

Helene's High Tide, Wind Lashed Ocracoke

By ALICE RONDTHALER

Compared with damage inflicted by Hurricane Helene to beaches south of us, Ocracoke suffered but minor injuries from her fierce onslaught. The greatest public loss was damage to the highway. The three miles of steel matting at the northern end was almost completely swept away by the tides and winds, making approach to the ferry landing impossible.

Chief Engineer Spruill, John Wilson, and Frazier Peele made a trip to Ocracoke Village to confer with citizens about emergency ferry arrangements. It was decided to run the ferry all the way from Hatteras to Ocracoke Village, about a three-hour trip, once daily each way for the present.

Leaving time at Hatteras will be 7:30 a.m. and the return trip from the park docks at Ocracoke harbor will be about noon. A temporary landing place is being made there.

Sections of the ten-mile stretch of marl highway were washed out, but Mr. Spruill said this was not too serious. Extensive damage to the steel matting will require time for repair. Capt. Frazier Peele made several trips in the little four-car ferry, bringing over passengers the first two days following the hurricane. They were met on this side by trucks, though even trucks cannot get to the further end of the island at this time and there is a long, long walk of about two miles to Styron's hills.

Fencing Gone
Supt. Robert Gibbs with Ranger Hazen Brooks inspected damage to sand fences built this past year by the National Park Service and found that practically none of the fencing over the 16-mile stretch is still standing.

Individual loss at Ocracoke came to commercial fishermen whose gas boats were sunk in the harbor. There were eight or ten of these. Many of them, and many skiffs, were carried high up on land around Silver Lake. Tides estimated at five or six feet above normal came over the island, causing some damage, but greatest loss came from the winds, which were estimated at between 110 and 125 miles per hour.

Several homes are minus chimneys, many are minus shingles. The trailers at the Wikstrom place were blown into the marsh, one garage was destroyed; many, many trees were uprooted. Two of the tall chimneys at the Barksdale summer home were blown down.

R. S. Wahab's houseboat "Fish Hunt" at Quirk Hammock was blown over, but its occupants, Bill and Jerd Williams, escaped injury.

About fifty people took refuge at the Coast Guard station. Most tourists had left the island, but at Silver Lake Hotel were Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Simson of Hannibal, N. Y., Dr. and Mrs. Paul Richmond from McLean, Va., Peton Holloman Jr. and Dave Rogers of Washington, D. C., and at Wahab Village hotel were Lefty Frank and his party of seven fishermen from New Jersey. They were rewarded today for their courage in staying over by catching six good sized drum fishing with Capt. Thurston Gaskill in the South Wind.

Those suffering from damage to boats included Elijah O'Neal, Needham Simpson, Washie Spencer, Junius Austin, Herman Spencer, Charlie Williams, Charlie Garrish and Irvin Styron.

The local Coast Guard reports that two 126-foot barges were washed ashore about five or six miles up the island and are up high and dry on the sound side. These belonged to the Barbour Boat Works of New Bern and were carrying sand and marl to a housing project on Hatteras Island. They had been torn from anchorage at Cape Channel, Buxton.

Five or six of the Ocracoke banker ponies lost their lives in the storm. This is unusual and indicates the intensity of the storm, since in the past the ponies have usually got themselves to shelter on the high dunes.

One of those lost was the beautiful young colt belonging to Ward Garrish, another belonged to Jerry Middett, a member of the local Scout Troop, three belonged to Capt. Van Henry O'Neal, another

Scientists Can Make Gas from Oil Shale

Denver (AP)—There is a possibility that American motorists soon may run their cars on gasoline obtained from rock. The Denver Research Institute at the University of Denver says a process has been developed which can produce oil from the vast oil shale deposits in the Rocky Mountains at a price competitive with petroleum.

Millford, Ohio, staying with Capt. and Mrs. Walter C. O'Neal, caught some small-sized drum, one surf casting on the beach. Mr. Gatch was stationed here at Ocracoke during World War II, and delights in returning to the island.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Wikstrom and friends are occupying the Wikstrom home.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Willis, who have been visiting relatives here, have returned to Morehead City.

Mrs. Clarence Scarborough left Saturday via Beaufort for Washington, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith of Atlanta, Ga., are spending the week with Mrs. Bessie Howard.

At the Simpson cottage this week are Mr. and Mrs. Alton Scarborough of Pedricktown, N. J., and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parsons of Ocean City.

Mr. and Mrs. Bridgers, owners of the Ocracoke Motel, spent several days here recently. Exterior of the motel is complete; interior work and furnishing is in process.

H. W. O'Neal of Washington, D. C., and Mr. and Mrs. Earl O'Neal of Philadelphia are visiting here at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. Needham Simpson have returned from a visit in Richmond with their daughter, Mrs. Ed Pronobis, and in Wilmington, Del., with their son, Stacy Simpson and family.

Mrs. Donald O'Neal has been visiting her parents in Wilmington, N. C.

The Ocracoke Civic Club will hold its October meeting next Monday night.

was one of those owned by the Scout Troop.

The ferry service to Hatteras from Ocracoke harbor has about completed its first week of runs and provides satisfactory emergency service. However, persons coming to Ocracoke from Norfolk have to leave there at about 3 a.m. in order to make the 6:30, first ferry, at Oregon Inlet, and reach Hatteras by 7:30 a.m. Several residents left here on Friday for the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry O'Neal and family went to Washington, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin E. Spencer went to Norfolk, Mrs. Danny Garrish and children and Mrs. Fletcher Hoggard and children, went to Norfolk. Mrs. Mame Howard, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. F. Overton, in Norfolk, returned with them.

Also coming in from Norfolk on the Sunday noon ferry were Woodrow Fulcher, Jesse McWilliams, W. I. Priest, and Clyde R. Edwards, all here for some surf casting.

Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Gatch, of

With the Armed Forces

Two Men Enlist in Army, Choose Their Speciality

Pvt. Charles R. Parkin of 1014 Broad St., Beaufort, left recently for Fort Jackson, S. C. to begin eight weeks of basic military training.

Parkins, son of Herbert V. Parkins, took advantage of the Army's "Choice Not Chance" program and enlisted for three years with the Corps of Engineers. After basic training Parkin will be assigned to an engineer unit for advance technical training.

Pvt. Edrew Johnson of route 1 Havelock left recently to begin eight weeks' training at Fort Jackson, S. C.

Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson, took advantage of the Army's choice of branch guarantee and enlisted for three years in the Airborne. After basic training Johnson will be assigned to one of the crack airborne units for parachute training.

Great Lakes, Ill. — Richard G. Blake, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Blake of route 2, Box 90, Newport, has been appointed platoon leader of his recruit company at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

As a recruit petty officer he will wear a miniature rating insignia

as a badge of authority during the remainder of his nine weeks of "Boot Camp."

He was chosen for the position in recognition of leadership qualities displayed while undergoing recruit training. He is scheduled to graduate October 11.



Richard G. Blake
... platoon leader

Recently Lawrence Curtis Sutherland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd



Lawrence C. Sutherland
... trains at Pensacola

Sutherland of Bogue Sound, route 1 Newport, has been enlisted in the Naval Reserve as an aviation officer candidate at the Naval Air Station, Willow Grove, Pa.

He reported for active duty at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., where he will undergo pre-flight training for four months, and upon completion, receive a commission as Ensign, US Naval Reserve. The next fourteen months will be spent undergoing flight training and upon graduation he will receive his "Navy Wings of Gold".

Aviation Officer Candidate Suth-

erland graduated from Morehead City High School in 1954. He attended North Carolina State College from 1954 to 1957. He then entered Pennsylvania State University, graduating in June 1958 with a bachelor of science degree in general agriculture.

Albany, Ga.—Navy Chaplain Lt. David E. Simmons, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Simmons of 2211 Wythe Ave., Bluefield, W. Va., and husband of the former Miss Helen Paul of 1001 Front St., Beaufort, is serving as the Protestant chaplain at the Marine Corps Supply Center in Albany, Ga.

Before entering the chaplaincy



Lt. David E. Simmons
... at Albany, Ga.

In April 1955, Lieutenant Simmons graduated from Bluefield High School, served in the Army for two years, graduated from Carson-Newman College in 1951, and received his Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1955.

During the past three years Lieutenant Simmons has served with the Second Marines, Atlantic Fleet Marine Force, and with the Pacific Mobile Construction Battalion.

Olathe, Kans.—Marine First Lt. John W. Haynes Jr., is undergoing a five-week course and a study of jet fighter tactics with Jet Transitional Training Unit at the Naval Air Station, Olathe, Kans.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Haynes of Beaufort, and husband of the former Miss Helen L. Roberts of Mobile, Ala.

Lieutenant Haynes reported to Olathe Sept. 15 from Camp Lejeune, N. C.

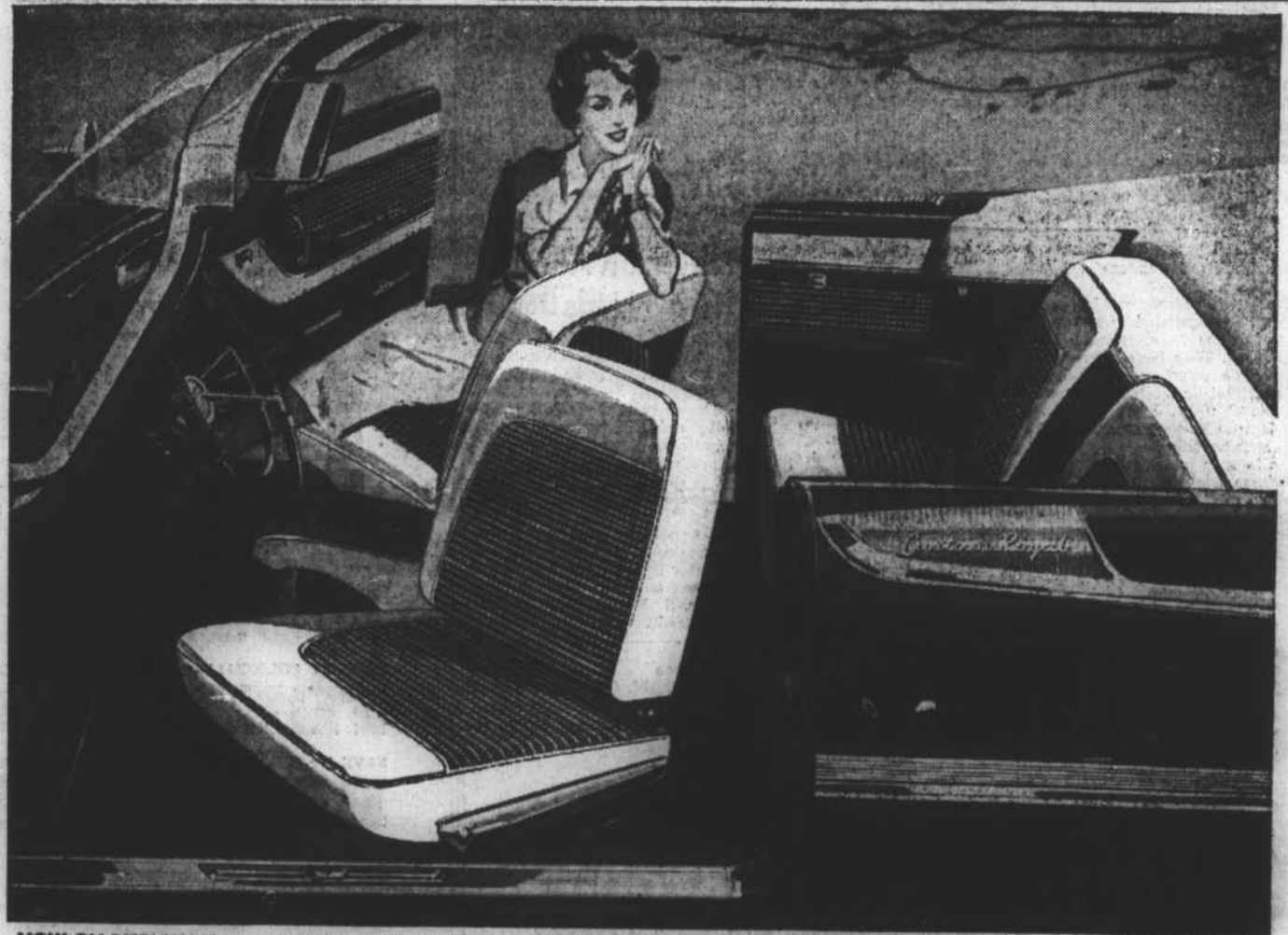
Upon completion of the course Oct. 17, he will be transferred to the Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N. C.

Wayne Guthrie, USN, Morehead City, is now a radio man seaman aboard the USS Ranger CVA 61 stationed on the west coast at Alameda, Calif.

Wayne joined the Navy in June 1957, after graduating from Morehead City High School. After basic training, he went to a 24-week radio school, Bainbridge, Md.

Aboard the USS Ranger, Wayne recently made a two-month cruise around South America to California. In January the Ranger will take a nine-month cruise to Japan.

In a letter to THE NEWS-TIMES, Wayne says, "I have the paper sent to me every week and I enjoy reading it very much."



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