

DECEMBER 1978

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STORM DATA



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND
INFORMATION SERVICE

NATIONAL CLIMATIC CENTER
ASHEVILLE, N.C.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

DECEMBER 1978

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM	PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM	
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS							KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
ALABAMA										ARIZONA										
Pickens County	8	3:45p	1	50	0	0	4	0	TORNADO	Eastern Two Thirds	17-20					13	0	8	6	Flooding
<p>A tornado touched down briefly in the Zion Community about 8 miles north of Gordo. One house was damaged and 2 chicken houses destroyed.</p>										<p>A large storm with very heavy rain produced record breaking floods over the eastern half of the state. This was the second major flood over the same part of the state in less than a month, and the third in the same year. Ten counties were declared disaster areas by President Carter. These were: Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Navajo, Graham, Greenlee, Gila, Yavapai, Santa Cruz, and Coconino. Thirteen persons lost their lives, ten from vehicle related drownings and three from exposure. Approximately 10,000 were forced to leave their homes. Damage to public property was chiefly to roads and bridges. Total damage to private and public property was tentatively put at \$55,000,000.</p>										
Tuscaloosa County	8	3:55p	2 1/2	50	0	0	4	0	TORNADO	<p>The snow level was over 8000 feet and rainfall amounts were in excess of two inches with the higher elevations receiving four to six inches. Hawley Lake was drenched with 7.46 and Palisades Ranger Station on top of Mt. Lemmon with 8.52 inches. An upper level trough remained nearly stationary over the eastern Pacific resulting in a steady flow of saturated sub-tropical air. The most intense rain occurred on the night of the 17th and the morning of the 18th.</p>										
<p>A tornado touched down near Brownville in northwest Tuscaloosa County damaging a wood framed church and a concrete block Sunday School building. The tornado continued moving northeast across state highway 171 before lifting.</p>										<p>The watersheds were still saturated, the stream levels high and the reservoirs nearly full from the heavy rains in late November. As a result, extensive flooding occurred on almost every stream in the eastern two thirds of the state. Major flooding took place on the Verde and Salt Rivers with 130,000 cfs flowing down the normally dry Salt River bed through Maricopa County including the Greater Phoenix Area. Approaches to eight bridges were washed out leaving only three intact to handle the daily movement of tens of thousands of vehicles. About 2500 feet of the east end of the main runway at Sky Harbor International Airport were under water and broken up and radio facilities damaged. There was extensive damage to crops, farm land and residences in western Maricopa County from the flood waters of the Salt and Agua Fria Rivers.</p>										
Tuscaloosa County	8	4:06p	1/4	20	0	0	0	0	TORNADO	<p>Both bridges on Interstate 17 over the Agua Fria River at Black Canyon City collapsed sending two cars into the surging waters, resulting in six deaths.</p>										
<p>A tornado touched down briefly in the Moody Swamp area just southwest of Tuscaloosa. No damage or injuries resulted.</p>										<p>Duncan, on the Gila River in extreme eastern Arizona, experienced the worst flood on record when a dike broke sending three to six feet of water raging through most of the town. The severest damage in the Safford area occurred in the agricultural areas adjacent to the Gila River. The Blue and San Francisco Rivers both rose well over the flood stage with considerable damage especially to Clifton.</p>										
Walker County	8	4:40p	1	100	0	1	5	0	TORNADO	<p>The swollen Santa Cruz River and tributary washes with heavy runoff from the Santa Catalina Mountains caused extensive damage to public and private property and farm land.</p>										
<p>A tornado touched down in Sumiton causing minor injury to one person and damaging or destroying 5 mobile homes and 4 other buildings. Damage was estimated at \$175,000. Numerous trees and power lines were also down in the area.</p>										<p>Major flooding also occurred along the Little Colorado River with the greatest damage in the Winslow area.</p>										
Madison County	8	9:30p	-	-	0	0	4	0	Lightning	Phoenix	30	1:56 p				0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
<p>Heavy fire and smoke damage was caused to a building in Huntsville after it was struck by lightning.</p>										<p>Very elongated funnel cloud to the northeast was sighted by Phoenix National Weather Service personnel on duty.</p>										
Geneva County	9	7:00a	-	-	0	0	4	0	Wind	Scottsdale	30	4:30p				0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
<p>Strong winds associated with thunderstorms along a cold front blew the roof off a house and damaged several other buildings near Slocomb. Numerous trees were also blown down.</p>										<p>Funnel cloud reported by public to be northeast of Scottsdale.</p>										
ALASKA										ARKANSAS										
Southwest	1				0	0	4	0	Minor coastal flood and wind.	Will Creek to just Southwest of Mallet Town - Conway County	2	11:45 p.				0	2	5	0	High Winds/ Funnel Cloud
<p>Intense low pressure moved northward through the central Bering Sea early on December 1 and reached Saint Lawrence Island in the afternoon. Gale to storm force winds blew around the low. This coincided with maximum monthly tides. The strong south to southwest wind over the southeast Bering Sea and over the Yukon and Kuskokwim River deltas combined with the high tides to cause minor coastal flooding. There was moderate damage due to high water, surf, ice movement and wind at the village of Hooper Bay on December 1. Hooper Bay is on the Delta coast just south of Dall Point. Snowmachines, boats and fishnets were lost or damaged. Total damage was estimated at \$46,000.</p>										<p>Thunderstorms moving through the county produced strong winds that damaged or destroyed several homes and outbuildings. A funnel cloud moving east-northeastward was sighted by a storm spotter east of Springfield, but it did not touch down. Damage was estimated at 100 thousand dollars.</p>										
South Central	2-3				1	?	4	0	Heavy snow.	1 Mile North of Amy to just Southwest of Ivan - Ouachita and South-eastern Dallas Counties	3	2:00 a. to 2:45 a.	25	250	0	0	5	?	?	Tornado
<p>The remains of tropical storm "Winnie" moved rapidly northeastward through the northern Pacific Ocean and hit Prince William Sound on December 2 in the early afternoon. Heavy wet snow fell over much of south central Alaska on the night of December 2-3. There were widespread power outages in Anchorage, and teletype and data communications were out of service up much of the state for over 3 hours that evening. A group of snowmachines was forced to bivouac in the mountains south of Turnagain Arm southeast of Anchorage - that night. One of the group, a 51-year-old man, died of exposure during the night.</p>										<p>A tornado touched down and moved northeastward. The heaviest damage occurred around Amy, Holly Springs, and Ivan. Several thousand acres of timber were also damaged or destroyed. Property damage was estimated at 150 thousand dollars, but no estimate of the timber damage was available.</p>										

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
ARKANSAS (continued)									
13 1/2 miles Southwest of El Dorado to 7 miles West of El Dorado - Union County	3	3:25 a.	6.6	50	1	7	5	0	Tornado
A tornado moving northeastward touched down and damaged or destroyed six homes, four mobile homes, and several outbuildings. A woman sleeping in one of the mobile homes was killed and seven other people in surrounding homes were injured. Damage was estimated at 150 thousand dollars.									
Ladd to Noble Lake - Southwestern Jefferson County	3	3:30 a.	4.5	75	0	0	5	0	Tornado
A tornado moving northeastward damaged several homes and outbuildings. The hardest hit area was in the town of Ladd. Damage was estimated at 70 thousand dollars.									
Near Artesian to Summerville - Calhoun County	3	About 4:00 a.	9	100	0	0	5	0	Tornado
A tornado moving northeastward touched down and damaged several buildings. The area of heaviest damage was located near Summerville. Damage was estimated at 100 thousand dollars.									
Red Hill Community or 6 miles Southeast of Humphrey to Crockett's Bluff - Arkansas County	3	4:30 a. to 4:45 a.	25	100	0	0	5	0	Tornado
A tornado moving northeastward at the Red Hill Community caused a fair amount of damage. Another area reporting significant damage was the Needmore Community located near Crockett's Bluff. Damage was estimated at 75 thousand dollars.									
10 miles Southwest of Strong to 8 miles Southwest of Strong - Union County	3	Between 4:50 a. and 5:00 a.	2	100	0	0	0	0	Tornado
A tornado touched down near Taylorville, Louisiana or about 9 miles east-southeast of Junction City, Arkansas and moved northeastward into Arkansas. The total path length was 5.5 miles, but the path length in Arkansas was only 2 miles. No damage was reported in Arkansas.									
On Maddox Bay or 7 miles Southeast of Holly Grove - Monroe County	3	About 4:55 a.	1/2	50	0	0	3	0	Tornado
A tornado moving northeastward touched down and slightly damaged a home on Maddox Bay.									
Marianna - Lee County	3	5:12 a.	1	100	0	0	6	0	Tornado
A tornado moved northeastward into town and extensively damaged several sections. Five airport buildings along with two mobile homes were destroyed; thirty other homes suffered damage, and five airplanes were damaged or destroyed. Damage was estimated at 835 thousand dollars.									
Tyro to Silver Lake - Lincoln and North-western Desha Counties	3	5:15 a.	19	400	0	0	6	0	Tornado
A tornado touched down at Tyro and moved northeastward. Considerable property damage occurred from Tyro to Carratt Bridge. Damage was estimated at about 500 thousand dollars.									
Helena - Phillips County	3	6:50 a.	3/4	100	1	0	6	0	Tornado/Heavy Rains/Flooding
A tornado moving northeastward touched down and heavily damaged a cotton compress plant along with a church and several homes. Heavy rains that occurred during and after the tornado also damaged the compress plant. A seven month old child drowned when he crawled out of a mobile home and into a flooded area. Damage was estimated at 750 thousand dollars.									
Marion - Crittenden County	31	1:00 p.			0	0	2	0	Funnel Cloud/ Wind
A funnel cloud was reported by the public. Movement was to the northeast. Minor wind damage occurred in Marion.									
CALIFORNIA									
NORTHERN & CENTRAL									
NONE REPORTED									
CALIFORNIA (continued)									
SOUTHERN									
Oceanside, San Diego County	18	10:30 a	3/4	80	0	0	4		Waterspout-tornado
The waterspout originated about a mile offshore before moving about 3/4 mile inland through the business district. It tore off parts of one roof, downed several trees, broke glass in several businesses and generally scattered debris along its path.									
COLORADO									
Mountains	2-31				0	0	0	0	Heavy snow
Heavy snow in most of the mountain areas caused difficult and hazardous road conditions. Two feet of snow fell in most of the southwest and central mountains. In mountain valleys, 7 inches of snow fell at Montrose, 12 inches at Salida, 15 inches at Lake Isabel, and 18 inches at Rye and Colorado City.									
Northeast foothills	4	afternoon			0	2	3	7	High winds
Winds ranging from 50 to 150 mph were recorded in the Boulder area. Similar winds were reported along the northeast foothills. A pickup truck was rolled over, and the camper top was blown off another truck. Some roof damage and numerous minor damages were reported. 80 mph winds whipped up ground blizzards across Interstate 25, which was closed north of Wellington. Two persons were injured by flying objects and numerous traffic accidents were caused by ice on roads as a result of drifting, melting and refreezing snow.									
Statewide	5-6				1	?	0	0	Heavy snow, cold
A major winter storm brought over a foot of new snow to many mountain areas, with generally 5 to 8 inches in western valleys and 4 to 8 inches over the east plains. Montrose received 15 inches, which was a record for a December storm. Many schools were closed and slick roads caused numerous traffic accidents. Record-breaking low temperatures followed the storm in many areas, e.g. minimum temperatures were: -12°F at Grand Junction, -42°F at Alamosa, -14°F at Colorado Springs, -32° at Estes Park, -42° south of Hayden.									
Western Valleys and Southwest Mountains	17-18				3	?	0	0	Ice, heavy snow
Freezing rain covered everything with ice in the Grand Junction area and other west central valleys, and schools had to close in Montrose county. Heavy snows occurred at the higher elevations, with 25 inches falling at Pagosa Springs, 11 inches at Hesperus, 14 inches at Durango, 16 inches at Yellow Jacket, 20 inches at Eagle, 16 inches at Aspen, 18 inches at Gunnison, and 45 inches at the Purgatory/Ski Area. With around 2 feet of snow falling in the San Juan Mountains, several passes were closed due to snow slides, viz. Wolf Creek, Red Mountain, Cumbres and La Manga passes. Three persons were killed in two separate head-on crashes on icy roads on the western slope.									
Northeast foothills	23-24				0	0	3	0	High winds
Gusts to around 90 mph were recorded at Boulder during the early morning of the 23rd. Gusts of around 73 mph were reported at Boulder and Fort Collins in the afternoon of the 24th. A town-house under construction was severely damaged at Boulder.									
CONNECTICUT									
statewide	17	all day			0	0	4	0	high wind
wind gusts of 65 mph blew many trees and wires down and broke store windows									
DELAWARE									
NONE REPORTED									
FLORIDA									
Land O'Lakes, Pasco County	1	12:55 AM EST	8/10	30	0	0	5	0	Tornado
A tornado touched down near the Pasco Plaza shopping center, State Road 54 and U.S. Highway 41, damaged several building roofs, several cars and trailers, a lumber company, and ripped the roof from a large worm farm.									
Zephyrhills, Pasco County	1	1:30AM EST	6/10	30	0	0	5	?	Tornado
A tornado dipped down on U.S. 301 just south of Zephyrhills. It destroyed 3 mobile homes, damaged 17 others, and crushed 5 chicken brooder buildings, killing 3000 chickens. There was some additional damage to houses, carports, cabins, utility sheds and trees in the area. The damage occurred mainly along an east-west path on Chanpey Road, south of the Zephyrhills city limits.									
Pasco County	5	5:14 AM EST	4/10	20	0	2	4	0	Tornado
A tornado destroyed two mobile homes and a woodworking shop, and caused minor damage to several other homes in Lacochee. Two people were injured when the tornado ripped a double-wide mobile home from its foundation, hurled it 50 to 75 feet, and smashed it against a parked tractor trailer.									

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FLORIDA (continued) Mexico Beach, Bay County	9	11:00 AM CST			0	0	4	0	Waterspout/Tornado	
		A waterspout came ashore at Mexico Beach and damaged several mobile homes in the beach area before dissipating.								
Palm Beach and Martin Counties	11	Early Morning midafternoon			0	0	6	0	°C Rain	
		Heavy rain that totaled 10 to 13 inches soaked northeastern Palm Beach County and extreme southeastern Martin County between midnight and mid afternoon. A narrow strip along the coast 5 to 10 miles wide received the largest amounts. Streets, highways, residential areas and some business and industrial sites were flooded as drainage systems proved inadequate.								
		Total damage exceeded 3 million dollars, according to Palm Beach County officials. The town of Palm Beach had the heaviest losses with \$2,250,000 to home and businesses, and \$50,000 damage to public property. Water was pumped from 31 homes in low areas in the north end of town. Riviera Beach and Singer Island had nearly \$300,000 damage to homes, seawalls and roads. West Palm Beach sustained damage in excess of \$250,000. The roof of a drapery store collapsed under the weight of accumulated rain with and inventory loss of \$100,000. Several inches of water flooded the ground floor of a hotel on north Flagler Drive.								
		In Tequesta, damage to homes near the Loxahatchee River was estimated at \$30,000. Jupiter had damage to some homes and commercial buildings estimated at \$35,000. Unincorporated areas of northeast Palm Beach County had damage to residences that totaled \$120,000.								
		Rainfall totals included 13.5 inches on Spruce Avenue in Palm Beach 12 inches on Singer Island, and 10 to 11 inches in Jupiter and Tequesta. Only 2.3 inches of rain fell at West Palm Beach International Airport.								
Port St. Joe, Gulf County	24	5:10 AM EST	5/10	20	0	0	5	0	Tornado	
		A tornado moved onshore in an industrial area of Port St. Joe. It hit the St. Joe Paper Mill, crossed Highway 98 and damaged the Sylvachem Chemical Co. and the Port St. Joe Water Treatment Plant.								
Sarasota County	24	2:45 PM EST	4/10	20	0	1	5	0	Tornado	
		A tornado moved onshore at Siesta Key damaging eight cottages and about 25 automobiles. One person was injured and hospitalized.								
Orange County	24	3:00 PM EST	3/10	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado	
		Orange County Police reported a tornado touchdown at Harbor Valley Trailer Park and at Laughlin Road in Zellwood.								
Orange County	24	3:15 PM EST	3/10	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado	
		A tornado touched down briefly in Apopka north of Silver Star Road.								
Peninsular Florida	24	late morning thru late afternoon			0	0	6	0	°C Wind	
		The strong squall line that produced the pre-dawn tornado in Port St. Joe on Christmas Eve moved rapidly southeastward through much of the peninsula during the day, spawning at least 3 other tornadoes. (See above) Additionally, thunderstorm winds in excess of 60 mph caused widespread damage to trees, utility lines, roofs, mobile homes, storage sheds, patios, etc. in most sections of central Florida. The thunderstorms weakened as they moved through southern Florida in the late afternoon and evening but caused some minor damage, mainly to patios and utility lines.								
Dade County	28	1:30 PM to 2:30 PM EST			1	0	3	0	Thunderstorm, lightning, hail	
		A severe thunderstorm in north Dade County produced strong winds, golf ball size hail and lightning that killed a jockey at Calder Race Course. The jockey was dismounted after a race and was running for cover when the bolt hit. Five people nearby felt a severe impact from the bolt but were not seriously injured.								
GEORGIA			NONE REPORTED							
HAWAII Waipio Valley, Waimea and Honokaa, Hawaii Island	6	early morning			0	0	*5	0	Heavy rain	
		In Waipio Valley, clogged main stream through valley caused flooding of taro patches and roads affecting about 30 farmers. Damages estimated \$40,000. Three homes in Waimea and Honokaa suffered estimated \$15,000 flood damage.								
HAWAII (continued) Hawaiian waters	10						10	0	5	Rough seas
		Chartered University of Hawaii 90-foot flat-bottomed research vessel Holo Holo failed to arrive at Kawaihae, Hawaii Island on 11th after leaving Honolulu, Oahu on 9th. Except for empty box, no other trace of boat or crew and scientists found after extensive air and sea search. Gusty trade winds prevailed over Hawaiian waters especially in Alenuhaha Channel on 10th and 11th.								
Kawaihae and Kohala Estates, Hawaii Island	11-12	11/night-12/all day			0	0	*5	0	C	Strong winds
		Accelerated trade winds funneling through saddle between Kohala mountains and Mauna Kea caused estimated \$200,000 damages to boats, buildings and trees. Two houses blown off foundations and two large greenhouses and warehouse damaged. In Kawaihae small boat harbor, three boats blown against breakwater destroyed or sunk. About 80 trees uprooted at Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.								
IDAHO Lewis, Idaho, Gooding, Twin Falls, Cassia, Power, and Bingham Counties	4	All Day			0	0	4	0	0	Wind, Snow, Freezing Rain
		Strong winds and heavy snow toppled trees and limbs onto power lines causing scattered but extensive damage. At Twin Falls, Twin Falls County, 40 miles per hour winds with gusts to 55 m.p.h. blew trees onto two homes and a small car in addition to power lines. Freezing rain built up ice on power lines in the Rockland area, Power County, causing them to break, and left a coat of ice on roads contributing to minor accidents in Twin Falls County.								
Statewide	26-31				0	0	4	0	0	Snow, Wind, Extreme Cold
		A carport collapsed under a heavy snow load and demolished two cars at Sandpoint, Bonner County. Snowdrifts up to seven feet high in some places caused several roads to be closed in southeast Idaho. Most damage was due to much below zero temperatures which caused heavy power loads to burn out transformers. Frozen water pipes and other miscellaneous problems were caused by the cold weather.								
ILLINOIS Northwestern and Extreme North	30-31				0	0	5	0	0	Heavy Snowstorm
		A heavy snow, with depths of more than a foot in many sections, blanketed the northwestern and extreme northern parts of the state. The snow accumulation in the Rockford area was the largest in many years. In the extreme northern section of the state, some stations reported about 16 inches of new snow. Highway traffic was at a standstill for a time, and railroad and airport travel was severely curtailed. In Elgin, Kane County, the roof of the Liberty Trucking Company collapsed under the weight of the snow, resulting in damage estimated at \$75,000-\$100,000.								
INDIANA Southwest	8	Day			0	0	?	?	?	Ice storm
		A winter storm dropped three quarters of an inch of ice over much of the southwestern portion of Indiana. Trees were split and downed with tree branches falling and breaking electrical lines. Power was cut off to an estimated 30 to 50 thousand homes. Schools were closed. This was the worst ice storm in southwest Indiana in the past 25 years.								
Southern Indiana along Ohio River	11-16				0	0	?	?	?	Flooding
		Flooding caused by heavy rains affected numerous low-lying areas all along the southern Indiana border along the Ohio River. Many highways were closed isolating several communities. Streets in some cities were flooded, causing evacuation of many families and flooding of some businesses. Flood waters were from 3 to 10 feet over flood stage.								
Michigan City LaPorte County	20	11:40			0	0	0	0	0	Hail
		Marble size hail was reported by a spotter in Michigan City.								
IOWA			NO REPORT RECEIVED							

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KANSAS	NONE REPORTED								
KENTUCKY	Dec 7-13				3		8		Major Flood
	<p>Nearly 3 inches of rain fell on KY on Dec. 2. This was followed by extremely heavy rains of 3 - 5 inches on Dec. 7 and 8. One weather observer in Lincoln Co., 40 miles SW of Lexington, reported a 36 hr storm total of 8.9 inches. Many areas had all-time record floods. Major flooding took place on the Licking and Kentucky Rivers. Ten thousand people were evacuated from their homes in Paintsville. Cave City and Salyersville were completely under water. The Capitol Building in Frankfort was under 3 feet of water. Major flooding took place in Lebanon Junction in Ballard County when water went around the levee. The rain ended as a major ice storm in many areas.</p> <p>Fatalities: An Estill County man was killed when he refused to leave his Spvenna residence. A 22 year old mother and her 5 year old son were killed when they drove their car into a rain swollen creek, located in Warren County.</p>								
LOUISIANA									
Bossier Parish	3	1:50 AM	8	400	2	266	8	0	Tornado
Webster, Claiborne, Union Parishes	3	2:30 AM	60	?	0	0	?	?	Tornado
Webster, Claiborne, Union Parishes	3	3:38 AM	62	150	2	4	6	?	Tornado
	<p>These 3 tornadoes are classified as the worst in northern Louisiana's history with the first one in Bossier Parish being the most destructive. Bossier City was the hardest hit with 75 homes and 51 businesses destroyed or suffering heavy damage with hundreds more with minor to moderate damage. 1500 persons were left homeless. Of the 266 injured 64 were serious. The two fatalities were two sisters killed when a car was thrown into the bedroom where they were sleeping. This same storm went on to strike El Dorado, AR killing 7 more people. The second storm traveled almost exclusively through wooded areas doing only minor damage. It is not known if it was on the ground its entire path. The third storm tore through several small communities in its path. One man was killed when his mobile home was destroyed. Another elderly man died several days later due to injuries received in the storm. The damage from this storm was generally mobile homes and several frame homes destroyed or damaged in the communities hit. Evidently due to the time of night only a very small number of people actually saw any of the three tornadoes, but many did report heavy rain and roaring noises. All 3 tornadoes passed into Arkansas.</p>								
Winn Parish	7	5:20 PM	?	?	0	0	?	0	Tornado
	<p>This tornado was part of some widespread thunderstorm activity preceding a frontal system. The tornado unroofed a barn in the small community of Carr's Mill. Also nearby power lines were knocked down. No other damage was reported.</p>								
Jackson Parish	7	5:20 PM			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
Catahoula Parish	7	3:15			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
	<p>These two funnel clouds were both reported by public and were part of widespread thunderstorm activity. The first in Catahoula Parish occurred near the community of Glade. The second in Jackson Parish took place near Hodge and Jonesboro. Other than the damage associated with the tornado in Winn Parish no other was reported although small hail was reported in a few northern parishes.</p>								
East Carroll Parish	31	2:40 PM	?	?	0	0	3	?	Wind Storm
	<p>A band of showers and thunderstorms moving across Louisiana contained one severe thunderstorm which produced strong winds near Soudheiner in northeast Louisiana. A Tallulah radio station reported a barn destroyed and several trees down.</p>								
MAINE	NO REPORT RECEIVED								
MARYLAND & D.C.									
Elk River, Cecil County	9	10:25 a			0	0	0	0	Wind, Rain
	<p>Heavy rain and gusty winds were blamed for grounding of tanker near the entrance of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal. The vessel, bound for Delaware from Baltimore, was carried 100 yards from the main channel and was stuck in six feet of mud. Although carrying hazardous dry chemicals, no leaks occurred and none of the crew of 35 was injured.</p>								
Statewide	17	All Day			0	1	4	0	Wind
	<p>Strong northwest winds gusting up to 50 mph following cold frontal passage caused variety of damage. Small car blow off road near Girdletree, Worcester County, overturned and slightly injured a passenger. Widespread downed trees and power lines were the main problem. In the Baltimore area, alone, some 12,000 households were without electrical service for 8 time.</p>								
Eastern	17-21				0	0	3	0	Wind
	<p>Combination of wind and warm temperatures resulted in numerous brush fires - about 20 percent more than normal for the season according to one fire official. In Cambridge a trash fire was spread by wind, totally destroying a shed, with loss estimated near \$4,000.</p>								
Western & Northern	19-20				(see write-up below)			0	Freezing Rain, Sleet
	<p>Sleet and freezing rain began over the western counties the evening of the 19th, spreading over the rest of the area by the morning of the 20th. icy roads were prevalent and were responsible for several multi-vehicle accidents and numerous injuries. Nearly 50 accidents were reported in Harford County, alone, one resulting in a fatality.</p>								
Chester River (2 S of Chestertown, Kent County)	21	Nr 2:00p			1	1	0	0	Wind
	<p>Two duckhunters, retrieving decoys, apparently thrown into the water when their 14-foot boat was swamped by swells. Winds had been gusting to 35 to 40 mph prior to the time the two experienced watermen set out, and small craft advisories were in effect. One man was drowned and the other, located some 5 or 7 hours after the incident, was treated for exposure at a local hospital.</p>								
MASSACHUSETTS									
Statewide	17	all day			0	0	4	0	high wind
	<p>many trees were blown down onto wires, automobiles and houses as winds gusted to 60 mph; thousands experienced power outage</p>								
South Oxford	25				0	0	3	0	lightning
	<p>lightning struck power lines and a transformer causing a power outage</p>								
MICHIGAN									
Utica, Macomb County	13	1030 am			1	0	2		Winds
	<p>Wind gusts as high as 46 MPH blew a plywood shed over crushing a 13 year old boy who happened to be walking behind it.</p>								
MINNESOTA									
Southern	2-3	6:00PM	-	-	0	0	4	0	Heavy Snow
	<p>A very cold east-west high pressure ridge covered the Northern Plains at 12Z December 2nd while a low pressure system was drifting east in Northern Oklahoma. The high pressure ridge broke into two centers with one near International Falls and the other in Eastern Montana, while low pressure center (1003.hmb) 00Z December 3rd was located in Southeast Kansas; The low pressure center had started to turn northeast under a strong jet aloft and one to two inches of snow was reported in Southwest Minnesota. Snow was heavy in the Southwest, and snow spread over all of Southern Minnesota south of a line from Alexandria to Duluth. Low pressure center moving northeast near Beoria, IL at 12Z December 3rd, while high pressure continued over Southern Ontario. Heavy snow fell from Southwest Minnesota to West-central Wisconsin. Low pressure center deepened to 1002.0mb near Milwaukee, WI at 18Z, and 980.0mb northeast of Green Bay at 00Z December 4th. Snow depths of six inches or more fell in southwest with 10 inches or more at Marshall, MN. Six inches or more were recorded in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and West-central Wisconsin, with nine inches at Stewart and more than seven inches in Minneapolis. Two to three inches accumulated North-central and extreme South-east Minnesota. In the snow area, winds averaged 12-22mph, and temperatures ranged from 3 to 17 degrees above zero. Heavy snow did not cause extensive problems for the areas.</p>								

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

DECEMBER 1978

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS				ESTIMATED DAMAGE	CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
MISSISSIPPI										
Tunica County	3	7:00 am	1	70	0	0	5	0		Tornado
										A tornado touched down briefly in the White Oak Community 3 miles southeast of Tunica. Two mobile homes were destroyed along with a farm building and all of the farm machinery that it contained. Two or three houses were damaged before the tornado moved into a wooded area, where it felled a few trees before it either lifted off the surface or just ceased to exist.
Northwestern part of the state	3	all day			0	1	5	0		Severe thunderstorms, high winds heavy rain.
										Considerable wind damage was followed by flooding due to rains of two to five inches. Trees and limbs were downed, roofs were damaged or blown off entirely and several farm buildings were damaged or destroyed. Porches and carports were damaged. Several mobile homes were damaged and a few destroyed. A forestry tower was blown over and flooding caused road and bridge damage. One man was injured slightly when his trailer was blown against a tree with him in it.
Northern half of state	7 & 8				0	0	5	0		Winter storm
										Thunderstorms, high winds, heavy rain, some freezing rain and sleet accompanied this winter storm. Spotty damage across the area included damage to or destruction of farm buildings, mobile homes, roofs, carports, limbs and trees. Some cars were stalled in flooded areas and a few local power outages were reported. Most of the damage was caused by high winds and flooding.
Northern two-thirds of state	30 & 31				0	0	5	0		Winter storm
										Thunderstorms, high winds, heavy rain, freezing rain and sleet were felt in a large part of the state. Two to five inches of rain caused flooding in some areas. Damage to buildings, limbs, trees and mobile homes occurred in a variety of locations. Store windows were broken and awnings and signs were damaged by wind and heavy rain.
MISSOURI										
Extreme Southeast	7 & 8	pm 7 & am 8	?	?	0	0	5	0		Ice
										Around 2.5 inches of freezing rain caused the worst ice storm in extreme southeast Missouri since the fifties. The weight of the accumulated ice toppled tree limbs into streets and yards, knocking down power lines and falling on vehicles in some cases. In other cases, the sheer weight of the ice on power lines and poles brought both lines and poles down. As a result, there were massive power outages, which, in a few cases, took up to a week to restore. The ice melted little in the next three days, during which time power lines, including those already repaired, continued to break as limbs continued to fall on them. Insurance companies found that most claims were minor and involved fallen TV and radio antennas.
The entire state	29, 30, 31	pm 29, all day 30 & 31	?	?	5	0	6	0		Winter
										A major winter storm began late Friday afternoon in northwest Missouri and continued to produce precipitation in the state through Sunday night. Precipitation began as rain, freezing rain, and sleet then turned to snow. Predominant type and accumulation amounts of precipitation varied across the state. Heavy snow amounts of around a foot occurred north of a line from just south of Grandview in Jackson County to Louisiana in Pike County. Large accumulations of freezing rain caused widespread damage to trees and power lines in a 100-mile wide band centered on a line from Gainesville in Ozark County to Crystal City in Jefferson County. Power outages were quite extensive in St. Louis County where some homes remained without electric power until Thursday. A 21-year-old Lamar, Barton County, man was found dead of exposure in his front yard Sunday morning. In southeast Missouri, rainfall amounts up to 3 inches were recorded by Sunday night. In Bollinger County, a family of four returning home from a New Year's Eve party were swept away and drowned when they abandoned their pickup truck which failed to make it across a flood-swollen creek. All of this weather was complicated by frigid temperatures and strong and gusty winds Sunday and Monday. Drifts were as high as 8 feet in the Kirksville area. Far-reaching effects from this storm were experienced in the area which received mostly freezing rain. There was much damage to houses when ice dams built up in gutters forcing water from melting ice through roofs into homes. Water pipes burst in many homes that were abandoned when electric power was cut off.
NEBRASKA										
Western, Central and Northeast	1-3	Morning to Early Morning			1	?	5	0		Heavy Snow
										Snow began in the panhandle and spread across the central and northeast. Heavy snow occurred north of a line from Omaha to Holdrege. Depths averaged 6 to 15 inches. Some reported amounts: Mullen 18 inches, Bridgeport 17, Taylor 16, Stanton 15, Norfolk 14, Chadron, Kimball and Burwell 13, Valentine and Sidney 12, Spottsbuff and Alliance 11, North Platte 9 and Grand Island 9 inches. Winds gusting to 30 m.p.h. created 4 to 5 foot drifts in the sand hills and northeast. One hunter died of exposure 25 miles south of Merriman when his vehicle was disabled.
Southeast	2	All Day			0	?	4	0		Glaze
										Light freezing rain and drizzle glazed surfaces and made roads hazardous south of a line from Sioux City to Holdrege. Numerous accidents were reported. Interstate was closed for a time around Omaha.
NEVADA										NONE REPORTED
NEW HAMPSHIRE										NO REPORT RECEIVED
NEW JERSEY										NONE REPORTED
NEW MEXICO										
Lordsburg, Deming area, Hildago County	7	Daytime			0	0	?	0		Heavy Snow
										Seven inches of snow with considerable blowing and drifting forced closure of Interstate 10 and stranded 500 to 600 travelers in Lordsburg and Deming.
Near Quay, Quay County	8	2:00 a.			1	0	0	0		Snow, Cold
										Young woman became stuck on little-used road in snowstorm. Abandoned car to walk out, became lost, and succumbed to cold.
Headquarters, White Sands Missile Range, Otero County	18	5:00 p.			0	3	4	0		Wind
										Wind, reported to near 100 mph, destroyed mobile home with minor injuries to 3 inhabitants and caused considerable roof damage to other structures.
Drainages of Gila and Black Range Mountains, Southwestern New Mexico, Grant, Luna, Hildago, and portions of Catron and Sierra Counties	18-19	Continuous			0	0	7	7		Rain, Flood
										One to three inches of unseasonably warm rain on 18th and 19th falling on saturated ground and on mountain snowpack caused rapid rise in San Francisco, Gila, and Mimbres Rivers to record crests. Many smaller streams out of banks. Extensive flooding, washed out bridges, inundation of irrigated farmland, and isolated communities as rivers went out of banks as far south as Deming and westward into Arizona. Considerable loss of unharvested crops as well as destruction of irrigation systems and structures. Crest passed Glenwood around 11 p. of 18th. Crest on Gila at Redrock near 7 a. of 19th. River reported as "nearly one mile wide" at Redrock as compared to usual 5 to 6 feet.
Ruidoso Vicinity, Southern Lincoln County	19	Daytime			1	0	6	0		Rain, Flood
										Unseasonably warm rains of 1 to 2 inches melted mountain snowpack and caused floods on Rio Ruidoso and Rio Bonito. Waters created in Ruidoso about 4 p. on 19th. Many residences destroyed or damaged, several small bridges washed out, water supply and sewage systems torn up. Thirty people evacuated from subdivision. Elderly man swept into flood waters and drowned when riverbank crumbled.
NEW YORK										
COASTAL										NONE REPORTED
MONTANA										
Cascade	29	Night			1	0	0	0		Cold, Snow
										A 63-year old man was found frozen to death along a county road.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

DECEMBER 1978

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
NEW YORK (continued)									
CENTRAL									
AREAWIDE	24-25				1	0	4		SNOW
	TWELVE TO TWENTY-FOUR INCHES OF SNOW FELL OVER THE AREA THE EVENING OF THE 24TH THROUGH THE 25TH, BREAKING RECORDS FOR SNOWFALL ON THESE DATES IN MANY LOCATIONS. THIRTY MILE PER HOUR WINDS CREATED ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS WITH DRIFTING SNOW AND SEVERAL AREAS REPORTED POWER OUTAGES. NUMEROUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WERE REPORTED DUE TO SLIPPERY ROADS AND LOW VISIBILITIES IN THE BLOWING SNOW, OCCASIONALLY MIXING WITH SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN. AN EIGHTEEN YEAR OLD MAN WAS FOUND FROZEN TO DEATH ABOUT ONE MILE FROM SOUTH EDGESTON IN OTSEGO COUNTY. HE APPARENTLY BECAME SEPARATED FROM HIS COMPANIONS THE EVENING OF THE 24TH AND WAS DISORIENTATED AND LOST HIS WAY IN THE FALLING AND BLOWING SNOW.								
WESTERN									
Northern Cayuga & Oswego Counties	10	18-24 hrs.			0	0	5	0	Heavy Snow
	Heavy snow squalls produced from 2 to 4 feet of new snow in the area. Martville, Northern Cayuga County 44 inches; Fair Haven, Northern Cayuga County 40 inches; Fulton, Oswego County 33 inches; Hannibal, Oswego County 29 inches; Central Square, Oswego County 24 inches.								
Niagara County	20				0	0	4	0	Freezing Rain
	Glaze from freezing rain caused rush hour traffic accidents (34 property damage accidents around Niagara Falls and 24 incidents in Niagara County).								
Much of Western New York	24-25	24 hrs.			0	0	5	0	Heavy Snow
	Heavy wet snow Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. More than 3 feet of snow in Allegany County closed roads. A state of emergency was declared. 20 inches in 24 hours reported in Monroe County. Weight of snow collapsed the roofs of two businesses in the Hornell area. At least \$50,000 damage to Strobel Welding Company was reported. Monroe Huffer and Brake Company experienced near total loss when its roof collapsed. Both collapses occurred on the 25th. A foot or more of new snow was common throughout Western New York during this holiday period. Trees were reported toppled at Angelica in Allegany County and at Cheung in Chautauq County. Some power lines were down at Jamestown due to weight of snow.								
NORTH CAROLINA									
					NONE REPORTED				
NORTH DAKOTA									
Oakes (Dickey County)	4	Unknown			0	0	3	0	Windstorm
	High winds pulled an airplane from its moorings, and it ended up on top of another plane. The wind blown airplane suffered a broken wing, and the other plane suffered minor damage.								
Northwest	21	Evening			0	0	0	0	Windstorm
	Winds of over 60 mph caused ground blizzard conditions for several hours.								
Statewide	28-29				0	3	0	0	Blizzard (North) Heavy Snow (South)
	A winter storm dumped heavy snow over much of North Dakota. In addition, strong winds caused blizzard conditions across the north. Snowfall amounts ranged up to 10 inches in the north with 10.1 inches falling at Williston on the 28/29th. In the south, Bismarck received 4.2 inches, and Fargo 5.3 inches on the 28th. Some travelers, in the north and west, were stranded when roads became blocked by snowdrifts; plane flights were cancelled at Minbt; oil rig crews were marooned near Williston; and three persons were treated for frostbite.								
Mandan (Morton County)	31	Morning			1	0	0	0	Cold weather
	A lightly clad 36 year old man was found frozen to death on a railroad coal car. At the time the body was discovered, wind chill temperatures were about 60 below.								
OHIO									
Southern Half of State	8-9	All Day			0	0	6	0	Heavy rain
	Heavy rains, up to 5 inches, for a day and a half caused moderate flooding on the Ohio River and many of its tributaries. Many residents had to be evacuated and property damage was extensive.								
OKLAHOMA					NONE REPORTED				
OREGON					NONE REPORTED				
PACIFIC					NONE REPORTED				
PENNSYLVANIA									
EASTERN									
Bradford and Sullivan Counties	3	6 PM to 8 PM EDT			0	0	3	0	Wind
	High winds damaged a barn and utility lines in Forks Township, Sullivan County and brought a tree down on a house in Franklindale, Bradford County.								
Eastern Penna.	17	9 AM to Midnight EST			2	2	4	0	Wind
	Strong winds with gusts of 50 to 55 MPH brought down many trees causing damage to buildings, automobiles and downing utility lines. Thousands of customers experienced power outages. The wind gust lifted the roof off a building under construction in Allentown and three automobiles were smashed by the concrete block walls of a burned out building toppled by the wind. Wind gusts caused two deaths when a motorcyclist lost control and flew over a guard rail in Philadelphia and near Williamsport a tractor trailer was flipped over while going down an off ramp. In Aston, Delaware County, a man was injured when hit by plywood blown off a truck. A woman was injured when a tree fell on the automobile in which she was riding in Nether Providence, Delaware County. To add to the windy conditions up to 4 inches of snow fell on the north portion of Eastern Pennsylvania causing very slippery driving conditions.								
Eastern Penna.	20	5 AM to midnight EST			0	?	2	0	Glaze
	Light freezing rain and drizzle developed along the Maryland border around 5 AM and spread to northern sections by midafternoon. The freezing precipitation created an extremely slippery glaze on roadways and sidewalks in a 5 to 10-hour period before ending. The icy roadways resulted in hundreds of automobile accidents which were being reported with such rapidity that police were unable to respond to all of them or even keep track of them. The majority of the accidents were minor, but at least 2 deaths resulted and some people required hospitalization. Many vehicles slid off roads, some flipping								
Eastern Penna.	20	5 AM to cont. midnight EST			0	?	2	0	Glaze
	over; including school buses, a fire engine, emergency vehicles and a highway department clearing truck. An unknown number of injuries (several dozen at least) were the result of pedestrians falling on the ice.								
Eastern Penna.	24	8 PM to 25 8 AM EST			0	0	3	0	Snow, Wind
	A winter storm moving across the area brought considerable rainfall to southern counties (1 to 2 inches) and up to 1 foot of snow to northern counties. Strong winds accompanied the precipitation causing scattered power outages and drifting snow which recovered plowed roads. The highest gust reported was 51 MPH at Allentown. The snow, wind and rain caused numerous automobile accidents with at least 2 fatalities. Another death was attributed to a heart attack as a man shoveled snow off a roof. The rainfall in the south caused considerable roadway flooding.								

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

DECEMBER 1978

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	PROPERTY	CROPS	
PENNSYLVANIA (continued)											
WESTERN											
			NONE REPORTED								
PUERTO RICO											
Off San Juan	18	5:00 p.			0	0	0	0			Waterspout
North Coast	19	Afternoon			0	0	6	0			Rough Seas, High Swells
<p>A strong low pressure system moving off the northeast U. S. coast into the north Atlantic generated heavy surf conditions from high sea swells along the northern coast of Puerto Rico. Swells of over 20 feet were reported. Sea erosion caused damage to some beach front roads and coastal flooding was reported in some areas. An oil barge sprung a leak in the high seas off the northeast coast of Puerto Rico resulting in an oil spill in that area. Extensive oil contamination was reported along most beaches, marinas and harbor facilities in the area from Luquillo southeastward along the coast of Yabucoa.</p>											
Vieques Sound	19	4:15 p.			0	0	0	0			Waterspout
RHODE ISLAND											
NONE REPORTED											
SOUTH CAROLINA											
NONE REPORTED											
SOUTH DAKOTA											
NONE REPORTED											
TENNESSEE											
Memphis, Shelby County	3	10 a. - 2 p.						5			Flash flooding
<p>It rained all day but the heaviest (3.45 in.) occurred during the time period shown above. Some parts of Shelby County had as much as seven inches during the day. Property damage was widespread, and residents along Nancy Road and at Wheel Estate Mobile Home Park, both in Whitehaven, were among the areas hardest hit by waters rising from Nonconah Creek. This all-day rain forced other creeks and drainage ditches out of their banks, drove dozens of families from their homes, and stranded at least one church congregation in its sanctuary. Many of the flooded roadways were marked by abandoned automobiles that were floor handle deep in water. There was heavy water damage to homes, mobile homes, and numerous automobiles.</p>											
Covington, Tipcon County	7	4:45 p.						4			Tornado
<p>The tornado (small) that struck the Covington area caused damage to several barns, light sheds, and twisted trees in the area just south of the Covington city limits. Two eyewitnesses saw the funnel.</p>											
Lightfoot Community, Lauderdale County	31	1:45 p.	6	166	0	1	5				Tornado
<p>A tornado skipped across Lauderdale County, uprooting trees and overturning mobile homes (injuring one person). Most of the damage was recorded in the Lightfoot community, west of Ripley, where several mobile homes were overturned. There was also damage to mobile homes and store fronts at Heming, Mangipoo, Luckett, and near the Fort Pillow State Prison.</p>											
TEXAS											
NORTHERN											
Tyler, Smith County	23	10:00 p.			0	0	0	0			Hailstorm
<p>Marble size hail occurred as a line of thunderstorms passed through the area.</p>											
TEXAS (continued)											
NORTHERN											
North Texas		30- 6:00 p on 31 30 - 31			1	2000	7	?			Ice Storm
<p>What most officials described as the worst ice storm in 30 years began as freezing drizzle over much of North Texas on the evening of the 30th. By late evening, the precipitation changed to freezing rain and sleet which continued through the morning of the 31st.</p> <p>One to two inch accumulations of the ice and sleet resulted in moderate to heavy damage in a 100 mile wide swath from near Gatesville northeast to the Red River near Paris. Lighter damage occurred throughout the remainder of North Central Texas and the western portion of Northeast Texas.</p> <p>The most severe damage seemed to be centered in Dallas County. Trees and power lines began breaking in the Dallas County area between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. on the 31st, due to the stress from ice accumulations and a brisk northerly wind. Up to 300,000 people in Dallas County were without electricity on the 31st and 1st and in some places power was not restored until 10 days later. In Duncanville, 90% of the residences were without electricity. Power was not completely restored until January 2nd. In Irving, approximately 10,000 families were without power and 300 phones were out. Dallas Power and Light Company used 200 crews and about \$5 million in repairing the damage. Over 4,000 residents reported broken water pipes with almost 100 breaks in the street mains. The total damage estimate for Dallas County was above \$14 million. One young boy in Dallas County was killed when he touched a downed electrical line. At least 5 indirect storm deaths could be attributed to ice-related automobile accidents in North Texas. Approximately 2,000 North Texans were treated at area hospitals for frost bite, accidents, and falls on the slippery ice. Several hundred were hospitalized with broken bones.</p> <p>Other counties reporting scattered heavy damage included Hamilton, McLennan, Ellis, Navarro, Tarrant, Rockwall, Denton, Fannin, Lamb, and Hopkins Counties. In these and surrounding counties, tree and power line damage was common, with tree loss described as the greatest within 30 years. Many roads were blocked because of fallen trees and abandoned vehicles. Some power poles were snapped in two by the ice and winds. Many residents were without power or heat for anywhere from a few hours to several days.</p>											
TEXAS SOUTHERN											
South Texas	9- 11	Daily	Area-wide		0	0	0	6			Unusual Cold
<p>A record-breaking severe cold wave pushed southward over the southern third of Texas on December 9. Record low temperatures for December 9, 10, and 11 were set at most south Texas cities with coldest readings having occurred on the morning of the 10th. For most parts of the area, this was the first killing frost of the season and it came suddenly after a period of record or near-record warmth. As a result, vegetation was extremely vulnerable to the cold and significant damage occurred to plant life. In all areas north of the lower Rio Grande valley, unaccountable dollar value losses occurred to ornamental shrubs, palms, and trees which were severely nipped or killed by the cold. Agricultural losses in southern areas were significant. Winter Garden areas of Maverick, Zavala, Dimmit, and Bexalle counties sustained heavy losses of normally cold hardy vegetables including spinach, cabbage, and carrots. In the lower Rio Grande valley tender vegetables were killed, hardy vegetables received moderate damage, and citrus was slightly damaged.</p>											
Gilchrist, Galveston Co.	6	5:10 p.									Funnel Cloud
<p>Coast Guard personnel sighted the funnel aloft near Gilchrist. It moved northward with associated heavy thunderstorms before dissipating.</p>											
TEXAS WESTERN											
NONE REPORTED											
UTAH											
Weber, Davis and Salt Lake Counties	6	03-2300 MST			0	1	5	0			High winds
<p>Strong canyon winds developed over Northern Utah early Wednesday morning and persisted through the late evening hours. Strongest winds were reported along I-15 just west of Bountiful and north to the Farmington-Hill Field area. Wind gusts estimated 80 to 85 MPH were reported along this section of the highway by the Utah Highway Patrol. Wind gusts in the bench areas of Bountiful were estimated between 70 and 80 MPH. Many large trailer crucks and trailers were overturned and many signs were blown down. One injury from blowing debris was reported in the Bountiful area. Total damage was estimated at about 200,000 dollars.</p>											

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

DECEMBER 1978

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
VERMONT				NONE REPORTED					
VIRGINIA									
Southwestern	8-9				0	0	0	0	Rain
									Slow moving cold frontal system brought locally heavy rainfall. Some minor flooding of small streams reported the night of the 8th into early on the 9th, but apparently no damage or injuries resulted.
VIRGIN ISLANDS									
Off St. Thomas	16	5:20 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Virgin Passage	18	5:00 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Off West St. Croix	29	6:15 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Off West St. Croix	30	2:00 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
WASHINGTON				NONE REPORTED					
WEST VIRGINIA									
Putnam county	8	1:30pm	?	?	0	1	4	0	Tornado
									A small tornado touched down between Hurricane and St. Albans and flipped a mobile home, damaged a church and ripped the roofs off a few houses. The trailer occupant was only slightly injured.
Statewide	8-9				0	0	7	0	Flooding
									Small stream flooding was widespread on the 8th and 9th accompanied by major river flooding. Record flooding occurred on the Big Sandy, Little Kanawha and Mud Rivers. Counties hardest hit include Lincoln, Cabell, Wayne, Jackson and Mingo. Reports from these five counties alone show 49 homes destroyed, 312 homes with major damage and 1600 families forced to leave their homes for varying amounts of time.
WISCONSIN									
									December was a snowy month across Wisconsin characterized by numerous 1 to 3 inch snowfalls. In addition, two significant storms hit the state... particularly in the southern portion.
									Dec. 2-3 Snow developed over southern Wisconsin early Saturday night Dec. 2 and spread over the state by Sunday morning. The snow changed to sleet and freezing rain in extreme southern and southeast Wisconsin by midnight. The precipitation diminished to light snow and drizzled by noon Sunday Dec 3. Two to 6 inches of snow fell over most of the state with the heaviest snow in southern and west-central parts of the state. Ice accumulated on roads and trees in southeast Wisconsin during the night of Dec 2, causing very hazardous travel conditions and knocking electrical power out in a number of communities due to tree limbs breaking and falling onto power lines and breaking them.
									Dec. 30, 1978 through Jan. 1, 1979 A major snowstorm hit southeast Wisconsin through the New Year's Holiday. The snow began early Saturday night Dec. 30 in extreme southeast Wisconsin and slowly developed across the southeast half of the state on Sunday morning Dec 31. During the day Sunday, Dec 31, into early Sunday night, the heaviest snow fell with accumulations of around a foot in extreme southeast Wisconsin by Sunday evening. Winds increased to 20 to 30 mph Sunday afternoon with gusts up to 40 mph causing drifts up to 6 feet in extreme southeast Wisconsin. Many rural roads became impassable due to the heavy snow and drifting in southeast Wisconsin, but little property damage was reported.
WYOMING									
Statewide	5 6 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	5	0	Snow storm
									This very heavy snow storm dumped over a foot of snow across much of the state causing road and airport closures in many areas throughout the state. Winds gusting to 75 mph caused extensive blowing and drifting snow, stopping both local and interstate travel. This storm isolated livestock from ranchers, contributing to subsequent substantial losses of cattle and sheep in Wyoming.
5 miles west of Cheyenne, Laramie County	22	2:00 p.	N/A	N/A	0	0	5	0	High wind
									Wind gusts estimated to 85 mph blew four Union Pacific freight cars off their tracks west of Cheyenne. Other personal property damages were reported as well. Extensive blowing and drifting snow caused snow drifts up to 17 feet high in some exposed areas west of Cheyenne.

THE FOLLOWING ARE LATE REPORTS, CORRECTIONS, AND DELETIONS:

LATE REPORTS

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
IOWA									
Northwest and North Central	16	11:00 A - 17:00 A			0	0	3	0	Heavy Snow
									A blanket of snow from 4 to 10 inches of snow covered many sections of Northwest and North Central Iowa. This storm forced schools to close and caused many car accidents and cars in ditches.

- o Includes crop damage.
- c Crop damage.
- * Miles instead of yards.
- ** Yards instead of miles.
- † Storm damages are placed in categories varying from 1 to 9 as follows:
 - 1 Less than \$50
 - 2 \$50 to \$500
 - 3 \$500 to \$5,000
 - 4 \$5,000 to \$50,000
 - 5 \$50,000 to \$500,000
 - 6 \$500,000 to \$5 Million
 - 7 \$5 Million to \$50 Million
 - 8 \$50 Million to \$500 Million
 - 9 \$500 Million to \$ 5 Billion

Note: This publication contains our best information on storms but, due to the difficulties inherent in collection of the type of data, it is not all-inclusive. Late Reports and Corrections will be carried in the month following receipt of these data.

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