

Joe R. Eagleman, Vincent U. Muirhead and Nicholas Willems. *Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, and Building Damage*. Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Co., 1975, 317 pp., \$23.00.

A University of Kansas meteorologist and two engineers present in this book a highly technical analysis of the formation and behavior of tornadoes and their effects on buildings. Using both field and laboratory experimental data, the authors report on wind-flow patterns and their relationship to building damages. Only the first chapter replete with photographs and charts on the typical characteristics and distribution of tornadoes, and the short last chapter on some practical application, might be of any great interest and value to the typical reader of this journal. Among other things indicated is that just as there are common myths about human and social behavior in disasters, there are also scientific myths about technical aspects of disasters (e.g., that the southwestern corner of a building is normally the safest physical location at the time of a tornado – in actual fact it is among the worst location in buildings without basements).

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