



CRATES READIED—Officials of the Coast Drayage Co., Eastshore Freeway and Cedar St., prepare a crate of small arms ammunition for shipment. Some of the ammunition, such as parachute flares, had to be sent to San Francisco via San Jose because state regulations prohibit transportation of ammunition greater than .50 calibre across the Bay Bridge. —Gazette photo by Dick DuBois.

20 Tons of Arms and Ammunition Seized by U.S. Officials Here

(Continued from Page 1) ammunition—while FBI agents, Berkeley police and fire dept. officials, company officials, and newsmen watched. Some of the ammunition, such as the parachute flares, were routed via San Jose since state regulations prohibit transportation of ordnance above .50 calibre across the Bay Bridge. Captain Lloyd Gayer of the Berkeley Fire Dept. said city fire regulations prohibit the storage of large quantities of flares or other explosives within the city limits. While small arms may be legally stored within the city, he commented, a large cache like the one at the drayage company should have been kept in a bunker.

Notified Authorities
Reportedly the company notified federal authorities after some of the ammunition ordered by Thoresen included the parachute flares, a machine gun, and high calibre ammunition. Thoresen, and his wife, Louise, 30, are charged jointly with illegal possession of firearms and violation of the National Firearms Act. Ed Adams, owner of the Coast Drayage Co., breathed a sigh of relief after the last of the ordnance had been loaded aboard a truck. "We're glad it's gone," he said.

Arsenal Warehouse



FED—U.S. Attorney Cecil Poole and U.S. Attorney Jerry Ladar (center), inspected the cache of ammunition held at the Coast

Drayage Co. of Berkeley for William Thoresen. At right is a civilian ordnance specialist employed by the U.S. Army.

—Gazette photo by Dick Dubois

Government Seizes Tons of Arms Here

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estimated 20-tons of arms and ammunition held by Coast Drayage Co. of Berkeley for William Thoresen—the man who gets a bang out of collecting ordnance.

Search and seizure warrants were delivered to company officials at 11:15 a.m. by U. S. Attorney Cecil Poole, Assistant U. S. Attorney Jerry Ladar, and

for inventory. Federal agents also seized another cache of arms and ammo held for Thoresen by an Oakland trucking company.

Attorney Ladar said ordnance also was held for Thoresen at two locations other than the Berkeley drayage company, the Oakland trucking firm, and Thoresen's