

TROPICAL CYCLONE 05B

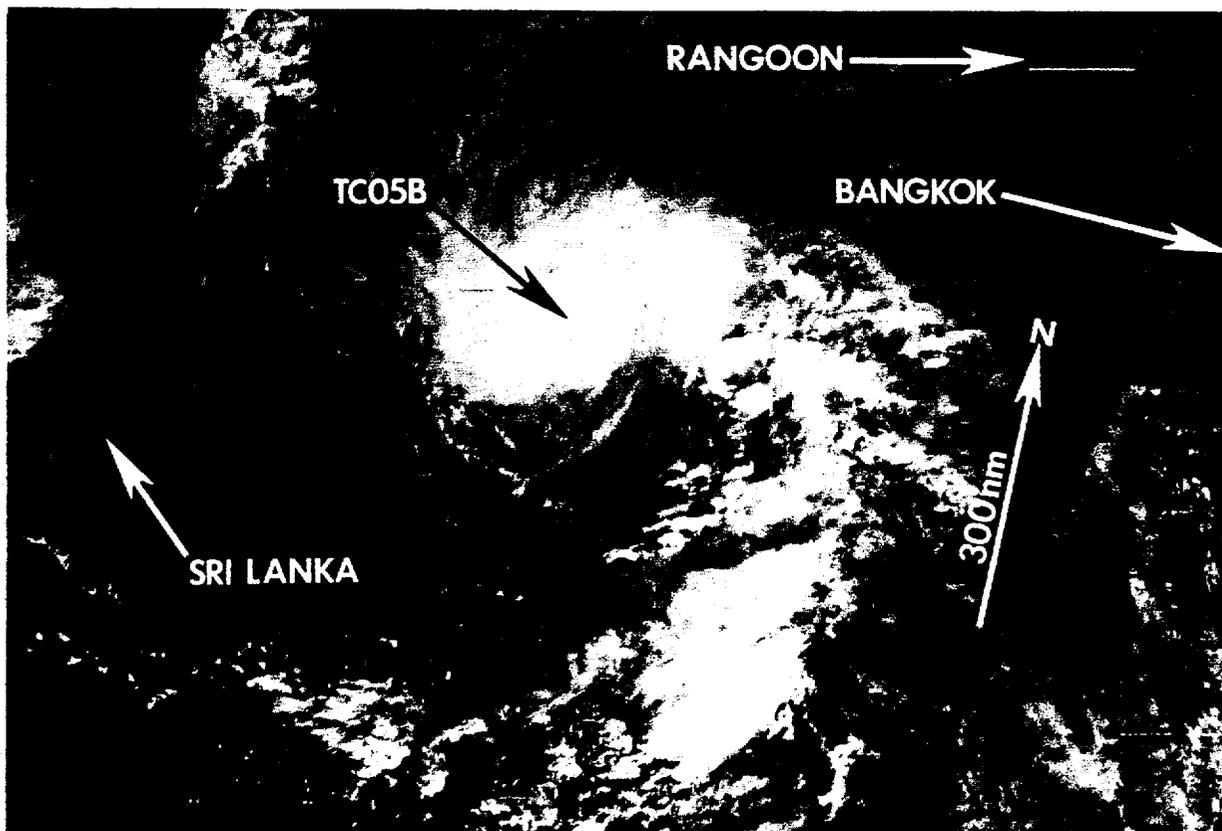


Figure 3-05B-1. The only significant tropical cyclone to form in the Bay of Bengal in December, Tropical Cyclone 05B was first detected as a poorly defined area of cloudiness in the southern Bay of Bengal. The Significant Tropical Weather Advisory was reissued at 061230Z to include the disturbance as suspect for further development. The cloud system continued to develop and a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert was issued at 062100Z. The first warning followed at 070000Z, after satellite intensity analysis indicated 35 kt (18 m/sec) sustained surface winds. Once the peak intensity of 45 kt (23 m/sec) was reached, the tropical cyclone began to weaken and the final warning was issued at 080600Z. The remnants of Tropical Cyclone 05B persisted and struck off westward across the Bay of Bengal for three additional days, before dissipating along the east coast of India north of the city of Madras. The photo above shows Tropical Cyclone 05B shortly before peak intensity (070332Z December DMSP visual imagery).