

## TROPICAL STORM ELLA (23W)

The disturbance that became Tropical Storm Ella (23W) began as a small circulation east of the dateline, with scattered convection emerging from a larger area of convection on 19 September. By 21 September, visible imagery indicated that the convection had become well developed over the system's center. Now a tropical storm, Ella moved rapidly to the west-northwest at 18 to 25 kt (33 to 46 km/hr) under the influence of easterly steering flow south of the subtropical ridge. However, by 22 September, the system began to slow as it approached a break in the ridge, and on 23 September Tropical Storm Ella (23W) moved through the break and recurved to the northeast.



**Figure 3-23-1** Tropical Storm Ella (23W) showing a partially exposed low-level circulation (212132Z September visible GMS imagery).

Tropical Storm Ella (23W) was an unusually small system. The central convection associated with the low-level circulation on 20 September was only about 30 nm (56 km) in diameter. The cyclone's small size in conjunction with moderate vertical wind shear kept Tropical Storm Ella (23W) from intensifying beyond a minimal tropical storm (peak intensity was 40 kt (20m/s) on 22 September). Tropical Storm Ella (23W) dissipated on 24 September near 40N 170E in the vicinity of a frontal zone.

