

= Hurricane Lili ( 1984 ) =

Hurricane Lili was one of only five Atlantic tropical cyclones on record to reach hurricane status in the month of December . The final of thirteen tropical storms in the 1984 Atlantic hurricane season , Lili developed as a subtropical cyclone which originated from a frontal trough to the south of Bermuda on December 12 . It tracked southeastward , then northward , slowly attaining tropical characteristics and becoming a hurricane on December 20 . Lili turned to the south and southwest , briefly threatening the northern Caribbean islands before weakening and dissipating near the coast of the Dominican Republic . The storm produced light rainfall but no damage .

= = Meteorological history = =

In the second week of December , a frontal trough stalled south of Bermuda . An upper level disturbance moved over the area on December 9 , and produced widespread convection along the frontal wave . The system moved to the northeast , and based on a developing circulation within the convection , the National Hurricane Center classified the system as a subtropical storm on December 12 while located 275 miles ( 440 km ) northeast of Bermuda .

With winds of 60 mph ( 95 km / h ) and strengthening , the subtropical storm initially drifted northeastward . On December 13 , a ridge of high pressure to its north forced the storm southeastward , and the following day the storm turned to the south after an upper @-@ level cold @-@ core low developed over the system . A break in the ridge resulted in the storm turning to the northeast , with its forward motion accelerating to nearly 40 mph ( 65 km / h ) . After turning to the northwest on December 17 , the high pressure system again halted its northward movement , leaving the storm drifting south @-@ southeastward . Conditions favored further strengthening , and the subtropical storm reached 70 mph ( 115 km / h ) winds on December 18 . Satellite imagery estimated the storm attained hurricane status on December 19 , and a day later ship near the center reported winds of 75 mph ( 120 km / h ) . Based on the wind report , as well as a minimum central pressure of 980 mbar and a well @-@ defined eye , the storm was classified as Hurricane Lili while located 730 miles ( 1 @, @ 180 km ) east of Bermuda .

Lili continued generally southward , reaching its peak intensity of 80 mph ( 130 km / h ) . Higher pressures developed to its northeast , resulting in the hurricane to accelerate to the southwest . On December 22 , Lili finished executing its large cyclonic loop by passing over the same location it passed one week prior . The combination of its increased forward speed , as well as increased levels of vertical wind shear , created an unfavorable environment which caused steady weakening . On December 23 , Lili weakened to a tropical storm while located 430 miles ( 690 km ) northeast of Antigua . It rapidly lost organization as it approached the Leeward Islands , and dissipated just off the coast of the Dominican Republic on December 24 .

= = Impact and records = =

When Lili reached hurricane status on December 20 , it became one of only four Atlantic tropical cyclones to reach hurricane strength in the month of December . The other three were an unnamed hurricane in the 1887 season , Hurricane Alice in 1954 , and Hurricane Epsilon in 2005 . In addition , Hurricane Nicole lasted as a hurricane from late November to early December 1998 .

Because of its rapid movement , a hurricane watch was issued for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands on December 22 . As the storm weakened , the watches were discontinued . In response to the threat of the hurricane , officials posted a small craft advisory along the coastline of northern Puerto Rico . There , the weakening tropical cyclone produced light rainfall , though there was no reported damage . Lili moved through Hispaniola as an area of squally weather , but damage , if any , is unknown .