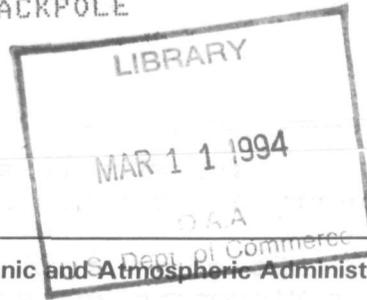




# NOAA REPORT

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259

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## COMING UP

24th Annual NOAA/NWS Hurricane Conference in Miami, Fla., Nov. 30 - Dec. 4.  
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World Meteorological Organization RA I Seminar on Modern Weather Forecasting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Nov. 30 - Dec. 4.  
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National Conference for Warning Preparedness in Norman, Okla., Dec. 2-8.  
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Susquehanna River Basin Project meeting in Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 3.  
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7th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals in Miami, Fla., Dec. 5-9.  
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NWS combined Regional Hydrologist/Prototype Realtime Operational Test Evaluation and User Simulation (PROTEUS) Council Conference in Silver Spring, Md., Dec. 8-11.  
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**Winter Weather Outlook Issued:**--The Weather Service has issued its long-range winter weather outlook for December, January, and February.

The following statement was given the national news media by Dr. Donald L. Gilman, head of the Prediction Branch of the Climate Analysis Center, at a press conference in Washington Nov. 27.

The Outlook for this winter shows the greatest likelihood of cold weather in the Midwest and Deep South, and of unseasonably mild weather in the Southwest. Among recent winters, this pattern most resembles that of two years ago.

The stormy, wet zone should extend like last year along the East Coast, with relative dryness prevailing in the center of the country and the Southwest.

The chances of below normal temperatures exceed 55 percent from Wisconsin and eastern Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas to the Appalachians and northern Florida. They reach 60 percent in most of Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio and also in eastern Louisiana, southern Mississippi, and the coastal parts of Alabama and Florida Panhandle.

The chances of above normal temperatures exceed 55 percent from the Colorado and New Mexico Rockies westward to California and in western Oregon and Washington. They exceed 60 percent from the Canyon Country of Utah and Arizona westward to the Pacific and also west of the Cascades. Highest chances, 65 percent, occur around the lower Colorado River and in Southern California.

Precipitation has at least a 55 percent chance of falling short of median amounts from California eastward to the southern Rockies and Great Plains and the lower Missouri Valley. The greatest chances for deficits, 60 percent, occur in southern Nevada and northern Arizona and also in Oklahoma and Missouri and the adjacent parts of Kansas and Texas.

The chances of extra precipitation exceed 55 percent from the mouth of the Mississippi eastward to central Florida and through the Southeast and mid-Atlantic States to New York State and New England. They reach 60 percent from the Florida Panhandle up the East Coast to southern New England.

**Charts (Not NOAA's) Mislead Ship:**--The U.S. District Court, Southern District, N.Y., recently found the Federal Government not liable in the case of the Oct. 2, 1984, grounding and sinking of the motor vessel Liari. The incident occurred when the vessel's captain took a shortcut out of a navigable channel and struck rocks. The only navigational charts on board the ship were produced by a private company, which copies official NOAA charts. Of prime importance to the Government's defense were NOAA's official charts, which clearly indicated rocks within the accident area. The privately produced copies failed to indicate the rocks within the same area. Significantly, the presiding judge has asked for the Government to submit its court costs for collection from the plaintiff as a possible deterrent to similar future cases.

**New Joint Center Established:**--The University of Delaware and NESDIS officials have signed a memorandum of understanding establishing the Joint Center for Research in the Management of Oceanographic Data at the Newark school. The Center will provide the setting for work in research applications of large oceanographic data bases, management of oceanographic data, and innovative technology in support of oceanographic data use.

**Acid Rain Hearing Set:**--On Dec. 9, the House Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research, and Environment of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology will conduct a hearing on the Government's acid rain research program. Scheduled witnesses will include Jacqueline Schafer, Acting Director of Research of the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program, accompanied by the Director of NOAA's Air Resources Laboratory, Dr. Lester Machta.

**New NOAA Brochure Printed:**--A new brochure outlining NOAA's organization and mission has been published by the Office of Public Affairs. "NOAA, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration" is the first total NOAA brochure overhaul and update since 1984. Distribution is now underway.

**Satellite Image for Australia's Bicentennial:**--The Satellite Services Division at the National Climatic Data Center provided the National Geographic Society with digital satellite data from which a color composite image of Australia was made. The image will appear in the February issue of the Society's magazine in an article commemorating the nation's 200th birthday.

**EEZ Symposium Held:**--More than 300 attendees representing government, industry, and the academic community attended the Exclusive Economic Zone Symposium in Reston, Va., Nov. 17-19, according to its NOAA/U.S. Geological Survey sponsors. The symposium was held to plan for the development and implementation of a national program for mapping and research of the non-living resources of the EEZ sea floor. Overview presentations and nine concurrent workshops provided the scientific and economic data needed to prepare a long range plan. The results of the symposium will be compiled by USGS and NOAA into a symposium volume to document the present status of EEZ activities and serve as the source material for a 10-year mapping and research plan.

**Canadian Fishery Agents Get Tough:**--The National Marine Fisheries Service reports that Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans has trained 88 of its enforcement agents to use machine guns, including heavy 50-caliber weapons. Agents also will wear body armor and military helmets when boarding fishing vessels violating Canadian fishery laws.

**Constitutional Vignette:**--This item is based on an article by the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution entitled "The 39 Signers."

Our history books tell us the United States Constitution was written during the summer of 1787 by 55 men meeting in Philadelphia. But what some of these same books fail to tell us is that only 42 men were left at the end of the Constitutional Convention. Actually, 41 were in the Hall on Sept. 17. An ill John Dickinson had gone home to Wilmington, Del., but left his

proxy with George Read. And only 39 would sign the new Constitution they all had labored four months to write.

The call for a national convention was not a popular notion. In fact, the resolution passed by delegates to the Annapolis Convention in September 1786 was not acted upon by the Confederation Congress until February 1787. And then the call was sent out to the states to send delegates to Philadelphia on the second Monday in May, only to amend the Articles of Confederation.

When states got the call to send delegates, the reaction was mixed. Virginia, where there was a strong feeling of nationalism, quickly appointed 10 of its leading citizens, including General George Washington. Pennsylvania selected eight, including Benjamin Franklin, Rhode Island, where the Agrarian Party was firmly in control, said "no thanks," and sent no delegate, the only state to do so.

In all, the 12 states that chose to send delegates (or deputies, as they were called) selected 74 men to go to Philadelphia. But 19 refused. Most notable among them was Patrick Henry, the Revolutionary War hero from Virginia who said he "smelt a rat." He would be a leading opponent of the Constitution in Virginia's ratification convention in 1788. Two other Virginians and five of the deputies selected by Maryland also opted not to attend.

But on May 25, 11 days after the Convention was to have begun, representatives of seven states were on hand, and the Convention assembled. Not all of the 55 men who eventually took part in the writing of our Constitution were there for the entire 17 weeks. This created obvious problems, since each state was given one vote in the Constitutional Convention, regardless of how many delegates it sent. New York sent three; but midway through the summer two left, leaving Alexander Hamilton as the lone representative of New York. He, himself, would not attend all sessions, but did return in time to sign on Sept. 17, 1787. As George Washington noted in his diary that night, "Met in Convention, when the Constitution received the unanimous assent of 12 States and Col. Hamilton's from New York."

Thus, representatives of the 12 states that sent delegates to Philadelphia did sign, and it can be truly said that the Constitution was approved "...by the unanimous consent of the States..."

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# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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