



## OHIO MILITARY RESERVE

403.00

Standing Operating Procedure

# WEATHER INTELLIGENCE

Headquarters, Ohio Military Reserve  
Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence (G2)  
1000 Lawrence Road  
Camp Perry Training Site  
Port Clinton, Ohio  
43402-2921

**01 January 1998**

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Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence and Security (G-2)  
1000 Lawrence Road, Camp Perry Training Site  
Port Clinton, Ohio 43402-2921

OHMR-G2

01 Jan 98

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Weather Intelligence - SOP 403.00

1. REFERENCE

FM 30-5, Combat Intelligence

2. GENERAL

This SOP describes the requirements for producing weather intelligence and the forms and formats to be used in developing weather intelligence products.

3. PURPOSE

Weather Intelligence/Information is produced by observation and analysis of the meteorological condition and behavior of the atmosphere at a given time and place so that commanders and staffs may properly plan and conduct operations.

4. SCOPE

This SOP is applicable to all units under the command or control of the Ohio Military Reserve.

5. RESPONSIBILITY

The intelligence staff officers at each level (corps, brigade, battalion) have overall staff responsibility for the collection and processing of weather data into weather intelligence. The intelligence plans officer at each level conducts staff coordination of the weather intelligence collection and analysis program at each level.

6. PRINCIPLES

Weather Support is based on four principles:

- a. The deployment, employment, effectiveness and logistical support of all field units are profoundly affected by atmospheric conditions.
- b. Commanders must consider all weather factors, both favorable and unfavorable, to determine the best course of action for mission accomplishment.
- c. Because of the perishable nature of the data, weather observations and forecasts must be constantly monitored and updated to assure accuracy and operational value.
- d. Effective weather support requires a dedicated means of reliable communications.

7. OPERATIONS

The intelligence staff officer will:

- a. interpret the effects of weather on personnel, equipment and tactics;
- b. interpret potential of weather to create a hostile or dangerous environment for operational forces or for subversive elements to use weather to exploit an advantage;
- c. coordinate and consolidate the commander's requirements for weather reporting support;
- d. coordinate with other organizations and levels of command to arrange for a timely exchange of information;
- e. coordinate weather training requirements with the training officer;

- f. instruct subordinate units on what information is required, where and when it is required and how it is to be forwarded;
- g. receive required information and disseminate weather intelligence;
- h. integrate weather intelligence into advance planning to insure that the weather is incorporated into future operations.

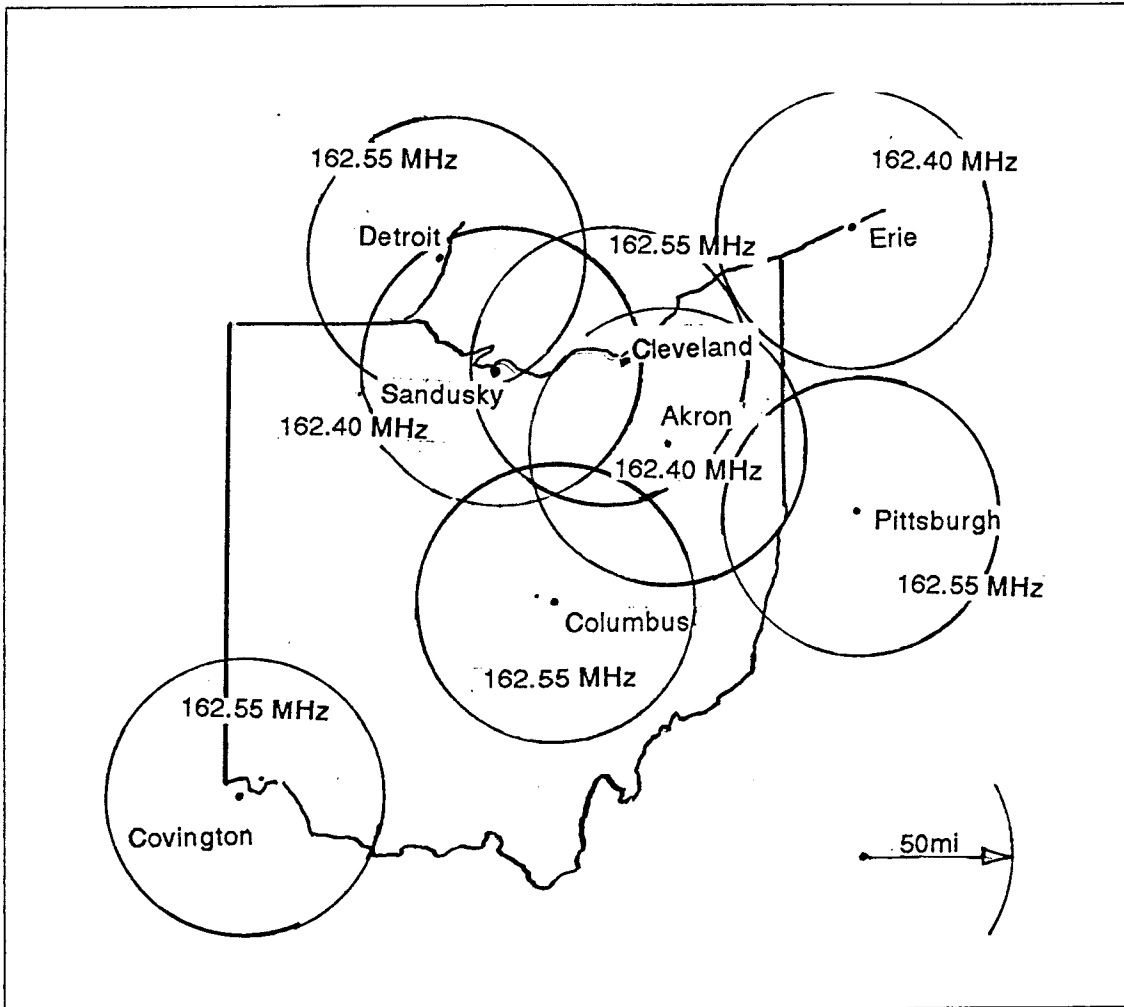


Figure 1

## 8. WEATHER INFORMATION

There are three primary sources of accurate weather information:

- a. Commercial News - Most news media offer weather information on an infrequent schedule and frequently the data is too old for purposes of the Intelligence Section. However, it is better than nothing if it is all that is available. An exception to this is the Weather Channel which provides national weather reporting nationwide 24 hours per day and is available via cable or satellite television. Its major drawback is the length of time that may occur between local weather reports. In most cases, commercial sources rely on the National Weather Service for their information.

b. National Weather Service - The most reliable and convenient source of weather information is the National Weather Service (NWS) and this will be the primary source used by intelligence sections in producing weather products for the command. The NWS broadcasts regular forecasts and warnings of natural emergencies and disasters to the general public and emergency response agencies. Broadcasts are continuous 24 hours per day. Taped weather forecasts are repeated every 4 - 6 minutes and are routinely revised every 2 - 3 hours; more frequently if required. The broadcasts tailor weather information to the needs of the persons in the receiving area. Stations on the Great Lakes provide additional specialized information for those engaged in coastal or marine activities. Frequencies used are 162.40 MHz and 162.55 MHz. Broadcast range depends on terrain and type of receiver but usually extends 40 - 60 miles. Figure 1 shows NWS coverage in Ohio. The NWS may also be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>. This home page location offers links to specific NWS stations and other services.

c. Warnings - The NWS forecasters can interrupt routine weather broadcasts and substitute special warnings messages.

1) The NWS, in cooperation with the Emergency Broadcast System, can interrupt regular commercial radio and television broadcasts to alert citizens of imminent and severe danger.

2) The NWS can also activate specially designed warning receivers to alert listeners to an emergency broadcast. The receiver will either sound and alarm or be automatically turned on to the broadcast, at the option of the listener. Such receivers should have a sensitivity of one microvolt or less and a quieting factor of 20db.

## 8. WEATHER PRODUCTS

Weather products are the output of weather observation and analysis. They are grouped into five main categories:

a. Weather Reports - Weather reports provide information on existing and expected weather conditions within the area of operations. Forecasts will be made for 24 hours, 48 hours and a 3 - 5 day general outlook. They should be updated every four hours during operations or as the commander directs. Information is usually obtained from the National Weather Service. Weather reports include barometric readings, temperature ranges, humidity, precipitation, wind speed and direction, cloud data, and light data (sunrise, sunset, moonrise, moonset). If operating in coastal areas or along major rivers, water temperature, currents, and tidal information may be added. Light data, as well as tidal information, can be easily found in a current issue of a "Farmer's Almanac". Refer to Annex A for a weather report form.

b. Weather Warnings - Warnings will be issued as required to provide notice of possible extreme weather conditions such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, hailstorms, destructive winds, etc.

c. Special Forecasts - Special forecast, addressing specific areas in interest, will be prepared as required by the commander.

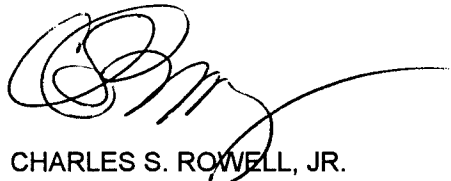
d. Climatic Studies/Summaries - Climatic studies or summaries will be prepared as required to provide analysis of climate and weather effect on specific operations or activities. Information provided will include:

- 1) Weather description - prevailing weather during the period covered by the study.
- 2) Temperatures - expected temperatures and temperature variations for the period.
- 3) Precipitation - total rain, snow or fog expected, including frequency, intensity and duration.
- 4) Expected winds - direction and speed of prevailing winds, and maximum expected wind speeds.
- 5) Cloudiness - data on seasonal periods of protracted cloudiness.

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- 6) Humidity - percentage expected for the period.
- 7) Severe weather - probability of thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail storms, etc.
- e. Weather Briefings - Briefings will be conducted as required to provide the commander and staff with current and forecast weather conditions and major weather problems which will impact operations.



CHARLES S. ROWELL, JR.  
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Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2

Annex:  
A - Weather Report Form

DISTRIBUTION:  
Corps SOP Binder  
All Bde Cdrs  
All Bn Cdrs

ANNEX A (Weather Report Form) to SOP 403.00

WEATHER REPORT																
										LOCATION			DATE/TIME GROUP			
DATE	TIME	BAROMETRIC		TEMPERATURE		RELATIVE HUMIDITY	PRECIP (inches)	WIND		CLOUDS			LIGHT DATA			
		READ	TEND	HI	LO			MPH	DIR	AMT	TYPE	DIR	SR	SS	MR	MS
prev 24 hr																
curr read																
next 24 hr																
next 48 hr																
3 - 5 day																
REMARKS:																
Prepared by:						Date/Time Group			Released by:				Date/Time Group			