



PACIFIC REGION TECHNICAL NOTES

79-040
December 31, 1979

Annual Review (1979) of the Pacific Region Technical Notes

Mert Horita, ODIT Meteorologist
Pacific Weather Centre, Vancouver

INTRODUCTION

This note is presented as the last technical note of the year and as the 1979 annual review of the Pacific Region Technical Notes. Not only is this a review of the notes by the editors, but also a review by the operational weather offices in the Pacific Region who are cooperative members in these communicatory notes.

EDITOR'S GENERAL COMMENTS

During the past year 40 technical notes were published (See Appendix A). There was a wide range in subject matter, however, the majority of the notes fell into three categories. Although many notes used satellite pictures in their discussions, thirteen notes were directly associated with satellite imagery. Seven notes dealt with verification scores and nine dealt with examining particular forecasts and their relationships with the occurrence or non-occurrence of meteorological events. The special regard which was given to the importance of this last category resulted in the formalization of a forecast investigation series within our technical notes.

Of the 40 technical notes published, four were contributed by offices within the region other than the Pacific Weather Centre. More submissions would be better, but a good showing nevertheless considering the notes are produced by operational personnel who have little time for this type of activity within their shift schedules.

Nineteen of the technical notes were considered to be of interest to offices outside the region and therefore were sent on our national mailing list which represents a further 30 addresses.

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to review the impact of our notes a questionnaire identical to that of 1978 was sent to the 13 operational weather offices within the Pacific Region (excluding the Pacific Weather Centre).

Since the questionnaire was distributed in mid-December, many offices were likely not able to respond in time, those which did by the time of this writing were:

Vancouver Aviation, Prince George, Metoc Esquimalt, CFWO Comox, Kamloops, Kelowna, Castlegar, Penticton and Victoria.

A summary of the questionnaire responses is given in Appendix B.

OUR SUMMATION

As stipulated in the first technical note #78-001, the purpose of these notes is to provide a medium for the timely dissemination of technical operational information pertinent to the members of the Pacific Region. It is this criteria which each annual review considers in order to determine whether the recommendation for continuance or termination be made to the office of the Regional Director.

Based on the editor's review and the results of the questionnaire it will be recommended that the notes be continued through 1980. We will attempt to reproduce better quality satellite photos, however, the predicament we are in is that better quality photos mean delays in getting technical notes and also increased costs.

APPENDIX A

INDEX to Pacific Region Technical Notes (1979)

- 79-001A JANUARY 08, 1979
SURPRISE SNOWFALL AT PRINCE RUPERT - BOXING DAY 1978
BRIAN HAMMOND, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-002B FEBRUARY 05, 1979
AN EXAMPLE OF A TYPE B MATURE WINTER STORM
H.T. BEAL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-003A FEBRUARY 05, 1979
THE WAVE HEIGHT FORECASTING PROGRAMME OF THE
FRANK CUSHING, METEOROLOGIST
METOC CENTRE, ESQUIMALT, B.C.
- 79-004B FEBRUARY 14, 1979
RELATIONSHIP OF CLOUD SYSTEMS TO WIND AND VORTICITY
FIELDS
JOHN SPAGNOL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-005A FEBRUARY 14, 1979
PWC EXPERIMENTAL SATELLITE PROGRAM NOV. 1978 - JAN. 1979
MERT HORITA, ODIT METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-006A FEBRUARY 22, 1979
UPDATE ON STABILITY INDICIES FOR INTERIOR B.C STATIONS
H.W. RAYNOR, FIRE WEATHER METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-007A FEBRUARY 26, 1979
ANALYSIS OF PRINCE GEORGE SUMMER 1978 SLY INDEX PROGRAM
MERT HORITA, ODIT METEOROLOGIST PWC
PETER MADISON, METEOROLOGICAL PRESENTATION YXS
EARL ZILKIE, OIC W04 PRINCE GEORGE
- 79-008B FEBRUARY 27, 1979
SATELLITE IMAGES AND THE RADIATION SPECTRUM - PART I
MERT HORITA, ODIT METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-009A MARCH 01, 1979
UPDATE ON STABILITY INDICIES FOR COASTAL B.C. STATIONS
H.W. RAYNOR, FIRE WEATHER FORECASTER
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-010B MARCH 08, 1979
NEW TIROS-N SOUNDING DATA
MERT HORITA, ODIT METEOROLOGIST
JOHN SPAGNOL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE
- 79-011A MARCH 15, 1979
HYPOTHESIS TESTING-VANCOUVER PUBLIC VERIFICATION SCORES
PAT CARROLL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER

APPENDIX A (cont)

- 79-012A MARCH 28, 1979
THE CLIMAT AND OPERATIONAL WEATHER AT BONDARY BAY AIRPORT
GORD LAMB, AVIATION BRIEFER
VANCOUVER W04, A.E.S.
- 79-013B APRIL 3, 1979
A MID PACIFIC SQUALL LINE
J.T.THOMAS, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-014B APRIL 12, 1979
A VECTOR VERIFICATION SCHEME
MERT HORITA, OBIT METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-015A MAY 01, 1979
EXAMINATION OF THE PWC MOUNTAIN FORECAST PROGRAM QPF
TOM GIGLIOTTI, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-016B MAY 10, 1979
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE SURFACE PROG VERIFICATION SCORES
MERT HORITA, OBIT METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-017B JUNE 01, 1979
VERIFICATION EXPERIMENTS AT COMOX
W.L.RANAHAN, METEOROLOGIST
CFWO COMOX
- 79-018B JUNE 15, 1979
FURTHER EXAMINATION OF NEW TIROS-N SOUNDING DATA
PAT MORIN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-019A JUNE 18, 1979
EXPLANATORY NOTE ON SMALL WAVELENGTH COMMA STRUCTURES
AND CIRRUS STREAK OBSERVED MAY 5-9, 1979
MERT HORITA, OBIT METEOROLOGIST
BOB BEAL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-020B JULY 1, 1979
EXAMPLES OF WIND MAXIMA DELTA CIRRUS
H.T.BEAL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-021B JULY 13, 1979
EVALUATION OF THE CMC FOUR PANEL CLOUD AND PRECIPITATION
CHARTS FOR B.C.
JOHN THOMAS, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-022B JULY 27, 1979
A SURPRISE PACIFIC STORM, APRIL 1979
H.T. BEAL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-023A AUG1, 1979
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE 5-DAY FORECAST VERIFICATION
JOHN THOMAS, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER

APPENDIX A (cont)

- 79-024B AUG 2, 1979
OVERLAY FOR COMPUTATION OF DISTANCES ON THE
UC2 GOES SATELLITE PICTURE
BOB BROWN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-025B AUG 10, 1979
THE SATELLITE VIEWS THE MOON
JOHN SPAGNOL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-026A AUG 22, 1979
DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTABILITY LINE OVER THE
NORTHWEST-A CASE STUDY
BRIAN HAMMOND, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-027A SEPT 17, 1979
"INNOCUOUS" COLDFRONT WREAKS HAVOC IN SOUTHERN INTERIOR
SID RAMSDEN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-028A OCT 31, 1979
"UNFORECAST" THUNDERSTORMS IN THE KAMLOOPS AREA
AUG 2, 1979
BOB BITCON, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-029B NOV 1, 1979
THUNDERSTORMS AND FINE TUNING THE AREA OF ACTIVITY
PAT MORIN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-030B NOV 9, 1979
A RAIN SHADOW EXPOSED BY THE ABBOTSFORD RADAR
H. T. BEAL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-031B NOV 15, 1979
THE PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE 500MB ANALYSIS
JOHN SPAGNOL, SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-032A NOV 20, 1979
AN OVERVIEW OF THE CANADIAN FIRE WEATHER INDEX SYSTEM
VELLO PUSS, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-033A NOV 21, 1979
THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE 500MB HEIGHTS AND THE FIRE
WEATHER INDICES ALONG THE SOUTH COAST OF B.C. DURING
THE SUMMER OF 1979
VELLO PUSS, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER

APPENDIX A (cont)

- 79-034B NOV 29, 1979
ISOBARIC PROGNOSTIC CHARTS AND THE PWC SKILL SCORE
VERIFICATION
PAT MORIN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-035B DEC 5, 1979
A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INTO THE BREAKDOWN OF
BLOCKING RIDGES OFF THE WEST COAST
BOB BROWN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-036A DEC 6, 1979
UNDER FORECAST OF SNOWFALL AMOUNTS IN THE SOUTHERN
INTERIOR ON DEC 1, 1979 (FORECAST INVESTIGATION #1)
JOHN THOMAS, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-037A DEC 13, 1979
NON-FORECAST OF RAIN OVER SOUTHERN B.C. DEC 5, 1979
(FORECAST INVESTIGATION #2)
BOB BROWN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-038A DEC 19, 1979
SNOW WARNING FOR B.C. INTERIOR THURSDAY, DEC 13, 1979
(FORECAST INVESTIGATION #3)
PAT CARROLL, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-039A DEC 27, 1979
INVESTIGATION INTO A HEAVY SNOW WARNING FOR PORTIONS OF
THE LOWER MAINLAND AREA ON DEC 14, 1979 (FORECAST
INVESTIGATION #4)
BOB BROWN, METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER
- 79-040A DEC 31, 1979
ANNUAL REVIEW (1979) OF THE PACIFIC REGION TECHNICAL
NOTES
MERT HORITA, ODOT METEOROLOGIST
PACIFIC WEATHER CENTRE, VANCOUVER

APPENDIX B

<u>SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE</u> (for comparison, 1978 responses are also shown)	<u>DISTRIBUTION</u> <u>OF REPLIES</u>	
	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>
1. Which of the following should be done?		
- Discontinue notes	0	0
- Make changes to make it worthwhile	0	0
- Leave is is	5	9
- Make changes to make it better	6	0
- No answer	1	0
2. How many of the notes are read?		
- All	8	7
- Most of them	3	2
- Some	1	0
- None	0	0
3. Are you saving the notes?		
- All	12	9
- Most of them	0	0
- Some	0	0
- None	0	0
4. Will members of your office be contributing articles in the coming 12 months?		
- Yes	4	3
- No	0	1
- Maybe	8	5
5. In general is the quality of zeroxed satellite pictures sufficient to understand the articles?		
- Yes	1	3
- Most of them	9	4
- Seldom	2	2
- No		

Questions 7 and 8 were more subjective in nature and here are the replies:

7. What change would you like to see in the notes?

- None
- Would like to see more input by the Field Techs
- Keep it short (NOTE!). Keep it operationally oriented
- I would like to see more contributions from the WO4's
- At present, none
- Better quality pictures
- Quality of the notes is good, and have no suggestions of changes.

8. Your general comments about the Technical Notes:

- Good - Better if kept very current while memories are still fresh
- Although some of the notes do not strike me personally as all that technical perhaps someone else may appreciate the data.
- They are a useful aid to field offices. The fact that they are published promptly and deal, for the most part, with current problems adds to their value.
- We appreciate the recent forecast investigations
- The staff here appreciate the Technical Notes and feel that they serve a good purpose in informing and keeping us up-to-date on significant weather situations and weather problems. The new series on bust-forecasts are worthy of special note and praise.
- The more interesting T.N. are those which are right after the occurrence of interest. Bust forecast T.N. are among these.
- Our interest in the notes is varied depending on the subject but generally the quality is good and informative.
- Well done and a good source for lectures to various flying clubs and other groups.
- Good work. Keep it up.