



Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

# DISASTER CASE REPORT

Agency for  
International  
Development

Washington D.C.  
20523

## HAITI - Hurricane Allen

Date: August 5, 1980 (FY 80)

Location: Southwestern peninsula and Port-au-Prince area

No. Killed: 300 (estimate)

No. Affected: The population in the most seriously affected areas was 2.5 million; an estimated 330,000 were considered potentially at risk from food shortages.

Damage: Damage to agriculture was the most serious consequence, with heavy crop damage and animal mortality along the south coast and in the southwest peninsula; plantain, banana, corn, coffee, fruit, and cocoa crops all affected; local flooding and felled trees temporarily disrupted electric and telephone lines in Port-au-Prince; Jeremie hospital lost its roof; flooding of low areas between Les Cayes and Coter-de-Fer; Les Coteaux was 70% destroyed; Nan Sans Negre 20% damaged, especially by water; Pointe l'Abacon 50-70% damaged; Moulin totally destroyed; areas north and west of Les Cayes 10% damaged; Ile a Vache 30% damaged.

### The Disaster

After slamming into St. Vincent and St. Lucia, Hurricane Allen approached Haiti on August 5, 1980, passing along its southern and western coasts. The closest approach of the eye was some 200 miles southwest of Les Cayes, a town on the southwestern coast. Hurricane force winds and storm surges caused severe damage along the coast, with gale force winds affecting all of the southern peninsula on the evening of the 5th. In comparison, rain damage was minor.