

= Tropical Storm Fran (1984) =

Tropical Storm Fran was one of the deadliest tropical cyclones in the history of Cape Verde . The sixth named storm and eleventh tropical cyclone of the 1984 Atlantic hurricane season , Fran developed from a tropical wave near Cape Verde on September 15 . It began as a tropical depression and gradually strengthened while tracking westward , remaining south of the Cape Verde archipelago . Late on September 16 , the depression intensified into Tropical Storm Fran , shortly before brushing Cape Verde , and then moving further out to sea . The storm approached hurricane status on September 17 and September 18 , though it eventually weakened . Beginning on September 19 , Fran encountered strong wind shear , which contributed to further weakening . By September 20 , Fran dissipated well east of the Lesser Antilles .

While passing southeast of Cape Verde , the storm produced torrential rainfall . At least 1 @, @ 094 houses were severely damaged due to flooding , which left at least 2 @, @ 100 people homeless . Significant damage also occurred to roads in the country , which was still in need of repairs as late as January 1985 . The hydraulic infrastructure was destroyed on six islands , requiring \$ 1 million (1984 USD) in repairs . In addition , agriculture was extensively damaged , resulting in \$ 1 @. @ 84 million (1984 USD) in losses to crops . The storm caused no impact outside of Cape Verde . Overall , the storm caused about \$ 2 @. @ 84 million (1984 USD) in damage and between 29 and 32 fatalities . Several organizations and countries donated to disaster relief funds , which cash amounts alone reaching slightly more than \$ 501 @, @ 000 (1984 USD) .

= = Meteorological history = =

A well @-@ defined tropical wave emerged into the Atlantic Ocean from the west coast of Africa on September 14 . The system rapidly organized , and at 1200 UTC on September 15 , it developed into a tropical depression while located to the southeast of the Cape Verde . Early on September 8 , the depression intensified into Tropical Storm Fran , based on intensity estimates via the Dvorak technique . By then , the storm had begun a track to the northwest ; Fran then passed near the southernmost islands of Cape Verde . Late on September 17 , Fran attained peak intensity with maximum sustained winds of 65 mph (100 km / h) and a minimum barometric pressure of 994 mbar (29 @. @ 35 inHg) . It maintained this intensity for about 24 hours , during which Fran turned to the west and later to the west @-@ southwest . The storm encountered strong wind shear on September 19 ; this caused it to weaken and the deep convection to detach from the center of the storm . At 0600 UTC on September 20 , Fran was downgraded to a tropical depression . Twelve hours later , the storm dissipated while located about 1 @, @ 250 miles (2 @, @ 010 km) east @-@ northeast of Antigua . By the following day , the remnants of Fran became unidentifiable .

= = Impacts = =

Light winds were reported in Cape Verde ; some weather stations recorded winds of 35 miles per hour (56 km / h) . As a result , wind damage was minimal . While passing southeast of Cape Verde , Fran dropped torrential rainfall on the islands , which caused significant flooding . The storm caused severe damage to at least 1 @, @ 094 houses , which left at least 2 @, @ 100 people homeless . On Santo Antão , São Nicolau , and Santiago , agriculture also suffered losses , totaling to \$ 1 @. @ 84 million (1984 USD) . Fran also caused significant damage to roads , which still required repairs as late as January 1985 . The hydraulic infrastructure on Santo Antão , Santiago , São Nicolau , São Vicente , Fogo , and Maio was destroyed and cost about \$ 1 million (1984 USD) to repair . At least 29 people were killed , though some sources claim there were as many as 32 fatalities . Fran is thus the second deadliest tropical cyclone in the history of Cape Verde , behind only Hurricane Debbie in 1961 , which caused 60 fatalities after a plane crashed due to weather associated with the storm . Overall , the storm caused at least \$ 2 @. @ 84 million (1984 USD) in damage . Elsewhere , the storm caused no damage or fatalities .

On October 10 , 1984 , the Government of Cape Verde appealed for international assistance .

Emergency relief aid requested included : two @-@ month supply of food for 1 @,@ 124 families , 1 @,@ 064 mattresses , 532 kerosene stoves , 2 @,@ 128 sets of dinner ware , 2 @,@ 128 mugs , 1 @,@ 064 cooking pots and pans , 532 water buckets , 2 @,@ 128 sheets , 1 @,@ 064 blankets , 2 @,@ 660 articles of clothing , and building materials for repair of the 1 @,@ 094 houses . In January 1985 , the government of Cape Verde announced that they had made significant progress with relief assistance . However , repairs to roads , infrastructure , and crops were still required . Five organizations contributed cash , including the National Solidarity Movement , the Cape Verde Red Cross , Chinese Red Cross , Oxfam Novib , and Oxfam of the United Kingdom ; donations collectively totaled to \$ 172 @,@ 221 (1984 USD) . France , Finland , the Soviet Union , and the United States supplied 4000 tons of cereals , \$ 79 @,@ 000 (1984 USD) to the Red Cross , \$ 250 @,@ 000 (1984 USD) for home repairs , 32 packages of medicines , and 17 packages of blankets .