

# Tropical Storm Esther Heading For Louisiana

## Cameron Residents Scurry For Safety As Blow Approaches

By STNALEY MEISLER

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 17 (AP)—

Tropical storm Esther, carrying 50 miles an hour winds and the memory of a murderous sister, today headed for the unprotected marshlands of the Louisiana coast.

Some residents of Cameron, the Gulf of Mexico town ravaged by hurricane Audrey, scurried out of the way. Others packed some belongings and prepared to rush away by nightfall.

For many it will be the third time in less than three months that they have left Cameron. Audrey struck the area on June 27, wrecking almost every home and leaving 532 dead and missing. Six weeks later, hurricane Bertha followed the same path.

### Was No Killer

Although mild Bertha was no killer or destroyer of property, many Cameronites had to relive—in their memories—the savage day of Audrey.

Red Cross officials then feared Bertha would hinder rebuilding because the people would become too weary and bitter to return. But many did. Now, Esther, if it should become a hurricane and strike the same coastal area, might be the final blow for Cameron.

There were indications, however, that Esther would bypass Cameron. The New Orleans Weather Bureau predicted the center of the storm would hit east of Cameron sometime tomorrow.

### 220 Miles To South

At 4 p.m. Esther was in the Gulf of Mexico, about 220 miles south of the west Louisiana coast. She was moving north at eight m.p.h. and was expected to hit Louisiana somewhere between Pecan Island east of Cameron and Grand Isle, south of New Orleans.

The New Orleans weather bureau predicted Esther would reach gale force of about 40 to 65 m.p.h. by tonight. She would need to increase to 75 m.p.h. to receive the label of hurricane.

As Esther approached the mainland of the United States, another storm, hurricane Carrie, churned far out in the Atlantic Ocean, apparently posing no danger to land.

By midday, tropical storm Esther brought rains to much of the central Gulf Coast from northwest Florida to southeastern Louisiana.

Locally heavy rains continued Tuesday in southern Virginia. But elsewhere in the Atlantic coast regions, rains had halted or tapered after heavy overnight downpours. Turnersburg, N.C., collected almost six inches.

A mound of cool weather brought sunny afternoon skies from the Mississippi River to the Appalachians.