



FIG. 17. Visible satellite picture of Kendra at 1831 GMT 29 October 1978 from GOES 2 ($\frac{1}{2}$ n mi resolution).

Kendra is shown in Fig. 17 while located east of the northern Bahamas. But by late 30th, Kendra encountered strong upper level ridges, which separated the dense convection from low-level circulation. Weakening ensued and Kendra was downgraded to a tropical storm at 0000 GMT 31 October. A few hours later, surface winds decreased to below gale force, and there was no tropical cloud structure in evidence.

However, a 1008 mb surface low persisted and accelerated northeastward. This low deepened the next day, under the influence of a strong trough moving off of the U.S. East Coast. The system was finally absorbed by another extratropical low over the northeast North Atlantic.

Gale warnings were required along the Carolina coast on the 30th and 31st, as a result of the interaction between Kendra and an intense anticyclone over the northeast United States.

Significant damage from this storm was reported to the predepression stage, which produced heavy rains over Puerto Rico, 12 inches in the San Juan area and 18 inches in the Humacao area of southern Puerto Rico. There was one death and about 100 families sheltered. Newspaper reports listed damage at about \$6 million, all water-related.

k. Hurricane Kendra, 28 October–3 November

Disturbed weather was observed over the eastern Caribbean for several days during late October. Some locations in Puerto Rico measured over 18 inches of rain during the period 22–27 October. A tropical wave which left the African coast on 15 October reached the eastern Caribbean on the 21st and appears to have been a factor in initiating this persistent weather disturbance.

Concurrent with the activity described above, cloudiness associated with an old frontal zone slipped southward to merge with the rain-producing system in the general vicinity of Puerto Rico. Eventually, the disturbed weather shifted northwestward and satellite pictures showed a very concentrated convective area to the north of Hispaniola during the night of 27–28 October. During 28 October, subsequent pictures revealed increasing organization. A depression developed just east of the Bahamas that afternoon.

Kendra was named as a tropical storm at 0000 GMT on the 29th. This is based on satellite imagery as well as a ship report of 999 mb and winds to 60–70 kt. Hurricane status was reached on the afternoon of the 29th, when a reconnaissance plane estimated 70 kt surface winds.

There was little change in strength during the next 24 h as the hurricane moved north-northeastward.