

NASA sees Tropical Storm Son-tinh moving into South China Sea

October 25 2012



On Oct. 25, 2012 at 0525 UTC (1:25 am EDT) the MODIS instrument captured a visible image of Tropical Storm Son-Tingh that showed the western half of the storm now over the South China Sea. Credit: Credit: NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team

Tropical Storm Son-tinh soaked the Philippines and is now moving into the South China Sea. NASA's Aqua satellite captured a visible image of the storm as the bulk western half of the storm had already moved over water.

On Oct. 25, 2012 at 0525 UTC (1:25 a.m. EDT) the Moderate

Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) instrument that flies aboard NASA's Aqua satellite captured a visible image of Tropical [Storm](#) Sin-Tingh. The image showed that the western half of the storm had already moved into the South [China Sea](#), while powerful thunderstorms in the eastern half were still dropping heavy rainfall over Luzon. [Satellite data](#) shows that the strongest bands of thunderstorms are located in the northern quadrant of the storm, with another band to the northeast of the low-level center.

As a result of the eastern half of the storm still being over land, several areas in Luzon are still under Public storm warning signal #1. Those areas under warning include the Luzon provinces of Metro Manila, Bataan, Zambales, Cavite, Batangas, Northern part of Mindoro and Lubang Island.

By 0900 UTC (5 a.m. EDT), [Tropical Storm](#) Son-tinh had maximum sustained winds near 45 knots (51.7 mph/83.3 kph). It was located about 100 nautical miles (115 miles/185 km) southwest of Manila, the Philippines, near 14.0 North and 118.9 East. It is moving to the west-northwest near 16 knots (18.4 mph/29.6 kph).

Son-tinh is expected to cross the South China Sea in a northwesterly direction and move south of Hainan Island, China before making landfall in northern Vietnam on Oct. 27. The Joint [Typhoon Warning Center](#) expects Son-tinh to strengthen as it crosses the South China Sea.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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