample opportunity to shoot under watchful surveillance, eliminating the unsupervised, promiscuous and dangerous shooting which has been prevalent for several years. It was brought out to the Board of Supervisors that there are conservatively twenty thousand .22 rifles in the hands of teen-age boys in the City of San Diego at the present time.

The first step in the promulgation of this program by Undersheriff Adams and myself was that of conferring with the heads of youth activities and recreation departments in the city and county. We talked with Dr. J. W. Howard, President of the West Coast Rifle Club, who is very much in accord with the proposed program and has offered the full support of his organization which is one of the strongest senior rifle and pistol clubs in the United States. We conferred with Leo Calland, in charge of city recreation, who stated that he would back the project in its entirety and would be very glad to have the supervision of the program within the city under his department. Stuart Caldwell, Head of Y.M.C.A. Youth Activities, has promised the full support of his organization. Jack Hoxey, Coordinator of High School Activities with the City Recreation Department, was apprised of our proposed program, and is very much in favor of it and promises full support. We conferred with Mr. Charles Dibbs and Mr. Howard C. Rowe of the Juvenile Department of the San Diego Police Department. Mr. Rowe has six "Pal Clubs" with more than 200 members and expects to have ten such clubs by fall with more than 500 members. They have promised to cooperate fully in our junior rifle program and are anxious to affiliate all of their clubs immediately when the plan gets into operation. Mr. Chester Van Dusen, Head of San Diego Boys' Club, was interviewed and has offered the full backing of his organization for such a program. Mr. Harvey Atherton, a member of the Executive Board of the Boy Scout movement, was also enthusiastic in sponsoring this junior program. He states that there are 100 boy scout troops here with a total membership of more than six thousand, 3500 of whom are boys over twelve years of age. In view of the foregoing it can be seen that the over-all potential of this program is very large. Further concerning this prospective junior rifle program, the members of the Aztec Rifle & Pistol Club, a strong San Diego State College organization, were apprised of our proposed project and state that they will be very glad to furnish instructors for as many clubs as they can when operations begin. Mr. Cletus Gardner, who is in charge of the County Recreation Department, is now active in acquiring suitable ranges throughout the county for the same program in our rural districts.

The next question which confronted us was the acquisition of a suitable range site. This site, of course, should be easily accessible to juniors from any part of the city, and naturally our first thought was the possibility of constructing an outdoor

range in Balboa Park. However, investigation revealed that the basement of the Ford Building, which was constructed in Balboa Park during the World Exposition of 1935, would be the most ideal location for a program of this kind in the City of San Diego. It can be reached by streetcar or bus from any part of the city and is of sufficient size to allow 40 boys to shoot at one time. It has concrete floor, ceiling and walls which not only enhances the safety factors, but also would make the shooting range sound proof, whereby any activity being held in the upper part of the building would not be affected. This basement could be converted into an adequate, safe, centrally located small bore rifle range at a very nominal cost to the city, and it is believed that such a program would completely solve the problem which has been confronting peace officers in this section for many years.

The junior program of the National Rifle Association has been developed over a long period of years to bring out those qualities of sportsmanship, fair play, manliness, self-control and cooperation so essential in youth development. Our program stresses safety and discipline more than accuracy until these safety factors are so instilled in the minds of the members that they become second nature. We have trained over six million youths since 1926 and have never had one accident during that time. To our knowledge, there has never been a youth trained in our junior program who has ever been involved in a hunting accident later. The plan naturally calls for capable adult supervision, the enforcement of definite regulations and the conduct of individual and team contests to develop and stimulate the interest of the boys and girls of San Diego. However, with the enthusiastic backing of the above mentioned civic leaders, this program, provided the range site can be acquired, can be in active operation very shortly. In organizing these junior rifle clubs under the National Rifle Association, a great deal of assistance will be given them by the War Department. This department has set up the Office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship which furnishes quite a bit of free equipment for National Rifle Association affiliated junior clubs. For instance, junior members of a club between the ages of 14 and 18 years of age receive one .22 caliber target rifle for every five such members, and each member receives 400 rounds of .22 long rifle ammunition free per year. This, of course, will not be sufficient for their rifle practice for the entire year but is a very good start.

It is believed the Ford Building is now on a revocable lease to the City Educational Department and the basement, which we desire to use, is now stored with equipment. However,

San Diego City Council - 4

It is felt that suitable storage space could easily be found for this equipment, and it is respectfully requested that the City Council institute action whereby the basement of this building can be acquired for the City Recreation Department under the supervision of Mr. Leo Calland, and that a full-time range master be employed in order that this junior program may be activated as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Lee E. Echols
Field Representative

LEE/vas

381227

DOCUMENT NO. _____

FILED MAR 16 1948

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Comm. from National
Rifle Assn. of America,
by Lee E. Echols,
relative to early construct
ion of indoor rifle
range in basement of
the Ford Building.

Blair

quitting

Manager

MAR 23 1948

RESOLUTION NO. 98110

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department of The City of San Diego, Division of Public Buildings, has recommended the construction of alterations to the Ford Bowl in Balboa Park, in The City of San Diego, California; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has submitted estimates for said work, and has indicated that the same can be done by the City forces more economically than if let by contract; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED By the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

That the City Manager of said City be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to do all the work in connection with the construction of alterations to the Ford Bowl, in Balboa Park, in said City, by appropriate city forces, in accordance with his said recommendation.

Presented by F. A. Rhodes

Approved as
to form by J.F. DuPaul, City Attorney.

By Shelley J. Higgins
Assistant City Attorney.

Passed and adopted by the said Council of the said City of
San Diego, California, this 30th day of March, 1948,
by the following vote, to-wit:

YEAS--Councilmen: Wincote, Blase, Dail, Godfrey, Mayor Knox

NAYS--Councilmen: None

ABSENT--Councilmen: Crary, Dorman

Harley E. Knox

Mayor of the City of San Diego, California

FRED W. SICK

City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California

By *F. Tatten* Deputy

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing resolution was
passed by the Council of the said City of San Diego, at the time
and by the vote, above stated.

FRED W. SICK

City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California

(SEAL)

By *F. Tatten* Deputy

F. T. P.

DOCUMENT No. 121872

MAR 30 1948

Filed

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Resolution No. 89110

Auth. City Manager
to work re alterations
to Ted Bowl, in
Balboa Park; City
forces.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL

MAR 30 1948

Moved by Winters

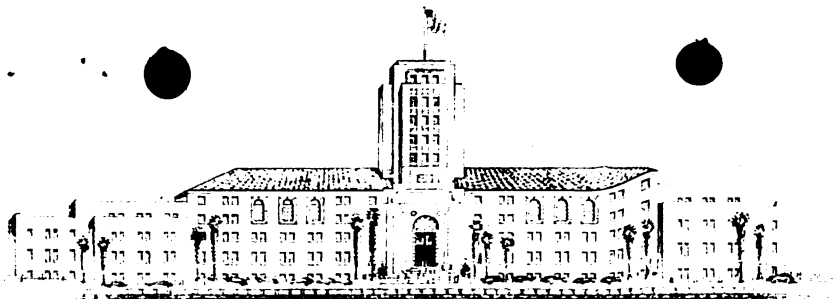
Seconded by Bea

FORM 1271

FILM No 1



OFFICE OF
CITY MANAGER



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

April 5, 1948

THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

GENTLEMEN:

Returned is document 384 227, communication from the National Rifle Range Association of America relative to the early construction of an indoor rifle range in the basement of the Ford Building.

It is estimated this rifle range would cost \$15,000.

It is requested that the City appropriate \$5,000 and that local interests will guarantee the balance of the cost of material and labor for its completion.

Inasmuch as the City would save \$10,000 in providing the facility and have it completed two or three years in advance of the time when the City proposed to construct it, it is recommended that your Honorable Body authorize the City Attorney to prepare a form of ordinance appropriating \$5,000 from the Unappropriated Balance to furnish labor and material for construction of the rifle range in the basement of the Ford building.

Respectfully,

R:C

F. A. Rhodes
City Manager

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

APR 5 5 02 PM 1948

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

385110

DOCUMENT NO. _____

FILED _____ APR 16 1948

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Communication
City Manager
from Reporting
for National Rifle
Assn. of America
Communication re
Rifle Range in Ford
Bldg. Basement —
and mon approp funds

Blane
Godfrey filed

APR 16 1948