

HELICOPTERS

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ters — 5 Bell 47s and 9 Bell 206B Jet Rangers. Rober Cuipa, a pilot for the department's air support division, said each copter has its advantages, "but if you overtax the Bell 47, you'll be dissatisfied. The year it was designed — 1947 — should tell you something right there. Are you flying in World War II or in Buck Rogers' age?"

The San Diego Police Department had hoped to develop its own helicopter fleet but found itself competing against the Sheriff's Department in 1971 for the same federal money. As a compromise, Sheriff Duffy said, his department submitted the area's only application on the condition that it provide countywide coverage.

Because of that commitment, he said, it would not be "moral" to now ask the cities in the county to help share in the cost of expanding the ASTREA fleet, which is based at Gillespie Field in El Cajon.

Coast Guard helicopters are usually available to assist ASTREA in search-and-rescue missions, but the size of its three locally based craft — large Sikorskys — sometimes make them impractical to use, especially in or around mountains and canyons, said Coast Guard Lt. Doug Boyles.

Marine helicopters are not available except for life-and-death situations, a Marine Corps spokesman said. Marine helicopters are used two or three times a year in San Diego County, primarily in instances where a victim needs to be pulled out by winch to a hovering helicopter, officials said.

Fired During Red-Baiting Era

Prof. Harry C. Steinmetz Dies at 82

By LANIE JONES, Times Staff Writer

Harry Charles Steinmetz, a San Diego State College professor who was fired during the McCarthy era for refusing to say whether he was a Communist, has died of heart failure. He was 82.

Although the act under which Steinmetz was fired in 1954 subsequently was declared unconstitutional and Steinmetz spent the rest of his life seeking compensation, he received nothing but the most minimal retirement benefits, less than \$500 a month, according to his daughter. Frail but still active in scholarly pursuits up to the moment of his death, Steinmetz had introduced a speaker for the World Crises series of Educational Growth Opportunities, a program for senior citizens sponsored by San Diego State University last Sunday. Steinmetz was taking notes when he turned ashen, stopped breathing and shortly thereafter died, his daughter said.

Although Steinmetz never received back pay from San Diego State University (the successor to San Diego State College where he was a psychology professor), he eventually was given the title of professor emeritus.

Steinmetz, a native of Seattle, received advance degrees at Purdue University and the Universities of California, Maryland and Southern California.

He is survived by a daughter, Johanne Fechter of Plymouth, Mich., son Harry L. Steinmetz of San Diego and five grandchildren. The family is planning a me-

morial service at the First Unitarian Church April 20 and in lieu of flowers asks contributions to the United Nations Association of San Diego, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom or the San Diego Hospice Corp.

COAST: Plan OKd

Continued from First Page

Mission Avenue, a crowded, four-lane service street that runs from the Pacific Ocean through downtown Oceanside to Fallbrook, currently is designated California 76.

Oceanside and the state Department of Transportation want to relocate the highway north of Mission Avenue and expand it to an expressway to connect Interstate 15 with the coast to relieve congestion and improve access.

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