

WEATHER STATIONS

Exchange of notes at México May 18 and June 14, 1943, with Mexican memorandum

Entered into force June 14, 1943

*Superseded July 1, 1948, by agreement of March 29 and August 15, 1949*¹

61 Stat. 4053; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1806

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

No. 1271

MEXICO, May 18, 1943

EXCELLENCY:

Pursuant to instructions from my Government, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that, in furtherance of the war effort, and particularly in order to safeguard military and air transport operations, it appears to be desirable to provide a network of urgently needed meteorological reports from points in northern Mexico bordering important airways of the United States. In the event that the establishment of such a network should be agreeable to Your Excellency's Government, the United States Weather Bureau, of the Department of Commerce, is prepared to provide the necessary equipment for nine such stations and is likewise prepared to defray the salaries of, and to train, sufficient Mexican personnel to take eight complete weather observations at three-hourly intervals daily, including Sundays and holidays.

While this matter has not been previously discussed with Mexican authorities, it is believed that the proposal will receive favorable consideration by the Mexican Meteorological Survey, since the weather reports from the net work would be beneficial in forecasting weather which at times moves southward across Mexico.

For Your Excellency's information I may add that if, as I venture to hope, the above suggestion should prove agreeable to Your Excellency's Government, the Weather Bureau would send an official to this Capital to assist in the making of the necessary arrangements and agreements so that the establishment of the stations may be expedited.

I should appreciate it if Your Excellency would be so kind as to endeavor to expedite a decision in regard to the above.

¹ TIAS 1995, *post*, p. 1259.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
UNITED MEXICAN STATES
MEXICO

54229

MEXICO CITY, *June 14, 1943*

MR. AMBASSADOR :

In reply to Your Excellency's courteous note No. 1271 of May 18 last and with reference to my note No. 53859 of the 2nd of the present month of June, I am happy to inform you that the Government of Mexico is agreeable to nine weather stations being established for the purpose of furnishing, daily, reports useful for better safeguarding military and air transportation operations.

Therefore, the Government of the United States may, whenever it sees fit, send to Mexico City the Weather Bureau official to whom Your Excellency's note refers, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements with the proper authorities of the Government of Mexico—in this case the Ministry of Agriculture—in connection with everything relative to the location of the said stations, the cooperation which the United States Weather Bureau will extend in the way of furnishing the equipment for the functioning thereof, and the sending, if considered advisable, of one or more experts to instruct the Mexican personnel who will be in charge of the stations in question. The salary of this personnel will be covered by the Government of Mexico.

As an enclosure with this note I transmit to Your Excellency a memorandum containing various information which the Ministry of Agriculture and Development has supplied to the Ministry of Foreign Relations relative to this matter.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

E. PADILLA

Enclosure.

His Excellency

GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH,

*Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the United States of America,
City.*

MEMORANDUM

At the present time there are in the northern region of the Republic the eleven weather stations listed below:

STATIONS:	APPROX. POSITION	
	Lat.	Long.
Ensenada, B. C.	31°47'	116°37'
Altar, Son.	30 43	111 44
Ures, Son.	29 26	110 24
Villa Ahumada, Chih.	30 38	106 31
Temósachic, Chih.	28 58	107 50
Hidalgo del Parral, Chih.	26 56	105 49
Ojinaga, Chih.	29 24	104 25
Sierra Mojada, Coah.	27 17	103 42
Monclova, Coah.	26 55	101 26
Linares, N. L.	24 52	99 34
Soto la Marina, Tamps.	23 46	98 12

These stations are of the thermopluviometric category and despatch, daily, to the Central Bureau in Tacubaya, for short-term weather forecast studies, a telegram with the observation data gathered at 6:30 a.m. on the 90° meridian west of Greenwich, which include: maximum temperature and minimum temperature in the previous 24 hours; rainfall in the previous 24 hours; direction and estimated velocity of the wind and cloudiness, at the time of the observation, and prevailing aspect of the sky during the previous 24 hours. (These data are not included among those which are despatched daily to the United States, at present.)

It is to be supposed that the new stations which the Government of the United States is proposing to establish would, in addition to their observations of temperature and rainfall make observations of the atmospheric pressure, wind and cloudiness; but it would perhaps be advisable to take into account the location of already existing pluviometric stations, in view of the necessity of the places selected being connected by telegraph with the Center and of the advantage of taking previous statistics as to temperature and rainfall into account.

To the foregoing places may be added two which are connected by telegraph with the Capital and at which there also are thermopluviometric stations, but which do not at present transmit their daily data by telegraph. They are:

Presa de la Angosture, Son. . . . Lat.: 30°17'; Long.: 109°16' and Lampazos, N. L. . . . Lat.: 27°2'; Long.: 100°31'.

The Government of Mexico has always been disposed to cooperate with that of the United States in meteorological studies. For three years the Federal Government has been actively improving the network of observatories, and a special one for Agricultural Climatology will be opened in the very near future at the National School of Agriculture, Dr. C. W.

Thorntwaite, of the United States Department of Agriculture, who has distinguished himself by his desire to cooperate with us in that field, having been invited to the opening thereof.

The Mexican network of weather stations has been improved, since 1941, in the manifest way which is apparent from the following:

In 1940 there were only 346 stations in all.

In 1941, 614 stations were in operation, as follows:

Pluviometric	146
Thermopluviometric	302
Evaporation	110
Meteorological	56

In 1942, 804 stations were in operation, as follows:

Pluviometric	193
Thermopluviometric	425
Evaporation	132
Meteorological	54

In 1943, 868 stations are in operation as follows:

Pluviometric	202
Thermopluviometric	468
Evaporation	140
Meteorological	55

and three more, radiometeorographic stations, established at the request and with the help of the United States Weather Bureau.

Our program of increasing and improving the network of Observatories has nevertheless, in the last two years, suffered great delay and limitation, due to the difficulties encountered in the acquisition of apparatus from the United States. Recently an order for barometers which we placed with it as far back as November 1941 was canceled by the Taylor Instruments Company factory, and the thermometers and barographs requested at the same time have been delivered to us in small lots which still do not cover the total number ordered.

In the present case, the Department of Agriculture hopes that the increase in meteorological data will result in great benefit to weather studies, in both countries, and will devote its every endeavor to carrying out the cooperation which is requested of it.

MEXICO, D. F., June 14, 1943.