

GLACIOLOGICAL DATA

REPORT GD-10

GLACIOLOGY IN CHINA

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**WORLD DATA CENTER A FOR GLACIOLOGY
[SNOW AND ICE]**

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DESCRIPTION OF WORLD DATA CENTERS¹

WDC-A: Glaciology (Snow and Ice) is one of three international data centers serving the field of glaciology under the guidance of the International Council of Scientific Unions Panel of World Data Centers. It is part of the World Data Center System created by the scientific community in order to promote worldwide exchange and dissemination of geophysical information and data. WDC-A endeavors to be promptly responsive to inquiries from the scientific community, and to provide data and bibliographic services in exchange for copies of publications or data by the participating scientists.

1. The addresses of the three WDCs for Glaciology and of a related Permanent Service are:

World Data Center A
University of Colorado
Campus Box 449
Boulder, Colorado, 80309 U.S.A.

World Data Centre C
Scott Polar Research Institute
Lensfield Road
Cambridge, CB2 1ER, England

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Molodezhnaya 3
Moscow 117 296, USSR

Permanent Service on the Fluctuations of
Glaciers - Department of Geography
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
Sonneggstrasse 5
CH-8092 Zurich, Switzerland

2. Subject Matter

WDCs will collect, store, and disseminate information and data on Glaciology as follows:

Studies of snow and ice, including seasonal snow; glaciers; sea, river, or lake ice; seasonal or perennial ice in the ground; extraterrestrial ice and frost.

Material dealing with the occurrence, properties, processes, and effects of snow and ice, and techniques of observing and analyzing these occurrences, processes, properties, and effects, and ice physics.

Material concerning the effects of present day and snow and ice should be limited to those in which the information on ice itself, or the effect of snow and ice on the physical environment, make up an appreciable portion of the material.

Treatment of snow and ice masses of the historic or geologic past, or paleoclimatic chronologies will be limited to those containing data or techniques which are applicable to existing snow and ice.

3. Description and Form of Data Presentation

3.1 General. WDCs collect, store and are prepared to disseminate raw⁺, analyzed, and published data, including photographs. WDC's can advise researchers and institutions on preferred formats for such data submissions. Data dealing with any subject matter listed in (2) above will be accepted. Researchers should be aware that the WDCs are prepared to organize and store data which may be too detailed or bulky for inclusion in published works. It is understood that such data which are submitted to the WDCs will be made available according to guidelines set down by the ICSU Panel on WDCs in this Guide to International Data Exchange. Such material will be available to researchers as copies from the WDC at cost, or if it is not practicable to copy the material, it can be consulted at the WDC. In all cases the person receiving the data will be expected to respect the usual rights, including acknowledgement, of the original investigator.

¹International Council of Scientific Unions. Panel on World Data Centers. (1979) Guide to International Data Exchange Through the World Data Centres. 4th ed. Washington, D.C. 113 p.

⁺The lowest level of data useful to other prospective users.

This Guide for Glaciology was prepared by the International Commission on Snow and Ice (ICSI) and was approved by the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) in 1978.

3.2 Fluctuations of Glaciers. The Permanent Service is responsible for receiving data on the fluctuations of glaciers. The types of data which should be sent to the Permanent Service are detailed in UNESCO/IASH (1969)*. These data should be sent through National Correspondents in time to be included in the regular reports of the Permanent Service every four years (1964-68, 1968-72, etc.). Publications of the Permanent Service are also available through the WDCs.

3.3 Inventory of Perennial Snow and Ice Masses. A Temporary Technical Secretariat (TTS) was recently established for the completion of this IHD project at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. Relevant data, preferably in the desired format**, can be sent directly to the TTS or to the World Data Centers for forwarding to the TTS.

3.4 Other International Programs. The World Data Centers are equipped to expedite the exchange of data for ongoing projects such as those of the International Hydrological Project (especially the studies of combined heat, ice and water balances at selected glacier basins***), the International Antarctic Glaciological Project (IAGP), the Greenland Ice Sheet Project (GISP), etc., and for other developing projects in the field of snow and ice.

4. Transmission of Data to the Centers

In order that the WDCs may serve as data and information centers, researchers and institutions are encouraged:

4.1. To send WDCs raw⁺ or analyzed data in the form of tables, computer tapes, photographs, etc., and reprints of all published papers and public reports which contain glaciological data or data analysis as described under heading (2); one copy should be sent to each WDC or, alternatively, three copies to one WDC for distribution to the other WDCs.

4.2. To notify WDCs of changes in operations involving international glaciological projects, including termination of previously existing stations or major experiments, commencement of new experiments, and important changes in mode of operation.

*UNESCO/IASH (1969) Variations of Existing Glaciers. A Guide to International Practices for their Measurement.

**UNESCO/IASH (1970a) Perennial Ice and Snow Masses. A Guide for Compilation and Assemblage of Data for a World Inventory; and
Temporary Technical Secretariat for World Glacier Inventory. Instructions for Compilation and Assemblage of Data for a World Glacier Inventory.

***UNESCO/IASH (1970b) Combined Heat, Ice and Water Balances at Selected Glacier Basins. A Guide for Compilation and Assemblage of Data for Glacier Mass Balance Measurements; and

UNESCO/IASH (1973) Combined Heat, Ice and Water Balances at Selected Glacier Basins. Part II, Specifications, Standards and Data Exchange.

⁺The lowest level of data useful to other prospective users

FOREWORD

The renewal of scientific links with the People's Republic of China is re-awakening interest in information on the past and present environment of this vast area of eastern Asia. Several exchanges of scientists with expertise in glaciology or related fields have already taken place and in the near future we may anticipate direct collaborative research projects between western and Chinese scientists. To familiarize western scientists with current areas of Chinese activity in this field, and to identify older sources of information that may still be relevant, the Data Center invited Ms. Jane Bradley to prepare a bibliography of publications on glaciological studies in China and Tibet during her recent stay in Cambridge, England. This issue contains the results of her work in the libraries there and also a report prepared by Dr. Troy Péwé on glaciological research in China, following his recent visit to several Chinese institutes. Other communications in this issue report on pictorial representations of glaciers, and ice services provided by the Atmospheric Environment Service, Environment Canada.

Glaciological Data Report GD-11, to be issued in September, will contain the reports and recommendations of the November 1980 Snow Watch Workshop sponsored by the National Science Foundation. A subsequent issue will contain a bibliography on glacier hydrology prepared by the ICSI Working Group on Prediction of Glacier Runoff chaired by Dr. Gordon Young.

We thank our contributors for their submissions, and our staff for their efforts in preparing this publication.

R.G. Barry
Director
World Data Center-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice]

Ann M. Brennan
Technical Editor

CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	v
GLACIOLOGY IN CHINA	
Permafrost Research in China - Troy L. Péwé	1
Chinese Snow and Ice Bibliography - Jane E. Bradley	5
COMMUNICATIONS	
Pictorial Records of Glaciers - Charlene Wright Locke	39
WDC-A for Glaciology Photo Index File: An Update	55
Canadian Ice Services - David Mudry	57
NOTES	
Meetings	61
Arctic Ocean Buoy Data	63
Defense Meteorological Satellite Program Data	65

GLACIOLOGY IN CHINA

Permafrost Research in China*

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This report presents a short historical review of permafrost investigations in China and notes concerning permafrost in institutes and departments of academies, ministries, and universities.

Permafrost Investigations in China from informal discussions with Mr. Tong Boliang of the Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology, Academia Sinica, Lanzhou, China.

There were no permafrost studies in China until after 1949. The first permafrost investigation was in 1950 in connection with railway construction in northeast China (Manchuria). No background information was available concerning frozen ground problems and the building of the railroads in permafrost terrain; therefore, engineers constructing railroads encountered many difficulties. Because of these problems, a study group on permafrost problems was established within the Ministry of Railways.

Also in the 1950's, a highway was constructed to Tibet and permafrost was encountered. The construction problems were not too severe because it was only a pioneer gravel road.

In the 1960's, there were additional surveys for railways in the northeast. Also at this time the surveying for railways into Tibet started. Permafrost then began to be investigated by scientists connected with the Academia Sinica. The railway project was purported to be the first large-scale permafrost study.

It was also in the 1960's that work in permafrost began to be expanded, especially in the Academia Sinica, with consideration of permafrost problems involving water supply and coal mining. There was a better understanding of such problems throughout the 1960's into the 1970's. As work with permafrost increased, the organization responsible for permafrost studies in the Academia Sinica was the Institute of Geography. Problems of permafrost were also being studied in the Engineering and Construction Institute of the Academy.

Studies in permafrost also began to be considered by scientists at the universities, and in 1963-64, personnel at the University of Lanzhou began to do research in this field. Since 1963-64 the University of Lanzhou has had a permafrost course.

In the early 1970's, most permafrost information was needed in the mining and railway industries, as well as in general construction. Most of this information was needed for the area lying north of the Yellow River. In 1974, there began the second large survey for a railroad into Tibet. This survey is still actively underway. Since then, there has been a base camp, or what might be called a permafrost field station, on the Tibet Plateau under the aegis of the China Academy of Railway Sciences.

In regard to railways and general construction, permafrost work seems, at present, to be divided as follows; questions dealing with foundation and frost heaving, are primarily studied under the Construction Ministry; the study of railroads and associated structures on permafrost is coordinated under the Ministry of Railroads; permafrost work in the Academia Sinica at the Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology undertakes more of the basic studies on the properties of frozen ground. Lanzhou provides basic engineering and scientific information to the two ministries mentioned earlier. Information on frost heaving and hydraulic problems is in great demand.

The first permafrost maps were published by the Lanzhou Institute at a scale of 1:1,000,000. Recently a strip map of permafrost conditions along the Qingzang Highway was published at a scale of 1:500,000. There is reported to be a map at 1:600,000 of part of the Plateau dealing with basic permafrost information for railroad construction.

Permafrost work is increasing in various ministries and institutes associated with the Academia Sinica as well as the universities. Since 1978, the Lanzhou Institute has been designated the Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology. The first National Conference of Glaciology and Cryopedology met at Lanzhou.

* Reprinted with the author's permission from: China-Tibet Memorandum to the National Academy of Sciences, Polar Research Board, Committee on Permafrost, May-June 1980, 19 p.

Regional permafrost studies are now underway in the northeastern part of China as well as the Tibet Plateau. These studies consider basic information as well as the application of research for highway and railroad construction. Permafrost research is also going on in the Altai Mountains. It is reported that problems of permafrost in ground water are high on the list of research subjects in the Lanzhou Institute.

Since 1978, the Journal of Glaciology and Cryopedology, has been published in Lanzhou. The first issue was printed in 1978 and the second number to Volume I in 1979. English is increasingly used in the publication; in Nos. 1 and 2 of Volume 2, published in 1980, the table of contents is in English. In the Volume 2, No. 3, English abstracts are provided with the journal articles.

In summary, it can be stated that increased effort is being put into the scientific and engineering studies of perennially frozen ground in China. In the Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology there are now more than 370 professional and support staff; of these, more than 70 are reported to be involved in permafrost work.

A. The Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology, Academia Sinica

The Lanzhou Institute was developed primarily on the basis of an alpine ice and snow utilization team organized by Academia Sinica in 1958. Its first task was the investigation of mountain glaciers in northwestern China. In 1960 the research work of permafrost was added. In 1962, the organization was changed into the Division of Glaciology and Cryopedology, Institute of Geography, Academia Sinica. It investigated mountain glaciers in west China, the permafrost of the Qinghai-Xizang (Tibet) Plateau, and hydrology of arid regions in northwestern China. In 1964, the study of mud-rock flow was also begun. In 1965, the Division of Glaciology and Cryopedology amalgamated with the Division of Desert Research from Peking, forming the Institute of Glaciology, Cryopedology and Desert Research, Academia Sinica, which carried on scientific studies on glaciers, frozen ground, deserts, and mud-rock flow. In June 1978, the Division of Desert Research became an independent institute, and the remainder formed the Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology. This Institute has seven research divisions: glaciology, cryopedology, mud-rock flow research, surveying and mapping, material analysis, remote sensing, and investigation technique. Additionally, the Seepage Mechanics Research Office is temporarily attached to the Institute.

The principal areas of research are:

1. Glaciology. The Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology mainly studies the distribution, variation, and natural resources of ice and snow in China. Since 1958, the areas investigated include the glaciers of the Qilian Shan, Tian Shan, Mt. Qomolangma (Mount Everest) and Mt. Xixiabangma of the Himalayas and other alpine regions of the Qinghai-Xizang (Tibet) Plateau. Research has also been done on preventive measures against avalanches and snow drift in the Tian Shan, and the mechanics of ice jamming on the Yellow River. Since 1974, research work has been done on the glacier variations in the Karakoram in order to repair damaged sections of the China-Pakistan Highway, and also in the Qilian Shan to effectively utilize the water resources for the promotion of agriculture in the Kansu Corridor. New achievements have been made on forecasting the advance and retreat of glaciers. In recent years, with the help of aerial photos and large scale topographic maps, and in accordance with the specified requirements of the International Glacier Inventory Program, nearly 3,000 glaciers in the Qilian Shan have been properly inventoried. Progress has been made in the fields of glacial hydrology, the relations between glaciers and climate, glacial sedimentation, Quaternary glaciation, and climatic variations.

2. Permafrost. Studies are proceeding on the formation, development, changing tendency, and the prevention of damages to permafrost under natural and artificial conditions along the Qinghai-Xizang highway, in several coal mining districts of the Qilian Shan, and also in areas in northeast China. In recent years, the Institute has taken up research work on the distribution, thermal properties, and the mechanics of permafrost along the Qinghai-Xizang Highway and prepared a report on fundamental parameters and other data to support modifications of railway design. Additionally, investigation of frozen ground through the Tian Shan has begun for the Southern Sinkiang Railway.

Frozen soil mechanics (including frozen soil rheology, frozen upheaval forces, frozen strength, thawing settlement), frozen soil heat (frozen soil heat conductivity, water migration, change in temperature field, etc.), ground ice, seasonal frozen soil, and other fields have also been studied. Recently, a map of permafrost distribution along the Qingzang Highway, at a scale of 1:500,000, has been compiled, adding to our understanding of the characteristics of permafrost on the Plateau.

3. Mud-rock Flow. The Institute studies glacial mud-rock flow and the characteristics, distribution, formation, development of, and preventive measures against, mud-rock flow. In recent years, scientists investigated the mud-rock flow along the Sichuan-Xizang Highway and in Dongchuan of Yunnan, Gansu, and the northwest provinces. Preventative projects have been suggested for the engineering works of various plants, mines, factories, and highway buildings.

4. Surveying and Mapping. Mapping by terrestrial stereophotogrammetry is employed in the study of glaciers, permafrost, and mud-rock flow. Maps of the Qomolangma (Mount Everest) region have been completed at a scale of 1:500,000. Other completed maps include the 1:60,000 maps of the Batura glacier region in the Karakoram, the 1:200,000 maps of Tomol Peak in the Tian Shan, as well as surveying and mapping work in several other districts.

5. Material Analysis. The material composition of sediments in cold regions and trace elements in snow and ice are analyzed in order to supply quantitative analytical data for the study of glaciology and cryopedology.

6. Remote Sensing and Telemetry. In recent years, a quartz crystal thermometer was made and employed, and a radio telemetry system is beginning to be used. Satellite images and aerial photos are being applied to the analysis of changes in glaciers, snow, and permafrost, the estimation of snow and ice resources, and the forecast of snowmelt runoff.

B. China Academy of Railway Sciences

One of the major industries of China is the railway industry. A good network of railways extends through eastern and central China and is slowly progressing to the far northeast; plans are underway to extend into Tibet. All work connected with the railways is supervised by the Ministry of Railways. In 1950, the Railway Research Institute began; it had 50 employees at that time. By 1956, it had 560 employees. It has continued to grow very rapidly and is now a many faceted institute of the Ministry of Railways. This institute, now called the China Academy of Railway Sciences, has grown to have sixty departments in the Peking area. In addition, it has six railway departments outside of Peking, including one in Lanzhou.

The Academy of Railway Sciences has 6,500 employees in research and technology. The main studies are: (1) traffic, (2) construction, and (3) rolling stock. About one-third of the research done deals with construction, including roadbeds, bridges, and tunnels. There is a test railroad circle nine miles north of Peking where field research is undertaken.

The Academy of Railway Sciences probably has more engineers interested in the effect of permafrost on construction than any other organization in China. As a sign of this, it can be noted that the exchange program of permafrost scientists and engineers between China and Canada in 1975 was headed by Mr. Li Yu-sheng, who is vice president of the China Academy of Railway Sciences. He also hosted the Canadian delegation during its visit in China in 1977. Mr. Li led the delegation of Chinese scientists and engineers to the Third International Permafrost Conference in Edmonton in 1978.

C. The Geomorphology Group at the University of Peking

The University of Peking has about 6,000 students and is about 80 years old. The Department of Geography has 18 scientists. There are five geomorphologists in the Division of Physical Geography. Several of the scientists are interested in periglacial work and the most active person appears to be Associate Professor Tswei Chi-kiu, who works on the Tibet Plateau in the field of geomorphology and periglacial phenomena. Since 1975, some of the geomorphologists from the University have been working near Lhasa.

Some of the phenomena studied on the Plateau have been seasonal "pingos," which are probably frost blisters. Also, they have made observations and reports on ice segregations and stone stripes at elevations of 6,000 m. They study such phenomena as aufeis, solifluction, and inactive periglacial features, such as stone rings, which appear in central Tibet at 1,900 m. The geomorphologists further report that in northeast China, near the border with the USSR, inactive polygons occur at an elevation of 2,700 m. In northeast China when the vegetation is removed for construction there is slumping as the ice melts in the perennially frozen ground.

Chinese Snow and Ice Bibliography

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Introduction

This bibliography results primarily from a search for Chinese glaciological studies in the following libraries:

1. Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, England
2. East Asian History of Science Library, Cambridge, England.

These two libraries were most useful because they contain catalogs of material organized by subject, which greatly facilitated the location of pertinent literature. Additional searches were made of the British Library located in the British Museum, London, and the Cambridge University Library. Although the British Library has a subject catalog on microfilm in their Department of Oriental Manuscripts, a survey yielded little in the way of relevant material. Also, little was obtained from the extensive University Library in Cambridge, due to the lack of subject categories. However, both libraries do have extensive holdings in Chinese geological and geographical journals and there is the potential for improving this bibliography by careful investigation of these sources. In addition, further sources may be unearthed from the reference lists of Chinese language articles cited in this bibliography, some of which were not available for examination by this author. For a detailed bibliography of Chinese periodicals in the British Isles see:

London. University. Contemporary China Institute (1975) A Bibliography of Chinese Newspapers and Periodicals in European Libraries. New York, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1025 p.

British Museum (1965) Chinese Periodicals in British Libraries. London, British Museum, Handlist no. 2.

The Scott Polar Research Institute in Lensfield Road, Cambridge, concentrates on polar studies but also covers glacial studies in alpine regions of the world. The Library has a detailed and comprehensive subject card index which includes articles in journals relevant to the library. Their coverage of the field is quite extensive and accounts for approximately 70 percent of this bibliography.

The other major library source is the East Asian History of Science Library, Cambridge. This unique library has grown since 1942 around the collection of Dr. Joseph Needham, F.R.S., F.B.A., from sources both in China and the West. Dr. Needham and some twenty collaborators are working on a multivolume publication, Science and Civilization in China, a project covering all aspects of Chinese science through time. Volume 1 in the series was published in 1954 and Volume 5, part 5 has just appeared. This unique library generously allowed me to search through their boxes of reprints catalogued under subject headings. Thus, it was relatively simple to locate many useful references, particularly early works in the field by western scientists.

A computer search was also carried out through the Cambridge University Scientific Periodicals Library's computerized bibliographic retrieval system. However, this computer service only covered Geoarchive for the earth sciences, and although every attempt was made to cover all key words relating to glacial studies, the search produced few additional references for the period 1974-1979.

Citations were also added to this bibliography from materials held by the World Data Center-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice]. Each document which is owned by WDC-A is marked with the "*" symbol. Photocopies of any of these documents can be provided upon request at \$.10 per page over 25 pages, \$5 minimum.

Although this bibliography is only a brief survey of available literature in the field of glaciology, it will perhaps be helpful to those wishing to make a detailed search of the field. It is perhaps strongest in early work in Chinese glacial studies.

A translation has been made into English of the titles of those works in Chinese, to give some idea of the contents of the material. Those unfamiliar with the various romanization systems for the Chinese language may be confused by the variety of spelling found in the bibliography. Although most libraries are beginning to follow the official romanization of the People's Republic of China, Pinyin, many early references use Wade-Giles, Yale, or other systems. Confusion may arise when encountering authors listed in several places by different romanizations: e.g. Hsing (Wade-Giles) may also be listed as Sying (Yale) or Xing (Pinyin). There are conversion charts available, a valuable one being:

Deeney, John J. (1975) Style Manual and Transliteration Tables for Mandarin. Taipei, Taiwan, Tamkang College of Arts and Science, Western Literature Research Institute. Monograph Series no. 1.

The bibliography has been divided into 10 categories, with citations repeated in each relevant category. An author index follows the bibliography. The 10 subject categories are:

- A. Avalanches;
- B. Climatology;
- C. Freshwater ice;
- D. General topics;
- E. Glacial geology;
- F. Glaciation;
- G. Glaciers;
- H. Instrumentation;
- I. Permafrost or frozen ground;
- J. Snow or other precipitation.

Acknowledgements

I am deeply grateful for the help and encouragement given me by Dr. Needham and his colleagues at the East Asian History of Science Library. Their kindness in providing me with a work space and valuable assistance in their busy library was as much appreciated as the benefit I gained personally from being in contact with their expertise in all Chinese matters. Everyone patiently answered my questions, pointed me in the right direction and corrected my errors.

I should also like to thank the Scott Polar Research Institute for kindly allowing me access to their files and for providing a pleasant and quiet work space. I especially thank the librarians for bringing to my attention new publications from the People's Republic of China as they were received at the Library.

I also wish to thank Professor Roger Barry, Director, World Data Center-A, for providing funds which enabled this work to be carried out, and Ann Brennan, for her encouragement and editorial assistance.

The mailing addresses of libraries mentioned in this bibliography are:

British Library, British Museum, Great Russell Street, London, England

Cambridge University Library, Cambridge, England

East Asian History of Science Library, 16 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, England

Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge, England CB2 1ER.

AVALANCHES

- ¹ Moskalev, Y.D. (1967) Problems of the forecasts of snow avalanches in the Tien-Shan. (In: Schram, K.; Thams, J.C., eds., Internationale Tagung fur Alpine Meteorologie, 9th, Brig und Zermatt, 14-17 September 1966. Zurich, City-Druck AG, p. 51-59.)
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- ⁴ Shi, Yafeng; Wang, Wenying (1979) Researches on snow cover in China and the avalanche phenomena of the Batura Glacier in Pakistan. Academia Sinica, Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology, 9p.

CLIMATOLOGY

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- 25 Tang, Ying-jun (1980) Evidence of climatic fluctuation in Quaternary deposit involution layers. Journal of Glaciology and Cryopedology, v.2(1), p.41-43. In Chinese.
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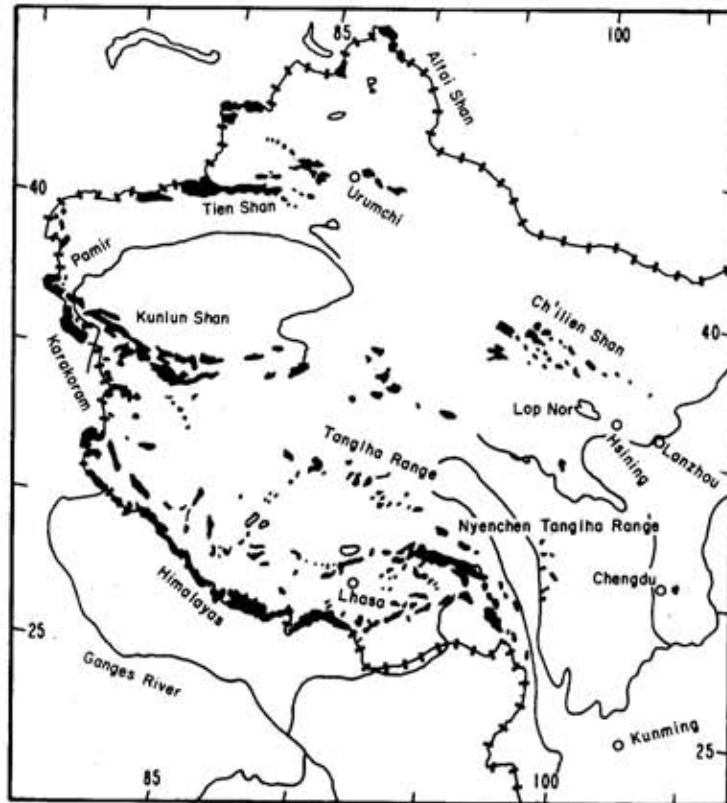
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AUTHOR INDEX

Academia Sinica. Institute of Geography	37			Chao, Chih-hsin	58	144	
Academia Sinica. Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology, Cryo- pedology and Desert Research. Glaciology Division	248			Chao, E.C.T.	59	60	
Academia Sinica. Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology and Cryo- pedology	249	250	251	Chao, Y.T.	61		
Academia Sinica. Research Institute of Geography.	252	394		Chao, Zung-tsyu	31		
Academia Sinica. Scientific Expedition to Tibet.	51	134	253	Chen, C.L.	396		
Acharyya, S.K.	135	212		Chen, Cheng-siang	62		
Alford, Donald	52			Chen, Dawei	362	390	
American Geographical Society	254			Chen, Jianming	259	323	335
An, Zhongyuan	364			Chen, Jih-nung	397		
Andersson, J.G.	136	213		Chen, Su	398		
Ashburner, John E.	255			Chen, Xiaobai	123	359	365
Au, Kam-nin	62			Chen, Xuede	132	360	
Bai, Zhongyuan	395			Cheng, Kuo-tung	366		
Bailey, F.M.	53	256		Cheng, Ch'i-p'u	63		
Barbour, George B.	137	138	139	Cheng, Hsing	189		
Beletskii, E.A.	258			Cheng, Jianming	124	335	
Bla-ma bTsan-po	54			Cheng, Pen-hsing	294	316	
Brooks, C.E.P.	55			Chi, Jung-sen	64	65	145
Burdsall, R.L.	56			China. Jilin Province. Geological Bureau	146	215	
Chang, H.T.	141			China. Karakoram Highway Engineering Headquar- ers. Batura Glacier Investigation Group	260		
Ch'ang, Kuo-kan	57			Chinese Geographical Society. Geomor- phology Committee.	147	148	
Chang, Kuo-wei	205			Ching,	399		
Chang, Ta	142			Ching, Tsai-jui	149	216	
Chao, Chanko-ping	143			Ching, Yu-p'u	33		
				Chiu, Chih-chiu	263	264	
				Ch'iu, Shih chi	67	68	
				Ch'iu, Shu-chang	36	246	
				Chou, H.	401		

Chou, Yu-wu	367			Guo, Peng-fei	218		
Chu, C.K.	401			Guo, Xu-dong	9	75	154
Chu, Ko-chen	5	6	70	Han, San-tang	87		
Chu, Liang	69			Hanson-Lowe, J.	76 219	155	156
Chung, Mein-ping	238			Harland, W.B.	157		
Cooke, H.B.S.	150			He, Jie	356	372	
Cui, Zhijiu	217	368		He, Yixian	373		
De Terra, H.	7			Hedin, S.	77 274 277	78 275 404	79 276
Ding, Jingkang	369			Heim, A.	80 220	158 374	159
Ding, Liangfu	93	292		Ho, Ju-chang	205		
Dolgushin, L.D.	266	267		Honan Province. China Shin-Ping Station.	405		
Dye, D.S.	199			Horner, N.G.	81		
Edmundson, Henry N.	255			Horvath, E.	293		
Emmons, A.B.	56			Hou, Zhongjie	371		
Fei, Ching-shen	278			Hoynagi, Mutsumi	160	406	
Fei-tao-luo-wei-qi, B.A. (Fedorovich, B.A.?)	268			Hsia, T'ieh-ten	381		
Finsterwalder, R.	269			Hsiao, T'eng-lin	82		
Flohn, H.	8	403		Hsieh, Chiao-min	10		
Freeberne, Michael	270			Hsieh, Tze-chu	278	279	316
Fu, Pao-p'ao	370			Hsieh, Wei-jung	305		
Fu, Rong	371			Hsin-hua. (New China News)	84		
Gansser, August	159			Hsing, Shu-peng	407		
Gao, Yuanjin	282			Hsu, Ginn-tse	85		
Gellert, J.F.	271			Hsu, Jen	11		
Geological Society of China	72	151		Hsu, Shih-yuan	209	350	
Gong, Gaofa	424			Hsueh, Hsiang-hsi	205		
Gorbunov, A.P.	152			Hu, C	181	229	
Gregory, C.J.	153	272		Hu, Ruji	2		
Gregory, J.W.	153	272		Huang, Mao-huan	280	336	408
Gu, Zhongwei	273	282					
Guibert, Andre	74						

Huang, Mingmin	284			Kozarski, S.	170	171	221
Huang, Pei-hua	12 281	161	162	Kubo, Yoshimitsu	41		
Huang, T.K.	163			Kuo, W.K.	172	222	
Huang, Ti-fan	164			Kurz, Marcel	94		
Huang, Yizhi	282			Kuznetsov, I.V.	95		
Huc, Evariste Regis	86			Lanzhou, China. Hydro- graphic Station	42		
Hutchinson, G.E.	7			Lauscher, Friedrich	412		
Hwang, Kuang-piao	409			Lee, J.S.	173 176 224 240	174 177 225	175 223 226
Japan. Army. Tada Unit	37			Lehr, P.	293		
Japan. Asiatic Institute. North China Liaison Section	38			Leventhal, J.S.	185	231	
Japan. Kwantung Army	39			Li, Bingyuan	227		
Jen, Hua	87			Li, C.	178	228	
Jen, Mei-ngo	165			Li, Chi-chun	189	294	316
Jen, Ping-hui	209 411	283	350	Li, Ching-yuan Y.	179		
Jennings, J.N.	166			Li, Hsiao-fang	96		
Jeschke, Peter A.	298			Li, Hung-lien	180		
Ji, Jianmiao	362	390		Li, Jijun	295		
Ji, Zi Xiu	167			Li, Lie	375		
Kahoku otsu Kabushiki kaisha (Kahoku Trans- portation Co. Inc.)	40			Li, Pu	97		
Kalmui Kova, V.G.	88			Li, Wengzhou	93	292	
Kalvoda, J.	168			Li, Weixin	43	357	413
Kang, Ersi	284			Li, Y.	181	229	
Kaulback, R.	89	285		Libby, W.F.	185	231	
Kazakova, M.N.	90 287	91	286	Lin, Chen-ti	13		
Kick W.	288	289	290	Lin, Feng-t'ung	376		
Kikolski, Bohdan	92	291		Lin, Feng-tong	377		
Klaer, Wendelin	169			Liu, En-lan	182	296	
Knizhnikov, IU.	353			Liu, Haisheng	357	413	
Kou, Youguan	93	292		Liu, Jinhuang	100		
				Liu, Teng-sheng	110		

Liu, Zhe-ouen	183			Pannell, C.W.	105		
Liu, Zhen-zhong	183			Pearson, R.J.	287		
Lo, Hsueh-bo	355			Petrov, M.P.	306		
Lou, Anjin	369			Price, M. Phillips	106		
Lowe, C. van R	150			Qian, Songlin	331	358	
Lu, Chiung	14			Qiu, Guoqing	382		
Luo, Hongzhen	333			Qiu, Jiaqi	2		
Luo, Xiangrui	330	386		Qu, Ronghang	387		
Ma, T.Y.H.	15	230		Ren, Bing-hui	307		
McCauley, Camilla	301			Richardson, H.L.	233		
Makarevich, K.G.	297			Rigby, Malcolm	18		
Marinov, N.A.	101	378		Roch, A.	3	308	
Mayewski, Paul A.	298			Rock, Joseph F.	107	108	
Mercer, John H.	299			Rutkovskaya, V.A.	19		
Miller, Maynard M.	184	185	231	Salemachila, I.I.	45		
Mon, Wen-tung	16			Sarntheim, M.	20		
Morrison, Charles, C.	301			Schneider, E.	269		
Moskalev, Y.D.	1			Schneider, Hans-Jochen	309		
Muller, Fritz	302			Shen, C.T.	415		
Murzaev, E.M.	380			Shen, Wen-hsiung	21		
Murzayeva, V.E.	232			Sheng, Benxing	109	188	310
National Geological Survey of China	102			Sheng, Wenkun	46	416	
Needham, Joseph	103			Shi, Yafeng	4	22	109
Newby, Paul R.T.	255				110	111	188
Norin, E.	17	186			189	211	310
Odell, N.E.	303	304			311	312	313
Ovdienko, I.K.	88				314	315	316
Own, Sho-chow	44				317	318	355
Ozaki Kinemon	104				383	384	417
Pai, Chung-ai	305			Shih, S.Y.	319		
Pan, C.	181			Shu, Chao	47		
Pan, Chun-mu	381			Siddiqi, M.I.	112	320	
				Smalley, I.J.	190		
				Stein, Aurel	113		
				Stein, M.A.	114	321	

Stoddart, D.R.	115	191		U.S. Library of Congress Science and Techno- logy Division.	121		
Su, C. (1973)	322						
Su, Zhen	111	332	348	Van Summer, Jane	301		
Sugaya, Juji	385			Visser, Ph. C.	122		
Sun, T.C.	192			Wallace, James Allen	29		
Sun, Tien-ching	23	193	234	Wan, Tiangi	282		
Sun, Zuozhi	323			Wang, Changling	132	360	
Suslov, V.F.	297			Wang, Chih-yao	58	144	
Syrnev, I.P.	194			Wang, Chung-long	329		
T'ai, Ch'ien-chien	195			Wang, Fu-bo	183		
Tang, Lingyu	334			Wang, Jingtai	22	317	
Tang, Y.H.	418			Wang, Jiyou	330	386	
Tang, Ying-jun	24	25	196	Wang, Liangwei	331	358	
Tator, B.A.	26	197		Wang, Lilun	332		
Teilhard de Chardin, P.	198			Wang, Ming-ye	238		
Thorpe, J.	199			Wang, P.F.	30		
Times, London	324			Wang, Ping	333		
Ting, S.	200	419		Wang, Rui	334		
Ting, Wen-chiang	116			Wang, Shaowu	31		
T'ong, Kuan-jung	27	326		Wang, Wanlin	331		
Trinkler, E.	117 325	201	235	Wang, Wenying	4 335 417	123 336	124 359
Tsao, C.	181	229		Wang, Yung-yen	205		
Tsao, Chao-yuan	202	236		Wang, Zhonglong	395		
Tseng, Ming-hsuan	27	326		Wang, Zhongxiang	337		
Tseng, T.C.	118	203		Ward, F. K.	125 128 338 341	126 129 339 342	127 239 340
Tseng, Ying-ching	119						
Tsui, Chich-tsui	204	237					
Ts'ui, Chih-chiu	327	328		Wei, Wang	343		
Tu, Chang-wang	28			Welch, R.	105		
Tu, Yung-huang	367			Wells, L.H.	150		
Tung, Po-liang	366			Weng, Wen-po	240		
U.S. Library of Congress	120						

Wiens, Harold, J.	420			Yen, Ch'in-shang	209	350		
Wissmann, H. von	32	206	207	Yin, Shizong	351			
	241	242	243	Yin, Zhao	48			
	344	345	421	Yu, Jimin	132	360		
Workman, William Hunter	422			Yuan, P.L.	210			
Wu, Hsi-hao	33			Zabirov, R.D.	352	353		
Wu, Hsiang-ting	13			Zhang, Fuyuan	363	391		
Wu, Huanzhong	346			Zhang, Jinsheng	371			
Wu, L.	423			Zhang, Peiyuan	424			
Wu, Xiaoling	387			Zhang, Qing-lian	48			
Wu, Y.S.	178	228		Zhang, Qingsong	227			
Wushiki, Hisao	347			Zhang, Wenying	332			
Wylie, Turrell V.	130			Zhang, Xian-lu	48			
Xie, Zichu	348	349		Zhang, Xiangsong	49	50	133	
Xing, Zemin	375	387			354	425		
Xu, Qinqi	131	244		Zhang, Yongling	93	292		
Xu, Shuiyan	245			Zheng, Benxing	211	247	355	
Yan, Qieshang	245			Zheng, Qipu	356	372	388	
Yang, Chich-chao	164			Zhou, Fuchun	361	389		
Yang, Chien-chu	34			Zhu, Guocai	331	358	362	
Yang, Huai-jen	35				363	390	391	
Yang, Huan-jen	234	246		Zhu, Shousen	284			
Yang, Huairan	208			Zhu, Yangfu	392			
Yang, Ta-yuan	33			Zhuo, Chan-qing	393			
Yeh, C.C.	172	222		Zie, Zi-chu	318			

COMMUNICATIONS

Pictorial Records of Glaciers

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INTRODUCTION

"One picture is worth a thousand words." In the study of glaciers - their fluctuations, behavior, and peculiarities - pictures are of the utmost importance. Glaciers, as agents of environmental modification, monitors of climatic change, and sources of fresh water, as well as being objects of wonder and inspiration, have been subjects for study for many centuries. By using pictures of glaciers, whether a drawing, photograph, air photograph, or satellite image, we can learn many things about glaciers and climatic fluctuations. We have no way of knowing whether a scientist or an artist was the first to study a glacier, but from the first accurate depictions of a glacier, the scientist has been helped by having a record of the state of a glacier at a certain time.

Nearly 15 million km² (approximately 10 percent) of the land surface of the world is presently covered by ice (Flint, 1971). As our world becomes smaller through ever-expanding communication and transport networks and an exploding world population, the role of glaciers and glacierized areas for human use is certain to increase. These glacierized areas, although mainly remote from present population centers, could be increasingly significant for human activities for a number of reasons, primarily water supply. Approximately 75 percent of all fresh water on the earth is in the form of glacier ice (Meier, 1976).

It is also important to remember that glaciers are subject to drastic changes. Geologically a mere 14,000 to 20,000 years ago, glaciers covered more than 44 million km² (approximately 29 percent) of the land surface (Flint, 1971). As population increases and glacier fluctuations become more important, accurate inventories and maps of glacier distribution as well as the monitoring of their behavior and peculiarities become more important. Studies of glaciers over the last few centuries have been greatly helped by documentary and pictorial records, e.g., Messerli *et al.* (1978) for the Alps.

Geologists and geographers use many methods (such as moraine records, boulder weathering, and lichenometry) to study glacier fluctuations. These methods, however, only date maximum extent of the ice. Other techniques of Quaternary paleoenvironmental analysis, such as palynology and dendroclimatology, offer continuous records and high resolution. They are, however, only proxy records for glacial fluctuations, and thus may be inaccurate in detail. In contrast, a pictorial record shows the actual extent of the glacier, whether at a maximum, minimum, or intermediate position. Obvious disadvantages in the use of pictures for studying historical glacier fluctuations are the relatively short period of time and limited geographic coverage (mainly populated areas such as the Alps and some coastal areas such as Glacier Bay, Alaska) for which pictures are available; their advantages are discussed below. The study and monitoring of current glacier behavior is also greatly aided by pictorial studies ranging from large-scale terrestrial photographs to intermediate-scale air photographs to small-scale satellite imagery. It is always helpful to remember that a picture may be interpreted at a later date, or compared with later information, regardless of whether the significance was realized at the time the picture was taken (Harrison, 1954).

The purpose of this paper is to discuss several types of picture and their role in the study of glaciers. Brief descriptions are given of the glacier photograph collections of the American Geographical Society/W.O. Field and the U.S. Geological Survey (Tacoma)/A.S. Post and R. Kimmel/L.Mayo, which are being indexed at the World Data Center-A for Glaciology and which are believed to be the largest combined set of United States glacier photographs.

TYPE OF PICTURES

There are four main types of glacier pictures: drawings, terrestrial photographs, air photographs, and satellite imagery. All share the common characteristic of recording the features of a glacier at a point in time. Beyond that they differ in nearly all respects - scale, accuracy, point of view, and temporal coverage; yet each has significant advantages as well as drawbacks.

A. Drawings

Some of the earliest pictorial records of glaciers date from the 17th and 18th centuries (Merian, 1642 and Altmann, 1751 in Le Roy Ladurie, 1971), a time when many parts of the world were undergoing a marked climatic cooling and the majority of glaciers were advancing. This so-called Little Ice Age (A.D. 1500-1920; Sugden and John, 1976, p. 114-120) had a considerable impact on human civilization, so it is not surprising to find drawings of many glaciers at relatively advanced positions during this time. The 16th through 19th centuries were also a time of great geographical exploration, so we find glacier references (sketches, maps, and text) in many expedition journals (e.g., Saussure, 1779; Laperouse, 1789; Reid, 1890 and 1892). These earliest drawings are a valuable record of glacier fluctuations because once a picture exists, all subsequent pictures can be compared to it in order to define advances and retreats.

The major disadvantage of using drawings in the study of glaciers is the possibility that the picture is not accurately drawn. For example, a watercolor painting would be less likely to show details than would, say, an engraving. However, if the drawing is compared with a photograph or with the actual site, one would most likely be able to gauge the general accuracy of the drawing by comparison of rock outcrops, ridge lines, stream valleys, and the like. Le Roy Ladurie (1971) states that early pictorial work provides evidence for the comparison of glacier termini then and now. Rarely is any data available on the thickness of the glacier upvalley. However, Ladurie gives a fine example of marked changes in thickness on the Montanvers Glacier by comparing an engraving made in 1781 with a 1966 photograph taken from approximately the same site.

The ability to distort reality in drawings can be an advantage. Where comparatively subtle features (such as flow features) are present, but will not show up well on conventional photographic images, they can be enhanced by a skilled artist.

Drawings are quite similar to terrestrial photographs. The primary advantage of drawings is in their having the longest length of record of all the types of glacier pictures; their disadvantage is in uncertainty of accuracy in all details.

B. Photographs

Photographs give us many advantages over simple observations, including the ability to stop action. All surficial features on and around the glacier are recorded simultaneously, including those which are considered unimportant at the time, but are later determined to be significant. Photographs also allow a broadened spectral sensitivity. Film can "see" and record over a wavelength range approximately twice as broad as that of the human eye (0.3-0.9 μm vs 0.4-0.7 μm ; Lillesand and Kiefer, 1979), thus invisible ultraviolet and reflected infrared energy can be detected and recorded in the form of a visible image. Photographs may bring out detailed depositional and erosional patterns not noticed by an observer at the site because the film can emphasize color values and relief that are not very apparent otherwise (Veatch, 1969). By viewing photographs under magnification or using a telephoto lens, it is possible to see more detail than with the unaided eye. Most importantly, with proper ground reference data, it is possible to obtain measurements of positions, distances, directions, areas, heights, volumes, and slopes from a photograph.

1. Terrestrial Photographs

A terrestrial photograph is one taken from the earth's surface, whether on rock, water, or the ice itself. Cameras date back to the early 19th century, and glaciers did appear as photographic subjects towards the end of that century. In North America, a number of scientists and explorers, H.F. Reid, G.K. Gilbert, and I.C. Russell among them, photographed glaciers in the 1880's and 1890's. Most of these photographs, like the drawings before them, recorded glacier termini. One of the earliest collections of glacier photographs, covering the Alaska/Canada border, is that from the surveys done by the International Boundary Commission beginning in 1893 (International Boundary Commission, 1918, 1952). Most of the boundary photographs were taken from adjacent peaks and so have different vantage points than most early photographs, thus revealing cirques and accumulation areas. These photographs have much in common with air photography.

One of the longest continuous glacier research projects in which terrestrial photographs play a key role is the work of W.O. Field and others in Alaska (see Field, 1979). He has been studying, photographing, and recording glacier behavior at intervals of a few years for more than 50 years, mainly in the Glacier Bay region but also in other parts of the St. Elias, Chugach, Kenai, Wrangell, and Coast Mountains, and the Alaska Range. Photographic stations which had been established years earlier by other scientists were used whenever possible, so exact duplication of photographs was possible over the maximum period of time.

With nearly 100 years of photographs available for study including his own field work, Field has a remarkable record of glacier behavior and fluctuations. He has used photographs

to document surging glaciers and to interpret the catastrophic recession of tidewater glaciers (Field, 1969, 1979). His work is a very successful combination of historical and recent terrestrial photographs, and more recently air photographs, with detailed field work.

Another detailed long-term photographic study was that of F.M. Veatch, who annually photographed the Nisqually Glacier on Mt. Rainier for 24 years (1942-1966). A network of about 20 stations was set up on the ground in order to systematically cover nearly the full length of the glacier. When possible, stations were established at sites from which still earlier photographs had been taken. A number of photographs taken sporadically from 1884 to 1941 were used for comparative purposes, as were engineering surveys. Because of the Nisqually Glacier's accessibility by highway, its variety of features, the availability of data from previous investigators, concurrent topographical and profile survey data, and weather observations at the Paradise Ranger Station located less than one mile from the glacier, it is ideally suited for this sort of study.

Veatch's paper (1969) presents results from his study in such a manner that the potential for similar studies is apparent. Quantitatively, changes in ice thickness and lateral ice margins, and the longitudinal slope of the ice surface were measured. The elevation of the snow line and firn edge were measured in late summer each year. Qualitatively, the characteristics of the terminus, whether actively bulging and crevassing, indicating expansion, or more gently sloping and less crevassed, indicating retreat or stagnation, are a key to the glacier's dynamic state. Annual photographs do not necessarily reveal all movements of the terminus, but do show the yearly trends. Also interpreted were debris cover and distribution (including sources of debris) and moraine patterns. Characteristics of the glacier surface, especially crevasses, were studied and used to determine subsurface conditions such as direction and rate of movement and location of subglacial obstructions. Erosion and deposition in the area around the glacier were studied along with effects of outburst floods.

A repetitive photographic program, which is relatively quick and inexpensive, can graphically portray the visible changes inherent in a dynamic glacier system (Veatch, 1969). A terrestrial photography program has the advantages of low logistical costs and relatively inexpensive equipment, and the need for only minimal photogrammetric training or experience.

2. Air Photographs

As soon as it was realized that cameras positioned above the ground could provide photographs so that one could see the earth's surface in its spatial context with all features recorded simultaneously, the technique of air photography was born. The first known air photograph was taken from a balloon in 1853. This method was followed by cameras mounted on kites, 1882, and by airplane technology in 1909 (Lillesand and Kiefer, 1979). The photography of glaciers from the air began in Alaska in 1929 when the U.S. Navy began reconnaissance flights. One of the earliest studies using annual glacier air photography was begun in the late 1940's/early 1950's by the American Geographical Society on the Juneau Icefield (Field and Miller, 1950). Other major long-term reconnaissance studies have been those of Hubley (1956), in western Washington, and Austin Post, who began photographing glaciers in the early 1960's for the University of Washington and has continued his annual flights until the present for the U.S. Geological Survey. Post's photographs have been the basis of a number of glacier studies and cover a large percentage of the glaciers in the western United States, including Alaska, and western Canada.

"Glacier reconnaissance in North America depends largely on aerial photography" (LaChapelle, 1962). With air photographs, precise quantitative data on a limited number of glaciers is replaced by less detailed, mainly qualitative data from large numbers of glaciers over a nearly limitless geographical area. It is especially advantageous to be able to observe large areas in a short period of time, such as late in the ablation season. To obtain a valid consensus of glacier activity over a large area, Meier and Post (1962) found that it was more important to have a large statistical sample of glaciers, which would only be practical using an air photograph survey, than it was to have detailed information from a few glaciers. Air photography is relatively efficient in time, personnel, and cost (Meier and Post, 1962), although it does require a larger investment than terrestrial studies.

There are two types of air photographs. Verticals are similar to planimetric maps and are made with the camera axis directed as vertically as possible. Obliques cover much larger areas than verticals and are made with the camera axis inclined. High obliques include an image of the horizon, while low obliques do not. Obliques are not generally used for mapping because their scales change greatly from foreground to background (Compton, 1962).

Many types of data can be obtained from air photographs. Qualitatively, air photographs show the extent of the ice and the position of the terminus and give clues to the glacier's health and activity. The latter are shown by: 1) effects of ice motion, such as amount of crevassing, character and profile of the terminus, and evidence of kinematic waves; 2) surficial characteristics, such as type of terrain surrounding glacier margins and amount of ablation moraine; and 3) evidence of the mass budget, such as the elevation of the snowline and lower limit of superimposed ice, the character of the line between snow and ice, thickness

of annual accumulation horizons, degree to which crevasses are obscured by snow, and the status of semi-permanent snow patches (LaChapelle, 1962; Meier and Post, 1962). Quantitative data can be obtained from air photographs when some amount of past or current information is available from ground observation. Using air photographs, Meier and Post (1962) extended their regime studies on several different types of glaciers in various locations to determine net mass budgets of the glaciers in western North America. LaChapelle (1962) also proposed methods for determining glacier mass budgets using the position of the annual firm limit, determined from air photographs, combined with an accurate topographic map and approximate regional values of the steady-state budget gradient.

An important use of air photographs is in the inventorying of the world's glaciers. One of the objectives of the International Hydrological Decade (1965-1974) was to assemble inventories of perennial ice and snow masses. The work was actively continued through the UNESCO Temporary Technical Secretariat for a World Glacier Inventory by F. Muller at Zurich until his untimely death in 1980 (International Association of Hydrological Sciences, 1980). The morphometric data included in these inventories will have direct use as soon as the techniques of glacier response prediction have been further refined (Sugden and John, 1976). The first American contribution to this international glacier census effort is an inventory of glaciers in the North Cascades, Washington (Post et al., 1971). This inventory was mainly accomplished using a combination of large-scale topographic maps and air photographs taken when little snow remained. The highly successful Canadian Glacier Inventory followed a similar technique.

C. Satellite Imagery

"Probably no combination of two technologies has generated more interest and application over a wider range of disciplines than the merger of remote sensing and space exploration" (Lillesand and Kiefer, 1979). The potential for relating environmental phenomena to the figure of the earth is unequalled in conventional air photography. A time-lapse view of many dynamic aspects of our environment can be obtained.

Specific programs aimed at imaging of the earth's surface began as an offshoot of the program of meteorological satellites (TIROS, Nimbus, ITOS, or NOAA), which provide data for monitoring snow and ice features over large areas of the earth (Gloersen and Salomonson, 1975). Enthusiasm for the monitoring of snow and ice grew as more detailed imagery was obtained from numerous manned spacecraft missions. Breakthroughs in the study of snow and ice using satellites came with the development of the Earth Resources Technology Satellites (ERTS) and the Nimbus-5 spacecraft.

In 1972, 1975, and 1978, ERTS/Landsat satellites were launched. They were designed to acquire data on resources of the earth's land masses on a systematic, repetitive, medium resolution, multispectral basis (Lillesand and Kiefer, 1979). The two Landsat satellites (Landsat-1 failed in 1978) pass within 9° of the poles, make 14 orbits of the earth each day, and obtain coverage of the earth approximately 20 times per year. Data are recorded on videotape rather than photographic film.

The four-channel multispectral scanner (MSS) covers four broad wavelength bands, ranging from 0.5 μm to 0.7 μm in the visible spectrum and 0.7 μm to 1.1 μm in the reflected infrared. Landsat-3 carries an additional band responding to thermal infrared radiation (10.4 μm to 12.6 μm ; Landsat Data Users Handbook, 1979). Various methods of color enhancement or multispectral analysis, such as use of pattern recognition techniques, can be used because of the different channels. The other remote sensing system onboard Landsat, the return beam vidicon system (RBV), has more cartographic fidelity than the MSS system because it images an entire scene instantaneously. However, not as many RBV data are available because the RBV on Landsat-1 malfunctioned and was shut down after producing only 1690 scenes and on Landsat-2 only occasional RBV imagery is obtained. Black and white products and false-color composites ranging in scale from 1:250,000 to 1:3,369,000 are available from the EROS Data Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

With satellite imagery, an entire icecap or glacier system can be studied at one time instead of using disparate and often temporally separate pictures. The potential for monitoring glacier behavior, as it relates to climatic changes, sources of water supply, and catastrophic events, is enormous. Systematic repetitive coverage permits monitoring of surging glaciers, changes in runoff, and variations in size and location of glacier-margin lakes, as well as variations in extent of glaciers (Williams, 1976). Satellite data can be related to recorded field data, such as those on runoff variations and terminus oscillations, with clear practical and economic implications (Sugden and John, 1976).

Due to scale and resolution differences, satellite images should be regarded as an additional source of information rather than a replacement for air photographs. As an example of differences in scale, more than 1600 conventional air photographs (1:20,000 scale) with no overlap would be required to cover the area of a single Landsat frame. Effective resolution is 79 m on Landsat multispectral scanner images. The problem of small scale is lessened by the fact that glaciers present a good contrast with the surrounding terrain, especially in the

summer months. Features such as lateral, medial, and terminal moraines, as well as glacier-margin lakes, braided stream patterns on outwash, and sediment plumes of glacial rock flour in lakes or marine waters are all usually large enough to be resolved at such small scales (Williams, 1976). Some subtle features extending many kilometers on the ground are visible on the imagery and would not be noticed on large scale air or terrestrial photography.

Problems with satellites arise from cloud cover, sun angle, and operational hiatuses. For pictures imaged under conditions of low sun angle, however, surface irregularities on glaciers are especially pronounced because of enhancement of shadows. Krimmel and Meier (1975) found previously undetected subtle changes in slope that could be reflecting the subglacial topography or dynamic flow features on large glaciers that were imaged under conditions of low sun angle. Satellite images have other definite advantages over other types of pictures in the study of glaciers, such as the periodic coverage of remote areas and continuous coverage under conditions that may restrict or prohibit conventional air photography flights. Landsat images provide a virtually distortion-free orthographic view which greatly aids transference of data on to maps.

Satellite imagery presents an excellent tool for systematically monitoring large numbers of glaciers. Post et al. (1976) and Meier (1976) have used satellite imagery to study and monitor the behavior of selected surging glaciers in Alaska. Surging glaciers can advance over large areas and in so doing can dam up a large quantity of water and then suddenly release it causing devastating floods downstream. It is particularly important, then, to monitor some aspects of glacier behavior such as ice velocity, especially for glaciers which may directly affect people. It is far quicker and more efficient to produce maps and displacement data on large surging glaciers using satellite images than it is to use conventional air photographs or ground surveys (Post et al., 1976). In addition to inferred ice velocity from measurements of the changing positions of moraine loops over several months, glacial surge features shown on the imagery were the presence of shock wave, increasing relief along valley walls, spreading of zones of intense crevassing and deformation of medial moraines.

Studies have also been done (Meier, 1975; Ostrem, 1975) using satellite images to monitor seasonal snow cover, especially as applied to the determination of glacier mass balance. Uses for this data include providing information on annual runoff and expected deviations from normals, which will allow for predictions of flooding and drought, as well as determining capabilities of hydroelectric power generation and sources of water supply.

In the future, we can hope for great improvements in remote sensing from satellites for glacier studies with such things as improved sensors which will aid in spatial, temporal, and spectral resolution. As more data become available from satellites, the need for machine processing of imagery will become more important in order to perform measurements on the imagery with sufficient rapidity and accuracy. Equally important is the improvement of archival procedures. With each Landsat satellite generating images at a rate of 144 per hour, the need for constantly improving computerized access to data is obvious.

Examples of Types of Pictures

Examples of the four main types of glacier pictures are shown for the Muir Glacier in Glacier Bay, Alaska (Figs. 1-6). Glacier Bay, which extends some 105 km from Icy Strait into the Alsek and Fairweather Ranges, is an area of widely varied glacier behavior with the most outstanding feature being the rapid disappearance of glacial ice.

The coast of southern Alaska has a long historical record. Detailed explorations were undertaken by Vancouver in 1794. From notes of his explorations, it appears that Glacier Bay was nonexistent at this time, except for a small indentation of 10 miles or so before the bay was blocked by the terminus of a great glacier that was 20 km wide and 1200 m thick (Bohn, 1967; Field, 1979). This glacier has largely disappeared and its remnants are those glaciers at the heads of Glacier Bay's numerous inlets.

The first scientist to venture into Glacier Bay itself was John Muir. In 1879 he made detailed observations of many glaciers, including what is now called the Muir Glacier. H.F. Reid did the first topographic surveys of Glacier Bay (Reid, 1890, 1892), followed by additional mapping by the International Boundary Commission in 1894 and from 1907 to 1912 (International Boundary Commission, 1918, 1952). In 1899, the Harriman Alaska Expedition visited Glacier Bay. This large party included many leading scientists including Muir, Burroughs, Dall, Gilbert, Gannett, Merriam, and Keeler, and studies were undertaken on the biology as well as geology and glaciology of the region. Photographs were taken by A. Curtis. For a number of years after the great earthquake of September 1899, Glacier Bay was choked with ice due to increasingly rapid recession making access very difficult.

Much recent work has been done in Glacier Bay. Notable contributions included the integrated glaciological, geological, and ecological studies developed by R.P. Goldthwait and the Institute of Polar Studies at Ohio State University (Goldthwait, 1967), D.B. Lawrence's ecological studies (Lawrence, 1958), W.O. Field and the American Geographical Society's

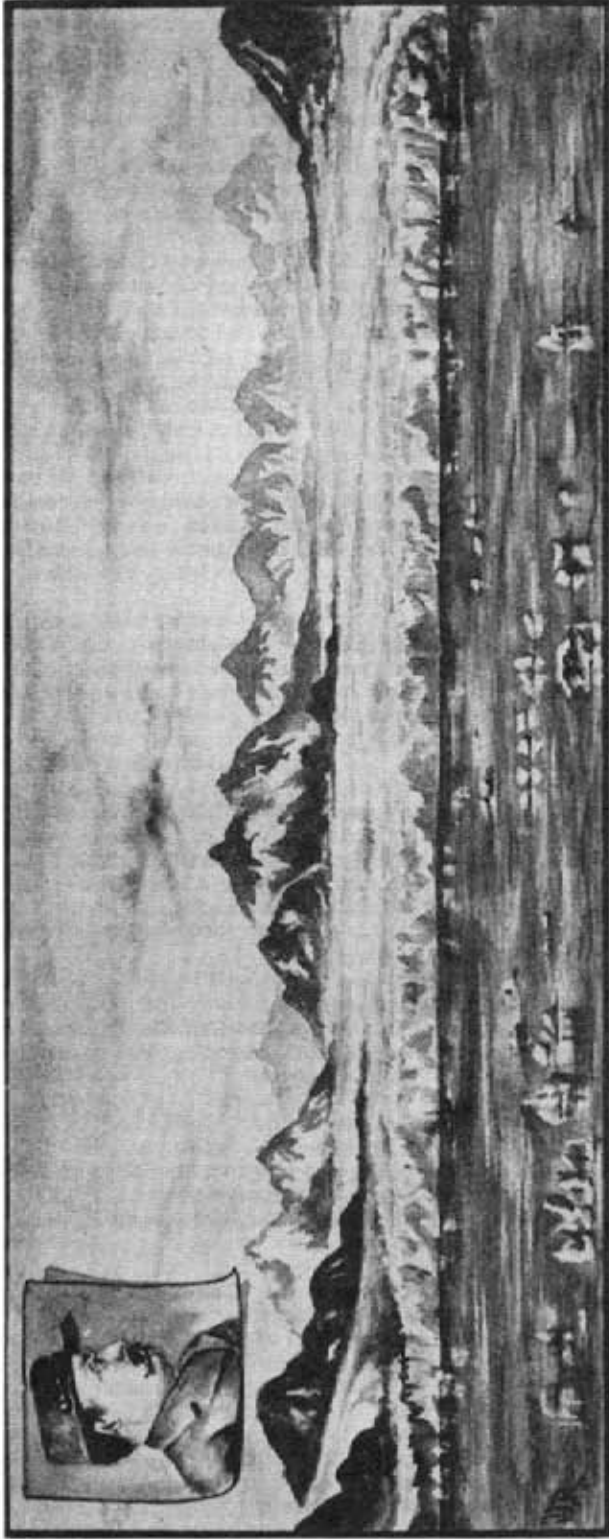


Figure 1. A pen and ink wash by Theodore J. Richardson (1891) showing a 180° panorama of the Muir Glacier. The inset is Captain James Carroll of the steamer *Queen*.



Figure 2. A terrestrial photograph taken by Frank LaRoche (1893). AGS collection at the WDC-A: Glaciology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado.



Figure 3. An oblique air photograph taken by the U.S. Navy (1929). AGS collection at the WDC-A: Glaciology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado.

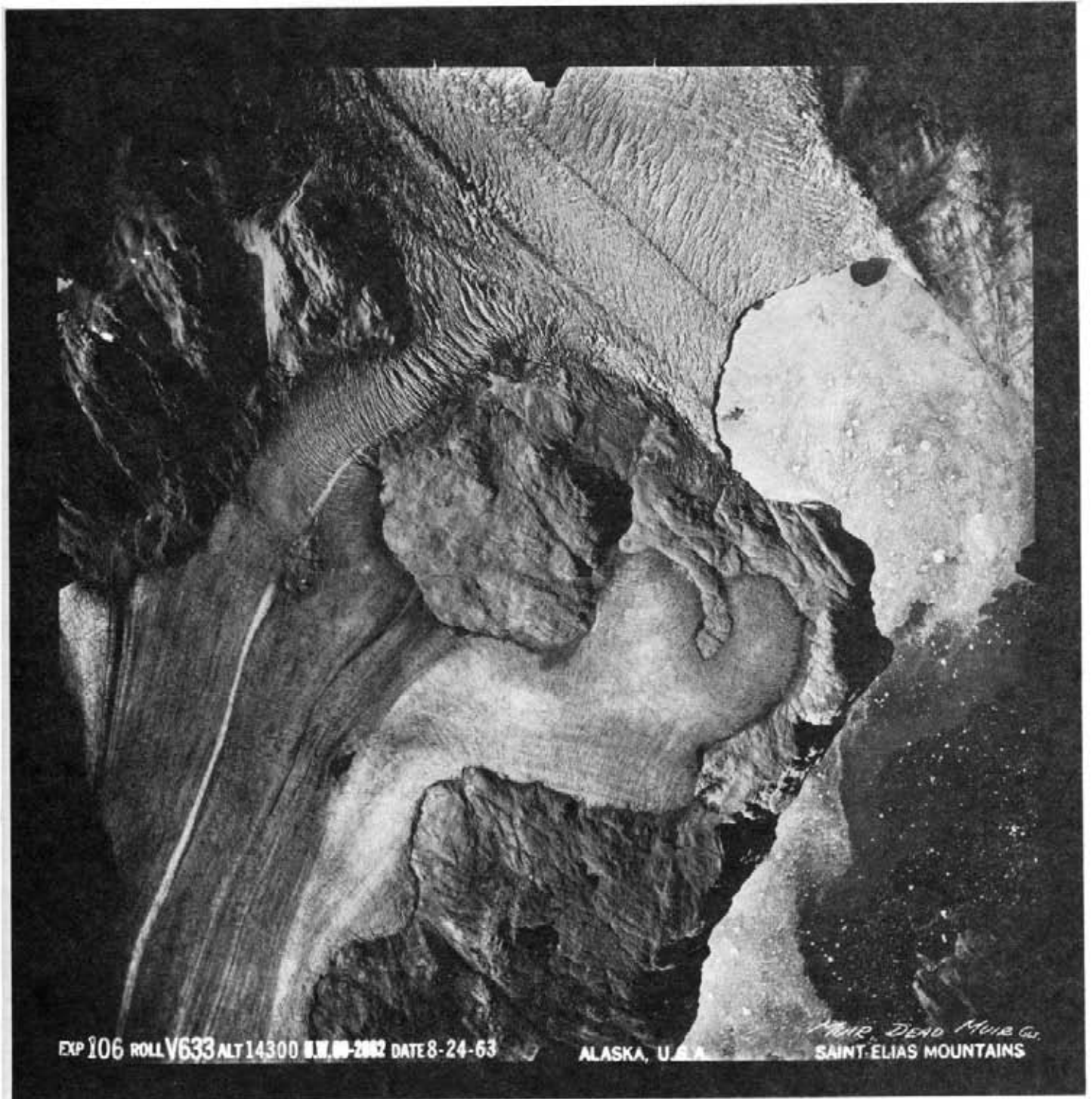


Figure 4. A vertical air photograph taken by A.S. Post (1963), at an altitude of 4359m (14,300 ft.). USGS/Post collection at USGS, Tacoma, Washington.



Figure 5. A Landsat image of Glacier Bay(1977). Scale is 1:3,369,000. The arrow points to the terminus of the Muir Glacier.

continuing work on glacier variations (Field, 1926, 1947, 1975, 1979) and A.S. Post's high quality air photographic surveys and interpretive studies (Post and LaChapelle, 1971; Post, 1969).

Muir Inlet is the principal drainage basin on the east side of Glacier Bay. The Muir Glacier now at the head of the inlet, has been retreating, catastrophically at times, since before Vancouver's arrival in 1794 (at that time the Muir Glacier was a tributary of the great glacier that occupied all of Glacier Bay). Field (1979) has estimated that average annual recession rates of the Muir Glacier exceed 400 m.

Because of the large numbers of tourists since the 1880's who have visited the Muir Glacier, the area's status as a National Monument, and the many scientists who have studied the glacier, a detailed pictorial record exists of its recession. The record ranges from drawings made in the early 1880's through photographs taken as early as the late 1880's and air photographs beginning in 1929, to satellite imagery from the early 1970's. It is an ideal glacier for further study using present and historical pictures as keys to the past as well as to future glacier behavior.

SUMMARY

The four basic types of pictures provide different types of useful data. Drawings, while not as accurate as a photograph, provide the earliest pictorial basis for later comparison of glacier changes. Drawings took a long time to do and required a skilled person to make them, but drawings are the only type of picture in which mechanical failure is not a major problem.

Terrestrial photographs also have a long historical record, at least in certain parts of the world. As far as detail and perspective, they are quite similar to many drawings, however, accuracy is not questioned. Expense of equipment, while being more than for drawing, is considerably less than it would be for air photography. Depending on the glacier location, however, terrestrial photography may be more expensive in the long run because of difficulty of access. Terrestrial photographs are usually one aspect of more detailed quantitative field work, such as surveying or sampling, possibly within more than one discipline. These photographs, then, often provide ground truth, such as on mass balance, that can be used with, and are necessary for, remote sensing applications.

Conventional air photography provides mainly qualitative data on large numbers of glaciers in a relatively short period of time in virtually any geographic location. The scale of air photographs varies from relatively small to relatively large. The length of record of air photographs is fairly short for most glaciers, but because the technique is so efficient in time and space, the number of available photographs is quite large. In inaccessible regions, air photography provides the first glimpse of many of the world's glaciers. In the study of glaciers, weather is often a limiting factor, even in the summer. Visibility problems occur often with air photography surveys. In addition, photographic missions are usually flown at selected times, rather than systematically, and to selected localities, rather than randomly. Although the efficiency of the given study is increased, the generation of a broad-based data bank suffers.

Satellite imagery has the shortest historical record, but there are now probably more glacier satellite images than any other type of glacier picture. The main advantage with satellite images is their frequent systematic coverage of the world's glaciers on a multispectral basis, with the additional capability for machine analyzing. Disadvantages are mainly in the small scale of the imagery, obstruction by cloud cover, and other problems with resolution. There is always the possibility of mechanical failure.

No other type of pictorial data can be described as "best" or can really stand alone in the study of glaciers (Table 1). Often the data obtained from a remotely-sensed picture will need terrestrial data to substantiate it, and terrestrial data will often be aided by the overall view provided by a remotely sensed picture. A systems approach combining an integration of remotely sensed and geobased observations is probably the most useful for most studies.

Table 1: Types of Pictures - Advantages and Disadvantages¹

	Length of Record	True Scale ²	Area Covered ³	Expense of Equipment	Ease of Access to Subject of Picture	Ease of Repetition	Possibility of Year-long Monitoring	Spectral Sensitivity
Drawings	+++	+	-	+++	+ to ---	+ to ---	---	-
Terrestrial Photographs	++	+	-	++ to -	+ to ---	+ to ---	---	+
Air Photographs	+	+ to -	- to +	-	++	++	++	+
Satellite Imagery	-	---	+++	---	+++	+++	+++	++

¹ best to worst
+++ to ---

² large scale defined as "+", although it is not necessarily an advantage.

³ large area defined as "+", although it is not necessarily an advantage.

FUTURE WORK

The future for long-term studies of glacier behavior is bright. Technological improvements in satellite imagery will yield resolution comparable to that of air photographs at a fraction of the cost per image. Access to these images in the future, as at present, will be made possible by computerized data retrieval systems (EROS Data Center, Sioux Falls, SD).

The World Data Center-A for Glaciology is currently cataloguing the American Geographical Society/W.O. Field collection and that of the U.S. Geological Survey/A.S. Post. The former consists of approximately 40,000 drawings, terrestrial and air photographs, mostly from Alaska, taken since the 1880's. The latter consists of about 80,000 air photographs taken between 1962 and the present, and mainly covers northwestern North America. When cataloguing and programming are complete, critical information such as place, date, type of picture, and the name of the individual who or institution that has the picture will be available on a user request basis from the World Data Center-A for Glaciology, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Additional information on the WDC-A collections, methods used for cataloguing the pictures and the computerized data retrieval system will be forthcoming as the project progresses. Currently most of the U.S. Geological Survey/A.S. Post collection has been catalogued, and approximately 7 percent of that data has been computerized. Approximately 25 percent of the American Geographical Society/W.O. Field collection has been catalogued and archived at the WDC-A. The WDC-A would like as complete a pictorial record of glaciers as possible, and is therefore interested in archiving and/or cataloguing other glacier picture collections.

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WDC-A for Glaciology Photo Index File
An Update

In 1964 the Project Office for Glaciology (Water Resources Division, United State Geological Survey) began administration of the annual aerial photosurvey of snowline and glacier fluctuations of North Pacific Coast and interior Alaskan glaciers. The resulting photographic collection, herein designated the Post collection, consists of approximately 80-100,000 negatives of glaciers, snowlines, and other glacial features photographed since 1960, primarily by Austin Post and secondarily by R. Krimmel and L. Mayo.

In October 1976, the World Data Center-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice] (WDC) transferred from the USGS to NOAA/EDIS in Boulder, Colorado. At that time, the WDC suggested a glacier photo indexing program in conjunction with the USGS in order to facilitate user access to these photographs and to update an existing but limited photo index in the Project Office for Glaciology.

In early 1978, the WDC designed a set of descriptive identifiers for all types of glacier photographs, with the collaboration of Austin Post and other glaciologists. The outcome was a universal index format and coding form which has been used for indexing the Post collection as well as other historical glacier photographs archived at the WDC. Information contained on the index form for each glacier most often includes the following: glacier name, location, International Hydrological Decade number (when available), glacier features, photo/camera type, and photographer.

A second set of historical glacier photographs has been assembled by W.O. Field and the American Geographical Society and is gradually being transferred for archival at the WDC. The Field collection contains approximately 40,000 terrestrial and aerial photographic prints of glaciers, many dating back to the early 1900's and before. These photographs are also being indexed by the WDC, using the same format as the Post collection.

A computer data base was developed at the WDC in 1978 and some of the completed index forms have been entered into this file. A CDC-derived report-writing and data-sorting software package (OUTPOL) allowed creation of multiple keyed index listings and off-line searches for photographs of specific glaciers or ones which show specific features.

More recently the Glacier Photo Index file has been redesigned for implementation on a Univac computer using the DMS1100 software package. Ultimately the entire computerized index file will reside in the Data Archive Management and User Service system (DAMUS) of NOAA/EDIS. The new system will allow efficient on-line searches by combination of glacier name, geographic location, and other index keys. The expected implementation of the new software system is 1 October 1981.

Current Status of Indexing

Approximately 80 percent of the Post collection has been indexed as of January 1981, and approximately 10 percent of the items are entered into the data file. However, data entry operations were suspended in early 1980, due to lack of funds. We expect data entry to restart in June or July of 1981, when additional funding becomes available. Expected completion of photo indexing and data entry is June 1984.

Canadian Ice Services

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This paper presents an overview of the ice services provide by the Atmospheric Environment Service (AES) as well as detailed information about Canadian data collection for the Great Lakes.

I. AES, Ice Branch

The Ice Branch of AES provides an ice observing service, ice forecasting and advisory service, and an ice climatological and applications service. The Branch has been in existence since the late 1950's and has amassed a large volume of data and professional expertise. In 1979, a mini-computer was installed in the Ice Forecasting Central in Ottawa, and an ice research specialist was added to the headquarters unit in Downsview, Ontario.

The functions carried by, and the services provided by, each unit are as follows:

A. Ice Reconnaissance

Using two long-range four-engine aircraft, a comprehensive ice reconnaissance program is carried out throughout the year, concentrating on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the St. Lawrence Seaway and Great Lakes, east Newfoundland and southern Labrador waters, including Lake Melville in winter, with periodic reconnaissance missions to the Arctic to acquire baseline data. In summer, with southern waters clear of sea and lake ice, the Hudson Bay and Arctic areas are observed regularly.

The aircraft are equipped with a number of sensors which can enhance the visual reports of trained ice observers. The laser profilometer provides data on pressure ridges on the ice surface beneath the aircraft. The infrared line scanner can map the distribution of apparent surface temperatures during ice formation by recording the upward heat flux as a function of ice thickness over a narrow swath width. Both sensors are sensitive to cloud/fog beneath the aircraft. They work best from relatively low altitudes. The airborne radiation thermometer can provide sea surface temperature when corrected for atmospheric conditions, or if ground truthing is available, with cloud and altitude restrictions as above. The sideways looking airborne radar on one of the aircraft has the capability to "observe", and record on film, ice conditions during darkness and through undercast. Subject to its normal operational missions, the aircraft may be available for support of some commercial activities. Both aircraft are equipped with a camera array for photographing the ice surface. They also have radio facsimile transmitters to pass ice charts to ships and to stations equipped to record them. Most of the sensor and camera data as well as the ice charts can be made available. A sensor to record ice thickness from a fixed wing aircraft is not yet available.

Parameters recorded on ice reconnaissance missions include: ice edge positions, leads and cracks, ice concentrations and some floe size data, ice pressure features, surface melt, and snow cover.

B. Ice Forecasting and Advisory Services

The ice forecasting program coordinates the data recorded during the aircraft flights with satellite imagery (TIROS/NOAA and LANDSAT) received in near real-time to develop composite charts of current ice conditions. From these charts and forecast meteorological parameters, plain-language ice forecasts are prepared for both commercial navigation support and for coastal fishing operations in Atlantic Canada waters during the winter. In summer, charts and forecasts for support of shipping and other operations in Hudson Bay and Arctic waters are prepared and disseminated. When they are commercially active in winter, charts and forecasts are also prepared for the Great Lakes.

This paper supplements Glaciological Data, Report GD-9, Great Lakes Ice.

Specifically the following forecasts, bulletins, and charts are issued:

1. For commercial shipping and offshore activities
 - a. Gulf of St. Lawrence--winter season--daily
 - b. East Newfoundland--winter season--daily
 - c. Great Lakes--winter season--daily when shipping active
 - d. Hudson Bay--summer--daily until ice clears
 - e. Baffin Bay--summer--daily ice edge
 - f. Western Arctic--summer--daily during navigation season
2. For fishermen
 - a. Nova Scotia (Cape Breton and Eastern Shore)--winter--daily
 - b. Northumberland Strait area--spring--daily until clear
 - c. Newfoundland coasts--winter/spring--daily
3. Special Forecasts/Bulletins
 - a. Gulf St. Lawrence/Newfoundland winter outlook--annual--December
 - b. Arctic summer outlook--annual--June
 - c. Beaufort Sea Freeze-up--weekly--September to November
 - d. St. Lawrence Seaway Freeze-up--periodic through December
 - e. St. Lawrence Seaway Break-up--periodic February and March
 - f. 30-day forecasts--operational areas--twice monthly
 - g. Others--on request
4. Ice Charts-current conditions
In operationally active areas--daily--radio facsimile broadcast
5. Ice Charts-composite
1-3 per week depending on area--mail distribution
(Areas covered are: Eastern seaboard, Hudson Bay and approaches,
Eastern Arctic, Western Arctic, Great Lakes.)

The forecasts provide the positions of ice edges, ice concentration ranges, ice types as functions of the ice thickness, some data on pressure within the pack, and on ice growth or decay state. They will also include a forecast of expected ice drift.

The ice charts are analyses of ice conditions including all current data from ice reconnaissance flights, from analyzed satellite imagery, and from ship and shore reports. In addition to the parameters in the forecasts, the charts will also show details on floe sizes, some data on ice topography, and the areas of old ice.

A variety of information is also available by telephone, telex, telecopier, and mail.

C. Ice Climatology

Ice climatological services include archiving all Canadian ice data, publishing area summaries and analyses of these data, undertaking special studies, lectures, and training in ice-related topics, reviewing ice-related publications or ice-sensitive plans, as well as generating atlases of ice conditions for Canadian waters.

Archived data include: original observations, satellite imagery, historical ice charts, original remote sensing records from the laser profilometer, infrared line scanner, sideways looking airborne radar, and camera data. Some data are light-sensitive and cannot be reproduced, but are available for inspection. Other data exist in a variety of forms from paper copies to film strips to magnetic tapes, and copies can be made available.

Information services include normal and extreme positions of ice edges, average ice concentrations, average concentrations of ice types, seasonal patterns of ice advance and retreat, variability of the amount of old ice in operational areas, etc. Work has begun on statistics on pressure ridges. Freezing-degree day and melting-degree day accumulations relative to the changing ice seasons are also archived. Other types of analyses can be done on a request basis.

Ice thickness measurements (weekly) exist for many coastal stations. Most Arctic data go back to the 1950's; visual observations are since the late 1950's; daily, weekly, and monthly mean pressure charts are for the same periods. Satellite imagery is available since the early 1970's in the "quicklook" form.

Limited research and consultation services are available. A program of ice atlas production for Canadian waters has begun, with an Arctic atlas and an Eastern Canadian Seaboard atlas nearing publication.

Data for Northern Hemisphere ice conditions outside Canadian waters exists in varying forms and for differing historical periods; however, the history for the Soviet Arctic coastline is very general.

D. Remote Sensing

A broad spectrum of expertise in remote sensing instrumentation, data acquisition, data analysis and application has been developed within AES, and this expertise is available for consultation and guidance by data users, and for planning projects.

E. Iceberg Information

During the summer navigation season, the Ice Forecasting Central provides a daily broadcast iceberg bulletin for shipping through the Strait of Belle Isle giving the eastern and western limits of icebergs and the approximate number of bergs present. The bulletin is based on aerial reconnaissance and ship reports during May and June, but only ship reports thereafter.

On all aerial reconnaissance flights, the number of icebergs within the visual range are counted and recorded, but exact positions are not recorded. Hence, considerable statistical data on iceberg population exist from Newfoundland to the eastern Arctic, but it is in no way a complete iceberg census. Satellite imagery cannot provide a complete picture for iceberg population at this time.

F. International Data Exchange

The Ice Forecasting Central maintains a data exchange program with the United States in the Great Lakes and Alaska areas; and with Denmark in the Davis Strait-Greenland area. Through exchanges with the Baltic countries they also have data on ice conditions in the Baltic Sea and adjoining water bodies. These data are archived in the Ice Climatology Division.

II. Canadian Data Collection for the Great Lakes

The following is a brief summary of activities specific to the Great Lakes and the types of data collected:

- Satellite Imagery
- NOAA - 1973-79 (Prints only)
 - TIROS "N" - 1979-80 (Prints Only)
 - ERTS/LANDSAT - 1973-80 (Prints)
 - 1974-80 (Fiche)
- Ice Reconnaissance
- (1964 - Present)
 - a. Aerial - mostly visual interpretation, mostly Canadian side of Lakes plotted on charts 18" X 22" (scale 1:2M to 1979, 1:1M thereafter)
 - A few flights include A.R.T. and laser data but in general, very little remotely sensed data is available for the Great Lakes.
 - For the period 1964-71 these observations have been reproduced in booklet format on a one book per year basis.
 - b. Ice Breaker - 1964 - Present
 - Canadian visual only. These observations are plotted on the same base charts as used for aerial ice reconnaissance.
- Daily Current Charts
- (1972 - Present)
 - These are operationally produced composite ice charts which incorporate all available information from freeze-up to break-up on a 7-day-a-week basis. The chart scale is 1:2M
- Microfilm
- 35mm in maximum 100 ft. rolls. (1960-1975)
 - All aerial ice reconnaissance, ship observations, and daily current charts appear on microfilm in chronological order.
- Weekly Composite Charts
- (1972 - Present)
 - These are operationally produced charts of scale approximately 1:5M which depict ice conditions on a particular day of each week from freeze-up to break-up.

Ice Thickness Data

- Weekly measurements of ice thickness and data of freeze-up/break-up are available for the following selected areas during the corresponding period:

Thunder Bay, Ontario	1963-78
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario	1963-78
South Baymouth, Ontario	1962-78
Iroquois, Ontario	1963-72
Cornwall, Ontario	1963-71
Welland, Ontario	1963-78

In some areas there is more than one observing site. Other areas for which there is some data available have not been mentioned due to the discontinuous nature of the data. All available ice thickness data from selected Canadian stations are reprinted in booklets on a yearly basis.

Freezing/Melting Degree Data

- Daily freezing and melting degree accumulation records are available for eight meteorological reporting stations situated around the Great Lakes:

Thunder Bay	1972 - Present
Gore Bay	1973 - "
Sault Ste. Marie	1973 - "
Warton	1973 - "
Windsor	1973 - "
Simcoe	1953 - "
Toronto	1953 - "
Trenton	1953 - "
Montreal	1953 - "

Statistics of yearly accumulations, their normals and extremes are also available. All data are presently in hard copy form.

Pressure Charts

- 1000 millibar 1:20M scale - mean daily, weekly, and monthly analyses from 1970 to present. (Hard copy and microfilm (35mm))

Mean Sea Level pressure charts - 1955-1969 (hard copy only)

Essentially all our historical archives are in hard-copy format. That which can be reproduced is available to the user at our cost of reproduction, handling, and mailing.

NOTES

Meetings

WDC-A Radio Glaciology Workshop

A Radio Glaciology Workshop, organized by the World Data Center-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice], will be held on 4-5 September 1981, in conjunction with the Third International Symposium on Antarctic Glaciology in Columbus, Ohio.

The Workshop will focus on two areas of radio glaciology: data acquisition and processing, and data archiving and distribution. Topics to be considered in the first category include: hardware specifications relating to data quality and quantity; the merits of analog and digital output modes; and post-processing techniques including: 'cleaning', analog compression, A/D conversion, and digital signal processing. A quantitative evaluation of the accuracy of positioning techniques will also be considered. Finally, there will be a review of interpretation problems associated with different display modes.

The second focus of the Workshop will address the development of an archiving and distribution policy for radio glaciology data. Topics for consideration include: defining the needs, concerns, and constraints of the radio glaciology community regarding the availability of data, the variety of data products, and the potential for standardization and quality control in a data management environment. Consideration will also be given to data management plans for new data acquisition systems, such as those on satellites.

The Workshop will produce a working document summarizing the key scientific, technical, and data management needs relating to radio glaciology data acquisition, processing, archiving, and distribution.

For details of the Workshop and preregistration contact:

P.K. MacKinnon
World Data Center-A for Glaciology
University of Colorado
Campus Box 449
Boulder, Colorado 80309

Phone: (303) 492-5171
FTS 320-5311

Second Symposium on Applied Glaciology

The International Glaciological Society will hold a Second Symposium on Applied Glaciology in New Hampshire, USA in 1982; the first symposium on this subject was held in 1976 in Cambridge, U.K. Registration will take place on Sunday 22 August, and sessions will be from Monday 23 to Friday 27 August.

Topics

The Symposium will be concerned with the following topics:

1. engineering problems associated with river, lake, and sea ice;
2. engineering problems associated with ground ice, icebergs, and glaciers;
3. properties and behaviour of snow, ice, and ice cover;
4. snow removal, control, and processing;
5. avalanche control and snow pressure;
6. ice accretion;
7. modelling techniques in applied glaciology.

Papers

The Papers Committee will be happy to consider any paper that provides new information on the above topics. Details about the submission of summaries and final papers will be given in the Second Circular, to be published in the summer of 1981. Dates for submission are firm ones and must be adhered to.

Publication

The Proceedings of the Symposium will be published in the Annals of Glaciology. Papers will be refereed according to the Society's usual standards before being accepted for publication.

Organization

The main organization is undertaken at the Society's Headquarters office in Cambridge, U.K., while the local organization will be effected by our members in Hanover, with the help of staff of the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL). We hope to arrange visits to the Laboratory during the week of the Symposium. Local tours will be arranged for people accompanying the participants. The Society's Annual Dinner will be held during the week.

Further Information

The Second Circular will give information about accommodation, general programme, preparation of summaries, and final papers.

Requests for copies of the Second Circular should be addressed to the:

Secretary General
International Glaciological Society
Lensfield Road
Cambridge CB2 1ER
England

Organizing Committee

A.J. Gow (Chairman)
B.S. Yamashita
W.F. Weeks
H. Richardson (Secretary General, IGS)



DATA ANNOUNCEMENT

ARCTIC OCEAN BUOY DATA

81-GLA-02

Processed digital data sets of the Arctic Ocean drifting buoy program are now available through the World Data Center-A (WDC-A) for Glaciology [Snow and Ice], Boulder, Colorado. These data were collected as part of the United States contribution to the First GARP Global Experiment (FGGE) by the Polar Science Center, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. The objectives of the buoy program were to provide measurements of surface atmospheric pressure over the basin and to define the large scale field of motion of the sea ice.

The data comprise 3-hourly estimates of atmospheric pressure and temperature, and ice velocity interpolated to fixed grid-points. The number of operating buoys varies through time but averages about fifteen. Synoptic weather station data have been integrated into the pressure field calculations. Currently archived data cover the period 19 January to 31 December 1979.

The essential processing steps included: 1) editing the raw data to remove large errors; 2) interpolating the edited pressure, temperature, and location time series for each buoy; 3) merging the pressure and temperature data from the buoys with temperature and pressure data from other high latitude weather stations; and 4) interpolating to a fixed spatial grid. Details of these editing and interpolation steps may be found in Thorndike and Colony (1980), which is available from the Polar Science Center (see address below).

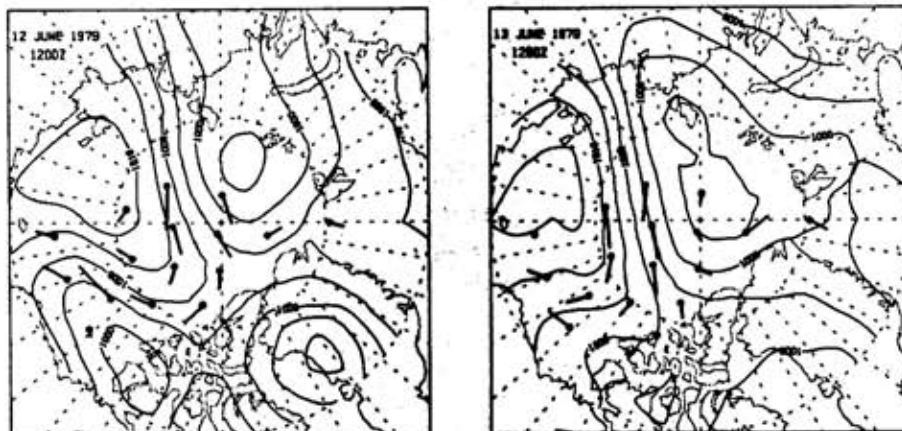


Figure 1. Graphical analysis of surface pressure at 1200 GMT, 12 and 13 June 1979, with daily buoy displacement vectors.*

*Thorndike, A.S.; Colony, R. (1980) Arctic Ocean Buoy Program, Data Report. Polar Science Center, University of Washington. 131 p. Available from PSC, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98105.



World Data Center-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice]
National Geophysical and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center, NOAA
Boulder, Colorado 80303

DATA DESCRIPTION

The sets archived at the WDC-A consist of the following data collected between January and December 1979:

Data Set A: Daily Pressure and Temperature Fields

Data elements include: year, month, day, hour (gmt), latitude, longitude, interpolated temperature and pressure to the grid points, and interpolated error terms for temperature and pressure.

Data Set B: Three-Hourly Pressure and Temperature Fields

This set presents the same data as A, except that the reporting interval is every three hours.

Data Set C: Daily Buoy Positions

Data elements include: year, month, day, latitude, and longitude. Buoy positions are grouped three per logical record.

Data Set D: Interpolated Ice Velocity Fields

This data set contains ice velocity estimates on a fixed grid of points, 2' longitude by 10' latitude. Data elements include: year, month, day, hour, latitude and longitude of grid point, interpolated ice velocities in the Cartesian grid, and variance estimates of the velocity field.

DISTRIBUTION MEDIA AND FORMATS

These data are available on computer tape in the following formats:

- 9 Track, 800 or 1600 bpi, EBCDIC or ASCII.
- 7 Track, 556 or 800 bpi, BCD only.
- 80 characters per record, block length is variable but cannot exceed 3840 characters per block.

More complete documentation is available upon request.

Costs are dependent on the amount of digital and analog data requested and computer processing required. Specific cost estimates will be provided on request.

For further information, and to place an order for data, contact:

World Data Center-A for Glaciology
Campus Box 449
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO 80309

Telephone: (303) 492-5171
FTS: 320-5311

DATA ANNOUNCEMENT

81-GLA-01

DEFENSE METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE PROGRAM DATA

The World Data Center-A (WDC-A) for Glaciology [Snow and Ice] has established an adjunct collection of satellite imagery mosaics acquired from the United States Air Force Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP). DMSP is a system of near-polar orbiting satellites providing real-time information in two spectral bands (visual: 0.4-1.1 μ m; and infrared: 3-13 μ m, changed to 10.5-12.5 μ m after June 1979). These data are prepared from a global, digital intensity file used operationally by Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC) in forecasting and are subsequently archived in Boulder. The frequent global coverage (up to four times daily) and the 3-nautical mile (nm) resolution of the products have proven useful for observing changes in snow and ice boundaries on regional to global scales, as well as for cloud studies.

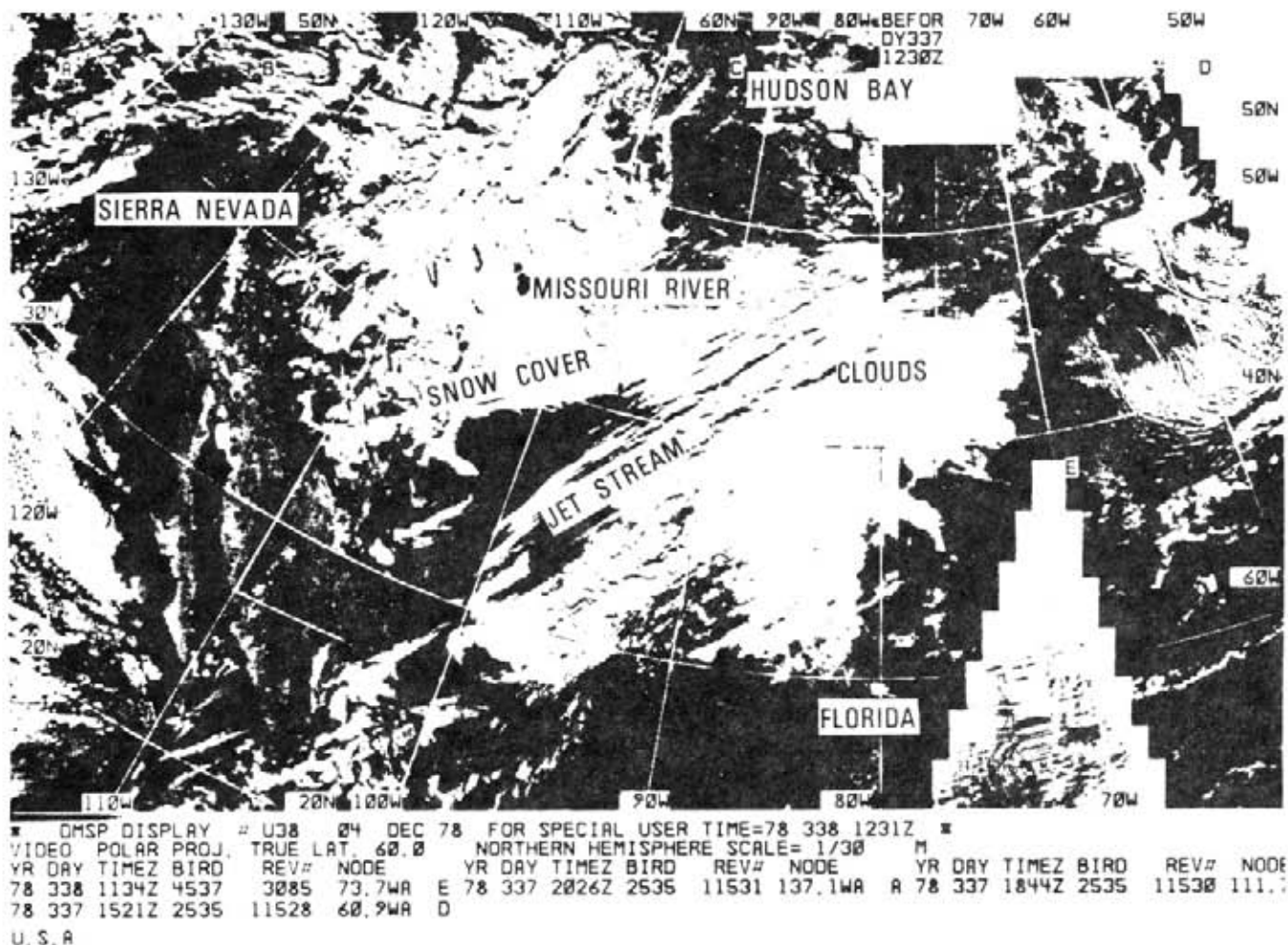


Figure 1. DMSP visual band image of the United States.

World Data Center-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice]
National Geophysical and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center, NOAA
Boulder, Colorado 80303

The mylar mosaics are geographical combinations of orbital swaths reproduced on polar-stereographic projections at scales of 1:15,000,000 and 1:30,000,000. Some of the areas covered by the 1:15,000,000 scale mosaics are shown in figure 2. A more comprehensive view of the earth can be obtained from the 1:30,000,000 scale mosaics, four of which cover the globe. All of the mosaics are 15 inches wide by about 36 inches long. Latitude and longitude grids have been added, and the data are processed to eliminate cross-track distortion.

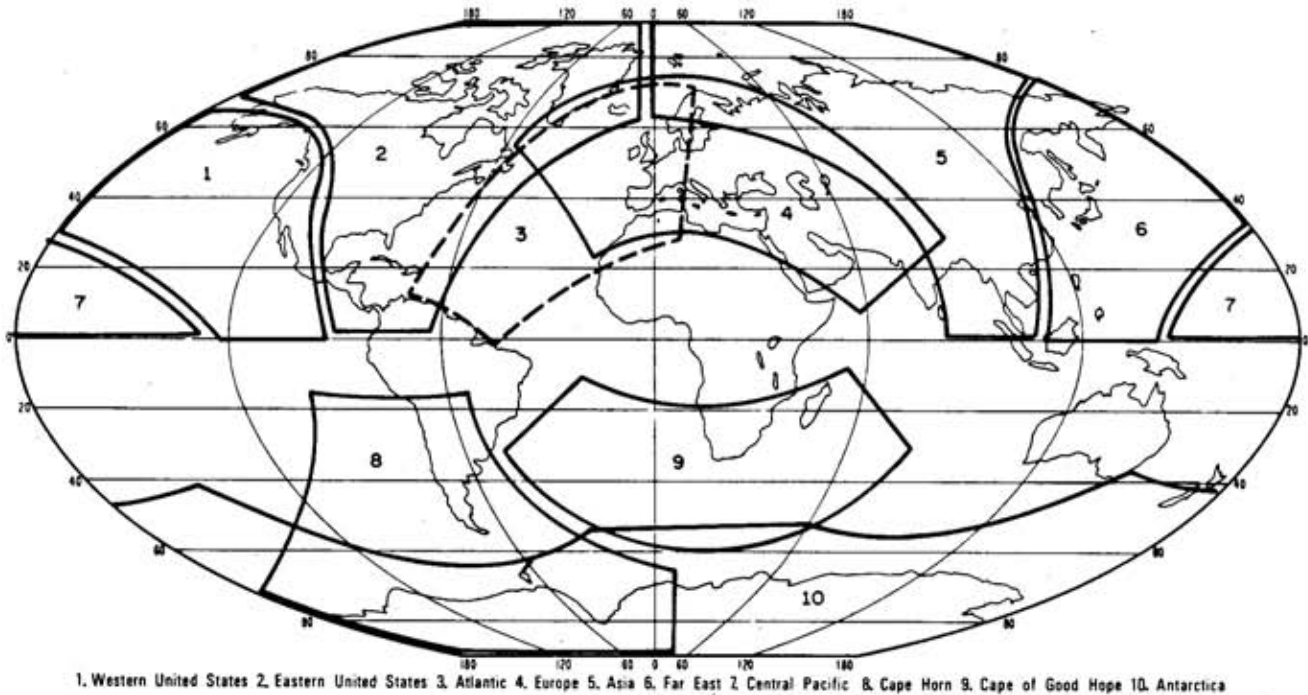


Figure 2. Some areas covered by 1:15,000,000 scale mosaics.

The operational scheme consists of two satellites in near-polar (inclination of 98.7°), sun-synchronous orbits at 450-nm (825 km) altitude. Orbital period is 102 minutes and the satellites step around the equator at 25° longitude increments on each successive orbit. By use of the two satellites, observations are made at near local noon and midnight, and at dawn and dusk. Each satellite utilizes an operational linescan system (OLS) which collects data continuously along a crosstrack scan 1600-nm (3000 km) wide.

The mosaics archived in the collection consist of data acquired from November 1975 onwards. The data are only available on a loan basis. Costs are dependent on quantity and time/area specifications of the request. Specific cost estimates will be provided on request. A typical request for one month of data over one region ranges between \$25-\$50. Additional data from March 1973 to November 1975 in single 1/4 orbit strips (global coverage) and Mercator projection mosaics of the tropics from November 1975 onward are only available by special agreement since additional sorting is necessary for these products.

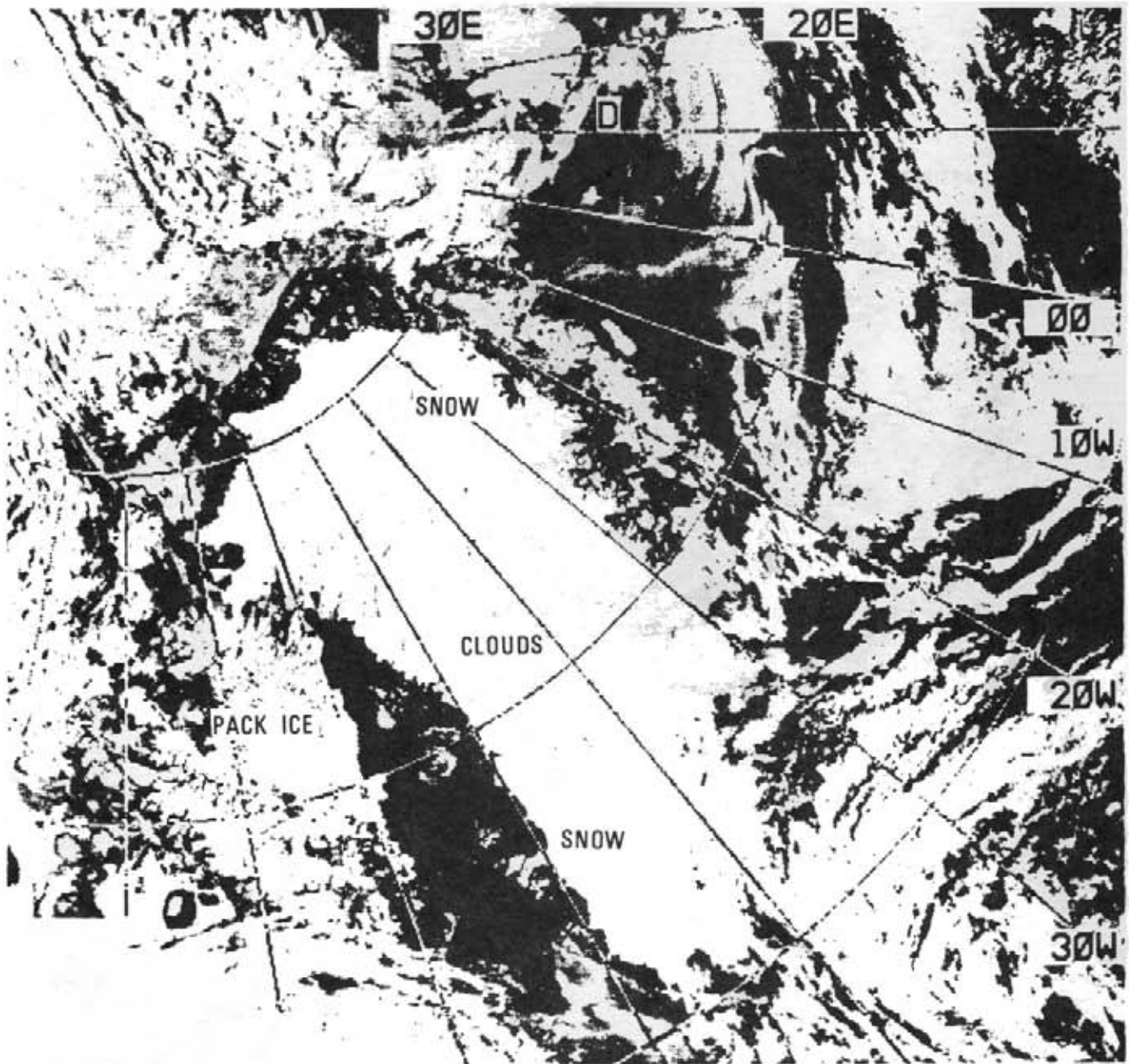


Figure 3. DMSP visual band image of the Greenland Ice Cap on 8 July 1978.

These data sets are complementary to the higher resolution ungridded DMSP orbital strips housed at the University of Wisconsin Space Science and Engineering Center and the nighttime DMSP auroral images at National Geophysical and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center (NGSDC).

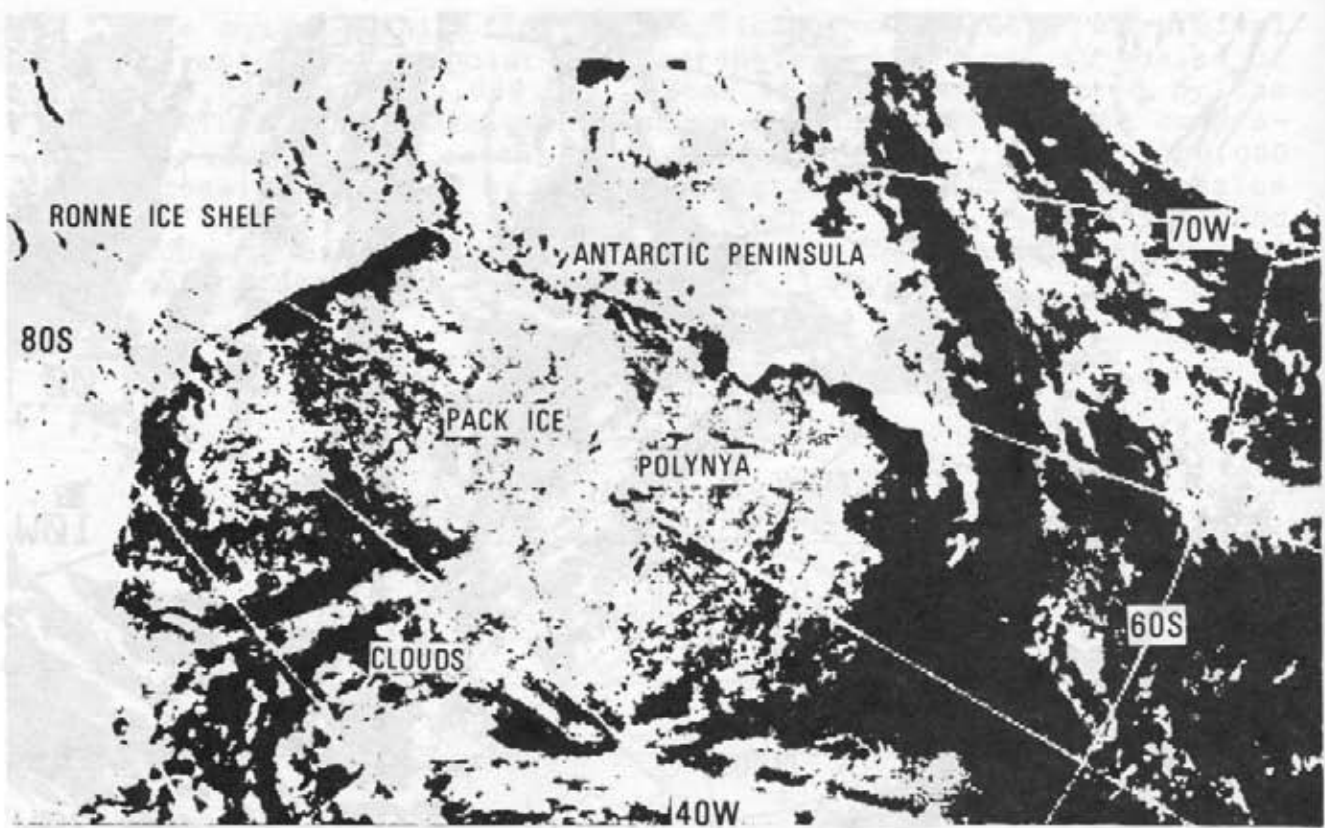


Figure 4. Sea ice along the Antarctic Peninsula on 7 February 1979.

For further information concerning DMSP, please contact:

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USA

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★ U.S.G.P.O. 6/81-777-030

GLACIOLOGICAL DATA SERIES

Glaciological Data, which supercedes Glaciological Notes, is published by the World Data Center-A for Glaciology (Snow and Ice) several times per year. It contains bibliographies, inventories, and survey reports relating to snow and ice data, specially prepared by the Center, as well as invited articles and brief, unsolicited statements on data sets, data collection and storage, methodology, and terminology in glaciology. Contributions are edited, but not refereed or copyrighted. WDC publications are distributed without charge to interested individuals and institutions.

Scientific Editor: Roger G. Barry
Technical Editor: Ann M. Brennan

The following issues have been published to date:

- GD- 1, Avalanches, 1977
- GD- 2, Parts 1 and 2, Arctic Sea Ice, 1978
- GD- 3, World Data Center Activities, 1978
- GD- 4, Parts 1 and 2, Glaciological Field Stations, 1979
- GD- 5, Workshop on Snow Cover and Sea Ice Data, 1979
- GD- 6, Snow Cover, 1979
- GD- 7, Inventory of Snow Cover and Sea Ice Data, 1979
- GD- 8, Ice Cores, 1980
- GD- 9, Great Lakes Ice, 1980

Contributions or correspondence should be addressed to:

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