

Rural Areas Hit Hard By Vehicle Accidents In June

51 Killed And 740 Injured In 1,340 Accidents In Month

The rural area was hardest hit by motor vehicle traffic accidents during June, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles has reported.

Fifty one persons were killed and 740 injured in the 1,340 accidents reported in rural areas. There were 968 accidents in rural areas in June, 1949, with 53 persons killed and 608 persons injured. Accidents occurring on U. S. Highways in June of this year totaled 648 with 25 persons killed and 370 injured. Accidents occurring on State Highways totaled 331 with 19 persons killed and 165 injured. County and local roads claimed seven victims and 204 injured.

Urban areas reported 11 deaths and 200 personal injuries in 743 accidents. Nine persons died and 188 were injured in 644 reported accidents in June, 1949. Municipalities reporting fatalities in June of this year were Lexington, 3; Wilmington, 2; Charlotte, 3; High Point, 1; Raleigh, 1, and Concord, 1.

Sixty-two persons were killed in motor vehicle traffic accidents during June, the same number killed in June of last year. There were 940 persons injured and 2,083 reported accidents. Compared with the same month last year, injuries were up 144 or 18% while reported accidents increased 471 or 29%.

The June figures brought the toll for the half-year to 423 fatalities and 5,442 injured, as compared with the 365 persons killed and 4,157 injured during the same period in 1949.

Pedestrian fatalities were down one or 11%, as compared with June of last year. There were 775 accidents involving pedestrians with 10 pedestrians killed and 65 injured. The five to nine age group reported more fatalities than any other age group, with the 65 to 74 age group second. Municipalities reporting pedestrian fatalities were: Charlotte, three and Raleigh, one. Burke, Chowan, Iredell, Johnston, Pasquotank, Robeson and Wake reported one fatality each while Mecklenburg reported three.

Mecklenburg county is leading all other counties in pedestrian fatalities with nine killed for the first six months of the year. Charlotte is leading the municipalities in pedestrian fatalities with five pedestrians killed.

Of 3,455 drivers involved in accidents in June, 1,919 were in violation of the law. Speeding topped the list with 440. Two hundred and twenty-nine were on the wrong side of the road but not passing, 178 failed to grant right-of-way, 210 disregarded various types of traffic control devices, 142 were driving intoxicated and 67 followed too closely.

Types of accidents claiming lives on North Carolina roads in June are: collisions of cars, 22; pedestrians struck by cars, 10; vehicles running off road, 22; cars colliding with bridges or other fixed objects, three; non-collision, two; cars overturning,



AMERICAN GUNFIRE HALTS NORTHERN KOREAN INVADERS—When this radio-photograph was taken the Communist-led Northern Koreans were checked in their advance against American troops hastily sent forward to meet the enemy. (U. S. Army photo by Sgt. Turnbull.)

two, and one bicyclist. Guilford and Davidson counties led the State during June with four fatalities each. Mecklenburg, Nash,

New Hanover, Robeson and Scotland counties reported three fatalities each. Counties reporting two fatalities each were: Brunswick, Burke, Chero-

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kee, Wake, Durham, Edgecombe, Iredell, Johnston, Pitt, Randolph and Union.

The following counties reported one fatality each: Alamance, Avery, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Cabarrus, Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Chowan, Forsyth, Franklin, Pasquotank, Rockingham, Rutherford, Sampson and Stanly.

Sixty-five counties reported no fatalities.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

A baby boy weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces, was born July 18, to Mrs. John Burch Sikes, wife of John Burch Sikes, aviation chief machinist's mate, USN, formerly of Edenton, at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Va. The baby was named John Burch, Jr. The baby's father is serving at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Va. Mrs.

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Sikes is residing at 316 New Street, Norfolk.

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