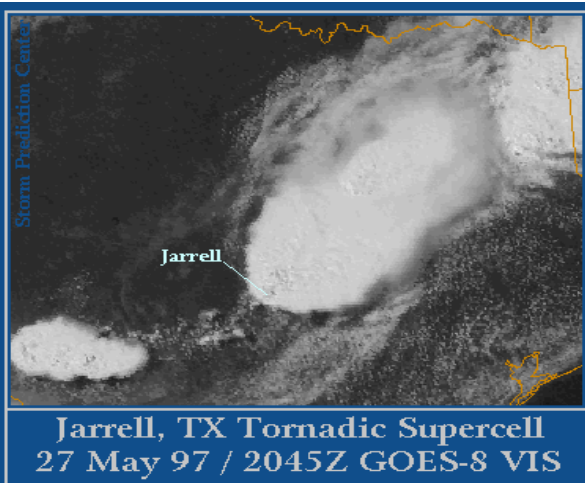


THE FIRST TORNADO DEPLOYMENT FOR TX-TF1 PERSONNEL



At 3:42 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27th, a tornado rated at F-5 on the Fujita intensity scale wreaked destruction on the central Texas town of Jarrell. The tornado had sustained winds up to 261 mph which killed 27 people and caused an estimated \$190 million in property damages. The tornado was $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile wide and tore a track across the ground for 7.6 miles in Bell and Williamson County. The tornado travelled through the Double Creek Estates housing subdivision, wiping the entire neighborhood off the map and totally destroying 38 homes. Dozens of cars were carried more than one half mile away.



The same day at 4:45 p.m., a second tornado rated at F-3 was spawned by the Jarrell tornado and touched down in neighboring downtown Cedar Park, TX. The tornado caused the collapse of an Albertson's grocery store and then tore through the Buttercup housing subdivision. The task force deployed personnel and equipment to Cedar Park, TX to assist in the search of the Albertson's grocery store. A TX-TF1 member was near the scene and set up a command post in a nearby fast food restaurant and began structural assessment and organizing exterior searches. Upon arrival on scene, additional TX-TF1 personnel utilized search cameras and listening devices, reducing the time spent searching for victims by an estimated 14 hours. The task force completed all searches by the morning of May 28th and returned to College Station, TX.

Deployment Statistics

- Incident involved 10 personnel deployed for 1 day
 - 1 rescue squad
 - 1 technical search team
 - 1 structural engineer
 - Communications personnel and equipment
 - Medical personnel and equipment