

ALICE

Except for a brush with Honshu of the Japanese Islands, Alice spent her 12-day existence at sea. Forming in the equatorial trough, Alice was initially detected by satellite on 29 July.

Moving northward as a depression, Alice reached tropical storm force 125 nm west of Eniwetok. The synoptic situation depicted a general weakness in the mid-tropospheric subtropical ridge at the longitude of the storm. This was due to a trough extending southward from the Kamchatka peninsula. Alice continued her northerly movement but shifted to a more westward track by the 1st. The western edge of a high cell, northeast of Minami Tori Shima (Marcus Island), began to build north of Alice during the next five days, guiding her on a track towards Japan.

On the 4th, Alice passed 80 nm southwest of Minami Tori Shima. The Japanese meteorological station on the island registered maximum winds of 53 kt (03/2140 GMT) and peak gusts of 74 kt (03/1930 and 03/2135 GMT). Minimum pressure

recorded was 990.0 mb (04/0000 GMT). A Japanese ship, NIPPON MARU, passed close to Alice's center on the 5th, observing 70-kt winds and a minimum pressure of 984.7 mb (05/0000 GMT).

With the long wave in the westerlies positioned over Manchuria, Alice began to decelerate as she approached the Boso peninsula of Honshu, Japan, (Figure 4-16) recurving once she crossed the 35th parallel. Accelerating to speeds of 19 kt, Alice passed south of Hokkaido on the 8th and acquired extratropical characteristics later that day.

The center of Alice passed 40 nm east of the Boso peninsula during the afternoon of the 7th. No winds in excess of 25 kt were reported along the coast during the passage of the weaker semicircle of Alice. A minimum pressure of 988.7 mb was measured at Choshi while rainfall amounts of 4.02 in. were totaled at Katsuura. In Iwaki, Fukushima Prefecture, some 300 houses were flooded when typhoon-generated waves caused the river in the city's Kunohama section to overflow.

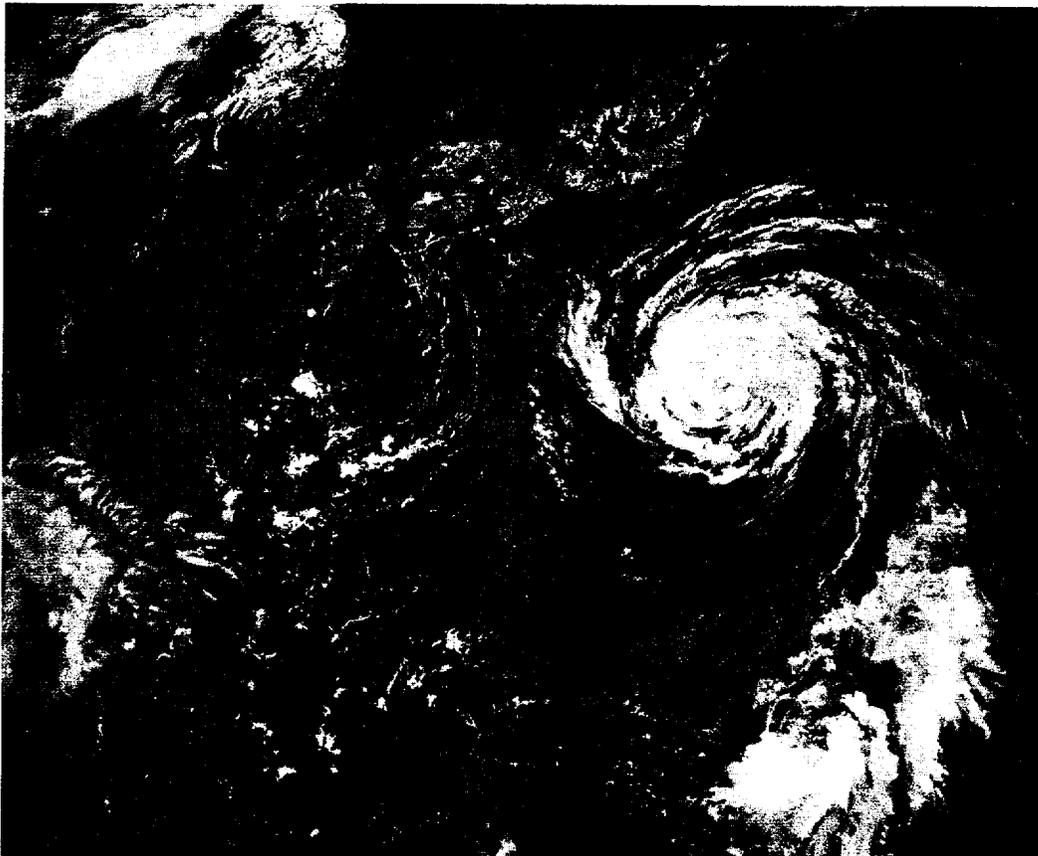


FIGURE 4-16. Typhoon Alice 360 nm south-southeast of Tokyo, 6 August 1972, 0246 GMT. (DAPP data)