

Calm Sea, Lazy Breezes Provide Hurricane Scare

By JOSEPH L. MYLER
WASHINGTON (UPI)—The sea is calm, the breezes are lazy. The temperature is an

endurable 80 degrees. These are the ingredients, surely, of pleasant dreaming.

But this combination, if it occurs in the Atlantic or the Caribbean or the Gulf, can be dynamite. This is an old-fashioned, inadequate word. The combination can generate violence comparable to the explosion, several times a second, of atomic bombs equal in power to 20,000 tons of TNT.

It can, in short, produce a hurricane.

Power From Sea
A hurricane is the most destructive of all violent weather manifestations. Where does it get its fantastic power? It gets it directly from the sea.

Says Robert E. Stevenson of Texas A. & M. college: "These monstrous storms draw from the sea the awesome quantities of energy required to sustain them through their short but violent lives."

Stevenson made a study of Hurricane Carla, the big wind of Sept. 3-15, 1961, which whipped the Texas gulf coast with winds up to 175 miles an hour. In places it raised tides of 22 feet.

As a result of weather bureau warnings, 500,000 persons were evacuated from the region, and Carla killed only 46 persons—a relatively small toll for one of the worst gulf storms of the 20th century.

On the weather bureau scale it was a No. 8 hurricane—which means it destroyed \$50 million to \$500 million worth of property.

Lifted Two Billion Tons
Those statistics tell little of Carla's real power. The late Harry Wexler, the weather bureau's distinguished science director, estimated that Carla picked up as much as two billion tons of water from the ocean in a single day.

Subsequently, Wexler calculated, Carla dumped 40 billion tons of water upon the Mississippi valley in the form of torrential rains.

Texas A. & M.'s Stevenson studied Carla's prodigious energy from another angle. He calculated the amount of heat the sea, off the Texas coast, had given up to Carla to drive its fantastic winds.

A month after Carla passed inland, Stevenson found, the upper water layers in a large region over which the hurricane had moved were still as much as 4½ degrees cooler than the unaffected deeper layers.

Energy Calculated
This and other facts gave Stevenson material with which to calculate how much heat energy Carla had sucked from the sea. He figured the heat transfer in the 24-hour period at 60 trillion calories per second.

Stevenson said, "the amount of energy transferred in 24 hours was sufficient to heat 62 million average homes for an entire heating season (fall-winter-spring) in a climate comparable

to that of Washington, D. C." This was just part of the entire movement of energy from sea to storm, Stevenson said. The total heat transfer, he said, probably was 10 times greater.



TIRE FEET SOOTHED—Even beauty has its beastly moments. Susan Bergstrom, Miss Arizona and fourth runner-up in the Miss America contest, finds on her return to Phoenix. Susan is soothing her tired feet as she prepares to enter Arizona State University next week. (UPI)

Klamath Falls Air Group to Compete

KLAMATH FALLS—Kingsley Field's 32nd Fighter Squadron will be one of 14 top Air Force squadrons from throughout the world competing for three top places in "William Tell" live firing Oct. 7-14.

The project is held bi-annually at Tyndall AFB, Florida. Test planes, crew members and electronic intercept efficiency and methods are demonstrated. The participating teams represent air divisions from throughout the United States, Alaskan Air command, Air National Guard, United States Air Forces in Europe and Pacific Air Forces.

The teams using the supersonic interceptors will be flying missions which closely simulate unknown aircraft attack condi-

tions. Using the Hughes Falcon air-to-air heat and radar homing missiles and the Douglas Genie air-to-air rocket, the teams will be firing at the fast Ryan Firebee jet drone target, which is one half the size of the interceptors.

Teams will be graded on their ability to shoot down the drone at altitudes of above 50,000 feet, below 50,000 feet and night missions.

PRESENT FOR CASTRO
HAVANA (UPI)—Premier Fidel Castro received a Russian-made convertible Wednesday as a gift from Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev. Soviet Ambassador Alexander Alexeiev handed Castro the keys to the car.

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