

# Flora Takes Place In History As Most Destructive Hurricane

A tropical disturbance is identified as starts spinning westward over the Atlantic as Sept. 16, 1962, 1,000 miles south of Florida. It develops into hurricane Flora, the most devastating hurricane in the Caribbean area. The following article traces its birth, growth and effects.

By BEN FLUNK AP STAFF WRITER

The day: Thursday, Sept. 26. The exact time: Unknown. The place: The tropical Atlantic, 500 miles southeast of the Florida coast.

The day is hot, sultry, oppressive. The wind blows in fiftieth gusts. The humidity is sticky and sluggish.

At 10 a.m. the wind damp air from the sea. Very, very slowly, an air column grows, rising, the warm air expands and falls. The water in it condenses and rains.

As the spinning of the earth, the air begins to revolve around a hollow centre. Moisture is drawn in, swirling up the chimney, pumping new fuel into the motion. The air spins faster.

The seed of a monster has been sown. The Caribbean is rocked by "hurricane" will orbit. Orbiting over the south Atlantic Sept. 26, the Tiro VII weather satellite is the first of a new generation of weather satellites.

AREA OF SUSPICION Forecasters mark this down as an "area of suspicion" and plan to keep an eye on it. Friday, Sept. 27. 1:30 p.m. Tiro sends another picture of the same cloud mass. It has moved 400 miles westward.

Sunday, Sept. 29. 6 p.m. The captain of a ship 400 miles east of Trinidad reports he is encountering light squalls and rising seas. His barometer is falling.

Monday, Sept. 30. 10 a.m. A hurricane hunter plane thrusts through the "wall of the eye" of a small but tightly wound and "very dangerous" hurricane. It is moving east toward the island of Tobago.

Tobago has only two hours to prepare. The eye of the hurricane with the unlikely name of Flora reaches the coast at noon.

HOUSES COLLAPSE Houses collapse under the 100-mile-an-hour winds. Torrential rain triggers floods. Towering tides bury the beaches. Seventeen islanders die.

Trinidad, 100 miles south, escapes serious damage. Tuesday, Oct. 1. In Haiti, a Negro nation on the island of Hispaniola, the sound of the sea is subtly changing. From far out comes a single long, low swell. Slowly, another comes, and another.

The trade wind dies. Palm fronds hang limply in the dead calm. Flora, still far away, is growing more violent.

Wednesday, Oct. 2. 1 p.m. The weather remains calm. Wags of cirrus clouds drift over a pale, milky haze over the sky.

At the day goes on, the wall thickens. The sunset is spectacular, red and orange.

BREATHING DIFFICULT Midnight: A swirling breeze intrudes on the stillness and rustles the palm fronds in Haiti. The air is charged with electricity. Breathing seems difficult.

Thursday, Oct. 3. 8 a.m. The wind gusts at 50 miles an hour. The sea is wild. A hard burst of rain comes and goes, only to be followed by another.

The mean of the wind changes to a howl. From far out comes the thunder of drumming rain. Natives cringe. Towns and villages built of mud, straw and tin offer no place to hide.

1 p.m. Two hurricane hunters cross the storm at 10,000 feet. Sustained winds have reached 140 miles an hour, gusts 160.

2 P.M. Hurricane winds reach the south coast of the Tiburon Peninsula. At 100 miles an hour, the pitch of the wind rises to a terrifying scream.

8 p.m. The wall of the eye, a solid barrier of water and wind whirling savagely in toward the calm centre of the hurricane, crosses the coast between Aquin and Cotes de Fer.

200 M.P.H. GUSTS Funneling down the canyons between mountain ranges, gusts reach an awesome 200 miles an hour.

Solid sheets of rain turn rivers and streams into torrents. Crashing down the mountainsides, they push the crops, even the soil, into the sea.

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In the raging floods, bodies float. At the mouths of the rivers, swarms of sharks gather to feast.

Friday, Oct. 4. 1 p.m. Flora slams into Cuba's Oriente Province. Now it is the biggest hurricane in history. It torments the seas for a thousand miles, from the Bahamas to Puerto Rico. More than 200 miles to the south, its rains flood Jamaica. Nine persons drown.

Nassau, in the storm's path, boards up. Saturday, Oct. 5. A gigantic high pressure system to the north stops Flora over Cuba.

The day is hot, sultry, oppressive. The wind blows in fiftieth gusts. The humidity is sticky and sluggish.

At 10 a.m. Flora wanders aimlessly westward. It backed again by high pressure over the Gulf states.

BLOCKED AGAIN 11 a.m. Flora wanders aimlessly westward. It backed again by high pressure over the Gulf states.

The hurricane turns southwest back into the Caribbean and sits just off the Cuba coast, lashing Camaguey and Oriente provinces with torrential rain and 100-mile-an-hour winds.

Monday, Oct. 7. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Tuesday, Oct. 8. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Wednesday, Oct. 9. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Thursday, Oct. 10. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Friday, Oct. 11. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Saturday, Oct. 12. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Sunday, Oct. 13. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Monday, Oct. 14. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Tuesday, Oct. 15. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Wednesday, Oct. 16. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Thursday, Oct. 17. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Friday, Oct. 18. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Saturday, Oct. 19. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Sunday, Oct. 20. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Monday, Oct. 21. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Tuesday, Oct. 22. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

Wednesday, Oct. 23. Again, the storm moves back over Cuba and stalls between two important cities, Camaguey and Sancti Spiritus.

Thursday, Oct. 24. After four days of fantastic rain, floods have risen to tree-top level in eastern Cuba. Some areas never touched by floodwaters become islands.

## New Saint John Paper Mill Output Sold Next 15 Years

By DON McLEOD SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CP) — Construction of a \$33,000,000 addition to the New Brunswick pulp and paper industry — already the province's biggest employer — is proceeding "right on schedule," according to the Rodheys Paper Corporation.

The Rodheys Paper Corporation paper mill in eastern Saint John is expected to be operational in December, 1964. The mill is the first phase of a planned three-stage development by a group headed by Sogemines Ltd., a Belgian firm with Canadian headquarters in Montreal.

The entire output of the plant for the next 15 years has been sold—most of it outside Canada. The original plans were for an annual capacity of 140,000 tons but this was revised upward to 160,000 tons.

Woods operations, traxes, water and power costs and wages will pump about \$12,000,000 into the provincial economy annually — and strengthen the position of the forest industry as the number one contributor to the gross value of manufactured production in the province.

The unit is capable of reeling off a sheet of paper 29 feet wide at a rate of 50 miles an hour at top production.

The operation "will take several years to reach full production potential," says President W. L. Forster, "because the machinery has to be started slowly and increased . . . as the workers become accustomed to it."

About 30 highly-skilled new-hire workers will be hired initially and the company plans a training school for staff members before the plant opens. Most of the plant workers will be recruited locally.

Agreements for traxes and water supply have been completed and the company recently signed a long-term contract with the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission for its energy requirements. Rotheys says the energy agreement is unique in North America.

The paper plant will purchase process steam from the power commission's adjacent thermal generating station. The steam, which comes from the exhausts of the thermal plant's turbines, had been used for nothing more than "heating up"

## Earliest Artist

The earliest known native Canadian artist was Francois de Beaulieu, whose best-known canvas is Portrait of a Negro Slave.

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## Bill Limits Liability In Plane Deaths

OTTAWA (CP) — A government bill to ratify an international agreement on air travel, limiting an airline's liability to some \$16,600 for the accidental death of a passenger, has been approved by the Senate transport committee.

Senator J. J. Kinley (1-Nova Scotia) protested that the ceiling on the payment was "ridiculously low."

But Prof. A. B. Rosevear, director of McGill University's Institute of Air and Space Law, said the travelling public gets an advantage as well.

Prof. Rosevear, appearing as a witness, said claimants don't have to prove airline negligence in order to collect damages for a relative's death. Instead, an airline wishing to avoid payment had "a very heavy obligation" to prove it did everything possible to avoid the accident.

He added that no limit applies to claims for damages if death resulted from a reckless act by the airline.

The bill would approve Canadian ratification of a 1959 agreement made at the Hague, amending the 1929 Warsaw convention on international air travel.

RESERVES HIGH Canadian coal reserves have been estimated by the Geological Survey of Canada at 99,000,000 tons, of which 49,000,000 are recoverable.

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