



disaster preparedness report

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National Weather Service

December 1984

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Each WSFO and WSO in the Eastern, Central, and Southern Regions, should, by now, have a 16 mm copy of the new tornado film "Terrible Tuesday." Each WSFO in these three regions should have a 3/4-inch videotape of this production. A second copy of the film has been sent to stations that have a high demand for showings. If your station needs a second copy, let your regional focal point know of your requirements. The Western Region was sent both films and videotapes for distribution to selected Western Region stations. A copy of the film and videotape was sent to the Pacific and Alaska Regions. By the way, tornado "Terrible Tuesday" has won the Council of International Non-theatrical Events' (CINE) highest award, the "Golden Eagle." (See attachment.)

The new hurricane film, "Hurricane," has been finished and reproductions should be completed in January 1985. We plan on sending a copy of the film to each WSO and WSFO in each coastal state from Maine to Texas and other selected stations in the Eastern and Southern Regions. A videotape will be sent to each WSFO in these states. Copies of the film and videotape will be sent to the Central, Western, Pacific, and Alaska Regions for distribution to their field stations.

The winter storm film "Surviving the Cold" is finished and reproduction will be completed in February 1985. Because of funding limitations, distribution lists are being revised and locations receiving copies will not be known until after this edition of the DP report goes to press. We hope to send copies to most Eastern, Central, and Western Region stations and selected Southern and Alaska regional offices. The Pacific Region will also receive a copy.

The new "Heat" foldout brochure (NOAA PA 85001) is at the printers and should be available from NLSC by early spring 1985.

The new "Hawaiian Hurricanes and Safety Measures" (NOAA PA 85002) with Central Pacific tracking chart brochure has been completed and is being printed and should be available by mid-spring.

The update of the disaster preparedness and awareness "Catalog of Weather and Flood Hazard" (NOAA PA 82003) is complete and should be available by late winter.

Attached is a state by state review of tornadoes and tornado deaths as of November 27, 1984.

o In response to a Southern Region request for NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) information on how NWR is promoted, along with an assessment of how the service is used, Southern Region field office primary results are summarized below (with 47 of 60 offices reporting):

I. How many schools, hospitals, public utilities, state and county offices, radio, television and cable television stations are using NWR?

a. Schools	65%	(7,786 out of 11,896)
b. Hospitals	69%	(641 out of 927)
c. Public Utilities	60%	(371 out of 616)
d. State/County Offices	33%	(1,618 out of 4,896)
e. Radio Stations	75%	(872 out of 1,162)
f. Television Stations	80%	(148 out of 184)
g. Cable Television	48%	(164 out of 344)

Where weak areas were identified, Southern Region encouraged each office to strengthen NWR promotion and application as time and resources permitted.

II. How many general listeners hear NWR broadcasts?

11,332,065 or 21% of Southern Region population of 54,461,307 according to the 1980 census. This figure does not include actual numbers from Little Rock, Arkansas (est. 25% of population); Amarillo, Texas (est. 35%); Midland, Texas (est. 10%); Tulsa, Oklahoma (est. 30%); or Atlanta, Georgia (est. 10%).

o Lights...Camera...Action Viewers of the new and highly rated movie "Places in the Heart" may like to know the remarkable tornado sequence which reduces much of Waxahachie, Texas, to rubble probably owes its credibility to input from WSFO Fort Worth and WPM Dave Martin. Dave advises us the film makers requested slides, film, and advice concerning tornadoes. The results are the most realistic "action" and damage scenes we've seen in a commercial movie. Only a weather-nut might look beyond Sally Field and her family's plight and detect subtle safety tips, but they're there. The film is set in 1935.

o LOUISIANA HURRICANE DRILL A comprehensive hurricane drill was held in Louisiana during the last week of September. Participants included the National Guard, all nine southeast Louisiana parishes, and the State of Louisiana. WSFO Slidell assisted in the development of the drill by providing hurricane advisories, SLOSH output and hurricane probabilities computed by NHC. During the drill, the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness provided the WSFO with a drop on their new communications system. This system links all nine parishes together by SSB radio and rapidfax.

o "DEAR WEATHER FRIEND" began a recent letter received by the staff at WSO Austin. "For about 4 years, you have eased me through several tornado and/or storm periods. It is comforting to know you are there and telling me what to expect, what to do, and when. Even when I push the red button and set the alarm on my Weather-Alert, I can relax and trust it and you to warn me. Thank you." The 86-year-old woman writer went on expressing her concern about an ungrounded TV antenna and related dangers from lightning. MIC Dave Owens replied, "Thanks for your kind words concerning NWR. Hour after hour and day after day we update our weather information, and once in awhile, it's nice to hear from one of our listeners...just to remind us that there really are people out there listening.... You certainly are correct in your concern about lightning" and recommended she contact an electrician.

o WARNING AND PREPAREDNESS EVALUATION The Office of Meteorology at WSH will be conducting a nationwide review of the warning and preparedness program in FY 85. The evaluation will focus on (1) the range and pattern of current warning and preparedness activities, (2) the relationship between the amount of effort put into preparedness activities and the degree of coordination between NWS field offices and selected users, (3) the appropriate role of the NWS with respect to other agencies, volunteers, and the private sector, and (4) the recommended support role of WSH and regional headquarters. As part of the methodology, detailed reviews of the programs at 22 NWS offices will be conducted. Southern Region offices selected for review are: WSFO Lubbock, WSFO Birmingham, Alabama; WSO Shreveport, Louisiana; WSO Tampa Bay, Florida; and WSFO and RFC Slidell. Eastern Region: WSO Raleigh, North Carolina; WSO Norfolk, Virginia; WSFO Boston, Massachusetts; WSO-RFC Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; WSFO Cleveland, Ohio. Central Region: WSO Alpena, Michigan; WSFO Louisville, Kentucky; WSO-RFC Minneapolis, Minnesota; WSO Springfield, Missouri; and WSFO Denver, Colorado. Western Region: WSO Las Vegas, Nevada; WSO San Diego, California; WSFO Salt Lake City, Utah; WSO-RFC Portland, Oregon; and WSFO Great Falls, Montana. Also, WSFO's Honolulu, Hawaii, and Anchorage, Alaska, will be visited. The interaction with the RFC will also be reviewed at several locations.

o "HAM" SPOTTERS -- SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND On November 1, 1984, Tom Holmes (WSO Worcester), Roland Laro (WSO Hartford), and Tom McGuire (WSFO Boston) met with ARIES representatives Ray Weber, Dick Goodman, and Larry Soltz at WSO Bradley Field, Connecticut. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss repeater contention problems between the ARIES and RACIES groups and also HAM Network activation procedures. Stan Wasserman and Gene Kilgore (MSD) attended the meeting, primarily as observers.

o MEDIA WORKSHOP FOCUSING ON MINORITY COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS A Media Workshop by WSFO Birmingham, the Birmingham Urban League, and the Jefferson County Civil Defense, Tuesday, November 13, in Birmingham, Alabama, focused on the vulnerability of the Birmingham area minority community to severe weather and addressed preparedness needs.

The beginning sequence of the new 28-minute "Hurricane" movie shows the attached "view" of Hurricane Diana from above. Attached are two frames from the NASA/NOAA production. NASA received a NOAA-7 pass on a real-time basis with the Bangladesh ACEMP (Agro-Climatic Environmental Monitoring System) on September 11, 1984. Hurricane Diana was just off the coast of South and North Carolina at this time and was at its strongest point, with winds of 135 mph. Two images of Hurricane Diana were sectorized from the full NOAA-7 pass:

Image #1 -- A 512x512 (8-bit) full resolution image of channel 2, a visible image that was enhanced using the Wallis algorithm, a local contrast stretching routine.

Image #2 -- A 512x512 (8-bit) full resolution image of channel 4, an infra-red image. Image 1 and 2 were located at exactly the same coordinates.

The three-dimensional images were created by "warping" the enhanced visible image (image #1). The "warping" or relocation of the pixels were based on the corresponding infra-red image (image #2). The infra-red image is a measure of the cloud top temperatures which are directly related to the cloud top heights. So, the relative heights seen in the three-dimensional image are based on these heights of the infra-red image. The only other input to the program is the user selected point of view. Each 3-D image requires an eye point and a view point specified by a set of scan and element numbers from the original image. In the film loop, there are 44 images and view point change just slightly as the viewer moves towards the eye of the hurricane. Each 3-D image required 30 to 45 minutes to create using a VAX 11-750 and an International Imaging Systems (I2S) Model 75 image processor.

News from FEMA...

EPI Challenge Grants FEMA plans to reopen competition under the Emergency Public Information (EPI) Challenge Grants Program on a limited basis within the next 2 to 3 months. In order to achieve a balanced geographical distribution of grant projects, the program will be readvertised only in areas where there were no challenge grants awarded in FY 1984 -- FEMA Region I (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island) and Region VII (Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa).

Challenge Grants -- requiring at least 25 percent funding from a non-federal source -- will be offered to state and local agencies and nonprofit organizations to encourage the development of effective public information strategies at state and local levels.

Organizations interested in learning more about the EPI Challenge Grants program may contact Chris Rossomando at FEMA.

FEMA Awards Grant to Explore Children, Natural Hazards, and the Media

FEMA's Office of Public Affairs would like to know about innovative public information and education projects directed to children on the range of natural hazards. The information is needed for a project exploring the relationship between natural hazards, children, and their families undertaken by the Children's Television Workshop (CTW) under a grant from FEMA.

The Children's Television Workshop, creators of the widely acclaimed Sesame Street, Electric Company, and 3-2-1 Contact television series, will explore the uses of the broadcast medium to communicate self-protection messages covering the range of natural hazards. This would include reviewing the subject material, determining which messages to focus on for the audience, and how to approach the discussion consistently. CTW will also pursue supporting the implementation of outreach efforts for the secondary audience of parents, teachers, other caregivers, and the emergency management profession. This would include the design and execution of various supporting materials, media, and activities for use at the community level in addition to strategy and field workshops to orient the secondary audience in reinforcing the information and approach taken.

Under the grant from FEMA, CTW hopes to develop a level of awareness about the nature and characteristics of natural hazards among children and their families, and to create an understanding and motivation for taking preparedness actions when faced with natural hazards. CTW also hopes to stimulate an interest in learning more about natural phenomena and to explore the uses of various media for broad dissemination of natural hazards information.

CTW is now in the process of reviewing research literature and surveying existing public information and educational programs to explore the relationship between natural hazards, children and the media. The information will help CTW develop guidance on the information levels of target audiences reached by CTW productions, determine how natural hazards might be approached and the scope of possible messages, and explore the possible opportunities and barriers to natural hazards education, children, and the media.

If you know of any interesting public information or educational programs for children about natural hazards or want to participate in discussions about the project at a future date, please contact Chris Rossomando, Office of Public Affairs, FEMA, 500 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20472, or call her at (202) 287-0300.

Attached is a new FEMA children's awareness/preparedness publication, "Emergency Preparedness Coloring Book, Tips on Safety." You can request copies from your nearest FEMA Regional Office (addresses attached). Because it is experimental, the publications will be distributed on a limited basis to interested persons and organizations for field testing. Your comments on the coloring book and any potential problems with it will be essential to our effort to ensure its effectiveness as an educational tool. Contact Chris with your comments.

Regional Offices

There are 10 FEMA Regional Offices. Each office is headed by a Regional Director who reports to the FEMA Director and is responsible for all FEMA programs in the region.

FEMA Regional Offices are:

Region I (Boston)
442 J.W. McCormack, POCH
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 223-4741

Region II (New York)
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278
(212) 264-8980

Region III (Philadelphia)
Curtis Building, 7th Floor
6th & Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 597-9416

Region IV (Atlanta)
Seventh Floor
1371 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30309
(404) 881-2400

Region V (Chicago)
300 South Wacker Drive
(24th Floor)
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 353-1500

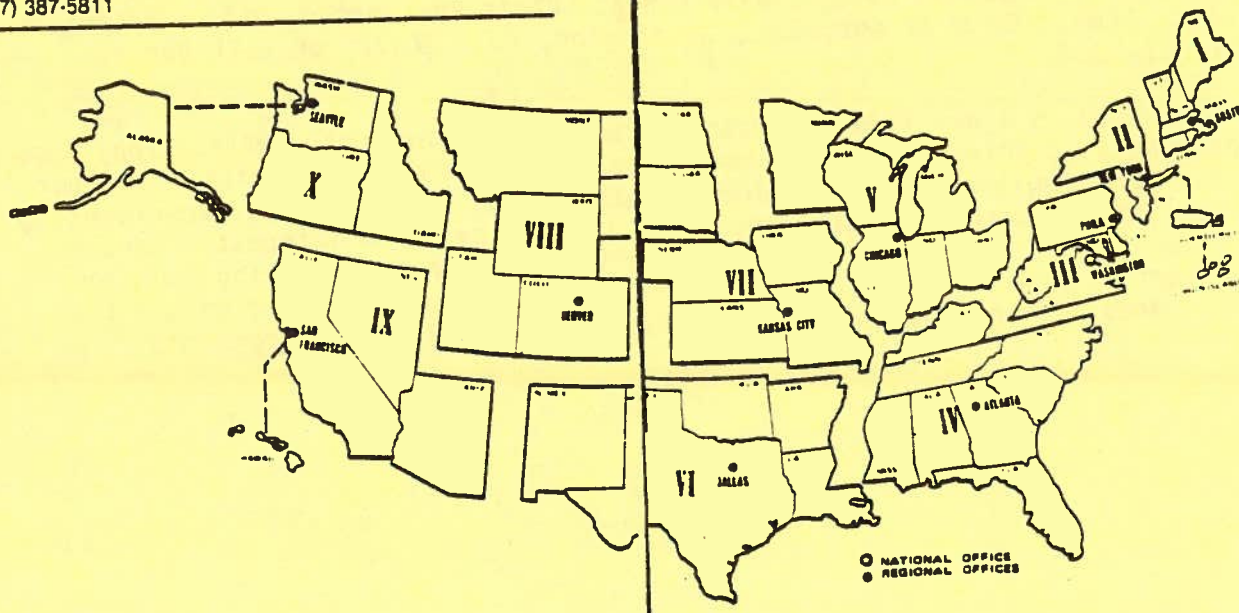
Region VI (Dallas)
Federal Regional Center, Rm. 206
Denton, TX 76201
(817) 387-5811

Region VII (Kansas City)
Old Federal Office Bldg., Rm. 300
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 374-5912

Region VIII (Denver)
Federal Regional Center, Bldg. 710
Denver, CO 80225
(303) 234-2553

Region IX (San Francisco)
Building 105
Presidio of San Francisco
San Francisco, CA 94129
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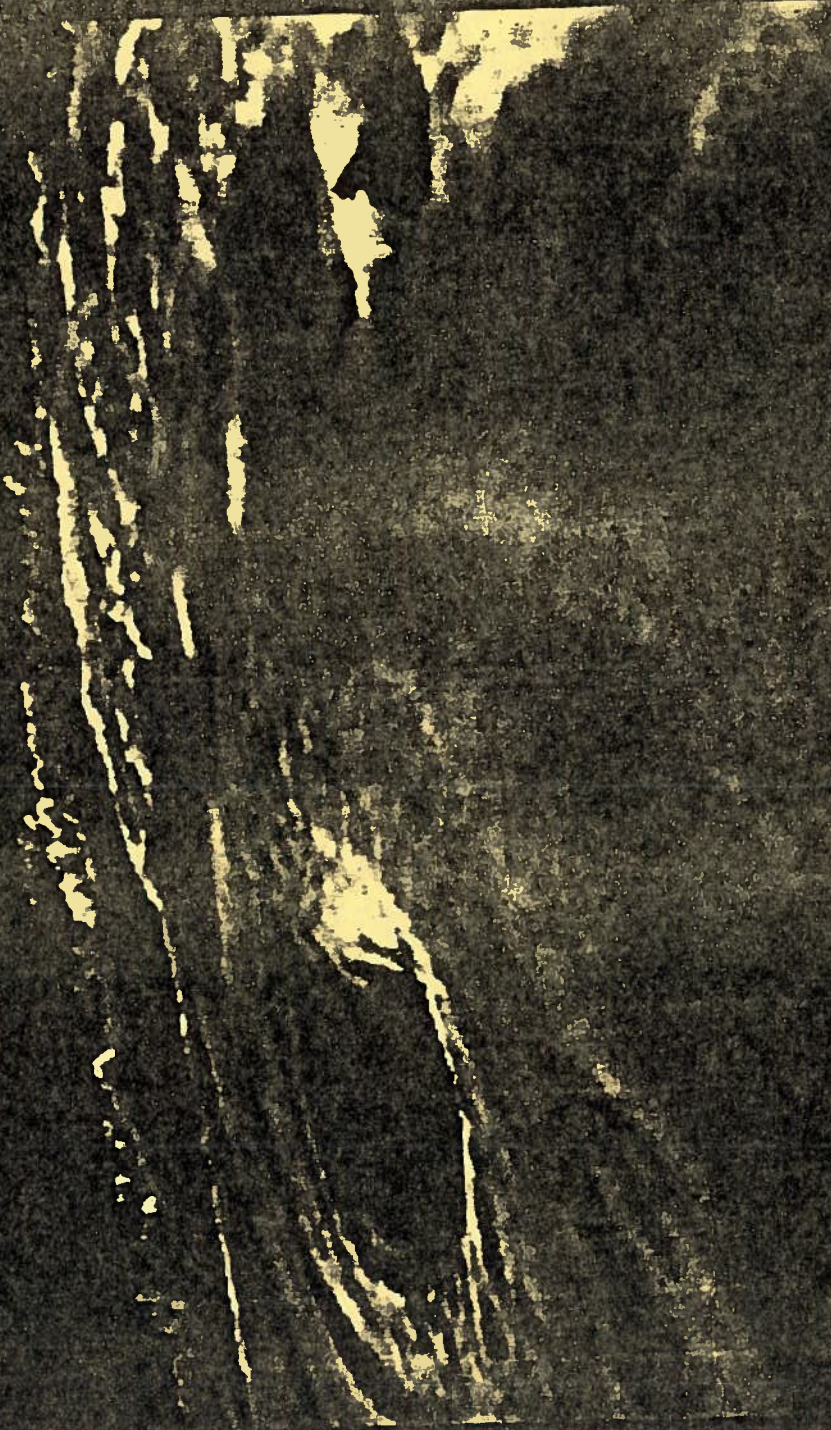
Region X (Seattle)
Federal Regional Center
Bothell, WA 98021
(206) 481-8800



HURRICANE DIANA
TIROS-M 09 11/84 2000Z



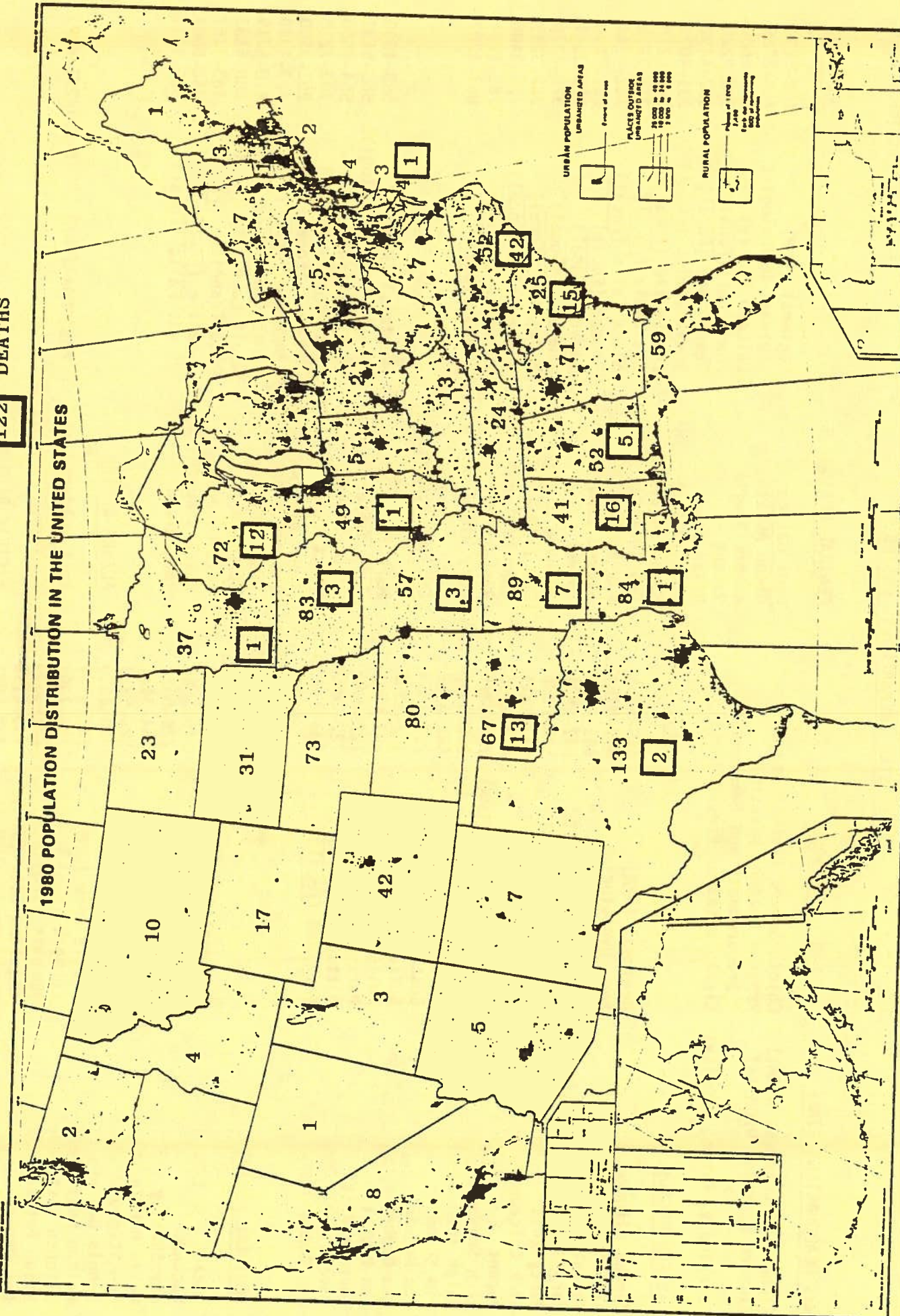
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TORNADOES AND TORNADO DEATHS
AS OF NOVEMBER 27, 1984

1,369 TORNADOES

122 DEATHS



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ROSTER

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 Little Rock (WPM) 740-5331
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 Memphis (WPM) 222-3833
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 San Antonio (WPM) 730-5025
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 Louisville (Focal) 352-5210
 St. Louis (Focal) 279-7018
 Sioux Falls (Focal) 782-4244
 Topeka (Focal) 752-2630
 Denver (Focal) 327-3611
 Cheyenne (Focal) 328-2376
 Milwaukee (Focal) 362-3243
 Minneapolis (Focal) 725-3400
 Bismarck (Focal) 783-4224
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 Thomas Cylke
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 Dale Goudeau
 Charles Ruscha
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 Deputy Reg. Hydrologist 588-5137
 Boise (Focal) 554-9860
 Los Angeles (Focal) 793-7215
 Phoenix (Focal) 261-3500
 Portland (Focal) 423-4340
 Reno (Focal) 470-5719
 Salt Lake City (Focal) 588-5133
 San Francisco (Focal) 463-7767
 Seattle (Focal) 446-6087
 Great Falls (Focal) 585-1311

ALASKA REGION

Burt Goldenberg

8-907-271-5127

Regional (WPM)

PACIFIC REGION

Vacant

Regional (WPM)

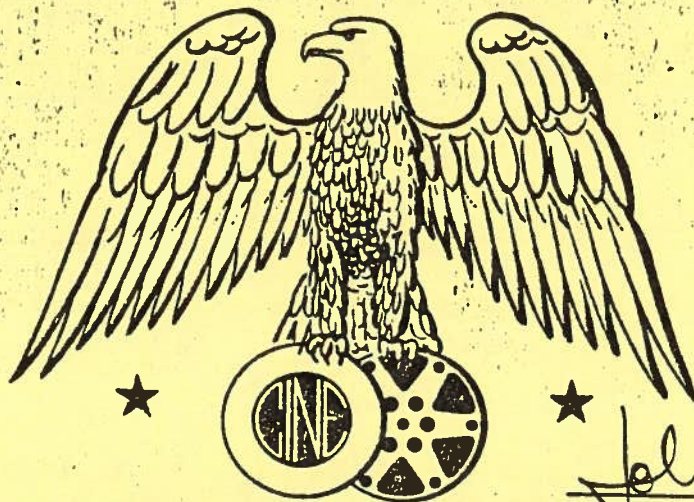
8-808-546-2853

Cine 1984

The Council on International Nontheatrical Events
congratulates
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department Of Commerce
for the motion picture

Terrible Tuesday

selected for its excellence to represent the
United States of America in international
motion picture events abroad and awards to it



John F. ...
PRESIDENT

The Golden Eagle

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Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Parent or Teacher:

The Emergency Preparedness Coloring Book may be used to teach children essential safety tips for emergencies, but will be effective only if used under adult supervision. Even very young children can learn a few basic preparedness skills if you take the time to help them understand the lessons on each page.

We feel that it is important to emphasize to the child which hazard or hazards are highlighted in white in the top portion of each picture and how the preparedness measure depicted below applies. For example:

- STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS in earthquakes, lightning storms, hurricanes and tornadoes.
- STORE FRESH WATER for earthquakes, hurricanes, winter storms or tornadoes. Do so safely, and under adult supervision.
- COVER YOUR HEAD UNDER A DESK OR TABLE in earthquakes and tornadoes to be protected from falling objects and flying glass.

Pay special attention to the things you can do to prepare for any emergency. Whenever possible, encourage children to take an active part in making emergency preparations. For example:

- An emergency kit is GOOD FOR EMERGENCIES AND EVERYDAY. Encourage children help in preparing a kit, with a blanket, flashlight, battery-operated radio, fire extinguisher and first aid supplies. Remember, while a candle may be handy when the lights go out, NEVER light one when there is any danger of gas leakage, as is often the case in tornadoes and earthquakes.
- Make a list of emergency food and pantry supplies. Award a prize to the child who can think of or find the most.

Spending a few moments with a child now to teach basic preparedness lessons will be time well spent. Once learned, survival skills can last a lifetime.

The Emergency Preparedness Coloring Book is experimental. We encourage you to contact your nearest FEMA regional office with any comments and suggestions, and to let us know how you used the publication.

Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



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