

= 1939 Pacific typhoon season =

The 1939 Pacific typhoon season has no official bounds ; it ran year @-@ round in 1939 , but most tropical cyclones tend to form in the northwestern Pacific Ocean between May and November . These dates conventionally delimit the period of each year when most tropical cyclones form in the northwestern Pacific Ocean .

The scope of this article is limited to the Pacific Ocean , north of the equator and west of the international date line . Storms that form east of the date line and north of the equator are called hurricanes ; see 1939 Pacific hurricane season . Storms in the season were tracked by the United States Weather Bureau and released in the Monthly Weather Review under the header " Typhoons and Depressions over the Far East " . The Monthly Weather Review only covers tropical cyclones west of 150 ° E. Due to lack of satellites and ship reports due to the Pacific Theatre of World War II , it is possible other tropical cyclones existed , especially if they were short @-@ lived or of minor intensity .

There were 29 known tropical cyclones , including 24 of typhoon status , of which several of the storms were deadly . A typhoon in November was the deadliest cyclone of the season , causing 49 deaths as it crossed the Philippines . The same typhoon later struck Hong Kong , where the Hong Kong Observatory recorded the first period of calm during the eye of a cyclone . At least 151 people were killed during the season , with 12 missing and unconfirmed of their status during some point during the season .

= = Storms = =

= = = Season summary = = =

= = = Tropical Depression One = = =

A depression was first observed on February 3 while located about 250 miles ( 400 km ) of Yap . It tracked steadily westward until February 7 when it stalled about 200 miles ( 320 km ) east of the Philippine island of Mindanao . The depression remained nearly stationary for two days until turning to a steady northwest motion . It approached the island of Samar Island on February 12 , where a pressure of 1 @,@ 006 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @.@ 71 inHg ) was reported , and subsequently turned to the north and later to the northeast . The depression was last observed on February 16 accelerating towards the Aleutian Islands . The system produced heavy rainfall in the Philippines , with extensive flooding reported in Surigao del Norte . It is unknown if the system intensified into a tropical storm .

= = = Typhoon Two = = =

On April 29 , an area of low pressure was located about 300 miles ( 480 km ) south of Yap . It moved westward , northward , and ultimately to the west @-@ northwest before developing into a tropical depression on May 2 to the east of the Philippines . Early on May 3 , after intensifying into a tropical storm the system struck the Philippine island of Samar Island , and the next day it hit Masbate before turning northward . After passing over northern Luzon on May 5 , the storm accelerated northeastward as it moved through the Luzon Strait , and intensified into a typhoon on May 7 . While the typhoon was off the southern coast of Japan , a ship located 290 miles ( 465 km ) south of Nagoya reported a minimum central pressure of 986 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @.@ 12 inHg ) . The typhoon weakened as it paralleled about 100 miles ( 160 km ) off the coast of Japan , and was last observed on May 9 accelerating northeastward .

The storm produced strong winds throughout the eastern portions of the Philippine archipelago . 90 fishermen were caught in the storm , with one person drowning and eleven missing at one estimate

made one month after the storm passed the area . Winds reached tropical storm force in southern Japan .

#### === Typhoon Three ===

A tropical depression developed on May 26 in the northern portion of the South China Sea . After initially moving to the northwest , the depression later turned to the northeast and quickly intensified to attain typhoon status by May 28 while located to the east of Hainan Island . The typhoon stalled on May 30 before turning to the west , and moved inland on southern China on May 31 . Several ships reported strong winds , rough seas , and heavy rainfall in conjunction with the storm , with one ship reporting a minimum central pressure of 994 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 35 inHg ) . On land , a station in Hong Kong recorded a pressure of about 1 @, @ 000 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 53 inHg ) as well as minor winds . No damage was reported .

#### === Typhoon Four ===

On July 7 , a tropical depression was first observed while located about 400 miles ( 645 km ) east of Naha , Okinawa . It moved to the northwest , and the next day a station in ?shima reported winds in excess of 65 mph ( 105 km / h ) and a pressure of 978 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @. @ 88 inHg ) when the storm was nearby . Based on the report , it is estimated it intensified into a typhoon , and after turning northeastward upon entering the Yellow Sea it struck North Korea . The storm turned to the east , and was last observed on July 12 in the open Pacific Ocean . Rainfall and flooding from the typhoon and several other storms during the month resulted in two deaths and considerable damage to private and public property in the Philippines .

#### === Typhoon Five ===

A tropical depression developed roughly 250 miles ( 400 km ) of the eastern Philippines on July 7 . The depression tracked northwestward initially , and after intensifying into a typhoon its motion turned to the north @- @ northeast , followed by a turn back to the northwest on July 10 . The typhoon crossed the East China Sea and made landfall on eastern China near Shanghai on July 12 , where 80 @- @ mph ( 130 @- @ km / h ) winds and a pressure of 992 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 29 inHg ) were recorded . The storm weakened as it continued its motion while roughly paralleling the northern coastline , and dissipated on July 13 . The passage of the typhoon killed at least six people in Shanghai .

#### === Tropical Storm Six ===

A typhoon quickly developed about 120 miles ( 195 km ) west of northern Luzon on July 10 . It initially moved northwestward , then a day later turned to the northeast . After passing through the Luzon Strait , the typhoon changed its motion to the northwest , resulting in a landfall on northern Taiwan . The typhoon struck southeastern China , and dissipated about 500 miles ( 800 km ) inland on July 17 . A ship en route to Hong Kong reported a pressure of 997 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 44 inHg ) and winds of over 40 mph ( 65 km / h ) . A station on western Luzon recorded minor winds and slightly below normal pressures in association with the system , though damage , if any , is unknown .

#### === Typhoon Seven ===

On July 15 , a low pressure area formed into a tropical depression while located about halfway between the Philippines and the Marianas Islands . The depression steadily intensified as it tracked to the northwest , and attained typhoon status on July 18 . After a brief turn to the north @- @ northeast , the storm changed its motion to the northwest , and made landfall on southeastern

Taiwan and later on China on July 20 about 120 miles ( 195 km ) south of Shanghai . It quickly dissipated . A station in the Ry?ky? Islands reported a pressure of 997 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 44 inHg ) with light winds . Damage , if any , is unknown .

== Typhoon Eight ==

A tropical depression formed on July 20 while located between the Philippines and the Marianas Islands . After moving steadily northwestward , the system stalled for two days , and later turned to the north @- @ northeast . The storm intensified into a typhoon shortly before crossing the Ry?ky? Islands , after which it turned sharply westward . Unfavorable conditions encountered the storm , and it rapidly dissipated over the open waters of the East China Sea on July 27 . A station in Naha , Okinawa recorded a pressure of 999 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 50 inHg ) , with another station in the Ry?ky? Islands reporting winds of around 20 mph ( 32 km / h ) . There was no reported damage .

== Typhoon Nine ==

A well @- @ developed typhoon was first observed on July 22 moving rapidly northward about 700 miles ( 1125 km ) east of Taiwan . The typhoon turned to the northwest , passing just south of the Japanese island of Ky?sh? . It turned to the west , crossing the Yellow Sea and striking the Chinese province of Shandong before dissipating on July 25 . A station in the Ry?ky? Islands recorded a pressure of 997 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 44 inHg ) , with a station on Borodino Island reporting winds of about 15 mph ( 24 km / h ) . Damage , if any , is unknown .

== Typhoon Ten ==

On July 22 a small typhoon developed a short distance off the coast of Taiwan . It drifted northwestward , then turned to the northeast , and by July 24 unfavorable conditions caused it to dissipate . A ship sailing between Hong Kong and Shanghai , China reported a pressure of 995 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 38 inHg ) and winds of around 35 mph ( 55 km / h ) . No reports are available from Taiwan , and damage , if any , is unknown .

== Typhoon Eleven ==

An area of low pressure organized into a tropical depression on July 25 over the open waters of the western Pacific Ocean . The depression tracked northwestward , and gradually strengthened to attain typhoon status on July 27 . After turning to the west , it gradually recurved towards the north and approached northern Taiwan . Under varying steering currents , the typhoon executed a counterclockwise loop over the country , and exited from the southern coastline after turning eastward . By the morning of August 1 , it was located about 250 miles ( 400 km ) east of Taiwan , after which the typhoon accelerated to the northeast . After reaching the Ry?ky? Islands on August 3 , the storm stalled , turned to the northwest for a day , then weakened until dissipating on August 6 to the south of Japan after turning to the east . A station in the Philippines reported a pressure of 996 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 41 inHg ) in association with the storm , with another station recording winds of 68 mph ( 110 km / h ) . Damage , if any , is unknown .

== Typhoon Twelve ==

On July 28 , a low pressure area formed into a tropical depression over the Marianas Islands . It tracked to the northwest , and quickly intensified into a typhoon a few hours after developing while located about 250 miles ( 400 km ) south of the Ogasawara Islands . After changing its motion to the west , the typhoon turned sharply northward on July 31 , followed by a turn to the east @- @ northeast . The storm passed through the Ogasawara Islands on August 2 , and halted its forward

motion before turning to the northwest . On August 6 the typhoon struck south @-@ central Japan and later the island of Hokkaid? after turning to the northeast , and it was last observed on August 8 in the open western Pacific Ocean . A ship passing through the center of the typhoon recorded a pressure of 960 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @.@ 35 inHg ) and winds exceeding 55 mph ( 88 km / h ) . Damage from the typhoon , if any , is unknown .

= = = Tropical Depression Thirteen = = =

A tropical depression formed on September 12 about 300 miles ( 480 km ) south of Guam . It moved northwestward without strengthening , and dissipated on September 16 about 600 miles ( 965 km ) east of the Philippines . The depression never affected land .

= = = Typhoon Fourteen = = =

On September 17 a tropical depression developed in the South China Sea . It tracked westward , and intensified into a typhoon . On September 19 , the storm made landfall on Vietnam about 150 miles ( 240 km ) northwest of Da Nang , and subsequently dissipated . Meteorological details for the typhoon are unavailable due to the presence of the Pacific Theatre of World War II .

= = = Typhoon Fifteen = = =

An area of disturbed weather organized into a tropical depression on September 18 about 250 miles ( 400 km ) west of Guam . The depression slowly intensified as it moved generally northwestward , and by September 21 it attained typhoon status while located about east of Aparri on the Philippine island of Luzon . Shortly after strengthening into a typhoon , the storm turned to the northeast and paralleled the southern coastline of Japan a short distance offshore . It was last observed on September 24 . Effects , if any , are unknown .

= = = Typhoon Sixteen = = =

Atmospheric pressure was relatively low over the South China Sea during the last week of September , and subsequent to the development of a circulation in an area of disturbed weather , a tropical depression formed on September 27 . It quickly strengthened to typhoon status , and made landfall on eastern Vietnam just south of Da Nang on September 30 . The storm quickly weakened over land , with only slight traces of the former typhoon by the following day . A station in the northern Philippines recorded a pressure of 1 @.@ 000 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @.@ 53 inHg ) , and a recording station near the location of its final landfall reported winds of about 50 mph ( 80 km / h ) . Damage is unknown .

= = = Typhoon Seventeen = = =

On October 3 a tropical depression developed about 500 miles ( 800 km ) south @-@ southeast of Guam , likely having originated from a tropical disturbance in the eastern Caroline Islands . The system gradually strengthened to typhoon status while it tracked west @-@ northwestward . On October 7 the typhoon turned to the northwest and moved through the southern Luzon Strait , passing about 30 miles ( 48 km ) southwest of Basco in the Filipino province of Batanes on October 9 . Under unfavorable conditions the typhoon steadily weakened over the subsequent days , and dissipated on October 12 over the southern portion of the Taiwan Strait . The minimum pressure associated with the typhoon was a value of 957 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @.@ 26 inHg ) at Basco , where winds exceeding 75 mph ( 120 km / h ) were also recorded . Reportedly damage was minor over northern Luzon , and no deaths occurred .

= = = Typhoon Eighteen = = =

A tropical depression was first observed on October 7 to the east @-@ northeast of Guam . Tracking to the northwest , the depression steadily intensified to attain typhoon status . Several days later , it began to weaken while gradually recurving to the northeast , and on October 13 it became extratropical . A ship on its way to the Philippines recorded a pressure of 995 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @.@ 38 inHg ) along with winds of about 50 mph ( 80 km / h ) .

= = = Typhoon Nineteen = = =

On October 10 a tropical depression was first observed about 300 miles ( 480 km ) south of Guam . It initially moved west @-@ northwestward , and strengthened into a typhoon on October 11 while briefly changing its motion to the southwest . The next day the typhoon turned to the northwest , and days later turned to the north while located about 150 miles ( 240 km ) east of Bataan Province in the Philippines . After passing through the Ry?ky? Islands , it weakened as it turned to the northeast and east , and on October 17 it was last observed turning to the southeast over the open Pacific Ocean . A ship en route to Hong Kong on October 15 recorded a pressure of 968 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @.@ 59 inHg ) and winds of over 75 mph ( 120 km / h ) while located to the east of Taiwan . The passage of the typhoon caused 33 fatalities in Japan .

= = = Typhoon Twenty = = =

A low pressure area developed into a tropical depression on October 21 about 300 miles ( 480 km ) northwest of Guam . After initially moving northwestward , it turned to the north and intensified into a typhoon on October 22 . On October 23 it passed near or over the Ogasawara Islands , where a recording station reported a pressure of 996 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @.@ 41 inHg ) . The typhoon was last observed on October 23 accelerating northeastward .

= = = Tropical Storm Twenty @-@ One = = =

On November 4 a tropical disturbance organized into a tropical depression while located about 300 miles ( 480 km ) east of Mindanao . It moved quickly to the west @-@ northwest , and struck the Philippine island of Samar without strengthening further . After passing through the archipelago , the storm entered the South China Sea late on November 5 , and gradually weakened until dissipation on November 9 near southwestern Taiwan . A station in Santa Cruz in Laguna province recorded a pressure of 997 @.@ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @.@ 44 inHg ) , with at least one station in the Philippines reporting tropical storm force winds . Reports from the country indicate it was potentially a typhoon , though meteorologists decided it was not due to relatively high pressures and lack of significant convection to the southwest of the center . Damage , if any , is unknown .

= = = Tropical Depression Twenty @-@ Two = = =

A tropical depression formed on November 6 about 500 miles ( 800 km ) east of Mindanao . It initially moved to the west @-@ northwest , and gradually recurved to the northeast . After accelerating east @-@ northeastward , the depression was last observed on November 13 as a remnant low pressure area over the open western Pacific Ocean . It is unknown if it strengthened into a tropical storm .

= = = Typhoon Twenty @-@ Three = = =

On November 18 a tropical depression was first observed to the east of Mindanao . The depression steadily intensified as it tracked west @-@ northwestward , and intensified into a typhoon before striking Samar Island and Leyte Island on November 19 . It continued westward until reaching the western region of the South China Sea on November 22 . An approaching cold front turned the

typhoon to the northeast , resulting in a rare occurrence of a typhoon recurving northeastward in the western portion of the South China Sea . On November 24 the typhoon passed over Macau , and two hours later the eye crossed directly over Hong Kong . The calm of the center of the eye lasted for fifteen minutes at the Hong Kong Observatory , the first time on record that the calm of a typhoon was recorded there . The typhoon began to become extratropical after making landfall , and continued northeastward through southern China . It gradually weakened while passing through the Taiwan Strait and possibly over Taiwan before dissipating on November 26 .

While crossing over the Philippines , a station in Capiz on Panay Island recorded a pressure of 981 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @. @ 97 inHg ) as well as winds in excess of 55 mph ( 88 km / h ) . The passage of the typhoon sunk a motor boat on Masbate island , killing 48 of the 50 occupants aboard . One person was reported missing and presumed dead in Balangiga in Eastern Samar , believed to be caused by drowning . Property damage was great in Samar , Leyte , and Capiz provinces . In Hong Kong , wind gusts reached 74 mph ( 119 km / h ) during a rainband ahead of the storm . Rainfall began seven hours before the arrival of the typhoon , and amounted to roughly 4 @. @ 27 inches ( 108 mm ) . The heaviest rainfall occurred in rainbands ahead of the typhoon , with about 1 @. @ 6 inches ( 40 mm ) falling during a 1 @-@ hour time period . The lowest pressure recorded in Hong Kong was about 989 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 21 inHg ) while the typhoon was passing through the area . Damage was minor in Hong Kong .

== Tropical Depression Twenty @-@ Four ==

On November 22 a tropical depression formed to the east of Mindanao , and subsequently tracked to the northwest . Days later it stalled while located about 250 miles ( 400 km ) east of Samar Island , and gradually weakened . Cold air intruded the circulation on November 25 , and two days later it became extratropical .

== Typhoon Twenty @-@ Five ==

A well @-@ developed typhoon was first observed on November 29 while located about 150 miles ( 240 km ) south of Yap . It moved to the northwest , and struck Samar Island on December 2 . The typhoon continued northwestward through the archipelago , and gradually weakened while drifting through the South China Sea . It turned to the northeast , and dissipated on December 5 off the coast of northern Luzon . The typhoon produced heavy rainfall and strong winds along its path through the Philippines . Rivers throughout Masbate island were overflowed from the abundant rainfall , causing 34 fatalities on the island . A station on Samar Island recorded a barometric minimum of 975 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @. @ 79 inHg ) .

== Typhoon Twenty @-@ Six ==

An area of disturbed weather organized into a tropical depression on December 5 about 200 miles ( 320 km ) southwest of Guam . After moving west @-@ northwestward for several days , it turned to the northeast on December 9 , during which it attained typhoon status . The typhoon maintained peak winds for about two days before quickly weakening to a remnant area of low pressure on December 11 . A ship in the vicinity of the cyclone reported a minimum pressure of 952 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 28 @. @ 11 inHg ) .

== Typhoon Twenty @-@ Seven ==

On December 16 , a low pressure area quickly organized into a typhoon about 350 miles ( 565 km ) east of Surigao . It moved quickly to the northwest at speeds of about 30 mph ( 48 km / h ) , faster than all but one previously known typhoon . The storm struck southeastern Luzon and turned to the north and north @-@ northeast . After passing near Manila it reached open waters on December 20 . For the following two days , it drifted eastward , possibly executing a loop , and after accelerating

to the northeast it was last observed on December 24 . A station at Sorsogon recorded a pressure of 998 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 47 inHg ) . While passing through the northern Philippines , the typhoon produced heavy rainfall , killing 19 on Masbate and 14 in northern Luzon .

= = = Typhoon Twenty @-@ Eight = = =

The final typhoon of the season was first observed on December 22 about 225 miles ( 360 km ) south of Guam . It initially moved to the northwest , and on December 24 the typhoon turned to the east @-@ northeast . It steadily weakened , and was last observed on December 26 accelerating out to sea . The typhoon produced heavy rainfall and winds of around 50 mph ( 80 km / h ) on Guam . The minimum pressure associated with the typhoon was a ship report of 995 @. @ 0 hectopascals ( 29 @. @ 38 inHg ) .