

# HURRICANE DOG 1950 Report

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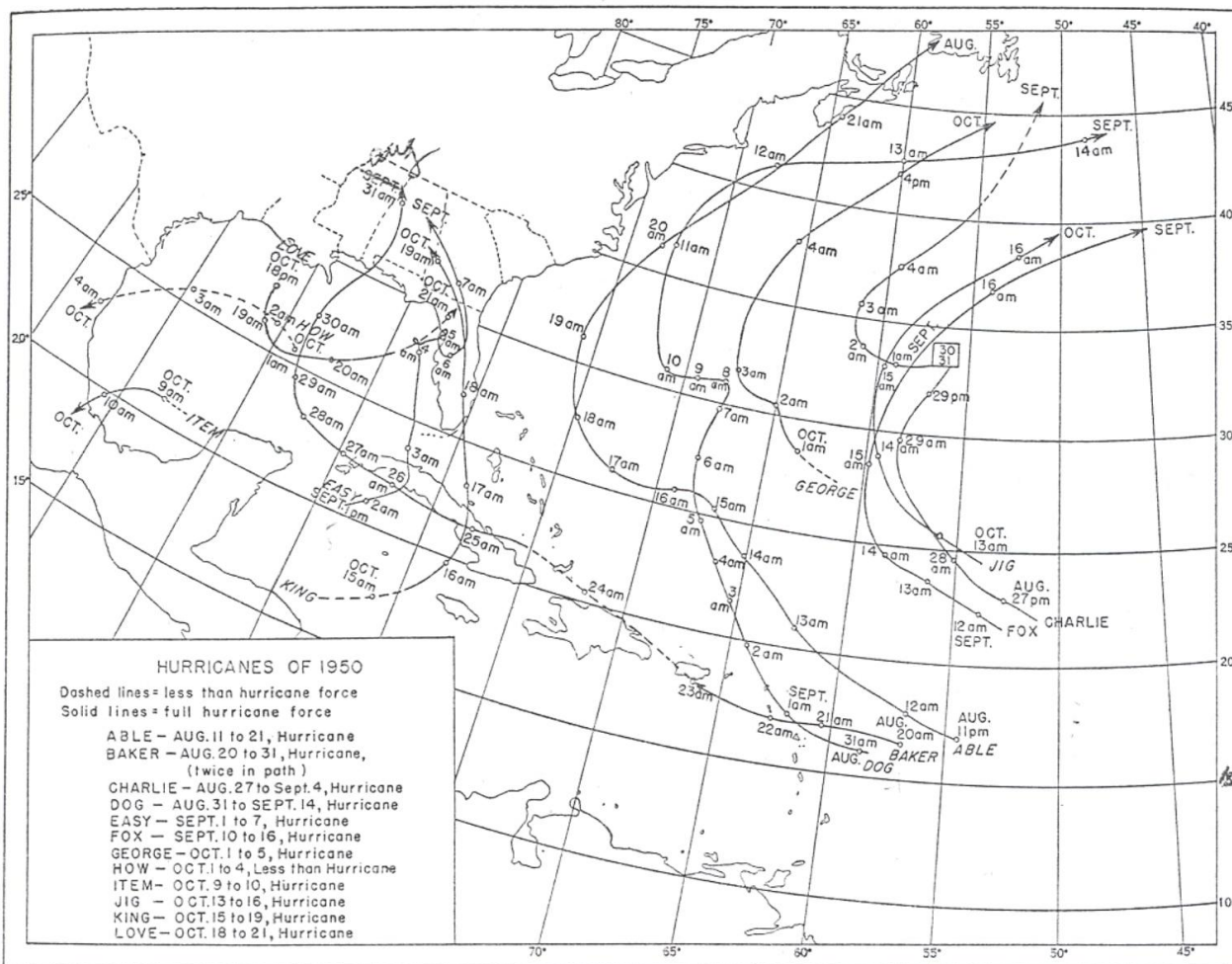


FIGURE 1.—Tracks of the Atlantic hurricanes and tropical storms of 1950 named alphabetically in chronological order. Points on the paths are identified by date and time (a. m. or p. m.) of observation.

*Dog*—August 31—September 14. This hurricane was located August 30 when the S. S. *Sibrodin* reported gale winds and falling pressure near  $16.5^{\circ}$  N.,  $57^{\circ}$  W. It might have been the same storm whose beginnings were reported near the Cape Verde Islands on August 24, but there were no reports of it after it left the Cape Verde area until the *Sibrodin* reported on the 30th. It proved to be the most severe hurricane of the 1950 season, with winds estimated by aircraft at over 160 knots (184+ miles per hour) and waves 100 feet high. It moved on a northwesterly course and passed close to Antigua, Barbuda, and other islands of the northeastern Leeward group on September 1. Residents of Antigua, where highest winds were estimated at over 130 miles per hour and hurricane force lasted for 6 hours, reported it to be the most severe hurricane in the history of that island. Many homes and business houses were destroyed or damaged, crops destroyed, roads blocked by washouts and fallen trees, communications and power lines down, and many small craft wrecked. Two persons were drowned when their small boat capsized. The island of Barbuda also estimated winds of 130 miles per hour or greater, with equal or worse devastation than experienced at Antigua.

Damage has been placed at over \$1,000,000 on these small islands.

The hurricane continued to move slowly on a northwesterly course after leaving the Leeward Islands and curved northward toward Bermuda, but its progress was blocked about 200 miles southwest of Bermuda near  $31^{\circ}$  N.,  $67.5^{\circ}$  W. on September 8. It drifted slowly westward for 2 days before resuming a north to northeast course, and finally turned eastward south of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland on the 13–14th. It gave strong winds on Cape Cod when

it was passing some distance offshore on the 12th, and the station at Nantucket reported gusts of near hurricane force. Although winds along the New England coast were less than full hurricane force, damage amounted to \$2,000,000 and 12 lives were lost, 11 in capsized boats. It was fortunate that this great hurricane remained at sea and did not seriously affect other coastal areas for it was indeed a giant of potential destruction.