



NATIONAL DISASTER COORDINATING COUNCIL

National Disaster Management Center, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

NDCC UPDATE

Final Report re Tropical Storm "ESTER" (DIANMU)
GLIDE No.TC-2010-000157-PHL

Releasing Officer

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Sources: DOST-PAGASA, AFPCC, DPWH, PCG, RDCCs/RDCCs I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII, NCR and CAR

I. SITUATION OVERVIEW

Chronology of TS "Ester"

August 6, 2010

- ❖ At 10:00 AM the Low Pressure Area (LPA) estimated at 590 km East of extreme northern Luzon (18.5°N, 128. 5°E) brought occasional rains over the western sections of Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao and at 12:00 Noon the LPA East of Luzon developed into a Tropical Depression (TD) and was named "Ester"

August 7, 2010

- ❖ At 4:00 AM TD "Ester" maintained its strength as it moved towards Cagayan Area; At 10:00 AM it slowed down and remained a threat to extreme Northern Luzon; At 4:00 PM it intensified further as it moved towards Batanes area; and at 10:00 PM maintained its strength and continued to move along the Balintang Channel

August 8, 2010

- ❖ At 4:00 AM TD "Ester" changed course and headed towards the Southern Islands of Japan; At 10:00 AM it accelerated as it moved towards the Islands of Japan; At 4:00 PM it intensified into a Tropical Storm and continued to move in a North Northeast direction towards the Southern Islands of Japan; and at 10:00 PM moved towards the southern Islands of Japan

August 9, 2010

- ❖ At 4:00 AM TS "Ester" further intensified as it moved towards the southern Island of Japan and at 10:00 AM intensified further as it continued to move away from the country

Overall Assessment

Tropical Storm "ESTER" has minimal effects in terms of population affected, casualties and damages except the occurrence of three (3) maritime incidents in Marinduque and Occidental Mindoro in Region IV-B and Navotas City as well as the evacuation of 204 families in Malolos City, Bulacan because of flashflood caused by high tide

Details of the effects of TS Ester and the emergency responses undertaken by PCG, RDCCs and OCDRCs concerned are as follows:

A. Maritime Incidents (3)

Region IV-B

- ❖ On or about 070220H August 2010, “M/V SF Freighter” a cargo vessel loaded with steel bars, owned by Seaford Shipping Company and with 16 crew on board capsized while navigating at the vicinity of Dos Hermanas Island, Marinduque. On or about 052030H August 2010, Said vessel, which departed Manila on 052030H August 2010 enroute to Cebu City, developed an engine trouble battered by big waves and strong winds and subsequently lost power and radio contact. The vessel sank and the ship’s master declared abandoneship with the crew utilizing two liferafts and lifejackets
- ❖ On August 7, 2010 the Coast Guard Action Center received a distress call alert from Vessel Traffic Management Center (VTMS) Manila that a vessel “MT SP Beijing”, a cargo vessel of 4,599 gross tonnage with 18 crew onboard enroute to Indonesia from China developed an engine trouble while cruising at the vicinity of Cabra Island, Lubang, Occidental Mindoro. Similar alert was also received from other International Rescue Coordination Centers such as the Maritime and Ports Authority of Singapore, Korean Coast Guard and Australian Search and Rescue

NCR

- ❖ On or about 7:30 PM, August 7, 2010, a Landing Craft Transport Barge named “Big Tow” owned by ASIAN Shipping Corporation drifted and dragged from her anchorage towards the shoreline of DAVILA DULO, Brgy Navotas West due to big waves damaging five (5) stilt houses and eight (8) MBcs. Based on the investigation conducted by the combined team of LGU and PCG, three (3) of the shanties and four (4) of the MBcs were totally destroyed

B. Status of Road, Bridges

- ❖ All national roads and bridges in Regions I, II, III, IV-A and IV-B are passable except Baguio-Bontoc Road (km. 378+300) Sabangan-Bontoc Section along Brgy. Gonogon, Bontoc which was closed since 3:00 PM of August 7, 2010 due to series of slides (H-80 meters and L-10 meters).

II. EFFECTS

A. Affected Population

Region III

- ❖ Around 204 families from Sitio Sabitan, Sto. Rosario, Malolos City, Bulacan evacuated to Malolos Central Elementary School due to flooding caused by high tide. **All evacuees have returned to their respective homes since yesterday**

NCR

- ❖ Five (5) families were affected in Navotas West, Navotas City hit by LCT Barge

B. Casualties

- ❖ **A total of 31 persons are still missing: 12 from M/V SF “Freight”, 18 from MT SP “Beijing” and one (1) drowned in Sta Maria, Bulacan**

Region IV-B

- ❖ Of the 16 passengers on board M/V SF Freight, one (1), identified as Euleto Abeng was recovered dead and the three (3) others were rescued alive: (two (2) along the shorelines of Gen Luna, Quezon (Capt Joselito Cortejos (master of the vessel) and Jerry Cortez (Crane Operator) and one (1) along the shoreline of Brgy Tuhean, Katanauan, Quezon (Joseph Jabonete (assistant engineer)

Region III

- ❖ One (1), identified as Jefferson Gavino, 13 yrs. old of Brgy. Sta. Clara, Sta. Maria, Bulacan was reported missing while swimming and diving in Sta. Clara River who was hit by a hard object and was swept away by strong current (**still missing**)

III. Emergency Response

A. National

- ❖ OCD-OPCEN prepared and disseminated NDCC Advisories on weather updates, gale warnings and general flood advisories to RDCCs/OCDCs Regions I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII, NCR and CAR through SMS, facsimile and website for further dissemination to local disaster coordinating councils (LGUs) from the provincial down to the municipal level
- ❖ AFP instructed Northern Luzon Command (NOLCOM) to advise its Operational Command Control Units (OPCON) from battalion down to detachment levels to coordinate with LGUs as well as assist PCG and PNP in preventing fisher folks/fishermen from going out to the sea until further notice
- ❖ PCG Manila issued Notice to Mariners (NOTAM) on August 8, 2010 to all PCG Units, AFP, PNP, Shipping Lines and coastal communities
- ❖ SAR operations for the 12 missing crew men of M/V SF Freighter is still ongoing with the following assets utilized:

PCG Assets – One (1) PCG Islander, one (1) PCG Helo 1636, one (1) 56-m SAR vessel, one (1) PCG medical team, two (2) teams of SOG divers and Adjoining CG Districts/Stations/Detachments

Company Assets – Tug boat (Don Pilo), M/V SF Seaford and M/V SF Mariner

- ❖ PCG coordinated with the LGUs and Shipping Company for assistance/services to the crew members and their families and notified Southern Luzon Command for Joint SAR efforts
- ❖ PCG Helo 1636 took the rescued crew for medivac and the CG Medical attended the casualty

B. Regional

- ❖ RDCCs/OCDCs I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII, NCR and CAR disseminated the Advisory issued by NDCC-OPCEN to the local disaster coordinating councils

(DCCs) concerned; activated their Disaster Operation Centers (DOCs) and alerted their respective response units

Region II

- ❖ RDCC/OCDRC 2 coordinated with PCG Sabtang Batanes, Sta. Ana and MDCC Calayan for any situation update

Region III

- ❖ PSWDO Bulacan provided relief assistance to the evacuees in Malolos Central Elementary School: 236 family packs (3 kilos rice, 50 grams coffee, 3 packs noodles and 3 kilos sugar) per family
- ❖ **Joint team of Bulacan 566 SAR Team and MDCC Sta Maria conducted search, rescue and retrieval operations of the reported missing in Brgy. Clara, Sta. Maria, Bulacan. Jefferson Gavino is still missing as of reporting time**

Region IV-A

- ❖ The Municipal Health Office in Rural Hospital of General Luna, Quezon took care of the two (2) survivors and conducted stress debriefing; PDCC Quezon and PCG Dalahican Station conducted SAR operations along waters of Gen. Luna and nearby municipalities; OCD IV-A alerted all municipalities and coastal barangays to report any sightings of other survivors and to report directly to the Municipal Police Station; and RDCC IV- A coordinated with MDCC Gen. Luna, PDCC Quezon, PCG-STL and OCDRCs IV-B and VII for any development of the incident

Region IV-B

- ❖ OCD-IV-B coordinated with PCG District Southern Tagalog and WESCOM on the reported missing MV SF Freighter of Seaford Shipping Lines;
- ❖ PCG IV-B dispatched two (2) PCG vessels, one (1) Islander Plane and search and rescue teams from Batangas and Manila to conduct search and rescue operations of aforesaid missing vessel and advised all ships/watercraft/aircraft transiting the vicinity to be on the lookout for said vessel;
- ❖ Seaford Shipping Company also dispatched commercial vessel and other big fishing boats; and
- ❖ DPWH IV-B District Risk Management Teams were deployed to critical road sections to monitor the conditions of infrastructure facilities (Nautical Highway). All roads are passable

NCR

- ❖ Mayor John Tiangco of Navotas called up PCG for assistance in pulling out the barge. The PCG provided tugboat and pulled the barge out from the sea
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