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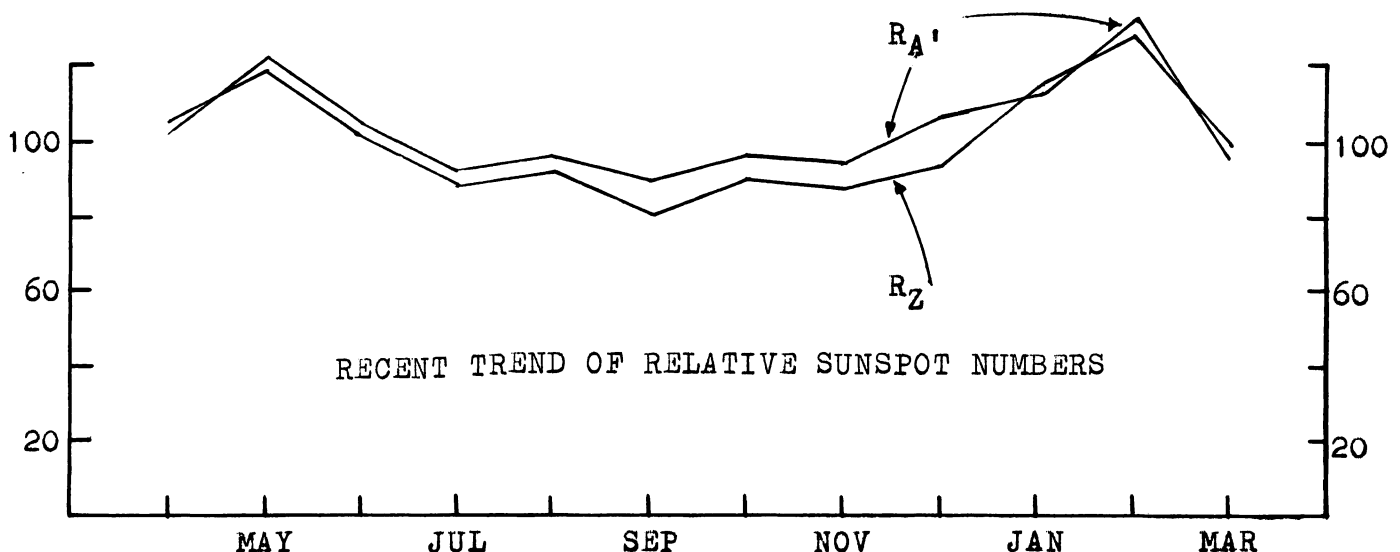
## SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING MARCH

Thirty separate ionospheric disturbances were recorded by the Solar Division observers during March. This increase in activity was peaked at the first of the month and again toward the end.

On the first day of March, four events were noted. A reproduction of these events is shown on page two. Both of the larger events were of the fast rise time "type" with a fast decay until about one half the decay amplitude was reached, then there appears to be another slight surge. This second "burst" was evident in most of the recordings made by other observers.

At about 10:00 p.m. EST on the 9th, (0300 UT, 10th March) there was a unusual recording by SEA observers in eastern United States. Often separate observers record similar "humps" but close analysis shows lack of real correlation. Violent storms do give general correlative data, and these thunderstorms can be traced as they cross the continent, passing the various observers. The event reproduced on page two, covered an area about 700 miles long, from Kentucky to Connecticut. A1, Valley Cottage, New York (Repro not shown) also recorded this event on SEA at 27 kHz which drove the trace off scale but did not effect the SES recording of NBA at 24 kHz. SEA observers in Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Durban, S. Africa did not note this disturbance. No SES observer recorded this event. While the recordings all have characteristics of interference of man made type, which is the most probable explanation, the possibility that it may have originated from other than man made signals can not be entirely dismissed until the source is identified.

The monthly mean of the American sunspot numbers dropped to 98.3 from a peak of 132.2 for February



AMERICAN (R<sub>A</sub>) AND ZURICH (R<sub>Z</sub>) RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS, MARCH 1970

DAY	R <sub>A</sub>	R <sub>Z</sub>	DAY	R <sub>A</sub>	R <sub>Z</sub>
1	127	134	16	43	46
2	134	126	17	29	29
3	111	113	18	37	41
4	112	101	19	47	48
5	106	107	20	95	93
6	103	100	21	108	115
7	112	108	22	124	122
8	112	116	23	146	131
9	119	119	24	147	140
10	120	123	25	130	142
11	91	100	26	110	122
12	86	84	27	110	115
13	82	104	28	101	110
14	67	84	29	106	103
15	56	65	30	93	111
			31	83	101

Monthly Means  
 R<sub>A</sub> = 98.3  
 R<sub>Z</sub> = 101.7

SUDDEN IONOSPHERIC DISTURBANCES RECORDED DURING MARCH 1970

DAY	MAX	SEA	SES	DEF	OBSERVERS	DAY	MAX	SEA	SES	DEF	OBSERVERS
1	1409	1	1	5	A1,8,19,22,26	17	1449		1	2	A21
1	1533	2	2	5	A1,8,19,21,22,26	17	2255		1	2	A21
1	1758	1	1	4	A19,21,22	18	1645	1	1	5	A1,8,21,22
1	2005	2	2	5	A1,8,19,21,22,26	20	1720	2	2	5	A19,21
2	0018		2	5	A21	21	1620		1	4	A1,21
2	1405	1+		4	A8,19	22	2046		1	4	A21
2	1720	2	2	5	A6,8,19,21,22	23	1555	1		4	A8,19,22
3	2040	2	2	5	A19,21	24	1645	2	2	5	A1,19,21,26
4	1712	1	1+	5	A8,19,21,22,26	26	1456	1+	1+	5	A8,21,26
4	1834	1+	2	5	A1,8,19,21,26	26	1731	2	2	5	A1,21,26
5	1628	2	2	5	A1,19,21,22,26	26	2010	2	2	5	A1,21,22,26
5	1916	2	2	5	A1,8,19,21,22,26	29	0053		2+	5	A21
7	0155		2	3	A21	31	1815	2	2	5	A19,21,22
7	1621	1+	2	5	A1,19,21,26	31	2025		1	3	A21
8	1940	1+	1+	5	A19,21,26	31	2228		2	5	A21

