

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1965

G-3.11

MEMORANDUM

TO : Regional and State Climatologists, NWRC, Field Aides (HC), Field Aides, River Forecast Centers, River District Offices, Regional Substation Management Units, and Regional Hydrologists (with copies to Regional Offices, Agricultural Service Offices, and Agricultural Forecast Offices for information)

FROM : Director of Climatology

SUBJECT: Climatological Services Memorandum No. 109

1. END OF CSM SERIES: With the change of the Office of Climatology from the Weather Bureau to Environmental Science Services Administration and its incorporation into the Environmental Data Service it is no longer appropriate to continue the issuance of this series under the present title. A similar medium of communication, expanded to serve the enlarged programs, is under consideration. Any suggestions for future format and frequency of appearance will be welcomed.

2. WMO COMMISSION FOR CLIMATOLOGY: Through its Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, the Swedish Government served as host to the fourth session of the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) Commission for Climatology (CCL) which met in Stockholm August 12-26, 1965. This meeting drew 80 delegates, advisers and/or observers from 47 countries with representatives from five other international organizations.

The United States was represented by Dr. H. E. Landsberg, Principal Delegate, U. S. Weather Bureau; Mr. H. C. S. Thom, Alternate, U. S. Weather Bureau; Col. T. H. Lewis, Air Weather Service, USAF; Mr. H. B. Harshbarger, U. S. Weather Bureau; Mr. Joseph M. Frosio, Navy Weather Service, U. S. Navy; and Mr. Franklin Newhall, Soil Conservation Service, USDA.

The meetings were held in the Swedish Parliament's Riksdag building which is located just across the street from the Royal Palace. This undoubtedly is one of the few times, if not the only time, that a host nation has turned over its legislative quarters to a Commission of the WMO. It was in this appropriate setting that the WMO presented its International Meteorological Organization Prize for 1965 to Dr. Sverre Petterssen. The presentation was made by Dr. Alf Nyberg, President of WMO and Director General of the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, assisted by Mr. D. A. Davies, Secretary-General of WMO. In addition to the CCL representatives, U. S. Ambassador and Mrs. J. Graham Parsons were present at the ceremony.

Work of the Commission included collaboration with other international bodies such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and International Society of Biometeorology (ISB). The discussions ranged from general agreement regarding basic procedures for exchange of information to the applications of climatology for some of the major problems of the work, including urban developments and their effect upon the climate, use of marginal lands for food production, human biometeorology, and the influence of climate on buildings. Improved Training in Climatology, Climatological Data Aspects of the World Weather Watch, Statistical Methods in Climatology, as well as Processing, Storage, and Retrieval of Climatological Data all received considerable attention. In addition the practical approach to such problems as Summarization of Climatological Data to meet various needs, preparation of Climatological Atlases, and the study of Climatic Fluctuations were discussed and plans were laid for further work between now and the next meeting of the Commission four years hence.

In general this session can be classed as one of the best attended and most productive of the CCI sessions. Much of the credit for this success should go to the host country for providing excellent facilities and arrangements so that those attending were capable of using their time most effectively.

3. TRANSMISSION OF WEEKLY MESSAGES: Except for the maps and tabular data, the weekly state messages provide the basic information for the national Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Although the agricultural story is usually the larger "half" and though the messages are often filed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Weather Bureau has always accepted the full responsibility for the transmission arrangements and costs.

In many states the usual transmissions via PBS teletype were disrupted by a reorganization of the latter service in June 1965. Previously most of the messages had been sent by one of the following procedures: (1) PBS teletype; (2) Western Union either directly to "Observer", Washington or via a WU refile; (3) WB teletype, RAWARC; (4) TWX collect. At the Washington end, all these methods work well and collect calls are acceptable. At the transmitting end, Western Union messages for refile or WU service charges must be billed to a WB office for payment by the RO.

Because of staffing problems, the Office of Climatology cannot routinely accept messages via FTS telephone. However, FTS can be used in emergency. FTS can be used to transmit messages to a PBS office. Most State Statistician offices have FTS. In one case, FTS is used to transmit messages to a WB office for filing on RAWARC.

Most Western Union offices accept telephoned messages. Where WU operates a PBS teletype transmitter, they are allowed to make a service charge of 1.5 to 2 cents per word for telephoned messages. Service charges or messenger charges should be billed to a WB office.

State Climatologists, in consultation with Regional Office staffs, should coordinate message transmission plans to achieve a maximum of economy and efficiency.

4. WB FORM 612-1 - WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT: It has been suggested that this form, when next revised, carry space at the bottom for Totals; also, that days of the week be printed in the "Day of Week" column.

State Climatologists are asked to comment. If you favor putting the days of the week on the card which day should be first? Would it be helpful to carry eight days, printing the same day of the week at the beginning and at the end? Do you have any other suggestions for revision of this form?

5. QUARTERLY PRODUCTIVITY REPORT: This form has been revised as of May 1965. Only two changes were made. The new instructions on the form provide for sending the original and one copy to the Regional Office in sufficient time for that office to forward the original to reach the Central Office by the 15th day following the end of the quarter.

The other change is that State Climatologists are asked to report the total number of storms reported during the quarter, rather than to report this by categories "a", "b", or "c". This change will result in more meaningful information on this item.

Present stock of this form (dated 11-63) may be used; however, "Storms Reported for Storm Data" should be in units and not by category.

Some clarification of the entries desired in answer to Items 2 and 4 has been requested. Under No. 2 "Consultations on Cooperative Technical Projects" should be included such projects as WB-University punched card programs, preparation of substation summaries in cooperation with other organizations, and similar projects.

Under Item 4 the crop bulletin material prepared for the National Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin should be counted, as well as material prepared for the State crop bulletin.

6. STATE CLIMATOLOGISTS MEET IN REGION ONE: State Climatologists in Region One met in New York on June 23 and 24, 1965, with the Regional Director, Regional Climatologist, and other Regional officials. Mr. Harshbarger attended from the Office of Climatology.

Each State Climatologist reported on projects of interest to him, and this was followed by a question-and-answer period and a general discussion of mutual problems.

7. WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN: All State Climatologists are asked to send us 2 copies of a recent State Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.

8. PUBLICATIONS DISTRIBUTED TO STATE AND REGIONAL CLIMATOLOGISTS SINCE CSM 107:

"Extreme Winter Temperatures in Tennessee", Morton H. Bailey, Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science, Volume 40, No. 1, January 1965.

"Meteorological and Agricultural Drought", Fieldhouse and Palmer, University of Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 353.

"Washington Climate for Adams, Lincoln, Spokane and Whitman Counties", Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, EM 2545, May 1965.

"The Climate of Connecticut", J. J. Brumbach, Bulletin 99, State Geological and Natural History Survey of Connecticut, 1965.

List of State Geologists - U. S. Geological Survey.

"The Climate of the Northeast, Precipitation Probabilities", B. E. Dethier.

"Atmospheric Sciences Research and Natural Resources", U. S. Department of the Interior.


H. E. Landsberg

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