

Eight Killed, 400 Hurt As Tornado Hits Dallas

At Least Four Other Dead Are Reported in Oklahoma

DALLAS, April 2 — (AP) — Tornadoes raked the Southwest Tuesday, one cutting a 21-mile path of death and destruction across Dallas, killing at least eight persons and injuring about 400.

At least four others were reported killed as tornado clouds whipped across Northern Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Other areas reporting twisters and casualties were:

Little City, Okla., on the Texas border: two killed, five injured.

Durant, Okla. just north of the Texas border: one killed.

Ardmore, Okla., 50 miles west of Little City: one killed.

Melissa, Texas, 40 miles north of Dallas: several injured.

Tornadoes with property damage but no injuries also were reported at McKinney, north of Dallas; near the Red river and Hines City also north of Dallas; and at Tishomingo, about 20 miles north of Lake Texoma on the Oklahoma-Texas border, and about 10 miles north of Fort Worth's Meecham Field.

Four Children Killed

Of the eight dead at Dallas. Four were children, an infant and three children under 10 years old. Two women were killed when the swirling wind overturned their car. Another victim was a filling station attendant. Another was dead or arrival at a hospital.

Dallas hospital corridors overflowed with victims. One hospital reported more than 70 victims admitted in little more than hour.

Residents watched from rooftops, windows and automobiles as the tremendous funnel swirled and danced its leisurely way across the sky.

the house trailers helter-skelter.

The broad base of the funnel moved at what appeared a leisurely pace. Huge pieces of debris were swept into the air with a circular motion and flung wide before settling to earth.

A series of bright flashes sparked along with the base of the funnel as power and trolley-bus lines went down.

The tornado dipped out of an ominously dark cloud at Duncanville, about 10 miles south of the Dallas downtown business district, shortly after 4 p. m. CST (5 p. m. EST.)

It then moved northward like a giant spinning top through residential, business districts and manufacturing areas. It crossed several heavily traveled main streets during the evening rush hour and finally broke up northwest of the city about an hour later.

'BLUE SMOKE, FLYING TIN'

DALLAS, April 2—(AP)—Robert Thurman, 31, who brought his injured wife to a hospital said of the tornado that hit Dallas Tuesday:

"My wife and I saw it coming. We had our children lay down on the floor. We just had time to do this when we looked out to see it coming on us.

"It looked like the air was full of blue smoke and flying tin. There was a big roar. Then our house fell on us.

"I heard my wife and children crying and I dug them out. My hands were hurt."

Mrs. Thurman appeared to be badly injured with head wounds. But the children were not seriously injured.