



**Australian Government**  
**Bureau of Meteorology**

**Severe Tropical Cyclone *Margot***  
10 – 25 April 1985

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre  
Bureau of Meteorology

**A. Summary**

Tropical cyclone *Margot* began forming to the southwest of Sunda Strait during 10 April. While deepening, the system moved in a generally southwesterly direction, and became a cyclone at  $7.8^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $102.6^{\circ}\text{E}$  by 2100 UTC 11 April. After continuing southwest until 0600 UTC 13 April, *Margot* recurved at  $9.8^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $98.7^{\circ}\text{E}$  and then maintained a steady southeasterly track until 16 April. During the period 17 to 24 April the system followed an erratic figure-eight path, weakening at the same time. Fluctuations in the central pressure occurred during the final days of the cyclone but by 0000 UTC 21 April, at  $18.0^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $111.0^{\circ}\text{E}$ , the central pressure had risen to 997 hPa and by 24 April the remnant low had been absorbed into a broad low pressure system covering the northeast Indian Ocean.

The path of *Margot* was governed by upper-level north-westerly winds until the influence of an intense high pressure system to the south of Western Australia was felt. Low-level easterly winds from this high caused shearing to take place and steered the low-level system to the west. During 19 April slight re-intensification took place, and the cyclone began to again move in an easterly direction. This easterly movement again brought the cyclone into the influence of the dry low-level easterlies and increased the shear. *Margot* weakened rapidly and began to move in a westerly direction from 20 April.

Estimated minimum pressure of 942 hPa was reached at about 1800 UTC 14 April when the cyclone was located at  $13.93^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $103.1^{\circ}\text{E}$ . The maximum wind speed was estimated to be 165 km/h, while the strongest wind confirmed during the storm was 110 km/h recorded by a ship 30 km from the centre at 0000 UTC 14 April.

Table 1 Best track summary for Tropical Cyclone *Margot* 10 – 25 April 1985.

Note: Add 8 hours to convert to WST. Refer to best track database for complete track details.

Year	Month	Day	Hour (UTC)	Position Latitude S	Position Longitude E	Max wind knots	Central Pressure hPa	Rad. of Gales nm
1985	4	10	0300	6.8	103.8		1005	
1985	4	10	1800	7.0	103.9		1004	
1985	4	11	0000	7.1	103.9		1002	
1985	4	11	0600	7.3	103.5		1000	
1985	4	11	1200	7.5	103.1		998	
1985	4	11	1800	7.8	102.6	35	997	
1985	4	12	0000	8.1	102.0	45	990	
1985	4	12	0600	8.3	101.2	55	985	
1985	4	12	1200	8.7	100.3	60	980	
1985	4	12	1800	9.3	99.4	65	976	
1985	4	13	0000	9.6	98.9	70	971	
1985	4	13	0600	9.8	98.7	80	966	
1985	4	13	1200	10.0	99.0	80	964	
1985	4	13	1800	10.3	99.8	80	962	
1985	4	14	0000	10.9	100.8	85	959	95
1985	4	14	0600	11.7	101.5	90	956	
1985	4	14	1200	12.7	102.2	90	954	140
1985	4	14	1800	13.9	103.1	100	942	115
1985	4	15	0000	14.9	104.3	100	946	
1985	4	15	0600	15.9	105.5	95	950	
1985	4	15	1200	16.7	106.6	90	954	
1985	4	15	1800	17.6	107.5	85	961	
1985	4	16	0000	18.3	108.3	75	968	
1985	4	16	0600	18.8	109.1	65	976	
1985	4	16	1200	19.0	109.8	60	980	
1985	4	16	1800	19.1	110.4	55	984	
1985	4	17	0000	18.9	110.8	50	986	155
1985	4	17	0600	18.5	110.9	50	988	150
1985	4	17	1200	18.3	110.8	45	989	175
1985	4	17	1800	18.2	110.5	45	990	
1985	4	18	0000	18.1	110.3	45	990	
1985	4	18	0600	17.9	110.1	45	989	
1985	4	18	1200	17.8	110.2	50	988	
1985	4	18	1800	17.6	110.2	50	987	
1985	4	19	0000	17.4	110.3	55	985	
1985	4	19	0600	17.2	110.8	55	984	
1985	4	19	1200	17.3	111.2	55	985	
1985	4	19	1800	17.5	111.6	50	987	
1985	4	20	0000	17.7	111.8	50	988	
1985	4	20	0600	17.8	111.6	45	989	
1985	4	20	1200	17.9	111.4	45	990	
1985	4	20	1800	18.0	111.2	35	997	
1985	4	21	0000	18.0	111.0	35	997	
1985	4	21	0600	18.1	110.9		998	

1985	4	21	1200	18.1	110.8		998	
1985	4	21	1800	18.1	110.7		999	
1985	4	22	0000	18.1	110.6		1000	
1985	4	22	0600	18.0	110.5		1000	
1985	4	22	1200	18.0	110.5		1001	
1985	4	22	1800	18.0	110.4		1001	
1985	4	23	0000	17.9	110.3		1002	
1985	4	23	0600	18.2	110.2		1003	
1985	4	23	1200	18.5	110.0		1003	
1985	4	23	1800	18.7	109.7		1004	
1985	4	24	0000	18.9	109.3		1005	
1985	4	24	0600	19.1	108.9		1006	
1985	4	24	1200	19.3	108.5		1007	
1985	4	24	1800	19.4	107.7		1007	
1985	4	25	0000	19.4	106.9		1008	

Figure 1. Track of Tropical Cyclone Margot 10 – 25 April 1985  
All times in WST.

