

RGBV
2.30.4.1
28 June 1979

To: Mark Meier and Austin Post
Project Office
U. S. Geological Survey - Glaciology
1201 Pacific Ave.
Suite 850
Tacoma, WA 98402

From: Claire S. Hoffman

Enclosed is the first Glacier Name Index to the glacier photo index. In the Glacier Name Index you will find a listing of each glacier name for which a photo has been indexed, and a list of accession numbers which refer to that glacier. By locating the pertinent accession number(s) in the master list (Photo Index, also enclosed) you can identify indexed photos by roll and exposure number for a particular glacier. Also enclosed are lists of all the codes and abbreviations used in indexing the photos.

Since NOAA computer operations occur primarily in a batch environment, we plan monthly indexes with annual cumulations instead of online retrievals, which are not cost-effective on the NOAA system. Retrieval by geographic location or glacier feature as well as Boolean combinations (e.g. all cirque glaciers in the St. Elias Mtns.) can be done in batch mode on demand in the same manner as is possible for the bibliographic data file.

We have just hired a second Data Entry Operator whose major responsibility will be the glacier photo index. Present estimates indicate the possibility of entering 1700-2500 photos per month into the file. When the file becomes large enough that you would find it worthwhile to generate your own indexes, I will be happy to assist Bill Sikonia and/or Patrice Luker in working out the details of access.

I should let you know that, while we still use UTFOL for both the bibliographic file and the glacier photo index, we are no longer using the XDS940 computer to access or update either file; we use the CDC6600 computer exclusively. This may have some impact on the procedures Bill and Patrice set up to access the file so, again, I am very willing to provide whatever assistance I can to you in accessing the files.

The weight of the enclosed Photo Index renews our interest in exploring the possibility of using microfiche rather than paper listings for both the bibliographic and glacier photo indexes. We will keep you informed in this matter.