

# HELENE

Cape Fear, and Wilmington, 30 miles north. She never came inland, staying about 35 miles offshore. All communications were knocked out at Southport and the town was in need of water until auxiliary pumps were brought in.

"The only thing that saved us," said some Southport citizens, "was that the winds and the tide were working against each other."

State Rep. James C. Boman of Brunswick County said he was "very anxious to see if we get a declaration as a disaster area," adding that the poorer people had suffered the most.

State Highway Patrol Capt. C.R. Williams estimated damage at Southport between \$500,000 and \$750,000.

Wilmington, the state's biggest coastal city, suffered an estimated million dollars damage, said the highway patrol. Most of this was to residences and businesses.

Farther up the coast, Mayor Pro Tem George Kanoutis of Kure Beach estimated property damage at \$250,000, beach erosion at \$30,000. Mayor Glenn M. Tucker estimated Carolina Beach damage at 1½ million dollars, but said no property owners were wiped out. Mayor Pro Tem Richard Meier of Wrightsville Beach said all property suffered some damage.

By Saturday afternoon Helene had passed the most densely populated areas. Her effect was felt several miles inland in rough weather and rains, but damage there was not severe. Later that evening she howled off toward the open sea.

Morehead City and Beaufort, port cities, were battered down and shook off the glow with comparatively little damage.

Hurricane Helene probably was nearly as strong as Hurricane Hazel of 1954. But Helene kept her distance at sea. Hazel caused 21 deaths in the Carolinas and an estimated 145 million dollars damage in the two-state area alone.

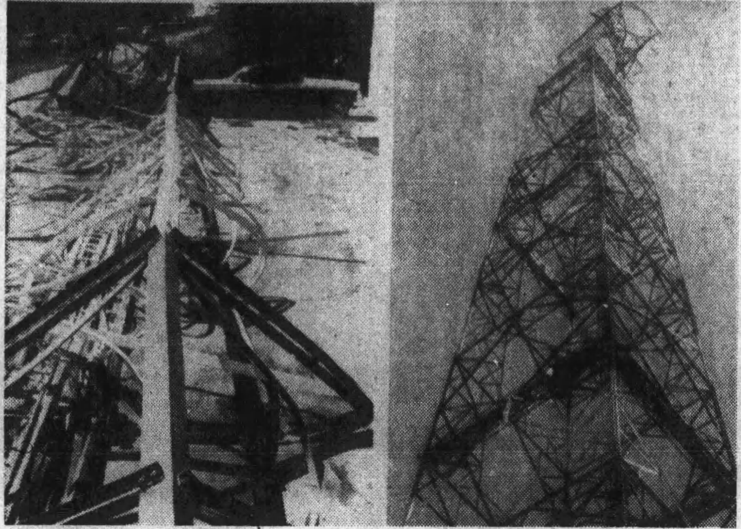
## DAMAGE

Hodges was at Wilmington and Morehead City as Helene's terrific winds brushed the coast.

Col. Harry Brown, the state's hurricane rehabilitation director, accompanied the governor on the inspection flight from north of Hatteras to Myrtle Beach, S.C., then began an auto tour to size up damages.

Hurricane Hazel, the most destructive hurricane in recent Tar Heel history, left damages estimated at 120 million dollars and at least 19 dead in North Carolina.

Connie, Diane and Ione in 1955 caused an estimated 169 million dollars worth of damage, much of it to unharvested crops.



**HURRICANE DAMAGE** — Top photo shows wreckage at one of the larger motels as Hurricane Helene swept through. The U. S. Coast Guard's Loran Transmitting Station near Wilmington (lower photo), was put out of business when hurricane winds removed the top of the radio tower. Some 250 feet of the 600 foot tower toppled to ground, narrowly missing the station and an auto which was parked beside it. (UPI Telephotos)

## Hurricane Damage Heavy Upon Coast

WILMINGTON, N. C. (AP) — Up and down the coast stand houses with roofs ripped open. Battered trees lean nakedly against the sky, their shorn limbs piled up on streets and roads. Telephone poles sag crazily.

On the miles of beaches, the surf washes over tens of thousands of conch shells, more souvenirs of the weekend's Hurricane Helene.

Damage from the hurricane is estimated in the millions of dollars. Communications are still out in many areas. But there was no loss of life.

Residents, recalling hurricanes of 1954-55, were prepared when Helene swirled past the Carolinas and the Virginia Capes, well offshore, with winds up to 140 miles an hour.

A civil defense spokesman said the people "gave us no argument" when asked to evacuate.

There were scattered personal injuries. The Red Cross said 4,950 persons were cared for at 65 shelters.

Spinning shoreward Saturday morning from the southeast, Helene passed up most of South Carolina's lush resort area. She knocked down a fishing pier at Ocean Drive Beach, S. C., and

## Hazel's Damage Much Greater

RALEIGH (AP)—State officials waited today for reports from engineers on the scene to total up damages from Hurricane Helene.

While the figure seemed certain to run to several million dollars, it appeared the destruction to coastal areas was far below that left by hurricanes Connie, Diane and Ione in 1955, and Hazel in 1954.

Gov. Luther Hodges and Judge Thomas Goodman, regional civil defense director, met with heads of state agencies to chart rehabilitation work. The conferees were expected to decide whether North Carolina will seek federal assistance for storm relief.

After a flying inspection of the coast Sunday, Hodges said low tides when Helene struck plus a strong west wind which held back heavy seas minimized damages.

Utilities, roads and private property suffered from the blow, he reported, but it was impossible to say how extensive the damage might be.

Many roofs were damaged, but few buildings were completely destroyed. Many of the sand fences erected to build up dunes on the Outer Banks were lost to the storm, and the state highway on Ocracoke and Hatteras islands sustained damage.

Civil Defense officials said better preparations for Helene possibly saved lives. Coastal residents who remembered the previous hurricanes needed little persuasion to leave their homes as Helene approached.

The Red Cross said 4,950 persons were cared for at 65 storm shelters.

Russell C. Nicholson, deputy state civil defense director, said improved radio communications kept officials in touch with all coastal sections even at the height. See DAMAGE Page 2A

### By Flashlight

CHERRY POINT, N. C. (AP) — Doctors at the Cherry Point Naval Air Station Hospital, working by the light of flashlights, delivered two baby girls Saturday evening at the peak of Hurricane Helene.

The storm, which hit Cherry Point with winds of 90 miles an hour and more, had knocked out all electrical power.

The first arrival was Patricia Sisk, daughter of Sgt. and Mrs. C. S. Sisk of Route 1, Kingston, Tenn. Shortly afterward Christine Marie Luhr, daughter of Cpl. and Mrs. M. A. Luhr of St. Marys, Pa., was born.

damaged two more piers in Cherry Grove Beach.

Moving toward the jutting North Carolina coastline, she smashed a 300-foot pier at Ocean Isle Beach, N. C., damaged most of the houses at Holden Beach and sent high water over the protective sand dunes at Long Beach, damaging roads. This was in the forenoon.

She hit hardest at Southport, tucked inside the elbow of the See HELENE Page 2A

## Reuther Pushes Effort For Quick Settlement

By CHARLES C. CAIN  
DETROIT (AP)—Walter Reuther resumes his efforts today to get a quick contract settlement with Chrysler Corp. as a followup to the back-to-work order he issued to wildcat strikers at Chrysler and General Motors Sunday.

a week in which the company reported its attempt to get full speed ahead on production of 1958 models was hampered by the strikes and some resultant plant shutdowns. GM on Saturday listed 45,000 idle at 20 plants across the nation.