

TROPICAL CYCLONE 01B

I. HIGHLIGHTS

Forming in September, Tropical Cyclone 01B was the North Indian Ocean's (NIO's) first significant tropical cyclone of 1995. For the second time in the past three years, a significant tropical cyclone did not occur until the fall transition season. Since 1975 this has only happened six times, while climatologically one to two cyclones develop during the April-June spring transition season.

II. TRACK AND INTENSITY

Tropical Cyclone 01B (TC01B) developed from the remnant vortex of Tropical Depression 16W (TD16W), a western North Pacific system that tracked from the South China Sea and across Vietnam and Southeast Asia between 11-13 September. Convection and upper-level divergent winds had been observed over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal over this period — an environment that supported further development once the low-level circulation moved into this area.

The potential for redevelopment was first discussed on the 130600Z September Significant Tropical Weather Advisory when the vortex entered the NIO. As convective activity increased, the first of three Tropical Cyclone Formation Alerts (TCFAs) was issued, valid 140900Z. Two more TCFAs followed, valid at 141600Z and 151600Z, respectively. The system moved slowly northwestward across the Bay of Bengal. The 151600Z TCFA stated, in part: "The cyclonic circulation ... has taken on the appearance of a large monsoon depression and has yet to consolidate...".

The first warning, valid at 161200Z, was issued on TC01B when satellite imagery indicated that convection had concentrated about the low-level circulation center and that the system was intensifying. Six hours later, TC01B peaked in intensity at 45 kt (23 m/sec) — just prior to making landfall on the Indian coast, south of Calcutta (Figure 3-01B-1). The JTWC issued the final warning, valid 170600Z, as the tropical cyclone tracked slowly northwestward. The remnants of TC01B continued to track slowly to the northwest for the next several days before finally dissipating near Delhi on 20 September.

III. IMPACT

No reports of fatalities or significant damage were received at the JTWC.

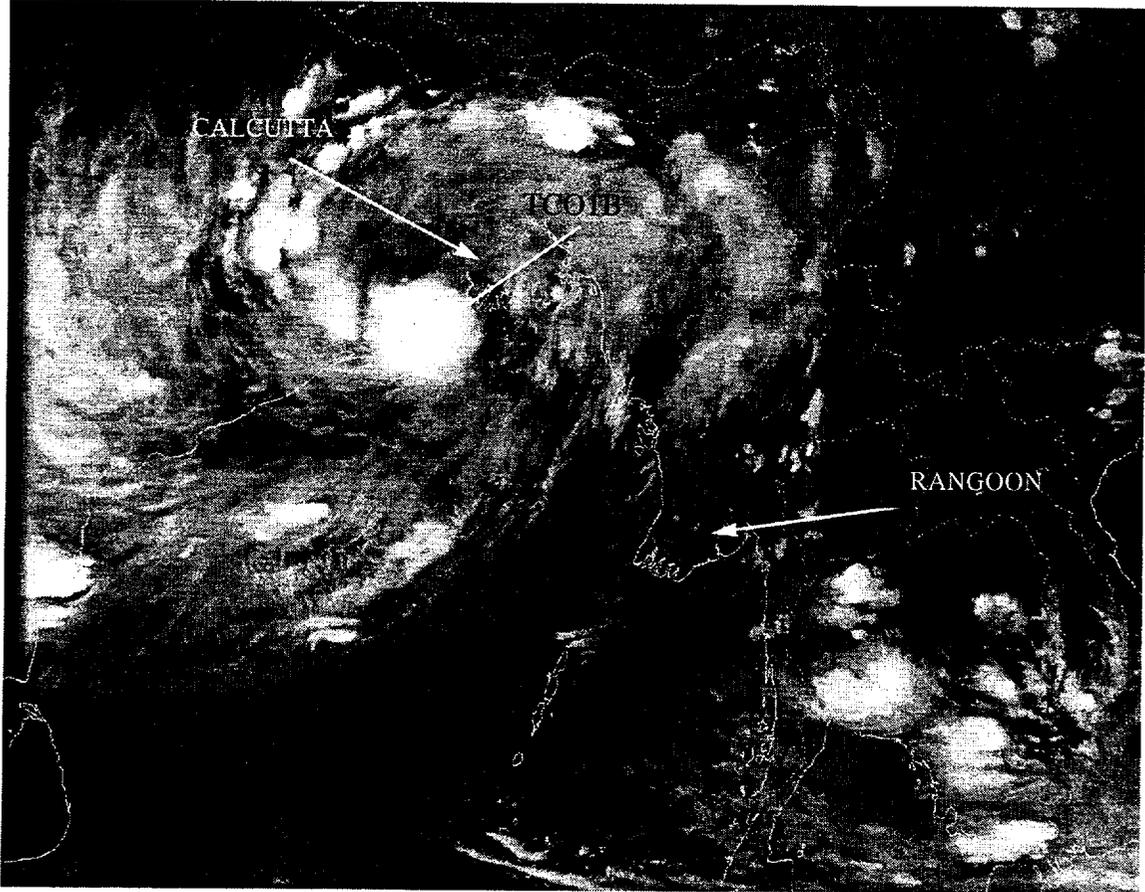


Figure 3-01B-1 Tropical Cyclone 01B at peak intensity of 45 kt (23 m/sec) (161406Z September infrared DMSP imagery).