



Earth from Space



Environmental Phenomena

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The Living Planet logo, featuring a stylized globe icon above the text 'the Living Planet'.

the
Living Planet

Earth from Space

Earth from Space



Meteosat-8 17 March 2003, 11:57 UTC

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*Environmental
Phenomena*

Beijing blanketed in dust

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA

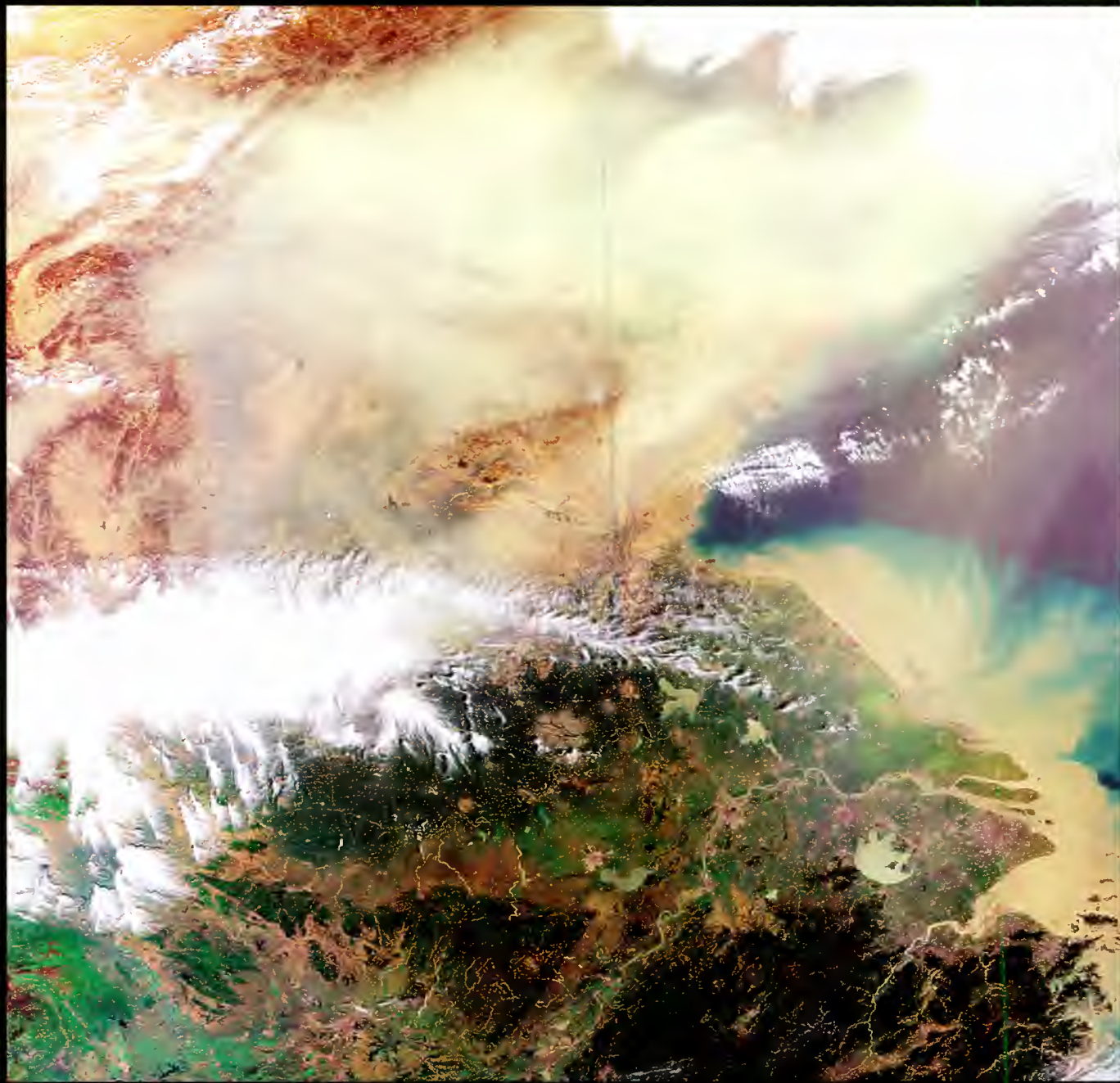


image width: 1285 km

ENVISAT MERIS - 17 April 2006

Dust storm over the Gulf of Oman

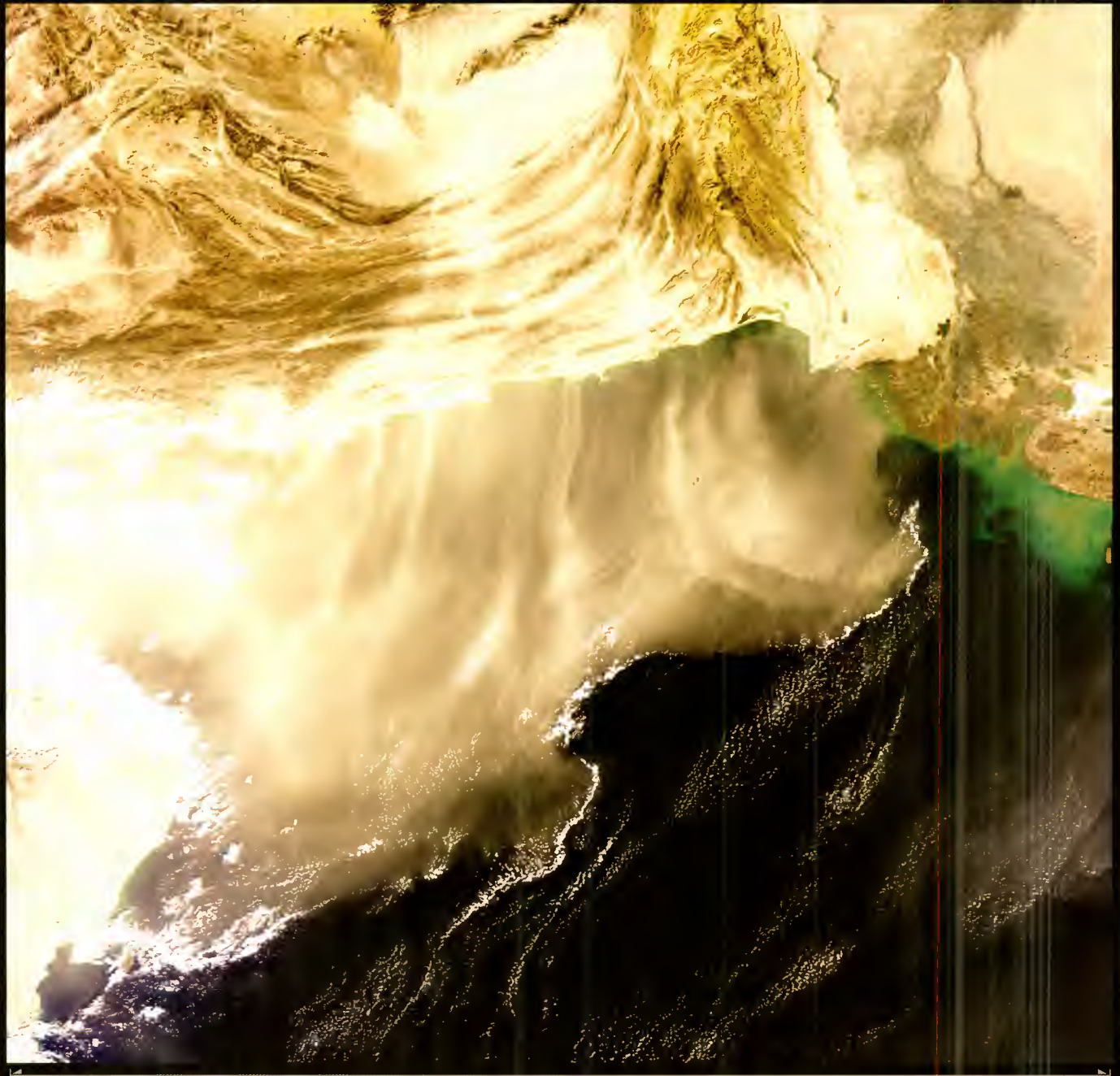


image width: 1279 km

ENVISAT MERIS - 13 December 2003

Plume of smoke from London fire, UK

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA





image width: 638,3 km

ENVIAT MERIS - 19 January 2005

Oil slick in Galicia, Spain

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA



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ENVISAT ASAR - 17 December 2002

image width: 161 km

Plankton Bloom, West of Ireland

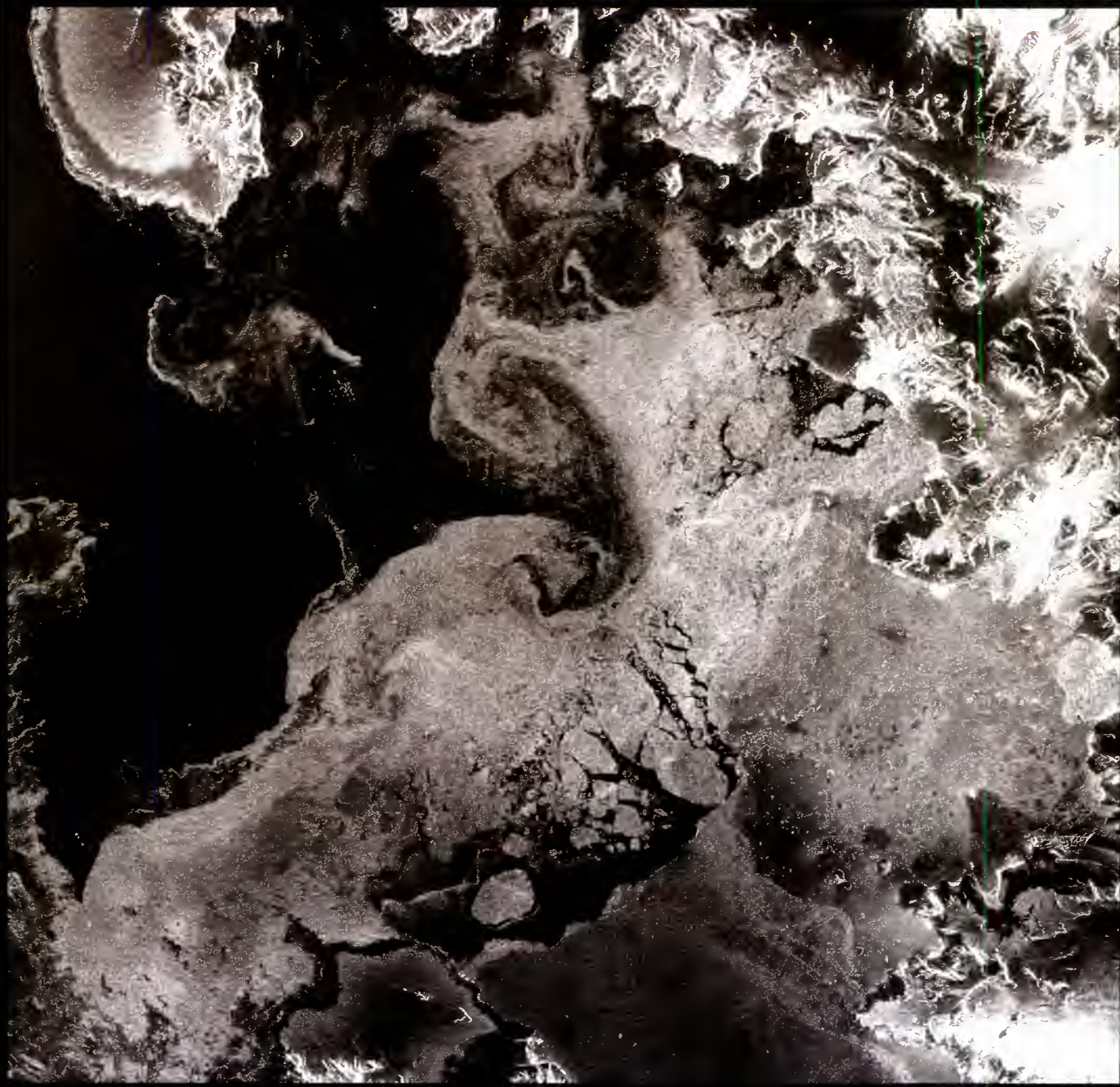


image width: 684,7 km

ENVISAT MERIS - 2 June 2006

Eddies, Antarctic Peninsula

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA



Plankton Bloom, near Iceland

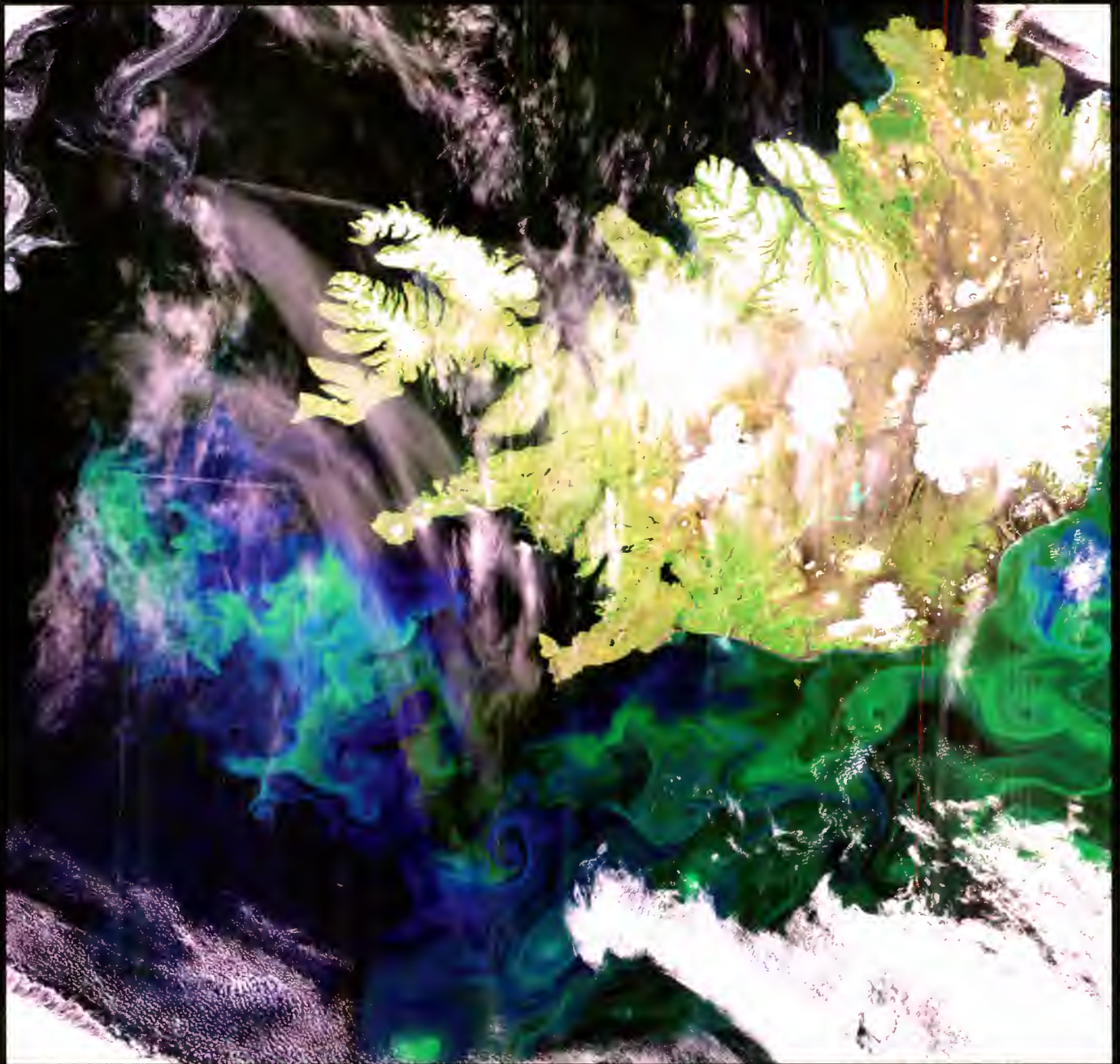


image width: 672 km

ENVISAT MERIS - 21 June 2004

The Al Kufrah Oasis in southeastern Libya

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA

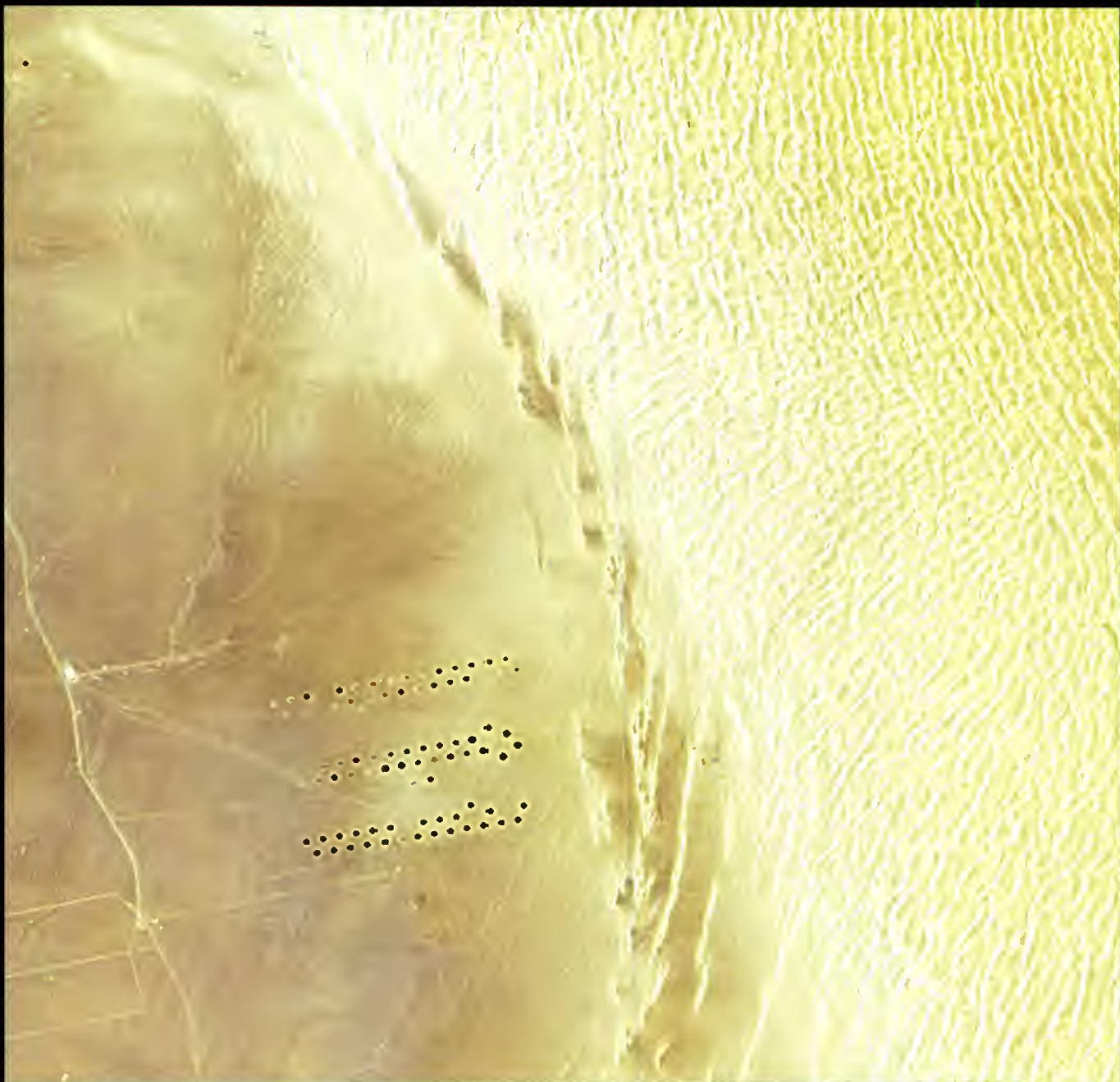
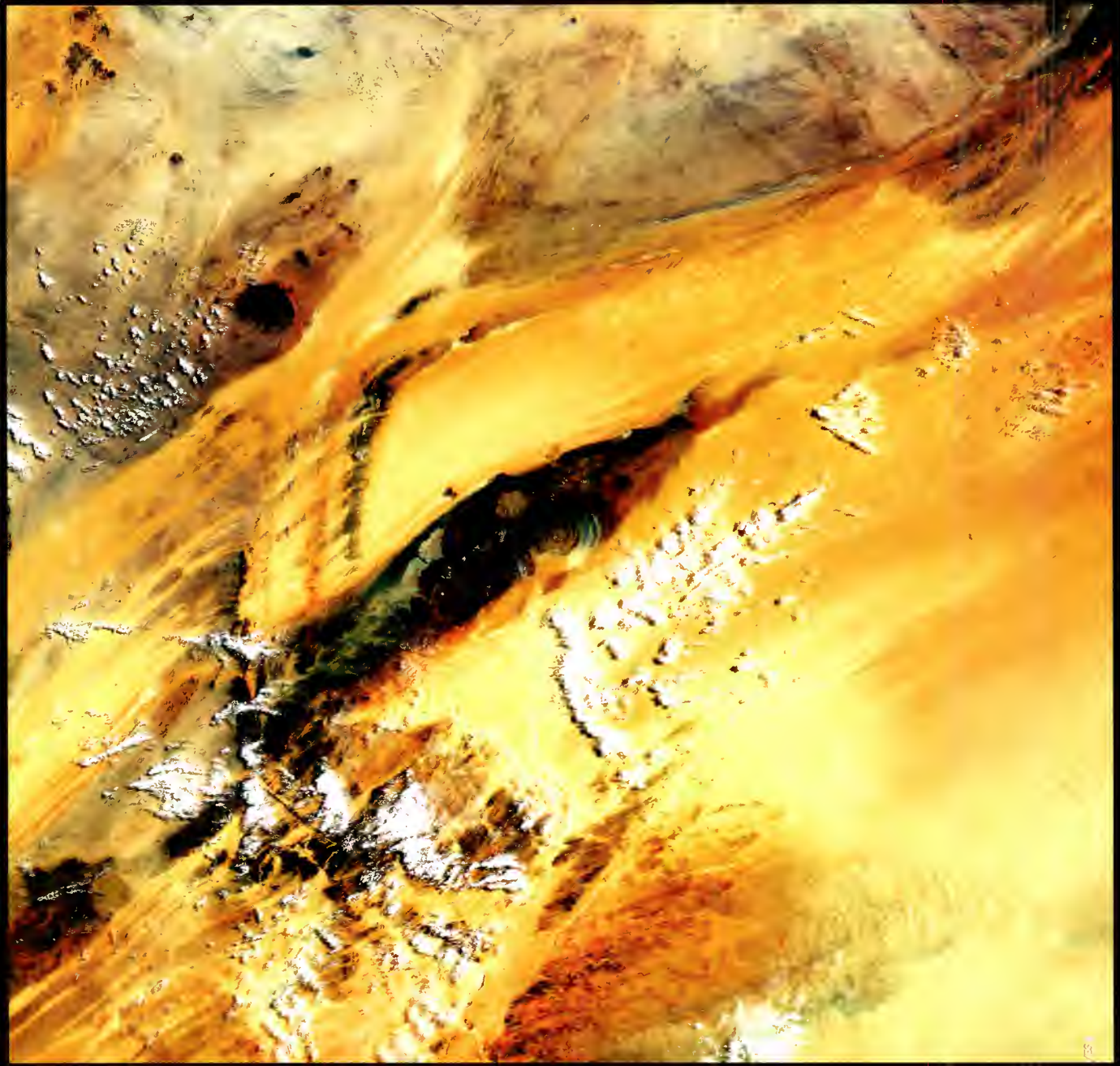


image width: 190 km



Eruption of Etna Volcano, Sicily, Italy

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA



Image width: not available



Hurricane Katrina

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA

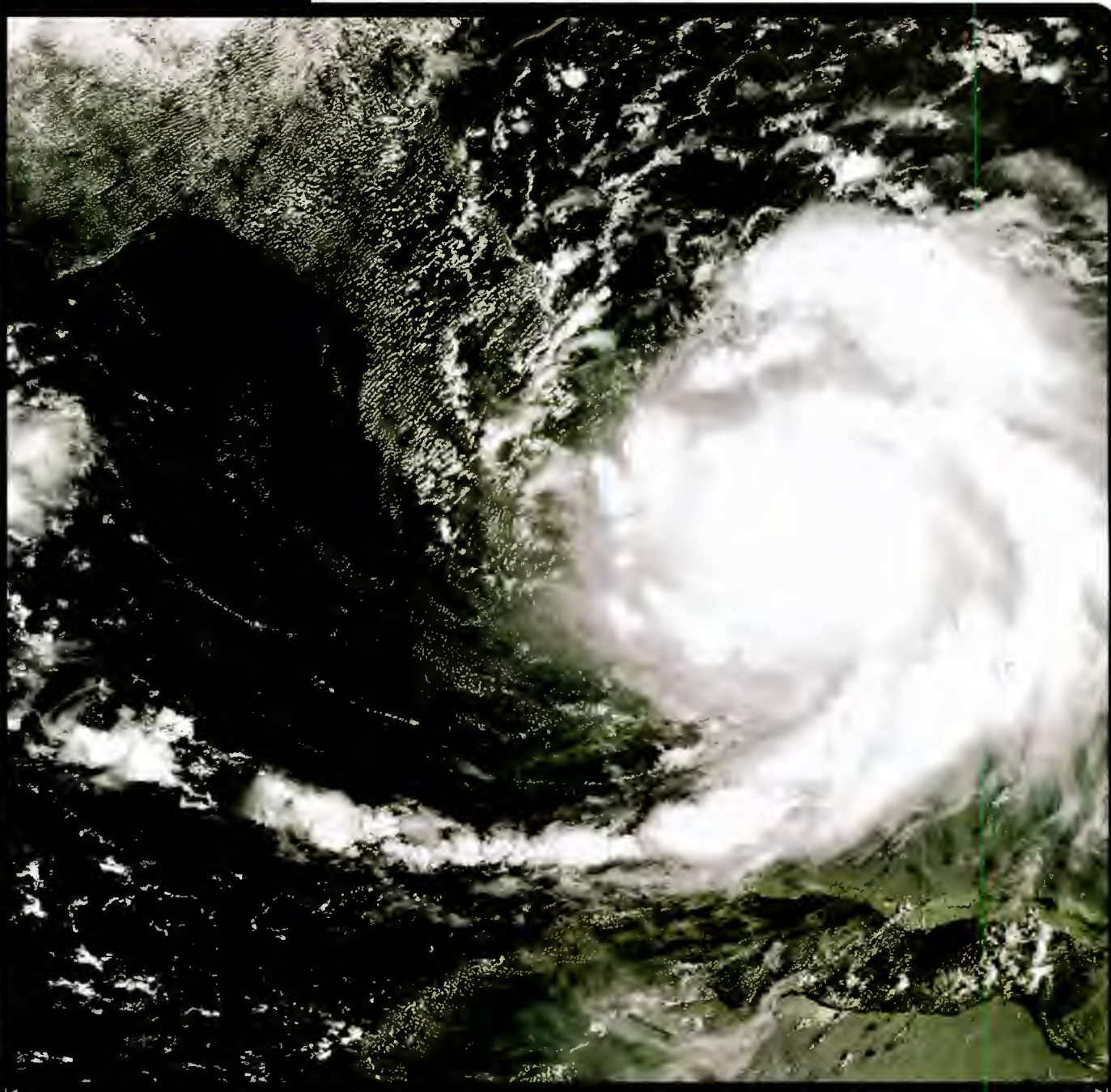


image width: 1278 km

Low Pressure System, Iceland

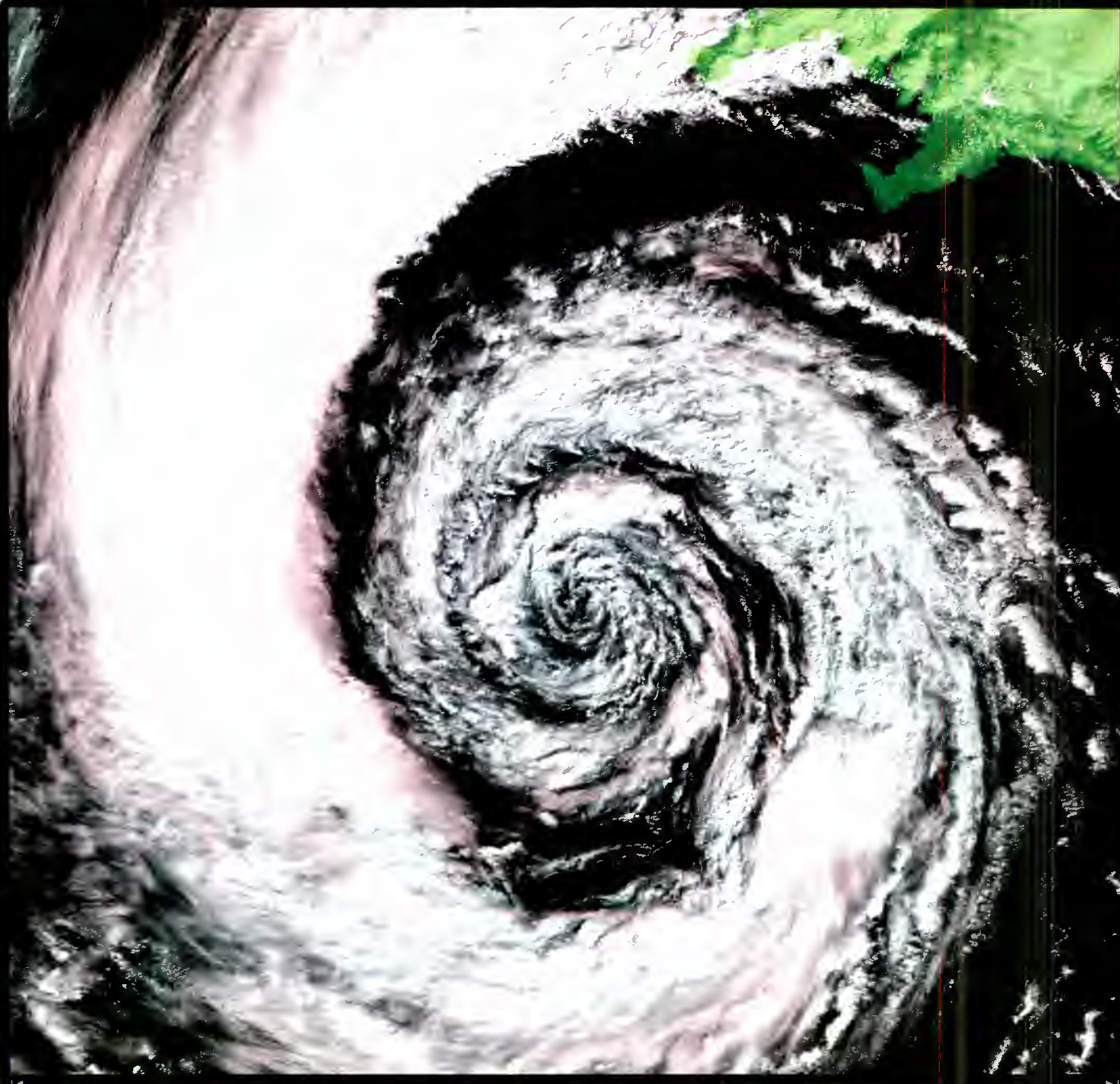


image width: 672,3 km

ENVISAT MERIS - 1 August 2004

17

B15-A iceberg collision, Antarctica

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Great Barrier Reef, Queensland, Australia

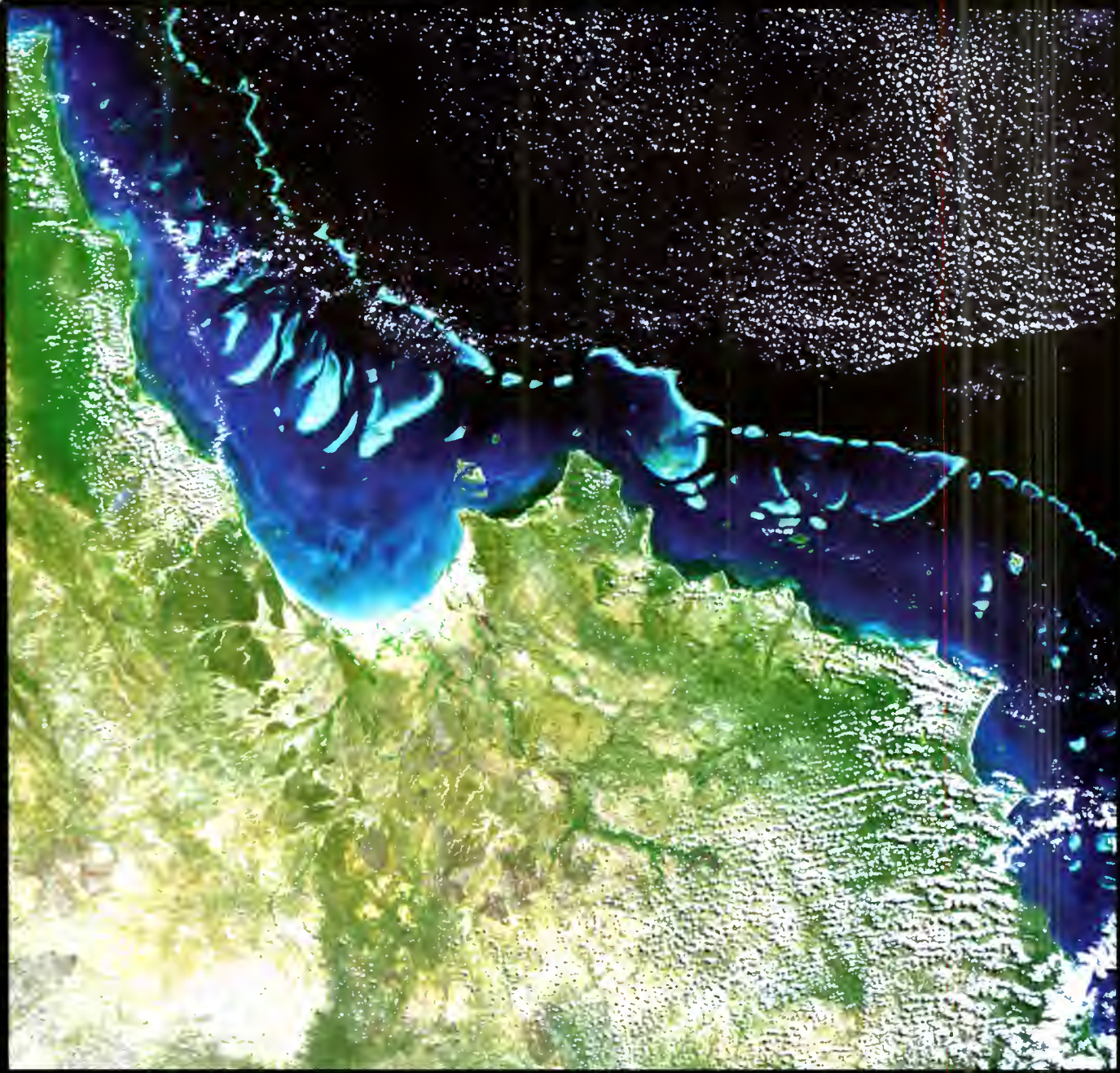


Image width: 326,7 km

ENVISAT MERIS - 19 August 2004

Flooding of the river Elbe, Germany

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA

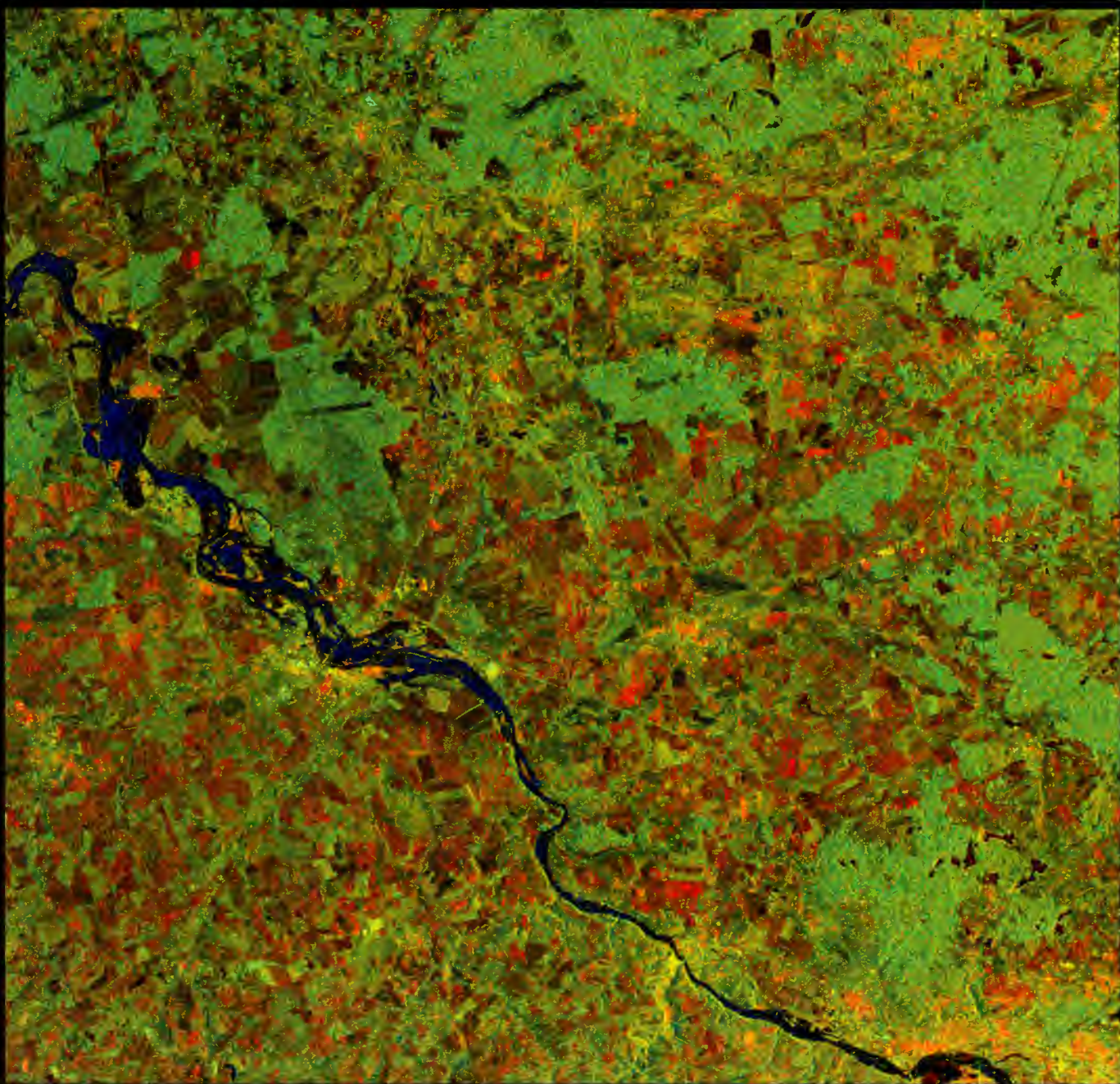


Image width: 70,7 km

Snow covered Central Europe

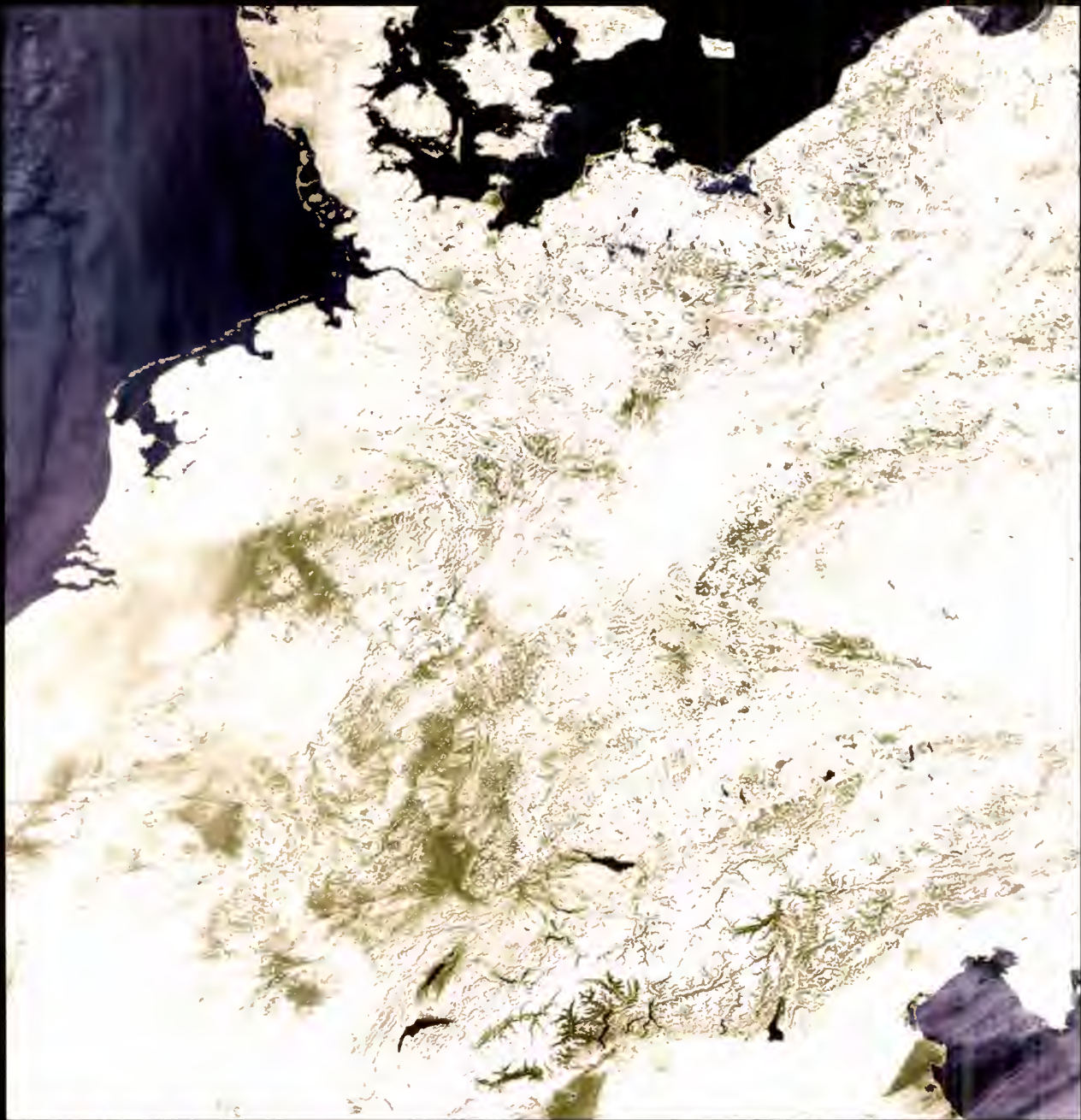


Image width: 1283km

ENVISAT MERIS - 4 March 2005

Contrails over Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia, USA

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA

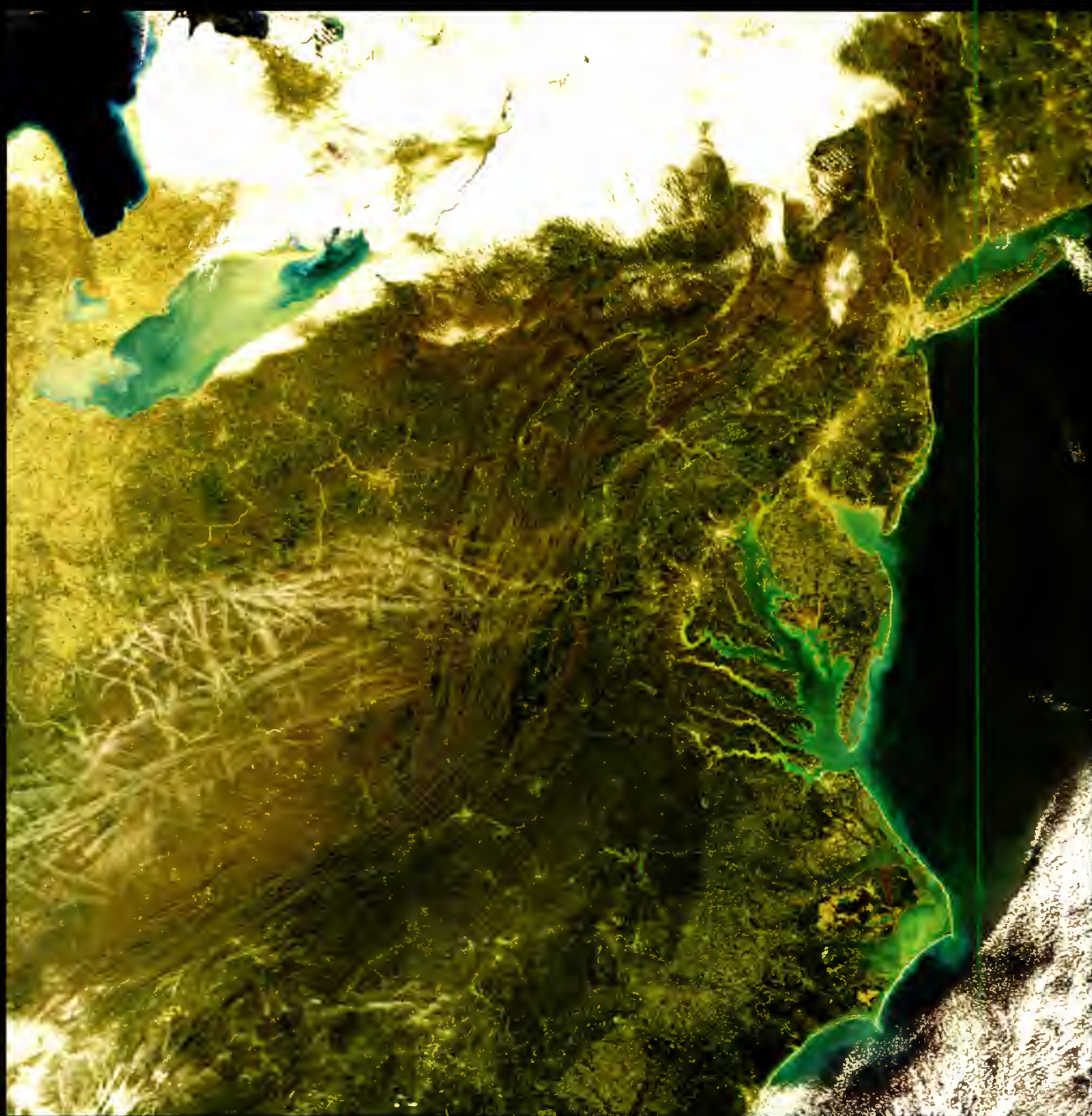


Image width: 1135 km

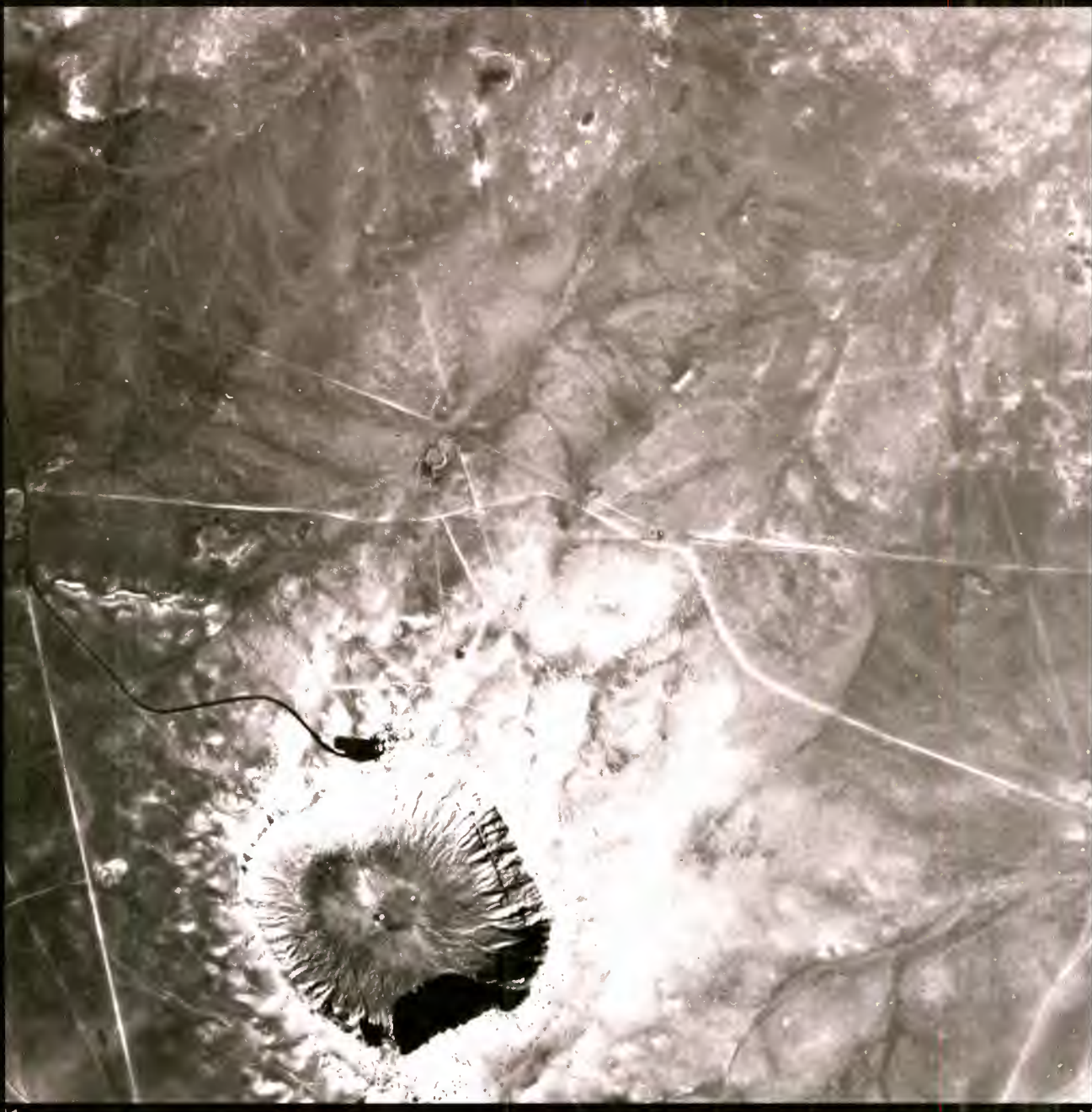


image width: 5 km

PROBA HRC - 23 January 2004

Rainforest and sprawling urbanisation, Rio Xingu, Brazil

ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA



image width: 462 km



image width: 14 km

PROBA CHRIS - 20 August 2005

UNDERSTAND

From a vantage point high above our planet, satellites are able to provide a truly **global picture** of the **Earth**. This space-borne information can be used to monitor and measure even small changes in our **Land, Sea and Atmosphere**.

Satellites can provide us with a wealth of information on some of the most remote and inaccessible areas of the Earth, for example **the Antarctic**, where the ability of some instruments to work independently of cloud-cover and poor light conditions has distinct advantages.

In the short term, data gathered in near-real time can provide the timely and precise information needed to effectively pinpoint and manage many natural disasters, for example tracking the path of a **hurricane**, the damage extent of an **earthquake**, or the "hot spots" of a **forest fire**.

In the long term, continuous and objective satellite monitoring helps identify and assess environmental trends evolving over longer time periods, for example changes in our **ozone layer**, a rise in our **sea levels** or any gradual ground **subsidence** in our cities.

Satellite data can provide independent, operational and relevant information to support a range of policies serving sustainable development, thus making a valuable contribution to our quality of life by ensuring a better **understanding** for the **security** and **benefit** of our planet.



SECURE



UNDERSTAND



BENEFIT





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