

ANNEX II

SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED BY OCEAN STATION VESSELS

A—*Meteorological Services*

1. Meteorological observations shall be made on all ocean station vessels in accordance with the following programme:
 - (a) surface observations, eight times daily, the observations to include all elements prescribed by the World Meteorological Organization for ships' observations;
 - (b) special observations of meteorological phenomena and of important changes, which may occur between the regular observations;
 - (c) upper wind observations not less than four times daily, such observations to be made normally by radar methods. The requirement is for upper wind observations to an altitude of at least 55,000 feet. In the event of failure of the radar equipment, however, the observations shall be made by visual methods;
 - (d) upper air pressure, temperature and humidity observations four times daily, whenever practicable, and, in any case, not less than twice daily.
2. Reports of the observations referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be transmitted to the appropriate shore stations in the prescribed International Meteorological Codes.
3. Reports of observations from other ocean station vessels may be received and re-transmitted in accordance with national or bilateral arrangements.
4. Reports of observations from an ocean station vessel shall be transmitted to aircraft, on request, in plain language, Q Code or in the appropriate International Meteorological Code.
5. Meteorological reports required by aircraft contemplating ditching shall be given in plain language, or, if language difficulties are anticipated, in Q Code. The report shall consist of the following elements in the order given:
 - (a) sea level pressure;
 - (b) surface wind speed in knots and direction in degrees magnetic;
 - (c) swell intensity and direction in degrees magnetic;
 - (d) state of sea;
 - (e) visibility;
 - (f) amount and height of base of low cloud (both main layer and any scattered clouds below);
 - (g) present weather.
6. Each Contracting Government operating one or more ocean station vessels shall provide, to all other Contracting Governments, copies of all regular surface and upper air meteorological observations made by such vessel or vessels.
7. Statistical meteorological records and summaries of the observations made by the ocean station vessels shall be maintained in standard form and copies exchanged between the Contracting Governments.