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Tornado  
Ont

July 4 1983

\*\* ACROSS CANADA \*\*  
 \*\*\* Tornado damages \*\*\*  
 \*\* Haliburton marina \*\*

HALIBURTON, Ont. (CP) - A tornado touched down yesterday evening in this village 80 kilometres north of Peterborough, causing an estimated \$250,000 in damage, police said. No injuries were reported in the storm, which uprooted trees and caused part of the roof of a local marina to collapse. The tornado threw boats and trailers onto a nearby highway and caused structural damage to several buildings. It also blew out windows in a downtown hardware store and numerous private homes, police said.  
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# Haliburton tornado tosses boats 200 feet

By Pauline Johnson Toronto Star

A tornado hurled boats through the air and ripped the roof off a house near Haliburton last night, causing \$250,000 damage.

No one was hurt, but it was a close call for Dysart resident Don Heppleston, 58, and his family.

"We heard a crashing sound, looked up and saw water pouring in where the roof used to be," Heppleston said. "We were lucky to escape with our lives."

The retired real estate broker was in the house at about 6.30 p.m. with his wife Joan, 55, and his uncle, 82-year old Gil Brazeau, a visitor from Windsor.

Heppleston said it was raining and the trees were bending in the wind, but they had no warning of the disaster. The two-storey home, which he bought almost exactly one year ago, lost almost three-quarters of its roof and furniture and collectibles were damaged by water.

## Helped out

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police helped the family out of the house, which was surrounded by felled trees.

Heppleston spoke to The Star by candlelight from the Lakeview Motel on Highway 21, which was plunged into darkness by a power cut caused by the storm.

In Haliburton, 3.2 kilometres (two miles) away, the worst damage was at the Haliburton Marine yard. Two rows of boats, some 30 feet long, were tossed in the air like matchsticks.

One crashed through the roof of a large building in a lumber yard next door.

"It's pretty amazing the amount of damage that could be done in just a few seconds," said resident Len Pizzey, editor of the Haliburton County Echo and Minden Recorder, a weekly newspaper.

"People told me they saw one boat picked up and thrown as much as 200 feet (61 metres) away," Pizzey said.

Power was also knocked out in parts of Orillia and Medonte Township.

## LET A SMILE BE YOUR UMBRELLA



KAREN MILLER, 17, can still smile despite her harrowing experience when a tornado touched

down in Haliburton Monday, hitting the marina where she works and a lumberyard next door.

—mark stewart, sun

# Twister trash cleanup

By MARK STEWART  
Staff Writer

Haliburton residents yesterday began the job of cleaning up the wreckage of a tornado that severely ravaged two businesses and caused damage of more than a quarter of a million dollars.

The tornado hit the village Monday night, extensively damaging a marina and a lumber company, ripping into a house and knocking down numerous TV antennas and trees.

There were no injuries.

"I just heard it but I was too scared to look," Haliburton Marine Ltd. employee Karen Miller, 17, said.

Miller was working in the marina's gas shed.

"When I heard the loud noises, I looked outside and saw things flying around. I ducked under the counter and hid," Miller said.

She grabbed the cash box and telephone and called her fiance for help when "the place started falling apart. The telephone was ripped right out of my hand."

Marina co-owner Lyle McKnight,

53, said boats and motors were tossed hundreds of feet. "The boats landed on the highway. A piece of one boat was found in Haliburton village," he said.

McKnight estimates the damage to his business at close to \$100,000, with another \$50,000 damage to customers' boats, a number of engines and snow machines.