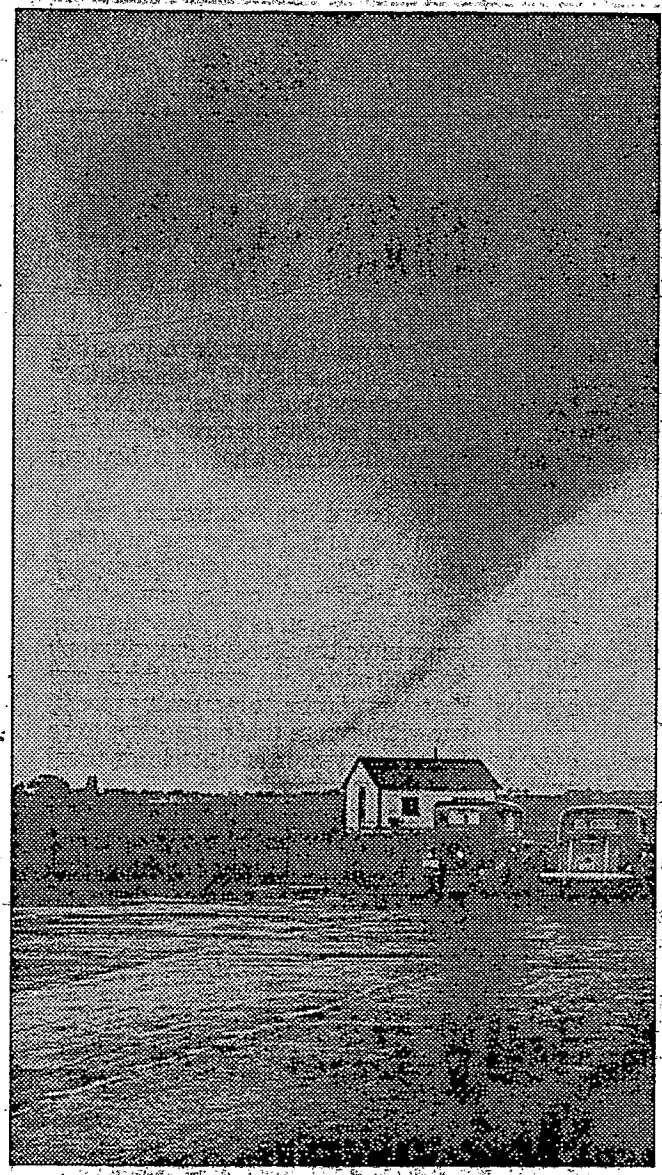


This Windsor Daily Star photo, taken at the Windsor airport, shows the legendary June 17, 1946 twister as it lays waste to the Walker Road area. It cut a swath about 91 metres wide and 56 km long, killing 17 people and injuring more than 200. The June 18 issue of The Star, written by candlelight, was printed by The Detroit News. Under the masthead were news and photos gathered by staff of both papers. The Star published an extra edition from its own plant later in the day.

Star Library photo

Chronology of twisters to hit area

Tornadoes to hit city

DATE	TIME	FORCE
July 16, 1980	8:36 a.m.	F2
April 3, 1974	8:10 p.m.	F3
June 25, 1958	2 p.m.	F1
May 12, 1956	5:45 p.m.	F2
June 9, 1950	5 p.m.	F1
March 28, 1948	1:42 p.m.	F2
June 27, 1946	2:30 p.m.	F1
June 17, 1946	6 p.m.	F4
June 16. 1946	7:17 p.m.	F1

(Five of the nine touching down in Windsor ranged from tornadoes with considerable, serious to devastating damage. The remaining four were rated F1, with moderate damage reported.)

Essex County/Pelee Island tornadoes

June 28, 1994, time unavailable, Gosfield South Township
Aug. 19, 1991, 6 p.m., Essex
July 7, 1991, 8 p.m., Harrow
June 20, 1971, 7:30 p.m., McGregor
July 4, 1969, 5:30 p.m., near Harrow
July 4, 1969, 5:30 p.m., Amherstburg
June 27, 1969, 2 p.m., near Leamington
June 18, 1962, 3 p.m., near Wheatley
June 18, 1962, 3 p.m., Kingsville/Leamington area
June 25, 1958, 2:52 p.m., near Kingsville
April 5, 1957, 3 p.m., Pelee Island
July 14, 1946, 3 p.m., Belle River
June 16, 1946, 8:30 p.m., McGregor
July 1, 1944, 2 a.m., Tilbury

(The intensity of all tornadoes in Essex County and Pelee Island were rated as F1, with the exception of Tilbury in 1944, which was rated F2.)

Source: Environment Canada

TORNADO SAFETY TIPS

Tornado Watch: Environment Canada issues a watch when conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes. A watch typically covers a large area and states there is a risk of a severe thunderstorm and tornadoes developing. Usually issued later in the day, watches last between three and six hours, but can be extended. People living in the areas affected should put away small objects, such as garbage cans and bicycles, that could become dangerous missiles in a high wind. Children should be kept under

quickly, it may be issued by Environment Canada from only 30 minutes – or up to a maximum of two hours – before a storm hits. More specific than a watch, people in the area should take shelter immediately.

Telltale signs of a tornado:

- A humid day, often with plenty of sunshine before the storm
- Clouds form in the shape of an anvil