

Preliminary Report  
Tropical Storm Pablo  
4 - 8 October 1995

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a. Synoptic History

Pablo was a Cape Verde-type tropical storm that did not affect land.

Pablo originated from a tropical wave which moved from Africa to the Atlantic Ocean on October 3rd. The wave acquired a low-level circulation and became a tropical depression at 1800 UTC on the 4th, while it moved westward at 15 to 20 knots and was centered about 600 n mi southwest of the Cape Verde Islands. The official track of Pablo, listed in Table 1 and plotted in Fig. 1, begins at this time.

Pablo became a tropical storm on the 5th. Its movement was rather fast toward the west-northwest and then west across the tropical Atlantic for the next three days under the influence of deep easterlies. It is estimated that the storm's sustained winds reached their maximum value of 50 knots on the 6th and then stayed near 45 knots until the 8th, when the storm encountered very strong vertical shear and quickly dissipated while centered about 135 n mi east-southeast of Barbados.

b. Meteorological Statistics

Only one reconnaissance mission investigated Pablo on the morning of the 8th, and was unable to locate a well-defined low-level wind center. The minimum sea-level pressure and flight-level wind speed observations from this aircraft are plotted in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively. Wind speed estimates from satellite data are plotted in Fig. 3 and the corresponding pressure from the Dvorak pressure-wind relation is plotted in Fig. 2.

One ship reported tropical-storm-force winds from Pablo and its observations are listed in Table 2.

c. Casualty and Damage Statistics

There are no deaths or damages attributed to Pablo.

d. Forecast and Warning Critique

The official track forecast errors for Pablo averaged 127 n mi at 24 hours based on nine cases, 198 n mi at 48 hours from five cases, and 314 n mi at 72 hours from only one case. These errors are slightly above the previous ten-year averages. In the early

stages, Pablo was over-forecast to become a 65-knot hurricane and this resulted in a positive bias to the official wind speed forecast errors.

A tropical storm watch was issued for Martinique, Dominica and Guadeloupe at 2100 UTC on the 7th, when Pablo was centered about 370 n mi east of Barbados. This watch was extended to include St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius six hours later, and to include Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines at 0900 UTC on the 8th. The watch was extended again at 1500 UTC to include Grenada and was, at the same time, discontinued for St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius. Finally, all watches for the Lesser Antilles were discontinued at 1800 UTC on the 8th, as Pablo was dissipating.

Table 1. Track of Tropical Storm Pablo, October 1995

Date/Time (UTC)	Position		Pressure (mb)	Wind Speed (kt)	Stage
	Lat. (°N)	Lon. (°W)			
1800	8.3	31.4	1009	30	Trop. Depression
05/0000	8.4	32.8	1009	30	"
0600	9.3	35.1	1008	30	"
1200	10.2	37.5	1006	35	Trop. Storm
1800	11.1	40.1	1003	40	"
06/0000	11.5	41.9	997	50	"
0600	12.0	44.0	994	50	"
1200	12.2	45.8	995	50	"
1800	12.4	47.5	998	45	"
07/0000	12.5	48.8	1000	45	"
0600	12.7	50.0	1000	45	"
1200	12.8	51.1	1000	45	"
1800	12.6	52.3	1000	45	"
08/0000	12.5	53.9	1001	45	"
0600	12.3	55.7	1007	45	"
1200	12.1	57.5	1009	30	Trop. Depression dissipated
1800					
06/0600	12.0	44.0	994	50	minimum pressure

Table 2. Ship reports of 34 knots or higher wind speed, associated with Tropical Storm Pablo, October 1995.

date/time (UTC)	ship name	lat. (°W)	lon. (°W)	wind dir & speed(kt)	Press. (mb)
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06/0600	ELPB5	13.7	45.2	060/39	1009.5
06/0900	ELPB5	13.1	45.5	080/50	
06/1200	ELPB5	12.7	45.8	080/43	1007.8

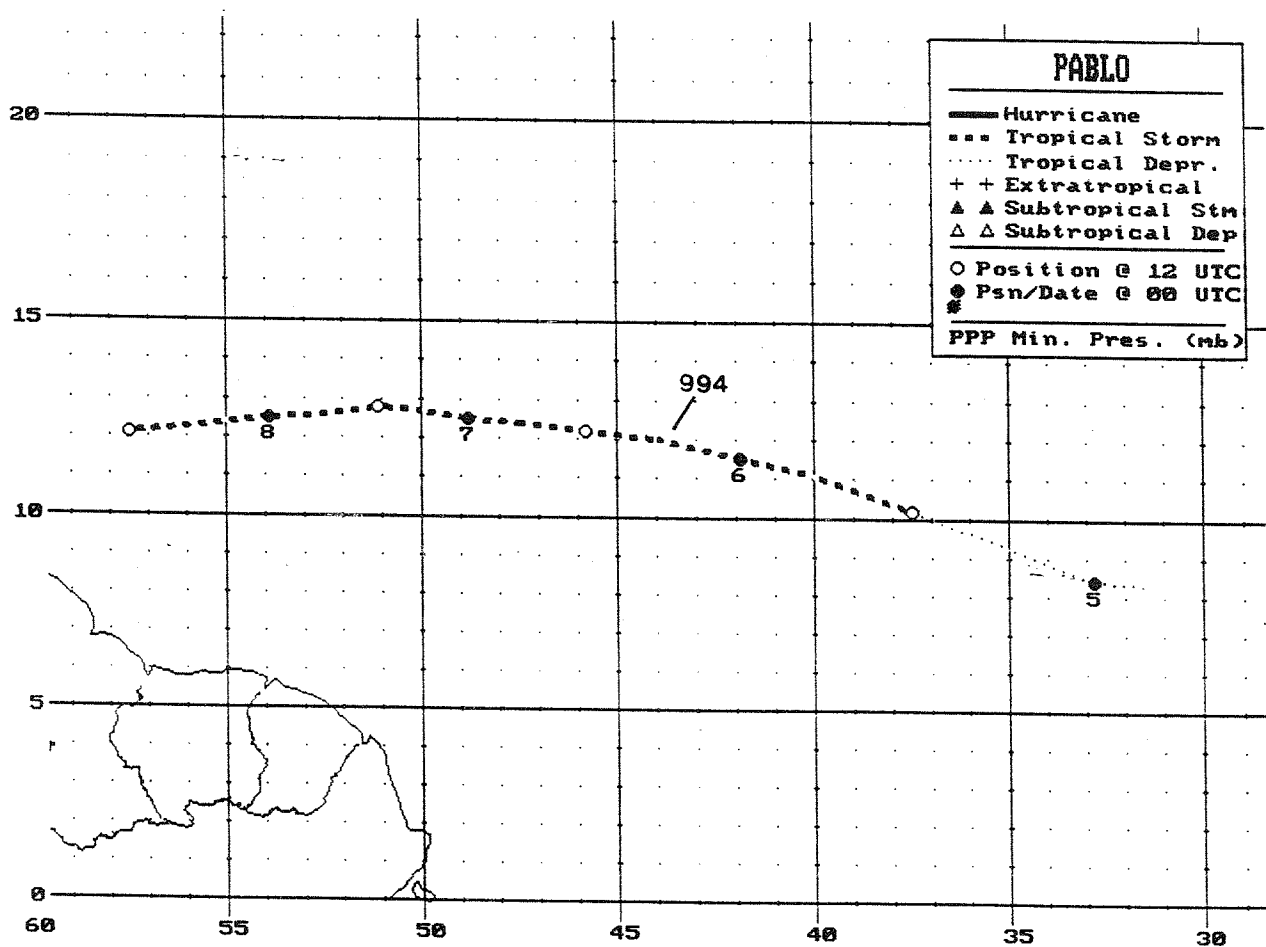


Fig. 1. Track of Tropical Storm Pablo, 4-8 October 1955.

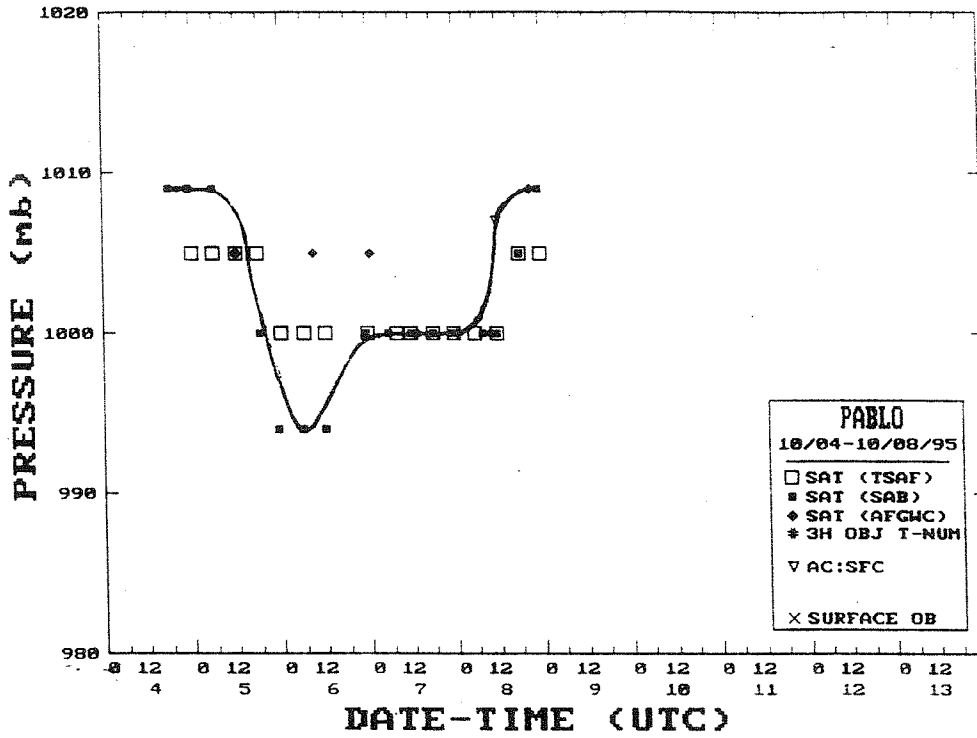


Fig. 2. Minimum sea-level-pressure versus time.

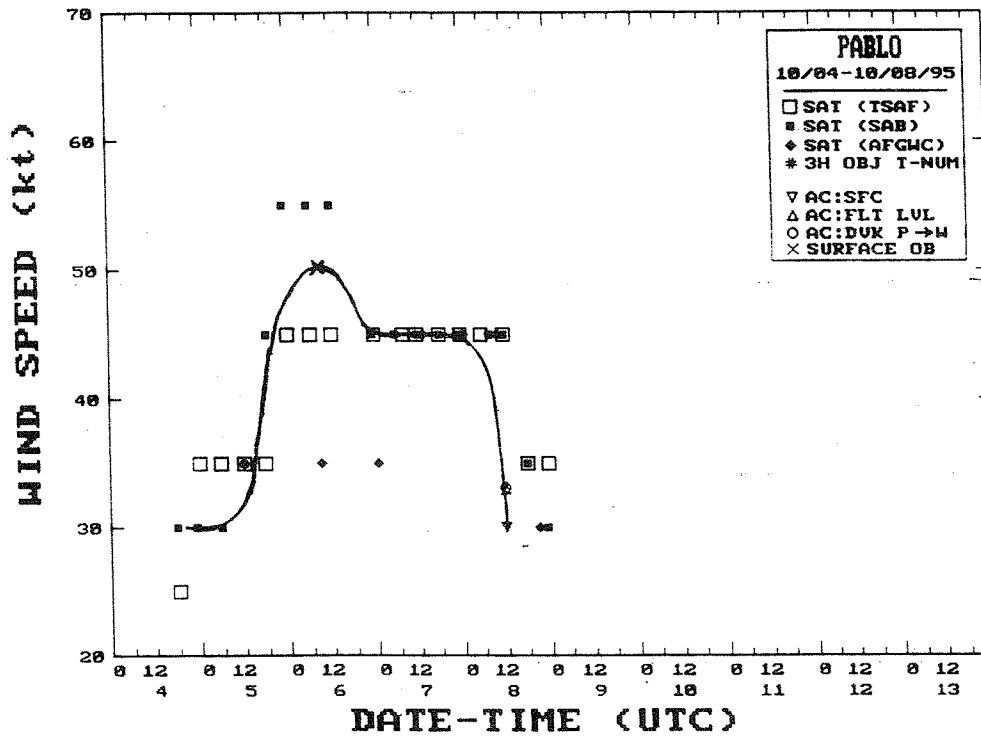


Fig. 3. Maximum one-minute wind speed versus time.