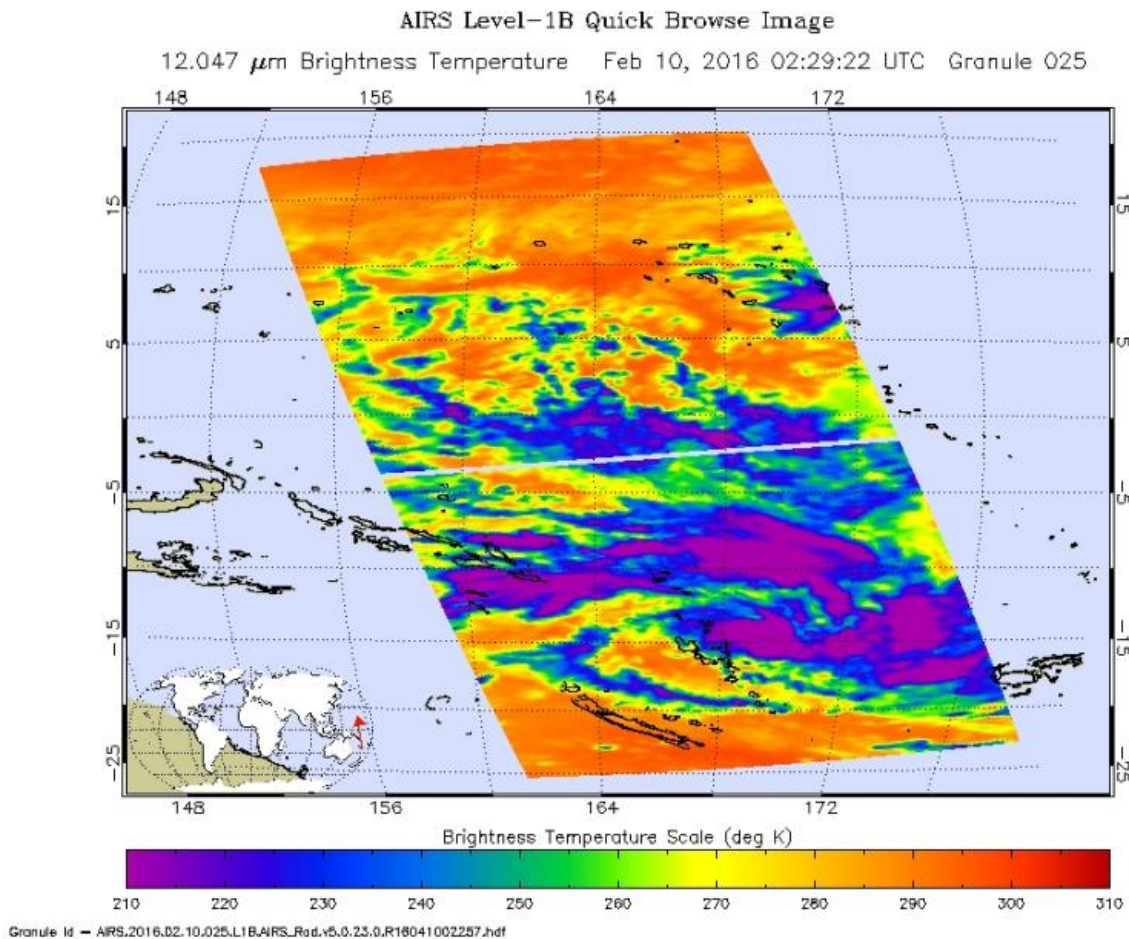


# NASA sees development of Tropical Storm 11P in Southwestern Pacific

February 10 2016, by Rob Gutro



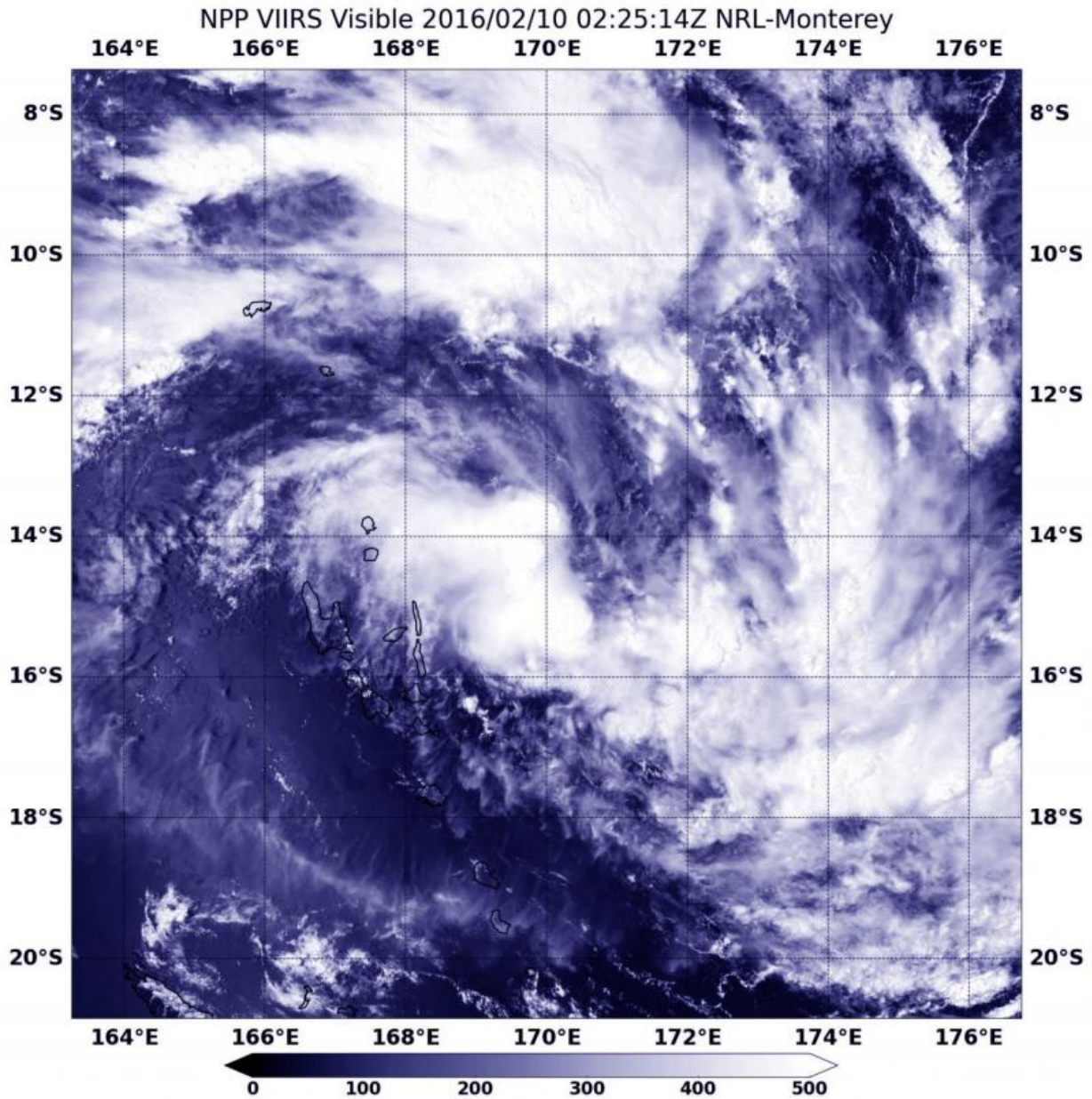
On Feb. 10 at 0229 UTC, AIRS saw strongest storms with cloud top temperatures colder than minus 63 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 53 degrees Celsius) north, east and south of the center. Credit: NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team

The tropical low pressure area previously known as System 97P has developed into a tropical storm named 11P in the Southwestern Pacific Ocean. NASA's Aqua satellite passed overhead and gathered cloud top temperatures that showed powerful storms within, while NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite provided a visible image of the storm east of Vanuatu.

The Atmospheric Infrared Sounder or AIRS instrument that flies aboard NASA's Aqua satellite measured temperatures in Tropical Storm 11P's [cloud tops](#) on Feb. 10 at 0229 UTC (Feb. 9 at 9:22 p.m. EST). AIRS provides valuable temperature data for tropical cyclones such as cloud top and [sea surface temperatures](#).

AIRS saw strongest storms with cloud top temperatures colder than minus 63 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 53 degrees Celsius) north, east and south of the center. NASA research has shown that storms with cloud tops that cold are powerful enough to generate heavy rain. Animated infrared satellite imagery showed the low-level circulation center was rapidly consolidating, and the banding of thunderstorms around the center had improved.

The Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument aboard NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite provided a visible look at Tropical Storm 11S on Feb. 10 at 02:25 UTC (9:25 p.m. EST, Feb. 9) that showed it was between the island nations of Vanuatu to the west, and Fiji to the east.



NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite provided this visible look at Tropical Storm 11S on Feb. 10 at 02:25 UTC (9:25 p.m. EST, Feb. 9) just east of Vanuatu. Credit: NASA/NOAA/Jeff Schmaltz

At 1500 UTC (10 a.m. EST), the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) noted that Tropical Storm 11P (TS 11P) had [maximum](#)

[sustained winds](#) near 35 knots (40 mph/62 kph). It was centered near 15.7 degrees south latitude and 171.1 east longitude, about 463 nautical miles west-northwest of Suva, Fiji. TS 11P has tracked south-southeastward at 9 knots

Tropical Storm 11P is forecast to reach hurricane-strength in a day and peak on Feb. 12 with sustained winds near 105 knots (121 mph) before starting to weaken.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: NASA sees development of Tropical Storm 11P in Southwestern Pacific (2016, February 10) retrieved 14 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-02-nasa-tropical-storm-11p-southwestern.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.