63/05/31
~~05/01~~
63/05/31
2045 CDT

TORNADO REPORT

LOCATION: Province: Manitoba

Reference Town: Altona

Lat. & Long.: 49°06' + 97°33'

TIME: (Year/Month/Day/Time (Z)

63/~~05~~/~~31~~/0145Z (8:45 pm) local time

LOCATION OF BEGINNING: 1st seen ~~3~~ south of town (altona)

Lat.:

Long.:

Location of End:

Lat.:

Long.:

ASSOCIATED WEATHER CONDITIONS: 1/2" rain; high south winds

Length of Track:

Direction of Track:

Visual Description:

Path Width:

Fatalities: NIL

Injuries: NIL

SOURCE OF INFORMATION:

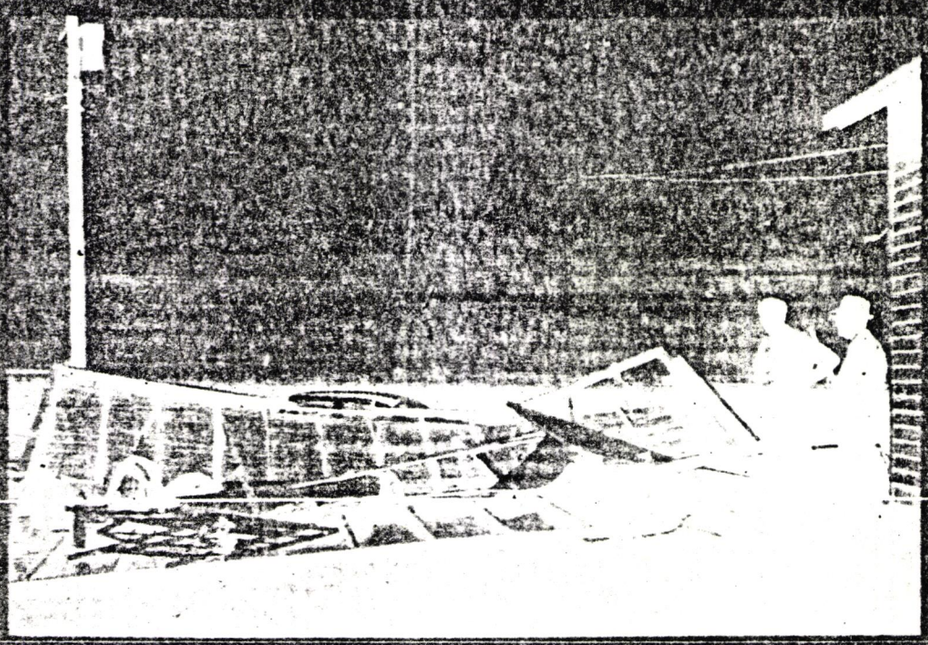
Altona Echo: Wed June 5/63

COMMENTS:

- smashed several buildings and tore branches from trees.
- was sighted
- funnel shape removed

THE MARKET PLACE OF SOUTH-CENTRAL MANITOBA

ALTONA, Manitoba Wednesday, June 5, 1963 Vol. 23, No. 23



TWISTER WRECKAGE: A baby twister touched down at the Harold Sawatzky farm at Altona Thursday evening and pushed over the car garage. Mr. Sawatzky and Echo editor Vic Penner are shown looking over the wreckage.
(Echo photo)

Storm At Altona

'Twister' Flattens Garage

A violent storm struck Altona last week Thursday at about 8:45 p.m. dumping half an inch of rain on the town and surrounding area. The rain was accompanied by high south winds and a small twister which smashed several buildings and tore branches from trees.

The twister was first seen at the Altona village south of the town, where several trees were damaged. Jake Sawatzky, who lives on Hwy. 14A at the southeast corner of Altona, said he watched it come across the field, lift temporarily, and then come down to demolish a garage owned by Harold Sawatzky, who lives just across the highway.

Garage Smashed

Mrs. Sawatzky said she had just come home a few minutes before the storm, and put the car into the garage and closed the door. When the storm hit, she said she thought the front door had slammed, but she didn't dare look out to see if it was unlatched because of the strong wind. She then looked out of the kitchen window and saw the flattened garage lying in pieces beside the house.

The wind hit with such force that it first moved the garage over several feet and then lifted it. Three fuel drums in the building were also moved. One was found under the rear of the car, another full 45-gallon drum landed on the trunk of the car, while the third, which had a gas pump in it, was lifted over about 12 feet and the pump pulled out.

A 500-gallon fuel tank, full of diesel fuel, was also dumped from its stand and set on end and the stand partly smashed. Mr. Sawatzky said he was on his way home with the truck and was about half a mile away when the storm hit. The rain "killed" his motor and the wind blew the truck sideways on the road. As soon as the rain let up, he got the truck going again and proceeded home.

Lifts Shed

The twister was next noticed at the Four Winds Motel, where it smashed a small shed at the rear of the motel. Mrs. Henry Reimer, wife of the owner, said she was closing windows when the storm hit. She heard a big bang and then saw the roof of the shed in the air. Parts of the building were blown about 100 yards away and some of the contents of the building were scattered about.

The wind also snapped off a hydro pole on the west side of Altona. A fuse was blown which put out the street lights temporarily until the Manitoba Hydro crew made temporary repairs.

Rain fell most of the day Friday and it started clearing Saturday. Showers again started falling Sunday evening and continued Monday.

Rhineland High Schools

Prospective Pupils

Plans

Plans for an extensive paving project in Altona this mer have been stopped b provincial utility board's r to allow Altona to incur the tional municipal debt such project would require. The indebtedness is presently cl maximum permitted.

The provincial departme public works is preparing t for the paving of Centre Av Main Street, and expects t for bids in about two week

When this work will start ever, is anybody's guess other projects will be in in the tender, and the cont has the choice of starting th where he pleases.

Next Year?

Suspended for at least a in the Altona town paving ect are Fourth Avenue NE, tion of street at the Ho and the remaining part of Avenue NE.

Reg Blackman, assistant minister of public works The Echo Tuesday that t partment is presently worki final details and design f Centre and Main project.

Since no tenders were re last fall for the Altona p tenders this year would projects at Morris, St. Jea Gretna, he said.

Altona council also dis the paving project at their ing Tuesday evening. At vious meeting it was sug that they make an appoin with the minister of public but F. J. Kehler, secretar surer, said they would not b to make an appointment fo time yet.

Appointment

Councillor Peter Wolfe s had been told by A. J. Th of Winnipeg that an appoi was set for June 6 betwe minister and Altona counc this appointment could n verified at the minister's

Mayor Isbrand Rempel s had also phoned the off try and verify the appoi Tuesday. He expected a call from that office Wedn

The mayor also stated council had been given aut tion to purchase gravel for two months ago. He said t anxious to have the grave chased and put on the str

Councillor Wolfe said ro strictions had held up this

Junior Rifle Club Enrolment Now 5

The Altona Junior Rifle Club, which was formed about two months ago, now has 55 members from the Altona and Gretna area. The club is not confined to boys alone. Six girls are also participating.

The club's rifle range is located about a half mile east of the Tri-Lite service station. It was built two years ago by the Altona branch of the Game and Fish

vise the club.

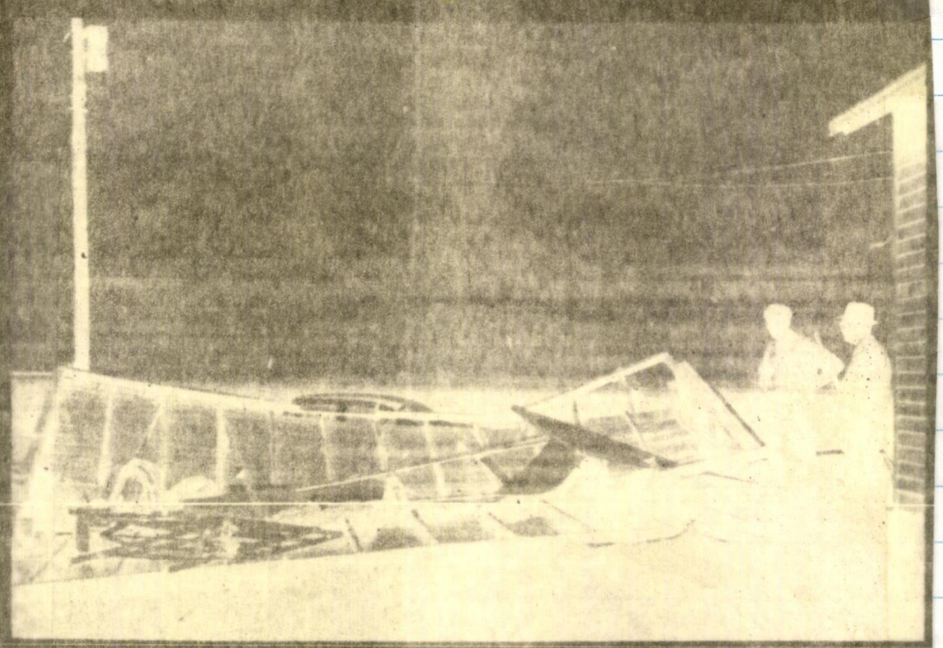
Club members can s crests, pins and shields t be competing against otho in southern Manitoba. Th incial shoot will be held a this year and several tea be representing the Alton The competitions are sp by Dominion Marksman real, Quebec, in conjuncti

The Echo of Altona, June 5 1963,
Storm Date: Thursday May 30 1963

Man
Tornado

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