Similarities and Differences between Typhoon Soudelor and Typhoon Haiyan

EN 202 English Composition II

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Compare and Contrast Final Essay

Author’s Note:

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Typhoon Soudelor and Typhoon Haiyan were among the two strongest typhoons in the Pacific to make landfall and destroy countries. The damage caused by these two typhoons were extensive. Saipan hasn’t been hit by a Super Typhoon in almost three decades so this was an awakening disaster for the island’s people. Although Saipan had sustained massive damages from Typhoon Soudelor on August 2, 2015, the Philippines was by far more worst when Haiyan made landfall on November 8, 2013. Comparing these two typhoon and the effects it brought, it shows that Typhoon Soudelor’s impact on the island of Saipan was very little compared to Typhoon Haiyan’s impact in the Philippines.

The first and foremost important fact about Typhoon Soudelor was, there was no death’s reported. Although many residents of the island relied on power to get their medical needs, there was no death reported due to Typhoon Soudelor. With the many fallen trees and blown away house, still there was no death reports on the island associated with the typhoon. International Business Times reported that, “Typhoon Haiyan left as many as 10,000 people dead…”(International Business Times 2013). People were killed due to the flying debris, fallen trees and buildings. There were also reports of drowning caused by the heavy rain that Typhoon Haiyan brought to the country.

Another situation that shows a big difference on the two countries is their Police Force. In Saipan, when Typhoon Soudelor made landfall on August 2, 2015, all Department of Public Safety employees were dispatched to be at work. The police force in Saipan is composed of about 100 men and women in uniform. The very next morning of the typhoon, all personnel from the department were on uniform, ready to serve the island community’s needs. In the Philippines

however, it was a whole different story. According the Business Insider, “only 34 out of 983 local policemen are reported to have shown up for duty after the storm.” (Business Insider 2013.) This report may be a result of homes being lost, loved ones and family members being missing, or it could pretty much be a result of death since there were over 10,000 death casualties reported.

The aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor was chaotic as people were lining up pretty much everywhere. They lined up at gas stations to fill up their car with $20.00, which was the limit for about 1 week. They also lined at to the laundromat and also to purchase ice. Because the island had no power, it was very difficult for all the citizens. In the Philippines, “Survivors also fear looters and criminals, some of whom are reported to have broken out of jail.”(International Business Times 2013). Luckily here in Saipan, we have a concrete, solid jail house that wasn’t affected. Therefore, we did not have to worry about criminals.

In comparison, these two typhoons did share some similarities. Both typhoon were typhoons were classified and the strongest typhoons of the year. Typhoon Haiyan in 2014 and Typhoon Soudelor in 2015. Both typhoons, greatly impacted the country’s people. People in both countries were left homeless due to the damages caused by the typhoons. The two typhoon had flattened crops, fallen trees, and the most important one, toppled power lines which was the reason for no power in both countries.

Concluding my essay, I can say that both typhoons dramatically changed lives when they both made landfall. Even though in two different countries and it different years, the effects were somewhat similar with some differences.

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