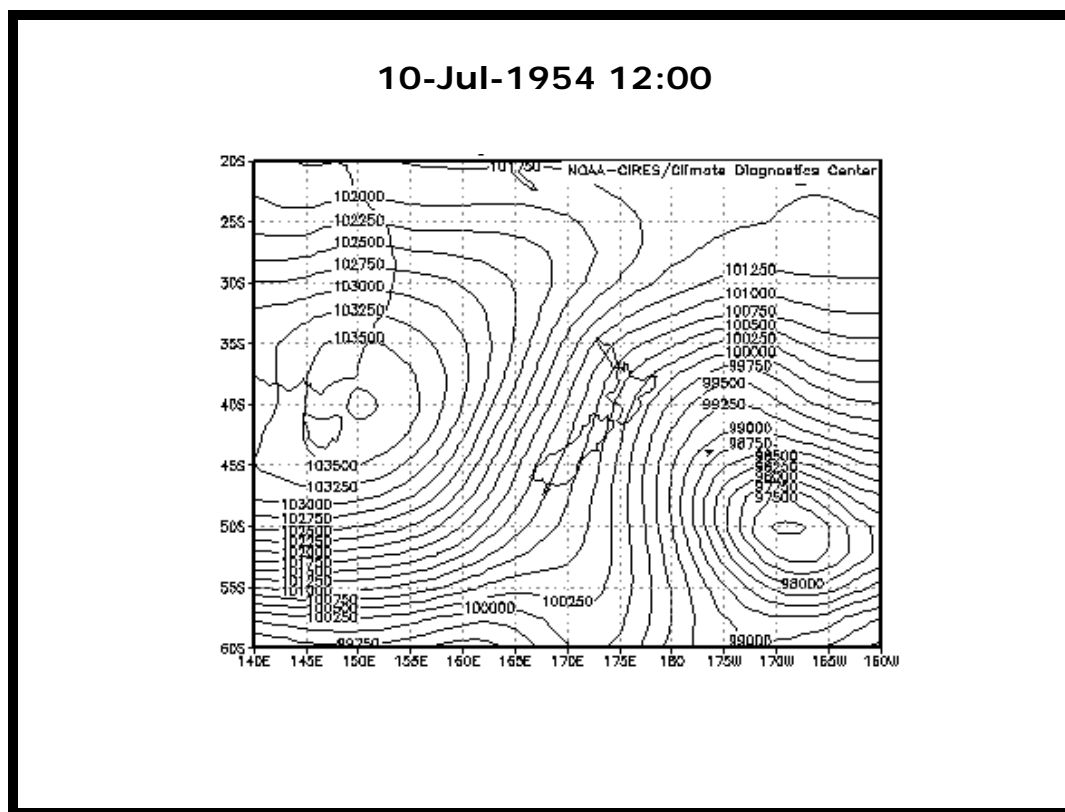


# Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: <b>9-10 Jul 1954</b>	Wind Direction: <b>SW</b>
Event Type: <b>Wave</b>	Gisborne Duration (Hours): <b>-</b>
Location: <b>Wellington</b>	Wellington Duration (Hours): <b>-</b>
Origin: <b>Subtropics</b>	Pressure Gradient: <b>S to SSW</b>
Type: <b>Trough</b>	



## Synoptic Conditions

A cyclone developed near Lord Howe Island from a trough extending southward west of New Caledonia. The cyclone then tracked east to southeast-ward through Cook Strait. On the 9th, this cyclone was southeast of the Chatham Islands and had extended a trough over the eastern North Island. With the eastward movement of a Tasman sea anticyclone towards this trough, a strong S to SSW airstream was created over the eastern South Island and Cook Strait area and spread up the eastern North Island on the 10th

## Sea Conditions

Big seas on Wellington south coast

## Impact Area

Gisborne  
Wellington

## Impacts and Damages

- Lots of snow in hill country around city
- Washout on the railway line between city and Petone halted train services
- Snow fell on hills around city; first time in 15 years
- Waves breaking over the Petone foreshore and reaching esplanade
- Fences, garages, roofs blown down and small trees uprooted around city
- Power cuts to some suburbs
- Flights cancelled at airport
- High winds destroyed one side of the Te Aro baths and a dressing shed near Oriental Bay

Impact Area	Impacts and Damages
Wairarapa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Raging seas damaged seawall at Eastbourne (breached in three places); concrete steps washed at Island Bay and another set undermined</li> <li>● One coastal vessel returned to Port due to rough conditions outside the harbour</li> <li>● Large quantities of sand washed up on beaches (and roads?) that bulldozers required to remove it; lots of sand forced up under buildings and damaged structures (Island Bay)</li> <li>● Inter-island ferry 'Rangatira' didn't leave port on Saturday (10th) due to high seas and winds; first disruption in 7 years (since 27 June 1947)</li> <li>● Waves swept across roads around Seatoun, throwing boulders onto road, gardens and driveways</li> <li>● Yacht smashed to pieces at Island Bay after breaking free of mooring, and another broke free at Worser Bay</li> <li>● Heavy seas along south coast and in harbour; from Berhampore, waves were seen breaking over the big island at Island Bay</li> <li>● High seas destroyed northern wall of men's changing sheds at Lyall Bay; erosion behind concrete seawall at Worser Bay</li> <li>● Telephone and power lines damaged throughout region and roofing iron removed from houses</li> <li>● Inch of snow covered the beach at Castlepoint;</li> <li>● Seaside baches received minor damages from strong winds (e.g. fallen chimneys)</li> </ul>

### Data Source

- 1 Gale Tears Iron from Roofs in Wairarapa: Dominion Post, 12/07/1954, p8
- 2 104M.P.H Southerly Lashes Capital: New Zealand Herald, 12/07/1954, p8
- 3 Trail of Damage in Wake of Southerly: Evening Post, 12/07/1954, p10
- 4 Vicious Southerly Causes Damage over Wide Area: Dominion Post, 12/07/1954, p8
- 5 Considerable Damage in Record Southerly: Evening Post, 10/07/1954, p12
- 6 Capital has First Fall of Snow in Fifteen Years: Dominion Post, 10/07/1954, p12
- 7 Icy-Cold Storm Sweeps District Bringing Snow: Gisborne Herald, 12/07/1954, p8
- 8 Storm Brings Snow in Hills, High Winds: Gisborne Herald, 10/07/1954, p8
- 9 Wellington Shivers in Damaging Southerly: Gisborne Herald, 10/07/1954, p8