

Typhoon claim the lives of 660

United Press International
NONOC, Philippines — The death toll from Typhoon Ike rose to more than 660 people Wednesday as frantic residents searched ruins of devastated towns for hundreds more who are missing and feared dead in the worst storm of modern Philippine history.
 Three days after Ike roared across the central Philippines packing 137 mph winds, local officials pleaded for aid and reported that hungry refugees hijacked and looted at least one relief truck in Surigao, 450 miles southeast of Manila.
 "When the people are hungry they become angry," Constancio Navarro, mayor of the storm-ravaged city, said after the looting incident Tuesday. "You can expect trouble."
 Authorities said Ike severely damaged the nation's two major agricultural exports — coconut and sugar. Rice, the nation's principal food, had been affected days earlier by Typhoon June.
 According to a compilation of reports from the Philippine News Agency and various relief agencies and provincial governors, the death toll stood at more than 660 throughout the central Philippines.
 The Office of Civil Defense said another 421 people were missing and feared dead while 341 others were injured. The Social Welfare Minister said both Ike and which killed 57 people in the northern Philippines, left a total of million Filipinos homeless.
 With the death toll certain, Ike was the worst typhoon in the Philippines since 1970, Typhoon Joan killed 30 people.
 As government relief scrambled to help the most affected victims, the International Red Cross launched a global appeal for \$1 million in emergency aid for the most severely affected areas of Manila.
 The United Nations Disaster Relief Organization, the French Red Cross and the World Assistance Corp. of the Islamic Conference also offered aid.
 The first government relief plane flew Wednesday aboard a transport plane to the tiny island of Nonoc, one of the most severely affected regions on the northern Mindanao, 450 miles from Manila.
 Battered bodies lay by the roadside and floated in from the sea as students of Nonoc, site of a nickel mining plant, searched for missing relatives and tried to do what they could from the ruins.
 Authorities said 48 people confirmed dead and scores were missing in Nonoc.

8 charges dismissed in meat packing case

United Press International
DENVER — A federal judge granted Wednesday a prosecutor's request to dismiss eight of 15 charges against two former Cattle King Packing Co. officials accused of violating federal meat inspection laws.
 Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles Torres said the dismissed charges were duplications, and eliminating them would speed the trial of Rudolph "Butch" Stanko, 37, and Gary Waderich, 29.
 Stanko is former owner of Cattle King and Waderich is the company's former top sales executive. The men were accused of repackaging meat that had been rejected and reselling it to other customers without submitting it for inspection.
 Cattle King closed earlier this year after a television network aired a program accusing the firm of selling tainted meat to the federal school lunch program.
 Two federal inspectors testified Wednesday they saw frequent violations at Cattle King's now defunct plant in Commerce City, north of Denver.
 Brickler testified he approached twice by Cattle King man Bruce Ryan, who wanted to discuss alleged illegal activities at a plant. Brickler said he met Ryan and an official of the large General's Office in Boulder, Colo. and Ryan "incriminated himself taking part in actions that were illegal."

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