# Occultation (3ewsletter 

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

## IOTA NEWS

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Local circumstance (asteroidal appulse) predictions (entire current list for your location)
Graze limit and profile prediction (each graze)
1.00
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Asteroidal occultation supplements will be available at extra cost: for South America through Ignacio Ferrin (Apartado 700; Merida 5101-A; Venezuela), for Europe through Roland Boninsegna (Rue de Mariembourg, 33; B-6381 DOURBES; Belgium), for southern Africa through M. D. Overbeek (Box 212; Edenvale 1610; Republic of South Africa), for Australia and New Zealand through Graham BIow (P.O.
Box 2.21 ; Wellington, New Zealand), and for Japan through Toshio
Hirose (1-13 Shimomaruko l-chome; Ota-ku, Tokyo 146, Japan). Sup-
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(Route 13, Box 109; London, KY 40741; U.S.A.) by surface mail at
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or by air ( $A O$ ) mail a
Observers from Europe and the British Isles should join IOTA/ES,
sending DM 40.-- to the account IOTA/ES; Bartold-Knaust Strasse 8;
3000 Hannover 91; Postgiro Hannover 555829 - 303; bank-code-number (Bankleitzahl) 25010030 . Full membership in IOTA/ES includes the supplement for European observers (total and grazing occultations).

1 Single issue at 4 of price shown
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${ }^{5}$ Area " $B$ " includes the rest of South Anerica, Mediterranean Africa, and Europe (except Estonia, Latyia, Lithuania, and U.S.S.R.).

## David W. Dunham

During February, my top priority will be completion of the first draft of the article about the 1983 May 29th occultation of 1 Vulpeculae by (2) Pallas. I thank numerous readers who responded to my note on p. 145 of the last issue. We are behind schedule on the Pallas work, but I am determined to have the first draft ready in time for the Asteroids II meeting on March 8 - 11 in Tucson, AZ, which I plan to attend. If possible, the first draft will be finished by the end of this month, so that it can be mailed to the numerous co-authors so they can receive it before March 8th.

After Pallas, I will work on completion of analysis of other asteroidal occultations with IOTA involvement. I had hoped to do a preliminary analysis of the 1987 January occultation by (471) Papagena observed from the northeastern U.S.A. in time to include a sky-plane plot with Jim Stamm's summary article (see p. 159), but this was not possible. I will need to complete most of these other analyses for my contribution for the Asteroids II book (I am a co-author with Robert Millis of a chapter on occultations), due in late April.

An obituary for James McMahon is reproduced from the newsletter of the China Lake Astronomical Society on p. 169. His observations were crucial in initiating the debate about satellites of asteroids, and it is a shame that more conclusive evidence for these objects was not obtained while he was alive. I am saddened to report another recent death. Vernon Helms, who photoelectrically recorded the occultation of 14 Piscium by (51) Nemausa at the NASA-Langley Research Center's observatory on 1983 September 11th, passed away in October after a courageous 18month battle against leukemia.

Canadian provincial boundary data. These were requested in the last issue. They have been provided to me by Chuck Baker, Rockville, MD, but I will not have time to do the work needed to incorporate them into the boundary database that l use, during the next few weeks.

Recent Astrometry. Arnold Klemola measured existing Lick Observatory plates to refine the positions of Astrographic Catalog stars occulted by (58) Concordia on January 9th, and by (87) Sylvia on January 21st and 25th. The 3 stars were considerably south of their A.C. positions, moving the paths northward,
well off the Earth's surface for the events on the 9 th and 25 th. The shift for the 21 st was 0.7 north, putting the path across northern Africa, with enough uncertainty that an occultation was possible for southern Europe. Joe Churms obtained plates at Cape Observatory early on February, giving positions which I used to calculate that the occultation by (241) Germania late on February 2nd would shift 1 !. 0 $\pm 0!3$ south, into the Antarctic Ocean well south of any observers. Most of the shift was caused by error in fiermania's ephemeris.

I made an error in the table on $p .143$ of the last issue; the shift for Z.C. 771 on Aug. 18 should be 0.2 north. Harold Povenmire also reports that the magnitude of X10832 $=$ SAO 79256 is about 8.6 , not 7.5 as given in the catalogs.

As noted above, I need to concentrate on performing, and writing about, asteroid occultation analyses during most of the next three months. This will leave little time for star catalog work, which will further delay completion of the new XZ catalog, and filling numerous requests for it. Distribution of the next issue will be targeted for about June lst. I intend to include information about the June 12th Pleiades passage, which should provide interesting views for observers in the far western parts of North America. Since time between this issue and the last has been relatively short, Don Stockbauer will wait until the next issue for his article on observed grazing occultations. [Ed: see p. 169 for some late IOTA news]

THE PLEIADES PASSAGE OF FEBRUARY 23-24

## David W. Dunham

North Americans will be able to see a very favorable transit of the Moon across the Pleiades on Tuesday evening, February 23rd local time (24th U.T.). Information about this passage, including a chart identifying the cluster stars by SAO numbers and giving disappearance predictions for several U.S. and Canadian cities, has been published in this month's issue of sky and Telescope. For more information about Pleiades passages in general, you should read O.N. 4 (4), pp.58-62, especially the sections on value, predictions, observing considerations, detailed Pleiades chart using equinox 1950 coordinates, and double stars. Pleiades passages occur each month, and a list of this year's passages was published on p. 68 of last month's issue of sky and Telescope. But o.n. readers can learn about passages visible in their areas by examining the Alcyone (Z.C. 552), Maia (Z.C. 541), and other bright Pleiads' graze paths in the Grazing Occultation Supplement enclosed with this issue.

Grazing occultation Expeditions. If you plan to lead an expedition to observe a grazing occultation during this passage, you can telephone me at 301 , 585-0989 to give me approximate coordinates of where you plan to observe. If time permits, I will compute and mail you total occultation predictions for the site; some information could be relayed by telephone. I would be interested in knowing about planned expeditions, anyway, so that I can include this information in the IOTA occultation line message at 301,495-9062; some Sky and Telescope readers have already called in for expedition information. I am planning to lead an expedition to observe the northern-1imit graze of 5.6 -mag. Z.C. 538 near Tem-
pleton, VA, a short distance south of Petersburg; Richard Wilds (telephone 913,354-8771 in Topeka) plans to lead a group to (would you believe it?) Moonlight, KS, where the southern limit of Maia and the northern limit of Z.C. 555 intersect; Robert : iandy (phone 816,795-8116) plans to observe from lewisburg, KS, since the graze path for Maia goes (ver the Kansas City Astronomy Club's observatory there; and Harold Povenmire (phone 305,777-1303) fopes to observe the bright-limb graze of Taygeta (Z.C. 539) in Florida.

Based on the results of last March's passage, discussed in O.N. 4 (5), p. 100, no corrections should be applied to the IOTA graze predictions as defined by the ACLPPP predicted profiles, for these waxingphase events. Results from March seem to indicate that the Eichhorn Pleiades catalog star positions used for the predictions now can be in error by 0:2, which is still at least as good as USNO's new Zodiacal Zone (ZZ) catalog discussed on p. 140 of the last issue. Incidentally, the $Z Z$ includes stars within $13^{\circ}$ of the ecliptic, not $16^{\circ}$, as stated on page 140.

Pleiades Chart. The apparent-place chart of the Pleiades, showing topocentric paths of the Moon's center for several cities, is similar to the charts in O.N. 4 (4), p. 61 and O.N. 4 (5), p. 99, and described on pages 59-61. A new Moon figure, sized properly for use with this chart, has been produced with John Westfall's Moonview program using an Apple computer; see o.n. 4 (5), p. 92. The sunlit limb is the more darkly drawn right side of the figure; most observable events will be disappearances on the dark side, which is lightly drawn (every other line skipped by the dot-matrix printer). During the February 23 rd passage, the Moon's apparent radius will average 15:60. For orienting the Moon figure, the position angle of the lunar north cusp will be $347^{\circ}$ and the center of the sunlit limb will be at $257^{\circ}$.


Comparison with the previous two charts shows that the Moon is now passing much farther north across the cluster. The best views of all of this year's passages will be from the arctic regions, where the Moon will pass farthest south across the cluster, and closer to its center. North Americans were cheated this time, in that they got no favorable passage with the Moon passing centrally over the cluster. The most central passage for the continent occurred last December 4 th, with the waxing Moon 99\% sunlit.

January 27th Passage Observed in Europe. HansJoachim Bode reported good conditions in Hannover, German Federal Republic, during the January 27th passage. Several occultations were recorded photoelectrically and with video equipment. The latter
was used to record bright-limb reappearances of even 5th-mag. stars. Unfortunately, it rained at Hamburg, north of Hannover and near the southern limit for the graze of Alcyone, and clouds also prevented observation from Wiesbaden to the south. Hannover apparently was in a lucky hole in cloud cover that may have blanketed much of Europe, as was the case for last June's occultation of Spica. [Ed: also see p. 169]

Reporting Observations of All Pleiades Occultations. All reports of total occultations observed during Pleiades passages, including timings of stars that
are only in USNO's P-catalog, should now be sent to ILOC, as is the case for total occultations of nonPleiades stars. A copy of the report does not need to be sent to me, although I am interested if the observation gives more information about a star's duplicity, or if a novel observing method was used. ILOC now has a copy of the P-catalog (see p. 165), so they can reduce timings of stars in that catalog, whose code for the ILOC forms is "P" (not X, etc.). A copy of reports of any graze observed should be sent to Don Stockbauer; see p. 141 of the last issue.


I have summarized all of the renorts that I have re－ ceived for the first half of 1987 in the following two tables，and section of notes．Table 1 lists all events for which reports were received；the date， minor planet，star，observer＇s identification let－ ters（these are different from those used for 1986 in some cases），and a reference to notes if there are any for that particular event．Table 2 lists all of the observers who sent in reports；their identification letters，last name，first name，near－ est town to point of observation，country（for North America and Australia，only the state or province is given），organization through which the report came （see above），and number of observations made in the
（text continues on page 161）
Table 1．Asteroidal events observed from January through June 1987.

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Table 2．Observers \＆loc＇s reported Jan．－June＇ 87.

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| 9 | GEARTSEN | A $\mathrm{A}_{\text {．}}$ | AMSTERDAM | NETHERIANDS | GEOS | 1 |
| G\％． | GEYSER | $\cdots$ | PRETORU | SOUTHAFRICA | ASSA | 6 |
| G9 | GİMORE | AUN | MTIOUNOESEAV |  | ABSNZ | 1 |
| 9 |  | M |  | OHiY | GEƠS | 1. |
| G0． | GOOMG | ERIC | нйїітӧӧ | Öニ̇R®̈ | ARP | 1 |
| $\bigcirc$ | GÖTZ | W． | PEENSHOLTSTY | NEW SOUTH WMES | OASNZ | 1 |
| Gm | GOMEZ | J． | MOLET | SPAIN | GEOS | 1 |
| G2 | GOMEZ | 1. | MOUIET | SPAIN | GEOS | 1 |
| Gk | GONCALVES | R | USBON | PORTUGAL | GEOS | 2 |
| 9 O | GONZALE？ | MUN | PAROUISIMETO | VENEZUELA | पADA | 1 |
| GX | GONŻALZ | SANTOS |  | VENEZUEÜ | ÜÖ | 1 |
| Gh． | GRüй | FROMCES | äicar | PENNSYMVANAİ | $A R P$ | 1 |
| Gp | GRIMAN | AIFREDO | CAROCACAS | VENEZUËÖ | ÜOA． | ！ |
| Gn | GRUWNET | c． | Virüm | OENMARX | GEOS | i |
| Gc | GRUP OESTUDIS | ASTRONOMICS | S！PIERA | SPAIN | GEOS | 1 |
| GI | GUEDEZ | FREDOY | BARAUSIMETO | VENEZUEU | LIAOA | 1 |
| $\mathrm{G}_{6}$ | GUERISSE | J． D ． | BRUSSELS | BELGIUM | GEOS | 3 |
| 9 | GUERRERO | JESUS | BAROUISIMETO | VENEZUELA | UADA | ！ |
| Gu | GuEssE | M |  | MAURİAMA | GEOS | 5 |
| \＃ | HuTVEY | 0 | MT：NEBO | QUENSUKÖ | AXSNZ | ， |
| \％ | HERS | JAN | SEDGEFELOL | SOUTHAFRACA | ASSA | ！ |
| Hix | HCMEY | Ö̀ivio | REOCULFFE | $O$ OUENSUOKOD | $\mathrm{OLSO}_{\sim}^{\text {NZ }}$ | 1 |
| He | HCKEY | TERFY | CABOOTURE | OUEENSLAND | RASNZ | 11 |
| H | HUTCHEON | STEVE | TOOWOOMBA | OUEENSUNO | RASNZ | 2 |

Table 2，continued．

| 10 | LaSt Mame | FIRST HAME | CTIY | COUNTRY | GROUP | No |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| He | HUTCHEON | STEVE | SHELDON | ：OUEENSLAND | RASNZ | 7 |
| 12 |  | joSE | PUETOOOOZZZ | VENEZUEÜ | Üヘ̈Ö | 1 |
| in | josit | J̇īW | MÖV̈ | WEST GERMAOY | GEOS | 1 |
| Kn | KNGHT | J． | EEST RANO | SOUTH AFRACA | ASSA | 2 |
| $\mathrm{K}_{1}$ | K0uart | 3. | EAST RANO | SOUTH AFRACA | ASSA | 1 |
| K1 | KNOFEL | A． | ：KARL－MARX－STD | ：ESST GERMMNY | GEOS | 1 |
| $\cdots$ | KOHH． | M | ：USTER | SWITERLANO | GEOS | 2 |
| $\ldots$ | KOp． | M |  | WEST GERMONY | GEOS | 2. |
| $\cdots$ |  | － | HGMUVEMEY |  | OMSNZ |  |
| 4 | UMRET | RAFAEL | CMACMAS | VENEZUEM | UOOA | i |
| $\square$ | UNGOMNS |  | SAN BRUNO | COUFÖPiM | $\triangle A^{\prime}{ }^{\circ}$ | 2 |
| 4 | LEE | Par | WWANGANU | NEW ZEALANO | MASNZ | 1 |
| 4 | LEON | Jotwhy | BAROUSIMETO | VENEZUEU | U100 | 1 |
| LV | LEVA | RENATO | ：SAOPAULO | BPuzil | ULADA | 1 |
| Un | HEYREUX | A． | BRUSSELS | BELCMM | GEOS | 1. |
| ب | UPsin | P． | ORESDEN | EXST GERMÖV̈ | asos | i． |
| －10． | LOMOER | BRiNN | CHPSTCHMCH |  |  | I |
| L4． | LYZNÖ | GPEG | OKİOENA | CAUFOAMA | $A R P$ | 2 |
| $\cdots$ | MACOOOGOL | Cั̈й | TAMPA | FÖPiö | ARP | ． |
| 40 | MWNCY | PETE | CENTRML | ARAZONM | ARP | 1 |
| $\underline{\square}$ | MANY | SUSAN | CEENTRUL | AR12OM | $\wedge$ ARP | 2 |
| M | WANTMA | JUARO | MERIDA | VENEEVEU | UROM | 1 |
| … | MARCH | M． | MATARO | SPPIN | GEOS | 1. |
| $\cdots$ |  | G． | JOMVMESSUQG | SOUTHAFRGA | ASSA | i． |
| \％ | － | ． |  | SPLiN | ȧEos | － |
| －4．0． | HARIN？ |  | BUENOS NRES | AROĖTİM | ÜÖ | － |
| $\mathrm{Max}^{\text {a }}$ | Möx | H． |  | WEST GERMOM\％ | CEOB | 2 |
| ${ }^{4} \mathrm{y}$ | Mazaiper | P． | VERNON | FPANCE | GEOS | 1 |
| $\cdots$ | MCCuLOUG | ROBEET | BIG RAPMD | MICHIGAN | ARP | 1 |
| ${ }^{-1}$ | MCRUE | A． | JOHWNESEUPG | SOUTHAFPICA | ASSA | 1 |
| Mo． | MENGOX | Q | Bogocm | TIALY | GEOS | － |
| \％ | MCHE | 0． |  | SOUTHAFAMC̈ | ASSA | i |
| －i． | Hï＜＜ | J． | PEMAFİ | SPMN | \％EOS | $i$ |
| －1．0． | －iagho | HEBĖ | MEAOM | VENEZัÜั̈ | 華ӧ̆ | $i$ |
| 4 | －aink | щü̆icio | CAOBCOS | VENEZUEÜ | й̈อั入 | － |
| 46 | MOPRPSAY | A | BUAWAYO | SOUTH AFRICA | ASSA | 4 |
| － | MOTTRAM | K | TOOWOOMBA | OUEENSUNO | OUSNZ | 11 |
| M | MOYUN | C． | TOOWOOMBA | OUEENSUANO | MUSN2 | 1 |
| ＂n | MUMFORO． | NOE | PPMMERSTONMO． | NEW ZEALANO | ATSNR | ． |
| ${ }_{\text {Mz }}$ | Muppor | O． |  | OEENSUNO | ÖSNZ | － |
| M | WRPAY | T． |  |  | OXNZ |  |
| M | M－MAMY | Tör | GEOPGETOW | GEOAMA | ARP | － |
| ${ }_{0}$ | Oニ̈ÖオAMO | G． |  |  | GEOS | 1 |
| N | NELSON | PETER | KORRTUMBUPPA | VICTOPIA | RASNZ | ＋1 |
| No | NOBEL | W． | MUDERAERG | ：NETHERLANOS | GEOS | 2 |
| 0 | OBSERVATOPY | PERTH | PERTIH | WESTERN | AASNZ | 1 |
| O | Ocapa？ | JOSE． H | MERRM | VENEXVEM | HADA． | ． |
| O． | ORTM | с̈riogs |  | VENEZUUEM | แֵ̈̆̇． | i |
| － | ÖVERBEEX | ÖME | EAST EAMO | SOTH AFPICA | Assi． | 0 |
| Pu． | PARER | w． | WESEAOEN | WEST GERMAMY | GEOS | i |
| Po | PANWEER | L | GÖPUŻZ | EAST GERĖÖNY | GEOS | 2 |
| P\％ | PARK | J1M | CQENWAVERIEY | VICTOPA | ASNR | 1 |
| A | PARRA | GUSTAVO | BARCUIMIMETO | VENEZUEU | UADA | 1 |
| $\square$ | PARPA WEM | J． | SANTANOER | SPAIN | GEOS | 1 |
| 9 | PEM | A1EX1s | BAROUSIMETO | VENEZUEU | LILDA | － |
| P2 | PEREZ | PABOO | OAROUUSIMEIÖ | VENEZUEÜ | ÜÖ̆ | － |
| Ac． | PPERCE | ANDAEM． | NÖRTH PGETIH | WESTER | AKSNZ | － |
| $\cdots$ | Pimil | \％． |  |  | GE08． | i． |
| $\beta_{\text {Pm }}$ |  | join | व̈L cı̈r |  | ARP | 1 |
| Pd | PREDOM | CHPAS | WEST HAVEN | CONNECTICUT | ARP | 1 |
| Pt | PPIESTUY | JOHN | PUKERUA BAY | NEW ZEALANO | ASSNZ | 2 |
| 0 | OUNTANK | CARLOS S ． | CAFUCAS | VENEZUEU | LIADA | 1 |
| R $\mathrm{R}_{\text {R }}$ ． | RuMON | J． | VALENCL | SPMN | GEOS | 1. |
| O． | RASPAOOR | $\stackrel{\square}{6}$ | вӧомй | пй | GEOS | $i$ |
| Pn | REGHEERE | $\cdots$ | GRENOMBLE | FAMOCE | GEos | $i$ |
| $\cdots$ | MENOU | A． | BRissach | FM̈MCE | GEOs | 2 |
| A | Rior | P\％MU | WEUUNGTOW | NEW ŻEスMONO | OüSN | $i$ |
| ${ }_{\sim}^{*}$ | ［RVAS | L | TABERNES BUA | SPAIN | GEOS | 1 |
| $\mathrm{A}_{4}$ | RIZZO | RCAROO | TBUENOS AIRES | ARGENTINA | U100 | 1 |
| A9． | POOPAGUEZ | VICTOR | TEIERIA | VENEZUEM | UADA | 1 |
| ．Ri． | ARMS | YOSE | TARHAM | Bouvi | LADA | 1 |
| \＃． | MOMUN | jo．j． | OEIDEN | NEMERMKOS | GEos | $\cdots$ |
| An | RONOON | FREDET |  | VENEZUEイニ̈̆ | H00A | $\cdots$ |
| An． | Rozenbaum | SAMil |  | VENEZUEÜ | UMOA | i． |
| Ra | RUOENKO | MCMCEİ |  | MOSACHUSEITS | $A P^{\prime}$ | 1 |
| Sy | SAMAYK | G． | WESTAUS | WSSCONSIN | ARP | 3 |
| Sd | SANCHEZ | DARMIN | BAROUSIMETO | VENEZUEUA | UADA | 1 |
| 52 | SNNCHEZ | DOMINGO | PUEFTO OROUZ | OVENEZUELA | LHDA | 1 |
| So． | SANCHER | GIMEET． | BAROUISIMETO | VVENEZUELA | Hepa | 1. |
| ．si． | SMVCHE | UENNY | BAROOUSIMETO | VENEZUEÜ | प̈ÖO． | i |
| \％ | SANCHEZ | M̈FAĖ： |  |  |  | $!$ |
| Si | SCHAEFER | BR̈0 | ceporaoo | CHiLE | แ̈ӧ | $i$ |
| Sb | SCHEEB | 0. |  | F | GEOS | 1 |
| Sh | SCHUER | D． | ENST PUNO | SOUTH AFRICA | ASSA | 3 |
| Sn | SCHMUBEL | c． | BAPCELONA | SPAIN | GECS | 4 |

Table 2，concluded．

| 1 b | LAST NAME | FRES NAME | Criv | COUNiFip | CFOUP | No |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \％ | SCHOLTEN | A． | EEABEEK | TETHERUADS | CEC8 | 1 |
| 8. | SERNE | P | LEOEN | NETHERLUNOB | CEOB | 1 |
| 3 m | SMTI | J． | PRET OPMA | SOOTH AFRCA | ASSA | 0 |
| Sc | SMITH | CHARUE | WOOORDGE | OUEENSLAND | RASNX | 9 |
| So | SOUMMCNE | 0. | SOUMCNE | BELCMUM | GEO3 | 1 |
| Sa | SPECOU SOURE | LOCARNO | UCERNE | SWITERLAND | GEOS | 1 |
| Sp． | SPGELSTAA | J． | POTCFEPSTROOM | SOUTHAFRICA | ASSA | 3 |
| 88 | STAMM | Jim | LONOON | KENTUCKY | ARP | 4. |
| 8x． | STAM | jin | 祭YSVilie | KKNTUCKY | А | i． |
| 9\％ | STöoien | MữїE | Айс̇ৰїND |  | ROMKZ | ． |
| 9 | SWANSOM | BRENT | CEEOR CTTY | OT̈̈二゙ | Ӓค | 7 |
| Ty | TAYOR | W． | WAKEFIEL | UWNTEDIGNGDOM | GE08 | 1 |
| Tt | THPIONET | $Y$ Y． | BRUUSSELS | BELGUM | GEOS | 5 |
| Th | THOORis | B． | WERVIK | ：BELCum | GEO8 | 2 |
| Tn | TRENTIN | S． | 80009M1 | ：TYALY | GEOB | 1. |
| ． 7 | тRW140 | M＂CEDONO | TARLi | ®ouvĭ |  | 1 |
| TP． | TYupan！ | F． | Böociai | ¢ïaly | ceos | ， |
| V\％ | VAN BLOMMESTEN | P． | CAPE TOWN | SOUTHAFPICA | ÄSA | 1. |
| V ¢ | VANEUNCIGOUZEN | J． | BLOEMFONTEM | SOOUTH AFROCA | ASSA | 1 |
| Vi | VAN 100 | F． | GENK | EAST GERMUNY | CEOB | 1 |
| 0 | VIUEGAS | SILVINA | BUENOB ARES | ：APGENTINA | LADA | 1 |
| Ve | VINCENT | KEITH | WEUNGTON | ：NEW EEALANO | RASNR | 1 |
| Vn． | VNSON | ED | DUNCAN |  | ARP | 1. |
| Vt． | virmarchü | 幺幺йтั̈ | TARL＇ | ¢оับи | HiOA | 1 |
| W． | waluce | R． | yofunespupa | ¢ÖTHAFR゙¢ | ASSA | 1. |
| Wh． | WNSCHE | $N$ | DPEEACH | EAST Cëriow | a¢O8 | 1 |
| $Y_{\text {Y }}$ | YAMACUCH | WALTER | TARLИ | Bơvท | H1OA | 1 |
| Yu | YUEN | TAK YUN | ： AROUISMETO $^{\text {a }}$ | VEENEZUEU | UADA | 1 |
| 2 | ZAUES | ROOOLO | TARMA | ：BOUVM | UИOA | 1 |
| 2 m | ZMMERMMNN | L | BRUSSELS | BELCMM | GEO8 | 5 |
| 28 | 2Ssell | RE． | SOUTHHADEY | thestchuserss | ARP | 1 |
| 77 | 77 | $? 7$ | ABASTUMÖNY | SOOVET UTHOW | aั̇O̊ | 1 |

period．The notes section indicates those reports where positive observations were made， 12 or more observers participated，full reports published else－ where in O．N．，or where other significant activity was recorded．

The appropriate report form has been included for you with this issue（except for ASSA）．Use a copy of it when reporting your observations to IOTA．

Notes：Events from January through June 1987，ref－ erenced in Table 1.

1）Observers were $\mathrm{Bt} 亡 \mathrm{BhBdBjBqCsCiCfCyCmCrDhDsElFb}$ GrGmGsGuMrMt！yyibrviuRoSnSeSaTyTtVfZmRz．Romijn reported a $3.2-\mathrm{sec}$ ．occ＇lltation beqinning at 20：23：33．2，but it was not confirmed by Serne， who was only 44 meters away．
2）Observers：CtMIZsGeDnPmGhSyGgRkEtArGcGuMsNpPi．
3）Pete and Susan Manly reported a blink at 10：34： 31，a 1－sec．disappearance at 10：37：30，and a $\frac{1}{4}-$ sec．disappearance at 10：39：27．5．
4）Observers for this event were SyVnLvMwVIRrFeMj MeOcQnLaRmBvIzSzMmGpPnSjSdSrGjLeSgYuBantGfGxGb PrPzAzFuRnFn－ 37 in all－a record since I have been reporting these events！A 5－sec． disappearance was recorded by Jose Izaquirre and Domingo Sanchez from Puerto Ordaz，Venezue－ la，beginning at 03：43：25．This indicates a diameter of at least 20.4 km ．Sanchez notes that the occultation took place 16 minutes later than Goffin＇s prediction．
5）A $\frac{1}{2}$－sec．blink was observed by Doug George at about 08：18：01．
6）Observers were BsBnBdCoDqGILhMxPwTtThZm．Palz－ er recorded three occultation events under a clear sky．All were gradual－from 23：48：42 to 23：48：50，from 23：56：28 to 23：56：38，and from 23：58：？？to 23：58：？？（about 4 sec ．）．
Notes 7 and 8 were taken from reports received from Graham Blow，and published in CIRCULAR CQ 8712 （July
1987) of the Occultation Section of the Royal Astronomical Society of New Zealand.

7) Edwin Goffin's original prediction placed this event across central New Zealand and the coast of Queensland, Australia. Perth Observatory obtained a plate on the 10th, and Black Birch Astrometric Observatory and Lowell Observatory each obtained plates on the 12th. The paths are shown in Fig. 1. Graham Blow notified a number of observers in the affected area, and two positive records were obtained. Details:
Observer: Graham Blow at Carter Observatory in Wellington
Longitude: $174^{\circ} 46^{\prime} 01.05 \mathrm{E}$
Latitude: $41^{\circ} 17^{\prime} 09.37 \mathrm{~S}$
Height: 129 meters
Disappearance at 15:27:17.4 $\pm 0.1$
Reappearance at 15:27:36.7 $\pm 0.1$
Observer: J. Priestley at Pukera Bay ( 30 km north of Wellington)
Longitude: $174^{\circ} 53^{\prime} 50.19 \mathrm{E}$
Latitude: $47^{\circ} 01^{\prime} 56.6 \mathrm{~S}$
Height: 6 () meters
Reappearance at 15:27:36.6
It is fortunate that this event was recorded at all. In Wellington it was quite clear up until about 20 minutes before the event, and again about 40 minutes afterwards, but the clouds became thicker and thicker as event time approached. The image was difficult to see on the video screen, and a few seconds after reappearance, the star was obscured completely. Priestly could see the star clearly up to about 15:26:40, when cloud obscured the field; when the cloud cleared at 15:27:22.2, the star was missing, a definite reappearance occurring about 14 seconds later.
Following the path out across the Tasman indicates that it would have skimmed just off the coast of ('ueensland. Observers who monitored there were:

| Charlie Smith | Woodridge | $15: 11$ | to $15: 50$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Peter Anderson The Gap | $15: 20$ | to $15: 45$ |  |
| Steve Hutcheon Maroochy | $15: 15$ | to $15: 50$ |  |
| Lirdsay Ball | Coopers Plains | $15: 09: 30$ | to $15: 45$ |
| Dasid Hickey | Redcliffe | $15: 15$ | to $15: 47$ |
| Ter Hickey | Caboolture | $15: 25$ | to $15: 48$ |
| D. Harvey | Mt. Nebo | $15: 15$ | to $15: 45$ |

Observers farther south were:
Alfred Kruijshoop Mt. Waverley, Victoria

$$
15: 31 \text { to } 15: 49
$$

Maurice Stoker Auckland, N.Z. 15:27 to $15: 31$
Ross Dickie Gore, N.Z. 15:25 to 15:44
The observed occultation path coincides closely with paths predicted by Lowell. Graham is concerned that the data from BBAO and Perth differ so much from that of Lowell, and he is working on the problem with Craig Bowers in Perth, and others. A positive result of this occultation however, was that it was able to show up several errors in the prediction routines used in Wellington. These have been corrected, and now the update paths agree very closely with those from the Lowell programs.
8) Geoff Douglas at BBAO obtained 4 consistent plates for this event, placing the path over southeastern Australia, as shown in Fig. 2. However, Bob Millis at Lowell obtained a plate which indicated a path over India. Graham Blow respected the consistency of the BBAO plates, and notified a large number of observers, resulting in the largest turnout for an Australasian asteroidal event so far.


While the main event was not observed anywhere, Perth Observatory did photoelectrically record a strange drop of 0.25 magnitude at the time of the event. This is discussed later. Those who monitored from Australia were:

| Steve Hutcheon | Woodburn | $7: 40$ to 18:09 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Peter Anderson | The Gap | $17: 40$ to 18:07 |
| Charlie Smith | Woodridge | $18: 04$ to 18:17:18 |
| Maurice Clark | Armadale | $17: 55$ to 18:15 |
| James Athanasov | North Perth | $17: 50$ to $18: 20$ |
| Andrew Pierce | North Perth | $17: 50$ to 18:20 |

New Zealand observers were:

| Bill Allen | Christchurch | $17: 42$ to $17: 58$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Brian Loader | Christchurch | $17: 37$ to $18: 15$ |  |
| Noel Munford | Palmerston North | $17: 40$ to $18: 18$ |  |
| Glenn Evans | Offord | $17: 42$ to $18: 12$ |  |
| Alan Gilmore | Mt. John Obs. | $17: 48$ to $18: 19$ |  |
| Keith Vincent | Wellington | $17: 42$ to $18: 05$ |  |
| J. Priestly | Pukera Bay | $17: 52$ to $18: 05$ |  |
| Graham Blow | Wellington | $17: 42$ to $18: 05$ |  |
| Ross Dickie | Gore | $17: 49$ to $18: 07$ |  |
| Ray Lee | Wanganui | ?? | to $18: 00$ |
| Philip Riley | Wellington | ?? | to ?? |



As Fig. 3 indicates, overall cross-track coverage was good, with the only area not covered being a clouded-out gap of 0.27 (2.7 track widths) over the northern North Island and Sydney - Siding Spring area. This region unfortunately coincides with the mean of the four predicted BBAO tracks. Blow suspects that the occultation occurred in the gap, but because of Lowell's generally highly accurate astrometry, he is not totally confident. The discrepancy remains unresolved, but is being researched.
Fig. 4 is a reproduction of the photoelectric record that Perth obtained very close to the predicted event time. This took the form of a
0.25 -magnitude drop commencing at 17:53.7, reaching minimum at 17:55.15, and then rising slowly to regain full brightness at 17:58.9. Both Craig Bowers and Peter Birch are adamant that there was no cloud at the time, and that the observatory never experiences airplane contrails. One explanation that Blow proposes is that some sort of absorbing material might be surrounding the asteroid. This explanation has been suggested before (o.n. 3 (15), 325) by V. B. Kapkov for the photoelectric record that Engel'gardt Observatory obtained of a Pallas event. Fig. 5 is a reproduction of the data. Comparison with Fig. 4 shows a similar pattern.



A computer model of the occultation of a $9^{m} .2$ stat by a $10^{\mathrm{ml}} .5$ asterold accompanted by a cloud of gas and dust. Model paranieters: e : 2000 km , cloud eccentricity e: 01.68 , particle density $3 \cdot 10^{4} \mathrm{~m}^{-3}$. gratn radius $R=1 \mu$, constant $i_{0}=2400 \mathrm{kni}, F=n$. The ordinate $A$ is the normalized utar brifturnces.

If the Hermione event was caused by a non-circular cloud of orbiting debris, its linear extent would be 2600 km . Interestingly, twice the "radius of sphere of influence," as tabulated by David Dunham, is very close to this value, at 2814 km . However, one might then have expected the main occultation band to have passed close to Perth.
9) Kohl reported a "spurious?" 4.1-sec. occultation beginning at 02:46:56.3.
10) Observers were BhBcBnBuDqGsKiMxMoPeRpRhTtTnTp.
11) Two blinks of about $1 / 10 \mathrm{sec}$., separated by $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. were observed in the 57 th sec. of $08: 35$. They "seemed like atmosphere, but the rest of the time the images were rock-steady."

12) Morrisby reported a l-sec. disappearance at 17 : 04:03 $\pm 1 \mathrm{sec}$. Disappearance and reappearance were not quite instantaneous. Other field stars remained at the same brightness. The event was 9 minutes earlier than Goffin's prediction.

## 1987 MAY 22. APPULSE OF SAO 175746 BY COMET WILSON

## Luiz Augusto L. da Silva

I observed the subject appulse using the $0.5-\mathrm{m}$ Cassegrain reflector of Morro Santana Observatory at Porto Alegre, Brazil, to continuously monitor the star, starting at 22 h 25 m UT, and ending at 22 h 26 m 40 s , through a window of clear sky in the cumulus clouds. In spite of the relatively small predicted magnitude drop ( 0.34 ), I think it is possible to affirm that there was no occultation. The nucleus of the comet passed to the west of the star, and at $22^{h}$ 25 m it was impossible to distinguish the central condensation; the comet merged with the star. At $19 \mathrm{~h} 26^{\mathrm{m}} 37 \mathrm{~s}$, the coma was visible again. The predicted closest approach for my position was about $22^{h} 23^{m}$ UT. At that time, the star and the comet were separated.

## MORE ON REPORTING OCCULTATIONS ON DISKETTE AND OTHER NEWS FROM ILOC AND LOOG

## David W. Dunham

The format and procedures for reporting occultation observations as ASCII files on IBM-PC-compatible floppy disks was given in my article in O.N. 4 (5), pp. 92-97. A couple of minor errors were made in Figure 1 on p. 93. A fourth line, just under the "REPRESENTATIVE" line, was left out; it should read, starting in column 1, "REPORTED TO ILOC, IOTA." AIso, " 0.3 " was omitted from the OC line (TERRY LOSONSKY); it should be in columns 44-46, like in the 0 A and $O B$ lines. These errors were corrected before I sent anybody copies of the figure data on diskette.

On January 20th, during another business trip to Tokyo, Mitsuru Sôma and I visited the International Lunar Occultation Centre (ILOC), where we had discussions with Akio Senda and Yoshio Kubo. As of that date, only three people had sent them observations on diskette, including me. But it was only twenty days after the end of 1987, and many observers probably had not had time to complete entering their data for 1987 and mailing it so as to be received by ILOC by then. At the time, ILOC did not have their system ready to accept data from diskettes for direct residual computation, but they were working on it, expecting implementation soon. ILOC does hope to receive more data on diskettes, and to encourage it, they will process the diskette data much more quickly than manually completed forms. They plan to process data in batches a few times a year, so that those sending diskettes should get preliminary residuals back within 2 to 3 months. Observers who make errors ir their data, that causes the residual calculation to fail, will be sent the page giving the error message that will show which observation caused the error.
$R$ turning diskettes and the need for regional data r. porting. So far, ILOC has returned diskettes sent $t_{c}$ them. However, diskettes (at least in the U S.A.) are now quite inexpensive, costing as little
as 25 cents, much less than the cost to mail them, especially by air mail overseas. Asking someone to return a diskette is becoming almost like asking someone to return the paper on which a letter is written. From now on, ILOC will return diskettes only upon request. Sometime in the future, ILOC might be able to return the residual output in ASCII files on the diskettes sent by the observer, a suggestion by Peter Manly. Peter also suggests that, to decrease overseas mailing costs, the observations of several observers in a city, or in a country, be included on a single diskette. This requires a network of local, regional, and national coordinators, as I already suggested in my O.N. 4 (5) article. So far, I have received only two offers to enter other observers' data onto diskette, as follows:

For Australia: Peter Nelson; RMB 5578; Bloomfield Road; Nilma 3821; Australia.

For New Mexico: MacPherson Morgan; 408 Monte Largo Drive NE; Albuquerque, NM 87123. He notes that, in last December's roster, there are no other IOTA members or o.n. subscribers in New Mexico [Ed: still true], so he volunteered to help with data entry for others. I have sent him some graze reports using non-standard forms.

Others already may have made arrangements to coordinate this work in their cities, states, or countries. If so, or if you are willing to do some of this valuable work, please write to me at P.O. Box 7488; Silver Spring, MD 20907; U.S.A., so that I can include your address as a contact point in a future issue.

Data entry by menu. I find that, using a copy of an old observation dataset as a template, it is easier to type new data to create a new observation dataset on diskette, than it is to manually fill out a form. To make the job even easier, Peter Manly has created a program in Basic called IOTADATA (see p. 167) that is a menu-driven system prompting the observer for information needed to create the diskette dataset. It should help observers to submit complete, errorfree datasets to ILOC. The IOTADATA program uses the last four columns $(76-80)$ of the REPRESENTATIVE line for a right-justified integer number that is a sequential version number of the menu program.
These columns should be left blank by those who write their files with a text editor, rather than using the menu program.

File names. Peter Manly suggests that we standardize the naming of files, or datasets, containing occultation observations on diskette. For total occultations, I suggest using "sssssyyx.occ," where sssss is the ILOC station code, yy is the last two digits of the calendar year, and $x=$ (not used) if data for the whole year are included, = a for data for the first half of the year, and $=b$ for data for the second half. An example for my station in Silver Spring covering the second half of 1987 would be: sal8787b.occ; my station is SA187. For grazing occultation expedition results, I suggest "ooyymmdd.grz," where 00 are the expedition leader's initials, yy is the last two digits of the year, mm is the month number, and dd is the day of the month. Hence, the data for the 1987 July 20 th graze that I led are in dd870720.grz. For minor planet occultations and appulses, the same format can be used with 00 either the observer or a regional or local coor-
dinator, and replacing the extent "grz" with "mpa" or "mpo" (minor planet appulse or minor planet occultation, respectively).
pleiades occultation data. These should now be sent to ILOC, without a copy to me, like regular total occultation reports. I gave ILOC a copy of the U.S. Naval Observatory's (USNO's) detailed Pleiades (P) catalog used to compute the special USNO Pleiades occultation predictions. I also gave ILOC a copy of diskette files giving lunar limb correction data for Watts angle 36.0 , sent to me earlier by David Herald. Herald had discovered that all of the data for only Watts angle $36: 6$ is wrong in the Watts dataset at USNO, and presumably also those at HMNAO (Her Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office) and at ILOC, since all were derived from digitization of Watts' charts by HMNAO.

ILOC grazing occultations. Although ILOC does not currently prepare reduction profiles for grazes reported to them, as HMNAO often did, they do realize that graze observations have special value, and have themselves mounted several three-station expeditions to various parts of Japan. They are now undertaking expeditions twice a year, but most efforts are negated by clouds. From 1978 through 1986, they obtained data during 5 grazes, details of which are reported in a Hydrographic Department publication. The reduction profile published for their timings of the graze of 6.4 -mag. Z.C. 934 , observed near Minamata on 1978 October 21, is reproduced in Figure 1. Summaries of the five expeditions will be reported in Stockbauer's list in the next issue of O.N.


ILOC plans to send me a magnetic tape containing all occultation timings that they have on record from 1980 to 1987. They plan to send it in April, which will give them time to include at least their own observations made during 1987. I will provide the data to Joseph Carroll for use in preparing his total occultation tallies, and will later try to pro-
vide it to Don Oliver for our delayed grazing occultation expedition summary work. Later, we will try to use the data for our own reductions at USNO.

Lunar occultation obscrvers' Group. The LOOG, composed mostly of Japanese amateur astronomers, observed several grazes during 1987. A reduction profile for one of these events, which occurred on March 18th, was provided by Toshio Hirose and is shown in Figure 2. On December 31st, 37 stations were set up in northern Honshu for a bright-1imb graze of Alcyone, the largest graze expedition so far in Japan. Skies were clear, but some stations were not successful due to either the bright limb, lack of experience, or a combination of the two. Perhaps a preliminary reduction profile will be ready when I return to Japan on my next business trip there in late May.


Isao Sato obtained time on the Kiso Observatory Schmidt telescope, which he used to take a plate of (324) Bamberga and SAO 4126 (see p. 145 of the last issue). Using Sato's measurements of the plate, Mitsuru Sóma calculated a 0 ". 29 south shift for the December 8th occultation, in much better agreement with astrometry by Lick and Lowell observatories, and the actual occultation, than their estimate of the uncertainty, $\pm 1.0$. Sôma alerted observers in northern and western Japan, based on the astrometric update that I relayed to him via Hiroki Yokota at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science,
since our update had a smaller estimated error. An observer named Odagiri, in Aomari City in the northernmost part of Honshu, timed a 24 -second occultation by Bamberga. Another observer farther south saw no occultation by Bamberga, but timed a possible short secondary extinction.

## THE DELTA SCORPII GRAZE NEAR WELLTON, ARIZONA, ON 1985 JULY 27

Gerald W. Rattley and David W. Dunham

On 1985 July 27, Rattley organized an expedition to observe the graze of 2.5-magnitude Delta Scorpii (Z.C. $2290=$ SAO 184014 ) from a rural crossroads named Asher, 4 miles east of the city of Wellton, in southwestern Arizona. The graze was listed in O.N. 3 (13), p. 274, with a brief account on the following page. Most expedition participants were members of the Saguaro Astronomy Club from the Phoenix area, but they were joined by the Dunhams from Maryland (who were visiting relatives in southern California that week) and by Laveda $0 l i v e r ~ f r o m ~ B a k e r s f i e l d, ~$ CA. At the time, it set a record for the most stations with video setups, 4. Since the star is a close double and each station timed events involving both components, it still holds the record for the most vileo chords obtained during a graze, 8. The seconda $-y$ seems to be about 2 magnitudes fainter than the primary. The star's duplicity is discussed in O.N. 1 (1), p. 5 and 10, and (3), p. 21. The duplicity was discovered visually during a total occultation at the turn of the century, as reported in Mon. Not. R. A. S. 61, p. 414. The star is actually

triple, since the primary is a spectroscopic binary with a period of 20 days. The component that we observed can not be the spectroscopic secondary, since it must be less than 0.0001 from the primary.

The observations are displayed in Figure 1 (combined timing data). By plottirig the chords for the two components separately and using transparency copies, the two profiles can be shifted to match, as shown in Figure 2 (secondary timing data shifted). The plot for the secondary had to be shifted 0.218 mile to the north, and 0.75 second of time to the right, to achieve the match. Using the scales from the predicted profile (VPS $=0.467 / \mathrm{mile}$ and HPS $=1.508 /$ minute), the shifts become 0.146 in height and 0.019 in Watts angle (or position angle), the latter translating into 0.31 in horizontal scale on the sky. Using the position angle (p.a.) of graze (27.3), the separation ( 0.34 ) and p.a. ( $323^{\circ}$ ) of the secondary star from the primary can be computed.


Fig. 2
Delta Scorpii has been resolved several times by speckle interferometry, as reported in Center for High Angular Resolution Astronomy (CHARA) Contribution No. 1, "Catalog of Interferometric Measurements of Binary Stars," Harold McAlister and William Hartkopf, Atlanta, 1984. Unlike the case for Sigma Scorpii as noted in O.N. 3 (16), p. 346, there is not a clear trend in the observations, but only a scattering about the mean values of $176^{\circ}$ for the p.a. and 0.14 for the separation during the 8 years reported (1973 to 1981). This can be expected, since the orbital period is probably greater than 100 years, and the accuracy of most of the p.a. measurements is quoted as $\pm 2^{\circ}$. The speckle observations have a $180^{\circ}$ ambiguity in position angle, and
the results from Nellton show that $180^{\circ}$ needs to be added to the speckle p.a.s. The separation is not in good agreement (speckle versus graze), but nearly exact agreement would result if the graze horizontal shift were zero. The horizontal shift could be in considerable error, since visual timings were involved in the profile fitting. The vertical shift is well-determined from all of the graze timings (visual as well as video), but the horizontal shift amount could be refined by a more careful analysis of only the video data, especially Dunham's timings for the primary and Manly's timings for the secondary. Since their stations had nearly the same vertical separation as the two components. Also, more recent speckle observations may reveal a trend in the position angles that could be used to fix this parameter at the time of the graze (1985.570), to improve the determination of the separation.

## THE IOTADATA PROGRAM

## Peter Manly and Joan Bixby Dunham

Peter is distributing for beta testing Program IOTADATA, software designed to enter, record, retrieve, and print IOTA occultation data according to the format specified in o.N. 4 (5), p. 92 (August, 1987). The sole exception to this specification is the addition to the REPRESENTATIVE line, columns 76 through 80. These spaces are reserved for revision data of the program generating the file. The current revision is " 0, " indicating the "beta test" version. This is a revision of earlier software he had written for a C/PM machine with a different output format.

It is the intent of this program to be generic, in that it works on a CP/M Otrona Attache computer, an MS-DOS clone, and the Macintosh. Other machines may be added in the future. The software is generated on the Macintosh SE using system 4.1 and on the Macintosh 512 K upgraded to Mac Plus, system 3.2. Both Macs use Microsoft Basic version 3.0. The Otrona Attache uses CP/M system software version 2.2.5 and Microsoft Basic-80 rev 5.22. The MS-DOS clone uses Microsoft MS-DOS version 2.11 system software and Microsoft GWBASIC version 2.1.

The IOTADATA user must supply his own version of a BASIC computer language interpreter or compiler.
The IOTADATA software is distributed as ASCIl text files on disks. The software is written using only the instructions most common to all three machines. Also, to make it easier to convert this software to other machines, all variable names are limited to 2 characters to accommodate early versions of BASIC. All program segments require less than 20 Kbytes of memory. Statement numbering within each program segment is designed so that program segments can be combined for use in larger machines. The software is in modules which are CHAINed, so the version of BASIC used must allow the CHAIN statement.

The minimum machine required must have at least one disk drive and 64 Kbytes of RAM. Either a 40 -column or 80 -column display screen may be used, al though the displays are set up for 80 columns. The program will still run, but the list of data on 80-column format will be doubled over. The program is split into several sections and chained together so that each piece may fit into those machines limited to 64 Kbytes of RAM space. Much time is spent swapping
sections, so if you have a larger machine, and do not want to modify the program, you may want to use either a cache RAM or a ramdisk to speed it up.

The original program was intended to be used with a CP/M Otrona Attache and a C. Itoh printer. The print section was written with unique printer commands which generated the entire IOTA report form which was formerly filled in by hand. The current program allows either the C. Itoh or a more generic form for other printers. The disk storage section also allows storage in one of two formats.

We will report on IOTADATA in future issues as testing and conversion progress. There is already a long list of proposed enhancements to investigate, once testing is completed. Further information can be obtained from: Peter L. Manly; 1533 W. 7th St.; Tempe, AZ 85281; U.S.A.

## VIDEO DEVELOPMENTS FOR OCCULTATIONS

## David W. Dunham

DAK Industries now sells a low-light-level black-and-white camera that rivals the RCA Ultricon camera, which has been the mainstay of occultation video since 1981. The DAK surveillance camera has a range of 3 to 30,000 lux and costs only $\$ 169$ (order no. 4549). It has a detachable lens, so it can be attached to a C-mount and a telescope. The only problem is that it uses a special cable that supplies power in and video/audio out. With the right connectors, it should be possible to operate the camera from a battery like Orion's Portapac, but the setup might be complex. By paying $\$ 299$, you can get the camera plus a 12-inch monitor, electronic switcher, and cables for power and video, order no. 4415 , for $\$ 299$. The monitor is too large for easy transport by airplane, and there may be no way out of using A.C. power to run the system. Peter Manly knows an amateur in Phoenix who has purchased this DAK system, so we should be able to give some more practical information later. DAK has a 24 -hour sales phone, $800,325-0800$; technical information is available 6 am - 7 pm Pacific time weekdays at 800 , 272-3200. Their address is 8200 Remmet Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91304. The RCA Ultricon camera can still be purchased, but at a considerably higher price than the DAK [Ed: Magnavox] camera.

Once you get a camera, a major problem now is getting a portable VCR. The old portable VCRs have deliberately been taken off the market, in an effort to sell camcorders, most of which have non-removable lenses. Those that do have removable lenses, including CCD models, cost over $\$ 1000$, and as cameras, they are not as sensitive as the Ultricon or DAK surveillance cameras. To be used with these other cameras, the camcorder needs to have dubbing capability that can be used as a video input, but these seem to cost more than $\$ 1200$. Regular VCRs can be purchased for less than $\$ 300$, but require A.C. power . This would be all right if you plan to observe mainly from home (total lunar occultations), but for a graze, it would limit your ability to select sites. If anyone can locate a source of relatively inexpensive portable VCRs, or have any other answers to some of the dilemmas posed above, contact me at P.0. Box 7488; Silver Spring, MD 20907, phone 301, 585-0989, so it can be published in a future issue. Peter Manly has supplied much of the information re-
ported above. He also has information about image intensifiers (see p. 137 of the last issue) that are considerably more expensive than the costs mentioned above. Watch future issues of sky and Telescope, Astronomy, and occultation Newsletter for image intensifier developments.

## REPORT FROM ESOP VI

## Dr. Eberhard Bredner, secretary IOTA/ES

[Ed: I admit my inability to comprehend some of the Germanic idiom in this article, as received, and have decided to reproduce it, letter-for-letter, rather than to introduce my own mistakes.]

The annual 'European Symposion on Occultation Projects' was in 1987 organized by Kyril W. Fabrin from Aalborg, Danmark for a long weekend (August 21 to 23). We started with an informal opening and social evening in the club house of the Amateur Astronomical Society of Northern Jutland. From the first moment there was a heartly, familiar situation between the Denish amateurs and their guests. Two members from the town own's planning staff, Mrs. Else Kristiansen and Mr. Ove Horn, gave us first an introduction to the project of the new Aalborg Observatory. A very pleasing observing site would arouse there, with sufficient additional possibilities for meetings and preparational work. It will now be opened in April 1988.

We had an agreable evening with a Danish buffet, French wine and German beer. Later the evening when starting for the night - most of us had travelled quite a long way -, we noticed pleased that some of us could stay the night free of charge in the club house. So it is even for those with a smaller budget possible to take part in ESOP-conferences.

The official meeting ESOP VI was arranged in the Great Auditorium, University of Aalborg. When we met there the other morning our presentiments got clear - some of our friends especially those from Eastern Europe won't come. This light disappointment vanished away when the IOTA/ES President Mr. Hans-Joachim Bode and the ESOP VI-Organizer Kyril W. Fabrin opened the conference. We first had a review of ESOP $V$ in Warsaw/Lodz by Secretary Bredner to get the connection to the former conference. The lectures then started with a survey of National occultation work in Finland by Matti Suhonen. Since 1948 a small group observes Lunar occultations regularly, they got the note-worthy amount of some 500 timings since 1975. Matti Suhonen invited all IOTA-members to visit Finland for the July 1990 total eclipse (Teuvo Pakkalantie 12 a 19, SF - 00400 Helsinki 40). A more international aspect was presented by H. J. Bode and Dr. Beisker who attended the IAU-Meeting in Paris on the occasion of the 100 th Anniversary of the French Astronomical Society where they presented own papers and two of Dr. Dunham (IOTA/USA).

After a coffee break the Great Old Man of Occultation, Dr. Niels Wieth-Knudsen (then 78, see his 378 timings for 1979 in O.N. IV, 6 !) accompanied and supported as we are used to by his wife Inger WiethKnudsen, introduced us to the Watt-s Limb Data Centre in Aalborg. Ingo Reimann from Lübeck, Germany showed an observing project for motivating and training occultation-observers. His idea is particularly to get trained observers for outstanding
(very rare) events, motivating them with a methode of total occultation-observations that yields to a result for the distance Earth-Moon.

We had lunch then in the Universities own restaurant, the famous worldwide known Danish Smoerrebroed! Our conversation was powerfull supported by this excellent boarding. The afternoon session started with a paper from the absend Leif Kahl Kristensen: On Asteroid Occultations, read by Kyril W. Fabrin. Some very encouriging initial successes ("beginners luck") in 1983/1984 were followed by a periode of inactivity. Mainly the absence of last minute predictions, the missing of feed-back and no coordinated programms give the lonely observer the feeling of helplessness. We discussed this situation engaged without result. Subsequent to that Mogens Blichfeldt gave a report of the 146-Lucina Occultation on April 18th, 1982. He and his co-observer are certain that they saw at least 8 and certainly more short-timed occultations, which they discussed as satellite occultations of 146-Lucina and not of pseudo-occultations from starlight hitten by the blind spot of the eye.

A refreshing coffee break led to the last part: Hardware and Data Analysis. Once more the Great Old Man of Occultation Niels Wieth-Knudsen climbed the stage to give a lecture on a Baderian Analysis of Residuals from the final ILOC-Report 1984, pleading for new Lunar Ephemeris to minimize the residuals! A short highlight from a grazing occultation October 14th, 1986 (Psi 1 Aquarii, Z. C. 3419) registered by Dr. Bredner with a tape recorder gave the audience the possibility of occupation. He showed his time measuring device adapted from a DCF 77.5 clock with memory ( 512 timings), that can take sound coded timings from several stations. Much more professional was the presentation from C. Bittner and H. J. Goldan as they showed a Small High-Speed Data Reduction System with Spectrum 48 k , which was first tested for the Lunar occultation of Spica June 7th, 1987. Their methode ( 1000 measurements per second) has an uncertainty of not more than 6 msec (Which Datapoint is it?). The slope of the intensity is quite small. For a proper interpretation of those data Dr. Beisker showed the effiency of his Computerized Data Analysis of Photoelectric Occultation Data by a programm package, which is as far as possible machine independent and accessible for all IOTA-members.

President Bode closed the session ESOP VI emphasizing the careful preparations by Kyril W. Fabrin, transmitting an invitation to ESOP VII in Valasske Mezirici organized by Bohumil Malecek.

Later the evening we met for the conference dinner at the Restaurant Skydepavillonen, once more an impressive evening party, the dishes bend - you could$n$ 't count the various courses, always there was an additional one! A real Danish coffee (and Cognak) we got high over the town lights (no occultation) on the top of the Aalborg Tower, a well known landmark. Long lasting discussions accompanied the evening.

Our last day in the northern part of Danmark started at $90^{\prime}$ clock as a car-convoy with international load to Skagen at the northernmost tip of the peninsula Jutland. By the way we road a long time on the con-crete-hard beach, with a footbath (Madame Bode) or total (Mr. Bredner) in the North Sea. We took the opportunity to visit the northernmost observatory of

Jutland constructed and operated by Mr. Harald Aaen. We then had a footwalk to the point where North Sea and Great Belt (Baltic Sea) met another, one could see the different coulors of the seas. To end this social excursion we had a last lunch at the northernmost Restaurant De 2 Have (the two harbors). The end was as always something depressing, but the prospect of a new ESOP with new (and old) discussions refreshed us for the journey back!

Oh, what a lovely time it was!
Supplement: ESOP VII will be arranged August 8 to 10, 1988 with an additional excursion to the High Tatra Mountains by Bohumil Malecek, coordinator of IOTA/ES in C.S.S.R., Hvezdarna, 75701 Valasske Mezirici, C.S.S.R. All IOTA/ES members get an invitation directly from him. Other interested members please write to him directly.

## AdDENDUM TO PLEIADES ARTICLE

A note received from Dr. Eberhard Bredner on February 8 mentions successful observation of the January 27th graze of Alcyone in the German Federal Republic. This apparently was a separate expedition from the one reported by H.-J. Bode, noted on pp. 158-9.

JAMES H. MCMAHON, 1919-1987
Carroll L. Evans, Jr.
[Ed: Extracted from the Skywatcher's Newsletter, of the China Lake (California) Astronomical Society]

CLAS founding member Jim McMahon had been in poor health for some time. The combination of medications and modern technology had allowed him to continue what he wanted to do most - to be involved with amateur astronomy. . . . After his hospital stay he transferred to Beverly Manor Heal th Care Facility. Just as he seemed to be improving, he took a turn for the worse, and passed on unexpectedly on Monday, December 21. . . . The CLAS was formed over 30 years ago. Jim was one of the original members. Over the years he has held every office at least once. His interests in astronomy were theoretical, practical, and educational. . . . he observed with the 4 -inch wide-field Astroscan. A couple of years ago he bought a used 8 -inch reflector telescope. His health did not allow him to use it as much as he wished, . . . Jim observed and reported over 250 total occultations over the years . . . Jim and others in the club organized many graze expeditions In 1972 Jim, using his Astroscan, made an observation of the asteroid Herculina which, when combined with a professional [Ed: photoelectric] observation made in Flagstaff, Arizona, suggested that the asteroid might have its own satellite. This possibility generated a lot of interest among astronomers and some polarization of opinion. Some went so far as to say that satellites of asteroids were commonplace, and others denied that there were any at all. . . . For the past 19 years Jim edited and typed the Skywatcher's Newsletter . . . Yet another facet of Jim's astronomy was the series of public and classroom lectures which he prepared and delivered. . . This past September was Jim's final public lecture, given at the Maturango Museum. . . . He was able to repeat the lecture for the Cerro Coso astronomy class a few weeks later. . . . In 1979 Jim received the Astronomical Society of the Pacific's Amateur

Achievement Award, and in 1986 he was given the Club Service award of the Western Amateur Astronomers.

## IOTA NEWS ADDENDUM

## David W. Dunham

M. D. Overbeek has led occultation activity in the Republic of South Africa for many years. He is also a member of the American Association of Variable Star Observers. According to last December's aAvso Newsletter, Overbeek made the most variable star observations during their 1987 fiscal year, 13,682. He also kept up the occultation work; congratulations, Danie.

Last August, I sent a notice to IOTA members and several other amateur and professional astronomers in Brazil giving predictions for the atmospheric reentry of the first and second International SunEarth Explorer (ISEE) artificial satellites on September 26th. This caused some embarassment at the time, since the Brazilians had not been notified earlier through official channels. A member of the Clube Estudantil de Astronomia (Recife, Brazil) watched from Salgueiro, where he saw both satellites appear as brilliant meteors as they burned up in the atmosphere. An account, in Spanish and Portuguese, was published in LA RED de observadores, number 19, distributed by the Liga Ibero-Americana de Astronomia. A translation of this account will be published in the next issue of occultation Newsletter.

## OCCULTATIONS BY TRITON AND PLUTO

## David W. Dunham

Douglas Mink, Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA, has computed predictions of occultations of faint stars by Neptune's large satellite Triton. This satellite has special interest for Voyager-2's flyby in 1989 August. Preliminary data are given in the table below; these predictions will be refined later, and updates (including more complete information; the table is incomplete for 1989) will be published in O.N. or distributed to potential observers. Since Triton's mean opposition visual magnitude is 13.5 , a photometer or CCD/intensified-video system will be needed with a large telescope to detect most of these events.

| Date | U.T. | Star Mag. | Possible Area |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1988 Apr 11 | $0^{\text {h }}$ | 14 | Africa, Middle East |
| 1988 Sep 2 | 5 | 15 | Chile, Argentina, N.Z. |
| 1988 Oct 22 |  | 14 | Hawaii? |
| 1989 May 11 |  |  | Mideast, w. U.S.S.R. |
| 1989 May 15 |  |  | Hawaii |
| 1989 Aug 14 |  | 13 | Australia |

The apparent distance from Neptune at the time of an occultation will be crucial for detecting these events; scattered light from Neptune will render some of them unobservable. For this year's April 11th occultation, Triton will be $14^{\prime \prime}$ from Neptune, in position angle $75^{\circ}$.

The following is from the Journal of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, 32, p. 139 (1987 October): "John Hewitt ( 418 Boynton Ave.; Berkeley, CA 94707: telephone 415,525-5096) is organizing a program to watch for occultations of stars by Nep-
tune's large moon Triton. Such observations could help us determine Triton's diameter, orbital position, possible atmospheric properties, and would be of value in planning for the 1989 Voyager-2 flyby. If you have access to a telescope of $30-\mathrm{cm}$ aperture or more, you are invited to send a s.a.s.e. to Mr. Hewitt for more information." As of late January, Mr. Hewitt did not have any specific information to distribute. Doug Mink will be the best source for predictions, and, as noted above, the latest information will be published in O.N. or distributed to readers in the possible area of visibility.

The June 9th occultation of a 13.2 -mag. star by Pluto was mentioned on p. 152 of the last issue. The event is especially important since in the period 1985 to 1990, it is one of only two stars brighter than Pluto itself that may be occulted, the other being mag. 12.8, to be occulted 1990 January 10, probably in Asia. The 1950 coordinates of the June 9 th star are: R.A. $14^{\mathrm{h}} 49^{\mathrm{m}} 37 \mathrm{~s}$, Dec. $+0^{\circ} 04$ : 8 ; Pluto and the star can also be found from the detailed charts published in Sky and relescope and elsewhere. In a recent letter, Bob Millis notes that subsequent astrometry by A. Klemola continues to indicate that an occultation will occur, around $10^{\mathrm{h}} 24 \mathrm{~m}$ U.T., somewhere on Earth, but it is not yet possible to tell just where the ground track will be. Some reasonable estimate of it will be distributed to readers when it becomes available. In the meantime, Millis has prepared a map showing the area where Pluto will be more than $15^{\circ} \mathrm{high}$ in a dark sky at the time. This area includes most of the Pacific Ocean (including Hawaii and New Zealand, but not Japan, the Philippines, or the Aleutians), the coastal areas of California and Oregon, New Guinea, and Australia except the extreme northwestern part.

## ASTRONOMY AND PERSONAL COMPUTERS

## Joan Bixby Dunham

Converting Among Filing Systems. One task which PCs perform admirably is that of maintaining lists, files, data bases, or spreadsheets of information. These lists can be astronomical data, stocks, collections, addresses - something we might want to keep in an organized fashion. It is almost a certainty that, at some time, the owner of a given list will conclude that it would be better maintained in a different piece of software, perhaps even on a different computer. The reason for changing is immaterial. The most important question to answer in performing the change is this: Should the data be converted to the new system using a computer, or would it be faster to retype it? There is the "Myth of the Machine Readable," which is the belief that once something is in machine-readable form, it never again needs to be manually reentered. If conversion to another format requires writing a special program, if there is anything complex or confusing about that program, and if the data set is not particularly large, a good typist will be done with reentry of the data before the program is debugged. Retyping should not be necessary in cases where the data in the original source are organized in approximately the same way they will be in the new format.

A key consideration in successful conversion to another system is that the data not violate constraints of the new system. For example, many spreadsheet, database, and file programs do not al-
low individual fields in a record to be longer than 255 characters. Sometimes multiple fields can be strung together to hold the long input fields if they are always present. If long fields are there for some records and not others, conversion will be much harder. The inconsistency can confuse the software.

It has been my experience that just about all data set formats from any software on any computer can (eventually) be converted to virtually any other program's format on the same or another computer, keeping in mind the restrictions listed above. Software which maintains its data in formats which are very different from others might first require that the data set be "printed to disk," an option in many programs that results in an ASCII file of the data. It might also be necessary to connect two computers together through RS-232 ports if they cannot read one another's disks.

An example of conversion would be two mailing lists Pat Trueblood and I have been converting to PCFILE+, a commercial, low-cost data base management system that executes on a PC. One list was David Dunham's mailing list originally used with a FORTRAN program that generated labels on mainframe computers. The other was a local astronomical group membership list which I had once maintained with an Apple II + wordprocessing program. PC-FILE+, like many programs that do file or data set management, has "import" capabilities that allow it to accept data sets in a variety of formats, including ASCII fixed format, ASCII comma delimited (a comma between each entry), and ASCII carriage-return delimited, where each record is a separate input line.

We found that David's list had not been updated recently, so many of the entries needed correction. Also, the older mainframe printers he had used would only print upper case, so no lower case was used in the list. The data were stored on card in a format convenient for the FORTRAN program, but not easily imported into PC-FILE+. Pat very quickly concluded that she could type the data into PC-FILE + faster than I could write and test programs to convert the mailing list to a form suitable for import into PCFILE+.

The astronomical society mailing list, on the other hand, was nearly in a form suitable for import into PC-FILE+, but not on the right machine. Each entry (for each name) was structured the same as all the rest, with name, address, city, and state on separate lines, with the same number of lines total for each entry. There were a few exceptions, but only minor editing was necessary to make the exceptions conform to the rest. Such mailing lists are easy to convert to a mailing list program, spreadsheet, or a database. To convert this one, I did the following: The Apple word processor files were binary, not ASCII, so the word processor was commanded to print the list to an output RS232 port that was attached through a null modem to the PC. Crosstalk, a commercial communications program, was used to capture the file as it was received on the PC and store it on an ASCII file. There, it was edited to remove some extra lines, and make each address use only 2 lines. Then it was imported into a PC-FILE+ data base. The final import step took several tries, due to errors in my editing, but it was considerably faster than typing the entries in again.

Science Software. Science Software is a catalog and description of BASIC programs available for the Commodore C64, IBM PC, and AMIGA computers. The software described includes programs to explain fundamental concepts of astronomy and to help locate the Sun, Moon, planets, comets, and stars. One of the programs, ECLIPSE, computes lunar eclipses. Another, STAR, performs conversions between mean and apparent place. Other software computes locations of Earth-orbiting artificial satellites. There are programs to use for model rocketry and hot air ballooning. Another program, ASTBOS, simulates tracking, control, and operation of the Amateur Space Telescope. The software is all moderately priced, with a demo disk available for $\$ 5$ USA/ $\$ 8$ foreign. To order, and to request a catalog, send a check or money order to: Science Software; David Eagle; 7370 S. Jay Street; Littleton, CO 80123.

## SOLAR SYSTEM OCCULTATIONS DURING 1988

## David W. Dunham

This is a continuation of the article started on $p$. 148 of the last issue. Tables 1 and 2 of asteroidal and planetary occultations contain data for April through December, on alternating pages with the data for the same events on facing pages. Maps and finder charts (the latter mainly for North American and European events not included in the supplements by E. Goffin) are included for the next few months. World maps by Mitsuru Sôma are included for some events in February and March, as well as for several following months. Sôma's maps will be published for all events not predicted by Goffin, as well as for all of my listed events involving stars brighter than mag. 7.1, those whose paths are entirely north of latitude $+65^{\circ}$ or entirely south of $-50^{\circ}$ (i.e., not on my path maps), those involving double stars with each component listed in Table 1 and 2, and those in my priority lists below or published in the last issue. The similar maps by Goffin, plus my path maps, should suffice for other events.

Errors. The path for the April 1st occultation by Bamberga was inadvertently not included on the Western Hemisphere path map. In the description of 10cal circumstance predictions distributed by Joseph Carroll, the miss distances are from the center of the occulting body; the value in kilometers is measured on the sky plane (or fundamental plane), and is always less than the distance on the Earth's surface.

Priority list. This is a continuation of the list started on p. 152 of the last issue. Some columns have been added to help astrometrists assess the relative importance of events. The asteroid's angular diameter is given under "ang.diam." The occultation magnitude drop and expected central duration in seconds are given under " $\Delta \mathrm{m}$ " and "dur," respectively. The probable (nominal) area is given under "P," with $A=$ Australia and/or New Zealand, $E=E u-$ rope, $0=$ Orient (China and/or Japan), R = U.S.S.R., $\mathrm{S}=$ southern Africa, and $\mathrm{U}=\mathrm{U} . \mathrm{S} . \mathrm{A} . \mathrm{A}$ question mark indicates that the event is only possible in the area, with the nominal path some distance away. A rating is given under "R," with "1" for the best events, while at least preliminary astrometry (to $0 \because 5$ accuracy or better, with possibly separate data for the asteroid and star) would be helpful for "2" events.

1988 Minor Planet $\quad$ S T A R Occultation

|  |  |  | Anonymous* |  | 310 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tisiph |  | SAO 137000 |  | . 526 |  |
| r | 1 Vesta |  | SAO 79859 | 8.8 | 0.644 |  |
| Apr 14 | 4 Eur |  | Anonymous* | 11.5 | 1.3 |  |
| Apr 14 | 4 Tan |  | SAO 120975 |  | 4.211 |  |
| 1 | 1 Jue |  | SAO 157598 | 8. | 2.718 |  |
| Apr 23 | 3 Cybe |  | SAO 119368 |  | 4.023 |  |
| Apr 24 | 4 Elpis | 0.11 | L 21346 | 12. | 1.013 |  |
| Apr 26 | 6 Art | 0.16 | SAO 12215 | 10.2 | 1.612 |  |
| Apr 30 | Europa | 0.12 | Anonymous | 2. | . 9 |  |
| ay | 1 Europa | 0.12 | Anonymous | 1 | 1.48 |  |
| (below | , only * on |  | listed; oth | ers | 111 be |  |
|  | Hygiea |  | Anonymous* | 11. | 0.837 |  |
|  | 3 Bamber | 0.09 | Anonymous* | 11.7 |  |  |
|  |  | 0.12 | AC $+23^{\circ} 49334 *$ | *10.1 | 1.2 |  |
|  | 1 | 0.29 | Anonymous* | 10.0 | 0.829 | E. |
| Sep 6 |  | 0.10 | Anonymous* | 12.0 | 0.4 | U |
|  | 8 M |  | BD-21 ${ }^{\circ} 6146 *$ | 9.6 | 4.014 | U |
|  | Heb | 0.10 | Anonymous* | 12. |  | E |
| 21 | 1 Wrati | 0.08 | AC $+22^{\circ} 50203^{\star}$ | *11.7 |  | U |
| Oct 2 | 2 He | 0.11 | Anonymous* | 12.5 | 0.3 | U? |
| Nov 6 | He |  | Anonymous* | 11.4 | 0.514 | $U$ |
| Nov 8 | 8 Europa |  | Anonymous* | 11.4 | 1.49 | U |
| 6 | 6 Europ | 0.13 | BD $+7^{\circ} 2430$ * | 10.9 | 1.810 | E |
| Dec | Wra | 0.12 | AJ 96218 |  | 3.414 |  |
| Dec 15 |  |  |  |  | 2.714 |  |

The positions of stars whose identifications (IDs) end with * are taken from old Astrographic Catalog data, or they are Yale Catalog stars with no proper motions available. For them, updates to the star positions from plates taken any time during the last several years would be valuable to see if the occultation paths might really cross areas with many observers and be worthy of the efforts of "last-minute" astrometry.

Notes about individual events. Wayne Warren supplied important information about some stars, especially doubles.

Apr. 1 and June 3: An occultation by Bamberga was observed last December, as described on p. 145 of the last issue.

Apr. 3: The star's angular diameter is 0.0004, requiring 0.14 second for the edge of the asteroid to cover for a central occultation.

Apr. 14, (772) Tanete and SAO 120975; the star's angular diameter is 0.0008 , requiring 0.09 second to centrally cover.

Apr. 18: Mars' $8^{\prime \prime}$ disk will be $87 \%$ sunlit. The reappearances will be on the dark crescent, 1.0 wide at most.

Apr. 23: The star is number 1780 in the Zodiacal Catalog (Z.C.).

Apr. 26: The star's angular diameter is 0.0008 , requiring 0.07 second to centrally cover.

May 3: The star's angular diameter is 0.0008 , requiring 0.05 second to centrally cover.

May 7: Immersion will be on the dark side of Venus' 28\%-sunlit disk, $37^{\prime \prime}$ in diameter. The southern-limit graze will be $8^{\circ}$ from the cusp on the bright
side. The star is Z.C. 868 and is the 8.1-magnitude primary component of Aitken Double Star (ADS) 4308. The 10 th-magnitude companion, 8.3 away in position angle (p.a.) $253^{\circ}$, will be lost in Venus' glare, as
will also an llth-magnitude component $52^{\prime \prime}$ away.
May 8: The star is ADS 8383. The 11.8-magnitude companion is 4.6 away in p.a. $151^{\circ}$ and will not be occulted, the path missing the Arctic by 0."7. The secondary is similar in brightness to Fortuna; if







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seeing is poor enough that the two can not be re－ solved，the effective $\Delta m$ will be 2.1 ．

May 11：Venus＇ $24 \%$－sunlit disk will be $40^{\prime \prime}$ in diam－ eter．The northern limits both miss the Earth＇s surface．At the southern limit，central graze will be on the sunlit limb $12^{\circ}$ from the south cusp．SAO

77675 is 136 Tauri or Z．C．890．A step lunar occul－ tation seen in 1934 indicates probable close duplic－ ity．

## May 18：Mars＇9＂disk will be $85 \%$ sunlit．Reap－ pearance will be on the dark crescent，1．4 wide at most．The star is Z．C． 3224.

May 23：The star is the secondary of 5．8－magnitude

Table 2，Part B





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35 Piscium（Z．C． 28 or ADS 191）．The primary will not be occulted，as it is 11.6 away in p．a． $328^{\circ}$ ．

June 2：The star＇s angular diameter is $0!0005$ ，re－
quiring 0.05 second to cover．
June 8，（521）Brixia and SAO 185407：The star＇s an－ gular diameter is 0.0005 ，requiring 0.06 second to centrally cover．

Table 1，Part C








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June 13: The star's angular diameter is 0.0017, requiring 0.10 second to centrally cover.

June 25, (545) Messalina and SAO 210683: The star's angular diameter is 0.0021, requiring 0.27 second to centrally cover.

Table 2, Part C

June 30: The star's angular diameter is 0.0011, requiring 0.13 second to centrally cover.

July 17: The star is Sigma 2 Tauri (Z.C. 704) in the Hyades.

July 21: I measured the position of this star from a Palomar Sky Survey plate to prepare a special catalog of faint stars occulted by the Moon during the









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total lunar eclipse of 1975 May 25 . This is the first of these stars predicted to be occulted by an asteroid, and the first use of source code "M" (measured from Mount Palomar plate).

Table l, Part D

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July 31: Emersion will be on the dark side of Venus' $36 \%$-sunlit disk, 31 " in diameter. The north-ern-limit graze will be $1^{\circ}$ from the cusp on the bright side.
Aug. 6: The star is Z.C. 1598. A gradual lunar occultation reported in 1929 indicates that the star may be double.

Aug. 18: Emersion will be on the dark side of Venus' 48\%-sunlit disk, $25^{\prime \prime}$ in diameter. The northern-limit graze will be $1^{\circ}$ from the cusp on the dark side.

Aug. 22: Emersion will be on the dark side of Venus' $50 \%$-sunlit disk, $24^{\prime \prime}$ in diameter. The southern-limit graze will be $2^{\circ}$ from the cusp on the bright side.

Aug. 24, (554) Peraga and SAO 76811 : The star is Z.C. 733 or ADS 3501; the secondary ( $B$-component) is 0.5 away from the primary (A-component) in p.a. $280^{\circ}$. Separate predictions are given for the two components. The $\Delta m$ values in the table assume that the seeing will be good enough to clearly resolve the components, which is seldom the case for 0.5 separation. If the seeing is so poor that the components can not be resolved at all, the apparent $\Delta m$ will be 1.4 if the primary is occulted, and only 0.3 if the secondary is occulted. If the image is good enough to be elongated, a piece of it will disappear when the secondary is occulted, so that seeing an event involving the secondary might not be as difficult for a visual observer as the $0.3 \Delta m$ would suggest. If the double star information is correct, the two components should be occulted in separate paths 245 km apart, and each about 115 km wide, with the path for the secondary south of that for the primary. But some error is possible, so that one observer might see both components occulted, with the secondary being covered about 25 sec onds before the primary.

Aug. 31, (566) Stereoskopia and SAO 93151: The star's angular diameter is $0: .0002$, requiring 0.11 second to centrally cover.

Sept. 1, (134) Sophrosyne and SAO 109465: The star's angular diameter is 0.0004 , requiring 0.06 second to centrally cover.

Sept. 19: The star, SAO 185447, is probably a close double, with equal components less than 0.11 apart, based on a lunar occultation observed by Richard Nol thenius on 1975 October 13 reported in Occultation Newsletter 1 (7), page 60.

Sept. 20: The star, SAO 96561, is possibly a close double, based on a lunar occultation photoelectrically recorded at McDonald Observatory by J. Africano on 1975 Jan. 26, reported in O.N. 1 (4), p. 36. If the recorded step was not due to seeing, the components were magnitude 8.8 and 11.2 , and were 0.077 apart in direction $317^{\circ}$.

Sept. 24: Mars' 24" disk will be 99.8\% sunlit. Disappearance will be on the dark crescent, 0.05 wide at most. But since atmospheric seeing is much more than this, even central disappearances will appear to be bright-side events. The star is Z.C. 66.

Oct. 3: The star is Z.C. 1071. Its angular diameter is 0.0014 , requiring 0.15 second to centrally cover.

Table 2, Part D


Oct. 4: Emersion will be on the dark side of Venus' $70 \%$-sunlit disk, $16^{\prime \prime}$ in diameter. The southern-limit graze will be $3^{\circ}$ from the cusp on the bright side.

Oct. 10: The star's angular diameter is 0.0005 , requiring 0.05 second to centrally cover.

Oct. 14: The star's angular diameter is 0.00014 , requiring 0.17 second to centrally cover.

Oct. 16, (43) Ariadne and B.D. $-21^{\circ}$ 4992: The star is L 37033 or ADS 11330; the B-component is 2.8 away from the primary (A-component) in p.a. $42^{\circ}$. Separate predictions are given for the two components. The $\Delta m$ values in the table assume that the seeing will be good enough to clearly resolve the components, which is not always the case for 2 ".8 separation. If the seeing is so poor that the components can not be resolved at all, the apparent $\Delta m$ will be 0.8 if the primary is occulted, and 0.6 if the secondary is occulted. If the image is good enough to be elongated, a piece of it will disappear when a component is occulted, so that seeing an event might not be as difficult for a visual observer as the relatively small $\Delta \mathrm{m}$ would suggest. An 11.5 -magnitude C-component is 67"6 from A in p.a. $280^{\circ}$. It in turn has an 11.8 -mag. D-component 9.8 away in p.a. $160^{\circ}$. Neither C nor D will be occulted by Ariadne.

Oct. 30, (566) Stereoskopia and SAO 110565: The star is Z.C. 368 or ADS 1896. The A-component's angular diameter is 0.0010 , requiring 0.12 second to centrally cover. The Bcomponent is 1.6 away from the primary (A-component) in p.a. $144^{\circ}$. Separate predictions are given for the two components. The $\Delta m$ values in the table assume that the seeing will be good enough to clearly resolve the components, which is not often the case for 1.6 separation. If the seeing is so poor that the components can not be resolved at all, the apparent $\Delta m$ will be 4.3 if the primary is occulted, and only 0.02 if the secondary is occulted. If the image is good enough to be elongated, a piece of it will disappear when the secondary is occulted,
so that seeing an event might not be as difficult for a visual observer as the very small 1 m would suggest. But this will rarely be the case for such a faint star so close to such a bright one; observation of an occultation of the B-component will be virtually impossible.

Nov. 13, (89) Julia and SAO 187992: The star is Z.C. 2822. The star's angular diameter is 0.0014 , requiring 0.07 second to centrally cover.

Nov. 17: The star is 19 Tauri, Z.C. 539, or Taygeta in the Pleiades. 1969 lunar occultation data suggest a 6th-magnitude companion only about 0.01 away.

Nov. 25: The star is BK Camelopardalis. The star
is a spectroscopic binary with a 4.5-year period, so step events are likely during this occultation. The star varies by only 0.1 magnitude.

Nov. 29: The star is Z.C. 2884.

Dec. 2: The star is Z.C. 2786 or ADS 12039. The 9.9-mag. secondary is 6.44 away in p.a. $2^{\circ}$; its path misses the Earth by 1:4 over Antarctica.

Dec. 4, (175) Andromache and SAO 78770: The star is Z.C. 1042.

Dec. 21, (104) Klymene and SAO 158836: The star is 8 Librae or Z.C. 2117 or Alpha 1 Librae. On 1985 January 15, 269 timings were made by 65 observers in Paul Maley's expedition near Houston, Texas, the most productive single lunar graze expedition to date; see O.N. 3 (11), 231 and 3 (12), 244. During the graze, there was no evidence seen of the star's possible duplicity suspected from earlier lunar occultation observations. Interesting!y, the predicted path for this asteroidal occultation also passes over Houston.

Dec. 23: The star is Z.C. 3471. The star's angular diameter is 0.0010 , requiring 0.08 second to centrally cover.





Anonymous by Bamberga 1988 Apr 1


SAO 118291 by Hygiea 1988 Feb 22


SAO 163378 by Boliviana ' 88 Feb 22


SAO 183657 by Isolda 1988 Feb 24


SAO 99328 by Dido 1988 Feb 27


SAO 59244 by Emita 1988 Feb 28


SAO 187025 by Mars 1988 Mar 5

$+6^{\circ} 2274$ by Hygiea 1988 Mar 8


SAO 139205 by Kassandra ' 88 Mar 15


SAO 185574 by Antiope 1988 Feb 29


Anonymous by Nemausa 1988 Mar 5


SAO 186959 by Hermione 1988 Mar 8


SAO 164663 by P/SM-WM-1 ' 88 Mar 16


SAO 79685 by Vesta 1988 Mar 1


Anonymous by Pallas 1988 Mar 6


SAO 125328 by Pallas 1988 Mar 10


SAO 138924 by Aurora 1988 Mar 16


SAO 202846 by Niobe 1988 Mar 21


SAO 99847 by Irene 1988 Mar 24



SAO 210436 by Helena 1988 Mar 23


Anonymous by Amphitrite ' 88 Mar 29


Anonymous by Europa 1988 Apr 14



$+14^{\circ} 1428$ by Chaldea 1988 Apr 6


SAO 79859 by Vesta 1988 Apr 11


SAO 210378 by Marghanna ' 88 Apr 16 L L 421 by Massalia 1988 Apr 20




L 54371 by Mars 1988 Apr 18


L 21346 by Elpis 1988 Apr 24


SAO 122154 by Artemis 1988 Apr 26


Anonymous by Europa 1988 May 1


SAO 157598 by Juewa 1988 Apr 21


Anonymous by Europa 1988 Apr 30


SAO 97681 by Sappho 1988 May 7


SAO 77671 by Venus 1988 May 11


SAO 119368 by Cybele 1988 Apr 23


SAO 145748 by Gyptis 1988 May 3


SAO 138526 by Fortuna 1988 May 8


SAO 77675 by Venus 1988 May 11


SAO 59128 by Minerva 1988 Apr 28


SAO 77478 by Venus 1988 May 7


SAO 59402 by Minerva 1988 May 9


SAO 164817 by Mars 1988 May 18


SAO 109088 by Mnemosyne ' 88 May 23


SAO 159136 by Dunham 1988 May 28


SAO 127508 by Boliviana ' 88 May 31


Anonymous by Bamberga 1988 Jun 3


B2166613 by Brixia 1988 May 29


SAO 207185 by Terpsichore 88 Jun 2


SAO 185407 by Brixia 1988 Jun 8


SAO 141501 by Carlova 1988 Jun 8


Anonymous by Sylvia 1988 Jun 9

$+16^{\circ} 141$ by Alexandra 1988 Jun 10

$+21^{\circ} 2181$ by Sylvia 1988 Jun 11

SAO 98260 by Hippo 1988 Jun 9


SAO 146732 by Diana 1988 Jun 10


SAO 186402 by Antiope 1988 Jun 11



SAO 146962 by Tokio 1988 Jun 13


SAO 208706 by Princetonia 88 Jun 23


SAO 229997 by Hispania 1988 Jun 27


SAO 208420 by Thyra 1988 Jun 25

SAO 210683 by Messalina ' 88 Jun 25
its near the east coast of Banka Island. HansJoachim Bode and 4 or more other members of IOTA/ES plan to observe from the southern limit near the east coast of Kalimantan (Borneo). Dr. Eberhard Bredner and 3 other members of the Astrag VHS Hamm are going to Mindanao, to observe near the central line from Davao or, if possible, General Santos. They will be staying at the Davao Insular Inter-Continental Hotel from March 15th on; anyone interested in this effort can contact him at the hotel in Davao, or telephone him in the German Federal Republic at 02381,82988 .

1991 July 11. T. Hirose, I. Sato, and M. Sôma plan to observe this eclipse from the limits in Mexico, and have asked me for local information. This eclipse is looking more like an excellent opportunity for an international meeting of amateur (and professional?) astronomers.

## TRAVEL EXPENSE REPORTS

## Homer F. DaBoll

U.S. observers are reminded that if they itemize deductions, reporting requirements are more stringent for 1987 income tax. Blank travel expense reports (IOTA form 001) are available on request to: IOTA; 6 N 106 White Oak Lane; St. Charles, IL 60175, or you may request by telephone: 312,584-1162-if no answer, try 906,477-6957. There is no answering machine at either location, so if you don't reach Audrey or me, it's a toll-free try. The second number is our summer home in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and first-class mail will be forwarded if we plan to be there more than a week or so.

