



CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

DATE 9/19/46

FROM W. Allen Perry, Director of Parks,

TO Mr. Fred A. Rhodes, City Manager.

SUBJECT REQUEST OF V.F.W. FOR BALBOA PARK BUILDING

NO. _____
FORM 160

The request of the Building Committee of The Veterans of Foreign Wars for a building in Balboa Park, as set forth in Document No. 364804, was presented to The Board of Park Commissioners at their last regular meeting.

In conformity with their policy relative to all such applications, the Commissioners ordered this request filed until such time as the buildings are returned, restored and available for occupancy.

The Document will be retained in the files of the Park Department until that time.

W. Allen Perry
Director of Parks

WAP:A

COPY

AL McCONNELL, Secretary
1430 Froude Street
Phone B-4909
San Diego 7, Calif.

LEO F. DONOVAN, Chairman
2138 Harrison Avenue
Phone F-6058
San Diego, Calif.

9/14
Singer
JOHN W. BURNETT, Treasurer
4744 Terrace Drive
Phone T-3063
San Diego, Calif.

Veterans of Foreign Wars
OF THE UNITED STATES
BUILDING COMMITTEE

Office of

Al McConnell, Sec'y.
1430 Froude St.,
San Diego 7, Calif.

RECEIVED

AUG 16 1946

MAYOR'S OFFICE



524 "F" Street

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

August 16, 1946

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR, HARLEY KNOX and
To The Honorable Members of the City Council of
The City of San Diego:

Re: Application of V. F. W. of U. S.
FOR RETURN TO THEIR QUARTERS IN
THE MEDICAL SCIENCE BUILDING.

Gentlemen:

Recently it has come to the attention of the members of the various Posts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, located in the City of San Diego, that the City and the Navy Departments are about to reach an agreement for the return of the buildings used by the Navy during the war, which are located in Balboa Park.

This has called the organization's attention to the fact that on January 7, 1946, they addressed a letter to your Honorable Body in which they requested that you consider it as a formal application for the renewal of the permit or license to use the Medical Science Building, or at least that portion formerly used by the organization.

Your attention is respectfully directed to the fact that when the Navy desired to take over these buildings in December of 1941, the Veterans of Foreign Wars cooperated with everyone concerned and to such an extent that they gained the commendation of the Park Director to the extent that he wrote a letter, a copy of which is on file with the original application.

It has been the expectation and hope of the members of this organization that whenever the buildings were returned to the City and the Park Board, the organization would be granted a permit to return to their quarters. It should be remembered that the organization only completed their work of renovating

"U. S. OVERSEAS VETERANS"

OUR SLOGAN—"WORK FOR THE ERECTION OF A WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING IN SAN DIEGO"

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the quarters, on which they expended to exceed \$10,000.00 in the month of February 1941, and that they therefore had a very short period in which they actually occupied these quarters.

Certain articles have appeared in the San Diego papers which have caused some uneasiness among the members of this organization as it would appear from statements made that it was no longer the intention of the City Manager to allow certain groups or organizations to return to Balboa Park, apparently placing the matter on the ground that the City is not getting any rent or income from the organizations. We would respectfully submit that a Park is not a place to be rented and it is not the purpose of the people in establishing parks to make them an investment for rental purposes and we realize that there are many organizations other than the veteran groups which are to be allowed to return to the park to their former quarters and it is the firm belief of the members of Veterans of Foreign Wars that Veterans, with the men now in service, constitute one of the largest segments of the San Diego population, and the use of the Park by such a group, where the building is kept open for all veteran groups, is well within the purpose of a park, to satisfy such a large segment of our own population.

This is of vital concern to the local community welfare and we respectfully request that before any final determination of the matter, we be given a public hearing.

Respectfully submitted,


AL McCONNELL, Secretary.

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Document No. **364804**
FILED **AUG 23 1946**
FRED W. SINK, City Clerk
By Clark M. Foote, Deputy

*Petition of Veterans of
Foreign Wars, Building
Committee for return of
their quarters in the
Medical Science Building*

*Bond
B. Co.*

Referred to Managers

AUG 27 1946

filed
OCT 1 1946

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