

SPECIAL HQ. - NEWS

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GUAM HIT BY WORST TYPHOON IN ITS HISTORY

Hit by the most severe typhoon in its recorded history, Guam today is a shambles. All power is off and there is no water. It is estimated that there is about 95% damage to the residential and business sections of Guam. Almost all stores are partially or totally destroyed. Guam has no communication with the outside world except through Saipan, Truk and Kwajalein at the moment.

All patients at the Guam Memorial Hospital have been evacuated to the Navy Hospital.

The Trust Territory Compound was hit and part of the hotel is reported to be down. All houses in the compound are without lights and water. The scholarship students have been evacuated to NAS. Captain Findley's house came through in fair condition. The roof of the old HQ. Building is reported to have been blown off. The other two concrete houses are in good shape. The quonset houses are reported to be partially destroyed.

At the dock, the Trust Territory dredge (John S. Campbell) is reported to be lost as is the M/V HOPE. It is reported also that the Navy lost two tugs.

At the airport, a portion of the terminal is down as are most temporary buildings and sheds. The TT planes had been flown to Truk and are safe, but it is reported that CAL planes, even though they were in a hangar, have been severely damaged.

The High Commissioner announced that the Trust Territory Administration will give every possible aid to Guam. As soon as transportation can be arranged, it is possible that some families from Guam will be evacuated to Saipan to enable repairs to be done to houses in Guam.

All travel to Guam from Saipan and the districts is cancelled until further notice.

Mr. Goding is in hourly contact via the M/V RAN ANNIM with Deputy High Commissioner Jose A. Benitez, who went to Guam last Saturday. Contact with Guam thus far has been through the M/V RAN ANNIM which safely rode out the typhoon at sea and now is at the Guam Dock.

Mr. Goding plans to go to Guam this afternoon on the DC-4 to confer with Acting Governor Manuel Guerrero and other officials.

NQ NEWS will give further details as they become known.