SURFACE WEATHER OBSERVATIONS

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This supplement expands on the guidance provided in AFMAN 15-111, and is applicable to all PACAF weather units to include all USAF active duty. This supplement applies to Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard (ANG) and civilian-contracted (except ANG units) weather units when conducting weather operations in PACAF. The numbering sequence for the paragraphs corresponds to the appropriate paragraph in AFMAN 15-111 (19 December 2003).

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

References to Table 2.2 have been deleted. Paragraphs relating to additive data have been revised for clarification, and references to RVR reporting have been deleted. A bar (|) indicates new or revised material from the previous edition.

AFMAN 15-111, 19 December 2003, is supplemented as follows:

3.3.12.2.2. (Added) PACAF weather units are not required to transmit 8/// and 9/// groups.

3.3.19.1.2.2.1. (Added) Precipitation (Column 44) Limited Duty. At units opening between 0000 and 0200 UTC, determine this precipitation data at the time of the first METAR of the day and enter it on the line corresponding to the 0000Z 6-hourly observation.

3.3.20.2.2.1. (Added) Snow Fall (Column 45) Limited Duty. At units opening between 0000 and 0200 UTC, determine this precipitation data at the time of the first METAR of the day and enter it on the line corresponding to the 0000Z 6-hourly observation.

3.3.21.3.2.1. (Added) Snow Depth (Column 46) Limited Duty. At units opening between 0000 and 0200 UTC, determine this data at the time of the first METAR of the day and enter it on the line corresponding to the 0000Z 6-hourly observation. This depth is also entered in column 70 and requires a remark to indicate the time applicable to the amount.

3.3.27.1. (Added) Snow Depth (Column 70). Units west of the International Date Line will make this entry at 0000 UTC. All others units will make this entry at 1200 UTC.

Table 5.2. Reporting Requirements for Additive Data(See Notes).

Note 2. 24-Hour Precipitation Amount. PACAF units west of the International Date Line (e.g. Korea, Japan, Guam) will code and transmit 7R24R24R24R24 group at 0000Z. All other PACAF weather units will code and transmit at 1200Z. Limited duty stations will code and transmit on the first 6-hourly METAR after opening.

Note 3. PACAF weather units are not required to transmit the 1SnTxTxTx and 2SnTnTnTn groups.

Note 4. (Added) Snow Depth on Ground, 4/sss. At units opening between 0000 and 0200 UTC, determine total snow depth on the ground at the time of the first METAR of the day.

Table A3.1. Manual, Automated, and Plain Language Remarks/Additive Data.

Note 2. (Ref: Remark Number 28) 24-Hour Precipitation Amount. PACAF units west of the International Date Line (e.g. Korea, Japan, Guam) will code and transmit 7R24R24R24R24 group at 0000Z. All other PACAF weather units will code and transmit at 1200Z. Limited duty stations will code and transmit on the first 6-hourly METAR after opening.

Note 3. (Ref: Remark Number 29) Snow Depth on Ground. At units opening between 0000 and 0200 UTC, determine total snow depth on the ground at the time of the first METAR of the day.

Note 4. (Added) (Ref: Remark Numbers 31 and 32) PACAF weather units are not required to transmit the 1SnTxTxTx and 2SnTnTnTn groups.

Note 5. (Added) (Ref: Remark Number 11) Beginning and Ending of Precipitation. At manual units, if the initial SPECI taken for the beginning and/or ending of precipitation was not transmitted longline, include the time of beginning (B) and/or ending (E) with the current (most recent) remark in the next SPECI or METAR observation which is transmitted longline. The encoded remarks are not required in SPECI and should be reported in the next METAR only if not previously transmitted longline. Encode beginning and ending of precipitation in format, **w'w'B(hh)mmE(hh)mm**, where w'w' is the type of precipitation, B denotes the beginning, E denotes the ending, and (hh)mm is the time of occurrence (only the minutes are required if the hour can be inferred from the report time). There are no spaces between the elements. Do not encode intensity qualifiers.

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