

COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY
ABRIDGED FINAL REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION

Washington, 26 April 1962

WMO – No. 122.RP.50

GENERAL SUMMARY

8.4.5 Codes for maritime purposes (agenda item 8.4.5)

8.4.5.2 Special weather reports from ships – FM 26. B – SPESH

In 1961 the president of RA VI pointed out a possible discrepancy between the notes on page I-A0 1-29, Volume B, and Recommendation 2 (CSM-II). Regional Association VI was in doubt whether it was the intention of CSM, when adopting Recommendation 2 (CSM-II), that this code form should be used by mobile ships stations as well as ocean weather stations.

The Commission concluded that there is no discrepancy of this nature between the notes on page I-A-1-29, Volume B, and Recommendation 2 (CSM-II), and that although the code was developed mainly for use by ocean weather stations it may be used by other ships when there exists a requirement for such reports.

The Commission considered that the descriptive title of code form FM 26. B should be amended to read “Special weather report from ship” instead of “Selected weather report form ship” and requested the Secretary-General to amend Volume B accordingly.

8.4.5.4 Coding visibility at ocean weather stations

The amendments to Publication 9, Volume B suggested by CMM to permit ocean weather stations to report visibility by code figures 90-99 (Code 4377) were examined and agreed to. The Commission considered that the methods of observing visibility at sea did not warrant the use of the full code table and that the code figures 90-99

met the requirements of synoptic meteorology. There is no aeronautical requirement for more detailed reports of visibility from ocean weather stations. Recommendation 26 (CSM-III) was adopted.

8.4.5.5 Coding report of ice accretion on ships

The Commission noted Recommendation 18 (CMM-III) designed to permit selected supplementary and auxiliary ships to add at the end of their synoptic weather messages, in plain language, an indication of the thickness of ice when icing on ships' superstructures is being encountered. The Commission also noted Resolution 18 (EC-XIII) expressing a preference for a figure code for this purpose. Recommendation 27 (CSM-III) was adopted.

8.4.5.7 Coding 7RRt_Rt_R

Further to a request expressed by the president of CMM relation to the reporting of precipitation data by ships during the Indian Ocean Expedition (1 July 1962 – 30 June 1964) the Commission examined Code table 4080 – t_Rt_R. It noted that this code does not in all cases specify the precise period over which the precipitation reported by RR has been measured. Relevant amendments to these codes were proposed for adoption as a matter of urgency in Recommendation 28 (CSM-III).

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SESSION

Rec. 26 (CSM-III) – CODING VISIBILITY AT OCEAN WEATHER STATIONS

THE COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY,

NOTING the suggestion in paragraph 7.4 of the general summary of the work of the third session of the Commission for Maritime Meteorology,

CONSIDERING:

- (1) That there are limitations in estimating visibility at sea,
- (2) That the requirements of synoptic and aeronautical meteorology do not call for the use of a fine scale of visibility at sea,

RECOMMENDS that the following amendments be made to Publication No. 9, Volume B:

- (a) Page I-A-1-30, Note (5) of FM 26.B should read:
“ (5) Only code figures 00-89 shall be used to encode $h_s h_s$ ”
- (b) Page I-A-3-30, Note (3) and (4) of VV should read:
“ (3) Only code figures 00-89 in the code table for VV shall be used for aeronautical purposes.
(4) In reporting visibility at sea the decade 90-99 shall be used. ”
- (c) Page I-A-4-62, Note (6) of Code 4377 should read:
“ (6) Only code figures 00-89 shall be used for aeronautical purposes. ”

Rec. 27 (CSM-III) – CODING REPORTS OF ICE ACCRETION ON SHIPS

THE COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY,
NOTING:

- (1) Resolution 18 (EC-III),
- (2) Recommendation 18 (CMM-III),

CONSIDERING the necessity for making provisions for the reporting in plain language of ice accretion on ships to conform to the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (1960),

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) That the optional group ($2I_sE_sR_s$) be adopted, with the following specifications:

- “ (a) I_s - Ice Accretion on Ships
 - I_s - 1 Icing from ocean spray
 - 2 Icing from fog
 - 3 Icing from spray and fog
 - 4 Icing from rain
 - 5 Icing from spray and rain
- (b) E_sE_s - Thickness of ice accretion on ships in cm.
- (c) R_s - Rate of ice accretion on ships
 - R_s - 0 Ice not building up
 - 1 Ice building up slowly
 - 2 Ice building up rapidly
 - 3 Ice melting or breaking up slowly
 - 4 Ice melting or breaking up rapidly. ”

(2) That this new group may be used in FM 21.A, 22.A, 23.B, and that it shall appear in the coded message as follows:

FM 21. A: Immediately following the waves group;

FM 22. A, FM 23. B: Following the group ($D_s v_s xxx$), and

(3) That when this phenomenon is reported in plain language it shall be preceded by the word "ICING",

(4) That the relevant changes be made in Volume B of Publication No. 9. TP.4.

Rec. 28 (CSM-III) – CODING 7RR_{t_Rt_R}

THE COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY,
NOTING:

- (1) Note (7) (i) of code form FM 21. A,
- (2) Note (2) under symbolic letters RR,
- (3) Code table 4080 – t_Rt_R,
- (4) CMM-II/Doc. 33,

CONSIDERING that to meet the request of the president of CMM, it is necessary to amend the coding procedures of the group 7RR_{t_Rt_R} to clarify the reporting of precipitation data by ships during the International Indian Ocean Expedition (1 July 1962 – 30 June 1964),

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) That the present Note (2) of RR be amended to read as follows:

“ (2) (a) In the case of mobile ship stations, the period for which the amount of precipitation is reported shall be approximately six hours preceding the main standard time of observation unless otherwise specified by the code figures.

(b) If the circumstances of wind and/or weather prevent the reading of rain-gauges with sufficient accuracy, and the amount of precipitation is reported for periods different from the six hours, this shall be specified by using the appropriate code figures of t_Rt_R (Code 4080). ”

- (2) That the following Regulations be added under symbolic letters t_Rt_R:

“ (1) When the period for which the amount of precipitation reported (RR) is approximately six hours, then:

(a) When the duration of precipitation is known, an appropriate figure for t_{RR} shall be chosen between 00 and 84.

(b) When the duration of precipitation is known, t_{RR} shall be coded 89. ”

“ (2) In the case of mobile ship stations, when the period for which the amount of precipitation reported (RR) is approximately 12, 18 or 24 hours, t_{RR} shall be coded as 90, 91 or 92 respectively.

Note: In these cases the duration of precipitation is not specified in the report. ”

(3) That code figure 89 be added at the appropriate place in Code Table 4080 with the following specifications:

“ 89 No specification of duration, RR relates to a period of approximately six hours. ”

(4) That these amendments be implemented as a matter of urgency and no later than 1 July 1962 to be applicable during the International Indian Ocean Expedition (1 July 1962 – 30 June 1964).