

COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY
ABRIDGED FINAL REPORT OF THE FIFTH SESSION

Geneva, 15 June – 3 July 1970

WMO – No. 269.RP.86

GENERAL SUMMARY

4.3 Revision of code forms in Chapter I of Volume B

4.3.5 General introduction of the type of message indicator group

4.3.5.1 The Commission noted that there were at present no uniform rules for the inclusion, in the text of a meteorological message, of an indication of the type of message. In some code forms, the code name should be transmitted, in others, the indicator group M_iM_i and in still other cases, no pertinent rules have been given.

The need for the inclusion of a type of message indicator group was considered under item 4 for SYNOP (see paragraph 4.2.3.4 (b)). However the Commission felt that the requirement for identifying each individual message (SYNOP, SHIP) could not be implemented for the time being due to limitation of the present telecommunication system. Therefore, the Commission requested its Working groups on GDPS and GTS to study this matter and formulate appropriate suggestions for future action. The Commission concluded that the requirement also existed in relation to other types of coded reports which are likely to be processed by automated equipment. It therefore decided that the group $M_iM_iM_jM_j$ should be included in a number of code forms and transmitted at the beginning of each individual report or at the beginning of the text of a bulletin of such reports. For uniformity, groups of four letters should replace the groups of two letters that already exist in some code forms.

4.3.5.2 It was also noted that no indication of the date and time of observation is included in the SYNOP code form FM 11.D. The Commission agreed that this indication should be provided, for the time being, and with

the same provision as made in paragraph 4.3.5.1 with regard to $M_iM_iM_jM_j$, at least at the beginning of the text of a bulletin of SYNOP reports, in the form of a four-figure group YYGG. These procedures should be introduced as from 1 January 1972 and, consequently, Recommendation 8 (CSM-V) was adopted.

Rec. 8 (CSM-V) – TIME AND TYPE OF MESSAGE INDICATOR GROUP

THE COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY,

NOTING:

- (1) That no uniform rules exist at present regarding the inclusion of an indication of the type of message in the text of a coded meteorological report,
- (2) The increase of the number of code forms for international use, as a result of new requirements regarding the exchange of meteorological and related information,

CONSIDERING:

- (1) That there would be advantages in using four-letter indicators, allowing the type of message to be given by the first pair of letters and the part of the message by the second pair,
- (2) That the system of identification should be applied to all code forms for synoptic observations,
- (3) That the type of message indicator group should be included in each message except, for the time being, in the case of SYNOP and SHIP reports where it should be given only in the first line of the text of a bulletin of such reports,
- (4) That the date and time of SYNOP reports should be indicated in the first line of the text of a bulletin of SYNOP's,

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) That the table of Code 2582 be replaced by the table given in Part A of the Annex* to this recommendation;
- (2) That the code forms FM 11.D, Fm 21.D, FM 22.D, FM 23.D, FM 32.D, FM 33.D, FM 35.D, FM 36.D and FM 41.D and the relevant notes under these code forms be amended to provide for the

- introduction of the group M_iM_iM_jM_j and, in the case of SYNOP, of the group YYGG;
- (3) That these code changes come into force on 1 January 1972;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to arrange for the necessary amendments as given in Part B of the Annex* to this recommendation, for SYNOP and PILOT by way of example, to be made to Chapter I, Part A, of Volume B, WMO Publication No. 9.TP.4.

* See Annex XII

ANNEX XII

Annex to Recommendation 8 (CSM-V) AMENDMENTS TO WMO PUBLICATION No. 9.TP.4, VOLUME B

Part A

M_iM_iM_jM_j – Identification letters of the code form

Code Form		M _i M _i	Part of Message – M _j M _j				No. distinction
			Part A	Part B	Part C	Part D	
SYNOP	FM 11.E	MM					XX
SHIP	FM 21.E	} NN					
SHIP	FM 22.E						XX
SHRED	FM 23.E						
SYNOP	FM 14.E	AA					XX
SHIP	FM 24.E	BB					XX
SAREP		CC	AA	BB			--
SAREP SHIP		DD	AA	BB			--
RADOB		FF	AA	BB			--
RADOB SHIP		GG	AA	BB			--
BATHY		JJ					XX
TESAC		KK					XX
CODAR		LL					XX
PILOT		PP	AA	BB	CC	DD	--
PILOT SHIP		QQ	AA	BB	CC	DD	--

ROCOB	RR					XX
ROCOB SHIP	SS					XX
TEMP	TT	AA	BB	CC	DD	--
TEMP SHIP	UU	AA	BB	CC	DD	--

M_iM_i are two identical letters indicating the code form and M_jM_j are two identical letters indicating the Part of the message where necessary.

- Notes (a) there shall be no space between M_iM_i and M_jM_j;
 (b) the four letters shall always be followed by a space and not immediately by any figure or other letter;
 (c) if it is not necessary to indicate the Part of the message, M_jM_j shall always be included in the group as XX.

Part B

Amendments to code forms FM 11.D and FM 32.D

- Amend the beginning of FM 11.D SYNOP to read:
 M_iM_iM_jM_j YYGG
 Iiiii Nddff ... (etc) ...
- Amend Note (1) under FM 11.D to read:
 “(1) SYNOP is the name of the code form for a surface report from a land station.”
- Insert new Note (2):
 “(2) In a bulletin of SYNOP reports the groups M_iM_iM_jM_j YYGG shall be given only in the first line of the text of the bulletin.”
- Substitute in each Part of FM 32.D M_iM_iM_jM_j for M_iM_i