

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER

TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST VERIFICATION - 1979

GENERAL SAMPLE - ALL STORMS, ALL FORECASTS

FORECAST TYPE	FORECAST PERIOD					
	Initial Position	12hr	24hr	36hr	48hr	72hr
(Displacement errors in nautical miles, number of cases in parentheses)						
OFFICIAL	18 (156)	40 (146)	84 (138)	- (0)	155 (98)	234 (83)
NHC67	19 (128)	45 (126)	86 (112)	129 (98)	158 (84)	256 (67)
NHC72	19 (153)	46 (151)	83 (136)	128 (120)	197 (106)	295 (89)
HURRAN	17 (101)	39 (100)	79 (92)	109 (84)	142 (74)	185 (62)
CLIPER	19 (155)	45 (153)	89 (137)	131 (121)	171 (106)	245 (89)
NHC73	17 (62)	39 (61)	80 (53)	128 (46)	155 (39)	266 (32)
SANBAR	18 (74)	49 (73)	97 (65)	139 (56)	197 (49)	316 (41)
MFM	12 (21)	57 (21)	90 (20)	116 (17)	136 (16)	- (0)

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Homogeneous Sample of Official Forecasts with Models Available for Same Synoptic Time

	Initial Postion	12hr	24hr	48hr	72hr
Official	17 (61)	36 (57)	72 (53)	132 (36)	190 (30)
NHC67		42	81	159	262
NHC72		42	75	178	291
HURRAN		39	80	138	180
CLIPER		40	77	152	213

Errors are in nautical miles. Number of cases are in parentheses

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Homogeneous Sample (Storms B,D,E,F,H)

Comparison of Preliminary Forecasts of NHC and NMC with the Official Forecasts

	Initial Position	12hr	24hr	48hr	72hr
OFFICIAL	12 (52)	34 (52)	68 (46)	117 (26)	137 (15)
NHC Preliminary	12	35	68	124	149
NMC	26	43	84	166	213

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Homogeneous Sample of Official, NHC Prelim., NMC Prelim., and MFM Forecasts

OFFICIAL	11 (15)	28 (15)	52 (14)	108 (12)
NHC Preliminary	11	28	49	124
NMC Preliminary	24	46	82	168
MFM	10	62	92	143

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(errors in nautical miles, - number of cases in parentheses)

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SUMMARY OF

TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST ERRORS

OFFICIAL FORECASTS

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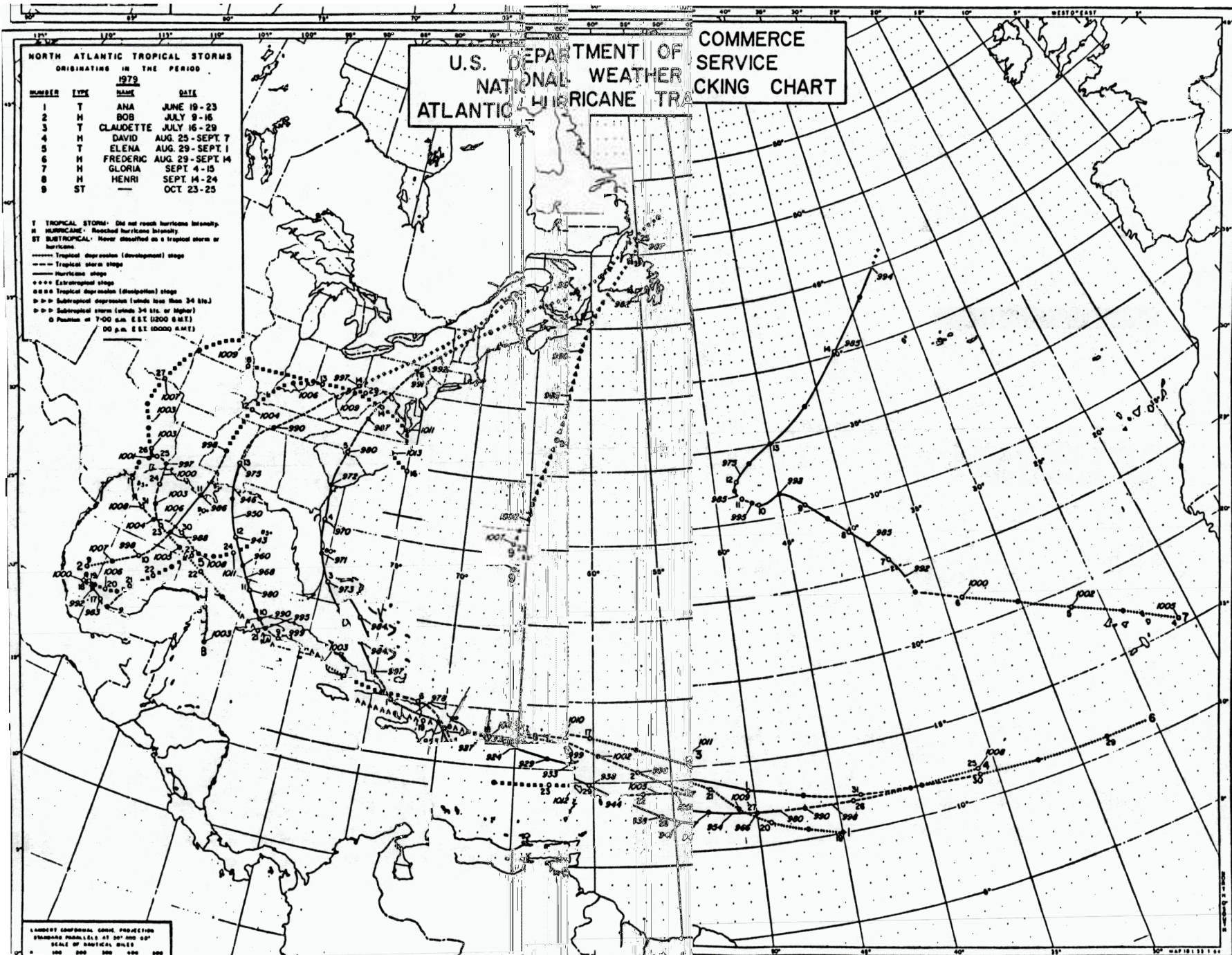
(Displacement errors in nautical miles - Number of cases in parentheses)

	Initial Position	12hr	24hr	48hr	72hr
1979	18 (156)	40 (146)	84 (138)	155 (98)	234 (83)
AVERAGE 1970-1978	20 (974)	52 (952)	113 (823)	260 (576)	410 (402)

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## 2. WATCHES &amp; WARNINGS FREDERIC

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>DISCONTINUED</u>
Leeward Islands north of Guadeloupe	Hurricane Watch	9/1/2200Z	9/3/1900Z east 9/4/1000Z west
Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe	Hurricane Watch	9/2/1000Z	9/2/2200Z for Dominica
Dominica northward including Leeward Is.	Gale Warnings	9/2/1600Z	9/4/1000Z west ? east
Virgin Islands	Gale Warnings	9/2/2200Z	9/5/1600Z
Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	Hurricane Watch	9/2/2200Z	9/4/1600Z
North & east Coastal sections of Puerto Rico	Gale Warnings	9/3/2200Z	9/5/1600Z
Remainder of P. Rico	Gale Warnings	9/4/1000Z	9/5/1600Z
North & east Coastal sections of Dom. Republic	Gale Warnings	9/4/1900Z	9/7/0230Z
Remainder of Dom. Rep. except northwest coast	Gale Warnings	9/5/0100Z	9/7/0230Z
Southwest peninsula of Haiti	Gale Warnings	9/5/1800Z	9/7/0230Z
Southeast Bahamas, Turks & Caicos Islands	Gale Warnings	9/5/2200Z	9/7/0230Z
Dry Tortugas	Gale Warnings	9/10/1600Z	9/11/2200Z
Panama City, FL to Vermilion Bay, LA	Hurricane Watch	9/11/2200Z	9/12/0230Z except 9/12/2200Z west of Grand Isle to Vermilion Bay.
Grand Isle, LA to Panama City, FL	Hurricane Warnings	9/12/0230Z	9/13/1300Z except 9/13/1000Z west of Biloxi, MS to Grand Isle, LA.
East of Panama City to Cedar Keys, FL	Gale Warnings	9/12/0230Z	9/13/1300Z
Lake Ontario & east half of Lake Erie	Gale Warnings	9/14/ ? 9/14/1400Z	? 9/15/0545Z
Merrimac River, MA to Watch Hill, R.I.	Gale Warnings	9/14/2100Z	9/15/0900Z



**NORTH ATLANTIC TROPICAL STORMS  
ORIGINATING IN THE PERIOD**

1979			
NUMBER	TYPE	NAME	DATE
1	T	ANA	JUNE 19-23
2	H	BOB	JULY 9-16
3	T	CLAUDETTE	JULY 16-29
4	H	DAVID	AUG. 25-SEPT. 7
5	T	ELENA	AUG. 29-SEPT. 1
6	H	FREDERIC	AUG. 29-SEPT. 14
7	H	GLORIA	SEPT. 4-15
8	H	HENRI	SEPT. 14-24
9	ST	—	OCT. 23-25

T TROPICAL STORM: Did not reach hurricane intensity.  
 H HURRICANE: Reached hurricane intensity.  
 ST SUBTROPICAL: Never classified as a tropical storm or hurricane.

— Tropical depression (development) stage  
 - - - Tropical storm stage  
 - - - Hurricane stage  
 . . . Extratropical stage  
 . . . Tropical depression (intensity) stage  
 >>> Subtropical depression (winds less than 34 kts.)  
 >>> Subtropical storm (winds 34 kts. or higher)  
 O Position at 7:00 a.m. EST (1200 GMT)  
 OO p.m. EST (0000 GMT)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
ATLANTIC HURRICANE TRACKING CHART**

LANBERT CONFORMAL CONIC PROJECTION  
 STANDARD PARALLELS AT 36° AND 66°  
 SCALE OF NAUTICAL MILES  
 0 100 200 300 400 500

NOV 1979