

# NEWS DIGEST

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1999

PAGE 2

## Floyd prompts coastal evacuation

MIAMI (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of people were ordered to evacuate the Florida coast Monday, and NASA all but abandoned Cape Canaveral as Hurricane Floyd — one of the most powerful storms ever to threaten the United States — charged toward Florida with potentially catastrophic 155 mph winds.

Floyd was much larger than Hurricane Andrew, which smashed into south Florida in 1992, causing \$25 billion in damage, killing 26 people and leaving 160,000 homeless.

Forecasters said Floyd would brush past the Bahamas overnight and could hit land in the next couple of days between central Florida and South Carolina. They predicted it was capable of causing enormous damage.

"It's scary. It's very scary," Gov. Jeb Bush said. "Andrew hit Miami in the middle of the night, and it was haunting. This is as strong and ... three times bigger."

Bush declared a state of emergency Monday, giving him the authority to activate the National Guard and allowing the state to order evacuations and suspend tolls on the highways.

The storm could be dangerous even if it does not come ashore. Floyd's hurricane-force winds — at least 74 mph — extended for 125 miles. Andrew's hurricane-

force winds extended about 25 or 30 miles.

With a hurricane warning in effect Monday from Florida City, south of Miami, to Brunswick, Ga., residents along 400 miles of Atlantic coastline packed stores to stock up on canned food, bottled water, plywood and aluminum shutters. Navy ships left port to ride out the storm at sea, and aircraft were sent inland.

Coastal and mobile home residents in four Florida counties were ordered to evacuate. That included Miami-Dade, where about 272,000 people were affected. Schools were closed today in 13 counties in Florida and one in Georgia.

At Kennedy Space Center, which is just 9 feet above sea level, almost all of the 12,500 workers were leaving. A skeletal crew remained behind, but they, too, will evacuate if the wind is as fierce as predicted. That would be the first complete evacuation of the space center ever.

Three of NASA's space shuttles were in a hangar that was designed to withstand wind of only up to 105 mph. A fourth was in a building designed to stand winds of up to 125 mph. Four multimillion-dollar rockets were exposed on launch pads and could not be moved.

The storm has consistently moved faster than predicted, said Jerry Jarrell, director of the National

"It's scary. It's very scary. Andrew hit Miami in the middle of the night and it was haunting. This is as strong and ... three times bigger."

JEB BUSH  
Florida governor

Hurricane Center. Forecasters had expected it to turn northward, possibly reducing the danger to Florida. But by Monday afternoon, there was no sign that the hurricane was being influenced by weather systems that forecasters hoped would steer it away.

"It's controlling its own destiny," Jarrell said. "That's a bad sign."

"Hurricane Floyd is huge, he's powerful, he's fast and he's mean," said Richard Moore, North Carolina's public safety secretary. "This is one of those once-in-a-decade storms."

### World and Nation

#### Datelines

#### Washington Sniper cartridges found at house used by FBI in Waco

WASHINGTON (AP) — A dozen spent rifle cartridges of a type often used by snipers were recovered from a house used by the FBI during the 1993 standoff with the Branch Davidians, the Texas Rangers said Monday.

The special investigator named by Attorney General Janet Reno will have to determine whether the shell casings came from FBI agents, who have denied firing, or from Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents who used the same house 51 days earlier during the initial firefight.

In a report submitted to Congress, the Rangers also released a letter by a federal prosecutor who told Reno that Justice Department officials may have withheld facts from her regarding the FBI's use of potentially incendiary tear-gas canisters.

#### Moscow Terrorists suspected in Moscow bombing

MOSCOW (AP) — Dozens of people were missing and believed buried under tons of wreckage Monday after a suspected bomb pulverized an eight-story apartment building in Moscow, killing at least 73 people.

Authorities blamed terrorists for the pre-dawn blast, and appealed for help finding a man who allegedly rented space in that building and another that was blown up four days earlier. More than 200 people have died in explosions in Russia during the past two weeks.

The government ordered a massive security operation in the capital and other cities. Police checked people's identity papers at metro stations and other crowded areas, and searched for stores of explosives in buildings across Moscow.

#### Zambia Absent African presidents mar AIDS conference

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — Thousands of officials and AIDS activists converged Monday on the Zambian city of Lusaka for a major conference billed as an attempt to wrest a greater commitment from governments to combat Africa's worst killer.

But at least 16 African presidents — including host President Frederick Chiluba — did not show up, casting a pall over efforts to muster greater political will to tackle the epidemic that has killed 11 million Africans.

Chiluba did not say why he stayed away, "but I'm sure there was a good reason," said Simon Mphuka of Zambia, a senior conference coordinator.

#### Philadelphia Company pleads guilty to giving China technology

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A Pennsylvania company agreed Monday to plead guilty to illegally giving China technology that could help improve the accuracy of missiles.

Orbit/FR, headquartered in Horsham, about 15 miles north of Philadelphia, planned to plead guilty in U.S. District Court to violating the Arms Export Control Act, according to papers filed in court Monday.

## Sharp shooters used to curb smuggling

WASHINGTON (AP) — Coast Guard sharpshooters fire from helicopters to knock out the engines of cocaine-laden boats in the Caribbean in a tactic unused since the Prohibition era, officials disclosed Monday.

The previously secret assaults have been employed in recent weeks using an array of nonlethal force to stop smugglers who now use open-hull, low-profile boats called "Super Smugglers" or "Go-Fasts" that carry barrels of fuel and about a ton of cocaine each.

The sea encounters have led to the capture of 13 crew members from four boats and netted more than three tons of cocaine destined ultimately for the illicit U.S. market, said Barry McCaffrey, White House drug control director. He said those and other operations in the past year brought cocaine confiscation to a record 53 tons, with a street value of \$3.7 billion.

"We have made the drug smugglers afraid. We will now make them disappear," McCaffrey said at a news conference with other officials alongside one of the specially equipped MH90

Enforcer helicopters leased by the Coast Guard for the operation.

Three of the four "Super Smugglers" stopped so far were disabled in the last month. None of the four crews fired back, Coast Guard officials said, but rules of engagement allow lethal return fire if they do.

Sharpshooter Charlie Hopkins, nicknamed "El Diablo" because his .50-caliber Robar rifle bears the packing number 999, fired three shots Aug. 16 that disabled a vessel.

"Depending on which way you hold it, it carries the sign of the devil (666)" Hopkins, 32, of Winslow, Maine, said in an interview.

"We're still humanitarian. We just want to stop the flow," he said, noting that each helicopter carries a life raft in case a boat is accidentally blown up or sunk.

Adm. James E. Loy, Coast Guard commandant, ruled out any chance that commercial fishermen or pleasure boaters will be targeted by the sharpshooters. Rules require identification and extensive warnings before aggressive tactics are employed.

## Clinton readies provision of troops for East Timor

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — President Clinton, after his summit with Asian leaders, is ready to provide American troops for an international peacekeeping mission in East Timor.

The United States said Monday it would play a limited role in a peacekeeping operation expected to be led by Australia. "We're talking here about hundreds, not thousands, of Americans that would be involved, and not necessarily all of those would be based in East Timor," National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said.

Nobel laureate Jose Ramos Horta, an East Timorese activist, told Clinton that about 200,000 people have been displaced from their homes during his country's independence struggle.

At the State Department, spokesman James Rubin said the United States was awaiting the outcome of talks at U.N. headquarters in New York between the Security Council and the foreign ministers of Indonesia and Australia on a peacekeeping force for East Timor. Once that is done, the size and nature of U.S. participation can be decided, Rubin said.

He said the United States probably would limit its contribution to providing communications, logistics, transportation and intelligence support, as

opposed to sending combat forces.

The administration declared Clinton's talks here a success after the reopening of trade negotiations with China, the missile accord with North Korea following discussions in Berlin and Indonesia's grudging agreement to accept outside help to restore order in East Timor.

Clinton was heading for a day of rest Tuesday at a scenic alpine resort on New Zealand's South Island after the summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

"This has truly been a good week for stability and U.S. interests in Asia," Berger said. Yet, there were some disappointments.

Negotiators failed to complete a trade deal between North Vietnam and the United States. Moreover, the hurried resumption of trade talks with China yielded no immediate progress or deadline for completion, and Clinton and China's president, Jiang Zemin, remained at odds over Taiwan.

Even the tentative accord with North Korea fell short of the breakthrough agreement Clinton had hoped to announce here during a meeting with South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and Japanese President Keizo Obuchi.

## At least 7 die in Turkey aftershock

GOLCUK, Turkey (AP) — Terrified residents jumped from windows Monday as a strong aftershock jolted the same area of western Turkey where 15,000 people died in an earthquake last month.

At least seven people were killed and more than 420 were injured.

In the hard-hit coastal town of Golcuk, one building damaged in the Aug. 17 temblor slid into the sea, apparently trapping four people who had gone inside to salvage their belongings.

Rescue workers from the civil defense, the military and a civilian rescue group were on a 6-foot corner section of the building jutting from the water, pulling at the rubble. Navy divers searched the water.

"Our only chance is that they are out of the water," said rescue worker Emre Ayan.

Rescue workers were also pulling debris from at least one other site in Golcuk where survivors might be trapped.

The quake had a preliminary mag-

nitude of 5.8 and was centered in Izmit, just northeast of Golcuk and some 50 miles southeast of Istanbul, the city's Kandilli Observatory reported.

Most of the injured suffered broken bones jumping from buildings in hopes of reaching safety on the street.

Isa Ersozer was in a second-floor barbershop in Izmit when the building began to shake.

"The stairs were full of people trying to get out, so I just jumped," he said, sitting in a wheelchair in a field hospital, his foot covered in bandages.

Three people were killed in nearby Kocaeli when a building fell on their car, Istanbul Deputy Governor Ali Cafer Akyuz said. Another three were killed in that town when the building they were in collapsed, he said.

A woman in the town of Adapazari died of a heart attack, state-owned TRT television reported.

More than 420 people were being treated from injuries or severe psychological trauma, state-owned TRT television reported.

## Daily Nebraskan

Questions? Comments?  
Ask for the appropriate section editor at  
(402) 472-2588  
or e-mail [dn@unl.edu](mailto:dn@unl.edu).

Editor:	Josh Funk	General Manager:	Daniel Shattil
Managing Editor:	Sarah Baker	Publications Board Chairwoman:	Jessica Hofmann,
Associate News Editor:	Lindsay Young	Chairwoman:	(402) 477-0527
Associate News Editor:	Jessica Fargen	Professional Adviser:	Don Walton,
Opinion Editor:	Mark Baldridge	Advertising Manager:	(402) 473-7248
Sports Editor:	Dave Wilson	Asst. Ad Manager:	Nick Patsch,
A&E Editor:	Liza Holtmeier	Classified Ad Manager:	(402) 472-2589
Copy Desk Chief:	Diane Broderick		Jamie Yeager
Photo Chief:	Matt Miller		Mary Johnson
Design Chief:	Melanie Falk		
Art Director:	Matt Haney		
Web Editor:	Gregg Stearns		
Asst. Web Editor:	Jennifer Walker		

Fax number: (402) 472-1761

World Wide Web: [www.dailyneb.com](http://www.dailyneb.com)

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 134-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 20, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year, weekly during the summer sessions. The public has access to the Publications Board. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by calling (402) 472-2588.

Subscriptions are \$60 for one year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 20, 1400 R St., Lincoln NE 68588-0448. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1999

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN