

= Typhoon Prapiroon (2006) =

Typhoon Prapiroon , known in the Philippines as Tropical Storm Henry , was a minimal typhoon which caused deadly flooding in southern China in August 2006 . Prapiroon developed out of a persistent area of convection accompanied by an area of low pressure on July 25 about 120 km (75 mi) west @-@ southwest of Yap . Two days later , both the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) and PAGASA classified the system as a tropical depression , with PAGASA giving it the local name ' Henry ' . By July 31 , the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) classified the system as Tropical Depression 07W . A strong subtropical ridge located to the north of the depression led to a west @-@ northwest movement for most of the storm existence .

A few hours after the JTWC began issuing advisories , the depression made landfall in Dilasag , Philippines . The next day , after crossing into the South China Sea , the depression was upgraded to a tropical storm and named Prapiroon . Several hours later , PAGASA issued their final advisory on the storm as it moved out of their area of responsibility . By the morning of August 2 , Prapiroon intensified into a typhoon and reached its peak intensity with winds of 120 km / h (75 mph 10 @-@ min) . The typhoon maintained this intensity until shortly before landfall near Shangyang , China at 12 : 00 UTC on August 3 , where it weakened to a severe tropical storm . Prapiroon quickly weakened and dissipated early on August 5 .

Severe flooding in the Philippines and China from Prapiroon killed 94 people and left 10 others missing . Over 20 million people were affected by the storm in China alone . Significant flight delays and cancellations in Hong Kong led to \$ 1 @. @ 9 million in compensation pay to travelers . About 30 @, @ 000 homes collapsed and 140 @, @ 000 others were damaged by the storm . Damages were estimated at \$ 640 @, @ 000 (2006 USD) in the Philippines and \$ 984 million (2006 USD) in China . The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement sought \$ 4 @, @ 825 @, @ 791 (2006 USD) in funds for victims of the typhoon .

= = Meteorological history = =

On July 25 , an area of convection persisted about 120 km (75 mi) west @-@ southwest of Yap . Satellite imagery indicated that a low level circulation had developed and was under an area of light to moderate wind shear . The low traveled in a general northwest fashion as upper level outflow improved . By July 27 , the low deteriorated , becoming elongated , and convection remained disorganized . However , as the low neared Central Luzon , Philippines , shower and thunderstorm activity near the center of the low increased , and based on its organization , the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) classified the system a tropical depression early that morning . Shortly after , the Philippine Atmospheric , Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) designated the system as Tropical Depression Henry . As the depression neared the northern Philippines , wind shear increased , partially exposing the center of the system to the south . At 02 : 30 UTC on June 30 , the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) issued a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert , and at 00 : 00 UTC the next morning , the JTWC classified the system as Tropical Depression 07W .

Upon first becoming a tropical cyclone , the depression tracked towards the west @-@ northwest due to a strong subtropical ridge located to the north of the system . A few hours later , the system made landfall in Dilasag , Philippines with winds of 55 km / h (35 mph 1 @-@ minute winds) . After being over land for most of July 31 , the depression relocated into the South China Sea and the JTWC determined that it intensified into a tropical storm . At around 06 : 00 UTC , the JMA designated the storm Tropical Storm Prapiroon about 300 km (185 mi) northwest of Dagupan City , Philippines , a few hours later , PAGASA issued their final advisory on Tropical Storm Henry (Prapiroon) as it moved out of their area of responsibility . Prapiroon gradually intensified as it moved towards the west @-@ northwest at 24 km / h (15 mph) , and by that afternoon , the system had completely moved into the South China Sea . By the nighttime hours , the JMA upgraded Prapiroon to a severe tropical storm , as they determined that the maximum sustained winds had reached 95 km / h (60 mph 10 @-@ minute winds) . By the morning of August 2 , the JTWC

upgraded Prapiroon to a typhoon , and a few hours later , the JMA upgraded Prapiroon to a typhoon .

Heading towards the northwest , Prapiroon reached its peak intensity early on August 3 . The JMA estimated that Prapiroon peaked with winds of 120 km / h (75 mph 10 @-@ minute winds) with a minimum pressure of 970 mbar (hPa ; 28 @.@ 64 inHg) , while the JTWC estimated that the storm peaked with winds of 130 km / h (80 mph 1 @-@ minute winds) . Prapiroon maintained this intensity for 12 hours before weakening slightly as it made landfall near Shangyang at 12 : 00 UTC . At the time of landfall , the JMA downgraded Prapiroon to a severe tropical storm , with winds of 110 km / h (70 mph 10 @-@ minute winds) while the JTWC analyzed Prapiroon to have had winds of 120 km / h (75 mph 1 @-@ minute winds) . Due to the interaction with land , the storm quickly weakened . Early on August 5 , both agencies issued their final advisories on Prapiroon as it dissipated over central Guangxi .

= = Preparations = =

= = = Philippines = = =

As Tropical Depression 07W , locally named ' Henry ' by PAGASA , neared the province the northern Philippines , a total of 17 provinces were placed under a storm alert as winds of 30 kts (55 km / h) were likely to affect areas near the depression . Residents in the northern Philippines were advised to avoid low @-@ lying areas and be alert for flooding . About 15 @,@ 000 people were evacuated following heavy rains from the outer bands of the storm .

= = = China = = =

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) and Macau 's Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau both hoisted strong wind signal 1 on August 1 as the system was located within 800 km (497 mi) of their respective cities . As Prapiroon neared the southern coast of China , the signal was raised to strong wind signal 3 as strong winds were expected to strike the area . This was further increased to strong wind signal 8 SE on August 3 , as gale @-@ force winds were expected in the southeastern areas . All signals were cancelled the next afternoon as Prapiroon moved inland .

In advance of Prapiroon , government officials in Guangdong Province , China sent out 11 million mobile text messages to alert people of the approaching storm . About 843 @,@ 000 people were evacuated ahead of the storm , 335 @,@ 000 in Guangdong , 382 @,@ 000 in Guangxi , and 126 @,@ 000 in Hainan . Officials ordered 62 @,@ 023 ships to return to port to prevent them from being stranded at sea . Kindergarten and special schools in Hong Kong were suspended for at least two days for the day of and following the storms landfall .

= = Impact = =

In the wake of Prapiroon , severe flooding left 94 people dead and 10 others missing . Damages from the storm were estimated at \$ 984 @.@ 8 million (2006 USD ; \$ 1 @.@ 1 billion 2008 USD) . Throughout southern China , Prapiroon affected over 20 million people .

= = = Philippines = = =

As a tropical depression , Prapiroon caused heavy rains over the northern Philippines , leaving six people dead . In Candaba , a two @-@ year @-@ old boy , identified as Elmer Celso , drowned in floodwaters outside his home . Five other fatalities were reported due to flooding . Two other people were listed as missing . Agricultural damage was estimated at \$ 640 @,@ 000 (2006 USD) .

= = = China = = =

Despite weakening to a severe tropical storm before landfall , Prapiroon brought torrential rains and flooding which left 88 people dead and eight others missing . About 10 million people were affected by the typhoon , while 30 @, @ 000 homes collapsed and 140 @, @ 000 others were damaged . Damages from the typhoon were estimated at \$ 984 million (2006 USD ; \$ 1 @. @ 1 billion 2008 USD) . Guangdong Province was the hardest hit of the three provinces affected by Typhoon Prapiroon . About 3 @. @ 72 million people were affected by the storm and 7 @, @ 000 homes were destroyed in the province . A tornado struck Foshan , Shanwei and Shaoguan , killing nine . A police officer was killed when a landslide buried him during a rescue in Sihui . Another hard hit province , Guangxi , was struck by Prapiroon . About 5 @. @ 1 million people were affected by the storm and 219 @, @ 441 were displaced . Ten people were killed by a flash flood and landslide in Laibin and Hengxian . Another flash flood swept away a shelter which thirteen migrant workers resided in , all of whom were confirmed to have been killed . Three more people were killed when a landslide caused their home to collapse in Luming Village . About 9 @, @ 300 homes and 195 @, @ 900 hectares of farmland were destroyed .

= = = Hong Kong = = =

As Prapiroon neared Hong Kong , thousands of people were stranded in airports as hundreds of flights in and out of the area were cancelled . Twenty cargo containers in the harbor were tipped over and one person was injured by the falling containers . A total of 381 flights were cancelled and 725 were delayed , affecting about 10 million people . Compensation costs from the travel delays amounted to \$ 1 @. @ 9 million (2006 USD) . According to airport authorities , the storm caused the worst disruption in the airport 's 20 @- @ year history . Winds were recorded up to 103 km / h (63 mph) in the harbor . The highest gust was recorded on Green Island at 193 km / h (119 mph) . Seven people were injured by objects blown around by the wind . A cargo vessel , with a crew of 23 , ran aground near the harbor . No injuries were reported from the incident . Two other incidents with vessels occurred near Ma Wan and Tuen Mun . Seven hundred trees were blown down and another 1 @, @ 600 sustained damage . Maximum rainfall from Prapiroon was estimated at 8 @. @ 1 in (207 @. @ 5 mm) . Two landslides were also reported and about 200 hectares of farmland was damaged . A storm surge of 2 @. @ 71 m (8 @. @ 89 ft) was recorded .

= = Aftermath = =

After Prapiroon dissipated , the regional Disease Prevention and Control Center of Guangxi Autonomous Region sent out eight teams of health workers to help avoid epidemics in affected areas . Despite the damage in the wake of the typhoon , China 's Ministry of Civil Affairs did not activate any emergency response plans . The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement sought for \$ 4 @, @ 825 @, @ 791 (2006 USD) in funds to assist 240 @, @ 000 people who were affected over a 12 month span . Reconstruction in the areas devastated by Prapiroon began shortly after the typhoon dissipated .