

Winter storms soak U.S.

Floods, mudslides reign

**United Press International**  
Coast-to-coast thunderstorms broke the winter freeze Wednesday and a second wave of seaborne squalls rolled toward the Pacific Northwest, where three days of floods and mudslides wrecked businesses, cut off major roads and killed as many as six people.

Eight others died Tuesday night when a twin-engine plane crashed and burned while trying to land in heavy fog and drizzle in Lebanon, Ky. — in the middle of a band of fog from southern Iowa to the Atlantic Ocean.

Storms lashing the Northwest since Sunday have left three people dead and three others missing and presumed dead. More than 9 inches of rain inundated northern California and Oregon, and Washington had 8-inch accumulations before the storms moved into Nevada early Tuesday.

"Ranches at Big Flat are surrounded by water, and production at our cheese factory has been shut down. The Eagles' building was hit the worst; ceilings there are leaking water from the melting snow and a lot of walls are water-soaked."

In California, three people were swept away and apparently drowned in swollen waters of Deer Creek and the South Fork of the American River.

Rescue teams in Washington were unable to locate the body of Bobby Johnson of Oakville who disappeared with his earth mover Sunday in a mudslide along the Chehalis River. Other victims were a cross-country skier, who died in an avalanche in northeast Oregon, and a woman motorist whose car slipped into Oregon's Coquille River.

Six members of a mountain search team were rescued in Atlanta, Idaho, Tuesday after

being trapped by two avalanches that sealed off their escape route in the remote Sawtooth National Wilderness Area.

The rescue team had been trying to reach two motorists stranded by heavy snow. The motorists were found unharmed and airlifted to safety.

The Pacific storms unleashed minor mudslides in the San Francisco area, where residents were still stinging from a January deluge that killed 37 people. Mudslides and toppled trees disrupted auto traffic and telephone communications.

"It looks like we've survived another one," a Sonoma County, Calif., sheriff's spokeswoman said.

Another potential storm was expected to hit the Washington

and Oregon coastlines by today and northern California no later than Friday. Up to 8 inches of snow was forecast for the northern Colorado mountains.

Showers and thunderstorms reached from the Florida panhandle to the edges of England, with heavy rain threatening to flood rivers in southern Illinois to Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. Winds up to 50 mph were reported in southeast Alabama.

Authorities in Salmon, Idaho, in the eastern part of the state said flooding there was the worst since 1963.

"There's a 25-mile ice jam from Salmon to Northport," said resident Bob Johnson.

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**Union president: Reaganomics bad**

**United Press International**  
BAL HARBOUR, Fla. — "Jonestown economics" is how AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland described President Reagan's proposals to revitalize the economy.

Kirkland did not make the remark in casual conversation. He made it to the vice president of the United States.

The labor leader repeated his analogy to the Guyana tragedy at a news conference Tuesday following a 50-minute appearance by Vice President George Bush with the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

Asked to comment on Kirkland's statement, deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes said Wednesday: "It's a sad, sad choice of words."

Kirkland, in explaining his

"Jonestown economics" comment to reporters, said he administers economic Kool-Aid to the poor, and the depressed and the unemployed in the country.

The Kool-Aid reference to the poisoned fruit-drink culture that hundreds of the Peoples Temple followers of the Rev. Jim Jones drank and died from in November 1978 at retreat at Jonestown, Guyana.

It came at the end of the meeting during "a good-natured jockeying back and forth" between Glenn Watts, president of Communication Workers of America, said.

Several individuals in the room said Bush laughed and threw up his hands when he heard the remark.

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