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Weather

**MILITARY METEOROLOGY &  
U.S. ARMY WEATHER WATCHING/FORECASTING, 1819-1960**

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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**GENERAL SOURCES**

Army Almanac. Harrisburg, PA: Stackpole, 1959. pp. 269 & 743-44. UA25.A75.

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Fuller, John F. Weather and War. Pamphlet, USAF. Military Airlift Command, 1974. 27 p. UJ400.F85.

Markus, Rita M., et al. Air Weather Service: Our Heritage, 1937-1987. Special study, 167 p. UH10.398.M37.

Chronology, insignia, awards, commanders, etc, plus early history under US Army.

Middleton, W.E. Catalog of Meteorological Instruments in the Museum of History and Technology. Wash, DC: Smithsonian, 1969. 128 p. QC876.M5.

**See also:**

-Bibliography on Weather Overview in Weather.

**MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, 1819-1870**

The Army instituted a network of meteorological observation by its surgeons in 1819. Although this system came under the Signal Corps in 1870, post surgeons continued to make the Army's weather observations into the 20th century. See:

Ashburn, P.M. A History of the Medical Department of the United States Army. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1929. pp. 40 & 387-88. UM23.A8.

Hume, Edgar E. "Foundation of American Meteorology by the United States Army Medical Department." Military Surgeon (Aug 1940): pp. 89-118. Per.

U.S. War Dept. Surgeon General's Office. Meteorological Register for Twelve Years.... Wash, DC: Alexander, 1851. 324 p. QC983.A113.

The preface, pp. 3-6, contains a few remarks on the early system and describes some equipment and procedures; the rest is the annually tabulated data.

\_\_\_\_\_. Statistical Report on the Sickness and Mortality in the Army of the United States Compiled from the Records of the Surgeon General's Office...from January, 1839 to January, 1855. Senate Executive Document No 96, 34<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> session, 1856. 703 p. UH223.A4.S72.

See pp. 509-602, consolidated tables and summaries of meteorological data.

\_\_\_\_\_. Army Meteorological Register for Twelve Years, from 1843 to 1854, Inclusive.... Wash, DC: Nicholson, 1855. 766 p. QC983.A15.

Intro, pp. v-xi, contains info on procedures and detailed instructions for taking observations.

\_\_\_\_\_. Regulations for the Medical Department of the Army. Wash, DC, 1850. 70 p. UM23.A34.

Meteorological directions appear on pp. 34-42; Forms No 4 & 5 for meteorological reporting are found on pp. 46-50.

\_\_\_\_\_. Regulations for Medical Department, 1856. pp. 25-31 & 42-45. UM23.A34.

Varies in some details from 1850 regulations.

\_\_\_\_\_. Regulations for Med Dept, 1860. pp. 33-39 & 49-53. UM23.A34.

Slight changes from 1856 regulations.

**See also:**

-Names & stations of surgeons assist surgeons in annual Army Registers.

-Secretary of War Annual Report to Congress, which includes reports of Surgeon General (UA24's & American State Papers, J33), but contain very little meteorological information.

**SIGNAL CORPS, 1870-1890**

Greely, Adolphus W. Reminiscences of Adventure and Service. NY: Scribner's, 1927. Chap 18. E181.G79.

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Hawes, Joseph M. "The Signal Corps and its Weather Service, 1870-1890." Military Affairs (Summer 1966): pp. 68-76. Per.

Larew, Karl. "Meteorology in the U.S. Signal Corps, 1870-1960." Draft study, Signal Corps Historical Division, 1960. pp. 1-21 & 78-79. UJ400.L3.

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U.S. Army Signal School. Historical Sketch of the Signal Corps (1860-1928). Pamphlet No 32, Ft Monmouth, NJ, 1929. pp. 27-29, 31, 36 & 39-40. UJ23.A55.

U.S. Dept of Army. Office, Chief Signal Officer. "Weather and the Signal Corps." Contained in "Press packet for 96th anniversary, US Army Signal Corps, 21 June 1956." 19 p. Anniversary Box, Signal Corps Coll, Arch.

Incomplete--w/last pages(s) missing. Includes 7 photos, 2 of which depict 19th cent weather-collecting stations.

U.S. War Dept. Office, Chief Signal Officer. Suggestions as to the Practical Uses of Meteorological Reports and Weather Maps. Wash, DC: GPO, 1871. 58 p. E173.P17no12.

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\_\_\_\_\_. Instructions to Observers of the Signal Service, United States Army. Wash, DC: GPO, 1881. 242 p., charts. UJ23.A2.I58.

Includes descriptions of equip, pp. 16-41.

\_\_\_\_\_. Signal Corps Information Letter. Quarterly, 1934-1941 (Nos. 1-25) and monthly, Dec 1941 (No. 1) to Dec 1944 (No. 37) as Signal Corps Technical Information Letter. Per.

\_\_\_\_\_. General Order 29 (1870), 48 (1888), 124 (1890), 103 (1898) GOs.

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Whitnah, Donald R. A History of the United States Weather Bureau. Urbana, IL: U IL, 1965. pp. 10-11 & 17-60. QC875.U7.W452.

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Garbett, L.G. "Meteorology & The Fighting Services." Journal of the Royal United Service Institute (RUSI) (Nov 1928): pp. 700-12. Per.

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Martin , Robert A. "Meteorology in Peace and War." Military Engineer (Sep/Oct 1940): pp. 343-46. Per.

Reed, Thomas R. "Meteorology - An Aid to Aviation." Military Engineer (Nov/Dec 1926): pp. 476- . Per.

Richeson, Voorheis. "Army Weather Forecasters." 2 pts. US Army Recruiting News (Feb 1937): pp. 6-7 & (Mar 1937): pp. 6-7 & 18. Per.

Stice, Kenneth S. "Weather Forecasting for the Army." Chemical Warfare (Mar 1926): p. 2- . Per.

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Wells, Clarence F. "Weather and Warfare: The Military Uses of Meteorological Data." Army Ordnance (Sep/Oct 1935): pp. 425-27. Per.

Wenstrom, W.H. "Modern Meteorology." Signal Corps Bulletin (Jul/Aug 1935): pp. 8-25. Per.

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Firsthand account of Mobile Unit #1, 1945.

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Porter, Robert A. "Cooperation in Weather." Coast Artillery Journal (Sep/Oct 1946): pp. 167-209. Per.  
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**See also:**

-Bibliographies on Chemical; Biological; Nuclear.

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**NOTE:** USAF Air Weather Service has meteorological responsibility for the Army since 1960.

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### **See also:**

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