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PRELIMINARY STORM REPORT...HURRICANE GILBERT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BROWNSVILLE TX
230 PM CDT MON SEP 19 1988

1. HIGHEST SUSTAINED WIND AT BRO 41 KNOTS 1209 PM CST 9/16/88. HIGHEST GUST OBSERVED VISUALLY ON DIALS 54 KNOTS 1126 AM CST AND 1209 PM CST 9/16/88. GUST RECORDER SHOWED GUST TO 54 KNOTS AT 348 PM CST 9/16/88. GUST RECORDER WAS CONSISTENTLY 2-4 KNOTS BELOW DIAL READOUTS SO 56-58 KNOTS IS ESTIMATED AS PEAK GUST. WIND EQUIPMENT CALIBRATED TODAY...9/16/88... AND WAS RIGHT ON.
2. LOWEST PRESSURE 29.39 INCHES AT 335 PM CST 9/16/88. PRESSURE REMAINED ABOUT 29.40 INCHES FROM 3 PM THROUGH 5 PM CST 9/16/88.
3. TOTAL STORM RAINFALL AT BRO 5.38 INCHES...BEGAN 830 PM CST 9/15/88 AND ENDED 1030 PM CST 9/16/88.

MAXIMUM 1 HOUR AMOUNT...	1.22	INCHES	8-9	PM CST	9/16/88
" 6 "	2.60	INCHES	5-11	PM CST	9/16/88
" 12 "	3.95	INCHES	10 AM-10	PM CST	9/16/88
" 24 "	4.99	INCHES	11 PM CST	9/15/88-11	PM CST 9/16/88

4. HANDAR STATION AT SOUTH PADRE ISLAND JETTIES WAS OTS. WILL TRY TO OBTAIN RECORDER ROLL TODAY. ESTIMATED TIDE ABOUT 6 FEET ABOVE NORMAL.
5. ESTIMATES BY CAMERON COUNTY PARKS DIRECTOR ON SOUTH PADRE ISLAND OF LOSS OF 3-4 FEET OF GULF BEACH IN HEIGHT AND 75 FEET OF SHORE.
6. NO FLASH FLOODS. MINOR URBAN FLOODING DURING DAY ON 16TH. MORE EXTENSIVE URBAN FLOODING BETWEEN 9 PM-12 MIDNIGHT CST 9/16/88 WITH PASSAGE OF LAST MAJOR RAIN BAND. FLOOD WARNING ISSUED 1123 PM CDT FOR CAMERON/HIDALGO COUNTIES IN DEEP SOUTH TEXAS. NO EVACUATIONS OR DAMAGE REPORTED.
7. NO FINAL DATA YET ON TORNADOES. ESTIMATE 20 OCCURRED BETWEEN 10 AM CST-MIDNIGHT CST 9/16/88. TORNADOES ACCOUNTED FOR MOST SERIOUS WIND DAMAGE DURING EVENT.
8. ONE MINOR INJURY LATE MORNING OF 16TH IN TORNADO IN HIDALGO COUNTY. MOST WIND DAMAGE TO STRUCTURES WAS LIGHT. SEVERAL HUNDRED FEET OF HIGHWAY 100 ON SOUTH PADRE ISLAND WASHED OUT OR DAMAGED. ONE FLOATING MARINA IN BAY AT PORT ISABEL SEVERELY DAMAGED. ONE SHRIMP BOAT AGROUND ON LOWER COAST. NUMEROUS TREE LIMBS DOWN ACROSS AREA WITH SOME TREES UPROOTED. LOTS OF MINOR SIGN DAMAGE IN CAMERON/HIDALGO COUNTIES. ONLY A FEW POWER/PHONE LINES/POLES DOWN. A FEW ISOLATED SPOTS WITHOUT POWER 24-36 HOURS. LITTLE DAMAGE TO MOBILE HOMES EVEN ON SOUTH PADRE ISLAND.

AGRICULTURAL DAMAGE SLIGHT AND MOSTLY IN EAST HALF OF CAMERON COUNTY WHERE SUGAR CANE WAS LODGED AND SOME CITRUS FRUIT BLOWN OFF. TREES IN

IN BAYFRONT COMMUNITIES BURNED FROM SALT SPRAY.

ASSUME SOUTH PADRE ISLAND WAS TOTALLY EVACUATED. ESTIMATES OF UP TO 50,000 (FIFTY THOUSAND) PERSONS IN SHELTERS OVER AREA...MAINLY IN CAMERON /HIDALGO COUNTIES. INCLUDED MEXICAN NATIONALS FROM ACROSS THE BORDER. IN THE BROWNSVILLE CIVIC CENTER CROWDING WAS SEVERE WITH AN ESTIMATED 4 SQUARE FEET OF SPACE PER PERSON IN SHELTER.

NO DOLLAR ESTIMATE AVAILABLE YET FOR DAMAGE. GOVERNOR IS TOURNING CAMERON COUNTY THIS AFTERNOON AND MOST LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE WITH HIM.

OVERALL PUBLIC AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN DEEP SOUTH TEXAS APPEARED TO HAVE MAXIMIZED SAFETY ACTIONS AND SUFFERED MINIMAL DAMAGE FROM HURRICANE GILBERT.

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