

APPENDIX A

APPREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1. Certain words that appear frequently in this report are abbreviated as follows:

CINCPAC	Commander in Chief, Pacific
CINCPACAF	Commander in Chief, Pacific Air Force
CIRC	circular
CLD(S)	cloud(s)
CNTR	center
DEF	defined
DEG	degree
DIA	diameter
DIV	divergence
ELLIP	elliptical
ELONG	elongated
FAFWC	Fuchu Air Force Weather Central, Fuchu Air Station, Japan
54WRS	54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, M. I.
56WRS	56th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan
FNWF	Fleet Numerical Weather Facility, Monterey, California
FT, ft	feet
FWC/JTWC	Fleet Weather Central/Joint Typhoon Warning Center, Guam, M. I.
INDEF	indefinite
ITC	Intertropical Zone of Convergence
JMA	Japan Meteorological Agency
JMG/PACOM	Joint Meteorological Group, Pacific Command
K(KILO) Time	Mariana Islands local time
KT(S), kt(s)	knot(s)
MI, mi	nautical miles
MB(S), mb(s)	millibar(s)
MPT	Mid-Pacific trough
NA	not applicable
NMC	National Meteorological Center (formerly JNWP, Joint Numerical Weather Prediction)
NWSC	National Weather Satellite Center (formerly METSATLAB)
ORIEN	oriented

QUAD(S)	quadrant(s)
RAD	radius
SFC	surface
θe	Equivalent Potential Temperature
VW-1	Airborne Early Warning Squadron One, NAS Agana, Guam
WESTPAC	Western North Pacific Area
WND	wind
Z(ZULU) Time	Greenwich mean time

2. Points of the compass are abbreviated: N, SE, WNW, etc.

3. Latitude and longitude are abbreviated: 30N 140E, etc.

4. The following define and clarify certain words and phrases that appear in the tables, "Land Radar and Aircraft Fixes," Chapter IV.

A. FIX NO. - This number corresponds to the number of the fix plotted on the "Best Track Chart."

B. TIME - The date-time group of the fix

C. LAT. - Latitude of the fix

D. LONG. - Longitude of the fix.

E. UNIT, METHOD & ACCY -

(1) UNIT - The unit that made the fix: 54 - 54WRS, 56 - 56WRS, 315 - 315th Air Division

(2) METHOD - The method used to make the fix:
P - penetration, R - radar, T - triangulation, LND/RDR - land radar

(3) ACCY - The estimated accuracy of the fix in nautical miles

F. RECON MIN SLP MB - The minimum sea level pressure in millibars reported by aircraft.

G. JTWC MIN SLP MB - The minimum sea level pressure in millibars computed by JTWC

H. MAX SFC WND - The maximum observed surface wind in knots

I. MIN 700MB HGT - The minimum 700mb height in feet

J. MAX 700MB WND - The maximum 700mb wind in knots

K. 700MB T/Td (°C) - The maximum 700mb temperature and dewpoint in degrees centigrade

5. Synoptic tracks in the JTWC tropic area are:

A. Round Robin to two coordinates and flight time

10 plus hours with synoptic reports normally every hour. Legs are flown at 1500 ft, 700mb and 500mb at JTWC request.

B. TRANSPAC diversion to one coordinate not less than 5 DEG off course. Flight altitude will normally be 700mb or 500mb.

6. An investigation is the traverse of a reconnaissance aircraft over an area containing a suspected circulation that has been assigned a cyclone number.

7. A fix is the determination of the position of a tropical cyclone at a precise time. Generally, the term "fix" is used when the position of the cyclone has been determined by a reconnaissance aircraft penetration or by airborne, land or ship radar. In the case of a reconnaissance aircraft penetration, the actual fix may be based on one or all of the following: visual observation, radar, surface pressure, surface or upper level winds, constant pressure height, and temperature/dew point.

8. A sortie is defined as a flight by one aircraft with one or more objectives; i.e., it may make one or more fixes and/or one or more investigations on one or more tropical cyclones.

9. The term "tropical cyclone" or "cyclone" as used in this publication has two definitions dependent upon usage.

A. "Tropical cyclone" or "cyclone" is used to describe a suspected tropical cyclonic circulation which appears capable of intensification, and to which has been assigned a "cyclone number" for the purposes of reconnaissance and to assure that records regarding it are not confused with those of another circulation.

B. "Tropical cyclone" or "cyclone" is used in the general sense, e.g., "Typhoon JOAN was the most intense tropical cyclone of 1959," or "Tropical cyclones more frequently develop during August and September."

(1) A "Tropical Depression" as used by JTWC is a tropical cyclone with a confirmed cyclonic circulation for which warnings are being issued and whose surface wind speeds do not exceed 33 kts. Tropical depressions are numbered and often abbreviated TD.

(2) A "Tropical Storm" is a tropical cyclone in which the maximum surface wind speed is no more than 63 kts

but greater than 33 kts in warning status. Tropical storms are named and sometimes abbreviated TS.

(3) A "Typhoon" is a tropical cyclone located W of 180 DEG longitude in which the maximum surface wind speed is 64 kts or greater in warning status. Typhoons are named.

10. A "Stidd Diagram" or "checkerboard" is a chart on which a continuous plot of surface observations is maintained for a series of stations. The observations for each individual station are plotted in either a horizontal or vertical line.

11. Recurvature - that point at which the cyclone ceases movement to the W of N and commences moving to the E of N.

12. Vortices:

A. Embedded vortex of easterly wave - closed cyclonic circulation along easterly wave and separated from ITC.

B. Junction vortex - closed cyclonic circulation at the junction of easterly wave and ITC.

C. Embedded vortex of ITC - closed cyclonic circulation along ITC with absence of easterly wave

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