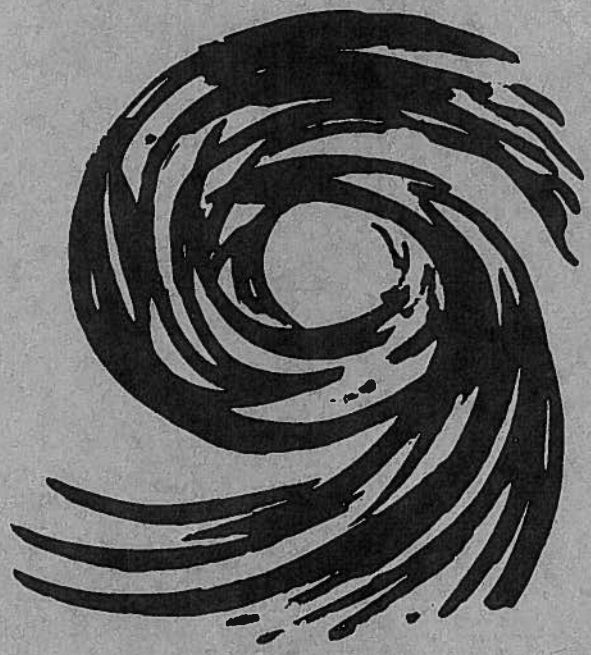
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FEDERAL COORDINATOR FOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

National Hurricane Operations Plan

FCM-P12-1986



Washington, D.C.
1986

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL COORDINATOR FOR METEOROLOGICAL
SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

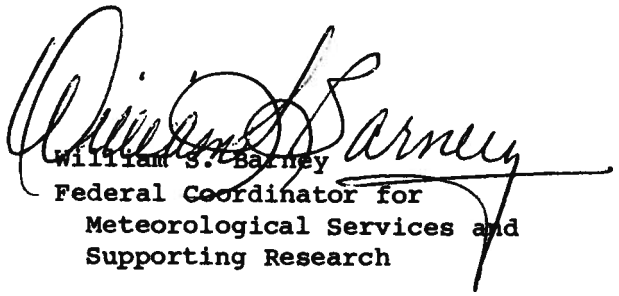
NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

FCM-P 12-1986
May 1986
Washington, D.C.

FOREWORD

An Interdepartmental Plan was first issued in 1962. This document is the 24th edition and presents procedures and agreements reached at the 40th annual Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference held at the USAF Conference Center, Homestead Air Force Base, Florida, 7-10 January 1986.

The Conference is sponsored annually by the Committee for Basic Services, Interdepartmental Committee For Meteorological Services and Supporting Research, and brings together cognizant Federal agencies to achieve agreement on items of mutual concern related to hurricane warning services. The host this year for the Conference was Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Illinois.



William S. Barney
Federal Coordinator for
Meteorological Services and
Supporting Research

NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

(ATLANTIC, EASTERN PACIFIC, AND CENTRAL PACIFIC)

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APPENDICES

NOTE: Significant changes from the previous edition are highlighted by a solid line on the left margin or on the bottom of the page.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. General. The Tropical Cyclone Warning Service is an interdepartmental effort to provide the United States and designated international recipients with forecasts, warnings, and assessments concerning tropical and subtropical weather systems. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is responsible for providing forecasts and warnings for the Atlantic, and Eastern and Central Pacific Oceans, while the Department of Defense (DOD) provides the same for the West Pacific and Indian Oceans. Interdepartmental cooperation achieves economy and efficiency in the operation of the Tropical Cyclone Warning Service. This plan provides the basis for implementing the agreements of the Department of Commerce (DOC), Department of Defense, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) reached at the annual Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference (combined Atlantic and Pacific). The Hurricane Conference is sponsored by the Committee for Basic Services, Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research, to bring together cognizant Federal agencies and achieve agreement on items of mutual concern related to the Atlantic and Pacific Tropical Cyclone Warning Services.

2. Scope. The procedures and agreements contained herein apply to the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, and North Pacific east of the 180th meridian. This plan is intended to define the role of the individual agencies (organizations) participating in the hurricane warning service when more than one agency (organization) is involved in the delivery of service in any specific area. When a single agency (organization) is involved in any specific area, that agency's (organization's) procedures should be contained in internal documents and, to the extent possible, be consistent with NHOP practices and procedures.

3. Terms used in this Plan:

a. Center Fix. The location of the center of a tropical or subtropical cyclone obtained by means other than reconnaissance aircraft penetration.

b. Cyclone. An atmospheric closed-circulation rotating counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere.

c. Eye. The relatively calm center of a tropical cyclone which is more than 1/2 surrounded by wall cloud.

d. Hurricane Season. The portion of the year having a relatively high incidence of hurricanes. In the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, this is the period from June through November; in the eastern Pacific, May 15 through November 30; and in the central Pacific the period from June through November.

e. Hurricane Warning Offices (HWO). The designated hurricane warning offices are: the National Hurricane Center, Miami, Florida; the Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center, Redwood City, California; and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

f. Hurricane Warning. A warning that sustained winds of 74 miles an hour (64 knots) or higher associated with a hurricane are expected in a specified coastal area in 24 hours or less. A hurricane warning can remain in effect when dangerously high water or a combination of dangerourly high water and exceptionally high waves continue, even though winds may be less than hurricane force.

g. Hurricane Watch. An announcement for specific areas that a hurricane or an incipient hurricane condition poses a possible threat to coastal areas generally within 36 hours.

h. Miles. The term "miles" used in this plan refers to nautical miles unless otherwise indicated.

i. Mission Identifier. The nomenclature assigned to tropical and subtropical cyclone aircraft reconnaissance missions for weather data identification. It comprises an agency - aircraft indicator followed by a Chief, Aerial Reconnaissance Coordination, All Hurricane (CARCAH) assigned mission-system indicator.

j. Present Movement. The best estimate of the movement of the center of a tropical cyclone at a given time and at a given position. This estimate does not reflect the short-period, small-scale oscillations of the cyclone center.

k. Reconnaissance Aircraft Sorties. A flight which meets the requirements of the tropical cyclone plan of the day (TCPOD).

l. Relocated. A term used in an advisory to indicate that a vector drawn from the preceding advisory position to the latest-known position is not necessarily a reasonable representation of the cyclone's movement.

m. Storm Surge. An abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm, and whose height is the difference between the observed level of the sea surface and the level that would have occurred in the absence of the cyclone. Storm surge is usually estimated by substracting the normal or astronomic tide from the observed storm tide.

n. Storm Tide. The actual level of sea water resulting from the astronomic tide combined with the storm surge.

o. Subtropical Cyclone. A low-pressure system developing over subtropical waters which initially has a non-tropical circulation but in which some elements of tropical cyclone cloud structure are present.

(1) Subtropical Depression. A subtropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (1-minute mean) is 33 knots (38 statute mph) or less.

(2) Subtropical Storm. A subtropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (1-minute mean) is 34 knots (39 statute mph) or greater.

p. Synoptic Track. Weather reconnaissance mission flown to provide vital meteorological information in data sparse ocean areas as a supplement to existing surface, radar and satellite data. Synoptic flights better define the upper atmosphere and aid in the prediction of tropical cyclone development and movement.

q. Tropical Cyclone Plan of the Day. A coordinated mission plan that tasks operational weather reconnaissance requirements during the next 05Z to 05Z day or as required; describes reconnaissance flights committed to satisfy both operational and research requirements; and identifies possible reconnaissance requirements for the succeeding 24-hour period.

r. Tropical Weather Systems:

(1) Tropical Disturbance. A discrete system of apparently organized convection--generally 100 to 300 miles in diameter--originating in the tropics or subtropics, having a nonfrontal migratory character and maintaining its identity for 24 hours or more. It may or may not be associated with a detectable perturbation of the wind field. As such, it is the basic generic designation, which in successive stages of intensification, may be classified as a tropical wave, depression, storm, or hurricane.

(2) Tropical Wave. A trough or cyclonic curvature maximum in the trade-wind easterlies. The wave may reach maximum amplitude in the lower middle troposphere or may be the reflection of an upper troposphere cold-low or equatorial extension of a middle-latitude trough.

(3) Tropical Cyclone. A warm-core, nonfrontal low pressure system of synoptic scale developing over tropical or subtropical waters and having a definite organized surface circulation.

(a) Tropical Depression. A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (1-minute mean) is 33 knots (38 statute mph) or less.

(b) Tropical Storm. A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (1-minute mean) ranges from 34 knots (39 statute mph) or more.

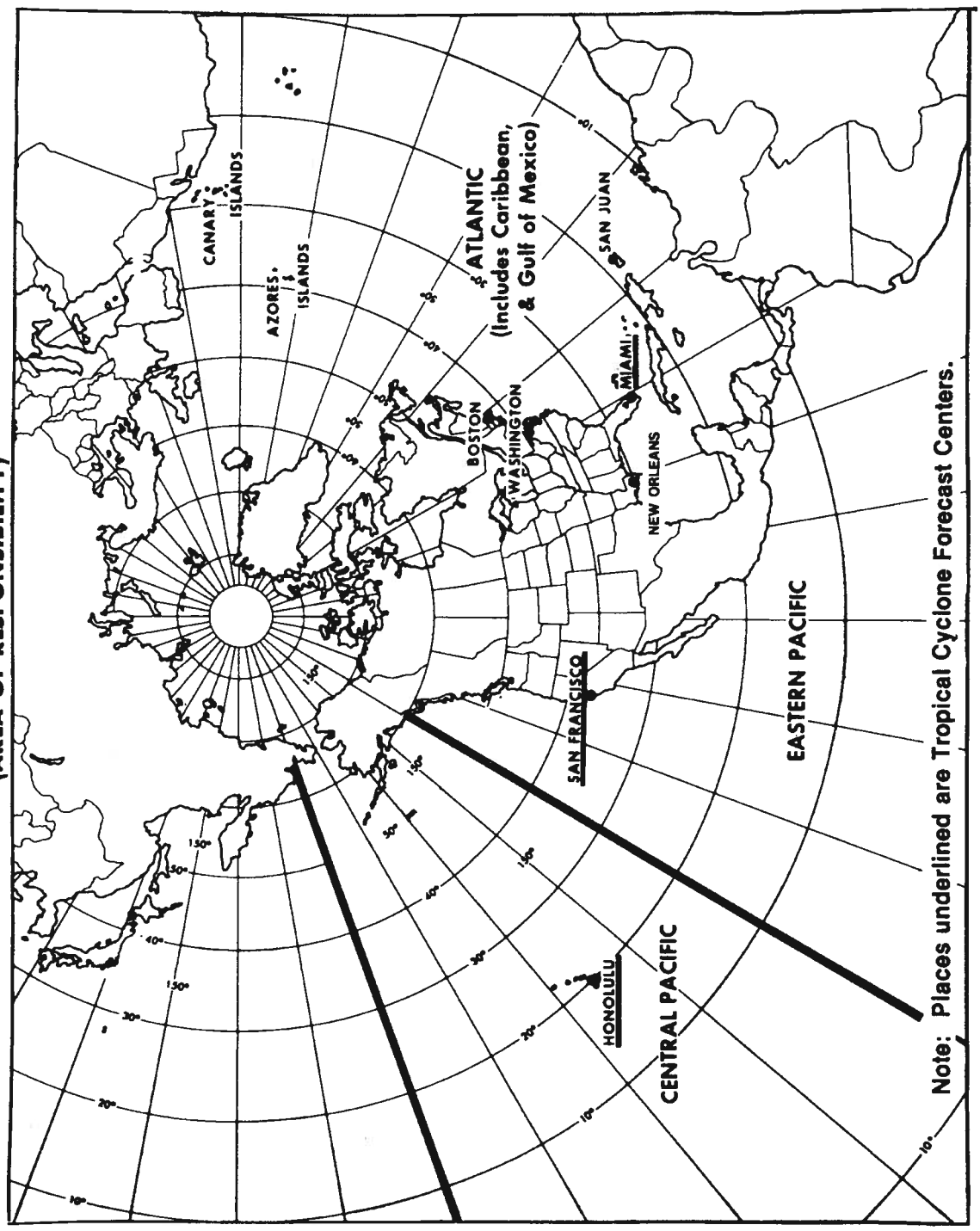
(c) Hurricane/Typhoon. A warm core tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (one-minute mean) is 64 knots (74 miles per hour) or more.

s. Vortex Fix. The location of the surface and/or flight level center of a tropical or subtropical cyclone obtained by reconnaissance aircraft penetration.

t. Wall Cloud. An organized band of cumuliform clouds immediately surrounding the center of a tropical cyclone. Wall cloud and eye wall are used synonymously.

NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

(AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY)



CHAPTER 2

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COOPERATING FEDERAL AGENCIES

1. General. The Department of Commerce is charged with the overall responsibility for the implementation of a responsive, effective national hurricane warning system. Many local, state and Federal agencies play a vital role in this system -- their cooperative efforts help insure necessary preparedness actions are undertaken to minimize loss of life and property destruction. The joint participation by the Department of Defense and the Department of Transportation with the Department of Commerce brings to bear those limited and expensive Federal resources considered essential to storm detection and accurate forecasting. This cooperative effort has proven to be a cost-effective, highly responsive endeavor to meet national requirements for hurricane warning information.

2. Department of Commerce (DOC) Responsibilities. The DOC will:

a. Provide timely dissemination of forecasts, warnings and all significant information regarding tropical and subtropical cyclones to appropriate agencies, general public, marine, and aviation interests.

b. Through the National Weather Service (NWS), provide the following additional support/services to the Department of Defense (DOD):

(1) Consult, as necessary, with DOD regarding their day-to-day requirements for cyclone assessments and attempt to meet these requirements within the capabilities of the Hurricane Warning Service.

(2) Prepare, through the National Hurricane Center (NHC), and distribute to DOD the coordinated DOC reconnaissance and other meteorological data requirements to be provided by DOD on tropical/subtropical cyclones and disturbances.

(3) Provide facilities, administrative support, and dissemination of weather observation data for Operating Location-G (OL-G), Air Weather Service (AWS) as agreed to by DOC and DOD.

(4) Provide DOD with basic meteorological information, warnings, forecasts, and associated prognostic reasoning concerning location, intensity and forecast movement of tropical and subtropical cyclones in the following maritime areas and adjacent states and possessions of the United States:

(a) Atlantic Ocean (north of the Equator including Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico) - advices are the responsibility of the Director, NHC, Miami, FL. (NHC will consult with Naval Eastern Oceanography Center (NAVEASTOCEANCEN) Norfolk, VA, prior to issuance of an initial and final advisories and prior to issuance of any advisory which indicates a significant change in forecast of intensity or track from the last advisory.) Exchange of information is encouraged on subsequent warnings when significant changes are made, or as otherwise required.

(b) Eastern Pacific Ocean (north of the Equator and east of 140°W) - advices are the responsibility of the Director, Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center (EPHC), Redwood City, CA. [EPHC will consult with Naval Western Oceanography Center (NAVWESTOCEANCEN), Pearl Harbor, HI, before issuance of initial and final advisories and prior to issuance of any advisory which indicates a significant change in forecast of intensity or track from last advisory.]

(c) Central Pacific Ocean (north of the Equator between 140°W and 180°) - advices are the responsibility of Director, Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC), Honolulu, HI. [CPHC will consult with NAVWESTOCEANCEN Pearl Harbor, HI, and Detachment 4, 20th Weather Squadron, Hickam AFB, HI, before issuance of an initial and final advisories and prior to issuance of any advisory which indicates a significant change in forecast of intensity or track from last advisory.] Exchange of information is encouraged on subsequent warnings when significant changes are made, or as otherwise required.

c. Through the NWS, conduct an annual post analysis for all tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and the Pacific regions east of 180° and prepare an annual hurricane report for issuance to interested agencies.

d. Through the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS), operate DOC environmental satellite systems capable of providing coverage of meteorological conditions in the Tropics during the tropical cyclone season, and monitor and interpret DOC satellite imagery. Obtain as necessary National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) research/development satellite and DOD operational satellite data for NWS operational use. Comply with NHC, EPHC, and CPHC satellite data requirements.

e. Through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Data Buoy Center (NDBC), develop, deploy, and operate environmental data buoy systems to support data requirements of NHC, EPHC, and CPHC.

f. Through the NOAA Office of Aircraft Operations (OAO), provide weather reconnaissance flights as specified in Chapter 5, unless relieved of these responsibilities by the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

g. Through NOAA, reimburse the U.S. Air Force (USAF) for the aircraft reconnaissance flown in support of this plan in accordance with the NOAA/USAF memorandum of understanding, dated 16 March 1976 (see Appendix II).

3. Department of Defense (DOD) Responsibilities. The DOD will:

a. Provide NWS with timely dissemination of significant information received regarding tropical and subtropical cyclones.

b. Provide NHC, EPHC, and CPHC current DOD requirements for tropical and subtropical cyclone advices.

c. Meet DOC requirements for aircraft reconnaissance and other special observations as agreed to by DOD and DOC (see Appendix II).

d. Provide at NHC a 24-hour aircraft operation interface as necessary, (Chief, Aerial Reconnaissance Coordination, All Hurricanes--CARCAH).

e. Designate OL-G, AWS as the liaison to NHC and the military point of contact for NHC to request special DOD observations in support of this Plan, i.e., Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) fixes, additional upper air observations, etc.

f. Provide broadcast facilities of radio station NAM for tropical storm and hurricane forecasts and warnings.

g. Provide access to North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) Command long- range radar sites (See Chapter 7).

h. Provide weather reconnaissance data monitor services to evaluate and disseminate reconnaissance reports.

i. AFGWC, through analysis of satellite imagery obtained primarily from the DMSP system, will provide surveillance support and fixes/intensity estimates to all United States tropical cyclone warning agencies.

4. Department of Transportation (DOT) Responsibilities. The DOT will:

a. Provide NWS with timely dissemination of significant information received regarding tropical and subtropical cyclones.

b. Through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), provide air traffic control, communication, and flight assistance services.

c. Through the U.S. Coast Guard, provide personnel, vessel, and communication support to NDBC for development, deployment, and operation of moored environmental data buoy systems; provide surface observations to NWS from its coastal facilities and vessels; provide communication circuits for relay of weather observations to NWS in selected areas; provide primary guard Autodin support to OL-G, AWS; and provide coastal broadcast facilities at selected locations for tropical storm/hurricane forecasts and warnings.

5. DOD, DOC, and DOT will cooperate in arranging an annual trip to the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico area to carry out a continuing and effective liaison of the warning service with the Directors of Meteorological Services, Air Traffic Control Agencies, and Disaster Preparedness Agencies of nations in those areas.

6. ATC/Flight Operations Coordination. The operations officers of the principal flying units and the assistant managers for traffic management at key Air Route Traffic Control Centers (ARTCCs) will maintain a close working relationship on a continuing basis to ensure mission success under actual hurricane conditions. This will involve visits to each other's facilities, familiarization flights, and telephone and teletype communications to improve the understanding of each other's requirements and capabilities.

a. The 53WRS, 815WRS, and OAO (operations officers) shall maintain a close working relationship with the appropriate ARTCC and the Fleet Aerial Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) for the coordination of weather reconnaissance flights in the Gulf of Mexico and over the Carribean Sea in particular, and in the United States in general. The operations officer will:

(1) Request the assistance of the appropriate ARTCC/FACSFAC in support of the National Hurricane Operations Plan.

(2) Provide current operations officer's name and telephone number to appropriate ARTCC and FACSFAC.

(3) Publish unit's telephone numbers (FTS/Autovon/Commercial) and teletype address code for Service B (Chapter 5, Appendix C).

b. Miami and Houston ARTCCs and appropriate FACSFAC shall maintain a close working relationship with the hurricane reconnaissance units and provide airspace and air traffic control assistance to the extent possible. Those organizations will:

(1) Provide current name and telephone number of point of contact to flying units.

(2) Publish telephone numbers (FTS/Autovon/Commercial) and teletype code for Service B (Chapter 5, Appendix C).

CHAPTER 3

GENERAL OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HURRICANE CENTERS

1. General. This chapter describes the products, procedures, and communications headers used by the National Hurricane Center (NHC), Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center (EPHC), and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC).

2. Products.

a. Tropical Weather Outlook. Issued by NHC, CPHC, and EPHC during their respective hurricane seasons. In the Atlantic, it is transmitted at 0530, 1130, 1730, and 2230 Eastern Local Time (ELT). In the Central Pacific, it is transmitted at 1000Z and 2200Z. In the Eastern Pacific, it is transmitted at 1000Z and 2130Z. The outlook will briefly describe both stable and potentially unstable areas out to 48 hours. A tropical weather summary of Atlantic tropical cyclone activity will be prepared and issued at the end of each month during the hurricane season.

b. Tropical Cyclone Discussion.

(1) NHC will issue a Tropical Cyclone Discussion on Atlantic tropical cyclones at 0330Z, 0930Z, 1530Z, and 2130Z. Discussion will be disseminated for intragovernmental use only and will contain preliminary prognostic positions up to 72 hours; will describe objective techniques, synoptic features, and climatology used; and will provide reasons for track changes.

(2) EPHC and CPHC will issue a Tropical Cyclone Discussion twice daily. EPHC will issue discussions not later than 0900Z and 2100Z. CPHC will issue the discussions not later than 0330Z and 1530Z. The discussion will describe objective techniques, synoptic features and climatology used; and will provide reasons for track changes.

c. Public Advisories. Issued by NHC for all named tropical cyclones in the Atlantic, for tropical depressions when they are forecast to affect or are affecting and for subtropical storms when they are forecast to affect or are affecting the U.S. Mainland, U.S. territories, or U.S. installations. In the Eastern Pacific, public advisories are issued for storms and hurricanes that are expected to affect the United States within 48 hours. In the Central Pacific, public advisories are issued for all named storms and hurricanes within its area of responsibility. Scheduled public advisories are issued at the same time scheduled marine advisories are issued. When no coastal warnings are included, the 0400Z public advisory will be issued at 0230Z by NHC only. [Note: Public Advisories use statute miles for distance and miles per hour for speed. Nautical miles and knots may be added at the discretion of the Centers.]

d. Marine Advisories. Issued by NHC, EPHC, and CPHC. See chapter 4.3 for content and format of the advisories. Marine Advisories will be transmitted to high-seas shipping according to the details found in Worldwide Marine Weather Broadcasts, jointly published by U.S. Navy (USN) and NWS.

e. Probability of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Conditions.

(1) The probability of the storm center passing within 50 miles to the right or 75 miles to the left of specific forecast points within 24, 36, 48, and 72 hours is included in the marine and public advisories for all named storms in the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico. Probabilities may also be included for yet to be named storms that are developing rapidly near a coast line, dependent upon NHC assessment. Probabilities will not be included on intermediate public advisories. The probabilities, which are based on the official forecast track, will be issued when the 72-hour forecast position approaches the coast and will continue until the hurricane has made landfall and is not expected to reemerge over water. For storms forecast to parallel the coast, maximum value over water points will be included. NHC retains the right to discontinue issuance of probabilities earlier if other factors arise, such as difficulties with evacuation orders.

(2) The probabilities will be computed shortly after synoptic times for the periods 0-24, 24-36, 36-48, and 48-72. A total probability for the next 72 hours will be shown in the last column and represents a total of all forecast periods. If the probability of a storm hitting a coastal location within 48 hours is needed, add the 0-24, 24-36, and 36-48 hour probabilities. If the probability for a location is less than one percent, a "X" will be indicated in the table.

(3) When appropriate, specific probabilities will be computed for the following locations:

Brownsville, Texas	West Palm Beach, Florida
Corpus Christi, Texas	Fort Pierce, Florida
Port O'Connor, Texas	Cocoa Beach, Florida
Galveston, Texas	Daytona Beach, Florida
Port Arthur, Texas	Jacksonville, Florida
New Iberia, Louisiana	Savannah, Georgia
New Orleans, Louisiana	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Buras, Louisiana	Charleston, South Carolina
Gulfport, Mississippi	Wilmington, North Carolina
Mobile, Alabama	Cape Hatteras, North Carolina
Pensacola, Florida	Norfolk, Virginia
Panama City, Florida	Ocean City, Maryland
Apalachicola, Florida	Atlantic City, New Jersey
St. Marks, Florida	New York, New York
Cedar Key, Florida	Montauk Point, New York
Tampa, Florida	Providence, Rhode Island
Venice, Florida	Nantucket, Massachusetts
Fort Myers, Florida	Hyannis, Massachusetts
Marco Island, Florida	Boston, Massachusetts
Key West, Florida	Portland, Maine
Marathon, Florida	Bar Harbor, Maine
Miami, Florida	Eastport, Maine
$29^{\circ}N$ $85^{\circ}W$	$28^{\circ}N$ $93^{\circ}W$
$29^{\circ}N$ $87^{\circ}W$	$28^{\circ}N$ $95^{\circ}W$
$28^{\circ}N$ $89^{\circ}W$	$27^{\circ}N$ $96^{\circ}W$
$28^{\circ}N$ $91^{\circ}W$	$25^{\circ}N$ $97^{\circ}W$

f. Tropical Cyclone Updates. Tropical cyclone updates are brief statements in lieu of or preceding special advisories to inform of significant changes in a tropical cyclone or the posting or cancellation of watches and warnings.

g. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Tropical Cyclone Position Estimates. NHC may also issue hourly Tropical Cyclone Position Estimates when the tropical cyclone is under effective surveillance and within 200 nautical miles of land-based radar. These estimates when issued will be prepared a short time before each hour except at hours when advisories are issued. Position estimates will be disseminated to the public, DOD, and other Federal agencies will provide geographical positions in latitude and longitude, and also by distance and direction from a well-known point.

h. Special Tropical Disturbance Statement. Special tropical disturbance statements may be issued to furnish information on strong formative, non-depression systems.

i. Storm Summaries. Storm summaries are written by the National Severe Storms Forecast Center (NSSFC) after subtropical and tropical cyclones have moved inland and public advisories have been discontinued. Storm summaries will continue to be numbered in sequence with public advisories on named storms. Also, these summaries will reference the former storm's name and be issued as long as the remnants of the storm remain a serious flooding threat. Storm summaries will be transmitted at 0500Z, 1100Z, 1700Z, and 2300Z.

3. Designation of Tropical and Subtropical Cyclones.

a. Numbering of Depressions. Each depression will be assigned a number that will be retained throughout the life of the cyclone. This depression number will not, however, be disseminated on advices after a depression is named as a tropical storm/hurricane or is numbered as a subtropical storm. For each hurricane center's area, numbering will begin with 01 at the start of each calendar year. When forecast responsibility is passed from one warning center too another, the assigned number will be retained.

(1) For the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, depression numbers will be assigned by NHC after advising the NAVEASTOCEANCEN, Norfolk.

(2) For the Pacific area east of longitude 140°W, depression numbers, (with the suffix E, i.e., 1E, 2E, 3E, etc.) will be assigned by EPHC after advising the NAVWESTOCEANCEN, Pearl Harbor.

(3) For the Pacific area west of longitude 140°W and east of 180°, depression numbers (with suffix C, i.e., 1C, 2C, 3C, etc.) will be assigned by CPHC after advising the NAVWESTOCEANCEN, Pearl Harbor.

b. Naming of Tropical Storms and Hurricanes.

(1) Atlantic and Eastern Pacific. A different set of names will be used each year. After a set is used, it will drop to the end of the list, to be used again in six years, except names of significant hurricanes will be retired and replaced with another. Lists of Atlantic and East and Central Pacific names are provided in Appendix A to this chapter.

(2) Central Pacific. When a tropical depression intensifies into a tropical storm or hurricane between longitude 140°W and the 180th meridian, the depression number will be discontinued and replaced by an appropriate name. The CPHC will select the name from the Central Pacific names in Appendix A to this chapter. All of the names listed in eahc column, beginning with colunm 1, will be used before going to the next column.

(3) Western Pacific. For the Pacific area west of longitude 180°, tropical storms and typhoons are named by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), Guam. The names are listed in Appendix A to this chapter for information only.

c. Numbering of Subtropical Storms. When a system becomes a subtropical storm, it will be assigned a storm number to indicate its sequence of occurrence among subtropical storms for that area. Numbering will begin with 1 and be consecutive, returning to 1 each new year.

4. Transfer of Warning Responsibility.

a. When a tropical/subtropical cyclone approaches longitude 140°W, the coordinated transfer of warning responsibility from Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center (EPHC) to Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) will be made and the appropriate advice issued.

b. When a tropical/subtropical cyclone crosses the 180 degree meridian from east to west, the coordinated transfer of warning responsibility from CPHC to the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) through NAVWESTOCEANCEN, Pearl Harbor, will be made and appropriate advice issued.

c. When a tropical/subtropical cyclone crosses the 180 degree meridian from west to east, the coordinated transfer of warning responsibility from JTWC to CPHC will be made through NAVWESTOCEANCEN, Pearl Harbor. JTWC will append the statement "Next Advisory by CPHC-HNL" to their last advisory.

5. Alternate Warning Responsibilities.

a. In the event of impending or actual operational failure of a hurricane forecast center, responsibilities will be transferred to the appropriate alternate facility in accordance with existing directives and retained there until resumption of responsibility is made. Naval Eastern Oceanography Center, Norfolk, will be advised by National Hurricane Center (NHC) and Chief, Aerial Reconnaissance Coordination, All Hurricanes (CARCAH) of impending or actual transfer of responsibility by the most rapid means available.

b. Alternate facilities are as follows:

PRIMARY	ALTERNATE
(1) NHC	WSFO Washington (covers Atlantic only) WSFO New Orleans (covers Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean)
(2) EPHC	NHC

(3) CPHC EPHC

c. In the event of the operational failure of CARCAH, direct communication is authorized between DET1,7WW and the forecast facility. Contact Detachment 5, AWS, at AV 868-2544/CO 601-377-2544, or through the Keesler AFB Command Post at AV 868-4330/CO 601-377-4330.

6. Abbreviated Communications Headings. Abbreviated communications headings are assigned to advisories on tropical and subtropical cyclones and other advices based on depression number (or storm name) and standard communication procedures. [Note: An abbreviated heading consists of three groups with ONE space between second and third groups. The first group contains a data type indicator (e.g., WH for hurricane), a geograpical indicator (e.g., CA for Caribbean), and a number. The second group contains a location indicator of the message originator (e.g., KMIA for Miami). The third group is a date-time group in GMT. An example of a complete header is WHCA31 KMIA 180400.

a. Atlantic.

ABCA20 KMIA	Tropical Weather Outlook and Tropical Weather Summary (Monthly)
WTCA41-45 KMIA	Tropical Cyclone Discusssion
WTCA31-35 KMIA	Public Advisory
WTCA21-25 KMIA	Marine Advisory
WWCA21-25 KMIA	Subtropical Storm Advisory
WTXX61 KMIA	Tropical Cyclone Update
WTXX51 KMIA	Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate
WOCA41 KMIA	Special Tropical Disturbance Statement
WTXX90 KMIA	Tropical Cyclone Discussion for WMO Region IV Stations

b. East and Central Pacific.

(1) All advisories on hurricanes, tropical storms, and depressions are under WT abbreviated headings as follows:

WTPA21-25 KSFO	Marine
WTPA21-25 PHNL	Marine
WTPA31-35 KSFO	Public
WTPA31-35 PHNL	Public

(2) Depressions are numbered internally and storms are named internally, but the number in the abbreviated headings does not relate to either the internal number of the depression or the name of the storm. The first cyclone would have 21 and 31 in the abbreviated headings, the second cyclone would have 22 and 32, the sixth cyclone would have 21 and 31, etc. The abbreviated heading would not change when a depression is upgraded to storm status.

ABPA20 PHNL	Tropical Weather Outlook
ABCA20 KSFO	Tropical Weather Outlook
WTXX41-45 KSFO	Tropical Cyclone Discussion
WTXX41-45 PHNL	Tropical Cyclone Discussion
WTXX51 KSFO	Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate
WTXX51 PHNL	Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate
WTXX61 KSFO	Tropical Cyclone Update
WTXX61 PHNL	Tropical Cyclone Update
WOPN41 KSFO	Special Tropical Disturbance Statement
WOPN41 PHNL	Special Tropical Disturbance Statement
WWPN21-25 PHNL	Subtropical Storm Advisory

SUPPLEMENTARY VORTEX DATA MESSAGE

MANOP HEADING *(completed by monitors only)*

UR ——— ——— 12 ——— ——— ——— ——— ——— ——— ——— ——— ——— ———

MISSION IDENTIFIER AND OBSERVATION NUMBER *(completed by flight meteorologist and monitor)*

AF——— ——— ———

SUPPLEMENTARY VORTEX DATA MESSAGE

($L_a L_a L_a$)	($L_o L_o L_o L_o$)	(jHHH)	($TTT_d T_d$)	(ddfff)
01	1	1	1	
02	2	2	2	
03	3	3	3	
04	4	4	4	
05	5	5	5	
06	6	6	6	
07	7	7	7	
($L_a L_a L_a$) MF	($L_o L_o L_o L_o$) M	(fff) MF		

OBS 01 AT: ——— Z | OBS ——— AT ——— Z | OBS 01 SFC WND: ———

($L_a L_a L_a$)	($L_o L_o L_o L_o$)	(jHHH)	($TTT_d T_d$)	(ddfff)
01	1	1	1	
02	2	2	2	
03	3	3	3	
04	4	4	4	
05	5	5	5	
06	6	6	6	
07	7	7	7	
($L_a L_a L_a$) MF	($L_o L_o L_o L_o$) M	(fff) MF		

OBS 01 AT: ——— Z | OBS ——— AT ——— Z | OBS 07 SFC WND: ———

REMARKS *(end of message)*

PREPARED BY:

TRANSMISSION TIME:

LEGEND

01 INDICATOR FOR DATA COLLECTED APPROXIMATELY 105 NM FROM STORM CENTER (INBOUND) OR APPROXIMATELY 15 NM FROM CENTER (OUTBOUND)

OTHER INDICATORS (02/2, 03/3...) FOR DATA AT APPROXIMATELY 15 NM INTERVALS INBOUND OR OUTBOUND FROM STORM CENTER. INDICATORS MAY BE EXPANDED BEYOND 07 (08, 09....) AS NECESSARY AT APPROXIMATELY 15 NM INTERVALS.

MF = INDICATOR FOR MAXIMUM FLIGHT LEVEL WIND OBSERVED

fff = SPEED OF WIND IN KNOTS

dd = TRUE DIRECTION OF FLIGHT LEVEL WIND SPEED IN TENS OF DEGREES

$TTT_d T_d$ = TEMP/DEWPOINT IN DEGREES CELSIUS: ADD 50 FOR NEGATIVE VALUES

jHHH = PRESSURE HEIGHT DATA IN RECCO FORMAT

$L_a L_a L_a$ = LATITUDE IN DEGREES/TENTHS

$L_o L_o L_o L_o$ = LONGITUDE IN DEGREES/TENTHS

/ = DATA UNKNOWN/UNOBTAINABLE

SAMPLE MESSAGE

URNT 12 KMIA 241703
AF 966 0411 FREDERIC OB 14
SUPPLEMENTARY VORTEX DATA MESSAGE

01178	10899	13107	10908	36027
02177	20895	23100	20908	35042
03178	30891	33092	30807	36052
04177	40887	43088	40907	35070
05178	50883	53070	50908	36088
06178	60880	63000	61010	35108
07178	70877	73882	71211	35120
MF178	M0877	MF120		

OBS 01 AT 1530Z OBS 07 AT 1600Z
OBS 01 SFC WND 36025

01177	10872	13000	11010	18120
02178	20868	23070	21009	17098
03178	30862	23088	30909	18080
04177	40858	43093	40908	17050
05177	50854	53102	50908	17048
06178	60850	63108	60905	18031
07177	70844	73114	70902	18025
MF177	M0877	MF120		

OBS 01 AT 1630Z OBS 07 AT 1700Z
OBS 07 SFC WIND 16025
REMARKS HEAVY RAIN OUTBOUND

AWS FORM 82a APR 84 PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

CHAPTER 5
APPENDIX B
FORM 5

MISSION EVALUATION FORM

DATE: _____

TO: OL-G, HQ AWS/CARCAH

FROM: (Director, NHC, CPHC, EPHC)

SUBJECT: Mission _____ Evaluation
(Mission Identifier)

PUBLISHED REQUIREMENTS:

Permission Coordinates (As Updated Prior to TKO) _____ N _____ W

Flight Pattern _____

Mission Requirements Times _____

RECONNAISSANCE MISSION PERFORMANCE:

Flight Flown:	____Completely	____Partially	____Other
Horizontal Data Coverage:	____Complete	____Timely	____Accurate
	____Incomplete	____Untimely	____Inaccurate
Vertical Data Coverage:	____Complete	____Timely	____Accurate
	____Incomplete	____Untimely	____Inaccurate
Requirements Accomplished:	____On Time	____Early	____Late
	____Missed		

Remarks: _____

_____

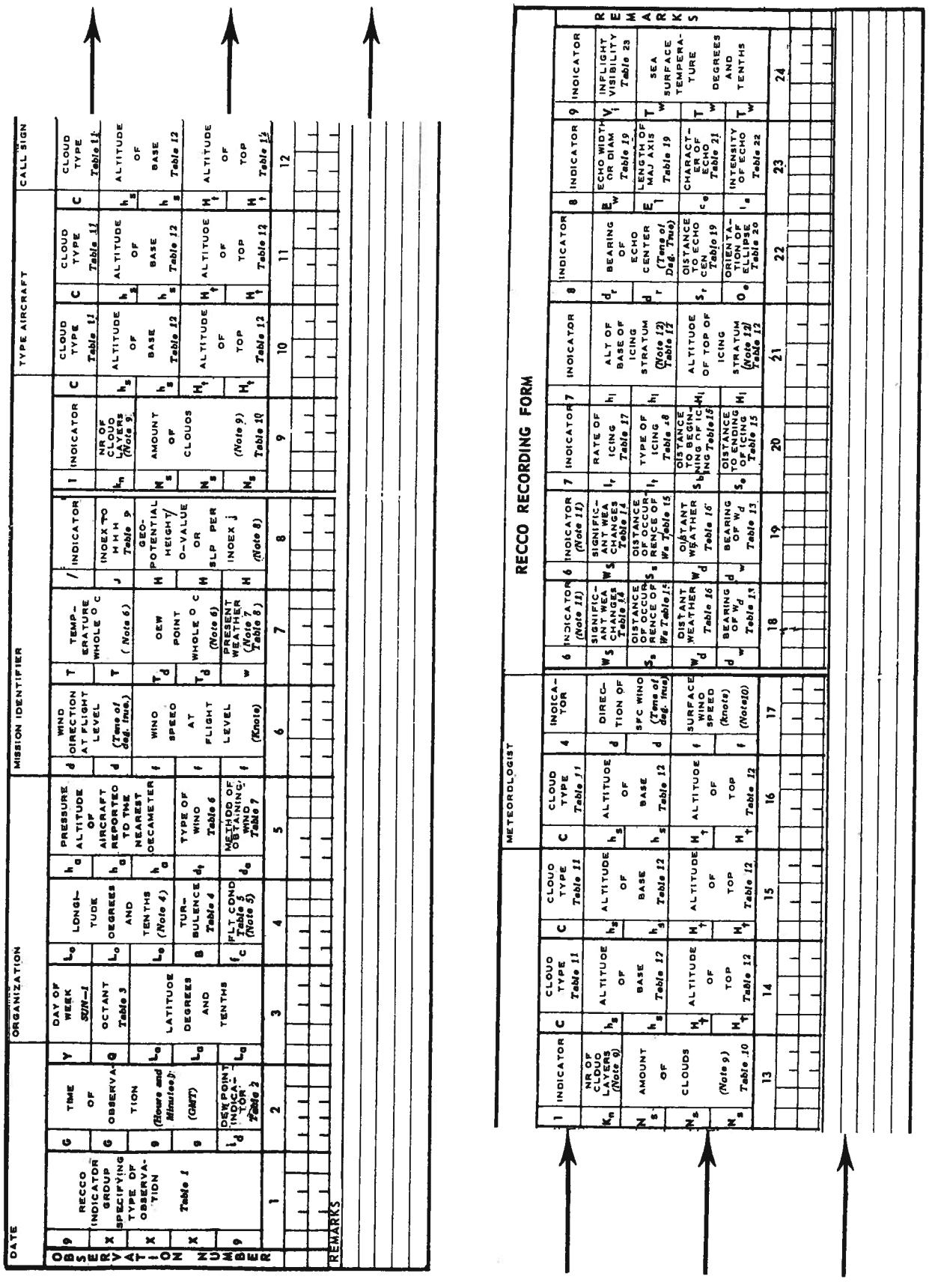
OVERALL MISSION EVALUATION:

	Outstanding	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Equipment:	_____	_____	_____
Accuracy:	_____	_____	_____
Timeliness:	_____	_____	_____
Procedures:	_____	_____	_____
Completeness:	_____	_____	_____

Remarks: _____

_____

CHAPTER 5
APPENDIX B
FORM 6
RECCO RECORDING FORM



CHAPTER 5
APPENDIX B
FORM 6
NOTES

1. At the time of the observation the aircraft observing platform is considered to be located on the axis of a right vertical cylinder with a radius of 30 nautical miles bounded by the earth's surface and the top of the atmosphere. Present weather, cloud amount and type, turbulence, and other subjective elements are reported as occuring within the cylinder. Flight level winds, temperature, dew point, and geopotential values are sensed or computed and reported as occuring at the center of the observation circle. Radar echoes, significant weather changes, distant weather, and icing are phenamena that may also be observed/ reported. Code groups identifying these phenomena may be reported as necessary to adequately describe met conditions observed.

2. The intermediate observation (Section Three) is reported following Section One (or Section Two if appended to Section One) in the order that it was taken.

3. Plain language remarks may be added as appropriate. These remarks follow the last encoded portion of the horizontal or vertical observation and will clearly convey the intended message. Vertical observations will not include meteorological remarks. These remarks must begin with a letter or word– E.G. "FL TEMP" vice "700 MB FL TEMP". The last report plain language remarks are mandatory, i.e., "LAST REPORT. OBS 01 thru 08 to RJTY, OBS 09 and 10 to RPMK".

4. The hundreds digit of longitude is omitted for longitudes from 100° to 180°.

5. Describe conditions along the route of flight actually experienced at flight level by aircraft.

6. TT, T_dT_d. When encoding negative temperatures, 50 is added to the absolute value of the temperature with the hundreds figure, if any, being omitted. A temperature of –52°C is given as 02, the distinction between –52°C and 2°C being made from i_d. Missing unknown temperatures are reported as //. When the dew point is colder than –49.4°C, Code T_dT_d as // and report the actual value as a plain language remark – E.G. DEW POINT –52°C.

7. When two or more types of w co–exist, the type with the higher code figure will be reported. Code Figure 1, 2 and 3 are reported based on the total cloud amount through a given altitude, above or below the aircraft, and when other figures are inappropriate. The summation principle applies only when two or more cloud types share a given altitude.

8. When i_i is reported as a 9, HHH is encoded as ///.

9. If the number of cloud layers reported exceeds 3, k_n in the first 1–group reports the total number of cloud layers. The second 1–group reports the additional number of layers being reported exclusive of those previously reported. In those cases where a cloud layer(s) is discernible, but a descriptive cloud picture of the observation circle is not posible, use appropriate remarks such as "clouds blo" or As bla" to indicate the presence of lcauds. In such cases, coded entries are not made for group 9. The sequence in which cloud amounts are encoded depends upon type of cloud, cloud base, and vertical extent of the cloud. The cloud with the largest numerical value of cloud type code (C) is reported first, regardless of coverage, base, or vertical extent. Among clouds of the same cloud type code sharing a common base, the cloud of greatest vertical extent is reported first. The summation principle is not used; each layer is treated as though no other clouds were present. The total amount of clouds through one altitude shared by several clouds will not exceed 8 oktas. Only use code figure 0 as a place holder when you can determine that no additional cloud layers exist. In case of undercast, overcast, etc., use code figure 9 as a place–holder.

10. Due to limitations in the ability to distinguish sea state features representative of wind speeds above 130 knots, surface wind speeds in excess of 130 knots will not be encoded. Wind speeds of 100 to 130 knots inclusive will be encoded by deleting the hundreds figure and adding 50 to dd. For wind speeds above 130 knots, dd is reported without adding 50 and ff is encoded as // with a plain language remark added, I.E., –sfc wind above 130 knots.

11. Significant weather changes which have occurred since the last observation along the track are reported for Ws.

12. When aircraft encounters icing in level flight, the height at which the icing occurred will be reported for h_ih_i. The H_iH_i will be reported as //.

CHAPTER 5
APPENDIX B
FORM 6
CODE TABLES

TABLE 1 XXX

222 Sec One Observation without radar capability
555 Sec Three (Intermediate) observation with or without radar capability
777 Sec One Observation with radar capability

TABLE 2 i_d

0 No dew point capability/acft below 10,000 meters
1 No dew point capability/acft at or above 10,000 meters
2 No dew point capability/acft below 10,000 meters and flight lvl temp −50°C or colder
3 No dew point capability/acft at or above 10,000 meters and flight lvl temp −50°C or colder
4 Dew point capability/acft below 10,000 meters
5 Dew point capability/acft at or above 10,000 meters
6 Dew point capability/acft below 10,000 meters and flight lvl temp −50° C or colder
7 Dew point capability/acft at or above 10,000 meters and flight lvl temp −50°C or colder

TABLE 3 Q

0	0° −90° W	Northern
1	90° W − 180° W	Northern
2	180° − 90° E	Northern
3	90° − 0° E	Northern
4	Not Used	
5	0° − 90° W	Southern
6	90° − 180° W	Southern
7	180° − 90° E	Southern
8	90° − 0° E	Southern

TABLE 4 B

0 None
1 Light turbulence
2 Moderate turbulence in clear air, infrequent
3 Moderate turbulence in clear air, frequent
4 Moderate turbulence in cloud, infrequent
5 Moderate turbulence in cloud, frequent
6 Severe turbulence in clear air, infrequent
7 Severe turbulence in clear air, frequent
8 Severe turbulence in cloud, infrequent
9 Severe turbulence in cloud frequent

TABLE 5 f_c

0 In the clear
8 In and out of clouds
9 In clouds all the time (continous IMC)
/ Impossible to determine due to darkness or other cause

TABLE 6 d_t

0 Spot Wind
1 Average Wind
/ No wind reported

TABLE 7 d_a

0 Winds obtained using doppler radar or inertial systems
1 Winds obtained using other navigation equipment and/or techniques
/ Navigator unable to determine wind or wind not compatible

TABLE 8 w

0 Clear
1 Scattered (trace to 4/8 cloud coverage)
2 Broken (5/8 to 7/8 cloud coverage)
3 Overcast/undercast
4 Fog, thick dust or haze
5 Drizzle
6 Rain (continous or intermittent precip − from stratiform clouds)
7 Snow or rain and snow mixed
8 Shower(s) (continous or intermittent precip − from cumuliform clouds)
9 Thunderstorm(s)
/ Unknown for any cause including darkness

TABLE 9 j

0 Sea level pressure in whole millibars *(thousands fig if any omitted)*
1 Altitude 200 mb surface in geopotential decameters *(thousands fig if any omitted)*
2 Altitude 850 mb surface in geopotential meters *(thousands fig omitted)*
3 Altitude 700 mb surface in geopotential meters *(thousands fig omitted)*
4 Altitude 500 mb surface in geopotential decameters
5 Altitude 400 mb surface in geopotential decametets
6 Altitude 300 mb surface in geopotential decameters
7 Altitude 250 mb surface in geopotential decameters *(thousands fig if any omitted)*
8 D − Value in geopotential decameters; if negative 500 is added to HHH
9 No absolute altitude available or geopotential data not within ± 30 meters/4 mb accuracy requirements.

TABLE 10 N_s

0 No additional cloud layers (place holder)
1 1 okta or less, but not zero *(1/8 or less sky covered)*
2 2 oktas *(or 2/8 of sky covered)*
3 3 oktas *(or 3/8 sky covered)*
4 4 oktas *(or 4/8 of sky covered)*
5 5 oktas *(or 5/8 of sky covered)*
6 6 oktas *(or 6/8 of sky covered)*
7 7 oktas or more but not 8 oktas
8 8 oktas or sky completely covered
9 Sky obscured (place holder)

TABLE 11 C

0 Cirrus (Ci)
1 Cirrocumulus (Cc)
2 Cirrostratus (Cs)
3 Altocumulus (Ac)
4 Altostratus (As)
5 Nimbostratus (Ns)
6 Stratocumulus (Sc)
7 Stratus (St)
8 Cumulus (Cu)
9 Cumulonimbus (Cb)
/ Cloud type unknown due to darkness or other analogous phenomena

TABLE 12 $h_s h_s H_t H_t h_i h_i H_i H_i$

00 Less than 100
01 100 ft
02 200 ft
03 300 ft
etc, etc
49 4,900 ft
50 5,000 ft
51−55 Not used
56 6,000 ft
57 7,000 ft
etc, etc
79 29,000ft
80 30,000 ft
81 35,000 ft
82 40,000 ft
etc, etc
89 Greater than 70,000 ft
// Unknown

TABLE 13 d_w

0 No report
1 NE
2 E
3 SE
4 S
5 SW
6 W
7 NW
8 N
9 all directions

TABLE 14 W_s

0 No change
1 Marked wind shift
2 Beginning or ending of marked turbulence
3 Marked temperature change (not with altitude)
4 Precipitation begins or ends
5 Change in cloud forms
6 Fog or ice fog bank begins or ends
7 Warm front
8 Cold front
9 Front, type not specified

TABLE 15 $S_b S_e S_s$

0 No report
1 Previous position
2 Present position
3 30 nautical miles
4 60 nautical miles
5 90 nautical miles
6 120 nautical miles
7 150 nautical miles
8 180 nautical miles
9 More than 180 nautical miles
/ Unknown (not used for S_s)

TABLE 16 w_d

0 No report
1 Signs of o tropical cyclone
2 Ugly threatening sky
3 Duststorm or sandstorm
4 Fog or ice fog
5 Waterspout
6 Cirrostrotus shield or bank
7 Altostratus or altocumulus shield or bank
8 Line of heavy cumulus
9 Cumulonimbus heads or thunderstorms

TABLE 17 I_r

7 Light
8 Moderate
9 Severe
/ Unknown or contrails

TABLE 18 I_t

0 None
1 Rime ice in clouds
2 Clear ice in clouds
3 Combination rime and clear ice in clouds
4 Rime ice in precipitotion
5 Clear ice in precipitation
6 Combination rime and clear ice in precip
7 Frost (icing in clear air)
8 Nonpersistent contrails *(less than 1/4 nautical miles long)*
9 Persistent contrails

TABLE 19 S_r, E_w, E_1

0 ONM	5 50NM
1 10NM	6 60–80NM
2 20NM	7 80–100NM
3 30NM	8 100–150NM
4 40NM	9 Greater than 150NM
	/ Unknown

TABLE 20 O_e

0 Circular
1 NNE – SSW
2 NE – SW
3 ENE – WSW
4 E – W
5 ESE – WNW
6 SE – NW
7 SSE – NNW
8 S – N
/ Unknown

TABLE 21 c_e

1 Scattered Area
2 Solid Area
3 Scattered Line
4 Solid Line
5 Scattered, all quadrants
6 Solid, all quadrants
/ Unknown

TABLE 22 i_e

2 Weak
5 Moderate
8 Strong
/ Unknown

TABLE 23 V_i

1 Inflight visibility 0 to and including 1 nautical mile
2 Inflight visibility greater than 1 and not exceeding 3 nautical miles
3 Inflight visibility greater than 3 nautical miles

RECCO SYMBOLIC FORM

SECTION ONE (MANDATORY)
$9XXX9\ GGgg i_d\ YQL_aL_aL_a\ L_oL_oL_oBf_c\ h_ah_ah_ad_td_a$
$ddfff\ TTT_dT_dw\ /jHHH$

SECTION TWO (ADDITIONAL)
$Ik_nN_sN_sN_s\ Ch_sh_sH_tH_t$ .... $4ddff$
$6W_sS_sW_dd_w\ 7I_rI_tS_bS_e\ 7h_ih_j\ H_iH_j\ 8d_rd_rS_rO_e$
$8E_wE_1c_ei_e\ 9V_iT_wT_wT_w$

SECTION THREE (INTERMEDIATE)
$9XXX9\ GGgg i_d\ YQL_aL_aL_a\ L_oL_oL_oBf_c\ h_ah_ah_ad_td_a$
$ddfff\ TTT_dT_dw\ /jHHH$

CHAPTER 5
APPENDIX C

AIRCRAFT RECONNAISSANCE COMMUNICATIONS

1. General. USAF and NOAA aircraft will normally transmit reconnaissance observations via HF radio through USAF Aeronautical Stations to the appropriate weather reconnaissance data monitor. Monitors will evaluate these reports and disseminate them to either the AWN, Carswell AFB, TX or the weather communications facility at Suitland, MD.

2. Air Ground Communications. The weather reconnaissance crew will relay weather data via direct phone patch to the weather monitor through the appropriate USAF aeronautical station, as listed in en-route flight publications. When requested, Aeronautical Stations will provide a discrete frequency for mission use, if possible. Specific radio procedures and terminology will comply with Allied Communications Publication (ACP) 125. Because of the perishable nature and potential operational impact of weather data, USAF has authorized the use of "Immediate" precedence for transmission of hurricane reconnaissance data. Data will be routed as follows:

a. Primary: Direct phone-patch between aircraft and Miami Monitor (Atlantic and Eastern Pacific) or Hickam Weather Monitor (Central Pacific).

b. Secondary: Direct phone-patch between aircraft and any weather monitor.

3. Air-to-Air Communications. When more than one reconnaissance aircraft is known to be operating in a particular area of interest, the following frequencies will be used for plane-to-plane communications and coordination:

a. Primary: VHF 123.05 MHz.

b. Secondary: UHF 304.8 MHz

c. Back-up: HF 4701 KHz USB

4. Aircraft Satellite Data Link (ASDL) Equipped Aircraft. Aircraft equipped with ASDL have the option to utilize the ASDL system using the following procedures:

a. Data Format. The following format will be used for data transmission by the ASDL System:

(1) One Minute Observation - All locations

(Message Header)	(Date/Time)
URNT40 KMIA	291630
(Platform Identifier)	(Date/Time-NESDIS)
15C9419C	23012 3220
(Mission Identifier)	
NOAA2 0401 ANA	

(TIME)	(LATITUDE)	(LONGITUDE)	(PRESS ALT)	(D VALUE)
1233	2803	08037	06173	+0436

(WIND) (TEMP) (DP)
213010 +138 +096
NNNN

(2) RECCO Observation - Atlantic Area
(Message Header) (Date/Time) Same as for 1 minute observation.
(Platform Identifier) (Date/Time-NESDIS) - Same as for 1 minute observation.
(Observation Manop Heading) (Date/Time)
URNT11 KMIA 281642
NOAA2 0401 ANA OB 03
(RECCO text)
97779 12428.....93275
NNNN

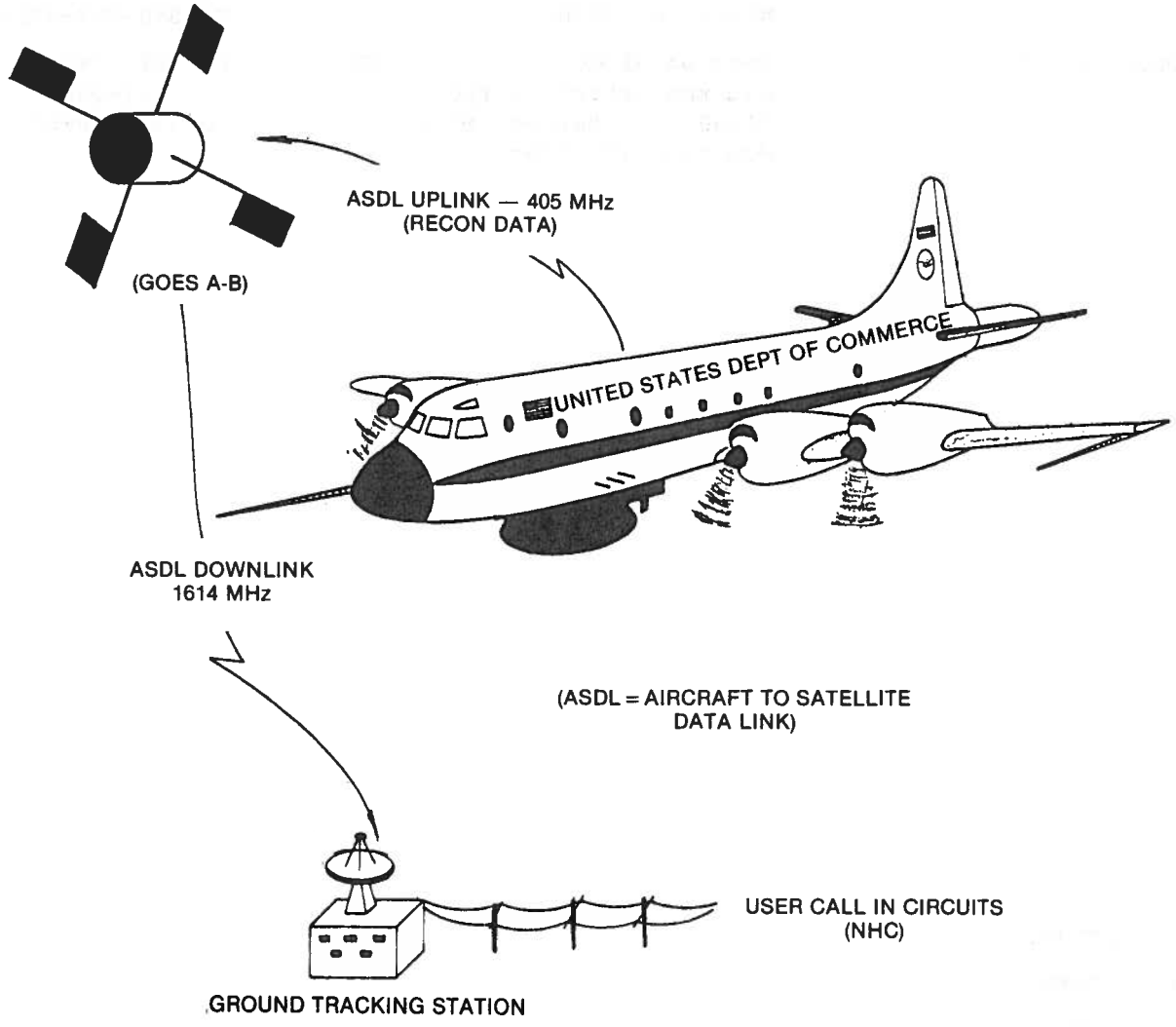
(3) RECCO Observation - Eastern and Central Pacific - Same as for Atlantic except that observation manop heading is URPN11 KMIA.
Note: 11 used for routine tropical cyclone observation
12 used for vortex reports, etc.

b. Data Transmission Schedule. To facilitate the transmission of data from several aircraft through one circuit, each aircraft will be assigned a specific block of time within the 30-minute interval for transmission of its data using the following schedule:

0—— +5	+5—— +10 OAO 42RF P-3(A)	+10—— +15 OAO 43RF P-3(B)	+15—— +20
+20—— +25 RADAR	+25—— +30 RADAR	+30—— +35	+35—— +40 OAO 42RF P-3(A)
+40—— +45 OAO 43RF P-3(B)	+45—— +50	+50—— +55 RADAR	+55—— +60 RADAR

Because only 4 minutes and 28 seconds of each 5-minute time block can be used for data transmission, roughly 1/2 minute is left in each transmission block. This schedule is designed to eliminate diagnostic statements that would appear at the NESDIS computer if data from specific sources arrived at the computer at unscheduled times.

c. Data Transmission Test - Prior to the beginning of the hurricane season (June), each aircraft equipped with ASDL will perform a ground or airborne test of the equipment and data ground handling procedures to determine the equipment reliability, transmission errors, and time lapse between transmission of the data from the aircraft and receipt of the data by the hurricane forecaster. Test data will be forwarded to the Chairman of the Working Group for Hurricane and Winter Storms Operations.



Schematic of the Aircraft to Satellite Data Link (ASDL)
on NOAA P-3 Aircraft

RECONNAISSANCE ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES

STATION	ADDRESS	TELETYPE	TELEPHONE
Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM)	Suite 300, 11426 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852	-	AV 851-1460 CO 301-770-3464 FTS 443-8704
CARCAH/MIAMI Monitor	OL-G, AWS Coral Gables, FL	A B C	AV 894-3430 CO 305-666-4612 FTS 350-5547 AV 894-1150 (phone patch only)
Mather Weather Monitor	Det 7, 24 WS Mather AFB, CA	B	AV 828-4377
Hickam Weather Monitor	Det 4, 20 WS Hickam AFB, HI	B	AV 315-449-1279/6283
National Hurricane Center	Nat'l Hurricane Center Coral Gables, FL	A B C	CO 305-667-3108 FTS 350-5547
Alternate National Hurricane Center	WSFO Washington, DC	A C	CO 301-899-3152 FTS 763-8088
	WSFO New Orleans, LA	A C	CO 504-522-7330 FTS 682-6891
Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center	WSFO Redwood City, CA	C	CO 415-364-4610 FTS 466-7767
Central Pacific Hurricane Center	P.O. Box 29879 Honolulu, HI 96820	C	CO 808-836-1831 FTS 546-2853
Naval Eastern Oceanography Center, Norfolk	NAVEASTOCEANCEN Norfolk, VA	B	AV 564-7750/3770 FTS 954-7750/3770
Naval Western Oceanography Center, Pearl Harbor	NAVWESTOCEANCEN Pearl Harbor, HI	B	AV 315-430-0111 (ask for 471-0004)
Office of Aircraft Operations	OAO Miami, FL		CO 305-526-2936 FTS 350-2936 AV 894-1600
Det 1, 7WW	Det 1, 7WW Keesler AFB, MS		AV 868-2544
AF Global Weather r Central	AFGWC Offutt AFB, NE	B	AV 271-2586 FTS 866-2586
CINCLANTFLT OAC	CINCLANTFLT OAC Oceana, VA		AV 433-2851 Ext. 233 CO 804-433-2851 Ext. 233

CHAPTER 6

SATELLITE SURVEILLANCE OF TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL CYCLONES

1. Satellites.

a. Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES). The GOES system currently consists of one operational spacecraft, GOES-6 at 108 degrees west. GOES-6 will move to 98 degrees west late spring of 1985 and return to 108 degrees west in November of 1985. The principal GOES products are 1/2-hourly pictures with implanted grids automatically applied to all sectors. During daylight hours, approximately 1, 2, and 4 km resolution fixed standard sectors are produced. During the night (also available in daylight), the same geographical coverage standard sectors are produced with 7 Km resolution infrared (IR). The IR data may be enhanced to emphasize various features. Floating sectors which are scheduled by the Satellite Field Services Stations (SFSS's) are produced to augment the standard sector coverage support. All products are delivered in near real time to the National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS) Synoptic Analysis Branch (SAB), the SFSS's, and Weather Service Forecast Offices (WSFOs). (See GOES Operational Data Flow, Appendix A, Attachment 1; Satellite Data Availability, Appendix A, Attachment 2.)

b. NOAA Polar-Orbiting Satellites. These satellites cross the U.S. twice daily near the equatorial crossing times as indicated in Appendix A, Attachment 2. Data are available via direct read-out (HRPT and APT) or central processing. AVHRR data are available on a limited basis through the GOES distribution system. The Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC) Offutt AFB, NB, receives global NOAA imagery data direct from central readout sites on pass by pass basis. Data are processed in mapped and unmapped form for use internally.

2. Satellite Field Services Stations (SFSS).

a. Support Concept. GOES imagery in support of the hurricane warning service is distributed to the Central Data Distribution Facility (CDDF) at Marlow Heights, MD, to the SFSS's in Miami, San Francisco, Washington, New Orleans, and Honolulu. These SFSS's are colocated with NWS hurricane warning offices and are responsible for providing direct satellite support to the warning center. This support includes the use of floating sectors at 1, 2, and 4 km visible and 7 km IR positioned over the storm area. SFSS's and SAB routinely provide classification of storms using Dvorak Techniques for both visible and IR data.

b. Station Contact. SFSS satellite meteorologists can be contacted as follows:

(1) Miami - 24 hours a day at (305) 350-4460 or FTS 350-4460.

(2) San Francisco - 24 hours a day at (415) 876-9122/23 or FTS 470-9122/9123.

(3) Honolulu - 24 hours a day at (808) 836-2776.

(4) Washington - 24 hours a day at (301) 763-8239 or FTS 763-8425.

(5) New Orleans - 24 hours a day at (504)649-5130 or FTS 682-2807.

c. Satellite Tropical Disturbance Summary. The Miami, San Francisco, and Honolulu SFSS's distribute twice daily at the times indicated (Appendix B, Form 1 to this Chapter) a satellite summary which describes significant weather in the tropical regions of the Atlantic, Eastern Pacific, and Central Pacific (north and south between 140°W to 100°E, respectively).

3. NESDIS Synoptic Analysis Branch (SAB). SAB operates 24 hours a day to provide satellite support to the National Meteorological Center (NMC). The SAB also distributes twice daily a "Satellite Tropical Disturbance Summary for the Pacific (West of 170°E) and the Indian Ocean." SAB may be contacted at (301) 763-8444 or FTS 763-8444.

4. AFGWC Support and the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP). AFGWC uses all available METSAT data when providing fix information. DMSP will provide coverage of tropical/subtropical cyclones whenever possible. Data covering the National Hurricane Operations Plan (NHOP) areas of interest will be received centrally at the AFGWC and locally at the direct readout site at Hickam AFB, HI.

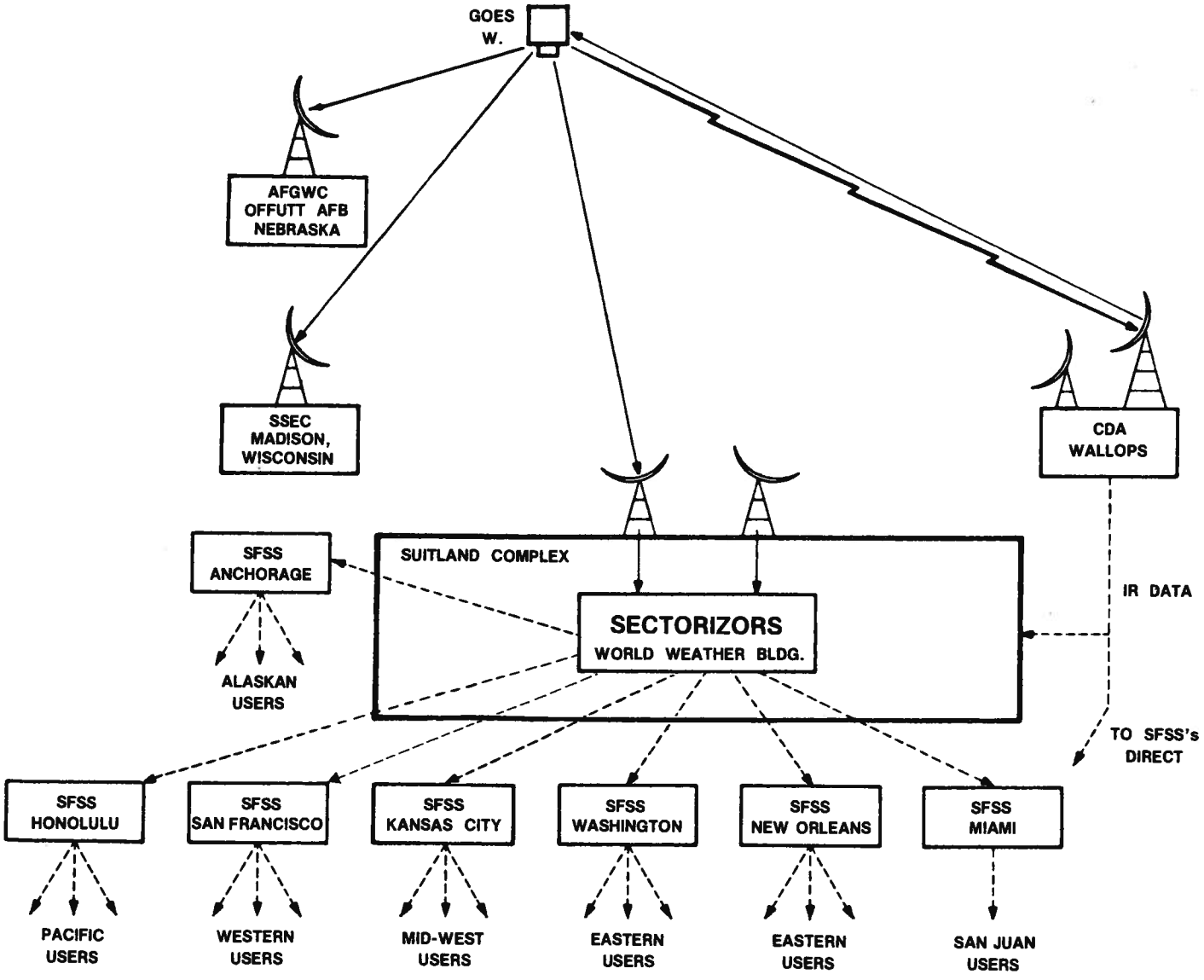
a. North Atlantic and Central Pacific Surveillance. AFGWC readouts will augment NESDIS surveillance for the North Atlantic and Central Pacific. AFGWC will transmit teletype bulletins describing the location and intensity classification of the system (in the format shown in Appendix B, Form 2) to the NHC or CPHC as appropriate, on organized disturbances evident at the Tropical Classification - 1 (T-1) level or higher.

b. Eastern Pacific Surveillance. If EPHC determines the coverage from available NESDIS satellites should be supplemented, they will request the data from AFGWC.

5. Satellites and Satellite Data Availability for the 1984 Hurricane Season. Appendix A, Attachment 2 of this chapter lists satellite capabilities for the 1985 hurricane season.

GOES

OPERATIONAL DATA FLOW



SATELLITES AND DATA AVAILABILITY FOR 1986 HURRICANE SEASON

Satellite	Type of Data	Local Time	Remarks
GOES-6 - 98.0 W 4 Spacecraft (standby) limited operational capability	VISSR VAS	Every 30 minutes (24 hr/day) (Limited scan for short-interval viewing available)	1. 1, 2, and 4 km resolution visible standard sectors covering Western United States, Midwest and Eastern United States (daylight). 2. 9 km resolution equivalent IR standard sectors for the entire United States (night). 3. Equivalent IR-enhanced imagery. 4. Floating sectors at 1, 2, and 4 km resolution (visible) (equivalent IR 7 km). 5. Full disc IR (day and night). 6. Movie loops 7. Wind analysis 8. Cloud top heights
NOAA-6	AVHRR GAC and LAC (recorded) HRPT and APT (direct) TOVS	0740/1940	1. Mapped digitized data (cloud cover 2. Unmapped imagery (all data types) at DMSP sites. 3. Sea-surface temperature analysis 4. Moisture analysis 5. Soundings
NOAA-7		1430/0230	
NOAA-9	GAC and LAC (recorded) HRPT and APT (direct) TOVS	1430/0230	
DMSP	LF	0700/1900	1. Unmapped imagery (LF only) 2. Mapped imagery (none)

GAC - Global Area Coverage (recorded reduced resolution data for Central Processing)
LAC - Local Area Coverage (recorded high resolution data, limited amount)
TOVS - TIROS Operational Vertical Sounder
HRPT - High Resolution Picture Transmission (1.1 km)
LF - Light Fine (Visual Scanning Radiometer 0.3 nmi)
APT - Automatic Picture Transmission (4 km)
AVHRR - Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer
VAS - VISSR Atmospheric Sounder
VISSR - Visible-Infrared Spin Scan Radiometer

CHAPTER 6
APPENDIX B
FORM 1

SAMPLE OF SATELLITE TROPICAL DISTURBANCE SUMMARY

ABXX15 KSFO 210800Z
ABXX( ) KWBC, KSFO, KMIA, PHNL
SATELLITE TROPICAL DISTURBANCE SUMMARY
ALL MOVEMENTS AND TRENDS 24 HOURS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

EAST PACIFIC	GOES WEST IR NITE	210745Z
(OCEANIC AREA)	(SATELLITE & SENSOR(S)	(PREPARATION TIME)

(Location) (Time) (Satellite Code) (Name and/or No.)

TROPICAL STORM SUSAN. SEE LATEST EPHC ADVISORY.

ITC 2 TO 4 DEGS WIDE XTNDG FM 6N 80W TO 11N 116W IS BRKN TO OCNLY OVC WITH HVST ACTIVITY ARND 11N 116W. SCTD ACTV ITC FM 9N 116W TO 12N 134W 2 DEG WIDE WAS BKN YDA. BRKN TO OVC AREA 3 TO 5 DEG IN DIA IS MDTLY ACTC CNTRD NEAR 11N 116W HAS MVD W 5 DEG WITH LTL CHG.

ATLANTIC	GOES EAST IR NITE	210630Z
(OCEANIC AREA)	(SATELLITE AND SENSOR(S))	(PREPARATION TIME)

(Location) (Time) (Satellite Code) (Name and/or No.)

NO TROPICAL CYCLONES OBSERVED

ITC 3 TO 5 DEG WIDE FM 10N 20W TO 14N 50W IS MSTLY BRKN AND MDTLY ACTV WITH LTL CHG. BRKN ACTV ITC FM 14N 50W TO 17N 57W 4 DEG WIDE HAS INCREASED IN WIDTH

(Heading)	(TIME)	(OCEANIC AREA)	(TYPE OF DATA)
*ABXX15 KMIA	0700Z	Atlantic/Caribbean	IR NITE
*ABXX11 KMIA	1900Z	Atlantic/Caribbeen	VIS/IR DAY
*TCPZ11 KSFO	0800Z	Eastern Pacific	IR NITE
*TCPZ10 KSFO	2000Z	Eastern Pacific	VIS/IR DAY
*TCPW11 PHNL	1000Z	Central Pacific (N&S 100E-175W)	IR NITE
*TCPW10 PHNL	2200Z	Central Pacific (N&S 100E-175W)	VIS/IR DAY
*TCPA11 PHNL	1000Z	Central Pacific (N&S 175W-140W)	IR NITE
*TCPA10 PHNL	2200Z	Central Pacific (N&S 175W-140W)	VIS/IR DAY
ABXX12 KWBC	1100Z	Indian Ocean	IR NITE
ABXX13 KWBC	0500Z	Western Pacific (N&S W of 170°E)	VIS
ABXX14 KWBC	2300Z	Indian Ocean	VIS/IR DAY
ABXX16 KWBC	1900Z	Western Pacific (N&S W of 170°E)	IR NITE

*Whenever a tropical system is located in these areas, Part 1 will carry the following statement: See latest (NHC, EPHC, or CPHC) advisory(ies).

CHAPTER 6
APPENDIX B
FORM 2

CENTER FIX DATA FORM AND MESSAGE FORMAT (SATELLITE)

MESSAGE HEADING:
TPNT CCCC

A CYCLONE DESIGNATOR	A.	Designator of tropical cyclone category including name/number. When a cloud system has not yet been designated by name/number enter TROPICAL DISTURBANCE. Sample entry: TROPICAL STORM AMY (15)
B DATE/TIME (Z) OF FIX	B.	Date and nodal crossing time in Zulu; round time to nearest minute. Sample entry: 252303Z
C LATITUDE OF POSITION	C.	Latitude to nearest tenth of degree (N or S), followed by checksum. Sample entry: 29.9N/O
D LONGITUDE OF POSITION	D.	Longitude to nearest tenth of degree followed by checksum. Sample entry: 56.7 W/8
E POSITION CODE NUMBER	E.	Enter Position Code number (PCN) and source of data (DMSP, NOAA 2, etc.). Spell out PCN number. Select PCN number from code below: GEOGRAPHICAL GRIDDING ONE: eye fix THREE: well defined circulation center FIVE: poorly defined circulation center EPHEMERIS GRIDDING TWO: eye fix FOUR: well defined circulation center SIX: poorly defined circulation center Sample entry: ONE/DMSP
F DVORAK CLASSIFICATION	F.	Dvorak classification for storm intensity as described in NOAA technical Memorandum NESS 45 and IWW/TN-81/001. Dvorak classification will be made once each day and must be based on visual data. If a new Dvorak classification number cannot be derived, use the last reported number. Include in parenthesis the date and nodal time of the data on which the Dvorak analysis is based. Sample entry: T 4.5/4.5/D1.0/25HRS (252305Z)
G REMARKS	G.	Include information, as appropriate, on data type, eye characteristics, spiral rainbands, unexpected changes in storm movement, departures from Dvorak (modelled) intensities, etc.

CHAPTER 6
APPENDIX B

CURRENT INTENSITY AND "T" NUMBER CLASSIFICATION TABLE

The current intensity (C.I.) number relates directly to the intensity of the storm. The empirical relationship between the C.I. number and a storm's wind speed is shown in this table.

The C.I. number is the same as the T-number (Tropical Classification number) during the development stages of a tropical cyclone, but is held higher than the T-number while a cyclone is weakening. This is done because a lag is often observed between the time a storm pattern indicates weakening has begun and the time when the storm's intensity decreases. An added benefit from this rule is the stability it adds to the analysis when short-period fluctulations in the cloud pattern occur. In practice, the C.I. number is not lowered until the T-number has shown weakening for 12 hours or more.

C.I. Number	MWS (Knots)	T-Number	MSLP (Atlantic)	MSLP (NW Pacific)
1	25K	1		
1.5	25K	1.5		
2	30K	2	1009 mb	1003 mb
2.5	35K	2.5	1005 mb	999 mb
3	45K	3	1000 mb	994 mb
3.5	55K	3.5	994 mb	988 mb
4	65K	4	987 mb	981 mb
4.5	77K	4.5	979 mb	973 mb
5	90K	5	970 mb	964 mb
5.5	102K	5.5	960 mb	954 mb
6	115K	6	948 mb	942 mb
6.5	127K	6.5	934 mb	929 mb
7	140K	7	921 mb	915 mb
7.5	155K	7.5	906 mb	900 mb
8	170K	8	890 mb	884 mb

The empirical relationship between the current intensity (C.I.) number and the maximum wind speed (MWS), and the relationship between the T-number and the minimum sea level pressure (MSLP).

CHAPTER 7

SURFACE RADAR REPORTING

1. General. Radar observations of tropical cyclones will be made at Department of Defense (DOD), National Weather Service (NWS), and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) radar facilities and at other cooperating radar facilities according to established agreements with NWS.

2. Procedures.

a. Radar observation of tropical cyclones will be made in accordance with the Federal Meteorological Handbook (FMH) No. 7, Part A, Weather Radar Observations. Stations that normally transmit hourly radar weather observations (network stations) will include tropical cyclone features in routine reports (H+35) and will make and transmit special observations at H+10 whenever an eye or center is observed. It is highly desirable for stations that do not normally transmit hourly reports (local warning radars) to make and transmit a radar observation whenever an eye, center, or spiral band is observed. The local warning radar sites may transmit only abbreviated special observations, defined in FMH-7, at H+10 and H+35.

b. If the central region of a storm is defined by an identifiable wall cloud; the radar fix is reported as an EYE. If the central region is recognizable, but not well defined by a wall cloud, it is reported as a CENTER. When the EYE or CENTER is only occasionally recognizable or some other central region uncertainty exists, the EYE or CENTER is reported as PSBL EYE or PSBL CENTER. Remarks stating degree of confidence will be included with EYE fixes only and will be classified as either GOOD, FAIR, or POOR. A GOOD fix is reported when the EYE is symmetrical - virtually surrounded by wall cloud; a POOR fix is reported when the EYE is asymmetrical - less than 50 percent surrounded by wall cloud; a FAIR fix is reported to express a degree of confidence between GOOD and POOR.

c. Timely transmission of tropical cyclone radar reports is essential. Normally, radar reports are transmitted over the Automation of Field Operations and Service (AFOS) System, or CONUS Meteorological Data System (COMEDS) circuit equipment. Those radar facilities not having weather transmission capability may call the nearest Weather Service Office (WSO) collect.

3. Special Provisions.

a. If NWS network weather radars (WSR 57 and selected WSR-74s) and DOD weather radar facilities are collocated (within 25 nautical miles), the NWS radar will have the primary responsibility for making and transmitting tropical cyclone radar reports - DOD will provide backup service. If a radar facility is less powerful than the WSR 57 and is collocated with North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) long-range radar facility, the NORAD long-range radar facility will have the primary responsibility for making and transmitting tropical cyclone radar reports provided it is manned by a qualified weather radar operator, the less powerful radar facility will provide backup service. Any backup radar facility, however, may transmit radar reports as desired.

b. If radar reports are needed from NORAD long-range radar facilities NWS will dispatch weather radar specialists to these facilities to make and transmit tropical cyclone radar observations. DOD has authorized the Director, NWS, to dispatch NWS radar specialists to NORAD sites during critical hurricane threat situations to make and transmit hurricane radar observations. Specific procedures regarding notification, access to sites, clearances, etc., as agreed to by DOD and NWS will be the responsibility of the Severe Weather Branch, Operations Division, NWS Headquarters, and will be strictly adhered to.

c. Air Weather Service staff weather officers providing support to NORAD long-range radar units act as coordinators for visits. These coordinators are: Commander, Det. 9, 3 Weather Sq., 23rd NORAD Regional Operations Control Center (ROCC), Tyndall AFB, FL. (904) 283-2856; Commander Det. 8, 26 Weather Sq., 24 NORAD ROCC, Griffiss AFB, NY (314) 330-2410; Commander, Det. 4, 20 Weather Squadron, Hawaii ROCC(HIROCC), Hickam AFB, HI (315-449-6262). Sites are listed in Appendix A of this chapter.

CHAPTER 7
APPENDIX A
PARTICIPATING RADAR STATIONS

National Weather Service	Radar	Latitude	Longitude
Apalachicola, FL	WSR-57	29°44'N	84°59'W
Atlantic City, NJ	WSR-57	39°27'N	74°35'W
Baton Rouge, LA#	WSR-74C	30°32'N	91°09'W
Brownsville, TX	WSR-57	25°54'N	97°26'W
Cape Hatteras, NC	WSR-57	35°16'N	75°33'W
Charleston, SC	WSR-57	32°54'N	80°02'W
Chatham, MA	WSR-74S	41°39'N	69°57'W
Corpus Christi, TX#	WSR-74C	27°46'N	97°30'W
Daytona Beach, FL	WSR-57	29°11'N	81°03'W
Galveston, TX	WSR-57	29°18'N	94°48'W
Jackson, MS	WSR-57	32°19'N	90°05'W
Key West, FL	WSR-57	24°33'N	81°45'W
Lake Charles, LA	WSR-57	30°07'N	93°13'W
Los Angeles, CA#	WSR-74C	34°03'N	118°27'W
Miami, FL	WSR-57	25°43'N	80°17'W
Mobile, AL#	WSR-74C	30°41'N	88°15'W
Mt Laguna, CA	FPS-7	32°53'N	116°25'W
New York, NY	WSR-57	40°46'N	73°59'W
Patuxent, MD	WSR-74S	38°17'N	76°25'W
Pensacola, FL	WSR-57	30°21'N	87°19'W
Portland, ME	WSR-57	43°39'N	70°18'W
San Juan, PR	FPS-67*	18°16'N	65°46'W
San Padro, CA	ARSR	33°45'N	118°20'W
Savannah, GA	WSR-74C	32°08'N	81°12'W
Slidell, LA	WSR-57	30°17'N	89°46'W
Tampa, FL	WSR-57	27°42'N	82°24'W
Victoria, TX#	WR-100-5	28°51'N	96°55'W
Volens, VA	WSR-74S	36°57'N	79°00'W
Waycross, GA	WSR-57	31°15'N	82°24'W
West Palm Beach, FL#	WSR-74S	26°41'N	80°06'W
Wilmington, NC	WSR-57	34°16'N	77°55'W

*FAA-U.S. Navy Joint-Use Radar.
#Local Warning Radar

Department of Defense			
Andrews AFB, MD	FPS-77	38°48'N	76°53'W
Barksdale AFB, LA	FPS-77	32°30'N	93°40'W
Bermuda NAS	FPS-106	32°22'N	64°41'W
Cape Canaveral AFS, FL	FPS-77	28°28'N	80°33'W
Chase Field NAS, Beeville, TX	FPS-106	28°22'N	97°40'W
Cherry Point MCAS, NC	FPS-106	34°54'N	76°53'W
Corpus Christi NAS, TX	FPS-106	27°42'N	97°16'W
Eglin AFB, FL	FPS-77	30°29'N	86°31'W
Homestead AFB, FL	FPS-77	25°29'N	80°23'W
Howard AFB, CZ	FPS-77	08°77'N	79°36'W
Jacksonville NAS, FL	FPS-106	30°14'N	81°41'W

Keesler AFB, MS	FPS-77	30°24'N	88°55'W
MacDill AFB, FL	FPS-77	27°51'N	82°30'W
McGuire AFB, NJ	FPS-77	40°00'N	74°36'W
New Orleans NAS, LA	FPS-106	29°50'N	90°01'W
Norfolk NAVEASTOCEANCEN, VA	FPS-106	36°56'N	76°18'W
Pope AFB, NC	FPS-77	35°12'N	79°01'W
Randolph AFB, TX	FPS-77	29°32'N	98°17'W
Robins AFB, GA	FPS-77	32°38'N	83°36'W
Seymour Johnson AFB, NC	FPS-77	35°20'N	77°58'W
Guantanamo Bay Cuba, NAVOCEANCOMDET	FPS-106	19°54'N	75°10'W
Roosevelt Roads PR, NAVOCEANCOMDET	FPS-106	18°15'N	65°38'W

ADCOM Sites

23 NORAD Region Operations Control Center

	Latitude	Longitude
**OLAF, 23 ADS, Patrick AFB, FL	28°13'N	80°36'W
**OLAD, 23 ADS, Ft. Lonesome, FL	27°36'N	82°06'W
OLAJ, 23 ADS, Key West NAS, FL	24°35'N	81°41'W
**678 Radar Sq., Tyndall AFB, FL	30°05'N	85°37'W
701 Radar Sq., Ft. Fisher AFS, NC	33°59'N	77°55'W
OLAC, 23 ADS, Jedburg, SC	33°06'N	80°12'W

24 NORAD Region Operations Control Center

762 Radar Sq., North Truro AFS, MA	42°02'N	70°03'W
772 Radar Sq., Gibbsboro AFS, NJ	39°49'N	74°57'W
OLAA, 24 ADS, Sulfolk, NY	40°54'N	72°42'W
**OLAE, 24 ADS, Bucks Harbor AFS, ME	44°38'N	67°24'W

**Remoted in the FAA ARTCC

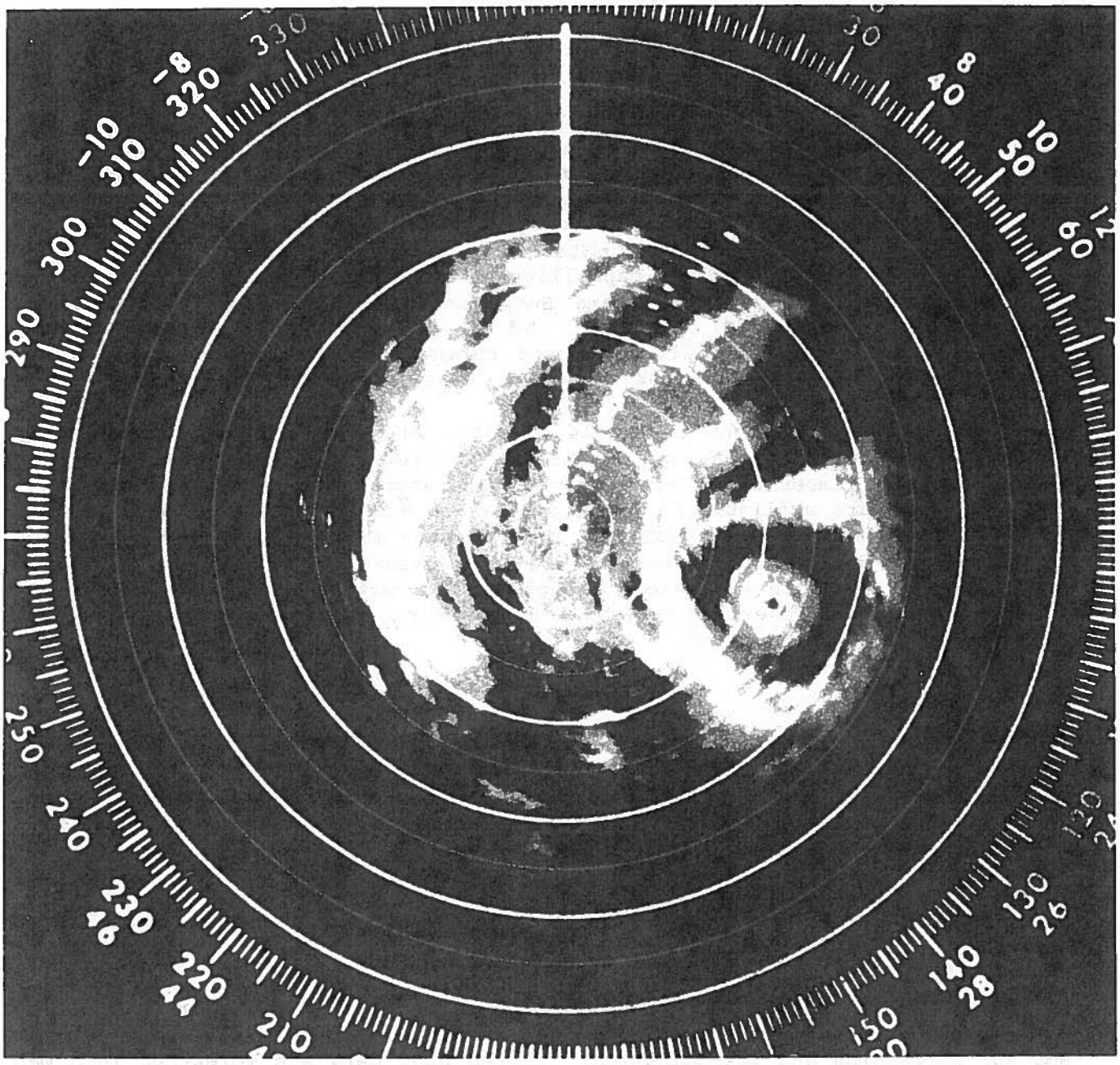
Hawaii Regional Operations Control Center

150 AC & W Sq, Kokee AFS, HI	22°09'N	159°39'W
169 AC & W Sq, Mt. Kaala AFS, HI	21°30'N	158°08'W

Cooperating Sites

Bay St. Louis, MS (NASA)	CPS-9	30°42'N	89°07'W
Cambridge, MA (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	CPS-9 and M-33	42°42'N	71°06'W
College Station, TX (Texas A. & M. University)	CPS-9	30°37'N	96°21'W
Coral Gables, FL (University of Miami)	SP-1M and CPS-68	25°43'N	80°17'W
Wallops Station, VA (NASA)	MPS-19	37°50'N	75°29'W
	SPS-12	37°56'N	75°28'W
	FPS-16	37°50'N	75°29'W
	FPQ-6	37°52'N	75°31'W

Radar used depends upon the location of the hurricane; the one in use will be properly identified.



Hurricane ALLEN (August 9, 1980) as seen by the
National Weather Service WSR-57 Radar
at Brownsville, Texas (250 Nautical Mile Range)

CHAPTER 8

National Data Buoy Center Reporting Stations

1. General.

a. The National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) maintains reporting stations in the Gulf of Mexico, off the U.S. east and west coasts, and coastal land areas. Also, a stockpile of four rapid response drifting data buoys are available for aerial deployment in the event of emergency situations. These data acquisition systems obtain measurements of meteorological and oceanographic parameters for operational and research purposes. Station location and configuration are given in paragraph 4. The status and capability of stations can be obtained from the Data Systems Division, National Data Buoy Center, NSTL, MS 39529, telephone: COM (601) 688-2836, FTS 494-2836, and AV 485-4411, ext. 2836. During non-working hours, NDBC can be contacted through the U.S. Coast Guard in New Orleans, LA, telephone: COM (504) 589-6225, or FTS 682-6225.

b. Reporting stations routinely acquire, store and transmit data every hour. Data obtained operationally include sea-level pressure, wind speed and direction, air temperature, sea-surface temperature, and wave spectral data. Drifting buoys are available in two types called Wind Speed Direction (WSD) and Air Sea Interaction Drifter (ASID). The WSD buoy measures sea-level pressure, wind speed and direction, air temperature and sea-surface temperature. The ASID buoy measures the same parameters except wind direction and can be configured with a subsurface thermistor array to measure hydrostatic pressure and subsurface ocean temperatures.

2. Procedures.

DOC/NOAA will initiate a request through OFCM to DOD AF for each desired aerial deployment of drifting data buoys for a pre-storm array in the Atlantic and/or Pacific oceans. These requests should allow at least a 30 day lead-time. For deployments in advance of a U.S. land-threatening hurricane, a 36 to 48 hour notification is required. All requests will include specifics regarding on loading base, accompanying technicians, desired pickup times and offload points, reimbursement funding, plus other pertinent data.

3. Communications.

Buoy and Coastal Marine Automated Network (C-MAN) data are transmitted by UHF communications via the GOES satellite to NESDIS and then are relayed on to NMC for processing and dissemination. Moored buoy data are formatted into WMO FM13-VII synoptic code and C-MAN data are formatted into the WMO FM12-VII synoptic code. These codes are defined in FMH2, Surface Synoptic Codes. Drifting buoy data are telemetered through the NOAA polar orbiting satellites to Service ARGOS in Toulouse, France, for processing. These data are formatted by Service ARGOS into the WMO FM14-VIII (DRIBU) code defined in the WMO Manual on Codes, Volume I and then are routed to NMC over the Global Telecommunications Service (GTS) for distribution and dissemination to U.S. users. For emergency purposes, NDBC operates a portable satellite ground station at Bay St. Louis, MS to acquire and distribute drifting buoy data in real-time to operational users.

4. Data Buoy, C-MAN Site Locations and Configuration

a. Gulf of Mexico

(1) Moored Buoys:

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Buoy Size	Sensor Height
42001	25.9/89.7	10M	10M
42002	26.0/9.5	10M	10M
42003	26.0/85.9	10M	10M
42007*	30.2/88.9	12M	10M
42009*	29.3/87.5	10M	10M

*Temporary sites established in support of other programs.

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Buoy Size	Anemometer Height
WMO Five Digit Identifier assigned immediately before deployment.	Variable	ASID or WSDD	1M

(3) C-MAN Sites:

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Station Name
BURL1	28.9/89.4	Southwest Pass, LA
CSBF1	29.7/85.4	Cape San Blas, FL
GD1L1	29.3/89.9	Grand Isle, LA
PTAT2	27.8/97.1	Port Aransas, TX
SRST2	29.7/94.1	Sabine, TX

b. Atlantic Ocean

(1) Moored Buoys:

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Buoy Size	Anemometer Height
41001	34.9/72.9	6M	5M
41002	32.3/75.3	6M	5M
41006	29.3/77.3	6M	5M
44004	38.5/70.7	6M	5M
44005	42.7/68.3	6M	5M
44007	43.5/70.1	12M	13M
44008	40.5/69.4	12M	13M
44009	38.5/74.6	12M	13M

44011	41.1/66.6	6M	5M
44012	38.8/74.6	12M	13M
44013	42.4/70.8	12M	13M

(2) C-MAN Site:

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Station Name
ALSN6	40.5/73.8	Ambrose Light, NY
ALRF1	24.9/80.6	Alligator Reef, FL
BUZM3	41.4/71.0	Buzzards Bay, MA
CHLV2	36.9/75.7	Chesapeake Light, VA
CLKN7	36.9/76.5	Cape Lookout, NC
DSLN7	35.2/75.3	Diamond Shoals, NC
FBIS1	32.7/79.9	Folly Island, SC
IOSN3	42.9/70.6	Isle of Shoals, NH
LKWF1	26.6/80.0	Lake Worth, FL
MDRM1	44.0/68.1	Mt. Desert Rock, ME
MISM1	43.8/68.9	Mantinicus Rock, ME
SJLF1	30.4/81.4	St. Johns Light, FL
SPGF1	26.7/79.0	Settlement Point, GBI
SVLS1	31.9/80.6	Savannah Light, FL

(3) Drifting Buoys:

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Buoy Type	Anemometer Height
WMO Five Digit Identifier assigned immediately before deployment	Variable	ASID or WSD	1M

c. Pacific Ocean.

(1) Moored Buoys:

Station ID	°N/°W Location	Buoy Size	Anemometer Height
46011*	34.9/120.9	10M	10M
46023*	34.3/120.7	10M	10M
46025*	33.6/119.0	6M	5M
51001	23.4/162.3	6M	5M
51002	17.2/157.8	6M	5M
51003	19.2/160.8	6M	5M
51004	17.5/152.5	6M	5M
51005*	20.3/156.1	3M	5M

*Temporary sites established in support of other programs.

(2) C-MAN Site:

Station ID	$^{o}N/^{o}W$ Location	Station Name
PTGC1	34.6/120.7	Point Arguello, CA

(3) Drifting Buoys:

Station ID	oN/oW Location	Buoy Type	Anemometer Height
WMO Five Digit Identifier assigned immediately before deployment.	Variable	ASID or WSD	1M

CHAPTER 8
APPENDIX A

CODE FORM FM 13-VII (SHIP)

Report of Synoptic Surface Observation
from a Sea Station (Automatic Weather Station)

$M_iM_iM_jM_j$				
$A_ib_wn_bn_bn_b$	$YYGGi_w$	$99L_aL_aL_a$	$Q_cL_oL_oL_oL_o$	
i_ri_x///	/ddff	$1s_nTTT$	4PPP	5appp
22200	$Os_nT_wT_wT_w$		$1P_{wa}P_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa}$	
333		921ff	925ff	926dd

CODE FORM FM 14-VIII (DRIBU) *

Report of a Drifting Buoy Observation

$M_iM_iM_jM_j$				
YYMMJJ	$GGggi_w$	$Q_cL_aL_aL_aL_a$	$L_oL_oL_oL_oL_o$	
(1PPPP)	$(2s_nT_wT_wT_wT_w)$	(3ddff)	$(4s_nTTT)$	(5appp)
888	$Z_oZ_oT_oT_oT_o$	$Z_1Z_1T_1T_1T_1$	$Z_nZ_nT_nT_nT_n$	
	999zz (00000)	$Z_1Z_1T_1T_1T_1$	$Z_nZ_nT_nT_nT_n$	
61616	$(1Q_pQ_2Q_{TW}Q_4)$	$(2Q_nQ_L//)$	$(Q_cL_aL_aL_aL_a$ or $(H_LV_BV_Bd_Bd_B)$	$L_oL_oL_oL_oL_o)$
	$(8V_iV_iV_iV_i)$		$(9_{id}Z_dZ_dZ_d)$	69696
333	$A_ib_wn_bn_bn_b$			

* The numbers of the code tables are the numbers given in the WMO manual, FM 14-VIII, on codes.

CHAPTER 9

MARINE WEATHER BROADCASTS

1. General. The Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Transportation (DOT) are responsible for broadcasting marine tropical cyclone advisories issued by the National Hurricane Center, the Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center. Appendix A of this chapter lists the stations involved. The broadcasts are for the purpose of providing warnings to meet U.S. international obligations in Department of Commerce areas of forecast responsibility given in Chapter 2.

2. Broadcast Procedures. DOT and DOD will arrange for broadcast of all marine tropical cyclone advices immediately upon receipt. The latest tropical cyclone forecast will be transmitted according to the schedule and on the frequencies given in Worldwide Marine Weather Broadcasts. The latest position estimate will be used by DOT and DOD along with the latest forecast for storms on which position estimates are being issued. These broadcasts will be made in both voice and CW mode.

CHAPTER 9

APPENDIX A

List of Marine Tropical Cyclone Forecast Broadcast Stations

Station Call Letters	Location
NMW	Astoria, OR
NMF	Boston, MA
NMO	Honolulu, HI
NMQ	Channel Island, CA
NMA	Miami, FL
NMG	New Orleans, LA
NAM	Norfolk, VA
NMN	Portsmouth, VA
NMC	San Francisco, CA
NMR	San Juan, PR

Note: All sites are DOT with the exception of "NAM", which is DOD.

CHAPTER 10

PUBLICITY

News media releases, other than warnings and/or advisories for the purpose of informing the public of the operational and research activities of DOD, DOC, and DOT, should reflect the joint effort of these agencies by giving due credit to the participation of other agencies. Copies of these releases should be forwarded to:

NOAA, Office of Public Affairs
6010 Executive Boulvard
Rockville, MD 20852

Commander, Naval Oceanography Command
NSTL, MS 39529

Headquarters Military Airlift Command (MAC/PA)
Scott Air Force Base, IL 62225

Headquarters Air Force Reserve
Robins Air Force Base, GA 31093

Chief, Environmental Services Division (J-3)
The Joint Chiefs of Staff
Washington, DC 20301-5000

Federal Aviation Administration (AAT-150)
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

APPENDIX I

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS AS USED IN THIS PLAN

ACP	Allied Communications Publication
ADCOM	Aerospace Defense Command
AFB	Air Force Base
AFGWC	Air Force Global Weather Central
AFTN	Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunications Network
AFRES	Air Force Reserves
APT	Automatic Picture Transmission
ASDL	Aircraft Satellite Data Link
ATC	Air Traffic Control
AVHRR	Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer
AWN	Automated Weather Network
AWS	Air Weather Service
CARCAH	Chief, Aerial Reconnaissance Coordination, All Hurricanes
COMEDS	Continental U.S. Meteorological Data System
CONF	Confidence Factor
CPHC	Central Pacific Hurricane Center
CW	Continuous Wave
DCS	Data Collection System
DMSP	Defense Meteorological Satellite Program
DOC	Department of Commerce
DOD	Department of Defense
DOT	Department of Transportation
EDB	Environmental Data Buoy
ELT	Eastern Local Time
EPHC	Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center
ERL	Environmental Research Laboratories
ETA	Estimated Time of Arrival
ETD	Estimated Time of Departure
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FCM	Federal Coordinator for Meteorology
FMH	Federal Meteorological Handbook
FOFAX	Forecast Office Facsimile
GOES	Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time
HF	High Frequency
HWO	Hurricane Warning Office
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IR	Infrared
ITOS	Improved TIROS Operational Satellite
JTWC	Joint Typhoon Warning Center
LF	Light Fine (Visual Scanning Radiometer 0.3 n mi)
LS	Light Smooth (Visual Scanning Radiometer 1.5 n mi)
MAC	Military Airlift Command
MIC	Meteorologist in Charge
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSD	Meteorological Services Division
NAM	Navy Communications Area Master Station Atlantic

NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NAVEASTOCEANCEN	Naval Eastern Oceanography Center
NAVOCEANCOMDET	Naval Oceanography Command Detachment
NAVWESTOCEANCEN	Naval Western Oceanography Center
NDBC	NOAA Data Buoy Center
NESDIS	National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service
NHC	National Hurricane Center
NHOP	National Hurricane Operations Plan
NLT	Not Later Than
NMC	National Meteorological Center
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NORAD	North American Aerospace Defense Command
NPSU	National Public Service Unit
NRCC	North American Air Defense Command Regional Control Center
NWS	National Weather Service
OAO	Office of Aircraft Operations
OL-G	Operating Location G
PM	Preventive Maintenance
RAWARC	Radar Report and Warning Coordination
RECCO	Reconnaissance Code
SAB	Synoptic Analysis Branch
SFSS	Satellite Field Services Station
SMS	Synchronous Meteorological Satellite
SR	Scanning Radiometer
SSH	Saffir/Simpson Hurricane
SST	Sea Surface Temperature
TCPOD	Tropical Cyclone Plan of the Day
TD	Tropical Depression
TF	Thermal Fine (Infrared Scanning Radiometer 0.3 n mi)
TS	Thermal Smooth (Infrared Scanning Radiometer 1.5 n mi)
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
US	United States
USAF	United States Air Force
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USN	United States Navy
VIS	Visible
VISSR	Visible - Infrared Spin Scan Radiometer
VTPR	Vertical Temperature Profile Radiometer
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRG	Weather Reconnaissance Group
WRS	Weather Reconnaissance Squadron
WSFO	Weather Service Forecast Office
WSO	Weather Service Office
WSOM	Weather Service Operations Manual
WSR	Weather Surveillance Radar
Z	Zulu (Coordinated Universal Time)

APPENDIX II

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF OFFICIAL INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS

The following references are pertinent to the agreed interagency responsibilities designated in this plan:

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of the Air Force (DAF) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), dated March 16, 1976. Purpose: to establish policies, principles and procedures under which the DAF will provide aircraft weather reconnaissance to NOAA.

2. MOU between Military Airlift Command (MAC) and the Director of Operations, Logistics and Emergency Planning (NOAA), dated October 12, 1976. Purpose: to establish procedures by which NOAA will reimburse MAC and AFRES for airborne weather reconnaissance.

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