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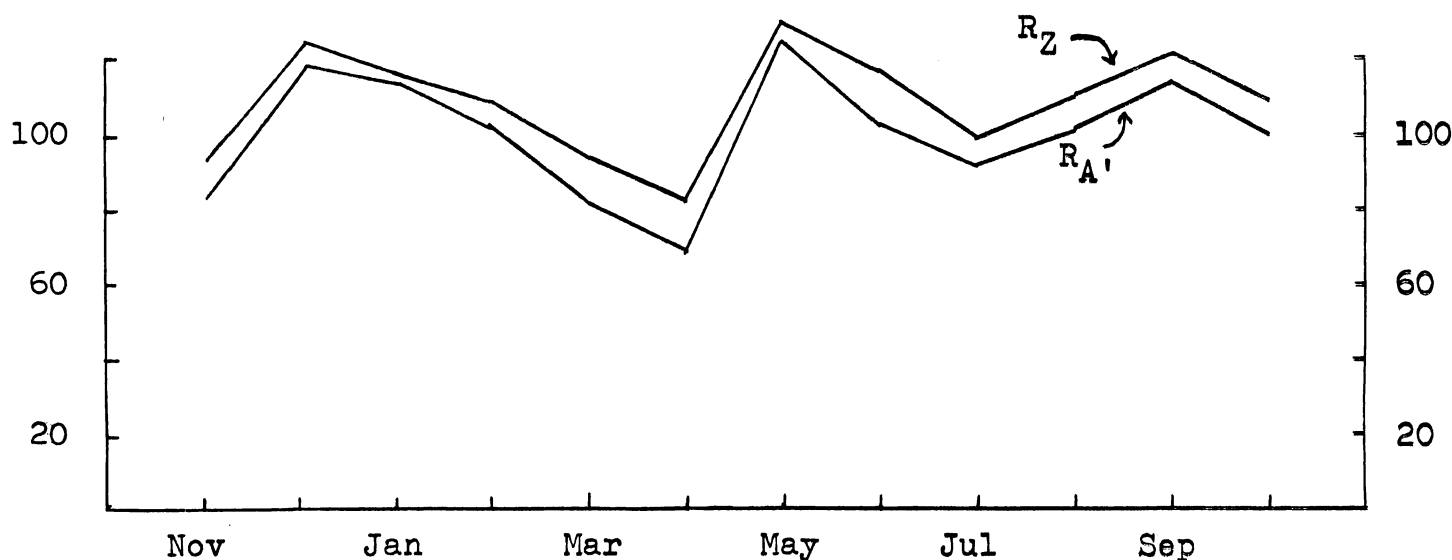
October 1968

SUNSPOT ACTIVITY DURING OCTOBER

There were many ionospheric disturbances during October. Their number and intensity exceeded the level of the previous month by a considerable amount. Reproductions of recordings of three of these disturbances are shown at the bottom of page two. The lower chart shows a rather intense disturbance recorded as an SEA starting at 0833 UT on the 12th. Above it is another chart showing two widely recorded events that occurred on the 21st starting at 1423 UT and 1725 UT.

Sunspot activity decreased somewhat from the level of November with the monthly mean of the American sunspot numbers down to 99.4 compared to 113.0 in November. Relative sunspot numbers reached a peak toward the end of the month at which time a large group was visible to the unaided eye as it crossed the sun's central meridian. One of the finest gamma-type groups seen in recent months crossed the meridian on the 28th and this group too, was visible to the unaided eye.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



AMERICAN (R_A) AND ZURICH (R_Z) RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS, OCTOBER 1968

day	R_A	R_Z	day	R_A	R_Z
1	87	75	16	84	88
2	76	73	17	80	82
3	118	108	18	84	108
4	115	119	19	102	121
5	108	118	20	105	114
6	123	126	21	106	122
7	119	135	22	116	134
8	115	112	23	133	136
9	79	87	24	122	139
10	64	70	25	121	138
11	78	103	26	103	133
12	80	108	27	115	138
13	71	70	28	118	118
14	71	76	29	97	112
15	82	90	30	99	118
			31	111	99

October mean R_A = 99.4

October mean R_Z = 108.7

SUDDEN IONOSPHERIC DISTURBANCES RECORDED DURING OCTOBER

DAY	MAX.	SEA	SES	DEF.	OBSERVERS	DAY	MAX.	SEA	SES	DEF.	OBSERVERS
5	1430	2+	1	4	A-17,1	21	1427	3	3	5	A-17,1,22
12	0833	2+		5	A-17	21	1730	1	3	5	A-1,6,22
12	1341	1		2	A-17	21	2128	3	1+	4	A-1,6,19
12	2000	1+		4	A-6,19	23	1938	3		5	A-1,19
19	1852	1+	1	4	A-6,1	26	0421	3+		1	A-17

