



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Tropical Cyclone *Alex*
26 - 30 October 2001

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre
Bureau of Meteorology

A. Summary

A tropical low in the central Indian Ocean was named *Alex* on Friday 26 October near 8°S 94°E about 600 nm northwest of Cocos Islands. *Alex* moved steadily westwards entering the area of responsibility of Mauritius/La Reunion Meteorological Services early on 28 October and was renamed *Andre*. TC *Alex/Andre* then moved in a steady west to southwest direction until 0200 WST on 29 October when it moved to the north for a period of 24 hours. The cyclone then moved to the southwest and weakened below cyclone intensity at 2000 WST on 31 October near 9°S 81°E.

B. Meteorological Description

Intensity Analysis

On 25 October an area of persistent deep convection showed signs of development about 555 km (300 nm) north of Cocos Islands. The 25 October 2333 WST SSML image indicates deep convection about southern quadrants of a developing low level cloud centre. Operationally the low was named *Alex* at 26 October 1400 WST about 555 km (300 nm) northwest of Cocos Islands, although imagery at 1030 WST suggests that the low had reached tropical cyclone intensity by 1100 WST.

Motion

The intensification of *Alex* was hampered by shear that continued throughout its lifetime eventually leading to its demise during 30 October. *Alex* developed to Category 2 intensity during 27 October reaching maximum strength as it crossed 90°E into the area of responsibility of Mauritius and being renamed TC *Andre*.

Structure

The SSML 26 October 1118 WST image and Quikscat 26 October 1916 WST image shows strong low-level curvature about a well defined LLCC with deep convection and strong winds in the southwestern quadrant.

C. Impact

There was no known impact from this cyclone.

D. Observations

Nil.

Table 1. Best track summary for Alex 25 - 28 October 2001.

Note: Add 8 hours to convert to WST.

Year	Month	Day	Hour UTC	Latitude S	Longitude E	Max Wind knots	Central Pressure hPa	Radius of Gales nm
2001	10	25	0000	7.4	96.8	20	1004	
2001	10	25	0600	7.4	96.5	25	1002	
2001	10	25	1200	7.5	96.0	25	1000	
2001	10	25	1800	7.6	95.6	30	998	
2001	10	26	0000	8.0	95.0	30	998	
2001	10	26	0300	8.0	94.7	35	995	
2001	10	26	0600	8.0	94.5	35	995	
2001	10	26	1200	7.9	94.0	40	992	
2001	10	26	1800	7.8	93.5	40	990	
2001	10	27	0000	7.7	92.9	45	988	
2001	10	27	0600	7.6	92.0	45	986	
2001	10	27	1200	7.7	91.3	50	984	
2001	10	27	1800	7.8	90.7	50	984	
2001	10	28	0000	7.9	90.1	50	984	
2001	10	28	0600	8.2	89.3	50	984	
2001	10	28	1200	8.4	88.5	50	984	

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone Alex 25 – 28 October 2001

All times in WST.

