

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF VARIABLE STAR OBSERVERS — SOLAR DIVISION
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SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING AUGUST

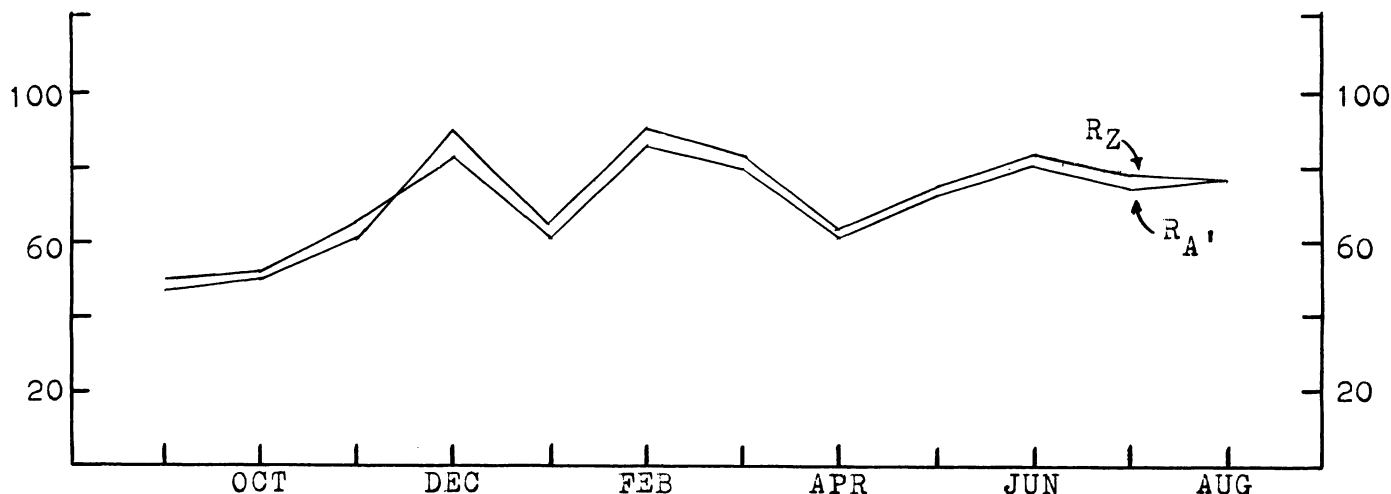
Thirty-one ionospheric disturbances were recorded by the Solar Division's observers. The large number of events and the fact that many of them were quite energetic, tends to confirm that the sun's activity continued to be quite high.

The single most energetic ionospheric disturbance was recorded on the 7th, however the day producing the largest number of consecutive high energy events was probably the 2nd. On page two, the events of the 2nd are reproduced as recorded at Missoula, Montana by using the SES (Sudden Enhancement of Signal) method over a relatively short path of about 1,000 km.

Perhaps the most outstanding sunspot group was the huge gamma-type group that came over the east limb on the 29th of July and passed over the west limb on the 10th of August. While it was on the face of the disc, it was easily visible to the unaided eye due to its enormous size. This large group was responsible for many major solar flares such as those on the 2nd and 7th. The various terrestrial effects caused by these flares such as the aurora borealis (northern lights) were noted by the general public in North America and considerable attention was given to the various effects by the news media of radio, television and newspapers.

The mean of the American sunspot numbers fell very slightly to 73.5 in August.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



AMERICAN (R_{A'}) AND ZURICH (R_Z) RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS, AUGUST 1972

DAY	R _{A'}	R _Z	DAY	R _{A'}	R _Z
1	91	93	16	48	57
2	79	81	17	53	62
3	83	85	18	50	52
4	98	80	19	48	54
5	87	93	20	52	48
6	67	85	21	72	60
7	56	65	22	90	85
8	53	56	23	79	71
9	52	59	24	77	82
10	34	44	25	70	64
11	26	25	26	71	79
12	43	50	27	94	89
13	42	55	28	131	113
14	35	37	29	162	147
15	46	39	30	157	141
			31	143	137

Monthly Means
 R_{A'} = 73.8
 R_Z = 73.8

SUDDEN IONOSPHERIC DISTURBANCES RECORDED DURING AUGUST 1972

DAY	MAX	SEA	SES	DEF	OBSERVERS	DAY	MAX	SEA	SES	DEF	OBSERVERS
1	1817		1-	5	A1,3031	15	1750		1+	5	A1,18,19,21,30,31,33,35
2	1844	2	2+	5	A1,18,19,21,22,30,31,33,35	16	1530		1	4	A1,18,31
2	2016	2	1+	5	A1,18,19,21,22,30,31,33,34,35	19	1317	1	1	5	A1,17,18,19,33
2	2057		3	5	A1,18,19,21,30,31,35	19	1442	2	1+	5	A1,17,18,19,21,31,33,35,*
3	1506		1-	5	A1,18,19,21,31,33	20	1816	1-	1-	5	A1,19,26,30,31,33,34
3	2224		1-	5	A19,21,30,31	23	1919	1	1	5	A1,18,30,31,34
4	0630	1	2	4	A17,31	25	1244	1	1	5	A1,17,18,19,34,*
6	0130		1	3	A21,31	27	1808		1-	5	A18,19,21,30,31,33,35
7	1526	2	3+	5	A1,17,18,19,21,22,26,30,31,33,35,*	27	2344	1	1+	5	A19,21,26,30,31,33
8	2136		1+	5	A1,19,21,30,31,35	28	1644	1+	1+	5	A1,5,8,18,19,21,26,30,31,33,34
9	1623	1-	1-	5	A1,18,19,21,26,30,31,33,35,*	30	1441	1+	1	5	A1,5,18,19,21,26,31,32,33,34
10	2100		1-	5	A21,30,31	30	2048	1+	1+	5	A1,5,8,18,19,21,26,29,30,31,32,34
11	1225	1	1	4	A17,18,19,34,*	31	1622		1	5	A1,19,21,30,31,33
11	1245	1+	2-	4	A1,17,18,19,34,*	*Additional events, to above, as reported by letter by Dr. V. Barocas, Preston, U.K. are: AUG 1-0928; 6-1542; 22-1232.					
11	1645	1	2-	4	A1,18,19,22,26,31,34,35						
11	1838		1-	5	A1,19,31,35						
12	1443	1+	1+	5	A1,17,18,19,21,31,34,35						
12	2055	1	5	5	A21,30,31,35						

