

## Typhoon Faith (24W)

Typhoon Faith (24W) formed in the western Caroline Islands, developed into a significant tropical cyclone in the Philippine Sea, and reached typhoon intensity over Samar Island, Philippines. TY Faith (24W) continued to track westward and attained a maximum intensity of 90 kt in the South China Sea. As it continued west, it weakened and made landfall over central Vietnam as a tropical storm.

A Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert was first issued at 080330Z December, when the disturbance was located south of Sorol Atoll, Federated States of Micronesia. The first warning was issued at 080900Z December as conventional infrared, visual, and microwave satellite data and synoptic reports indicated a 25 kt intensity. The first warning forecast rapid (12-18 kt) west-northwest movement and slow intensification.

At 090000Z, TD 24W headed northwestward in response to a weak mid-latitude trough that passed north of the cyclone in the mid-tropospheric westerlies. TD 24W then resumed a westward track toward the central Philippines and was upgraded to TS Faith (24W) at 091800Z December.

Six hours prior to the landfall over Samar Island, the cyclone took another short jog to the northwest in response to a second weak passing mid latitude trough, but again resumed a more westward heading after the trough had passed to the northeast.

TS Faith attained typhoon intensity at 101200Z December while passing over the Philippine island of Samar. TY Faith continued across the central Philippine Islands while maintaining minimal typhoon intensity.

Over the South China Sea, TY Faith intensified while moving west-southwestward at 14 to 18 kt. The cyclone attained a maximum intensity of 90 kt at 111200Z December and maintained this intensity while slowing during the next 24 hours. TY Faith (24W) made a second landfall over Vietnam at 140000Z December near Cam Ranh, Vietnam. The cyclone quickly weakened as it moved inland into central Vietnam and the final warning was issued at 141500Z December.

At least 38 people were reported killed in Vietnam with over 10,000 evacuated due to flooding in low-lying areas. Damage assessments for Vietnam reached over \$20 million.

Reports from the Philippines indicated 29 people were killed and over 20,000 were displaced due to the passage of TY Faith. The Philippine Navy rescued 100 people from a disabled ferry travelling from the Philippines to Malaysia. The damage estimate for the Philippines was over \$13 million.

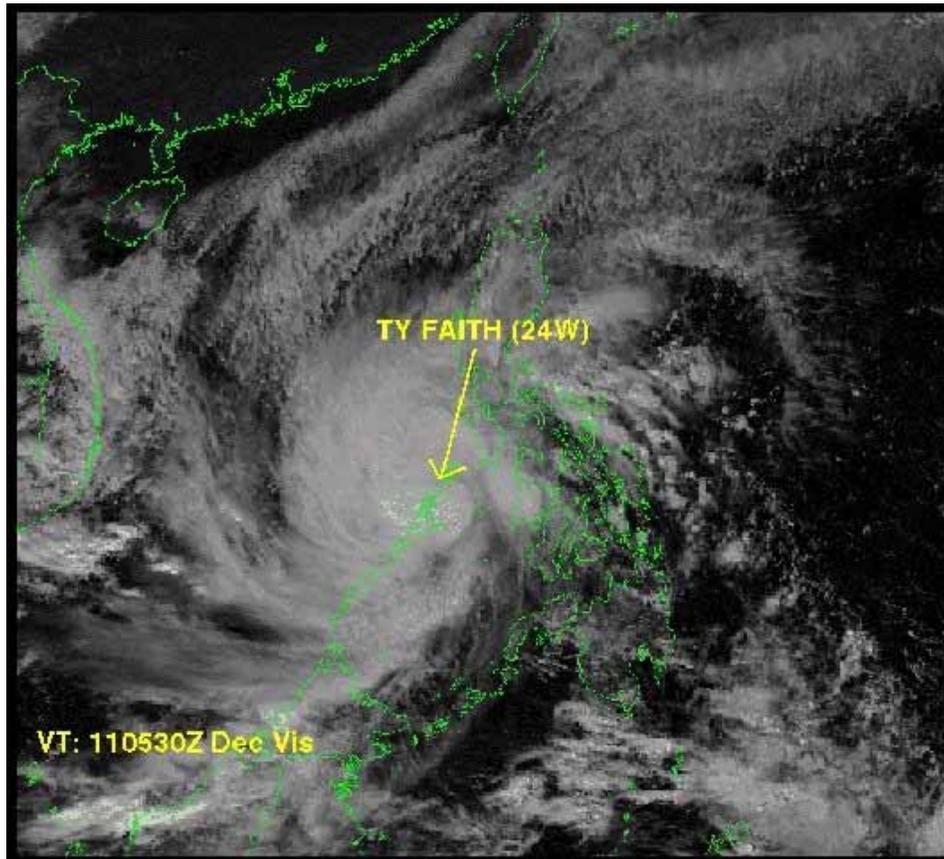


Figure 3-24-1. GMS-5 visible image of TY Faith as it moves into the South China Sea. TY Faith's intensity was 80 kt and it peaked at 90 kt six hours later.

