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Old Cypress Trees Yield To Path Of Progress



Two of the oldest and most beautiful cypress trees in Santa Cruz succumbed to the saw this past week. Located on the former DeVenney property at Third and cliff streets, these trees bordered the hillside believed to have been planted during the time Edmund Jones resided there in the early seventies. They were cut down to make room for the modern apartment-hotel planned on the property by Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Heywood, owner-managers of the El Patio Apartment-Motel. It was evident when the trees fell that they were rotting at the base and in danger of splitting. The herculean task of cutting through the huge bases—one measuring eight feet five inches in diameter, the other an even seven feet—was performed by Les Liebenberg, Boulder Creek service man, for Roberson Land Levelling company. Liebenberg, who is 6'2" tall, stands next to the largest stump (at right), while Mr. and Mrs. Jim Harra of Roberson's hold his 42-inch cutting bar which did the job in 20 minutes aided by a five and a half horsepower motor. To get in position to saw through the mammoth trunk, Liebenberg was lowered from the bucket-loader driven by Harra in the top picture. Three separate cuts were required in order to get the trunk small enough pieces to be bulldozed away.

U. S. Jets, Riot Bullets Rattle

