

Tropical Storm Neil (09W)

The disturbance that became Tropical Storm Neil (09W) began forming in the monsoon trough located in the Philippine Sea, just east of Luzon island, on 23 July. At the same time, within this very active monsoon trough, TD 10W was forming west of Luzon in the South China Sea. TS Neil tracked northeastward before turning more northward onto the Republic of Korea (ROK) on 27 July. TS Neil reached a peak intensity of 40 kt and made landfall in the ROK as a minimal tropical storm (35 kt). TS Neil was the second tropical cyclone to bring heavy rains to the ROK within a week. A Japanese news report stated a ferry was forced aground due to high winds, no injuries were reported.

JTWC first began tracking the tropical disturbance on 230000Z July and mentioned it on the 240600Z July ABPW. As the convection began consolidating, a TCFA was issued on 241730Z July and the first warning was issued on 250900Z July. For the first two days, TD 09W tracked northeastward within the monsoon trough. As it gained latitude and approached Okinawa, Japan, the cyclone turned more northward in response to the subtropical ridge to the east building westward. During the northward turn, TD 09W also intensified to tropical storm intensity.

TS Neil peaked at 40 kt on 26 July and as it approached the Japanese main islands, it took a slightly west of north path and moved inland over the southern Republic of Korea, 18 nm southwest of Suncheon at 270500Z as a minimum tropical storm (35 kt). TS Neil then continued to slowly weaken and move over the Yellow Sea before interacting with a mid-latitude trough. This interaction caused the cyclone to turn northeastward back over the northern portion of the ROK on 28 July, making landfall 20 nm southwest of Seoul at 280600Z as a 20 kt system.

JTWC issued the 13th and final warning at 280900Z July as TD 09W moved inland and dissipated over the Republic of Korea.

As TS Neil moved past the Japanese Island of Kyushu the Associated Press reported a ferry had run aground in Kannoura, Japan due to high winds from the storm. The US Forces Korea (USFK) Theater Forecast Unit received reports of gusts to 50 kt with 5 inches of rain on Cheju Island, ROK and southern areas of the ROK received 2-4 inches of rain with max gusts of 42 kt. The Korea Times, 28 July, reported 200mm of rainfall on Cheju Island on 27 July. They also reported a fishing boat capsized after colliding with another vessel in rough seas south of Wando Island. The crew of eight on the fishing boat perished. The JMA reported damage from floods and strong wind gusts.

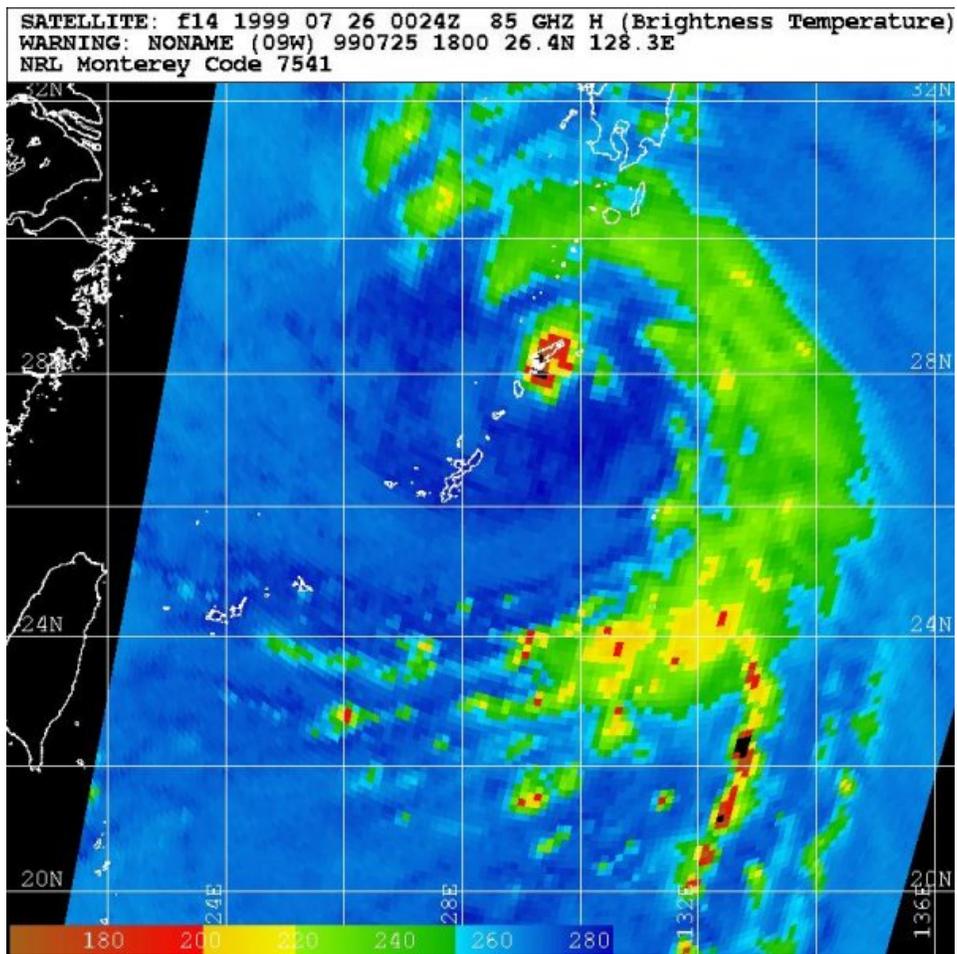


Figure 1-09-1. 260024Z July Special Sensor Microwave Imager (SSM/I) pass of TS Neil (09W). The center was located just west of Amamami O Shima, Japan. TS Neil was at 35 kt intensity and peaked at 40 kt six hours later.

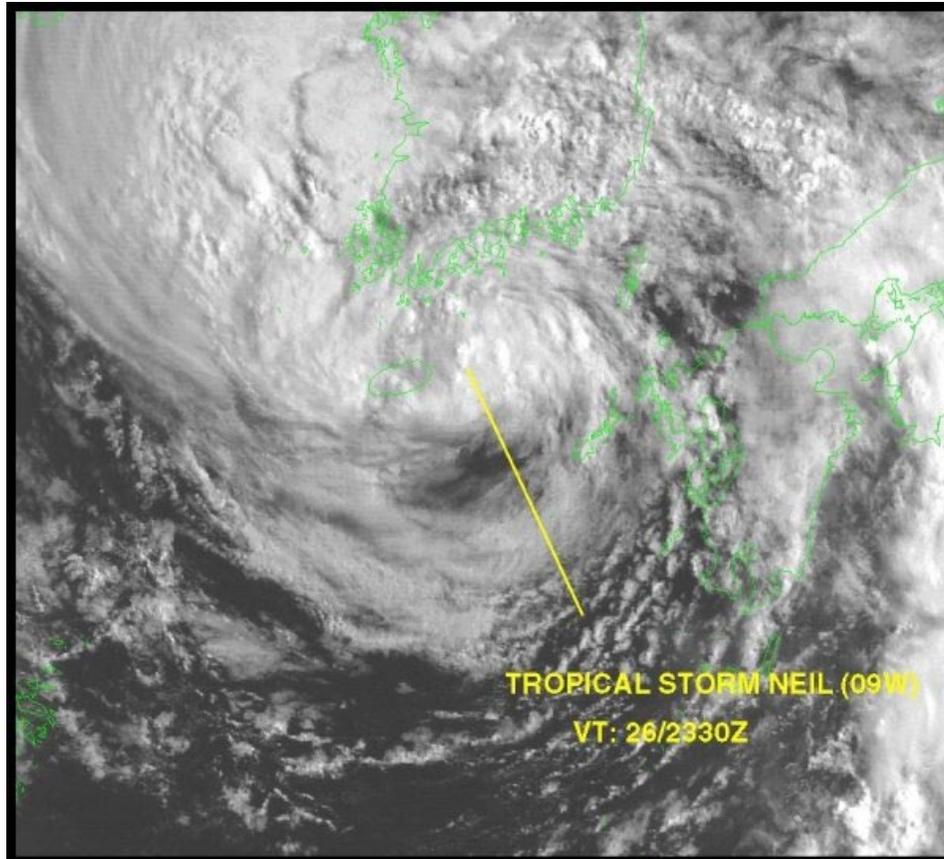


Figure 1-09-2. 262330ZZ July GMS-5 visible imagery of TS Neil (09W) as a 35 kt storm just east of Cheju Island, ROK. TS Neil made landfall six hours later 20 nm southwest of Sancheon, ROK.

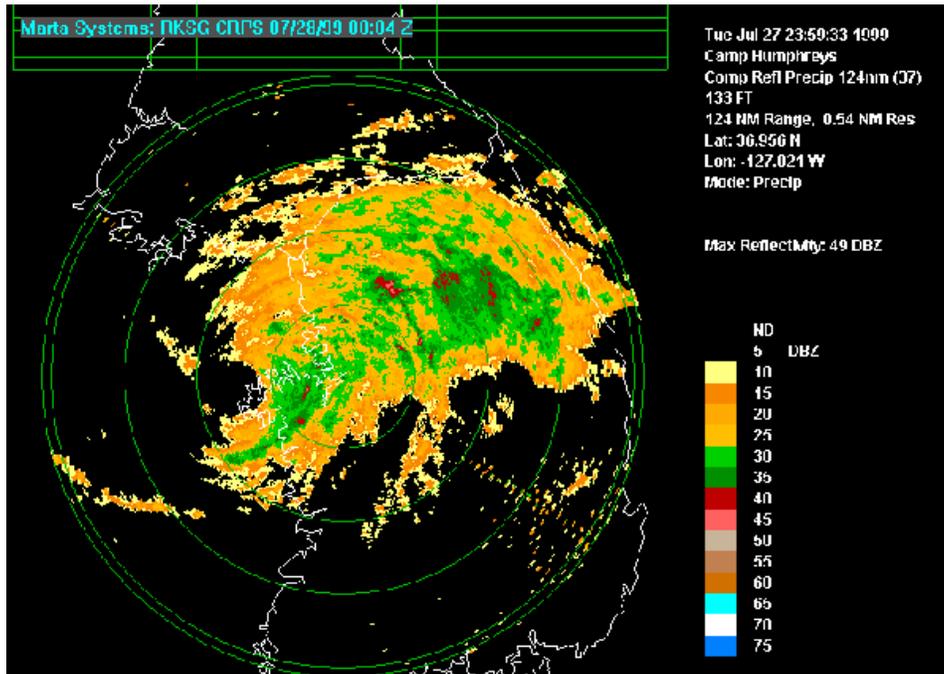


Figure 1-09-3. 272359Z July Camp Humphreys WSR-88D reflectivity image of TS Neil. TS Neil was downgraded to a 20 kt system shortly hereafter. The remnants of TS Neil made landfall 20 nm southwest of Seoul, ROK six hours later (280600Z).

