Extended Text for use in Journals:

EXPLANATIONS

This Calendar continues the series begun for the IGY years 1957-58, and is issued annually to recommend dates for solar and geophysical observations, which cannot be carried out continuously. Thus, the amount of observational data in existence tends to be larger on Calendar days. The recommendations on data reduction and especially the flow of data to World Data Centers (WDCs) in many instances emphasize Calendar days. The Calendar is prepared by the International Space Environment Service (ISES) with the advice of spokesmen for the various scientific disciplines. For some programs, greater detail concerning recommendations appears from time to time published in IAGA News, IUGG Chronicle, URSI Information Bulletin or other scientific journals or newsletters. For on-line information, see http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ises/ises.html.

The definitions of the designated days remain as described on previous Calendars. Universal Time (UT) is the standard time for all world days. Regular Geophysical Days (RGD) are each Wednesday. Regular World Days (RWD) are three consecutive days each month (always Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday near the middle of the month). Priority Regular World Days (PRWD) are the RWD which fall on Wednesdays. Quarterly World Days (QWD) are one day each quarter and are the PRWD which fall in the World Geophysical Intervals (WGI). The WGI are fourteen consecutive days in each season, beginning on Monday of the selected month, and normally shift from year to year. In 2000 the WGI will be March, June, September and December.

The Solar Eclipses are:

- **5 February 2000** (partial) visible in the South Pacific Ocean near Antarctica, crosses the Ross Sea, crosses Antarctica in parts of Victoria Land and Wilkes Land, and extends into the central southern Indian Ocean, with a magnitude of 59%.

- **1 July 2000** (partial) visible in the central southern Pacific Ocean just North of Antarctica, moves across the southern most part of Chile and Argentina, ends in the South Atlantic Ocean. The magnitude will be 48%.

- **31 July 2000** (partial) visible in the northern part of Greenland, the northwest of continental United States (from a line extending through the western parts of the Dakotas through Colorado, northwest Utah, mid-Nevada, and mid-California), western Canada, Alaska, northern Russia, and northern Scandinavia. The magnitude will be 60%.

- **25 December 2000** (partial) visible through all of North America (though only at sunrise in the NW U.S.) except Alaska, Central America as far south as Nicaragua, and the extreme northern tip of Columbia and Venezuela, including Aruba and many other Caribbean islands extending southeast from the U.S. to the Leeward Islands. It will extend as far east as the Azores. The magnitude will be 72%.

Web Sites: http://umbra.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/predictions/eclipse-paths.html; International Astronomical Union Working Group on Eclipses: http://www.williams.edu/Astronomy/IAU_eclipses

References:

Fred Espenak, Fifty Year Canon of Solar Eclipses: 1986-2035, NASA Reference Publication 1178 Revised, July 1987.

Leon Golub and Jay M. Pasachoff, The Solar Corona, Cambridge University Press, 1998. http://www.williams.edu/Astronomy/corona

Jay M. Pasachoff, Astronomy: From the Earth to the Universe, 5th ed., Saunders College Publishing, 1998. http://www.williams.edu/Astronomy/jay

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Meteor Showers

(selected by R. Hawkes, Mount Allison Univ, Canada, rhawkes@mta.ca) include the most prominent regular showers. The dates for Northern Hemisphere meteor showers are: Jan 3-5 (Quadrantid); Apr 21-23 (Lyrid); May 4-6 (Eta-Aquarid); Jun 6-11 (Arietid, Zeta-Perseid); Jun 27-29 (Beta-Taurid); Aug 11-14 (Perseid); Oct 21-23 (Orionid); Nov 16-19 (Leonid); Dec 13-15 (Geminid); Dec 21-23, 2000 (Ursid); and Jan 3-5, 2001 (Quadrantid). The dates for Southern Hemisphere meteor showers are: May 4-6 (Eta-Aquarid); Jun 6-11 (Arietid, Zeta-Perseid); Jun 27-29 (Beta-Taurid); Jul 27-Aug 2 (S. Delta-Aquarid, Alpha-Aurigid); Oct 21-23 (Orionid); Nov 16-19 (Leonid); and Dec 13-15, 2000 (Geminid). The Leonid shower is projected to be strong in 2000. Peak activity is expected at 04 UT and 08 UT on November 18, 2000.

unusual solar or geophysical conditions

The occurrence of unusual solar or geophysical conditions is announced or forecast by the ISES through various types of geophysical "Alerts" (which are widely distributed by telegram and radio broadcast on a current schedule). Stratospheric warmings (STRATWARM) are also designated. The meteorological telecommunications network coordinated by WMO carries these worldwide Alerts once daily soon after 0400 UT. For definitions of Alerts see ISES "Synoptic Codes for Solar and Geophysical Data", March 1990 and its amendments. Retrospective World Intervals are selected and announced by MONSEE and elsewhere to provide additional analyzed data for particular events studied in the ICSU Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP) programs.

RECOMMENDED SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS

OPERATIONAL EDITION

(The following material was reviewed in 1999 by spokesmen of IAGA, WMO and URSI as suitable for coordinated geophysical programs in 2000.)

Airglow and Aurora Phenomena. Airglow and auroral observatories operate with their full capacity around the New Moon periods. However, for progress in understanding the mechanism of many phenomena, such as low latitude aurora, the coordinated use of all available techniques, optical and radio, from the ground and in space is required. Thus, for the airglow and aurora 7-day periods on the Calendar, ionosonde, incoherent scatter, special satellite or balloon observations, etc., are especially encouraged. Periods of approximately one weeks' duration centered on the New Moon are proposed for high resolution of ionospheric, auroral and magnetospheric observations at high latitudes during northern winter.

Atmospheric Electricity. Non-continuous measurements and data reduction for continuous measurements of atmospheric electric current density, field, conductivities, space charges, ion number densities, ionosphere potentials, condensation nuclei, etc.; both at ground as well as with radiosondes, aircraft, rockets; should be done with first priority on the RGD each Wednesday, beginning on 5 January 2000 at 0000 UT, 12 January at 0600 UT, 19 January at 1200 UT, 26 January at 1800 UT, etc. (beginning hour shifts six hours each week, but is always on Wednesday). Minimum program is at the same time on PRWD beginning with 12 January at 0600 UT. Data reduction for continuous measurements should be extended, if possible, to cover at least the full RGD including, in addition, at least 6 hours prior to indicated beginning time. Measurements prohibited by bad weather should be done 24 hours later. Results on sferics and ELF are wanted with first priority for the same hours, short-period measurements centered around the minutes 35-50 of the hours indicated. Priority Weeks are the weeks that contain a PRWD; minimum priority weeks are the ones with a QWD. The World Data Centre for Atmospheric Electricity, 7 Karbysheva, St. Petersburg 194018, USSR, is the collection point for data and information on measurements.

Geomagnetic Phenomena. It has always been a leading principle for geomagnetic observatories that operations should be as continuous as possible and the great majority of stations undertake the same program without regard to the Calendar.

Stations equipped for making magnetic observations, but which cannot carry out such observations and reductions on a continuous schedule are encouraged to carry out such work at least on RWD (and during times of MAGSTORM Alert).

Ionospheric Phenomena. Special attention is continuing on particular events that cannot be forecast in advance with reasonable certainty. These will be identified by Retrospective World Intervals. The importance of obtaining full observational coverage is therefore stressed even if it is possible to analyze the detailed data only for the chosen events. In the case of vertical incidence sounding, the need to obtain quarter-hourly ionograms at as many stations as possible is particularly stressed and takes priority over recommendation (a) below when both are not practical.

For the **vertical incidence (VI) sounding program**, the summary recommendations are:
(a) All stations should make soundings on the hour and every quarter hour;
(b) On RWDs, ionogram soundings should be made at least every quarter hour and preferably every five minutes or more frequently, particularly at high latitudes;
(c) All stations are encouraged to make f-plots on RWDs; f-plots should be made for high latitude stations, and for so-called "representative" stations at lower latitudes for all days (i.e., including RWDs and WGIs) (Continuous records of ionospheric parameters are acceptable in place of f-plots at temperate and low latitude stations);
(d) Copies of all ionogram scaled parameters, in digital form if possible, be sent to WDCs; (e) Stations in the eclipse zone and its conjugate area should take continuous observations on solar eclipse days and special observations on adjacent days. See also recommendations under Airglow and Aurora Phenomena.

For the **incoherent scatter observation program**, every effort should be made to obtain measurements at least on the Incoherent Scatter Coordinated Observation Days, and intensive series should be attempted whenever possible in WGIs, on Dark Moon Geophysical Days (DMGD) or the Airglow and Aurora Periods. The need for collateral VI observations with not more than quarter-hourly spacing at least during all observation periods is stressed.
Special programs include:
DATABASE -- Incoherent Scatter Database -- emphasis on broad latitudinal coverage of the F region (Anthony van Eyken - tony@eiscat.no);
Global ionospheric convection – time-dependent model fitting (M. Kosch – kosch@linax2.dnet.gwdg.de);
Global Ionosphere-Thermosphere Coupling Study (M. Kosch – kosch@linax2.dnet.gwdg.de);
Hi-TRAC -- High Time Resolution Auroral Radar Convection (J. Holt – jmh@haystack.mit.edu);
LTCS -- Lower Thermosphere Coupling Study (C. Fesen - fesen@tides.utdallas.edu);
Mid-July Baseline – to improve statistics of parameters measured by ISRs during summer. (M. Buonsanto – mjb@haystack.mit.edu);
POLITE -- Plasmaspheric Observations of Light Ions in the Topside Exosphere -- global coordinated measurements of topside light ions. Simultaneous optical observations of neutral hydrogen and helium are highly desirable where possible (Phillip Erickson - pje@hyperion.haystack.edu);
SPARC – brings together researchers in upper atmospheric and space physics from around the world, providing them a set of online collaboration tools and workspaces that link together scientific instruments, data, and models. (T. Killeen – tkilleen@umich.edu);

TIMED – Thermosphere Ionosphere Mesosphere Energetics Dynamics satellite (Joint observations with CEDAR -- J. Salah – jes@haystack.mit.edu);
WLS -- Wide-Latitude Substorm Dynamics (John Foster - jcf@hyperion.haystack.edu).

Special programs: Dr. Anthony P. van Eyken, EISCAT Scientific Association, Ramfjordmoen, N-9027 Ramfjordbotn, Norway. Tel. +47 77692166; Fax +47 77692380; e-mail: tony@eiscat.no; URSI Working Group G.5.
See http://www.eiscat.uit.no/URSI_ISWG for complete definitions.

For the ionospheric drift or wind measurement by the various radio techniques, observations are recommended to be concentrated on the weeks including RWDs.

For traveling ionosphere disturbances, propose special periods for coordinated measurements of gravity waves induced by magnetospheric activity, probably on selected PRWD and RWD.

For the ionospheric absorption program half-hourly observations are made at least on all RWDs and half-hourly tabulations sent to WDCs. Observations should be continuous on solar eclipse days for stations in eclipse zone and in its conjugate area. Special efforts should be made to obtain daily absorption measurements at temperate latitude stations during the period of Absorption Winter Anomaly, particularly on days of abnormally high or abnormally low absorption (approximately October-March, Northern Hemisphere; April-September, Southern Hemisphere).

For back-scatter and forward scatter programs, observations should be made and analyzed at least on all RWDs.

For synoptic observations of mesospheric (D region) electron densities, several groups have agreed on using the RGD for the hours around noon.

For ELF noise measurements involving the earth-ionosphere cavity resonances any special effort should be concentrated during the WGIs.

It is recommended that more intensive observations in all programs be considered on days of unusual meteor activity.

Meteorology. Particular efforts should be made to carry out an intensified program on the RGD -- each Wednesday, UT. A desirable goal would be the scheduling of meteorological rocketsondes, ozone sondes and radiometer sondes on these days, together with maximum-altitude rawinsonde ascents at both 0000 and 1200 UT.

During **WGI and STRATWARM Alert Intervals**, intensified programs are also desirable, preferably by the implementation of RGD-type programs (see above) on Mondays and Fridays, as well as on Wednesdays.

Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) The World Meteorological Organizations (WMO) GAW integrates many monitoring and research activities involving measurement of atmospheric composition. Serves as an early warning system to detect further changes in atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases, changes in the ozone layer and in the long range transport of pollutants, including acidity and toxicity of rain as well as of atmospheric burden of aerosols (dirt and dust particles). Contact WMO, 41, avenue Giuseppe-Motta, P.O. Box 2300, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland.

Solar Phenomena. Observatories making specialized studies of solar phenomena, particularly using new or complex techniques, such that continuous observation or reporting is impractical, are requested to make special efforts to provide to WDCs data for solar eclipse days, RWDs and during PROTON/FLARE ALERTS. The attention of those recording solar noise spectra, solar magnetic fields and doing specialized optical studies is particularly drawn to this recommendation.

ISCS (International Solar Cycle Studies). Program within the SCOSTEP (Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics): 1998-2002. Its focus is on observations and basic research directed toward understanding the underlying and resulting processes associated with the rising and maximum phase of a solar cycle. Contacts are S.T. Wu, Univ of Alabama, Huntsville Dept. Mech. Eng. & Ctr. for Space Plasma & Aeron. Res., Huntsville, AL 35899 USA, (205)895-6413, Fax (205)895-6328, wu@cspar.uah.edu, and V. Obridko, IZMIRAN, Solar Physics Department, 142092 Troitsk, Moscow, Russia, 095-344-0926, Fax 095-334-0124, obridko@lars.izmiran.troitsk.su.

Solar Terrestrial Energy Program (STEP) Results, Applications, and Modeling Phase (RAMP) [S-RAMP]. Global coordinated ground-based and space-borne observations of space weather phenomena covering the entire space weather chain from the surface of the Sun to the effects on the near-Earth space and ground-based technological systems. Contacts: Dr. David Boteler (Boteler@Geolab.nrcan.gc.ca) and Dr. Phil Wilkinson, IPS Radio and Space Services, P.O. Box 1386, Haymarket, NSW 1240, Australia, +61 2 9213 8003, Fax +61 2 9213 8060 (Phil@ips.gov.au). See www.ngdc.noaa.gov/stp/SRAMP/sramp.html.

Space Research, Interplanetary Phenomena, Cosmic Rays, Aeronomy. Experimenters should take into account that observational effort in other disciplines tends to be intensified on the days marked on the Calendar, and schedule balloon and rocket experiments accordingly if there are no other geophysical reasons for choice. In particular it is desirable to make rocket measurements of ionospheric characteristics on the same day at as many locations as possible; where feasible, experimenters should endeavor to launch rockets to monitor at least normal conditions on the Quarterly World Days (QWD) or on RWDs, since these are also days when there will be maximum support from ground observations. Also, special efforts should be made to assure recording of telemetry on QWD and Airglow and Aurora Periods of experiments on satellites and of experiments on spacecraft in orbit around the Sun.

The International Space Environment Service (ISES) is a permanent scientific service of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI), with the participation of the International Astronomical Union and the International Union Geodesy and Geophysics. ISES adheres to the Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Data Analysis Services (FAGS) of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). The ISES coordinates the international aspects of the world days program and rapid data interchange.

This Calendar for 2000 has been drawn up by H.E. Coffey, of the ISES Steering Committee, in association with spokesmen for the various scientific disciplines in SCOSTEP, IAGA and URSI and other ICSU organizations. Similar Calendars are issued annually beginning with the IGY, 1957-58, and are published in various widely available scientific publications.

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Additional copies are available upon request to ISES Chairman, Dr. Katsuhide Marubashi, Space Science Division, Communications Research Laboratory, 4-2-1 Nukui-kita, Koganei-shi, Tokyo 184-8795, Japan (FAX number +81-42-327-6677; e-mail kmaru@crl.go.jp), or ISES Secretary for World Days, Miss H.E. Coffey, WDC-A for Solar-Terrestrial Physics, NOAA E/GC2, 325 Broadway, Boulder, Colorado 80303, USA (FAX number (303)497-6513; e-mail hcoffey@ngdc.noaa.gov).

The calendar is available on-line at http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ises/ises.html.