Eastern Portion Of State Tries To Dig Out Of Snow

least four persons dead, up to had died from exposure. 21 inches of snow, and virtually tomed to such severe weather.

Carolina Civil Defense officials dents.

reported.

evacuation of persons stranded for a storm like this. in cars by Sunday night Howknown.

One of the hardest hit areas

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS is Sumter, 43 miles east of Co- equiped with chains from the The eastern two-thirds of lumbia, Sumter County Sheriff nearby Air Force Base and the South Carolina attempted to dig I. Byrd Parnell said at least National Guard were able to out Sunday from a record-shat- three persons - two in the move through the city. tering winter storm that left at county and one in the city

paralyzed an area unaccus- least 1,000 stranded motorists were rescued in the Sumter About 3,000 persons were in area alone. Snow depths ranged public emergency shelters and from 21 inches to 4-foot druts approximately 6,000 were stay- that covered cars in this miding in private homes, South state city of about 25,000 resi-

"We are completely immo-A spokesman said helicopters bile," John Miles, manager of from Shaw Air Force Base at Radio Station WFIG, reported Sumter and McEntyre Air Sunday afternoon. 'It looks like Force Base near Columbia Nome, Alaska. It's unbelievwere expected to complete able. We are just not prepared

Parts of Sumter were without ever, it was estimated that sev- heat and water. Miles said. He eral hundred more persons said a roof on a mobile home were awaiting rescue. Offi- manufacturing plant collapsed cials agreed it would be some causing the sprinkler system to time before the full impact go off and that workmen were from the storm would be unable to shut it off immedia-

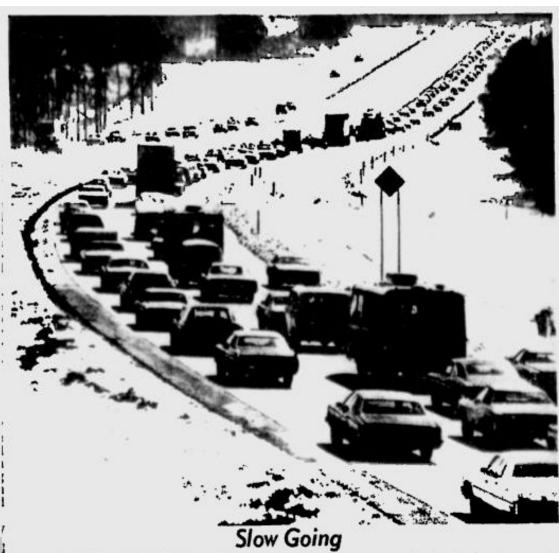
Only military vehicles south coast.

Sheriff Parnell said most of the motorists were rescued Authorities said Sunday at from I-95 and U.S. 76-378. He said approximately 500 persons had to spend Saturday night in a motel south of the city.

> The National Weather Service office in Columbia said snow depths across the state were still coming in Sunday afternoon. Reports indicated that the heaviest snowfall was in a band from around Orangeburg to Florence where 15 to 21 inches fell.

The weather service said the greatest official measurement was 21 mehes at two locations near Orangeburg. The 21-inch measurement in Sumter was unotficial

Elsewhere, five inches of snow was reported in the Piedmont and along the extreme



LOCUST GROVE, Ga. — Motorists and large tractor trucks begin the slow pace southbound on Interstate 75, as roads returned to normal Sunday. Hazardous conditions caused many central Georgia highways to be closed. (AP Wirephoto)