

Storm Chaos in the East

New York Has 'Snow Emergency'

New York

A fast-moving February storm swept the Eastern seaboard yesterday, snarling traffic, closing schools and throwing emergency apparatus into gear.

Hundreds of motorists ran out of gas in tieups on metropolitan Washington, D.C. area highways, and massive pileups locked expressways in and around New York City.

Up to 20 inches of snow slugged West Virginia. Pennsylvania state government offices shut down early in Harrisburg. A federal court judge in Philadelphia sent a jury home early and Philadelphia International Airport's main runway was closed for at least four hours.

The mayor of New York declared a snow emergency. Many of the city's major thoroughfares were partially or fully shut down as commuters struggled homeward through heavy snow and bitterly cold winds.

The storm piled heavy snow from eastern Kentucky to southern New England.

In Washington, President Nixon set out for Bethesda Naval Hospital in suburban Maryland for a physical checkup, but was forced to turn back to the White House because of snow-clogged traffic.

Thousands of workers in the capital were delayed in getting to their jobs, and a number of schools were forced to close.

In Washington as elsewhere, the gasoline shortage

added to the problem. Traffic jams were heightened by motorists lined up at filling stations.

The District of Columbia Snow Emergency Center said stalled cars, including many abandoned by motorists who ran out of gas, delayed chemical-spreading vehicles trying to get to key trouble spots.

Western and central Maryland were hard hit, under snow accumulations expected to reach six inches. Schools were closed in more

than half a dozen counties, including Baltimore.

Schools were closed in 28 counties in Kentucky, where up to four inches of snow made roads slippery.

Ice-coated roads also forced all but three schools to close in northwest Arkan-

sas, where an influenza-like disease already had cut attendance as much as 21.4 per cent.

Temperatures dipped below zero across the northern plains and into New England.

A.P. & U.P.



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Julie Nixon Eisenhower walked in the snow on the White House driveway