

4.4. Winter Pattern: Winter weather in Korea is controlled by the large Siberian high pressure system (see figure 4-4) which results in predominantly cold, dry northwesterly winds over Korea. About every four to five days a front or a trough will move through Korea bringing cloudiness and light precipitation, mostly in the northwestern two-thirds of the country. Often, moderate snowfall can be expected in the southwest coastal areas due to the strong, cold, northwesterly flow and in the northeastern coast and mountain areas due to the strong, cold, northeasterly flow. However, for the remainder of the country, the flying weather is generally good. While the ceilings and visibilities are good, the frequent occurrence of turbulence (for light aircraft) and icing presents significant flight hazards during this season. Both hazards can be associated with the passage of an upper trough or the approach of strong cold fronts.

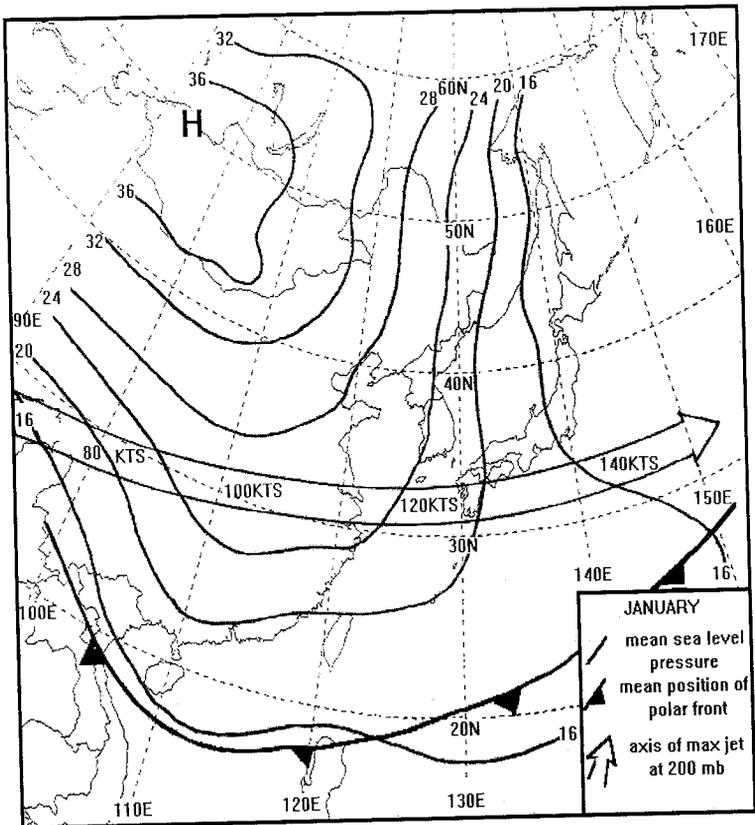


Figure 4-4. January Synoptic Pattern