SUMMARY OF THE JUNE 1981 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA, CALIFORNIA

General:  June 1981 was very dry, alternately warm and cool with gusty winds and near normal fog.

Temperature:  June 1981 started and ended cool but two distinct warm periods (4-8 and 15-22 June), with near perfectly-clear sky conditions, contributed to an average daily maximum of 71.1°F (4.1°F above the 30-year normal) and an average daily minimum of 50.7°F (0.8°F above normal). Overall, the average of 60.9°F is 2.5°F above normal. In the past nine months only May’s temperatures were below normal and then only by 0.3°F.

By 22 June, with 13 days of highs greater than 70°F, the month of June was well on the way to a June record. However, that was the end of the warm spell and June 1958 still holds the record of 17 days with daily highs greater than 70°F. High for the month, 90°F, occurred on 15 June while the low, 45°F, was registered on 14 June, which is also a record low for the date. In spite of the widely variant temperatures during the month no other daily temperature records were set.

Precipitation:  June 1981 was bone dry except for a few days with traces from drizzle. The last rainless June was in 1961. June with 0.19” normally contributes only 1% to the 18.41” annual amount. The very dry June follows on two previous months of below normal rain (0.96” vs 1.71” in April and 0.19” vs 0.42” in May). The rain-year (1 July 80 through 30 Jun 81) ended up with 16.64” – 90% of normal. However, 16.65” is nearly the median value (14.55”), that is, there are an equal number of years with rainfall above and below 14.55”.

Fog:  In spite of two weeks with hardly a cloud in the sky, there were 11 June days with some fog, compared to an 18-year average of 14 such days.

Wind:  Although the average June wind speed at the airport was down from the recent 5-year average (5.5 vs 7.1 mph) the gustiness was remarkably strong in mid-month. 53 mph was recorded on 9 June at the NWS Climatological Station (maximum gust at the station is 62 mph recorded 3 Dec, 1980). Four other days recorded gusts in the 40s.

Earthquake: A light earth tremor was recorded at 8:10 pm PDT 7 June 81; no local damage reported.