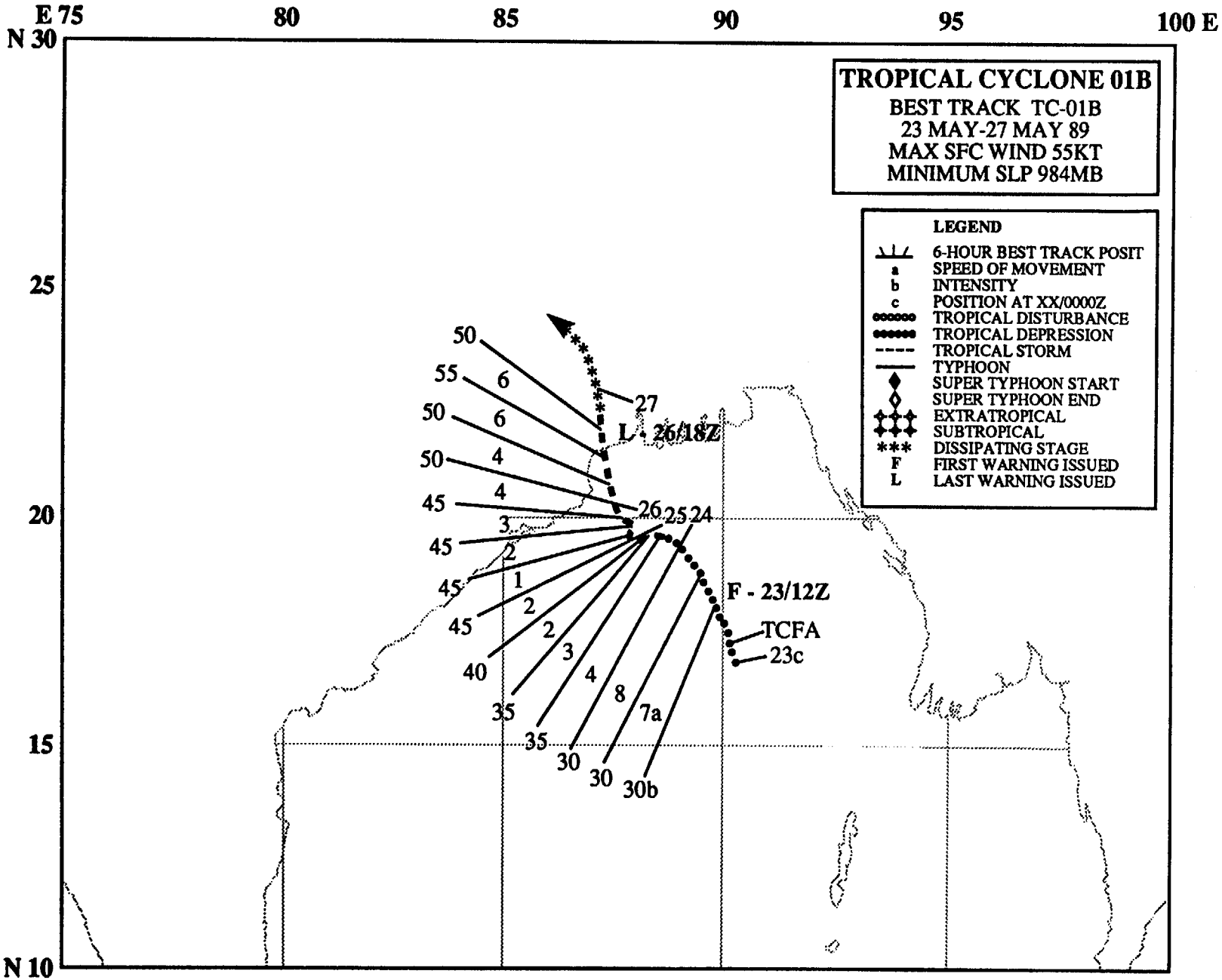
TROPICAL CYCLONE 01B
BEST TRACK TC-01B
23 MAY-27 MAY 89
MAX SFC WIND 55KT
MINIMUM SLP 984MB
LEGEND
6-HOUR BEST TRACK POSIT
a SPEED OF MOVEMENT
b INTENSITY
c POSITION AT XX/0000Z
TROPICAL DISTURBANCE
TROPICAL DEPRESSION
TROPICAL STORM
TYPHOON
SUPER TYPHOON START
SUPER TYPHOON END
EXTRATROPICAL
SUBTROPICAL
*** DISSIPATING STAGE
F FIRST WARNING ISSUED
L LAST WARNING ISSUED
E 75
80
85
90
95
100 E
N 30
25
20
15
N 10
L - 26/18Z
F - 23/12Z
TCFA
23c
27
26
25
24

TROPICAL CYCLONE 01B

Tropical Cyclone 01B was the first of two cyclones to affect the Bay of Bengal and the only one to form in the Bay this year.

In mid-May, the monsoon trough was well-established throughout the Bay of Bengal between 8° to 10° north latitude with the heaviest convection persisting over the southwestern portion of the Bay. On 20 May, there was a broad area of poorly organized convection formed in the eastern half of the Bay and sparse synoptic data suggested a circulation center. But it wasn't until late on 22 May that the organization improved and convection increased dramatically. This development prompted JTWC to issue a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert at 230330Z and the first warning followed at 231500Z. The basic track to the north-northwest was interrupted on 24 and 25 May when weak mid-level steering resulted in an erratic and very slow movement.

Even though the system's development was slowed by northeast winds aloft, Tropical Cyclone 01B (Figure 3-01B-1) did attain a intensity of 55 kt (28 m/sec) at 261200Z, just before making landfall. After landfall the cyclone passed 60 nm (110 km) west of Calcutta, which recorded 25 kt (13 m/sec) sustained surface winds and a minimum sea-level pressure of 988 mb. Then, the dissipating circulation tracked northward into the heat low . No reports of damage were received.

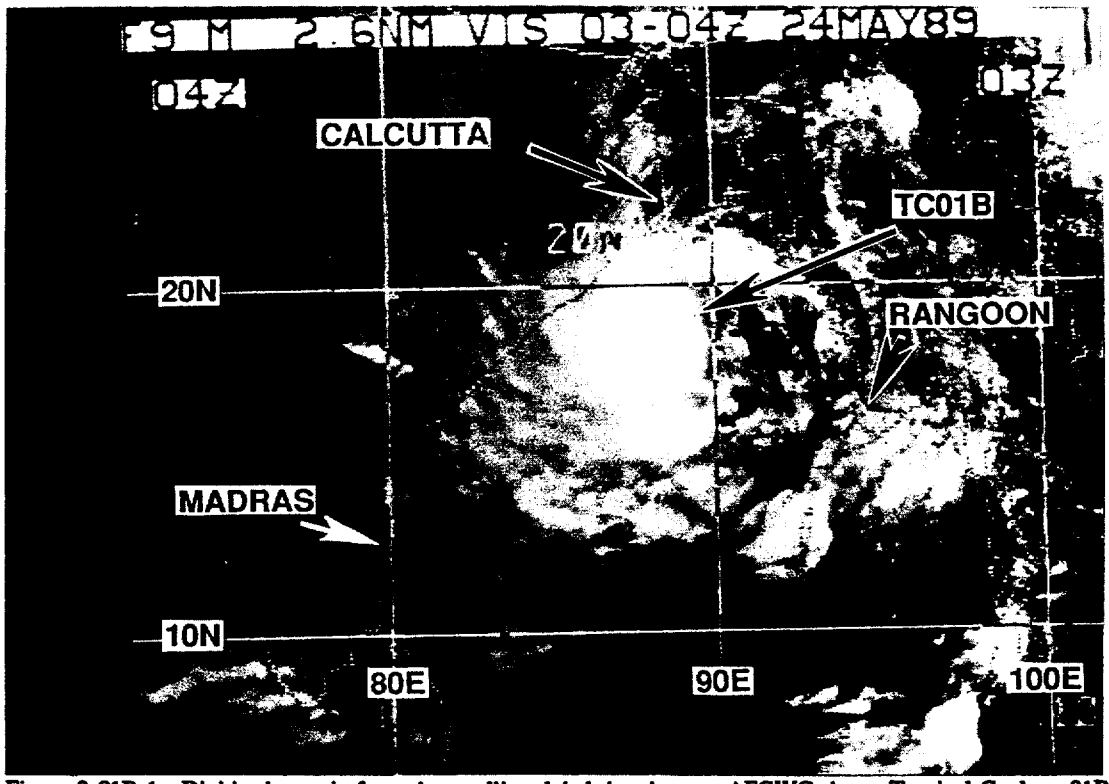

Figure 3-01B-1. Digitized mosaic from the satellite global data base at AFGWC shows Tropical Cyclone 01B moving towards landfall and Calcutta (240300Z-240400Z May DMSP visual data).