

RAXPOL DEPLOYMENT SUMMARY

DATE: 9 MAY 2015

CREW: HOWIE, KYLE, ZACH (DYLAN IN TWOLF)

LOCATION: NORTH-CENTRAL TEXAS – GRAHAM, TX

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEPLOYMENTS: 1

SUMMARY: RaXPol left Norman just before 1900 UTC followed by the MWR and a CNN news crew and headed southwest towards Lawton, OK via I-44. Morning convection overspread much of the area, including the Texas Panhandle and western Oklahoma, mitigating much of the severe threat that had been forecast in the preceding days. En route to Texas, clearing in the wake of the morning convection prompted the SPC to raise tornado probabilities to moderate (15%, hatched) for our target area. RaXPol quickly headed south towards Wichita Falls, TX and on toward Archer City, TX via US-281 where three separate supercells had developed near the dryline. The southernmost cell produced a tornado near Cisco, TX, which was just out of range. RaXPol et al. made a quick stop in Scotland, TX to assess the current situation and decide whether to continue southward, or return to the north where a cell had gone up on the outflow boundary just south of the Red River. Because the northernmost cell appeared to be moving farther behind the boundary, we decided to stick with the cell to our south, which was approaching Graham, TX. Shortly before our arrival in Graham, the cell underwent a split and began to show signs of a more pronounced mesocyclone. The only deployment of the day took place due east of Graham, between Graham and Jacksboro, TX on US-380. Shortly after deploying, the cell began to dissipate and RaXPol and crew returned to Norman.

DEPLOYMENT 1:

LAT: 33.12144° LON: -98.5351°

2 km East Graham, TX

Scanning strategy 1 -- Began 2310 UTC

0° -20° /1° increments, 30 km range, 75 m range resolution, 30 m gate spacing

NOTES:

-On the return trip to Norman, the truck's "check engine" light came on. The problem has been solved and was due to the exhaust system cleaning cycle.