



MARIE

Marie began as a broad circulation in the equatorial trough north of the Marshall Islands on 3 October (Figure 4-28) while Tropical Storm Kathy was passing north of the Marianas. On the 5th, she achieved tropical storm intensity, becoming a typhoon two days later as she passed 200 nm north of Eniwetok.

Marie's circulation was quite extensive, covering an area over 700 nm in diameter. Strong westerlies up to 20 kt were experienced in the eastern Caroline and Marshall Islands. Eniwetok, about 180 nm south of the center, recorded 40 kt sustained winds from the west with gusts to 52 kt the evening of 6 October. Squalls with gusts of up to 50 kt occurred in the Ponape district felling coconut trees, one of which killed one person on Kusaie.

Marie moved along the southern extent of the subtropical ridge centered north of Minami Tori Shima (Marcus Island) at 15-19 kt during 6-8 October. As she approached the northern Marianas, Marie began to slow. Her maximum winds reached 115 kt and central pressure dropped to 936 mb. Marie began a northwesterly track on the 9th, passing through the northern Marianas late in the day.

On Pagan, Agrihan and Alamagan islands, food crops were nearly 100% destroyed. Buildings were 80-95% destroyed; however, property damage was less severe on Agrihan due to sturdier construction.

Although 200 nm south of Marie's center, Saipan experienced gusts of 45-55 kt. High seas in the southern Marianas were responsible for capsizing at least five motorboats and caused two drownings. By the 10th reconnaissance aircraft reported 100-kt winds extended 75-100 nm east of the center (Figure 4-29).

Passing east of the Volcano Islands on the 11th, Marie accelerated to 21 kt. The Japanese ship, YAEKAWA MARU, about 170 nm east-southeast of the center, reported 60 kt (11/0000 GMT).

Marie weakened as she transited the North Pacific east of Honshu at up to 34 kt, merging with a frontal system east of Hokkaido on the 12th. Winds of up to 40 kt and gusts to 59 kt were experienced at Urakawa along the southeastern coast of Hokkaido. Sixteen of eighteen crewmembers were lost when a 77-ton Japanese fishing boat capsized off Miyagi Prefecture.



FIGURE 4-28. Formative stages of Marie centered some 350 nm north-east of Kwajalein, 3 October, 1972, 2112 GMT. [DAPP data]



FIGURE 4-29. Typhoon Marie 350 nm north-northwest of Saipan, 10 October 1972, 0221 GMT. [DAPP data]