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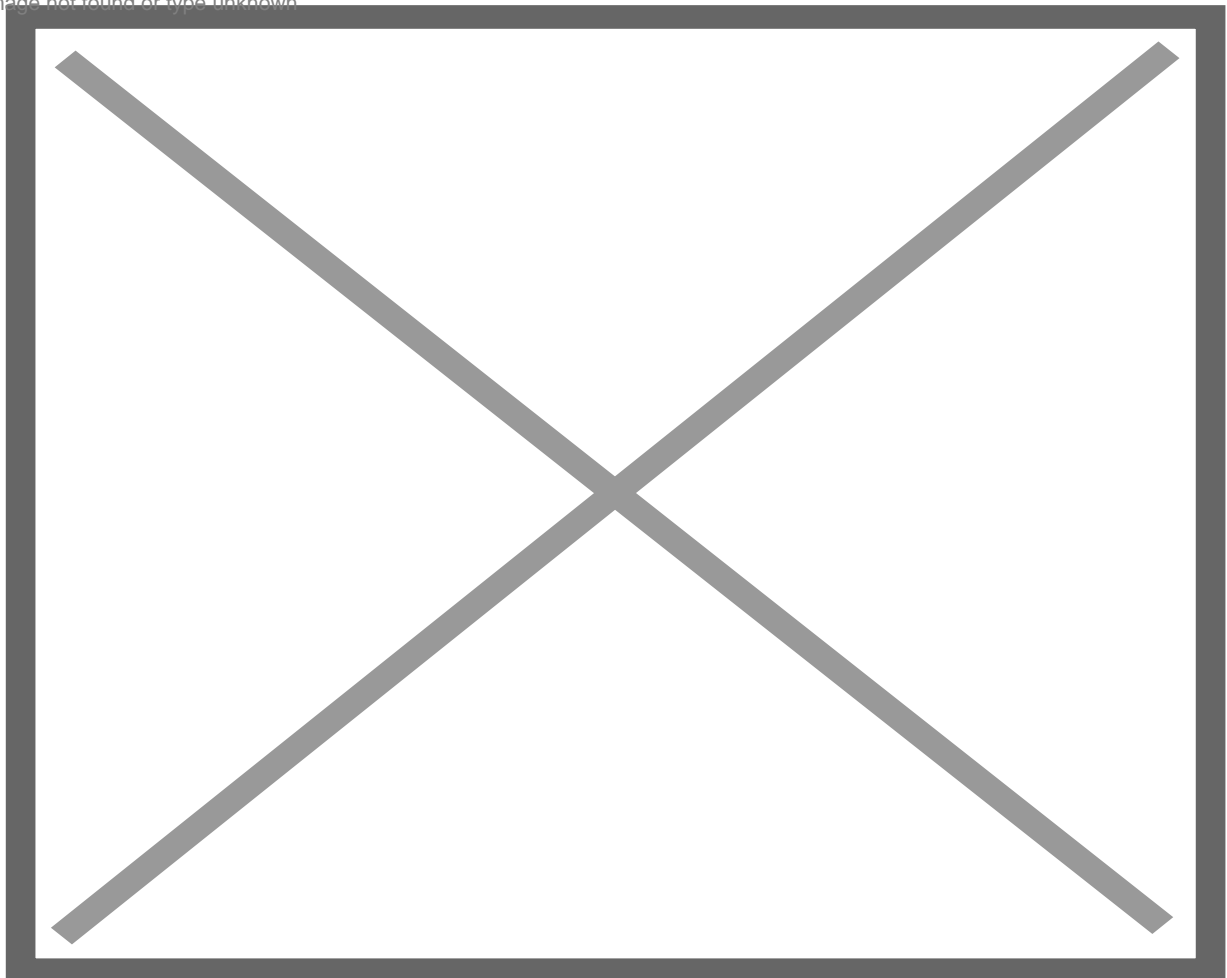
Tropical System Unlikely to Develop as It Moves Near Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico; Expected to Fizzle Out in Coming Days

With a disorganized structure and minimal potential for growth, the tropical disturbance is expected to pass near Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands today with little chance of evolving into a stronger system

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NHC's two-day graphical tropical weather outlook.

A system that once showed potential for development to impact the Leeward Islands, including the U.S. Virgin Islands, is now showing minimal chances of becoming a tropical threat.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) confirmed early Friday that the disturbance, identified as AL94, remains disorganized and is unlikely to strengthen into a more significant system.

The weather disturbance, characterized by a poorly-defined trough of low pressure, is producing scattered showers and thunderstorms extending from the northern Leeward Islands into the nearby Atlantic waters. Despite initial concerns, the NHC's Tropical Weather Outlook indicates that any development of this disturbance will be slow as it moves quickly westward to west-northwestward at approximately 20 mph. The system is expected to pass near or just north of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico today, and will continue towards Hispaniola and the southeastern Bahamas on Saturday.

The chances of tropical development remain low, with a 10 percent formation probability over the next 48 hours and the same outlook over the next seven days. The NHC noted that strong upper-level winds are expected to hinder further development by late this weekend, reducing the likelihood of the system evolving into a tropical storm.

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