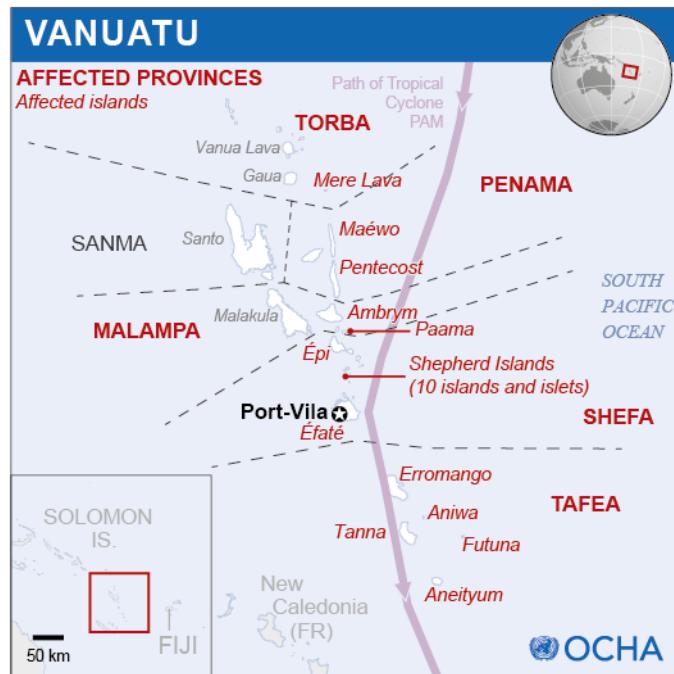




This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 24 to 25 March 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 26 March 2015.

Highlights

- On 24 March, two boats travelled to Emao, Pele, and Nguna Islands (Shefa Province) to provide phone services for families who have been unable to contact relatives since the cyclone struck.
- High-energy biscuits were distributed to 37,000 people in areas with water shortages in Tafea Province and the outer Islands of Shefa Province.
- 'Education in Emergency' supplies, consisting of 570 school back packs, seven tents, seven recreation and education kits, were sent to Tongoa Island (Shefa Province).
- OCHA continued distribution tracking to map existing stockpiles, pipelines and gaps in relief supplies.
- Immediate needs for 30,000 people on Tanna Island include fuel and trucks to deliver relief supplies as well as shelter materials to rebuild damaged houses.
- As of 25 March, US\$18 million has been received from donors. Of this total, \$5.1 million was contributed to the Flash Appeal for Tropical Cyclone Pam.



Map Sources: ESRI, Gov't. of USA, UNCS, GoV Land Department, UNISYS
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Mar 2015.

166,000

People affected on 22 Islands

7,400

Children vaccinated against measles

37,000

People receiving high-energy biscuits

15,000

Homes destroyed or damaged

75,000

People in need of emergency shelter

110,000

People in need of clean drinking water

Source: Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office, Vanuatu Humanitarian Team

Situation Overview

Essential in-country relief items are running short in Vanuatu, especially water, sanitation and health (WASH), medical and shelter supplies. The shipment, pipelining and distribution of extra foreign stocks are priorities.

A monitoring mission travelled to Tanna Island on 25 March. Approximately 30,000 people were affected on that Island with 50 percent of homes destroyed. Two members of the United Nations Disaster and Coordination (UNDAC) team assessed the situation on the ground and met with the Head of the Emergency Response Centre. Many relief items are arriving on the Island, particularly food stocks. Water distillation equipment arrived on 25 March on the Australian HMAS Tobruk, which will provide safe drinking water from 26 March.

Immediate needs on Tanna Island include fuel and trucks to deliver relief supplies to the affected areas, as well as shelter materials to rebuild damaged houses. Road access to areas in the north of Tanna Island is limited. Health supplies were deployed to Tanna Island to support people with health needs for three months. Many actors are on the ground to support the relief efforts, including NGOs, militaries and civil protection teams.

On 25 March, as per the Tafea Provincial Government's request, the French frigate Vendémiaire will travel to Futuna Island to deliver 650 kg tarpaulins and 80 kg of medical supplies. The French military is supporting people from New Caledonia and Polynesia with vehicles and helicopter transport. They are currently helping Tanna

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

authorities to clear roads, secure houses, reactivate the dispensary, and recover communications, power and water systems.

On 25 March, 58 MT of rice and high-energy biscuits were delivered to Tanna Island, which may also be used for the surrounding Islands of Futuna and Aniwa. The Vanuatu Ferry completed its mission to all northern Islands (Paama and Ambryn in Melampa Province) for the first wave of food distribution. It will continue to Maewo and Pentacost Islands (Penama Province). The New Zealand HMS Canterbury arrived on 25 March in Efate Island. It will travel to Epi Island on 26 March, with space available for cargo. On 25 March, a super yacht will deliver medical support and route clearance on Erromango Island for approximately five days.

To gain a better overview of humanitarian actors' response activities, OCHA continued distribution tracking to map existing stockpiles, pipelines and gaps in relief supplies.

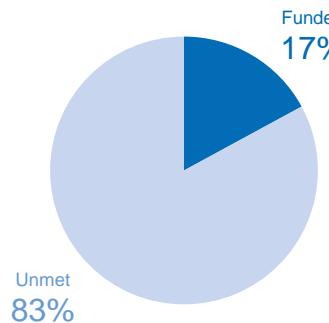
Funding

As of 25 March, OCHA's [Financial Tracking Service](#) (FTS) recorded \$18 million in financial contributions from donors. Of this total, \$5.1 million was contributed to the Flash Appeal for Tropical Cyclone Pam. So far, Australia, the European Commission, Germany, the United States, Estonia and Denmark have contributed to the Flash appeal as well as private individuals and organizations.

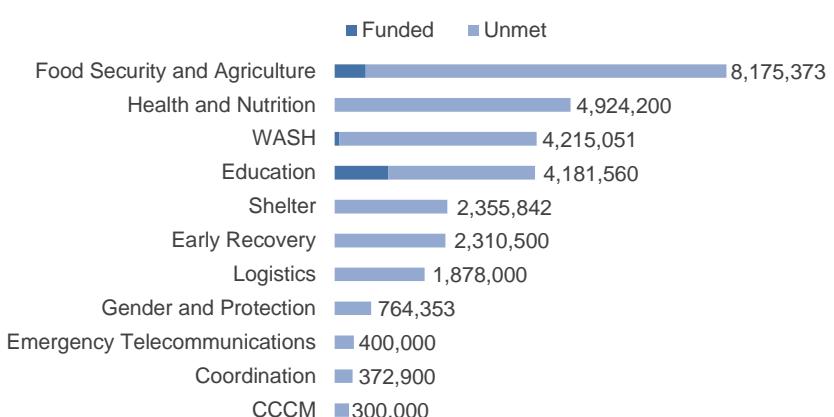
For updated funding figures, please visit the [Tropical Cyclone Pam](#) page on FTS.

Vanuatu Tropical Cyclone Pam Appeal 2015

US\$29.9 million requested



Funding by sector (in million US\$)



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of financial contributions by e-mailing fts@un.org and in-kind contributions by e-mailing logik@un.org.

Humanitarian Response

The Government is leading response efforts across all clusters, supported by humanitarian partners.

Internally Displaced Persons Working Group

Needs:

- Food and emergency shelter were identified as the priority needs of people in evacuation centres to enable them to return home.

Response:

- The majority of people in evacuation centres have returned home following food and tarpaulin distributions at home communities.
- The Government began blanket food distributions at the community level on Efate Island.
- The Shelter Working Group/NGOs distributed emergency shelter, particularly tarpaulins, to all people in evacuation centres.
- Transitional sites were identified in case vulnerable groups or people (e.g. with disability) could not return home.

616
people in evacuation
centres on Efate Island

- NDMO and IOM are continuing to monitor the voluntary returns process and confirm closure of evacuation centres and any ongoing support needs.
- The Evacuation Centre Working Group has transitioned into the IDP Working Group. It is finalizing its Terms of Reference, under the Protection Cluster, to clarify agreed actions and responsibilities.
- IOM will provide training on the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) methodology to 30 people (Government representatives, NGO staff and vulnerable group representatives) on 27 March in anticipation of DTM being rolled out across all affected areas.

Gaps:

- There is a need to roll out displacement tracking across affected Islands other than Efate to gather data on ongoing needs. Data on the number and situation of IDPs with host families and host communities is required as well.
- Strategies to support host families and host communities need to be developed and supported.
- A Flash Appeal was launched including a request for \$300,000 to support the IDP working group activities.

Education

Needs:

- Assessment data suggests that 50 per cent of the schools in Tafea, Torba, Penama, Malampa and Shefa provinces have been affected by TC Pam.
- Approximately 30,000 school-aged children are affected.
- Of the 400 schools affected, 250 suffered damage to infrastructure, facilities and resources. Affected schools include Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), primary and secondary schools.

Response:

- Two batches of Education in Emergency (EiE) supplies have been sent to Vanuatu. This includes tents for temporary learning spaces, school in a box, ECD kits, recreation kits, backpacks. It is estimated that about 13,000 children will benefit from EiE supplies (new stock and stock prepositioned in country by UNICEF and Save the Children). More EiE supplies benefiting another 1,660 children will arrive in Vanuatu by 5 April.
- EiE supplies consisting of 570 school back packs, seven tents, seven recreational kits and 'Early Childhood Care And Education' kits have been sent to Tongoa Island (Shefa Province).
- Ministry of Education and Training sent the distribution list of the number of tents, school in box and backpacks needed to the Education Cluster.
- The Education Cluster has formed a working group, led by the Ministry and including UNICEF and SCF.
- Psychosocial materials are being developed and to be followed with train the trainers' workshop for Ministries of Education and Justice and UNICEF's Education and Child Protection sectors.
- Education and WASH cluster to work in collaboration in the provision of safe learning environments in affected schools.
- Ministry of Education and Training is linking with the Food and Agriculture, Shelter and WASH clusters to ensure the children in boarding schools have water and food.

Gaps:

- Funding is needed to provide EiE supplies to 15,000 children not covered in the above response.
- Logistics and transport to get EiE supplies to the schools in the Islands.
- As some schools are still being used as evacuation centres, children cannot attend classes.

Food Security and Agriculture

Needs:

- Import of seeds and tools are needed to address the shortfall of locally available stocks, specifically cucumber, beans and squash, which require about \$400,000.
- The purchase of farming tools are required and will cost about \$3 million.
- Long-term rebuilding and restructuring of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fishery and Biosecurity will require about \$5 million.
- There is an urgent need for long-term food assistance (\$5 million per month; \$15 million for three months) to be provided to all affected people.

37,000
people receiving high-energy biscuits

Response:

- Council secretaries in Epi, Paama, Ambrym, Pentecost, Maewo, Merelava Islands were contacted for the coordination of food distributions.
- Food distribution in the provinces of Penama (Pentecost, Maewo Islands), Torba (Merelava Island), Malampa (Paama, Ambrym Islands) and Shefa (Epi and Lanem Island) has been completed by Agriculture Officers and volunteers, serving 43,000 people.
- The distribution of rice to approximately 92,000 people in Port Vila (all five municipal wards), peri-urban areas (Pango, Mele) and rural Efate Island is ongoing.
- To complement food packages, High Energy Biscuits for 37,000 people in locations with water shortages (Tonga, Emae, Buninga, Tongariki, Makira, Mataso, Erromango, Tanna and Aniwa Islands) are being distributed. This is being done in areas where cooking rice would have a significant impact on drinking water.
- The assessment of fisheries damage, fish preservations, fishing facilities and short-term as well as long-term needs of fisheries will be starting in the coming weeks on the Islands of Efate (5 fisheries), Santo (50 fisheries), Tanna (3 fisheries), Pentecost (40 fisheries) and Ambae (40 fisheries), with the support of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. Technical assistance on fish preservations and fishing facilities will be provided in addition to the assessments.
- Key messages and information on food distributions are being sent out daily through Radio Vanuatu.
- The assessment on the availability of local crop-planting materials is still ongoing.

Gaps:

- The availability of food and root crops from local sources is limited.
- Information is lacking on the number of people who received food packages.
- Volunteers for the distribution supervision of food supplies and seed packing are needed, particularly on Efate Island and the outer Islands of Efate.
- More in-depth assessments are needed for the long-term planning of providing food assistance.
- Identifying the food security status of people that are not located in priority areas (e.g. Malekula Island) is difficult, since Initial Rapid Needs Assessments focused on the hardest-hit areas (mainly Shefa and Tafea provinces).

**Health and Nutrition****Response:**

- Five international emergency health kits (IEHKs) and three international diarrhoeal disease kits (IDDK) arrived in country on 24 March. Two kits have been dispatched to Tanna on 25 March to provide 20,000 people with primary and secondary health needs for three months.
- Twenty-four sites have been selected nationally for disease surveillance are now being established (to detect and respond to disease outbreaks).
- Bed net distributions are underway for communities at risk of Malaria in the Port Vila area.
- About 7,400 measles vaccinations were given, initially within Port Vila in Efate then Santo and Tanna Islands, along with deworming treatments, Vitamin A and soap. The treatments will finish in Port Vila on 25 March and will move to Paonangisu (on Efate Island) and surrounding Islands. The plan is to vaccinate approximately 12,500 children aged 6 months to 5 years in Santo and Tanna. MoH, UNICEF and WHO are coordinating with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in Santo and World Vision in Tanna Island to complete the vaccinations, including infant and young child feeding promotion.
- Increased cases of influenza in Aneityum Island, diarrhoeal disease in Montemarte School, and conjunctivitis in Tongariki were reported. Such reports are to be communicated to the MoH/WHO so they can be investigated as required.
- Bed net distributions are ongoing for communities at-risk of Malaria in the Port Vila area.
- The Health Risk Communications working group formed and is developing cross-agency coordination and delineation of a responsibilities plan. Health promotion posters will be translated into Bislama by 29 March.
- One-off distributions of high energy biscuits with regular food distribution will take place in the coming days with instructions pregnant and lactating women and children are the priority recipients.

7,400children vaccinated
against measles**Gaps:**

- Better coordination with the WASH cluster is required to compare and map disease surveillance and malnutrition.



Needs:

- Many people on cyclone-affected Islands continue to be entirely without communications, and have not been able to let family and loved ones know that they are alright.
- Little concrete information has been systematically gathered so far on the situation of disabled persons during and after the cyclone.
- As people leave evacuation centres around Port Vila, there will be an increasing need to monitor the needs of people living with host families and communities.

Response:

- Two Red Cross boats departed yesterday (25 March) for the Islands of Emao, Pele, and Nguna (Shefa Province). In addition to delivering goods, they will also offer Restoring Family Links (RFL) services (phone access for individuals who have still not been able to contact family elsewhere). Previously, RFL services were offered on the Shepherd Islands of Mataso, Makira, Buninga, Tongariki, Tongoa, and Emae. The ICRC Family Links website can be found at www.familylinks.icrc.org/vanuatu.
- Vanuatu Society for People with Disability field workers made visits to 35 clients yesterday. Of the clients they assessed (16 per cent of their total client base), more than half (55 per cent) had received visits by / provided information to other organisations or authorities.
- IOM reports that the vast majority of people living in school-based evacuation centres have received their tarpaulins and returned home. The NDMO is continuing to visit remaining centres and facilitate people's return. IOM and the IDP Working Group will continue to monitor ongoing displacement. So far there are no requests recorded for access to the transitional accommodation centre. IOM will provide training on Friday for organisations willing to assist in the maintenance of the Displacement Tracking Matrix by providing personnel for data collection.

Gaps:

- Although mechanisms exist for ensuring coordination of assessments and response activities, there needs to be greater engagement by humanitarian actors to ensure that information gathered is effectively shared, and that affected populations are not subjected to repeated assessments.



Needs:

- Current estimates suggest that approximately 15,000 homes have been destroyed or damaged.
- Some people are sheltering in evacuation centres throughout affected Islands. The provision of emergency shelter relief items is identified as a key restraint in people returning to their homes.

15,000
homes destroyed or
damaged

Response:

- The distribution of emergency shelter materials to internally displaced people in evacuation centres is almost complete.
- As of 25 March, 250 households in the Shepherd Islands have received shelter relief items and NFIs.
- Shelter relief items and NFIs for 300 households in the outer Islands of Efate are in the process of being delivered.
- Shelter relief items for 500 households are due to arrive by 28 March in Erromango Island, which will be distributed by CARE.
- As of 25 March, the Red Cross are distributing shelter relief items and NFIs to 397 households in Tanna.
- IOM mobilized 500 toolkits to arrive in Port Vila on 25 March. About 4,000 tarpaulins from Caritas and Save the Children arrived in Port Vila on 24 March.
- The Shelter Cluster is working together with the Education Cluster, as teachers and students are in need of shelter and housing repairs.

Gaps:

- In-country stocks of shelter kits and tarpaulins are low. The Shelter Cluster is working to resolve pipeline issues.
- Some distribution centres are reporting household numbers to be higher than those used for initial baseline needs analysis. If correct, this will result in additional gaps on limited in-country stocks.

- There have been difficulties in reporting on shelter item distributions on remote Islands due to limited communication available.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Response:

- Emergency medical response team Promedical is supplying approximately 1,000 people in Efate Island with safe drinking water through water trucking.
- International Medical Corps has dispatched hygiene kits for households in the worst-affected areas of Ambrym Island. The remaining households will receive hygiene kits in a subsequent shipment.
- Red Cross distributed 200 hygiene kits in Efate Island (from Eton in the east to Siviri in the north).
- Red Cross set up a NOMAD water treatment unit in the north of Tanna Island, which serves approximately 2,000 people.
- UNICEF supplied the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources with mobile water quality testing kits, which were in use in Efate Island on 25 March.
- UNICEF supplied the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources and ADRA with water tanks to operate a water treatment filter unit in Epule, north Efate Island.
- In Tanna, three MFAT-supplied generators continued to pump water from boreholes in Tanna Island to supply approximately 2,000 people (including 860 children and 540 women) in Laukatai, Lapkit and Lenamaru.
- UNICEF supplied 372 water containers and 1,330 supplies of soap to 286 households (including 615 children and 415 women) in Whitesands in Tanna Island.
- The French Military is collecting water samples from Futuna Island to be tested by the Australian Defence Force.
- Nasi Tuan community development organisation provided six 6,000-litre water cranks as water collection points in Middle Bush on Tanna Island.

110,000

people in need of clean drinking water

Gaps:

- Potential fuel shortage in Tanna Island.
- Road access to areas in the north of Tanna Island is limited



Logistics

Response:

- One mobile storage unit has been erected at Tanna Island airport. DFAT sent one forklift to Tanna to increase handling capacity.
- The two mobile storage units at Port Vila airport received 10 metric tonnes of cargo.
- A list of available rates of transporters and vessels was shared with cluster partners.
- The MV Serafenua, organized by the NDMO, will load on 25 March and depart for Erromango, Futuna and Tanna Islands. CARE will load 77 metric tonnes of food and 2.2 metric tonnes of high energy biscuits for Erromango and 4.29 metric tonnes of food for Fortuna.
- Due to high seas on Epi Island on 24 March, the Vanuatu Ferry continued to offload supplies on 25 March at Paama and Ambrym Islands. On 25 March it is planned to go to Maewo and Pentacost Islands.
- The HMS Canterbury arrived on 25 March in Efate Island and will travel to Epi on 26 March, with space available for cargo.
- The HMAS Tobruk will return to Port Vila on approximately 28 March and can be tasked to go north or south dependent on need. It has capacity of more than 100 metric tonnes.
- The Australian and New Zealand C130 are planned to do four rotations on 25 March from Efate to Tanna Islands to deliver 24 metric tonnes of high-energy biscuits, a forklift and other humanitarian supplies.
- The UK military aircraft provided by DFID completed its flight from Amberley to Port Vila.

Gaps:

- Storage options for Port Vila and Tanna are being explored, including temporary use of 40 foot containers in Port Vila's port.
- The humanitarian community is trying to resolve a backlog of relief supplies in Brisbane by clarifying the causes and considering alternative transport solutions.
- The location of one more mobile storage unit to be erected at Tanna Island needs to be confirmed.

- Once the remaining food stocks purchased from Bon Marche are distributed, alternate warehousing for food will need to be sourced, as will transport, stock management and inventory control.
- There is a shortage of drums to distribute the fuel supply arriving on 4 April to all Islands, to replenish low stock. The fuel will be required for the second wave distribution.



Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

- Additional trained Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) responders are required for three months to support the ICT response.
- As per the Flash Appeal launched yesterday, the ETC requested US\$400,000 to support coordination of the ICT response and provision of services in collaboration with the Government.

Response:

- The ETC and its partners are providing connectivity at seven sites across Vanuatu for use by the Government and the humanitarian community (2 in Espiritu Santo, 4 on Efate Island, 1 on Tanna Island).
- Five additional sites for shared services have been identified across Ambae, Malakula, Vanua Lava, Epi and Santo Islands.
- ETC partner Nethope has deployed one person to coordinate NGOs.
- Local Internet Service Providers (ISP) and mobile carriers continue to carry out repairs on the severely damaged communications infrastructure across the country. Mobile communication system (GSM) services are coming back online across the country. However, 3G data connectivity remains an issue. In coordination with the Government of Vanuatu, the ETC and its partners will provide temporary solutions until services from local providers are restored.

Gaps:

- Limited power remains the main challenge across the country.

General Coordination

UNICEF's logistics team and WFP have installed a temporary storage facility at Vanuatu airport for all incoming humanitarian assistance supplies for all UN agencies and NGOs in Vanuatu.

The Logistics Cluster will coordinate the onwards distribution of relief items from the dispatch points on the affected Islands to communities. This is to ensure provinces without local transport options are supported to distribute emergency supplies to affected people.

All requests for the movement of teams and relief assets must include a demonstrated need. The Director General of the NDMO will prioritize and clear all requests.

Many private vessels and aircraft are coming into Vanuatu loaded with relief supplies. Biosecurity Vanuatu will carry out normal quarantine clearances, but during this post-Cyclone Pam period the Government will not charge for clearance and inspection of relief vessels. However, physical evidence that the vessel or the aircraft has landed in Vanuatu to supply relief and a statement of full disclosure of the cargo and its intended destination must be provided. On arrival, the captain of the aircraft or vessel must advise the airport and the sea port authorities. This is followed by an inspection by the Biosecurity Officer, who will board the craft for the clearance. For further information, please contact Sylverio Bule on +678 562 4447 or bsylverio@vanuatu.gov.vu.

Humanitarian organizations coming into Vanuatu must provide a detailed manifest on their planned activities and relief distributions to NDMO before they enter the country. This should include the following:

- Terms of References (organization name, planned activities, role, mandate)
- Contact information and number of personnel (email, phone)
- Arrival date and time
- Duration of stay
- Destination(s)
- Contact person coordinating relief supplies
- Type, quantity, weight, size of relief items
- Transportation of assistance (cargo, air, etc.)

Organizations need to quantify information where possible and specify the type of assistance they aim to provide. Failure to provide this information may lead to a delay or rejection of assistance offers. All information should be sent to: jwaters@vanuatu.gov.vu and ndmo.logistics@gmail.com.

Background on the crisis

Vanuatu is an Island nation of more than 80 Islands with a projected population of 270,000 people. Tropical Cyclone (TC) Pam struck Vanuatu on the evening of 13 March, affecting all six provinces, as an extremely destructive category 5 cyclone at around 11 p.m. local time. The cyclone's eye passed close to Efate Island, where the capital is located, and winds are estimated to have reached 250kmph with gusts peaking at around 320kmph.

*2015 national statistics office projected population

For further information, please contact:

Sune Gudnitz, Head of Office, OCHA ROP, gudnitz@un.org, Mobile: +679 999 1664 (Suva)

Sebastian Rhodes Stampa, UNDAC Team Leader, rhodesstampa@un.org, Mobile +66 89204 2721 (Port Vila)

Jennifer Bose, Humanitarian Reports Officer, OCHA ROAP, bosej@un.org, Mobile: +66 92261 8502 (Port Vila)

For more information, please visit www.unocha.org/rop or <http://reliefweb.int/disaster/tc-2015-000020-vut>
To be added to the Situation Report mailing list, please subscribe at <http://eepurl.com/FL8UP>