HURRICANE CAMILLE TIDAL FLOODS OF AUGUST 1969 ALONG THE GULF COAST, PASS CHRISTIAN QUADRANGLE, MISSISSIPPI

By K. V. Wilson and James W. Hudson

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Introduction...The approximate area flooded by Hurricane Camille (August 10, 1969) along the Mississippi gulf coast is shown in a series of hydrologic maps. Detailed hydrologic studies were made of Camille's effects along the Gulf of Mexico coast between LaBelle, Ala., normally along the gulf coast through Mississippi to the mouth of Pass Christian River, a distance of 98 miles.

This also shows flooded areas from Hurricane Beryl (May 22-28, 1964) and Hurricane Hazel's remnants on St. Louis Bay.

Camille was the most intense hurricane recorded in the United States since 1935. According to U.S. Weather Bureau reports, the initial measured wind gusts were well over 125 miles per hour. However, subsequent reports indicate gusts of over 136 miles per hour. The damage potential of Camille was estimated to be $600 million. The area included approximately 40 miles of coastline. Maximum storm surge heights reached near the Mississippi River mouth, where the mouth was closed, were estimated at 9 to 12 feet. Overall, the storm marshaled approximately 22 feet of water over a large area.

Inland areas, inshore to 10 miles, experienced storm surges over 10 feet. Inland flooding along the beach zone was seen at 10 feet above mean sea level. In general, areas with a slope of less than 10 feet were inundated by Camille. Beaufort (1840) was estimated at 110 miles from the storm center. During the epic storm, some areas along the coast reached over 14 feet of water, whereas at Biloxi, a large area was covered by up to 17 feet of water. Similar conditions were reported at other communities along the coast.

The following maps show the effects of Hurricane Camille as measured from various views.

1. Overview map showing the general areas affected by the storm.
2. Detailed coastal maps indicating specific areas flooded.
3. Flood depth charts for selected locations along the coast.
4. Storm surge charts showing the maximum heights.

Because of the extensive nature of the storm, the detailed maps were developed to provide a comprehensive picture of the storm's impact.