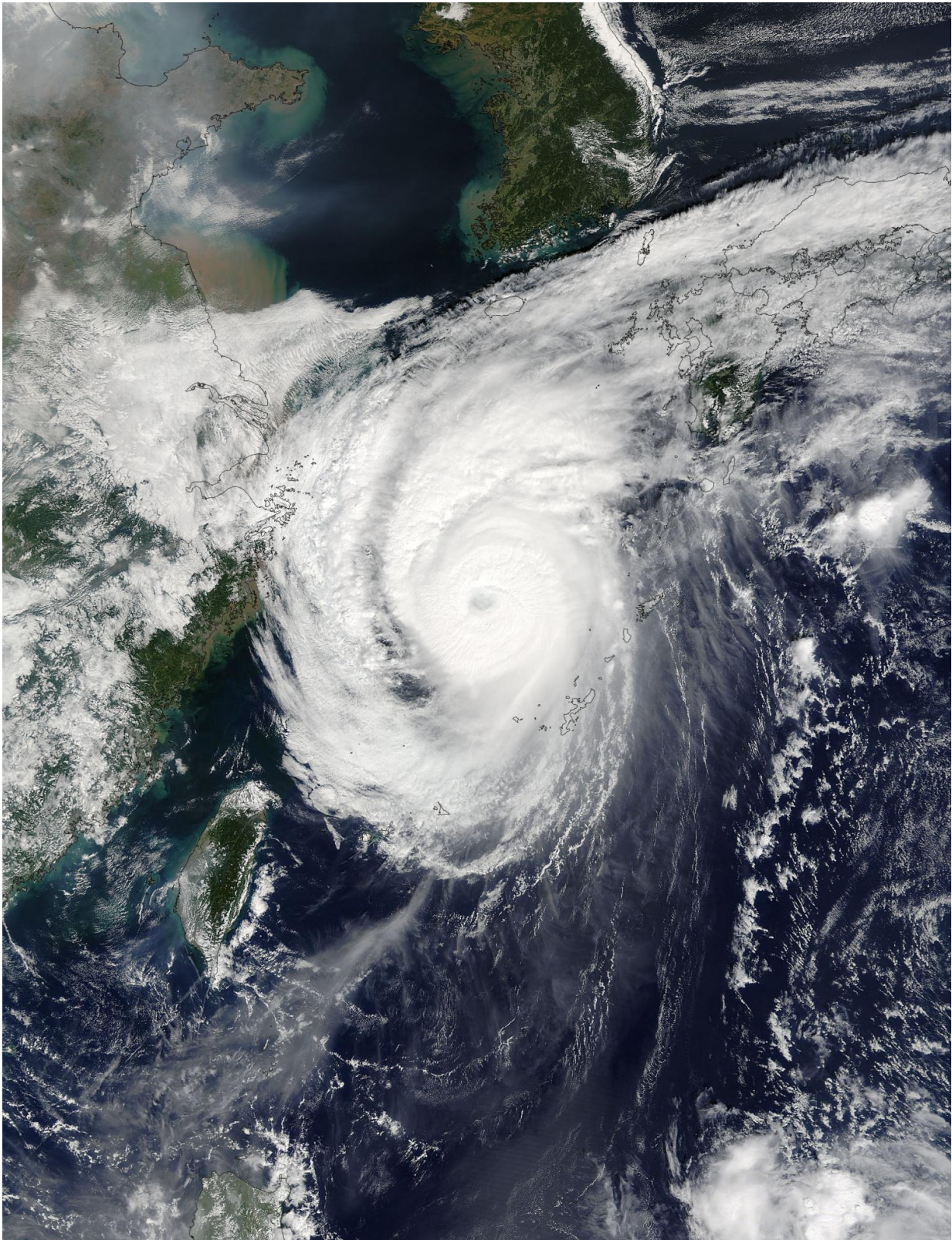


# NASA sees the closing eye of Typhoon Chaba

October 4 2016

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On Oct. 4 at 02:20 UTC (Oct. 3 at 10:20 p.m. EDT) the MODIS instrument

aboard NASA's Terra satellite captured this visible-light image of Typhoon Chaba in the East China Sea. Credit: NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team

NASA satellite imagery showed that Typhoon Chaba's eye had closed as the storm weakened between Oct. 3 and Oct. 4. NASA's Aqua and Terra satellites passed over the Northwestern Pacific Ocean and captured infrared and visible imagery of the storm with the disappearing eye.

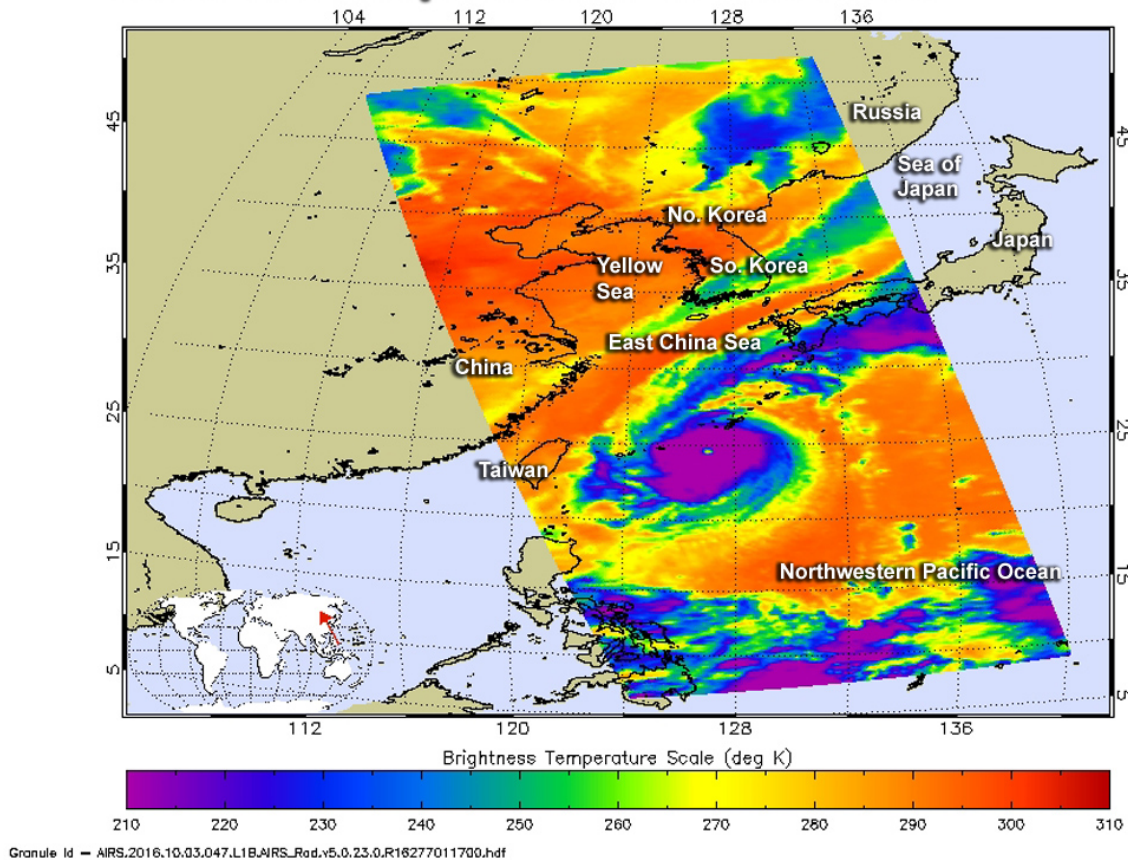
At NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, infrared data from the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder or AIRS instrument that flies aboard NASA's Aqua satellite was made into a false-colored infrared image of Chaba. That data was captured on Oct. 3 at 12:41 a.m. EDT (04:41 UTC) and showed an eye in the Super Typhoon. Infrared data provide temperatures, and the AIRS image showed powerful storms with very cold cloud top temperatures in excess of minus 63 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 53 degrees Celsius).

On Oct. 3 at 10:20 p.m. EDT (Oct. 4 at 02:20 UTC) the MODIS Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer instrument aboard NASA's Terra satellite captured a visible-light image of Typhoon Chaba that showed the eye had become cloud-filled. The storm was weakening and in 13 hours the eye could not be seen. By 5 a.m. EDT (0900 UTC) on Oct. 4, the Joint Typhoon Warning Center noted that Chaba had dropped from [super-typhoon](#) to typhoon status.

At 11 a.m. EDT (1500 UTC) on Oct. 4, Chaba's maximum sustained winds had dropped to 126.6 mph (110 knots/203.7 mm). Chaba's center was near 31.9 degrees north latitude and 126.5 degrees east longitude, about 261 miles (227 nautical miles/420 km) west-southwest of Sasebo, Japan. Chaba was moving to the north at 18.4 mph (16 knots/24.6 kph)

and creating very high seas. The Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) noted that the maximum significant wave height was 36 feet (10.9 meters).

**Infrared image of Super Chaba from the AIRS instrument aboard NASA's Aqua Satellite Oct. 3 at 0220 UTC**



On Oct. 3 at 12:41 a.m. EDT (04:41 UTC) the AIRS instrument aboard NASA's Aqua satellite showed powerful storms with very cold cloud top temperatures (purple) in excess of minus 63 degrees Fahrenheit. Credit: NASA JPL, Ed Olsen

At that time, Chaba's eye was no longer visible. The JTWC noted "animated enhanced [infrared satellite imagery](#) depicts a rapidly

deteriorating system with no longer any resemblance of an eye."

Southwesterly vertical wind shear started to increase as Chaba gets closer to the westerly jet stream, and increased shear would weaken the system.

Chaba is forecast to turn northeast and move over the Sea of Japan while turning extra-tropical.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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