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MAFOR Report

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date:	valid from:	Lake or area:

CODE						hours	wind direction	wind speed (knots)	conditions	time
example										
1	3	5	2	0		9 hrs	SW	17-21	fine	10 am to 7 pm

Code Number	Number of Hours	Wind Direction	Wind Speed (in knots)	Weather Conditions
0	now	calm	0-10	fine, mostly clear
1	3 hours	N-E	11-16	risk of ice
2	6 hours	east	17-21	strong risk of ice
3	9 hours	S-E	22-27	mist, visibility to 3 miles
4	12 hours	south	28-33	fog, visibility half mile or less
5	18 hours	SW	34-40	drizzle
6	24 hours	west	41-47	rain
7	48 hours	NW	48-55	snow or rain/snow
8	72 hours	north	56-63	squalls with/without showers
9	occasionally	variable	64-71	thunderstorms

Coded MAFOR forecasts *are broadcast by the US Coast Guard in the US and by Canadian Coast Guard Radio in Canada.*

In Canada, Canadian Coast Guard broadcasts on international channels 21 and 83 (which are included as Wx channels on most VHF receivers). Canadian Coast Guard broadcasts are continuous.

US Coast Guard broadcasts are scheduled usually every 6 hours the time depending on the regional station. The US Coast Guard announces the broadcasts on VHF 9 & 16 and asks you to shift to VHF 22 for the forecast.

Both US and Canadian broadcasts include various notice-to-mariner type information, as well as forecasts.

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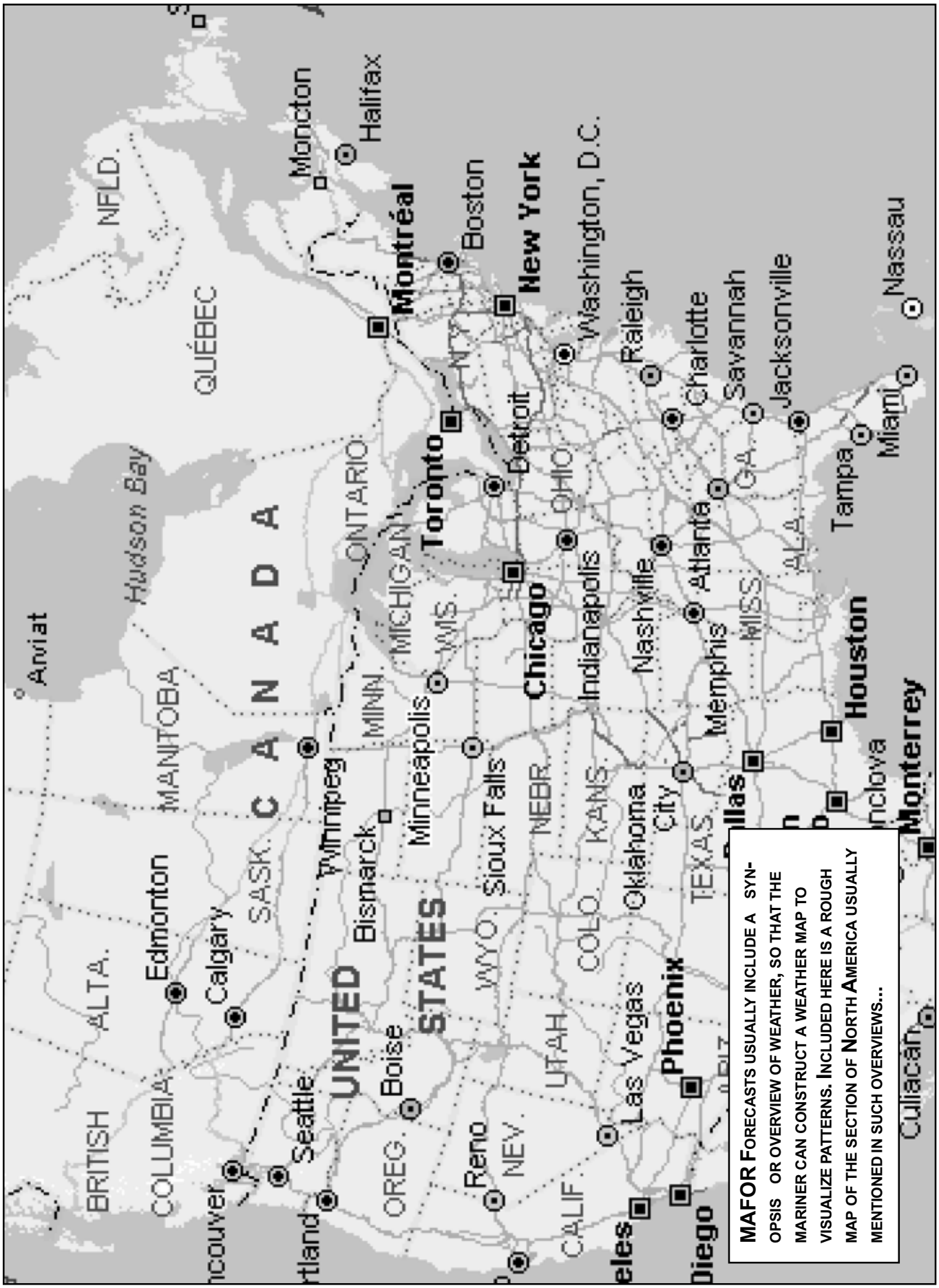
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MAFOR Forecasts usually include a synopsis or overview of weather, so that the mariner can construct a weather map to visualize patterns. Included here is a rough map of the section of North America usually mentioned in such overviews...