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Thunderstorm Morphology and Dynamics, second edition, revised and enlarged.

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charts, graphs, tables, references, index. 432 pp. \$68.50.

This is Volume 2 in the three-volume series *Thunderstorms: A Social, Scientific, and Technological Documentary*. The first, *The Thunderstorm in Human Affairs*, was reviewed in *Great Plains Quarterly*, Summer 1984. This second offering is also a fine product but is highly technical in places, much larger, more detailed, and considerably more expensive. It is a book for the thunderstorm specialist rather than for the general reader.

A project of the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Oklahoma, the book reports much research done on the Great Plains, from Texas to Alberta. In no sense, though, is it a regional document. The twenty-five authors include specialists with a worldwide viewpoint on thunderstorms, albeit largely from the English-speaking realm; the coverage, while emphasizing the United States, does extend to research in many parts of the world, notably the Soviet Union, Australia, Switzerland, South Africa, France, Canada, and Southeast Asia.

Of the sixteen chapters, a few will be of interest to the general reader. The late Frank Ludlam's introduction is readable and thought-provoking. It is followed by two chapters on thunderstorm climatology and thunderstorms at sea which take a broad, general approach to the spatial and temporal distribution of these storms. Chapter 7, "Morphology and Classification of Middle-Latitude Thunderstorms," by Keith Browning, is a key chapter which summarizes many basic points, mostly about Great Plains thunderstorms, in a way that will be intelligible to the layman with a grounding in physical principles. Much of Chapters 10, 11, and 13, on tornadoes, hailstorms, and lightning respectively, is also eminently readable, and Louis Battan's finale on modification of thunderstorms by human intervention is both succinct and authoritative.

The remainder of the book provides a good

Thunderstorm Morphology and Dynamics, second edition, revised and enlarged. Edited by Edwin Kessler. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. Illustrations, maps,

starting point for a graduate student in meteorology or physics who wishes to attack thunderstorms—unless he or she wants to study their sometimes torrential rainfalls. Most of the chapters are up-to-date surveys of published research and all are written by workers well known and highly respected in their specific fields. The book is well edited and the presentation is excellent. Photographs, maps, and tables are numerous and clearly reproduced. *Thunderstorm Morphology and Dynamics* is another fine addition to an outstanding series and should certainly be in all science libraries, especially in the Great Plains.

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