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From: SMTP%"marks@aoml.noaa.gov" 5-OCT-1998 10:35:23.70  
To: DODGE  
CC:  
Subj: Re: comments on Georges flights

X-Sender: marks@pop.aoml.noaa.gov  
Message-Id: <v03110704b23e8b9725a4@[172.16.101.115]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Date: Mon, 5 Oct 1998 10:43:52 -0400  
To: dodge@aoml.noaa.gov, gamache@aoml.noaa.gov  
From: Frank Marks <marks@aoml.noaa.gov>  
Subject: Re: comments on Georges flights

--- begin forwarded text

From: Daniel Cecil <dcecil@ariel.met.tamu.edu>  
Subject: Re: comments on Georges flights  
To: marks@aoml.noaa.gov (Frank Marks)  
Date: Fri, 2 Oct 1998 18:57:34 -0500 (CDT)  
Cc: dcecil@ariel.met.tamu.edu (Daniel Cecil)  
MIME-Version: 1.0

> PS Any comments or observations from the flights would be most welcome.

I put a copy of my notes for the 980925I recon flight (overnight Thursday/Friday near Cuba) in the mail for Peter Dodge today. The things that struck me on that flight were the orientation of the eyewall and the size of the wind max on the east side. The eyewall had an elliptical shape, but wasn't closed. It reminded me of Wen Chau's animations of Typhoon Herb, where the elliptical eyewall rotated along with the rest of the storm; of course, Georges' eyewall was much less impressive. Wen Chau didn't seem enthused about that comparison.

There was a rainband / wind max about 40 miles outside of the eyewall that we first encountered on the east side of the storm; it rotated around to the north side. On our first time through, the rainband had a distinct wind max about as strong as in the eyewall (80-85 kt), and we had stronger winds on the entire outbound leg (eastbound) than anywhere on the inbound leg from NW. Later in the flight, the rainband wasn't evident on radar on the east side, but flight level winds remained strong well outside the eyewall. The rainband was evident on the northern side, but the wind max there seemed to be between the band and the eyewall. We never flew through the southern eyewall (too close to Cuba), but it looked like this rainband eventually wrapped around from the north to the SSE side - I wanted to call it an outer eyewall, but don't really think it was.

980928H Sunday night (landfall near Biloxi near the end of flight):  
Georges was very asymmetric, with a fairly intense outer rainband on the east side, several smaller banded features inward of this, and an eyewall that basically filled the eastern semicircle; there was hardly anything on the west side. The radar eyewall filled in during the flight, but most penetrations were nearly unnoticeable. The fun part was flying legs toward Eglin (from the SW) and Slidell (from E) radars, through the rainbands. The pilots tried to avoid the roughest stuff, but I saw a lot of 5-9 m/s updrafts on the screen. In the outermost rainband, my notes say "11 m/s updraft, frequent lightning; long time with significant updrafts", then a nervous quote from Hugh: "It's 14000 feet, it shouldn't be like this!"

