

= Typhoon Nelson (1982) =

Typhoon Nelson , known in the Philippines as Typhoon Bising , was the second tropical cyclone to strike the Philippines within a week in March 1982 . Nelson originated from a tropical disturbance southeast of Guam towards the middle of March . Although the system was initially poorly organized , it developed rather quickly , and was upgraded into Tropical Storm Nelson on March 19 . It tracked westward , and fluctuated in intensity for several days . On March 24 , Typhoon Nelson intensified into a typhoon , and entered an episode of rapid intensification . On March 25 , Nelson reached its peak intensity of 115 km / h (70 mph) , but thereafter moved ashore on the Philippines , where the storm weakened significantly . On March 27 , the typhoon entered the South China Sea , and the next day , briefly re-intensified before resuming a weakening trend . Nelson dissipated on March 31 . Affecting the nation less than a week after Tropical Storm Mamie did , Nelson was responsible for additional flooding across much of the Philippines . Fifty-six people were killed due to the typhoon , eight of whom perished due to drownings . Over 1,200 homes were destroyed . More than 165,000 people fled to shelters , including 83,000 that were displaced from their home . Thirty fishing boats and 23 ferries were destroyed due to the system . Damage amounted to \$ 17.2 million (1982 USD) .

= Meteorological history =

The second of three early season tropical cyclones to form in the West Pacific basin , Typhoon Nelson can be traced back to a low latitude area of disturbed in mid-March . The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) started watching the system at 0000 UTC on March 18 while a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert (TCFA) was issued . Initially , the system was disorganized , but the disturbance was located in a favorable environment aloft and began to develop rapidly . Ten hours after the TCFA , the JTWC upgraded the system into a tropical depression . Early on March 19 , the JMA classified the system as a tropical storm . Later that morning , Hurricane Hunters reported winds of 95 km / h (60 mph) and a barometric pressure of 993 mbar (29.3 inHg) . Based on this , the JTWC designated the system as Tropical Storm Nelson .

Nelson tracked westward , staying south of a large subtropical ridge . Despite the aforementioned favorable environment , Nelson briefly weakened late on March 19 , but re-intensified slightly the following morning . Shortly thereafter , the JTWC upgraded the system into a typhoon . Further intensification was halted due to increased easterly wind shear , and the storm began to level off in intensity as it accelerated on a westward course . On March 21 , the JMA declared Nelson a severe tropical storm . According to the JTWC , the storm fluctuated between tropical storm and typhoon status for about 60 hours , even though the JMA suggest that Nelson did not become a typhoon until March 24 . Around this time , the Philippine Atmospheric , Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) also started monitoring the storm , assigning it with the local name Bising .

After becoming a typhoon , Nelson forward's speed began to slow down as the storm began to move away from the ridge and encounter more conducive conditions . Consequently , Typhoon Nelson began to deepen more rapidly , and by the afternoon of March 25 , both the JTWC and JMA increased the intensity to 185 km / h (115 mph) . Although the JMA suggests the system reached its peak intensity at that time , the JTWC indicated that Nelson strengthen slightly on March 25 , and attained winds of 195 km / h (120 mph) , equivalent to a major hurricane or a Category 3 system on the United States-based Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale . Shortly thereafter , the storm moved ashore in the Philippine at peak intensity . After making landfall , Nelson weakened over the south-central portion of the nation . By March 26 , the JMA had lowered the winds to 160 km / h (100 mph) .

By March 27 , Nelson re-emerged into the South China Sea , having weakened considerably , and data from both the JMA and JTWC indicated that Nelson was no longer a typhoon . The next day , Nelson briefly re-intensified slightly , and at 1800 UTC on March 28 , the JMA estimated a secondary peak intensity of 105 km / h (65 mph) . On the following day , Nelson resumed

weakening due to increased wind shear . Despite the presence of a trough , Nelson did not recurve northeast , and instead meandered westward . On the afternoon of March 31 , the JMA ceased watching Nelson . On the next day , the JTWC followed suit while located about 450 km (280 mi) east of Nha Trang , Vietnam .

= = Preparations and impact = =

Typhoon Nelson was the second storm to strike the Philippines within a week , following Tropical Storm Mamie , which claimed 54 lives . Considered a " pre @-@ season " storm by newspapers , Nelson required storm warnings for parts of the nation , which were broadcast via radio . Much of the southern section of the Philippines were placed on typhoon alert . Due to the threat of storm surge , residents in coastal areas were advised to evacuate to higher ground .

Typhoon Nelson was responsible for significant flooding across the Philippines . On the offshore Leyte Island , a radio transmitter and a school were destroyed . In Cebu City , schools , businesses , and government offices were closed for a day . Across the low @-@ lying town of Abucay , flooding occurred . A total of 1 @,@ 261 dwellings were leveled , including 703 houses destroyed in the provinces of Cebu , Bohol , and Surigao , leaving approximately 83 @,@ 000 people homeless . In Loreto Town , part of the Suriago Province , 95 % of all coconut trees were toppled , and all but 45 of the town 's 600 houses were demolished . A total of 165 @,@ 462 persons evacuated to shelters . Widespread power outages occurred while many bridges were washed away . Shipping and air services were halted ; 30 fishing boats and 23 ferries were destroyed . In all , 56 people perished due to Typhoon Nelson . Ten died in the hard @-@ hit Leyte Province . At least eight of the casualties were due to drownings , which included two woman and an infant . Overall , damage from Nelson amounted to \$ 17 @.@ 2 million , crop and property damage alone totaled \$ 7 @.@ 4 million .