

LORNA

Lorna, like Cora and Elsie, developed from a depression in the Philippine Sea and crossed the Philippine archipelago (Figure 4-27).

After transiting Luzon, Lorna moved across the South China Sea at 12-15 kt as ridging dominated southern China.

Satellite pictures on the 30th indicated the disturbance was rather small but of tropical storm intensity. The United Kingdom ship MARON, 70 nm north of the center, reported 45-kt winds from the southeast (01/0000 GMT). Reconnaissance aircraft found winds of 60 kt just northeast of the center a few hours later.

Lorna transited south of Hainan Island on the 2nd as her 15-nm-diameter eye was tracked closely by aircraft and ship radar. Although the radar presentations depicted Lorna as a well-developed cyclone, her circulation was quite small. Gale-force winds were limited to a radius of 75 nm from the center in the northern semicircle.

Early on the 3rd, Lorna moved ashore on the North Vietnam coast north of Dong Hoi and degenerated into a low pressure system after crossing central Laos. She dissipated in Thailand late that night.

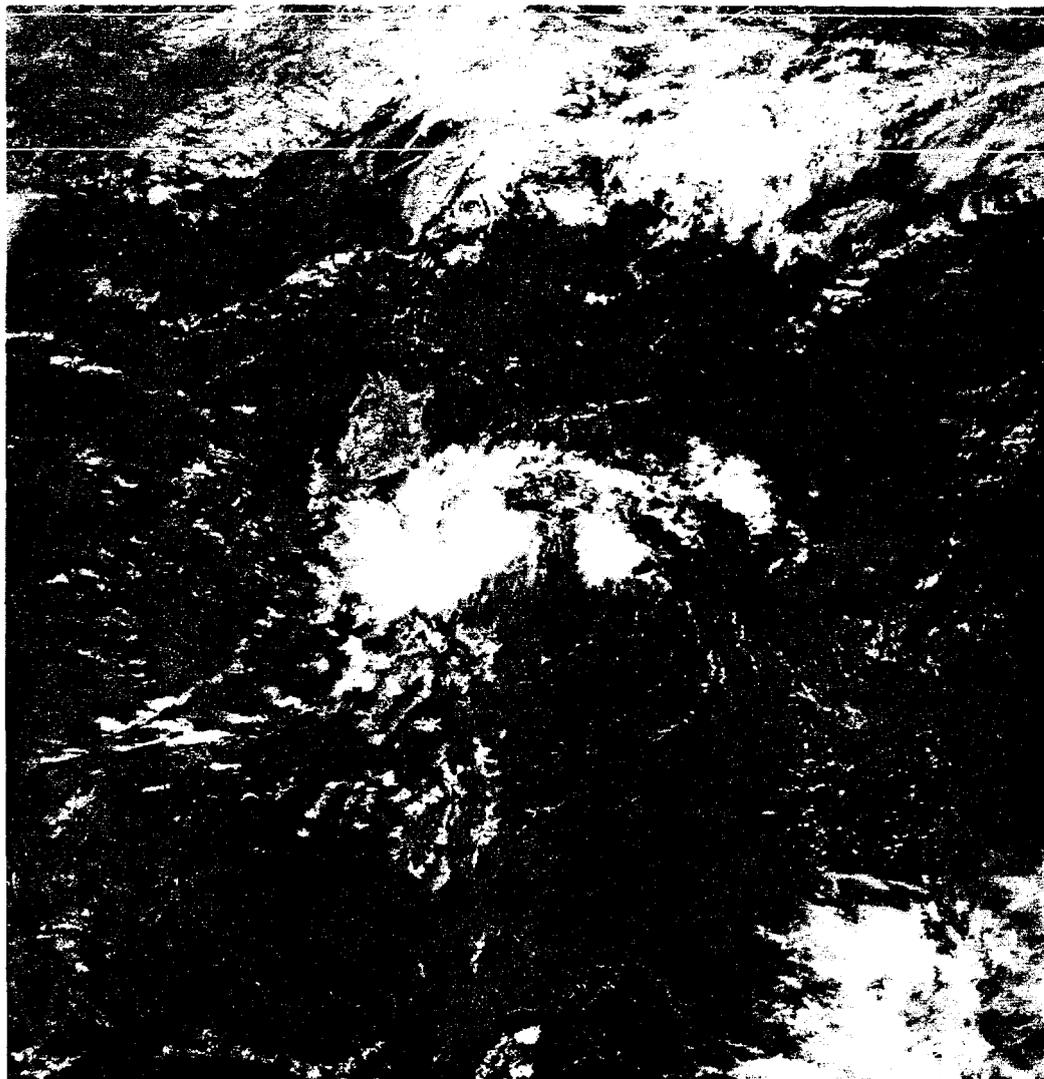


FIGURE 4-27. *Lorna as a tropical depression east of Luzon, 27 September 1972, 0348 GMT. (DAPP data)*