

Solar Bulletin

Publisher:

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF VARIABLE STAR OBSERVERS — SOLAR DIVISION
540 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE
RAMSEY, NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.



Volume 30

Number 3

MARCH 1974

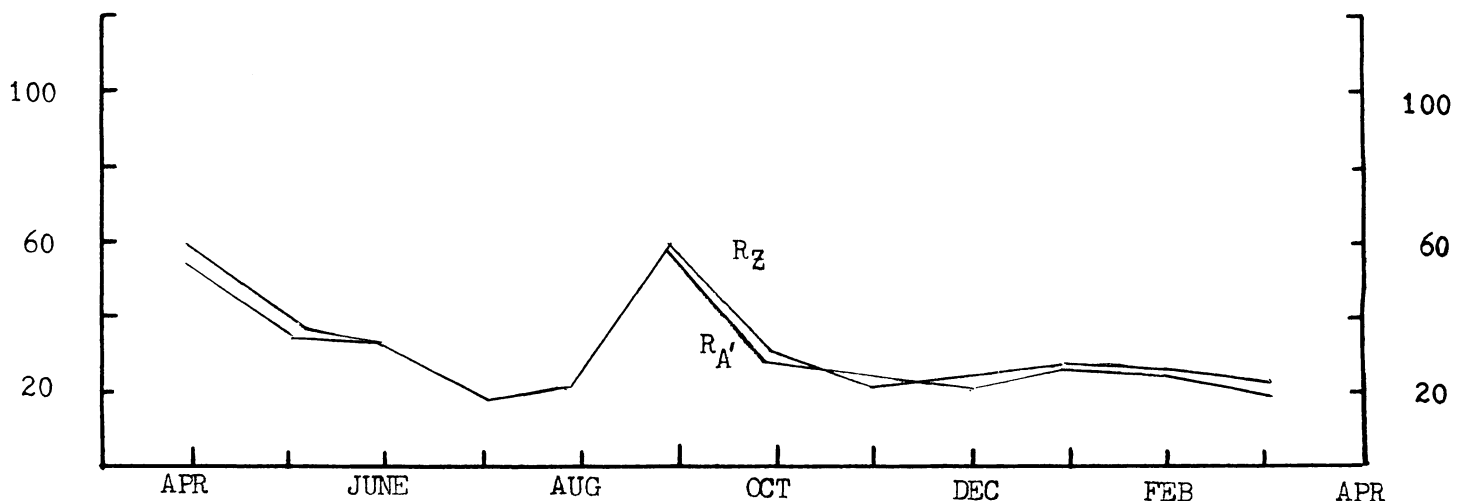
SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING MARCH

Sunspot activity continued at the low level of recent months. The monthly mean of the American sunspot numbers fell slightly to 19.1. Despite the lack of activity there were no spotless days during March although a short period of spotlessness less than a day did occur late on the 2nd and early on the 3rd of March.

On 10 March an interesting group appeared to straddle the sun's equator. Magnetic data indicated this was a northern group based on its polarity. The next day another group in the east resembled two separate groups because of its longitudinal spread and each component being in separate faculae but again magnetic data indicated it was actually a single group.

Ionospheric disturbances reached their lowest level so far. Only a single disturbance on the 23rd could be identified with certainty on AAVSO charts. There may have been several other small events but none could be confirmed by being recorded on other frequencies at other locations as was the event on the 23rd. This disturbance starting at 1500 UT was of low intensity as can be seen from the recordings of it reproduced on page two. These show an enhancement of 18.6 kHz and 34.5 kHz signals and a decrease in intensity at the higher frequencies, 60.0 kHz and 73.6 kHz.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



AMERICAN (R_A) AND ZURICH (R_Z) RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS FOR MARCH 1974

SUDDEN IONOSPHERIC DISTURBANCES RECORDED DURING MARCH 1974

DAY MAX SEA SES DEF OBSERVERS

23 1514 1 5 A1,19,31,37

DAY	R _A	R _Z
1	16	25
2	9	16
3	9	16
4	10	17
5	13	18
6	20	19
7	16	20
8	12	16
9	19	20
10	31	30
11	37	37
12	36	38
13	23	30
14	28	42
15	27	37
16	23	23
17	17	20
18	19	32
19	19	20
20	10	9
21	14	16
22	25	31
23	24	27
24	17	21
25	11	18
26	8	10
27	8	9
28	15	17
29	21	19
30	26	25
31	30	26
Means	19.1	22.7

