

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

C. R. SMITH, Secretary

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

STORM DATA

OCTOBER 1968

Volume 10 No. 10



ASHEVILLE: 1968

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

OCTOBER 1968

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	
Alabama			None reported						
Alaska			None reported						
Arizona Glendale	3	7:00 p.	1	50	0	3	5	0	Tornado
			Storm struck in residential section causing severe damage to two apartment buildings. Several parked automobiles were heavily damaged by falling concrete blocks. Flying glass injured several persons, sending one to the hospital. Storm then followed a skipping path toward the west, causing additional damage to buildings and parked house trailers along the way.						
Arkansas Marion and Baxter Counties	13	2:00 a. to 7:00 a.						4	Heavy Rain
			5 to 8 inches of rain fell, most of it in a 3 hour period, in northern Marion County and extreme western Baxter County. In the area between Bill Shoals Dam and Lead Hill 25 to 30 homes were isolated by flood waters and 40 to 50 head of cattle were lost. County roads between Highway 14 and Bill Shoals Reservoir were badly washed out. People were stranded until afternoon near Lake View.						
California			None reported						
Colorado			None reported						
Connecticut			None reported						
Delaware State	13-17	AM							Fog
			Heavy fog during period especially on the 14th and the 16th blanketed the area, slowing down various operations, particularly traffic.						
Florida Key West	1	12:00 noon							Funnels aloft (2)
Key West	2	2:13p-2:45p							Waterspouts (2)
Boca Raton (15 mis. east)	3	11:49a							Waterspout
Fort Lauderdale	3	11:57a							Funnel aloft
Key West	4	10:44a							Funnel aloft
Florida City, Dade County	4	1:30p	7	800	0	0	0	0	Waterspout
			Large waterspout was observed by Florida Forest Service employees moving inland from Florida Bay. The funnel moved westward at about 10 m.p.h. It touched down at least twice before dissipating over the Everglades National Park.						
Miami (10 mis. east)	6	6:02a							Funnel aloft
Pahokee, Palm Beach County	8	2:07p							Funnels aloft (several)
Key West (15 mis. west)	8	4:00p							Funnel aloft
Pahokee, Palm Beach County	9	1:00p							Funnel aloft
Key West (9 mis. SE)	11	2:42p							Waterspouts (2)
West Palm Beach (5 mis. north)	15	12:09p							Funnel aloft
Keys and Peninsula	16-19				0	12	0	0	Hurricane Gladys
			Hurricane Gladys moved northward just west of Dry Tortugas about noon EST October 16 with maximum winds of barely hurricane force. She moved slowly north-northwestward before turning toward the northeast on the 18th about 75 miles west of St. Petersburg and made landfall near Homosassa about midnight the morning of October 19. She continued northeast across the peninsula, passing just south of Ocala and moved into the Atlantic near St. Augustine about 6:30 a.m. October 19. Total damage of about 6.7 million dollars was concentrated mostly in and just north of the Tampa Bay area and in the Ocala area.						
Boca Raton	17	11:00a	short narrow	0	0	4	0	0	Tornado
			Tornado touched down in the 3100 block of North Federal Highway and moved toward the northwest, unroofing a warehouse at 51st Street and Dixie Highway and turning over a large truck-trailer rig. The tornado was associated with Hurricane Gladys.						
Boca Raton, Palm Beach County	17	11:36a							Funnels aloft (2)
Florida (continued)									
Fort Lauderdale	17	12:00 noon							Waterspout
San Mateo, Putnam County	18	4:30p							Funnel aloft
Carrabelle, Franklin County	18	6:00p							Waterspout
Whitfield Estates, Manatee County	18	8:00p	1/25	50	0	0	4	0	Probable waterspout
			One residence unroofed and another damaged. Nearby resident heard sound like jet airplane. More seriously damaged home located about 200 feet east of Sarasota Bay. Storm associated with Hurricane Gladys.						
Okeechobee, Okeechobee County	21	4:20p							Funnel aloft
Key West (7 mis. ENE)	23	8:52a							Funnel aloft
West Palm Beach (2 mis. ESE)	24	1:00p							Waterspout
Jacksonville (8 mis. east)	24	2:02p							Funnel aloft
Jacksonville (8 mis. south)	24	3:10p							Funnel aloft
Georgia Brunswick, near	15	9:26 a							Funnel cloud Station.
			Report by public 1 miles east of Glynn Naval Air Station.						
Hawaii 3 Miles West of McGregor Pt., Maui	2	3:09 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
			FAA reported waterspout moving westward. Many cumulonimbus clouds and rain showers in vicinity.						
North Kona District, Hawaii Island	3	Afternoon			0	0	0	0	Heavy Rain
			Intense local thunderstorms produced severe flash flooding in Hohepaia-Kamalunala area. Wall of water cascading down mountain slopes shortly before 3 p.m. washed away 4 vehicles, flooded about 40 homes, destroyed crops and pasture lands and ripped out huge sections of Kukulini and Malalaha Highways, Alii Drive and Holualoa Road. Flooding termed at least as severe as that in 1925. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates damage at about \$774,000, including \$243,000 to public property (roads, bridges, culverts, a pipeline), \$220,000 to private property (homes, businesses, automobiles, livestock, coffee), and \$310,000 to agricultural interests (irrigation facilities, field erosion, fences, roads and pastures). No measurement of heaviest rains available, but nearby gages reported up to 6.6 inches, most of it within a very short period.						
Near Wheeler Field, Oahu	4	11:56 a.-12:09 p.			0	0	0	0	Funnel Clouds
			First funnel, moving east unknown distance east of Wheeler Field, dissipated at 11:58 a.m. Second funnel sighted to south at 12:07 p.m., dissipated at 12:08 p.m. Thunderstorms reported east and south of Wheeler at 12:15 p.m., with occasional cloud to ground lightning, and overhead at 12:30 p.m.						
Near Waipahu, Oahu	8	1:50 p.			0	0	?	0	Lightning
			Strikes on two power lines resulted in widespread power failure on Oahu, including parts of Honolulu.						
Aiea, Oahu	16	3:00 p.			0	0	?	0	Lightning
			Lightning downed power lines.						
Near Wheeler Field, Oahu	22	1:35 p.-1:47 p.			0	0	0	0	Funnel Clouds
			Greyish-black funnel cloud estimated 45 feet in diameter sighted about 3 miles northwest of Wheeler Field at 1:35 p.m. may have been associated with smoke from large cane fire. Funnel, described as stationary, noiseless, and rotating counterclockwise, became sloping upon moving to east and withdrew into clouds at 1:37 p.m. Second funnel, rotating counterclockwise, "pencil-shaped" and white in color, 2 miles north of Wheeler at 1:37 p.m. extended from cloud base at 2100 feet to within 500 to 800 feet of ground. Funnel moved east-southeast and dissipated at 1:46 p.m. Little rain associated with funnels.						
Idaho			None reported						
Illinois			None reported						
Indiana			None reported						
Iowa			None reported						

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

OCTOBER 1968

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
Kansas Central and Northeast portions	1-2	night of 1-2			0	0	4	0	Lightning
									Scattered damage occurred in Dickinson, Leavenworth, McPherson, and Morris Counties.
Rush County	7	evening	?	?	0	0	0	0	Hail
									Few hail stones 3/4" diameter were reported.
Extreme Northeast portion	8	early a.m.			0	0	4	0	Lightning, rain
									Lightning damage occurred locally in Brown, Atchison, and Doniphan Counties. Heavy rains caused flooding of some basements and buildings at Horton.
Republic County	8	evening	?	?	0	0	3	0	Hail
									Hailstones 1" to 1 3/4" diameter fell 5 miles north of Belleville.
Harper County	8	about 10:00 p.	?	?	0	0	4	0	Wind
									Buildings on several farms were damaged 6 to 7 miles west of Anthony.
Eastern one-third	8-9	night of 8-9			0	0	4	0	Lightning
									Damage occurred in Shawnee, Linn, and Wilson Counties.
Wichita County	15	afternoon	?	?	0	0	0	4	Hail
									Beans were damaged over western areas of the County.
Southwestern one-fourth	15-16	night of 15-16			0	0	4	0	Lightning, rain
									Lightning damage occurred in Pawnee, Stafford, Seward, Hodgeman, and Ford Counties. Water damage from heavy rains was reported at Liberal.
Norton County	15-16	night			0	3	4	0	Wind
									Two trailer homes were blown over north of Norton, injuring 3 persons.
Barber County	16	2:40 p.	short	?	0	0	0	0	Tornado
									A funnel aloft was sighted about 8 mi. south of Medicine Lodge at 2:20 p. It traveled NNE about 20-25 m.p.h. and touched down very briefly 3 mi. NE of Medicine Lodge.
Pratt, Stafford, Barber, Rice Counties	16	afternoon, evening			0	0	5	4	Wind
									Heaviest damage was in the Pratt area.
South Central, eastern portions	16-17				0	0	5	4	Rain
									Heavy rains to over 5/8 inches caused local flash flooding, damaging some roads, streets, bridges, and fields. Cowley, Pratt, Sedgwick, Harvey, Pawnee, Reno, Morris, and Stafford were some of the Counties reporting flooding.
Northeast portion	21	afternoon, evening			0	0	4	0	Hail, wind, rain, lightning
									Heavy thunderstorm activity caused scattered damage from just east of Topeka to Kansas City. Hail stones up to about 1 1/2" diameter occurred 10 mi. E of Topeka about 4:00 p. and at Lawrence about 4:40 p.
Wilson, Woodson Counties	21	evening			0	0	4	0	Lightning
									Damage occurred near Fredonia and near Toronto.
Kentucky Jefferson County	15	4:19 p.							Funnel cloud aloft
									Pilot reported a funnel cloud that dissipated rapidly.
Louisiana					None reported				
Maine					None reported				
Maryland State, especially eastern half	13-17	AM							Fog
									Heavy fog during period especially on the 14th and the 16th, blanketed the area, slowing down different operations, particularly traffic.
Massachusetts					None reported				
Michigan Southern Lower Peninsula	2	AM			0	5	3	0	Lightning
									Lightning caused spotty damage across southern Michigan. At Big Rapids, six cows were killed at a feeder wagon; at Holland, three homes suffered damage from lightning-caused fires; the Mt. Clemens area suffered power failures and a store was damaged at Hillsdale. Near South Haven, five men were treated at the hospital and released when lightning struck a crane at the Palisades Nuclear Plant, now under construction.
Marquette, Marquette County	27-28	Night			0	0	3	0	Wind
									High winds and heavy surf combined to drop large rocks on Lake Shore Boulevard in Marquette requiring it to close until work crews and graders were able to remove the rocks. Aiding the high winds and heavy surf was the fact that Lake Superior level is presently much higher than normal. By the time the storm diminished, the road looked like a rock quarry.
Minnesota Faribault, Freeborn and Waseca Counties	15				0	0	0	5	Hail
									Small hail caused heavy damage from shelling of ripe soybeans in southern and eastern Faribault, western Freeborn and in southwestern Waseca Counties. Some fields were not combined because of the hail damage.
Truman, Martin County	15	Evening			0	1	0	0	Lightning
									Lightning struck and injured a woman talking on a telephone. She was hospitalized for a broken eardrum and other bruises.
Entire State	1-22				0	0	6	?	Rain
									Rain occurred almost daily somewhere in the State, however, the heaviest was on the 9th, 16th and 17th. Record October precipitation amounts were common on a 120 mile wide line from the southwest corner of the State to a point 50 miles south of Duluth. Flooding caused heavy property damage to roads, streets and basements. Flooding of small streams and rivers were common with the highest levels known for October along the Minnesota, Cottonwood, Watowan, Rum and St. Croix Rivers. See October Minnesota Climatological Data for additional information.
									C.S.T
Mississippi Coahoma County	17	8:30 AM			0	0	0	0	Heavy Rain
									Newspaper reported "heavy thunder and rain storm, which dumped 1.18 inches of rain on Clarksdale in an hour's time... within 15 minutes after the bottom fell out of the heavy dark overcast about 8:30 AM. Many streets and intersections were flooded. Most of the water drained quickly away after the downpour subsided about an hour later. The cooperative weather observer there at 7:30 AM on the 18th measured 1.24 inches. No damage reports received.
Missouri Sugar Lake, Buchanan County	8							?	Lightning
									Lightning-caused fire destroyed interior and furnishings of four room cottage on south shore of Sugar Lake in extreme southwest Buchanan County.
Shelby County	13	7:00 AM							Lightning
									Lightning destroyed barn filled with hay 4.7 miles northwest of Shelbyville on Route P.
Harrisonville, Cass County	13				1				Thunderstorm
									A twelve-year-old boy was drowned after being swept into an open storm sewer during flash flooding caused by heavy thunderstorm rains in the Harrisonville area.
Montana					None reported				
Nebraska Southern Nebraska	8	6:30p to 9:30p	80	50*	0	1	5	5	Hail, damaging winds, heavy rain
									Scattered severe thunderstorms in Fairbury-Wahoo-Nebraska City area. Hailstones 1/2" to 1 1/2" in diameter in Jefferson, Otoe, and Saunders Counties. Wind destroyed barns near Filley and overturned trailers near Nebraska City. Flash flooding from heavy rains in Beatrice. Crop damage limited by lateness in season, but considerable mild lost.

See reference notes at end of table.

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Nebraska (continued)									
Central and Eastern Nebraska	15	Evening			0	5	4	0	Severe thunderstorms
			Widespread local severe thunderstorms--some of which were accompanied by winds that did a variable amount of building damage. Several lightning strikes were reported. House trailers were blown over and a Kearney family of 5 received minor injuries when trailer overturned.						
Nevada			None reported						
New Hampshire			None reported						
New Jersey		See data at end of table							
New Mexico			None reported						
New York Western third	3	a.m.					4		Electrical
			Late forenoon electrical storm resulted in some damage from lightning strikes as well as local flooding from heavy short-term showers. Many power lines and trees downed by lightning in Greece, Irondequoit and Henrietta, suburbs of Rochester. Lightning struck and collapsed large section of basement wall of home in Kenmore, suburb of Buffalo. City streets temporarily closed by flood waters in Buffalo, Rochester and neighboring cities. Widespread power failures in Allegany County, especially in Town of Belfast.						
Sodus Point (6 miles north of)	5	8:30 to 8:50 a.m.							Waterspouts
			Three separate waterspouts observed over Lake Ontario, 6 miles north of Sodus Point, Wayne County. Reported independently by two different people.						
North Carolina Buncombe, Forsyth, & Mecklenburg Counties	13	afternoon & evening			0	1	4	0	Electrical
			Youth struck by lightning on a golf course near Asheville while taking shelter under a tree during a thundershower. Treated at hospital and released. Lightning struck and burned barn, feed and farm machinery in rural Forsyth County, and a small home in rural Mecklenburg County.						
Coastal	19-20						4	4	Hurricane Gladys
			Storm moved by rapidly with its center offshore. Although wind gusts up to 90 miles per hour were recorded, all storm damage was reported as minor. The rainfall which preceded and accompanied Gladys was of great benefit.						
North Dakota			None reported						
Ohio Kent and Newark	2	Afternoon			2	2			Electrical
			A group of 46 girls at Kent were struck by lightning while playing field hockey. One 16-year old girl was killed and another was injured by the lightning strike. During the same afternoon two Newark youths were also struck by lightning (one youth died on the 7th of injuries suffered when struck by lightning). The boys were standing outside their school when the lightning struck them.						
Cleveland	4	6:25p							Waterspout
			A pilot reported a waterspout on Lake Erie 5 miles north of Cleveland. The waterspout was also visible from the Cleveland shoreline.						
Oklahoma Roger Mills, Beckham, Washita, Greer, and Kiowa Counties	8-9	8:45p., 8th - 1:00a., 9th	70	*20	0	0	5	5	Rain, wind, and hail
			A line of moderate to heavy thunderstorms moved southeastward across the five-county area with heaviest rain of 3 to 5.3 inches centered along a path extending from Sweetwater, Beckham County, to the northwest corner of Kiowa County. Rainfall averaged 3.92 inches along the path with heaviest totals of 5.02 inches at Sweetwater, 5.30 inches at Mayfield, 4.22 inches at Sayre, 4.20 inches at Moravia, and 4.80 inches at Retrop. Intense rain of 3.30 inches fell at Mayfield during the hour ending about 10:30 p. Unofficial reports of 6 inches fell at Lake Creek and estimates of 7 inches were reported at Carter and to the northwest of Sweetwater near the Texas line in Roger Mills County. Flash flooding along local creeks damaged fences, bridges, and erosion-control dams. Cotton and newly-seeded wheat were also damaged when fields and terraces washed out. Flooding water closed for several hours SH 9 to the southwest and northeast of Hobart, and also SH 55 west of Sentinel. The heavy rainfall area was also hit by damaging straight winds. Greatest wind damage was along						
Oklahoma (continued)									
			a 2- by 4-mile path eastward across the south side of Sweetwater. The school lunchroom was unroofed and a gym roof and trees were damaged. Two nearby homes and a third 1 1/2 miles to the west were also unroofed, while two others near Sweetwater were heavily damaged. Several farm buildings were blown away and others damaged along an 8-mile path extending eastward from 5 miles north of Mangum to the south of Granite. Fall was spotty along the major storm path with heaviest fall observed along a 2- by 5-mile path south of Granite where stones averaging 1/4-inch size covered the ground in places, and a few large stones were noted up to 1-inch size. Damage by rain 84% of \$565,000 total, wind 15%, and hail 1%.						
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County	9	4:29a.	?	?	0	0	0	0	Wind
			Gusty surface winds accompanying the passage of a strong thunderstorm furnished a peak gust of 60 MPH from the north. No damage was reported.						
Texas, Beaver, Harper, Ellis, Woodward, and Woods Counties	15-16	3:30p., 15th - 4:00a., 16th	125	*100	0	0	4	3	Rain, hail, and electrical
			A broken line of moderate to severe thunderstorms developed along a line from Ideral, Kansas, to Dumas, Texas, extending across the central part of Texas County. The 25- to 30-mile-wide line moved east-northeastward at 20 MPH while the cells moved northeastward up the line at about 35 MPH. Oklahoma rains totaled 3 to 4 inches, while the Perryton area in Texas received 7 to 9 inches. Freedom, Oklahoma, received 4.00 inches with greatest of 4.20 inches reported at date. Unofficial reports indicated up to 5 inches fell in the Laverne area. Scattered hail was reported in the Gaymon area where the ground was covered 1 inch deep in places by hail averaging 1/2-inch size and largest stones of 2-inch size. A mobile home was struck by lightning during the early morning hours and nearly destroyed along with its contents.						
Gage, Ellis County	16	About 6:15a.	?	?	0	0	0	0	Wind
			A peak gust of 63 MPH was recorded during a thunderstorm passage.						
Stillwater, Payne County	16	About 8:30a.	?	?	0	0	0	0	Wind
			Peak wind gust of 69 MPH was reported during northeast movement of thunderstorm across the area at 20 MPH.						
Crescent, Logan County	27	About 2:45p.	?	?	0	4	4	0	Wind
			A cessa 170 was demolished and its four occupants injured at the Crescent air strip, located in the center of the nine-hole golf course. A highway patrolman reported that an unexpected crosswind had caught the plane as it was about 15 to 20 feet airborne and tossed it some 60 yards across the golf course into some trees. The Oklahoma City Weather Bureau Airport Station was reporting 3:00 p.m. winds of 23 MPH blowing from the northwest.						
Oregon			See data at end of table						
Pacific Wake Island	6	Morning			0	0	?	?	Typhoon
			Typhoon FAYE, carrying winds of 160 miles an hour near its center, passed 140 miles west-northwest of Wake Island. Southerly gusts of 60 miles an hour, a lowest pressure of 29.42 inches, and over 3-1/2 inches of rain recorded at Weather Bureau office. Some roads washed out by heavy surf, but no other damage reported.						
Guam	22	Evening			0	0	?	C	Tropical Storm
			Tropical Storm IRMA with sustained center winds of 60 miles an hour, passed about 30 miles north of Guam. Westerly gusts of 53 miles an hour, a lowest pressure of 29.22 inches, and a 24-hour rainfall of 3.20 inches recorded at Weather Bureau office. NASA Tracking Station at Dan Dan reported a gust of 80 miles an hour. Some trees reported blown down and crops damaged, but no dollar estimate available.						
Pennsylvania Corry	2	Evening						3	Wind and Rainstorm
			High winds demolished silo; damage to blower exceeded \$500.						
Bellefonte	3	Afternoon						2	Lightning
			Lightning fired chimney and roof of home.						
Easton	2h	Late evening						2	Thunderstorm
			Heavy rain caused cave-ins of street excavations.						
Near Reading	2h	Evening						3	Thunderstorm
			Cold bolt of lightning blew house apart. There was no fire.						
West Lawn	2h	Evening						2	Thunderstorm
			Lightning bolt started small fire.						

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Pennsylvania (continued)									
Pleasant Valley Village, Northumberland Co.	24	Evening						3	Thunderstorm
		Lightning	touched off barn fire.						
Puerto Rico									
Mayaguez and San German	18-19	Afternoon			0	0	6	0	Heavy Rains
			Heavy rain showers and thundershowers during the afternoon of the 18th and 19th caused serious flooding on both days of the Mayaguez commercial section and the Barrios of Paris and Balboa. An estimated two feet of water was reported on Friday and five feet of water on Saturday at the mouth of the Yaguez river which went over its banks into business sectors on Mendez Vigo and McKinley avenues. This is the lowest area of the city where the Yaguez flows into Mayaguez Bay. The floods on Saturday were rated the worst in Mayaguez history with \$1.6 million dollars in damages caused mostly to businesses, houses and schools. Eight homes were destroyed and 43 others damaged, three schools and five factories were also damaged. The flood peak occurred at about 2:30 PM and by 7:00 PM the waters had receded. In San German the Guanajibo River went over its banks into downtown area with an estimated 3 to 4 feet of water reported inside the U. S. Post Office.						
Rhode Island			None reported						
South Carolina			None reported						
South Dakota			None reported						
Tennessee			None reported						
Texas									
Near Canyon Lake Comal Co.	3	3:15 p							Funnel aloft
Orange Orange Co.	6	3:45 a-3:50 a	**400	?	0	0	?	0	Tornado
			A small tornado dipped down into a four-block residential area of Orange causing minor property damage, but no casualties. The tornado, traveling an erratic route from southwest to northeast, ranged over an area from 11th to 3rd Streets. Most of the damage was concentrated in a sector between 6th and 8th Streets and Pine and Cypress Avenues. Most of the damage involved shattered tree limbs, shingles blown off, second story windows shattered and power lines snapped. According to Frank Couch of 702 8th Street, the funnel "sounded like a train coming right down the middle of the street." Hubert Meadows of 611 7th Street "heard a tremendous roar, like a jet plane." A 20-by-30 corrugated steel garage at the home of Seth G. Reynolds, 706 Pine Avenue was picked up and moved some 20 feet to block an alley. A car parked in the garage was undamaged except for a snapped off radio antenna and a dent on its top.						
SE Navasota Grimes Co.	6	5:00 a			1	0	0	0	Lightning
			Lightning struck and killed Tony Bohack, 54, of Navasota, on a dairy farm southeast of Navasota. Hair on the man's head, chest, arms and legs was singed.						
Taft San Patricio Co.	7	9:15 a-9:30 a	3	narrow	0	0	3	0	Tornado
			Two pickup trucks were moved about 50 feet and slammed together, and a trailer house and parked camper overturned near the L. T. Kolt Chevrolet building when a small tornado struck in Taft. The funnel was observed first about three miles northwest of Taft and moved southeastward into Taft. There were no injuries. Property damage was estimated at \$5000.						
Bonita Montague Co.	8	5:00 a-5:10 a	1	**2	0	0	?	0	Hailstorm
			Hailstones, averaging 3/8 inch in diameter, fell at Bonita. Largest stones were one inch in diameter. The extent of property damage, if any, is not known. Wind gusts were estimated at 50 to 60 miles per hour.						
10W McCamey Crane Co.	8	11:41 a-11:50 a	?	?	0	0	0	0	Tornado
			Tornado was observed by Texas Electric Service Company employee about 10 miles west of McCamey in open range land. The funnel descended from a cloud, moved erratically on the ground for a short period of time, then lifted back into the cloud. There was no damage or casualties.						
Near Mathis San Patricio Co.	8	12:25 p-12:33 p	**250	17	0	0	3	0	Tornado
			A small tornado struck the Point Loma resort area of Lake Corpus Christi near Mathis causing an estimated 3,500 dollars property damage. There were no injuries. A large portion of the roof of the Claude C. Walker home was blown away. About one half of the roof of the front porch of the Katie Morrow home was blown off, and carried 150 feet away. The John Key home was damaged by flying debris. At the Jerry Byrd home, part of the roof was blown away and a boat was lifted off its trailer and set down on the ground about 10 feet away without a scratch.						
28S Perryton Roberts Co.	8	3:20 p	?	?	0	0	0	0	Tornado
			Tornado struck in open ranch land. No damage reported.						
Texas (continued)									
Canadian Hemphill Co.	8	5:45 p	?	?	0	0	?	0	Hailstorm, lightning
			Hailstones up to one and three quarters inches in diameter fell in Canadian and lightning struck the Co-op Grain Building. The extent of property damage, if any, is not known.						
6N Fort Stockton Pecos Co.	8	5:35 p-5:44 p	1	200	0	0	0	0	Tornado
			A tornado dipped down on open ranch land six to seven miles north of Fort Stockton and moved from west to east along a path approximately one mile in length and 200 yards wide. There was no damage or casualties.						
Near Ralls Crosby Co.	8	5:45 p-6:30 p	15	**8	0	0	0	?	Hailstorm
			Hailstones ranging in size from one to four inches in diameter pounded a 15-by-8 mile area in the Lorenz, Ralls and Cone section of Crosby County. Twenty to thirty percent of the crops in the area, mostly cotton, were destroyed. Jim Robertson who farms 7 1/2 miles southwest of Cone said, "My car looks like someone had taken a hammer and beat it." At the Bill Ashley farm, about four miles southwest of Cone, hail from "the size of the end of your finger to the size of your fist" fell while the sun was shining. The hail covered the ground.						
2N Baytown Harris Co.	9	12:40 p							2 funnels aloft
Ochiltree Co.	9	evening	?	?	0	0	3	0	Tornado
			A tornado in southern Ochiltree County destroyed two windmills and damaged some fences. An unofficial total of six inches of rain fell during the storm.						
Near Ralls Crosby Co.	12	7:00 p-7:30 p	8	**4	0	0	0	?	Hailstorm
			Large hail destroyed an estimated 40 to 70 percent of the crops, mostly cotton, in an 8-by-4 mile area between Ralls and Crosbyton.						
Andrews Andrews Co.	15	5:33 a-5:38 a	?	?	0	0	?	0	Hailstorm
			Hailstones up to one and three quarters inches fell in Andrews. The extent of damage, if any, is not known.						
Western Lubbock Co.	15	4:00 p-7:00 p	10	**1 1/2	0	0	3	?	Hailstorm
			Hailstones averaging three quarters inch in diameter caused some damage to crops in an area about 10-by-12 miles, extending from the Wolforth community northward to between Lubbock and Shallowater. The largest hailstones were two and three quarters inches in diameter. In Wolforth damage to roof, window panes and shrubs was estimated at \$800. One and three quarter inch hail broke windows at the H. O. Simmons residence, one mile west of Lubbock. At the Country Mobile Estates near Reese AFB, one and three quarter inch hail broke windows in mobile homes and dented cars and trailer houses in the area. Some cotton in the path of the hailstorm was destroyed. Winds accompanying the storm were estimated at 70 miles per hour.						
Amarillo and vicinity, Potter and Randall Counties	15	4:15 p-4:47 p	?	**15	0	0	5	5	Hailstorm, heavy rain
			Hailstones averaging one and one half inches in diameter caused extensive property damage in Amarillo and crop damage in the surrounding area. Largest hail stones were two and one quarter inches in diameter. Heavy rains caused additional damage to crops. Property damage, estimated at \$500,000 was mostly to roofs, automobile bodies and window panes. Hail caused an estimated \$200,000 damage to grain sorghums, with heavy rain causing \$100,000 damage. Wind gusts of 54 miles per hour were measured at the Weather Bureau Office at Amarillo.						
SSE Stinnett Hutchinson Co.	15	6:00 p-6:55			0	0	3	?	Windstorm, funnel aloft, hailstorm
			A huge funnel cloud, estimated at one quarter mile in diameter at the base, menaced the Dial community southeast of Stinnett, but apparently did not touch ground. The funnel swirled within about 200 yards of the J. D. Norton residence. Mrs. Norton said "it made a terrible racket - like a train coming." Winds tore loose a portion of the roof of the Gulf Garage, and a small sheet metal garage further north was blown away. Winds were estimated at 70 to 80 miles per hour. Hailstones, averaging three eighths inch in diameter caused about 15 percent loss to crops in the area. Property damage due to wind was estimated at \$500.						
Odessa Ector Co.	15	7:00 p-7:20 p	?	?	0	0	?	0	Hailstorm
			Hailstones 3/4 inch to 1 3/4 inches in diameter fell in Odessa; however, most hailstones were smaller. The extent of property damage, if any, is not known.						
SE Hereford Deaf Smith Co.	15	afternoon							Funnel aloft
Dimmitt Castro Co.	15	9:00 p-12:00 a	?	?	0	0	?	?	Hailstorm
			Hail fell from four separate storms in the northern half of Castro County between 9:00 p.m. and midnight. Heaviest property damage was in Dimmitt, while heaviest crop damage was north and west of Dimmitt. Crop losses were estimated at 20 to 25 percent. Hailstones varied in size from 2 to 3/4 inch in diameter.						

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

OCTOBER 1968

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
Texas (continued) Moore Co.	15-16	4:30 p-2:00 a	40	*15	0	0	6	6	Hailstorm, heavy rain
									Several hailstorms beginning about 4:30 p.m. on the 15th and ending around 2:00 a.m. on the 16th damaged property and crops in portions of Moore, Dallam, Hartley, Sherman, Hansford, and Hutchinson Counties. Heavy rains, unofficially estimated at from 2 1/2 to 6 inches, accompanied by 40 to 50 miles per hour winds, inflicted additional damage to crops. Most of the damage occurred in a 40-by-15 mile area that covered the eastern half of Moore County. Hail damage was heaviest in the Sunray and Middlewell areas. Hail fell over about 60 percent of Moore County. Damage was in strips only about 3/4 mile wide. Within these strips, which included the city of Dumas, roof damage was virtually total. Damage to window panes and neon signs was heavy. Crop damage varied from about 10 to 50 percent. Hundreds of windows were knocked out in Dumas and the adjoining farm communities. Automobiles were damaged extensively by the hail. Crop damage was mostly to grain sorghum which was ready for harvest. Corn was damaged also. Hailstones averaged 3/4 inch in diameter, but largest stones were 2 1/2 inches in diameter. Hail covered the ground to a depth of 2 inches in places. Property damage was estimated at \$2,000,000, and crop losses at \$1,000,000.
Eagle Mountain Lake Tarrant Co.	21	6:30 p	short	narrow	0	0	3	0	Tornado
									A tornado touched down near the eastern shore of Eagle Mountain Lake causing minor damage. The funnel struck the farm of James T. Stewart of Eagle Mountain Circle, about one mile north of Ten-Mile Bridge, destroying some sheds and outbuildings. Stewart reportedly was in one of the sheds at the time, but was uninjured.
Utah			None	reported					
Vermont			None	reported					
Virgin Islands			None	reported					
Virginia Roanoke County	18,19								Heavy Rain
									Over six inches of rain in twenty-four hours caused local flooding of the Roanoke river. High water mainly due to excessive rainfall and poor drainage flooded over 100 basements, caused several homes to be evacuated by boat, washed out bridges on rural roads, and was a factor in numerous traffic accidents.
Norfolk and nearby areas	19, 20								Hurricane Gladys moved northeastward off the Virginia coast early on the 20th. The nearest proximity to the state was approximately 80 to 100 miles. The Norfolk and Cape Henry area observed winds of 30 to 40 MPH with gusts less than 50 MPH, rainfall of 2 to 3 inches increasing to near 5 inches on the extreme southeast coast. Tides ranged up to 2 feet above normal in exposed areas but with little or no flooding. No damage reported and rainfall very beneficial.
Washington			None	reported					
West Virginia			No report	received by printing deadline					
Wisconsin			None	reported					
Wyoming			None	reported					

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
New Jersey Monmouth County	3	3pm EST			1	3			Severe thunderstorm
									A severe thunderstorm with winds gusting to about 60 mph resulted in the death of a man who was killed by a flying manhole cover in Marlboro Township. Considerable property damage was caused by the strong winds, very heavy rain, lightning, and hail, which in some cases reached at least one inch in diameter. The property damage occurred chiefly in the Eatontown area near Fort Monmouth.
Oregon Twenty miles west-southwest of Portland	13	1 p.m.	100 yards	15-20	0	0	0	0	Tornado
									Funnel cloud was observed to touch ground briefly. No damage of any type known to have occurred.
Thirty miles south-west of Newport	14	4:19 a.m.			0	0	0	0	Water Spouts
									Two small water spouts observed by United Airlines pilot over the ocean off the coast of Oregon. They caused no loss of life, no known damage.

- * 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 \$5,000,000
 - 7 \$5,000,000 to \$50,000,000
 - 8 \$50,000,000 to \$500,000,000
 - 9 \$500,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000.

Note: This publication contains our best information on storms but, due to the difficulties inherent in collection of this type of data, it is not all-inclusive. Delayed data and corrections will be carried in the June and December issues of this publication.

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