Statement by Dr. Daniel F. Rex, Director, NCAR Facilities Laboratory:

"American atmospheric scientists are indeed interested in the Russian experiments, which seem to hold considerable promise. NCAR is in communication with university scientists and government agencies now, considering the feasibility and wisdom of attempting an experiment similar to the Russians, probably on the High Plains, in a limited area of low population and agricultural activity. A recommendation on whether this should be done, and when, should be made within the next few months. Needless to say, there would be extensive discussion with federal, state, and local officials as to the nature and timing of the experiment before a final decision is made on any such program.

"Meanwhile, a national planning group, under the leadership of Prof. Verner E. Suomi of the University of Wisconsin, is drawing up a long-range plan for a national hail suppression research program."

For further information contact:

Dr. Daniel F. Rex

or

Henry H. Lansford,
Public Information Officer
National Center for Atmospheric Research
Boulder, Colorado 80302
303-444-5151, ext. 104