Confirmed Tornado
Toronto, Ontario
August 13, 1956

Date- Local: Monday, August 13th, 1956
UTC: Monday, August 13th, 1956
Time- Local: 1900
UTC: 2300
Location: Toronto (Near Weston)
Region: York - Durham
Classification: Confirmed Tornado
Category: -999
Casualties: None
Track Length: 19510 m
Width: None available
Motion: 270 degrees
Damage Estimate: $1 million
F-Scale Rating: F1
Code: UH
Damage Survey: None
Spotter Reports: None
Other Documents:

Newspaper articles, one which provides a detailed map of damages and their locations in the city

Second map of the tornado track done by hand

Newark summary sheet

Tornado F-Scale Re-Assessment

Brad L. Rousseau
Tornado Data Production Assistant, Environment Canada
January 26th, 2011

Classification: Confirmed Tornado
Date: Monday, August 13th, 1956
Location: Toronto (Near Weston), York – Durham Region

Original Assessment: F2
Re-Assessment: F1
F-Code: UH
Explanation of Assessment: There were reports of roofs being damaged but no reports of roofs being completely removed as pointed out in the Newark summary. Partial roof removal constitutes F1 rating according to the Wind Damage Rating table.

SJS

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TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

AUG

MORE INFO REQD F=2 ONT

1. DATE AND TIME 13·8·1956 AFTER 1800 LOCAL

2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map) TORONTO

3. PATH LENGTH ☐ NOT KNOWN ☐ <1mi; ☐ 1-4mi; ☐ 5-10mi; ☒ 11-50mi; ☐ LENGTH IF>50mi

4. PATH WIDTH UNKNOWN 5. TORNADO PART OF SQUALL LINE? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☑ UNKNOWN:

6. ANY UNUSUAL COLORATION? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☑ UNKNOWN

7. ANY UNUSUAL SOUND? ☑ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN

8. IF ANSWER TO 6 OR 7 YES, ELABORATE; 7, "I HEARD A TREMENDOUS ROAR"

9. LIST ANY ASSOCIATED PHENOMENA (Such as hail, vivid lightning heavy rain, no rain, etc.)

10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE $1 MILLION 11. TOTAL DEATHS 1

12. TOTAL INJURED UNKNOWN 13. TOTAL HOMELESS A NUMBER OF APARTMENT DWELLERS

14. LIST ALL REFERENCES

TORONTO DAILY STAR, AUG 14 1956

15. SUMMARIZE REMARKS PERTAINING TO (a) FUNNEL; (b) INTERESTING OR CAPRICIOUS EVENTS.

(a) THE BLINDING RAIN SUDDENLY TURNED INTO SPIRALLING FUNNELS.

(b) THE STREETS WERE A TANGLE OF FALLEN TREES. THE ODD GARAGE AND CONSTRUCTION SHED PICKED UP. STOREFRONTS ON YONGE ST BLOWN OUT AND ONE STORE WAS PLASTERED WITH FEATHER, APPARENTLY BLOWN FROM MATTRESSES HURLED THROUGH THE AIR. PART OF SOME ROOFS TAKEN OFF.

MRS BEATRICE ANDERSON WAS IN THE BEDROOM OF HER YONGE ST APARTMENT - "I LOOKED UP AND SAW THE SKY. PART OF THE ROOF HAD BEEN TORN AWAY. I WAS STANDING IN DEBRIS. THEN THE RAIN CAME. IT POURED THROUGH FLOODING THE FLOOR TO ALMOST A FOOT DEEP. DRENCHED TO THE SKIN, I CARRIED PAILS FULL OF WATER AND EMPTIED THEM IN THE BATHROOM. LATER I WENT OUTSIDE AND SAW BIG PIECES OF THE ROOF HAD FALLEN ON THE ROAD. ... BRICKS HAD BEEN TORN LOOSE AND HURLED DOWN THE FIRE ESCAPE... ITS A MIRACLE NO ONE WAS KILLED.


NOTTAWASAGA BAY
SIMCOE
LAKE SIMCOE
718'
SIMCOE
DUFFERIN
PEEL
HALTON
ONTARIO
METROPOLITAN TORONTO
Collingwood
Wasaga Beach
Elmvale
Penetanguishene
MIDLAND
TINY
TAY
MEDONTE
ORILLIA
RAMA
MATCHEDASH
Coldwater
Orillia
Barrie
Innisfil
Georgina
Bradford West Gwillimbury
Newmarket
Aurora
Whitchurch-Stouffville
Markham
Richmond Hill
Vaughan
Scarborough
North York
East York
Toronto
Etobicoke
Mississauga
Brampton
Georgetown
Milton
Oakville
Port Credit
Streetsville
Bolton
Alliston
Beeton
Tottenham
Orangeville
Shelburne
Dundalk
Mulmur
Melancthon
Mono
Amaranth
Caledon
East Garafraxa
Erin
Erin
Chinguacousy
Esquesing
Nassagaweya
Puslinch
Eramosa
Guelph
Cambridge
Kitchener
Waterloo
Burlington
Flamborough
Beverly
Dundas
Hamilton
Ancaster
Glanbrook
Stoney Creek
Grimsby
Lincoln
Niagara Falls
Welland
Port Colborne
Fort Erie
Buffalo
Lake Ontario
Lake Erie
Georgian Bay
Lake Huron
Lake Simcoe
Lake Couchiching
Lake Muskoka
Lake of Bays
Lake Joseph
Lake Rosseau
Lake of Bays
Georgian Bay Islands National Park
Craigleith Provincial Park
Wasaga Beach Provincial Park
Devil's Glen Provincial Park
Earl Rowe Provincial Park
Springwater Provincial Park
Bass Lake Provincial Park
Sibbald Point Provincial Park
Mara Provincial Park
Borden Military Reserve
Minesing Swamp
Holland Marsh
Oak Ridges Moraine
Niagara Escarpment
Bruce Trail
Trans-Canada Trail
Yonge Street
Highway 400
Highway 401
Highway 404
Highway 407
Highway 427
Highway 7
Highway 11
Highway 12
Highway 26
Highway 27
Highway 48
Highway 50
Highway 89
Highway 90
Highway 93
Highway 400
Highway 401
Highway 404
Highway 407
Highway 427
Highway 7
Highway 11
Highway 12
Highway 26
Highway 27
Highway 48
Highway 50
Highway 89
Highway 90
Highway 93

WORKSHEET 0695602

ORIGIN x 17619500
y 4841000

Standard Error S_x
C 2000 m

LIFT-OFF x_1 17639000
y_1 4840400

Standard Error S_y
C 2000 m

$(x_1 - x)$ = 19500
$(y - y_1)$ = 600

DAMAGE LENGTH

$$L = [(x_1 - x)^2 + (y - y_1)]^{1/2}$$

= 19509

Standard Error $S_L = (S_x^2 + S_y^2)^{1/2}$

= 2828 C

$$\beta = \frac{S_L}{57.29 L}$$

= 8°

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1} \frac{|y - y_1|}{|x - x_1|}$$ 1.8°

NE Quad $\phi = 90 - \alpha$
NW Quad $\phi = 270 + \alpha$
SW quad $\phi = 270 - \alpha$

SE quad $\phi = 90 + \alpha$

ϕ = 272°