

Solar Bulletin

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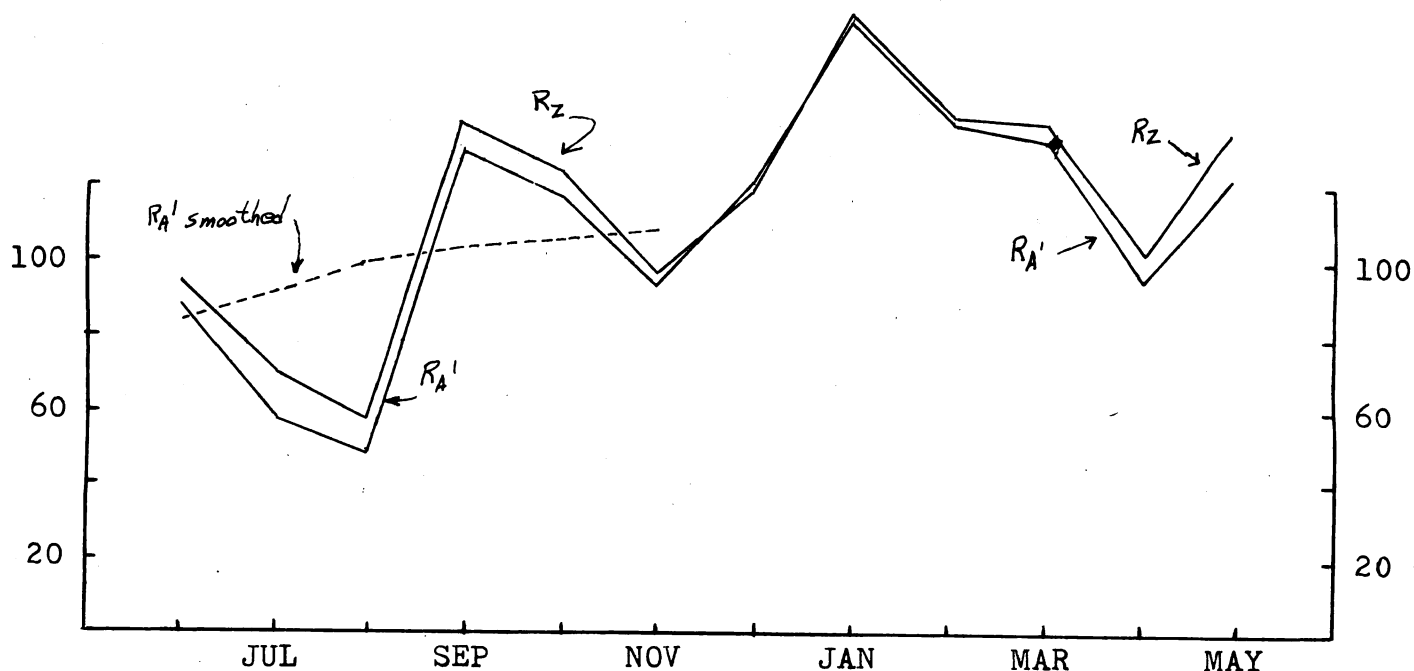
May 1979

SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING MAY

Sunspot activity returned to the level of recent months after dropping to a lower level in April. The monthly mean for May was 121.8 which brings the 12-month smoothed mean up to 106.9 for November 1978.

Ionospheric disturbances caused by solar flares were comparatively scarce during May considering the high level of sunspot numbers. An event reaching maximum at 1706 UT on the second seems to have been the most intense disturbance of the month recorded by the AAVSO. A reproduction of this is shown on page two. Beneath it is a recording made on the 20th which was the most active day with six events.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



AMERICAN (R_A) AND
ZURICH (R_Z)^A RELATIVE
SUNSPOT NUMBERS FOR
MAY 1979

| DAY | R _A | R _Z |
|------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | 111 | 108 |
| 2 | 104 | 106 |
| 3 | 99 | 103 |
| 4 | 115 | 112 |
| 5 | 110 | 113 |
| 6 | 119 | 122 |
| 7 | 145 | 148 |
| 8 | 144 | 165 |
| 9 | 125 | 162 |
| 10 | 120 | 145 |
| 11 | 126 | 148 |
| 12 | 156 | 158 |
| 13 | 181 | 163 |
| 14 | 185 | 203 |
| 15 | 184 | 207 |
| 16 | 173 | 187 |
| 17 | 152 | 184 |
| 18 | 133 | 148 |
| 19 | 118 | 109 |
| 20 | 82 | 107 |
| 21 | 96 | 114 |
| 22 | 99 | 121 |
| 23 | 108 | 117 |
| 24 | 102 | 119 |
| 25 | 115 | 124 |
| 26 | 104 | 123 |
| 27 | 101 | 118 |
| 28 | 101 | 110 |
| 29 | 89 | 113 |
| 30 | 77 | 96 |
| 31 | 102 | 120 |
| MEAN | 121.8 | 134.6 |

