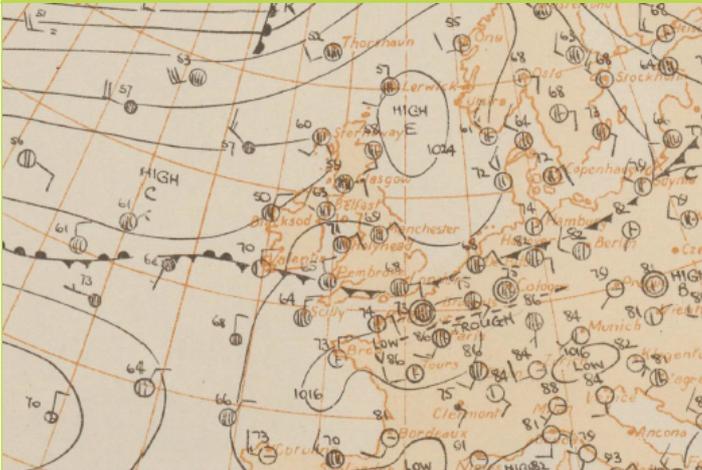


Weather chart for 1200 UTC on 18 July 1955



General summary

Scotland and Northern Ireland, apart from misty low cloud and outbreaks of drizzle down the east coast, had a fine day with good spells of sunshine especially across western areas. England and Wales were much cloudier and although dry across northern areas, southern counties of both England and Wales saw outbreaks of rain, locally heavy with thunder. The rain slowly died away during the evening although some heavier bursts were still possible along the south coast. Scotland and Northern Ireland had a fine evening although low cloud and drizzle continued to plague the east coast from time to time. Temperatures were about average generally in a light east or north-easterly breeze across most areas. However, winds across the far northwest of Scotland were light and from the west or southwest.

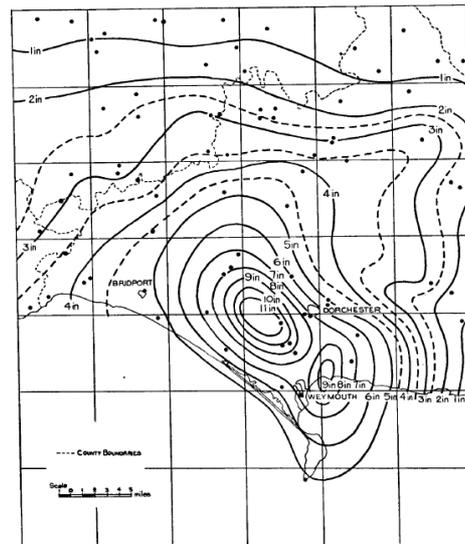
Significant weather event

Severe thunderstorms occurred across southern England and South Wales with some remarkable falls of rain in a very short period of time.

At Dorchester (South Court Avenue), more than 3 inches of rain fell in 3 hours; Litton Cheney, 4.48 inches fell in 2¾ hours; Upway 6.55 inches in 6½ hours. At Martinstown where the fall of 11 inches in a day was recorded, it is believed that 7.5 inches fell in about 5 hours.

Highest 24 hour 0900-0900 totals: All for Dorset

Martinstown, Chantry 279.4 mm (11.00 inches)
 Upway, Friar Waddon P.S. 241.3 mm (9.50 inches)
 Upway, Higher Well 228.6 mm (9.00 inches)
 Upway, Elwell 211.1 mm (8.31 inches)
 Wynford House 200.7 mm (7.90 inches)
 Dorchester, Queens Avenue 190.5 mm (7.50 inches)



Rainfall map (inches) for 18 July 1955

Daily weather extremes

Highest Maximum Temperature

23.9 °C at Bristol (Gloucestershire)

Lowest Minimum Temperature

4.4 °C at Stornoway Airport (Western Isles)

Most Rainfall

279.4 mm at Martinstown, Chantry (Dorset)

Most Sunshine

13.4 hours at Tiree (Argyll)