

# Summary Sheet

IDTO - ID Number	:694606
AUTH - Report Author	:
TYFU - Tornado Type & Fuji Code	:b2
TITL - Report Title or Location	:Exeter to near Britton
PROV - Province	:Ontario
COUN - Counties	:Huron/Perth
REFS - References	:Listowel Banner December 19, 1946 Mitchell Advocate December 19, 1946, Stratford Beacon-Herald December 13, 1946, The Atwood Bee December 19, 1946, personal communication with Mr. Graham of Atwood
ZOTO - Touchdown Zone Number & Easting	:17461000
NOTO - Touchdown Northing	:4799500
LOVA - Touchdown Error Value & Code	:1000c
DADA - Date of Data Entry	:12/06/1990
ZOLO - Liftoff Zone Number & Easting	:17502000
NOLO - Liftoff Northing	:4833000
UPVA - Liftoff Error Value & Code	:224r
DEAD - Number of Fatalities	:
HURT - Number of People Injured	:
HERT - Injuries Code	:
DATA - Date of Tornado	:12/12/1946
DAVA - Date Error Value & Code	:
TITO - Time of Tornado	:1830
TIMR - Time Meridian	:75
TIVA - Time Error Value & Code	:10c
AXDA - Maximum Path Width	:1200
AXVA - Max. Path Width Error & Code	:10c
AVDA - Average Damage Width	:400
AVVA - Avg. Damage Width Error & Code	:10c
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	:1 2
MANY - Multiple Event Flag	:n

MEMO:100 farms damaged, trees and hydro poles blown down. Many barns and sheds completely destroyed.

PHEN - Associated Phenomena	:
TSHP - Townships	:Usborne/Hibbert/Logan/Elma

JAM, 12/06/1990



## TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

694606

F=2

ONT

1. DATE AND TIME THUR DEC 12, 1946 1830 to 1845 EST
2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map) VENT EXETER TO VENT BRITTON 0694606
3. PATH LENGTH ☐ NOT KNOWN ☐ <1 mi; ☐ 1-4 mi; ☐ 5-10 mi; ☐ 11-50 mi; ☒ 55 km IF > 50 km
4. PATH WIDTH 30 m To 1200 m
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 A ROAR
9. LIST ANY ASSOCIATED PHENOMENA (Such as hail, vivid lightning heavy rain, no rain, etc.)
10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE \$ 50,000
11. TOTAL DEATHS NONE BUT DOZENS OF ANIMALS
12. TOTAL INJURED NONE NONE
13. TOTAL HOMELESS U
14. LIST ALL REFERENCES  
LISTOWEL BANNER, THUR DEC 19, 1946  
PERSONAL COMMUNICATION WITH MR. GRAHAM OF ATWOOD SEPT 9, 1980  
MITCHELL ADVOCATE DEC 19, 1946  
STRATFORD BEACON-HERALD, FRI DEC 13, 1946  
THE ATWOOD BEE, DEC 19, 1946
15. SUMMARIZE REMARKS PERTAINING TO (a) FUNNEL; (b) INTERESTING OR CAPRICIOUS EVENTS.  
(c) no remarks  
(b) 100 FARMS ~~bars~~ damaged, trees and hydro poles uprooted



glass had to be pulled out with pliers. Barn roof lifted off, just missing her husband in its fall as he headed for the house. Garage destroyed, but car inside uninjured except for broken windshield. Side wall of house bulged outwards 18"

Elmore Kleinfeldt. Hog pen lifted & destroyed! 11 hogs uninjured but scattered Conc 1

Mitchell:

W.F. Levy. barn roof off (west of Mitchell)

Jack Malcolm. Ditched destroyed, farm machinery badly damaged.

Goderich - heavy wind, no damage.

Exeter. storm from the SW 6:00 pm

J Siveitger  
(1) Huron Lumber Mill. storage shed wrecked, picked up bodily and deposited upside down. Seen by employee Reginald Taylor as he was about to leave for home and was walking across the lumber yard. On James St. a tree pulled out by the roots.

Clinton

(2) Staffa 2 1/2 mi S farm John Drake. greatest destruction began just after 7:00 pm. Tree down across rd between con 12 + 13 Hibbard 2 mi SE of Cromarty



2A

Frank Tuffin, edge staffe, , pig pen  
blown down.



Stratford Beacon-Herald. Good photo of garage down with undamaged car inside.  
Fri. Dec 13, 1946. Storm date Dec 12, 46 "early evening"  
\$25,000

- (5) William Kleinfeldt, on the highway 1.5 mi east of Dublin.  
- driving shed, orchard, huge pines twisted in a rough jangle  
- two cars in the driving shed were untouched.
- (4) Mawat Stacey - 1.25 mi south and east of Dublin.  
Barn wrecked - it was lifted off foundation then crashed  
livestock crushed. Driving shed levelled. Half roof on  
back kitchen torn away. Conc 3, Hilbert. Rear end  
of brick house was brought down.
- (3) Jack Drake + John Ryan - "another 1.25 mi south"  
barns flattened considerable livestock loss Conc 5.
- (6) Mrs John D Malcolm, lot 8 con 1, Hilbert trap.  
at about 7.30 pm, <sup>South</sup> glass windows blew in. ~~Glass~~ interbedded



Telephone conversation Sept 9, 1980 between M.J. Newark and Mr Graham (519) 356-2694, Atwood with reference to a storm on Dec 12, 1946.

(7) Mr Graham lived on a farm on lot 21 conc 10, Elma township and was in the barn milking when the roof was taken off. He recalled that the time was between 1830 and 1845. South of the barn there was a swath of fallen trees 100 ft wide through the bush. After the event Mr. Graham spoke to neighbours who were surprised to hear about the damage because there was little wind at their location.

Mr. Graham recalled that there had been an open fall and mild weather; in fact he had been pouring concrete the previous day.

Weather records for Dec 12, 1946 show a maximum temperature of 55°F at Toronto, followed on the 13th by a maximum of only 28°F with a 24 hour rainfall total of 1 inch<sup>all</sup>, indicating a vigorous cold frontal passage.

According to Mr. Graham, the storm had hit an area east of Dublin, then skipped to the 12th conc of Elma (just southwest of him) then moved on to Britton where barns were unroofed.

(7A) The storm followed at SW to NE track, causing a very localized, narrow swath of damage, and occurred in an unusually mild airmass in advance of a cold front. This arouses a strong suspicion that it was in fact a tornado. At 1830 in mid-December it is dark and it is unlikely that anyone would be able to see a funnel.



The Atwood Bee, Thurs, Dec 19, 1946.

### Damaging Effects.

(8) The storm on Thursday evening last, flattened a barn on the farm owned by Maurice Little, 8k conc of Elma, and lifted the roof from the barn at the farm of George Graham, 10k conc Elma.



THE LISTOWEL BANNER, THURSDAY DECEMBER 19TH. 1946.

STORM DATE. "THURS. NIGHT" DEC. 12TH. 1946.

PERTH FARM BUILDINGS TOPPLE IN GALE.

A 60m.p.h. gale cut a swath across a section of Western Ontario Thursday night, left in its wake thousands of dollars of damage to farm buildings, disrupted communications and took a fairly heavy toll of livestock.

Early reports could give no complete estimate of damage, but reports from several centres showed livestock had been lost as buildings crushed them after being toppled by the wind.

MITCHELL HAD "TWISTER."

A miniatyre "twister" struck near MITCHELL, felling trees and hydro poles and shutting off power for SEAFORTH, CLINTON, and GODERICH.

Farmers organized their own cleanup squads, patrolling roads to remove fallen trees and surveying damage to property.



## Community Gives Generously to the Tornado Fund

Evidence that the canvassers for the Tornado Relief Fund have been busy appears in the list below which covers Dublin village and a portion of Hibbert and Fullarton townships. The town canvass is practically completed and we hear the response was fine. The committee has assurance of some special donations of \$100 apiece, cheques for which have not yet been received. More donors' names will appear next week.

### DUBLIN VILLAGE

Gerald Holland .....	\$25.00
Wm. Stapleton & Sons .....	25.00
Looby and Looby .....	25.00
Thomas Butters .....	25.00
Jos. McConnell .....	25.00
McKillop, Logan and Hibbert	
Telephone Co. ....	25.00
Dublin Meat Market .....	10.00
(Friend and Whetham)	

Peter Dill .....	5.00
Jos. Dill .....	5.00
James Krauskopf & Sons .....	5.00
Dublin Bakery (Jas. Curtin)	5.00

### PORTION HIBBERT AND FULLARTON

Roy Burchill .....	25.00
Charles Falkner .....	2.00
Harold Coleman .....	5.00
Alfred Ross .....	10.00
James Hill .....	5.00
Murray Pringle .....	1.00
Leslie Butson .....	10.00
Roy Kerslake .....	10.00
Montgomery Davis .....	5.00
Albert Smale .....	5.00
William Patrick .....	1.00
Worden Miller .....	10.00

(Continued on Page Four)

## Ask Priority For Lumber, Roofing to Repair Damage

On Monday night the committee of the Hibbert and Logan Tornado Relief Fund sent a night letter to the Department of Reconstruction and Supply at Ottawa itemizing the following requirements to repair the damage done by the tornado of last week: 1500 bunches shingles; 300 square feet of steel roofing; 15,000 feet of lumber; 65 kegs of nails; 5000 square feet of 3x6 planks to make rafters.

It is anticipated that priorities will be given by the Wartimes Prices and Trade Board for the above. This list was compiled after the committee of the Fund had made a survey of the damage done and the needs of the farmers to make homes and barns fit for use. While the loss to buildings has been very heavy, the elements are the big problem now. These farmers have thousands of bushels of grain and animals to protect and unless something can be done post-haste much more loss will ensue. Their season's crops were in the barns which are valuable to them. R. E. White, cultural representative for Perth stressed the urgency of obtaining steel roofing as it could be laid so much more quickly. If the weather held, shingling would be next to impossible now.

While The Advocate has attempted in other columns to give its readers a correct picture as possible of the damage done, it has apparently skimmed the surface, for according to reports over 100 farms suffered damage. It is difficult to state a definite sum to cover the entire damage but figures around the \$50,000 have been quoted. This, of course, would not include further damage to grain, etc., as mentioned

The administration of the fund will be made in proportion to the need and as to the amount of damage



Mitchell Advocate: Dec 19 '46

Star Date: Thurs. Dec 12 '46

~~TORNADO SWEEPS THROUGH THIS DISTRICT~~

GERALD HOLLAND SELLS  
BUTCHER SHOP TO TWO  
VETERANS OF AIR FORCE

MITCHELL ADVOCATE, DEC 19, 1946

Barns Demolished--Stock Lost

--Hydro, Telephone Service Out

PATH 1/4 MI WIDE

(4)

Almost indescribable havoc was wrought to farm properties throughout this community by the tornado that struck homes, barns, and other buildings on widely separated farms as it swept along a path about a quarter of a mile wide from the south through the Cromarty, Staffa, Zion and Logan districts on Thursday evening around seven-thirty o'clock.

First inkling of the tragedy came in town when the lights went off for a short time in the North Ward, and longer in the southern section, causing little inconvenience, but many farmers were not so fortunate, their losses varying from minor ones to those of enormous proportions.

The greatest devastation occurred on the farm of Mowat Stacey where the hurricane must have reached its greatest velocity. This is located a mile and a quarter south and east of Dublin on lot 10, concession J. Hibbert. The rear of the house which consisted of a frame woodshed and large kitchen most frequently used as living quarters sustained heavy damage. The roof at the rear was completely lifted off, a portion was left on the kitchen but a big gouge was taken out of the roof of the main brick structure to the front. The blast also seemed to distort the rear portion of the home. Cutting a wide swath here the wind left the barn in a mass of ruins. A portion of the brick foundation remained but the roof was completely carried away and when the floor of the barn gave the full weight of the season's crop and hay landed on the animals housed beneath, pinning them in the wreckage. The roots in the root house in the barn took a portion of the weight of the beams and helpers arriving on the scene were able to burrow through and drag out some of the stock. Fifteen young cattle were removed but three had broken legs and were later taken to the abattoir. Nine cows lay in one row, killed from the force of the impact. Three horses were also in the barn, one being removed but injured so seriously that it had to be destroyed. Pigs were described as sturdily trying to carry the load with their legs snapping beneath them. Four, ready to market were killed and seven were removed.

A substantial implement shed was positively crumpled, a hay loader and binder were destroyed but a brand new seed drill wasn't damaged. Front, sides and roof of the garage were lifted with the rear wall leaning against the car, which was not

(Continued on Page Two)



Dec 19 1946

## Barns Demolished--Stock Lost --Hydro, Telephone Service Out

badly damaged. The apple orchard the car had only a little damage. The that supplied all the family needs tractor was intact. One chimney on and left some for sale, was demolished. Shade trees, old landmarks, were downed and debris was scattered everywhere, with huge pieces of the new steel roof from the barn, twisted and lying about, some even lodging in nearby trees across the road and other portions being found a half-mile away. Oddly enough the straw stack in front of the barn was never moved.

Mr. Stacey had been in the barn doing the chores by the aid of a lantern when the Alex Morrisons from Fullarton arrived, so he had just joined them in the house when the storm hit with resounding noise. One can imagine his amazement when he went out to ascertain what had happened.

The William Keeler house and barn directly across the road escaped the disaster but the Gordon Reed property immediately to the west was hit almost simultaneously with the Stacey buildings. Mr. Reed, it is understood, was in the barn pulping roots when he heard the noise. As he went to a first door a piece of the roof flew past him. A second door was completely blocked and by the time he got to a third door the heavy wind, lasting about a half-minute, was over. The roof was lifted and three or four loads of hay were taken out, a part of the roof being carried over his own house to light on the Stacey property. The windmill was also destroyed, hampering the water supply for the cattle. A big tree was thrown across the highway, also, blocking traffic for a time.

Moving back to the first properties affected by the tornado it was learned that Frank Tuffin's home at Staffa had part of the barn torn away and other damages.

Major Allen, residing near the sawmill had two windows blown out of his house and both radios near these windows were smashed. Lumber in the yard was tossed about a bit. Ken Drake had slate shingles lifted off his barn.

Cameron Vivian lost a colony house, four big evergreens went over at the Wm. Pullman property, and at Leslie Harburn's there are a few shingles off the barn and house. Jim Burns also had a number of shingles lifted from his barn. Cliff Young had damage to a small barn. A few telephone wires were down on the 6th and 7th concessions and a lot on the 4th and 5th.

The next objects of destruction were on the next concession north where Jack Ryan's barn was a total loss. Two horses were killed. Tom Coyne's barn was shifted and it is understood he will have to put in a new wall immediately. Across the road John Drake, Jr., had sustained the loss of the roof of his barn.

Cutting across the country in a north-easterly direction the Stacey and Reed premises had been caught. Then, the highway homes got the brunt.

The Elmore Kleinfeldt place had a portion taken off a substantial brick kitchen believed to have been caused when flying debris caught in hydro wires attached to the wall. Evergreens two feet thick at the bot-

tom of the car had only a little damage. The tractor was intact. One chimney on the house was blown down, the hydro service was disrupted and his own transformer with its pole at the roadside was blown down and damaged. This threw his electric pressure system out of commission with consequent stock watering difficulties.

A window of the living room was blown in and thrown across the room, becoming imbedded in the woodwork so deeply that pliers were needed to pull the glass out. The wall where the window was dislodged seemed to fairly bulge out.

Proceeding into Logan the wind took the roof off the barn on the Fred W. Ahrens farm on the 4th concession. Others nearby were also in the wake of the storm. Most of one side of the barn roof was carried away on the Laverne Elliott farm and some shingles were torn from barn roofs owned by Russell Hill, Frank Eisler and Ed Ahrens, and from the house of Jack Siemon. Carl Hillebrecht on the 6th concession had his barn roof loosened. It had just been newly shingled. New barn doors were blown in and smashed, staples were pulled out of the back doors.

Part of the barn roof on the Wm. Ryan farm on the 8th concession was lifted and some shingles were taken off the Harry Muegge and Wm. Vock barns on the same line. Part of the roof of the Wm. Rapien barn near Bornholm was removed. As far as can be ascertained only a few shingles were scattered about in the Brodhagen area.

A considerable piece of the barn roof was carried away on the Lawrence Barker farm where the heaviest damage occurred on the second concession. The barn was very badly shifted and the foundation is ready to fall. A colony house was dislodged, a chimney torn from the house, hydro wires were down and posts broken off. Trees also felt the weight of the blast.

On the same line the south side of the Regan barn roof was torn off and trees snapped. Shingles on one side of the barn on the Ivan Higginson property were ripped off, twelve trees around the house blew down, a couple falling on the roof of the driving shed. The orchard felt the