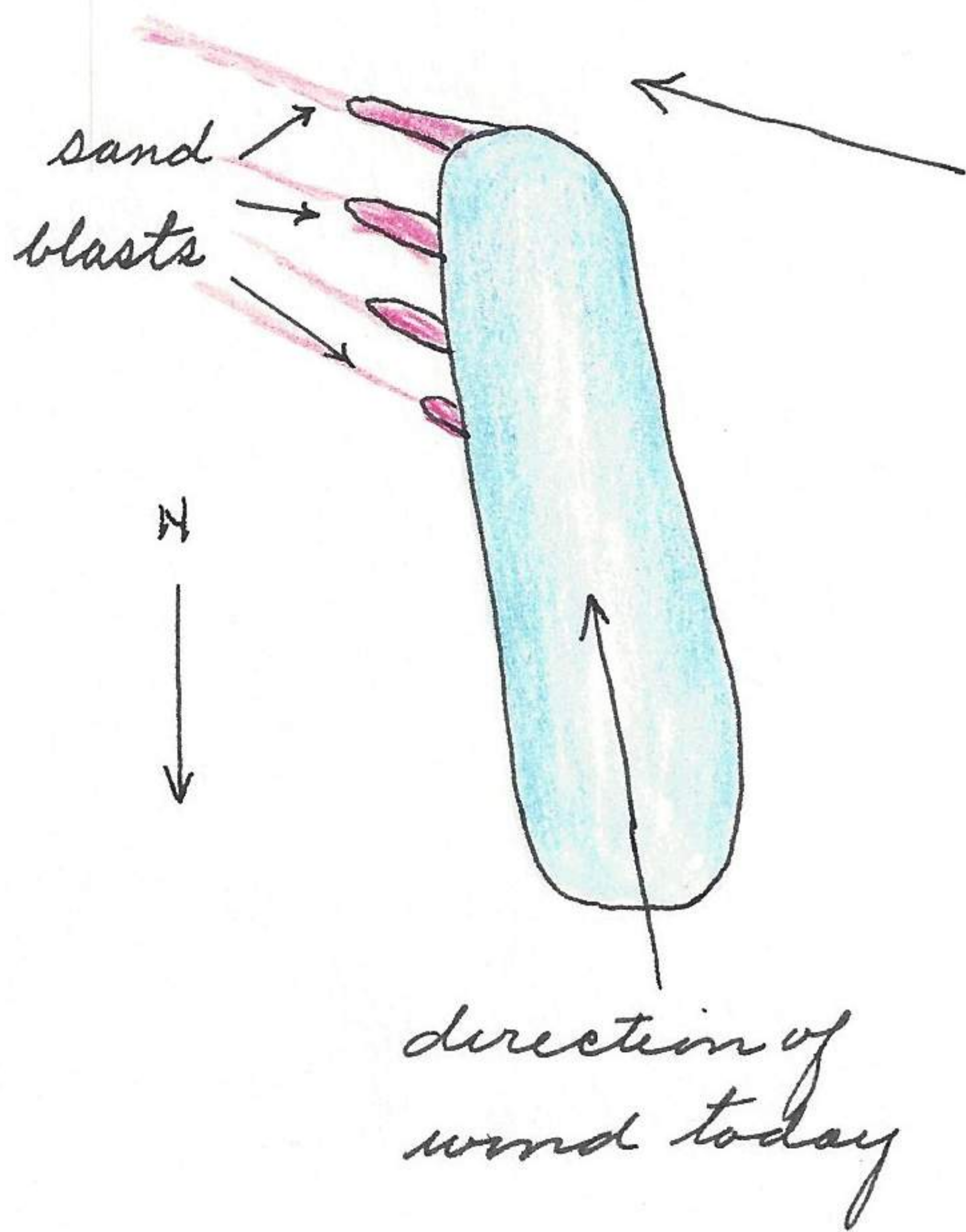


Arctic Research Laboratory, Point Barrow, Alaska

Sept. 12, 1952

Checked in all clothing and cleared with ARCON. Departed Point Barrow for Fairbanks at 2:18 P.M. via C47. At 2:30 P.M. some snow around edges of lakes. All lakes appear to be open and with only slight evidence of ice in small ponds or blind sections of streams.



direction of wind producing aeolian blasts and ridge, in the same direction, beyond. The areas are between 3:50 P.M. and 4:05 P.M. Beyond this point ice on small ponds. No snow on tundra. Water high in all places. At 3:05 P.M. ice more than 10 minutes ago and white snow on ice of ponds. No snow on tundra as yet. At 3:06 P.M. at contact between low coastal plains and Plateau Province. There is a conspicuous difference between the two provinces in that beyond the Coastal

Plains the snow covers the ground regardless of elevation of the plateau which at this point is only slightly higher than Coastal Plain. The type of vegetation probably makes the difference between snow cover of the two provinces. From the contact the ground is covered with snow but all features of the tundra can be detected and vegetation exposed above in some places. A river valley will appear without snow although only slightly lower than surrounding hills. Caribou trails about 1 per 3 miles and generally single trails. Arrived Umiat 3:15 P.M. The Alnus at Umiat still in green leaves and the willows with a few yellow leaves. The yellow of the willow of last year appears much less intense because they have not changed yellow or are now all off the tree as the hillsides are brownish red with the green of Alnus. Departed Umiat 3:55 P.M. Beyond Umiat toward the Brooks Range the cliffs facing SW are bare because of the heat absorbing capacity of the cliffs. As was the case on approach to Umiat, the ground in the broad curved slopes are completely covered with snow without irregularity of tundra showing except the dead willows lining the river courses. 4:02 P.M. large lakes open, small ones closed and snow completely covering higher rounded knolls. Photo 520912-1a of snow