Summary Sheet

IDTO	ID Number	:693901
AUTH	Report Author	:
TYFU	Tornado Type & Fuji Code	:b9
TITL	Report Title or Location	:Kettle Point
PROV	Province	:Ontario
COUN	Counties	:Lambton
REFS	References	:GM June 8, 1939
ZOTO	Touchdown Zone Number & Easting	:17416780
NOTO	Touchdown Northing	:4780920
LOVA	Touchdown Error Value & Code	:150o
DADA	Date of Data Entry	:21/06/1990
ZOLO	Liftoff Zone Number & Easting	:
NOLO	Liftoff Northing	:
UPVA	Liftoff Error Value & Code	:
DEAD	Number of Fatalities	:3
HURT	Number of People Injured	:1
HERT	Injuries Code	:
DATA	Date of Tornado	:07/06/1939
DAVA	Date Error Value & Code	:
TITO	Time of Tornado	:1700
TIMR	Time Meridian	:75
TIVA	Time Error Value & Code	:69s
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	: 2
MANY	Multiple Event Flag	:n

MEMO:Deaths were caused by occupants of a rowboat drowning after it capsized. Trees and crops blown flat on shore.

PHEN	Associated Phenomena	:
TSHP	Townships	:Bosanquet

JAM, 21/06/1990

THE GLOBE AND MAIL. TORONTO. THURS. JUNE 8 1939. 693901
STORM DATE: WED. JUNE 7 1939.

Three Drown, Two Saved As Boat Is Overturned By Storm at Kettle Point

Sarnia, June 7 (Special).—Three persons were drowned in Lake Huron at Kettle Point, forty miles north of here, tonight, and two others were rescued only after a titanic struggle with wind and water.

A cyclonic storm overturned the boat in which five persons were returning from a fishing expedition and dashed it against the rocks.

Wesley McAusland of London, Ont.; Miss Kay Batchelor of Ingersoll, and Mrs. Angus Ross, also of London, were the drowning victims. Mr. Ross, husband of the lost woman, and Edward Bressette, Indian guide, of Kettle Point, were rescued.

Ross was in serious condition from exposure and suffered injuries when thrown against the rocks in the waters where the tragedy occurred. He was taken to hospital in London.

Gordon Galley, a Kettle Point fisherman, effected the rescue during a howling gale which caused immense property damage ashore. The water was churned into a milky foam among the rocks when he set out in a small power boat to aid the five in distress.

Bressette was too weak even to hang on to a rope which was thrown him. He finally managed to grab the rope between his teeth and was hauled slowly aboard.

The party went out at noon to fish in Lake Huron. Late in the afternoon the sky suddenly became overcast and Bressette started the row toward shore.

A cyclonic wind suddenly struck down and overturned the craft. So strong was the wind that it ripped out telephone poles ashore, blew down trees, and destroyed 25 acres of spinach.

Due to the difficulty in communications it was about 8 o'clock in the evening when Provincial Constables A. S. Grant and R. J. Whiting were informed of the tragedy and left Sarnia to direct in rescue or dragging operations. Constable Carrow of the R.C.M.P. went with them.

Return Was Urged.

Bressette's wife told residents at Kettle Point Pavilion that her husband urged the two couples to start for shore when the weather first appeared threatening. They decided to "stick it out," however, until the danger was realized.

An attempt was made to start up the outboard motor on the boat, but this failed, and in an instant the craft capsized, spilling them all into the lake.

Brissette and Ross clung to the overturned boat for nearly an hour before the rescue craft appeared. Both were exhausted and semi-conscious.

Word of the tragedy spread only when Indians came running to Ipperwash Beach, summer resort four miles from Kettle Point, to summon medical aid from Forest. There was no telephone in operation at Kettle Point.

The storm swept down furiously on Kettle Point where its force was apparently concentrated. At Sarnia there was a light storm but not sufficient to cause any damage.

Storm Hits Meaford.

Meaford, June 7 (CP). — High winds that reached gale proportions, but for only a short time, blew down small sign-boards, broke limbs from trees and spread clouds of dust over the whole district today at Meaford.

The storm sweeping in from the west, whipped up the bay and sent motor-boat guides scurrying for shelter. The air turned brown with dust and visibility was bad. The mercury soared up to over 80 degrees and people walking along the streets were almost carried off their feet.

The Weather

Maximum and minimum temperatures a year ago yesterday: 66-56.

Today the sun rises at 5:17 a.m. (D.S.T.) and sets at 8:57 p.m. (D.S.T.).

Meteorological Office, Toronto, June 7.—Light scattered showers have occurred in many parts of the Prairie Provinces and local thunderstorms in the region of the Great Lakes, while from the Ottawa Valley eastward the weather has been fair. It has been comparatively cool in the Western and Maritime Provinces, but moderately warm elsewhere. A trough of low pressure extends from Northern Ontario southwestward across Lake Michigan to Texas and pressure is also relatively low over Manitoba and the Mackenzie River Valley, but high over Hudson Bay, the Southeast States and on the Pacific Coast.

Forecasts.

Lower Lake Region and Georgian Bay: Fresh southwest to west winds, partly cloudy and warm, with thundershowers in many districts.

Northern Ontario: Partly cloudy and warm, with scattered thundershowers.

Ottawa and St. Lawrence Valleys: Fresh southwest winds; partly cloudy and warm, with thundershowers in many districts.

Kenora and Rainy River: Moderate to fresh westerly winds; partly cloudy and moderately warm, probably scattered showers.

Lake Superior: Moderate to fresh westerly winds; partly cloudy and moderately warm, with thundershowers in some districts.

Manitoba: Fresh westerly winds; partly cloudy, with light scattered showers, not much change in temperature.

Saskatchewan: Mostly fair and becoming somewhat warmer; probably light showers in a few districts.

Alberta: Mostly fair, with stationary or somewhat higher temperature; probably light showers in a few districts.

Grand Banks: Decreasing northeasterly winds; partly cloudy and cool.

Maritime West: Mostly fair and moderately warm, followed by fresh southwest winds and probably some showers at night.

Maritime East: Moderate, variable winds; fair and somewhat warmer, probably followed by showers at night or on Friday.

Gulf and Bay Chaleur and North Shore: Fresh winds, shifting to south and southwest; partly cloudy and a little warmer, with scattered showers.

Ottawa and St. Lawrence Valleys: Fresh southwest winds; partly cloudy and warm, with thundershowers in many districts.

Northwestern Quebec and Lake St. John: Fresh southwest and west winds, partly cloudy and warm, with thundershowers in many districts.

Canadian Records.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 44-64; Aklavik, 44-66; Simpson, 48-70; Fort Smith, 46-72; Prince Albert, 36-46; Victoria, 52-62; Vancouver, 50-62; Kamloops, 48-66; Prince George, 46-62; Jasper, 38-58; Edmonton, 32-62; Calgary, 36-58; Lethbridge, 38-64; Medicine Hat, 40-68; Swift Current, 34-48; Battleford, 36-52; Prince Albert, 36-46; Saskatoon, 36-48; Moose Jaw, 40-48; Regina, 42-70; Brandon, 42-64; Winnipeg, 46-70; Kenora, 54-72; Port Arthur, 48-80; Moosonee, 40-72; Huntsville, 47-79; Parry Sound, 52-80; London, 56-82; Toronto, 51-73; Kingston, 38-72; Ottawa, 46-76; Montreal, 52-74; Quebec, 46-74; Saint John, 42-66; Halifax, 44-58; Charlottetown, 40-48; Chicago, 72-92; St. Paul, 54-78.

Local Records

Temperatures: 8 a.m., 56; noon, 65; 2 p.m., 70; 4 p.m., 67; 8 p.m., 65. Mean for day, 62; difference from average, 3 above; maximum, 74; minimum, 51.

Direction and velocity of wind: 8 a.m., 12 miles east; noon, 14 miles east, 8 p.m., 7 miles northeast.

Barometer readings: 8 a.m., 29.71; noon, 29.69; 8 p.m., 29.54.