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NATIONAL HAIL RESEARCH EXPERIMENT NEWSLETTER

June 25, 1976

During the last week, the scientists of the National Hail Research Experiment have had five uneventful days and two active ones, when thunderstorm activity developed over the research area around the point where Colorado joins Nebraska and Wyoming.

The two active days were Monday, June 21, and Tuesday, June 22. On Monday, three research aircraft--the sailplane and two propeller-driven Queen Airls--studied a small cloud northwest of Cheyenne between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. They made measurements related to updrafts and radar echoes from the cloud.

At about 5:00 p.m., a more mature storm developed east of Cheyenne, and our armored T-28 aircraft made several flights through the cloud to observe ice and water particles and make other measurements. Three Queen Airls also joined in studying this storm, and the research flights continued until about 8:00 p.m.

The main event on Tuesday was a big storm that formed in a line of thunderstorms moving from west to east over the research area. Between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m., the T-28 penetrated the cloud several times, and two Queen Airls also made measurements around the storm. This storm produced walnut-size hail as well as heavy rain, reaching its maximum intensity east of NHRE field headquarters at Grover.

This week's storms provided us with a great deal of useful data. Although no cloud seeding is being done this year, the research results of this summer's work should provide a firm foundation for designing seeding experiments to be conducted in future field research programs.

Cordially,



Henry Lansford
Information Officer