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Hurricane Damage In Caribbean

by John Neagle

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On Sept. 17, Hurricane Hugo hit the French-administered island of Guadeloupe, leaving nine dead, 85 injured and an estimated 10,000 homeless, according to a report by local authorities on Monday. Winds were measured at up to 225 km. per hour. In a radio broadcast monitored in Martinique, deputy mayor of Pointe-a-Pitre Ernest Moutoussamy said the tourist complex of Saint-Francois was devastated, with only a few buildings left standing. Islands suffering damage over the weekend included Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, and St. Kitts-Nevis, but the full extent of the damage was not immediately known on Sept. 18. In Trinidad and Tobago, the tail of the hurricane caused some damage. Fishing boats and banana plantations were badly hit in Dominica. On Monday, the hurricane hit the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, resulting in substantial material damage, and was expected to cause havoc in the Dominican Republic. (Basic data from AFP, DPA, 09/18/89)

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