

Hurricane Flossy Blows Itself Out Over Georgia

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By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hurricane Flossy virtually blew itself out over Georgia yesterday after leaving nine dead and more than a dozen unaccounted for in a sudden, wild sweep across the Gulf of Mexico over the weekend.

The storm, which developed quickly in the gulf Saturday, sped toward New Orleans and then swept inland in northwest Florida with 100-mile an hour winds, was reduced to gusts of 25 to 50 miles an hour in southern Georgia. More than five inches of rain were dumped on dry farm lands.

Most of the damage was in the gulf where two men died in drowning accidents aboard the motor vessel Carport. The ship was found in a battered condition yesterday but the 15 still aboard were reported in good condition. The ship's radio had been put out of commission by the gale, its lifeboats smashed and only one engine was operating.

Taken From Reef

A tanker picked up off a reef two men who had been missing for hours in a helicopter while inspecting damage to oil rigs in the gulf. The Coast Guard identified them as George O. Sampson of Morgan City, La., pilot, and L. D. Bundy, drilling superintendent for the Rimrock-Tidelands Oil Co. of Shreveport. The tanker Val Chem found them on a reef 50 miles southwest of Morgan City and started for Sabine, Tex.

The missing included a dozen fishermen and an undetermined number aboard the missing tug Rosalie E.

Property damage to oil drilling equipment in the gulf was placed at two million dollars but the Coast Guard in New Orleans reported personnel aboard two offshore oil rigs safe.

The storm slammed into the northeast Florida coast Monday evening with 100 mile an hour winds. Its center passed over Fort Walton Beach where the force of the wind set up sandstorms that blasted paint off automobiles.