Summary Sheet

IDTO - ID Number	:693802
AUTH - Report Author	:
TYFU - Tornado Type & Fuji Code	:a2
TITL - Report Title or Location	:Silver Mountain
PROV - Province	:Ontario
COUN - Counties	:Thunder Bay
REFS - References	:GM August 24, 1938
ZOTO - Touchdown Zone Number & Easting	:16283800
NOTO - Touchdown Northing	:5352600
LOVA - Touchdown Error Value & Code	:224r
DADA - Date of Data Entry	:22/06/1990
ZOLO - Liftoff Zone Number & Easting	:
NOLO - Liftoff Northing	:
UPVA - Liftoff Error Value & Code	:
DEAD - Number of Fatalities	:
HURT - Number of People Injured	:
HERT - Injuries Code	:
DATA - Date of Tornado	:22/08/1938
DAVA - Date Error Value & Code	:
TITO - Time of Tornado	:1900
TIMR - Time Meridian	:75
TIVA - Time Error Value & Code	:45c
AXDA - Maximum Path Width	:
AXVA - Max. Path Width Error & Code	:
AVDA - Average Damage Width	:
AVVA - Avg. Damage Width Error & Code	:
SADA - Sample Damage Width	:
SAVA - Sample Damage Width Error & Code	:
INTO - Initials	:JAM
DFTO - Detailed Report Flag	:n
JUNK - PRDA & DIMO & DALE :	
CODA - Property Damage Code	:
MISC - ORDE,PICS_TYPE,PICS_AVAIL,COCO	: 222
MANY - Multiple Event Flag	:n

MEMO:Top floor blown off log home, outbuildings destroyed, garages flattened, many trees uprooted and broken.

PHEN - Associated Phenomena	:
TSHP - Townships	:Strange

JAM, 22/06/1990

693802

TORNADO.

Nolalu, Pardee, Ont. Aug. 22nd. 1938. Late.

DESCRIPTION: Path Nolalu to Pardee.. cut a swath about ¼ mile wide.. trees were all felled towrd the middle of the swath.

DAMAGE;.. levelled farm buildings.. uprooted trees.. ripped house to pieces, rolled car over 3 times.. killed cattle, clothing picked up 6 miles awau(the foregoing are for Nolalu)

Ref; Winnipeg Free Press. Aug. 24th. 1938.

" It cut a swath ¼ mile wide or less, crossing Pardee(from W to E) on concession 4, still on concession 4 in Crooks township, where it crossed the highway.. Fortunately there were no buildings in its path (where it hit hardest at Pardee) for it cleared all trees for a stretch of 3 miles. Resembling a freshly cut right of way. " At Bob Sleigh rapids on Pine River it literally filled a steep banked ravine with timber spruce and balsam up to 3 ft, in diameter were criss-crossed to a depth of about 30 ft.. " Trees that would not come

693802

THE GLOBE AND MAIL, TORONTO, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 24TH. 1938.

STORM DATE. ABOUT 8P.M., MON. AUG. 22ND. 1938.

TORNADO ISOLATES HUGE AREA.

FARMS WRECKED, STOCK KILLED BY TWISTER AT THUNDER BAY.

PHONE LINES DOWN.

AUTO, SUCKED FROM GARAGE, IS CARRIED OVER TREETOPS

FORT WILLIAM, AUG. 23. (Special) Residents of ten townships in THUNDER BAY district today were counting the cost of a tornado that whipped out a yellow-red northwestern sky about 8 o'clock last evening, demolished buildings on at least three farms, killed cattle, uprooted hundreds of trees and cut off telephone communication with United States points for four hours when it demolished a half mile of telephone poles. It was the first tornado known in this area.

The twister followed in general the valley of the WHITEFISH RIVER until it split in two against the nose of SILVER MOUNTAIN and careened off in two black funnel-shaped storms to spend itself somewhere in MINNESOTA. Uprooted trees blocked sideroads crossed by its 150 foot wide path.

BLOWN FROM HIS BATH.

URHO PIILLO, farmer, three miles northwest of SILVER MOUNTAIN and thirty-eight miles west of FORT WILLIAM, was blown out of his Finnish bath house when the storm struck, but was uninjured. His daughter, GERTIE, 21, together with two neighbor children, ALLAN NIEMI, 12, and WALTER NIEMI, 9, and WAINOM WINK, miraculously escaped injury when the top floor of the PIILLO home, in which they had taken refuge, was blown off, leaving the open walls of the bottom story. A summer kitchen, stable, roofed hay mow and two garages were flattened like houses of cards; a car in one garage was carried 100 feet over the tops of trees and set down, damaged but little; a box stove was lifted out of the house by the terrific suction and deposited on top of a knoll 100 feet away. A windbreak of jackpines was chewed off to look like a shell-scarred forest; a calf in the barn was injured severely and had to be killed.

Six miles away a new two-story house, built sturdily of logs, but unoccupied, was levelled to the ground. The only recognizable parts of the building remaining in the debris were the hardwood floors of two rooms, which remained intact.

Between the two the farm of MATT ALLANEN felt the full force of the storm. His family saw the cloud coming and held the doors shut against the force of the wind. All windows were blown out and parts of the roof torn off. Outbuildings, including a machinery house and hay barn, were demolished. a heavy fur coat and other clothing blown out of the PIILLO home were found hanging on trees on the ALLANEN farm, two miles away.

The storm came and went with a roar, but without rain, lightning or thunder.

HOUSE DEMOLISHED.

Eye-witness of the worst damage done by the tornado was WILLIAM HARRIN, station master at the SILVER MOUNTAIN DEPOT on the PEE DEE DIVISION of CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS.

"I heard the storm approaching my home," he said. "From the northwest came a big dark cloud close to the earth. It approached with such speed that not until later did I realize what had happened.

"First it struck the farm of URHO PIILLO. It seemed to blow the house to pieces. I saw MR. PIILLO carried fifty feet, the family automobile carried 100 feet across the road, and saw the stove lifted clear of the house and hurtle through the air.

"The PIILLO barn was scattered in pieces for hundreds of feet. How those in the house escaped was a miracle."

"The storm next struck the farm of MATT ALLANEN on a hill and here the buildings were destroyed. Tons of hay were carried through the air. The tornado did not steer a straight course, but veered suddenly and sharply from one side of the river to the other, then swept down toward the INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY and the UNITED STATES BORDER." MR. HARRIN said.

A cabin on the INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY, near PINE RIVER, also was destroyed, it is reported.

16283800
5352600
(1200x500) R.

Thunder Bay District.
Strange County

Heavy damage was caused in the Fort William district early this week by a freak tornado which ripped through the countryside, razing buildings, smashing crops and wrecking telephone and telegraph communications. The upper picture shows the automobile owned by Urho Piillo, which was in a garage on his farm when the tornado struck. The garage was blown away from over the car, and the machine itself was carried 100 yards through the air. Centre is a view of part of the desolation that was left in the path of the tornado after sweeping through Piillo's farm, thirty-eight miles west of Fort William. In the centre foreground is part of a roof, all that remained of the stable. The bottom picture shows Piillo's home as it is today.