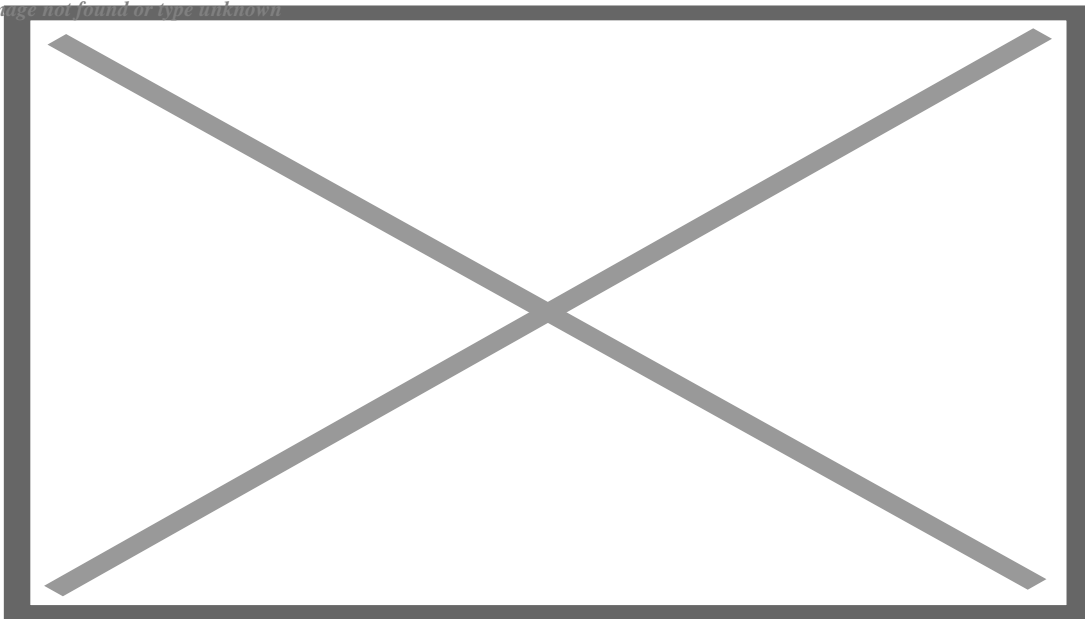


Alaska's strongest storm in half-century cuts off rural communities

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The governor of the U.S. state of Alaska has declared a state of emergency after the remnants of Typhoon Merbok brought a 1,000-mile-wide path of destruction to the state's Pacific coastline.

Anchorage, September 20 (RHC)-- The governor of the U.S. state of Alaska has declared a state of emergency after the remnants of Typhoon Merbok brought a 1,000-mile-wide path of destruction to the state's Pacific coastline.

The massive storm system spawned flooding, prompted evacuations, knocked buildings off their foundations, washed away bridges and roads, and brought power outages to remote villages — many of them home to Native Alaskans.

Merbok was Alaska's worst storm in a half-century, the most intense September storm ever observed in the Bering Sea and one of the strongest storms ever to hit Alaska.



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