Hurricane Easy Dumps on Yankeetown

Fact Sheet

Event date: September 1-7, 1950
Maximum Rainfall: 45.20" in Cedar Key
Minimum pressure: 958 mb

Landfall pressure: ???
Maximum winds: ???
Landfall winds: ???

Figure 1. Hurricane Easy’s path.
Summary of event: Hurricane Easy was an erratic and unpredictable hurricane that lingered over the Tampa Bay area for days, dropping torrential rains and causing damage especially in Cedar Key, FL where the hurricane eventually made landfall. Hurricane Easy made a loop just offshore of Cedar Key and this caused the residents to experience the same side of the hurricane twice, including the wrath of 125 mph winds. This storm dumped 38.7 inches of rain in 24 hours, a record for the U.S., and caused $3.3 million in damage. The tide in Tampa Bay rose 6.5 feet, causing the waterworks dam on the Hillsborough River to wash away, flooding Sulphur Springs in north Tampa with two feet of water. Many people failed to leave Cedar Key when the hurricane warnings went up [...hours earlier] and were forced to gather in the area’s middle and high school. Once the water and electricity were cut off, they used buckets to catch rainwater for drinking and bathing. About 150 of Cedar Key’s 200 buildings were unroofed. The hurricane claimed three lives in Florida, all three by electrocution from touching live fallen wires.

Figure 2. Hurricane Easy’s destructive flooding.
Figure 3. —Chart showing sea level isobars and fronts, 1330 EST, September 5, 1950.
Figure 4. Hurricane Easy evacuees and other newspaper clippings.