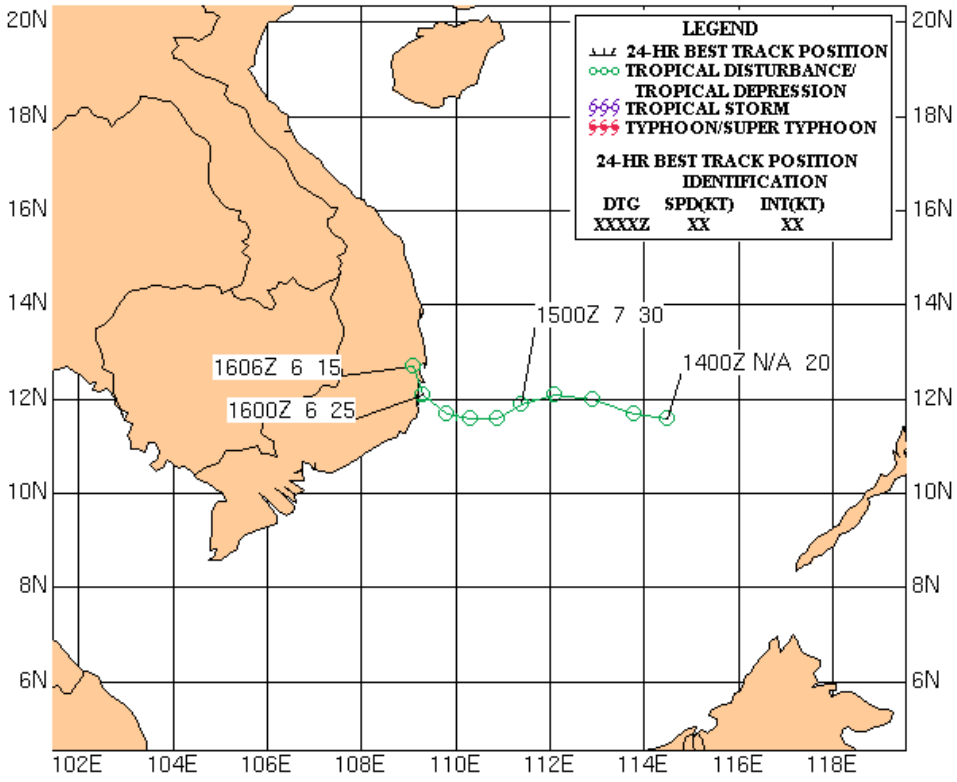
Tropical Depression (TD) 33W

Tropical Depression (TD) 33W was the final 1999 Northwest Pacific tropical cyclone. It formed in mid December within a persistent trough located across the Southern Philippine islands into the South China Sea. TD 33W intensified very slowly and reached a peak intensity of 30 kt, then moved westward and dissipated over central Vietnam two days later.

Tropical Depression (TD) 33W formed approximately 230 nm east of Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. JTWC first carried it as a suspect area on the 110600Z December ABPW bulletin, and issued the first warning at 141500Z December. By 141800Z December, the cyclone had attained a maximum intensity of 30 kt, and maintained this intensity for the next 24 hours. Throughout its lifetime TD 33W remained under a high vertical wind shear environment which hindered development. After 160000Z December, TD 33W encountered increased vertical wind shear that resulted in the low-level circulation center becoming fully exposed with the deep convection shearing northward. This increased shear and interaction with land led to the dissipation of TD 33W as it moved over Vietnam.

TD 33W made landfall at 160300Z December near Nha Trang, Vietnam as a 25 kt tropical depression. JTWC issued the 7th and final warning at 160300Z December as TD 33W dissipated over land.



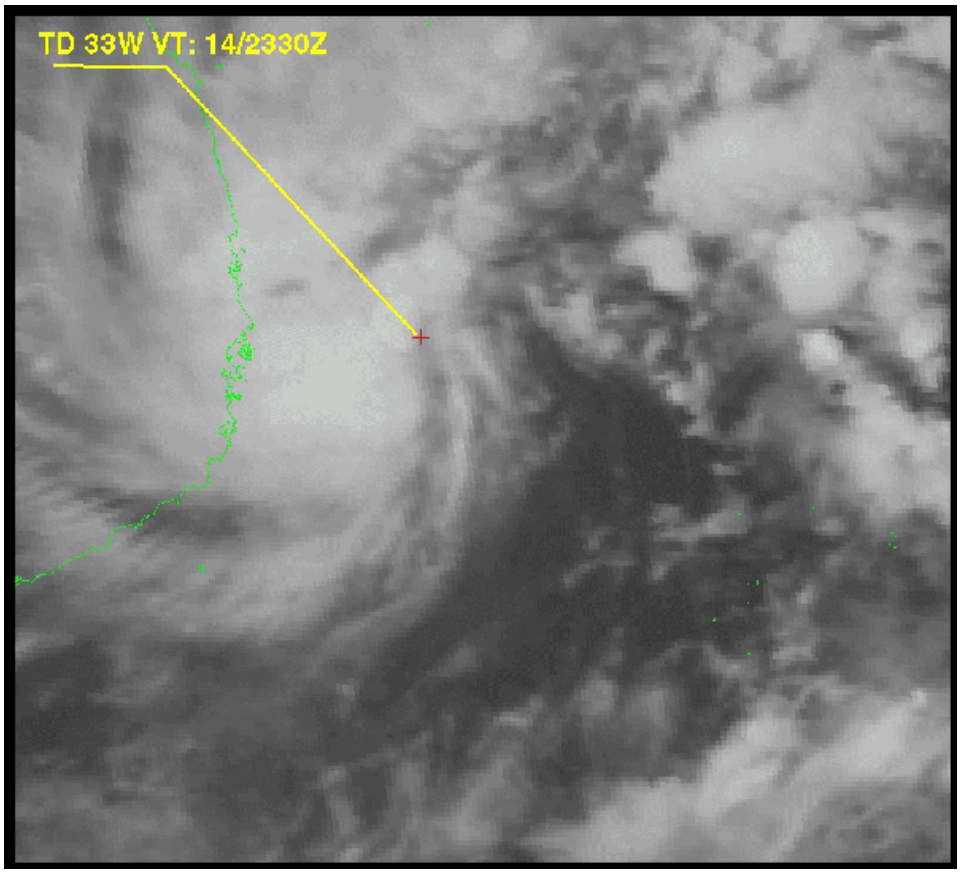


Figure 1-33-1. 142330Z December GMS-5 visible image of TD 33W as it approached the Vietnam coast. Current intensity is 30 kt.