DAILY SYNOPTIC SURFACE REPORTS

The daily synoptic reports are accumulated primarily from the telegraph reports of all the weather stations which are regularly available to Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Department of Air Force. The telegraph reports are supplemented as far as is possible by use of available records of the United States Weather Service and mailed-in daily weather bulletins of foreign countries. For most stations the report for the 1200Z observation is given. However, some stations do not prepare synoptic reports at this particular hour, and in these cases a report is listed if it is filed within a period which reasonably approximates the synoptic observation time. The hour of the report is shown with the observation itself. Stations whose reports appear only sporadically have not been included in the daily listings. In order to be included, a station must report with a fair degree of regularity. The data are subject to observation and transmission errors which have been corrected insofar as personnel and time considerations would permit.

Assignment of Index Numbers:

Insofar as possible the index numbers used to identify stations in the original telegraph sequences have been retained in the presentation of data. However, where alphabetic call letters have been used in place of station numbers in the telegraph reports and the station has had no primary or supplementary index number assigned by an authorized agency, then, for the purpose of presenting these reports in strictly numerical form, the station has arbitrarily been assigned the same number as the nearest station with a primary number and the station is listed as "AMBIGUOUS."

Station Lists:

Station lists are furnished in two forms for all stations which report with a moderate degree of frequency during the month. An overall alphabetical listing of both surface and upper-air stations and a blank map for convenience in locating stations appear immediately following the charts. Stations for upper air only are designated with a single asterisk; those for both upper air and surface, with two asterisks, while those for surface only are merely listed. Immediately preceding the station name is its 3-digit index number. Following the station name appears a 4-digit code number that has arbitrarily been assigned to the area group in which the station belongs. This 4-digit code figure furnishes the means of cross-reference to the second station list or, if preferred, directly to the body of synoptic data.

The numerical station lists which immediately precede the presentation of the surface and upper-air data, respectively, present the stations in order by index number within the area group to which the stations are assigned. Following the area-group title is the 4-digit number which identifies the group, and which corresponds to the 4-digit numbers following the station names in the first station list. The order in which stations appear in the numerical list is the same as that of the listings of synoptic data. In both the station lists and the synoptic data, the city and country are listed as they appear in the International Index publications of the United States Weather Bureau: e.g., Messina, Sicily, is listed as Messina, Italy, because it appears with the Italian stations in the International Index for Stations in Europe.

Method of Presentation:

In preparing the data for publication, the entire collection of telegraph reports for the 1200Z synoptic map are sorted and edited. The reports are sorted numerically as to areas according to their index number and the geographical collective into which they fall. Thus, except where a station fails to file a synoptic report, the reports appear in the same order each day. All land stations and high stations which have been edited into a single numerical code which is explained below. Ship observations take more than one form. Those which take observations from fixed positions report in a code similar to land stations. This code is given below. Moving ships, however, report in international ship code. These ships have been grouped by activity; they appear in numerical order by latitude within the area from anterior and are reported in a ship-code form which is explained below.

Description of Codes:

Data from various sections of the world are received in greatly varied codes. For the purpose of presenting synoptic data in a consistent code the reports are edited, and the data for all land stations are presented in a single code form in this publication. In addition, the ships which operate at or near a fixed position and report in a land code are reported in this same single code and are clearly indicated as weather ships. Moving ships which report their positions in code have been treated separately and appear in this publication in one of the codes enumerated below.

A Complete list of 5-digit groups which have been garbled or missing in the telegraph reports at the end of a message, these groups have been left blank. The 5-digit group was garbled or missing in the text of a message, or portions of a 5-digit group were missing, garbled or unreported, diagonals (///) have been used to indicate the missing elements. For reports from countries using Centigrade scale the temperatures have been converted to Fahrenheit: also, if the country reports only the first five groups, the temperature of the dew point in degrees Fahrenheit has also been calculated. In this calculation, the temperature being given, a value of relative humidity is assumed equal to the midpoint of the relative humidity range reported by the single-digit code.

The form of code used for land stations is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLL11C_mC_wwPhhNhDwFwMwPwFTUC_mwTe_mw ZRR RRRR F99 FGG</td>
<td>Cloud code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLL11090C_mC_wwPhhDwFwMwPwFTUC_mwTe_mw.</td>
<td>Snow code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLL11DwFwPwFT</td>
<td>3C_mC_wwPhhNhc_mwTc_mwMwNc_mwTc_mwZ99 FGG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLL11DwFwPwFT</td>
<td>3C_mC_wwPhhNhc_mwTc_mwMwNc_mwTc_mwZ99 FGG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The meaning of symbols in the above codes, whose values will be found in tables of international codes and symbols, is as follows:

- **C**: Characteristic of the barometric tendency in preceding three hours.
- **C**: Form of cloud.
- **C**: Form of cloud.
- **C**: Form of high cloud.
- **D**: Direction of cloud (8-point scale).
- **D**: Wind direction.
- **D**: Direction from which wind comes (8-point scale).
- **D**: Direction toward which the wind is blowing (8-point scale).
- **F**: Wind speed on Beaufort scale, 0-9.
- **F**: Amount of wind speed over Beaufort scale 9.
- **G**: Hour in Greenwich time (12 noon; 13 P.M., etc.).
- **h**: Height of the lower cloud.
- **h**: Height of the cloud in hundreds of feet.
- **I**: International index number.
- **K**: State of swell in open sea.
- **L**: Latitude in degrees and tenths.
- **L**: Longitude in degrees and tenths, with initial hundredths digit omitted.
- **N**: Method of determining ceiling.
- **N**: Total amount of cloud cover by clouds whose height is reported by h.
- **P**: Pressure in millibars, first figure (9 or 10) omitted.
- **P**: Pressure in millibars and tenths, first figure (9 or 10) omitted.
- **P**: Amount of barometric tendency for preceding three hours in millibars.
- **P**: Amount of precipitation in 6-hour period preceding time of observation.
- **P**: Amount of precipitation over ninety-nine in the 12-hour period preceding the time of observation.
- **P**: Amount of 24-hour precipitation in inches and hundredths.
- **T**: Temperature difference between air and water.
- **T**: Temperature in degrees.
- **T**: Temperature in degrees.
- **T**: Temperature of the dew point in degrees.
- **U**: Relative humidity.
- **V**: Horizontal visibility.
- **w**: Speed of the ship.
- **w**: Present weather.
- **w**: Present weather.