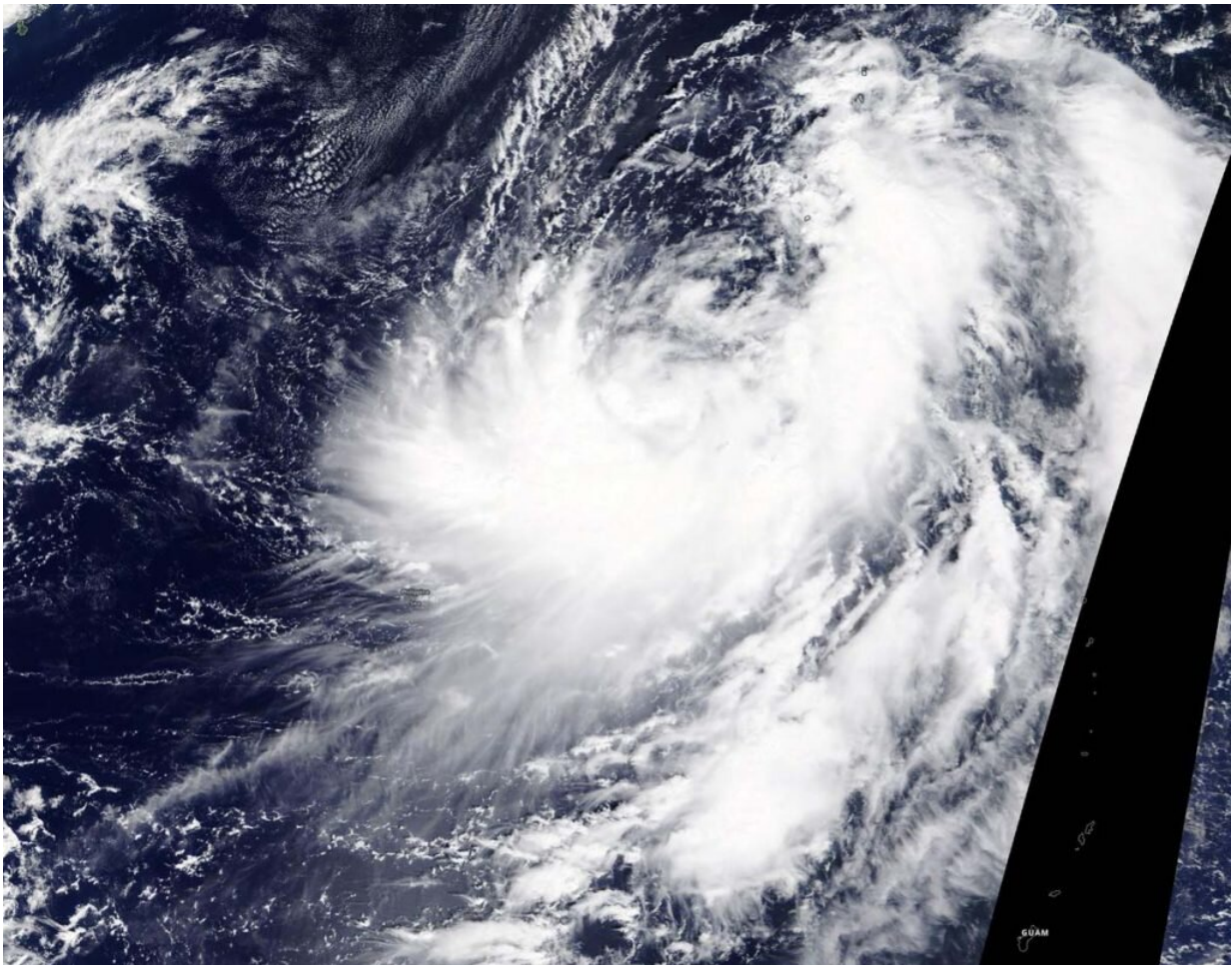


NASA imagery reveals Tropical Storm Chan-hom's skewed structure

October 5 2020



On Oct. 5, 2020, NASA's Terra satellite provided a visible image of Tropical Storm Chan-hom several hundred miles northwest of Guam (lower right). Credit: NASA Worldview, Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS).

NASA's Terra satellite obtained visible imagery of Tropical Storm Chan-hom as it continued moving through the Northwestern Pacific Ocean. The imagery revealed that the center of circulation was exposed and its strongest storms were south of the center.

Tropical Depression 16W formed on Oct. 4 and strengthened into a [tropical storm](#) on Oct 5. Once it reached tropical [storm](#) strength, it was re-named Chan-hom. Laos submitted the name Chan-hom to the World Meteorological Organization list. The name is a type of tree in Laos.

NASA satellite view: Chan-hom's organization

The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer or MODIS instrument that flies aboard NASA's Terra [satellite](#) captured a visible image of Tropical Storm Chan-hom on Oct. 5 that showed a couple of things were occurring in the storm. First, bands of thunderstorms were wrapping into a partially exposed low-level circulation center. Second, there was building convection and thunderstorms occurring over the southern quadrant of the storm, giving it an appearance of a backwards letter "C" on satellite [imagery](#). The storm is expected to strengthen over the next three days and when it does, it will likely develop a more circular shape.

The [satellite imagery](#) was created using NASA's Worldview product at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

Chan-hom's status on Oct. 5

At 11 a.m. EDT (1500 UTC) on Oct. 5, Chan-hom was centered near latitude 23.0 degrees north and longitude 139.2 degrees east. That is about 738 miles south of Yokosuka, Japan. Chan-hom is moving north and has maximum sustained winds of 35 knots (40 mph/64 kph).

Chan-hom's forecast

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center noted, "Chan-hom is forecast to track generally northwestward along the southwestern periphery of a subtropical ridge (elongated area of high pressure) over the next three days. During this time, the system will steadily intensify to a peak intensity of 85 knots (98 mph/157 kph) by three days largely due to the continued low vertical wind shear and warm sea surface temperatures."

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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