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TORNADO HITS SOUTH AFRICA

For the second time in 30 years, disaster visits the mining town of Reedepoort, 12 miles from Johannesburg on the main Gold Reef. Bursting over the town with the fury of an atom bomb, a tornado leaves a trail of havoc in its path. Two square miles are devastated.

Red Cross workers are in action within hours of the tragedy. Casualty lists name seven dead, hundreds injured. Thousands made homeless, receive temporary shelter, and food.

Survivors of this, the worst natural disaster in recent Union history, say that torrential rain came first; a hailstorm followed, then the tornado. Five minutes sufficed to render the town unrecognizable.

Many recall a similar storm which struck the town just after World War One. Cleaners search the rubble of their homes.

A Government Fund is being raised to speed the work of relief. The tornado has passed - but years of rebuilding lie ahead.