



TORNADOES

How do they Form?

How Tornadoes Form video

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvOut9VUqKY>

Most common in spring and early summer.

Mostly over the Central U.S. (can occur anywhere in the US !)

Form when mT air masses from Gulf of Mexico collide with cooler, drier cP air masses from Canada.



COLD DRY AIR

South Dakota

Nebraska

TORNADO ALLEY

Kansas

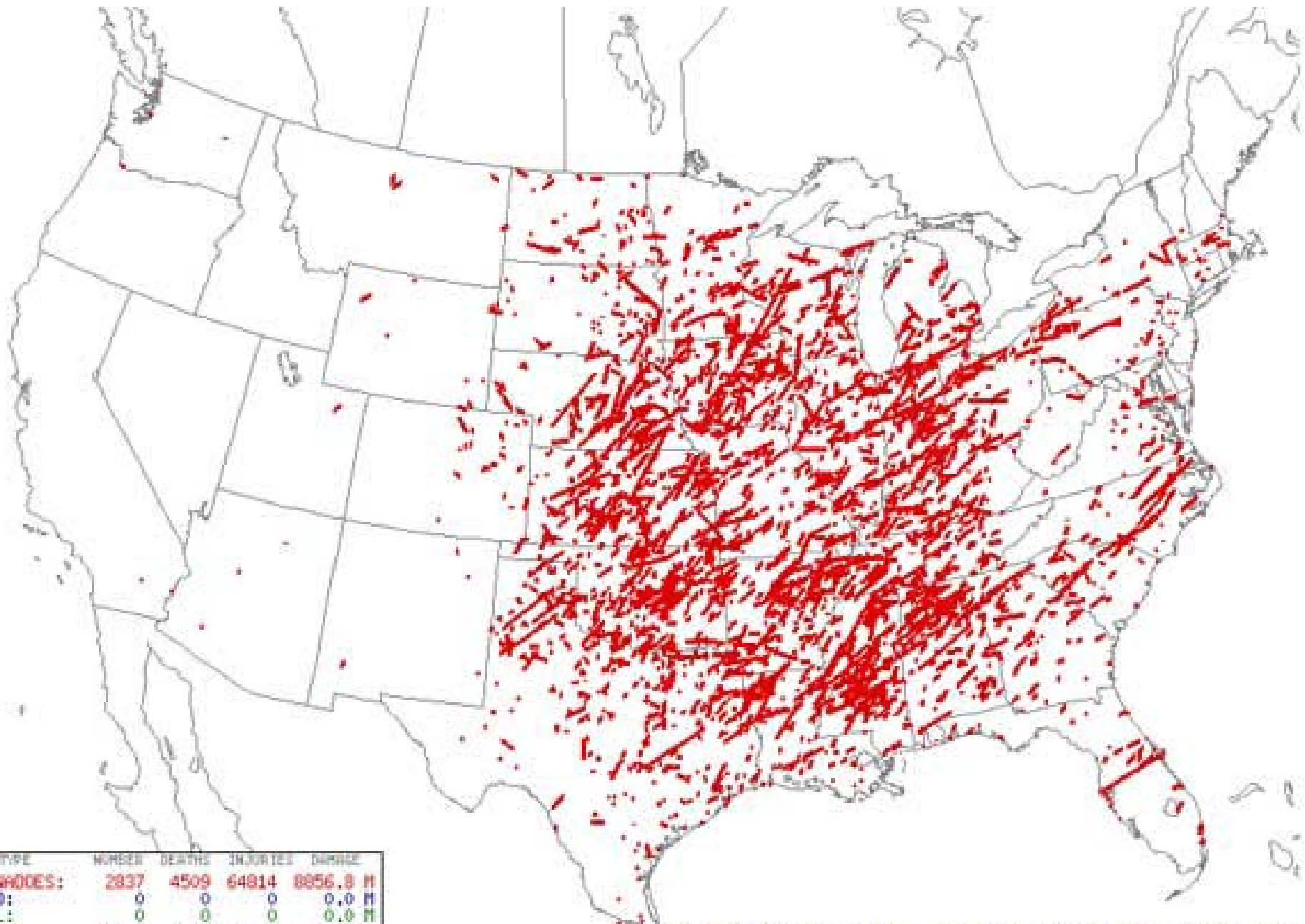
Colorado

Oklahoma

WARM DRY AIR

WARM MOIST AIR

MOIST STRONG

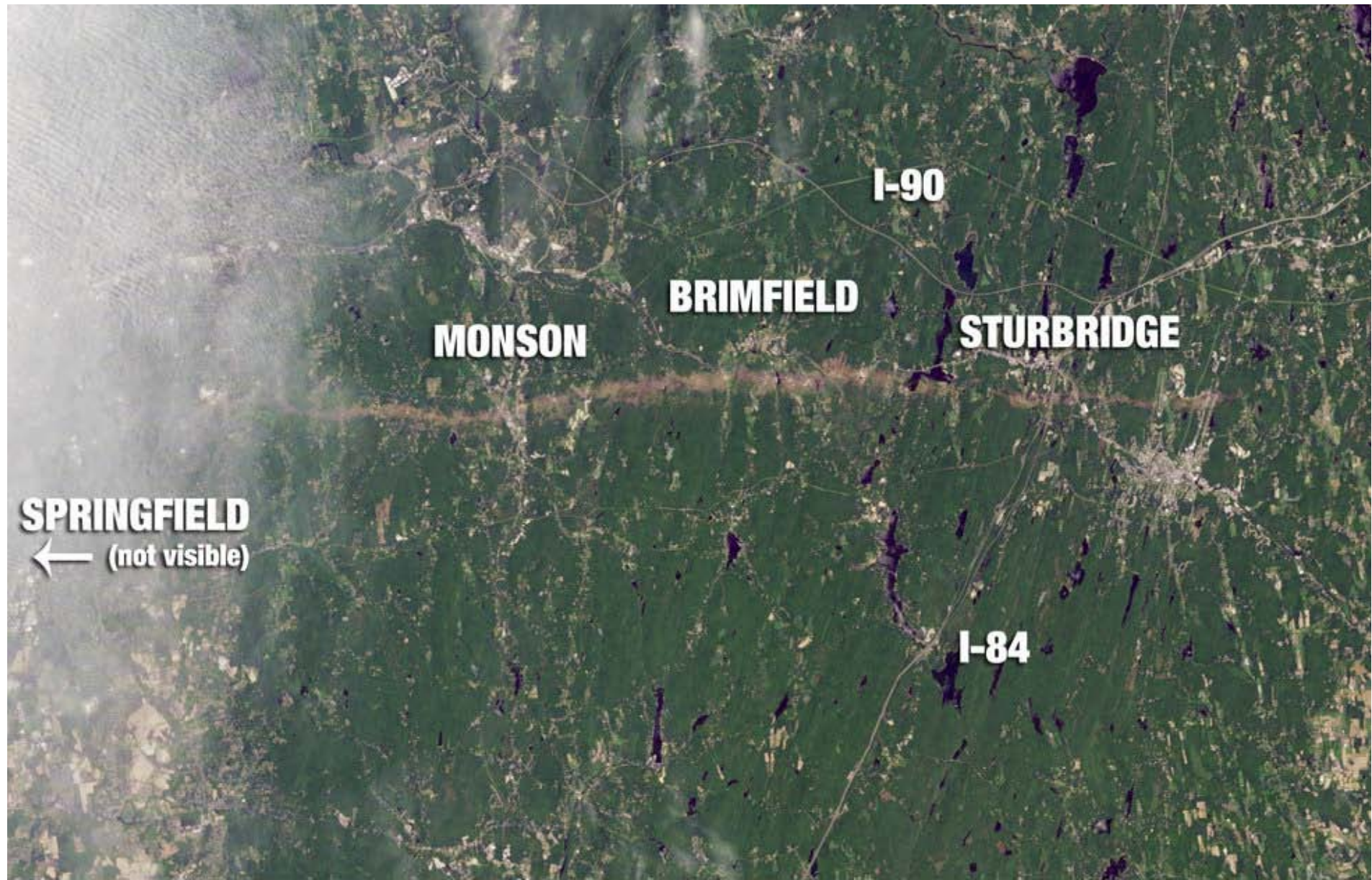


EPT TYPE	NUMBER	DEATHS	INJURIES	DAMAGE
TORNADOES:	2837	4509	64814	8856.8 M
WIND:	0	0	0	0.0 M
HAIL:	0	0	0	0.0 M
TOTAL:	2837	4509	64814	8856.8 M

Sun 01/01/1950 1200 - Fri 12/31/2010 1200 UTC

- Relatively small and short-lived. Can be the size of a car and last btwn 30sec-1hour.
- Winds are extremely fast, sometimes faster than 300mph!

Tornadoes Path of Destruction



How are they measured?

Fujita Scale		Enhanced Fujita Scale*	
		* In use since 2007	
F-0	40–72 mph winds	EF-0	65–85 mph winds
F-1	73–112 mph	EF-1	86–110 mph
F-2	113–157 mph	EF-2	111–135 mph
F-3	158–206 mph	EF-3	136–165 mph
F-4	207–260 mph	EF-4	166–200 mph
F-5	261–318 mph	EF-5	>200 mph

Preparation

- Stay away from windows.
- Go to the basement
- First Aid Kit
- Battery-power radio