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SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY

January sunspot activity continued the steady decline of the past five months. The monthly mean of 146.7 was down considerably from the December mean of 157.6. The 12-month smoothed mean rose only slightly from 144.3 in June to 145.1 in July. This represents a definite change from the steady upward trend that has existed since early 1977 whereby the smoothed means have been increasing by four to five points each month. The last time the smoothed mean rose less than one point was November 1976.

January ionospheric disturbances were less numerous. A rather intense event occurred on the 28th and three recordings on three different frequencies are shown at the bottom of page two. A recording of another day of high activity is shown immediately above. At the top of the page is a recording showing five separate events on the 25th of January.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



