

Re: Question for the Netherlands

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.meteorology/2005-09/msg00036.html>

- *From:* Rich <nospam@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 06 Sep 2005 12:07:58 +0200
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Athiest 4 Bush wrote:

What would happen if the 1953 storm were to strike the Netherlands today?

I guess that all depends on whom you ask. Personally I would not be too scared about a feb.'53 type of storm. But then again, it all depends on timing. High water (or better, extreme high tides) along with very strong winds and the associated wall of water, being just in the right place were maintenance has been, well .. say .. not up to standards, well .. you've seen to what that can lead.

How did the 1953 storm compare to the All Saints' Day storm?

Dude, use Google a bit more often! :) .. One quick ref I pulled from the KNMI site:

http://www.knmi.nl/kenniscentrum/watersnood_1953_ergste_natuurramp.html

... but then again, it does depend on you being able to read a Dutch text. Not sure though if something similar exists in English. Most important quote from the article:

"De zeldzaamheid van de stormvloed van 1953 is vooral te wijten aan de extreme waterstanden." which more or less translates to "The stormsurge of 1953 is exceptional because of the extreme waterlevels". Sooo .. a 53 kinda storm in itself is not really a thing to worry much about. However, when timing is really off (an exceptional stormsurge combined with high spring at precisely the right time (which wasn't the case even in '53!)) things could become messy ...

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"The Earth is just too small and fragile a basket for the human race to keep all its eggs in."
Robert Heinlein

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