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TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

1. DATE AND TIME Fri July 16, 1982

2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map) Bagot, Man.

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

4. PATH WIDTH ☐ 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) roar

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

10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE $

11. TOTAL DEATHS

12. TOTAL INJURED

13. TOTAL HOMELESS

14. LIST ALL REFERENCES

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

b, Mature trees felled and uprooted, TV antennas bent, crops flattened.
- moved towards NE

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Nature fashions horror show

Fear hits farming area as rain, 100-km/h winds, smash trees, crops

By Tom Goldstein
Winnipeg Free Press

BAGOT — For several frightening moments Friday, residents in and around this southern Manitoba farming community might have felt they were living the apocalyptic climax of the movie Poltergeist.

Century-old trees — some more than 30 metres (100-feet) high — split like kindling. Other tress were uprooted, television antennas bent and toppled and crops flattened as tornado-strength winds and torrential rains tore a swath through the region.

Mother Nature offered other special effects for her little horror show that ran for 10 to 15 minutes as it ripped through in a northeasterly direction.

"The rain — you couldn't see nothing, it was really white," Joyce Woodward recalled Saturday as she and her family cleared branches from the yard of their mobile home.

"And the lightning, it was red," she added.

"It was bad enough to scare," Woodward's husband, Dale, said. "I thought we were a gonner."

While the Woodwards watched the deluge from inside their brown-trimmed mobile home, Lorne Wright was waiting it out in a garage on his farm about three kilometres (1.8 miles) to the east.

"I thought (the garage) was gonna give some. You could feel it lift, " Wright said. "The rain wasn't coming down, it was coming straight across. It was pretty unreal while it lasted."

"It was really corking things off. It was popping," Brian Hyde said during a pause from cutting down branches on one of the 20 trees toppled outside his farmhouse just west of the junction of the Trans-Canada and Yellowhead Highways west of Portage la Prairie.

"It was the worst noise I ever heard from a wind," said Hyde, who expects the cleanup to take a week to complete. "It was just a roar."

Hyde and other area residents spent the weekend removing the mess left by the storm. They were somewhat hampered by still-blustery winds that tossed broken branches around.

While the Woodwards threw debris into the back of a pickup truck, a tractor with a chain pulled a stump from the ground in a yard across the street.

A front-end loader hauled branches away as Hyde worked away with a chainsaw.

The storm, with winds up to 100 km/h and hail in some areas, was sporadic in the damage it caused.

Some wooded areas looked like a bulldozer had run amok in them, leaving white scars where branches and trunks were sheared off. Others were virtually untouched.

"Why it didn't rip a swath through the bush, I'll never know," Hyde said, pointing to the west.

Nor did he know why his home only suffered some water damage caused by rain pouring in open windows.

"I guess it just danced around," he said.

Hyde's television antenna stood erect, untouched by the storm, but a few kilometres up the road, Wright's 12-metre (40-foot) rooftop tower was bent with its top touching the ground, creating a modern sculpture-like effect.

In addition to trees and television antennae, some Hydro poles in the area were uprooted and produce damaged.

Wright, a mixed farmer, was not certain how badly his crops were harmed. By Saturday afternoon, flattened crops were standing again but the process was impeded by 50 km/h winds.

The overall crop damage caused by the storm probably won't be known until later this week.

There was no apparent damage to homes in the area, although severed tree limbs came perilously close to causing some.

A heavy, broken branch stopped centimetres from the Woodwards' trailer, which suffered no damage other than a bent television antenna.

"Now we got no TV," Joyce Woodward said. "If that's all we don't have, then we're lucky."

WINNIPEG FREE PRESS, JULY 19, 1982
STORM DATE: FRI JULY 16, 1982

MAN