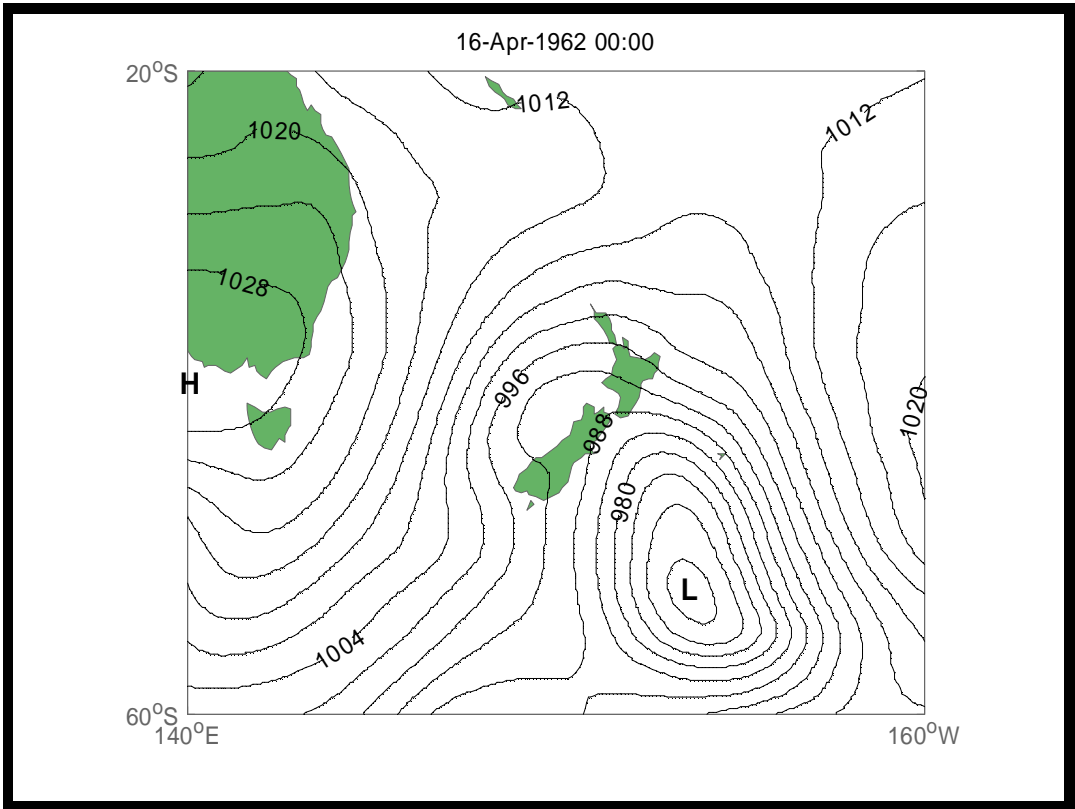


Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 15-16 Apr 1962	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: Subtropics	Pressure Gradient: S to SSE
Type: Trough	



Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone developed near 22S off the NE Australia coast (Coral sea) and moved southeastward and through Cook Strait. On the 15th, the cyclone was off the Canterbury coast with a very strong SE airstream on its southwestern side that swept over the eastern South Island. The cyclone then moved southward but still covered NZ with a trough. A strong southerly airstream remained on the western side of the cyclone off the east coast of the South Island but did not directly affect the North Island. However, this system was responsible for the large swells experienced on Wellington's south coast.

Sea Conditions

Huge seas on Welly south coast

Impact Area

Wellington

Impacts and Damages

- Widespread disruption to air services with every airport between Christchurch and Auckland
- 33ft launch smashed up at Island Bay by exceptionally heavy seas
- Ngauranga Stream overflowed its banks and floodwaters over Cuba Street, and flooding in Petone, and the Porirua railway station
- Makara Beach had 3ft of water over road at one stage
- Debris spread across road between Point Howard to Days Bay
- Very rough seas at Lyall Bay

Impact Area	Impacts and Damages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cook Strait seas flowed over the airport breakwater at Moa Point• Record low barometric pressure of 976 hPa
Canterbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yachts were driven ashore in Akaroa harbour due to heavy seas
Otago	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heaviest seas for years on North Otago coastline smashed through Oamaru harbour breakwater

Data Source

- 1 NAC Busy at Restoring Air Services: Evening Post, 16/04/1962, p17
 - 2 Wellington Area Suffers During Violent Weekend Storm: Evening Post, 16/04/1962, p17
 - 3 North Island Hit by Sudden Storm: Evening Post, 16/04/1962, p6
 - 4 It was More Like a Spilling at Moa Point Breakwater: Evening Post, 16/04/1962, p16
 - 5 Big Seas on Coast of North Otago: Gisborne Herald, 17/04/1962, p10
 - 6 Boats Wrecked During Storm in Canterbury: Gisborne Herald, 17/04/1962, p10
 - 7 Wellington Flooding - Disruption of Services: Gisborne Herald, 16/04/1962, p8
 - 8 District Lashed by 63 MPH Gale: Damage and Disruption: Gisborne Herald, 16/04/1962, p8
 - 9 Havoc from Gale over Wairoa Area: Gisborne Herald, 16/04/1962, p8
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