TIROS I Evaluated

Even while TIROS I was functioning, it was apparent that its data had made important contributions to meteorological research. NASA observed that among the most striking cloud patterns captured by the satellite were the large-scale cyclonic storms or vortices whose spiral bands sometimes reached over 1,000 miles in diameter. The frequency and extent of highly organized cloud systems associated with those vortices had not been fully realized before TIROS I. NASA also noted that some of the photographs revealed the presence of jet streams, regions of moist and dry air, thunderstorms, fronts, and other meteorological phenomena.

Of the 22,952 frames transmitted by TIROS I, 17,449 were received at Fort Monmouth--4,698 from the narrow-angle camera, and 12,751 from the wide-angle camera. Kaena Point received some 5,503 frames--1,117 from the narrow-angle camera and 4,386 from the wide-angle.