



# PATTERSON IRRIGATOR

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CROWS LANDING  
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## Investigation into explosion continues

An investigation is continuing this week into the explosion of an infantry-type bazooka shell which killed Philip S. Winegar, 83, last Thursday as he was apparently attempting to dismantle it for salvage in a workshop behind his 16013 Elm Ave. home.

Lt. Commander Marvin Clark of the Crows Landing Naval Auxiliary Landing Field said yesterday Navy explosive ordnance personnel from Moffett Field, the parent base of Crows Landing, plan to continue with the investigation until they have a "reasonable scenario" of what happened, "mainly so it won't happen again."

A ten-person team from the Army Presidio in San Francisco also worked here through the weekend.

Graveside services were held for Winegar Saturday morning at the Patterson District Cemetery. A native of Livermore, he had lived in the Patterson area since 1914, working as a diversified rancher. He is survived by two children, Robert Winegar and Helen Boschi, both of Patterson; four brothers, Walter and James of Patterson, Harry of San Francisco and Ned of Los Banos; a sister, Ann McLauchlan of Hemet; and ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Commander Clark said there is "a presumption" that the 3.5-inch projectile came from the old "Bravo 3" bombing range about 12 miles west of Patterson south of Del Puerto Canyon. However, it was not the type of air-drop weapon used by the Navy and may have been left by the Army or Marines practicing with infantry-type weapons, said Clark. That would have to have been several years ago, "sometime since 1953," he said.

The 750-acre range was first leased by the Navy during World War II as a practice range and was used off and on until last July, when it was deactivated and returned to landowner Frank Draghi.

A spokesman from Moffett said

the range had been cleared by Navy explosive ordnance disposal units before it was returned to the landowner.

Winegar had a sizable collection of salvage metal in the yard of the Elm Avenue home and had made excursions to the Del Puerto Canyon site.

The live shell, apparently touched off by a blow, blew his body apart and reduced the workshop to a framework and pieces of roof.

Clark said rumors that there were more live rounds on the Winegar property are unfounded: "To the best of my knowledge, no other live rounds have been found."

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