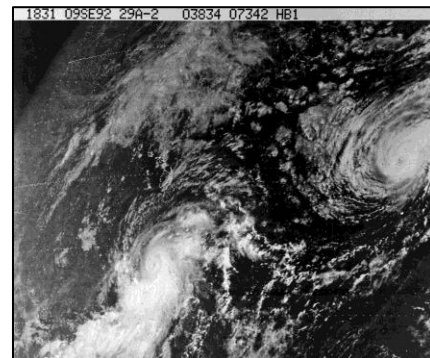
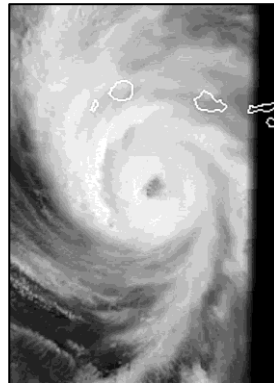
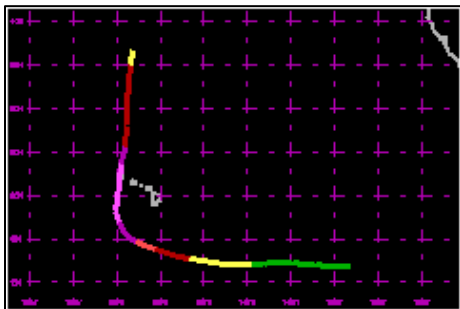




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Remembering Iniki 20 Years Later *Iniki's Landfall*

Hurricane Iniki began as Tropical Depression 18-E on September 5th, 1992. The storm became Tropical Storm Iniki on September 8th and Hurricane Iniki on September 9th. Iniki remained on a general westerly track before drifting northwest as it passed south of the state, before making a sharp northerly turn after quickly intensifying to the south of Kaua'i. During its lifecycle the storm reached maximum strength as a Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 125kts or 144 mph.



Hurricane Iniki made landfall on the island of Kaua'i as a category 4 storm and winds stronger than 140 mph. The eye of the storm took approximately 45 minutes to cross the island from south to north. After the winds cleared damage assessments indicated that 90% of structures on the island were impacted, including over 14,000 structures that were either damaged or destroyed. The economic impact topped out at 2.8 billion dollars after the storm, however, effects of the storm have lingered even to today. After the storm nearly 10% of the islands population moved off the island. On Oahu, significant damage occurred along the Waianae Coast with roads, homes, and coastal areas being impacted. Little in the way of damage was reported elsewhere across the state.

Immediately after the storm the people of Hawaii rallied to help those affected by the storm. Here are some images taken by the Hawaii National Guard following the arrival of Hurricane Iniki on Kaua'i. Special thanks to Stephen Lum at Hawaii State Civil Defense for the photos.





While it has been 20 years since Iniki impacted the state it is never too early to get prepared for another tropical cyclone to impact the area. Each year an average of 4 to 5 tropical cyclones work their way through the Central Pacific, eventually Hawaii will be directly impacted again. For more information on preparedness, go to <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/pages/hurrsafety.php>.



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