

Occultation

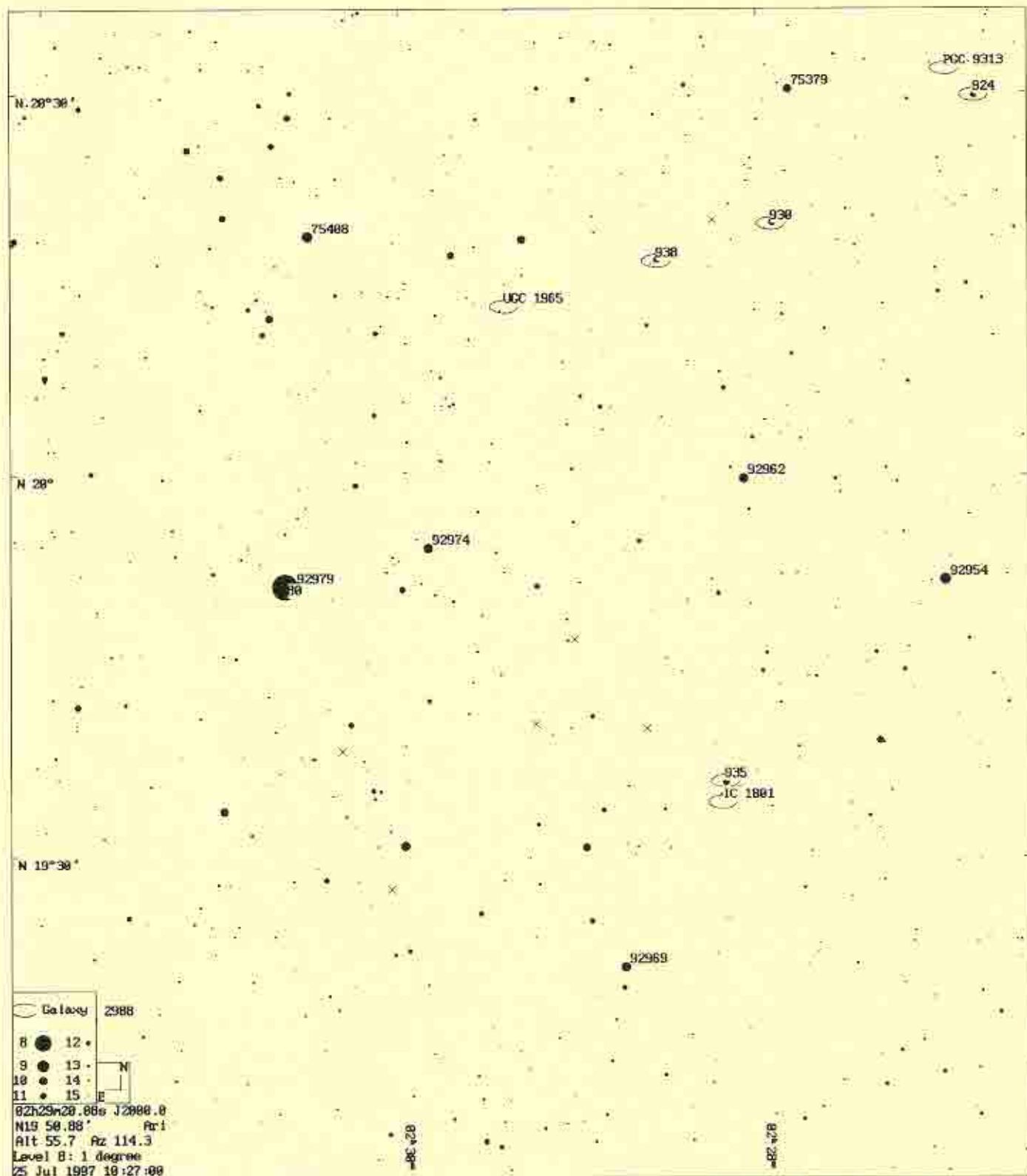


Newsletter

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In This Issue

Feature Articles

	<i>Page</i>
Aldebaran/Camcorder News	351
Naked Eye Eclipse of Bright Star July 29 Can Aid Global Warming Studies	358
1997 Planetary, Cometary, and Asteroidal Occultations	360
Recently Observed Asteroidal Occultations	375
Venus and Jupiter Double Occultation	376
PHEMU97: First Observation by IOTA/ES	376
1997 July 18 Triton Occultation	376
An Analysis of Observations of the Z.C. 1029 Graze on 1996 Oct. 4	378

Columns

	<i>Page</i>
IOTA News	350
ESOP XVI in UK 1997 September 5 through 10	351
Grazing Occultation Reduction Status Report	359
IOTA Occultation Predictions	373
More Web Sites for IOTA	374

Tables

	<i>Page</i>
Lunar Occultation of 1.1-mag. Aldebaran on 1997 July 29	354
Lunar Occultation of 1.1-mag. Aldebaran on 1997 June 4	355
Lunar Occultation of 0.1-mag. Saturn on 1997 June 28	356
Lunar Occultation of 0.2-mag. Saturn on 1997 July 25	356
Lunar Occultation of 1.1-mag. Aldebaran on 1997 August 25	356
Table 4. Some Priority Events	361
Table 1. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 June - December, and 2 earlier occultations	362
Table 2. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 June - December, and 2 earlier events	363
Table 3. Stars with Significant Angular Diameters	368

Resources

	<i>Page</i>
What to Send to Whom	349
Membership and Subscription Information	349
IOTA Publications	349
The Offices and Officers of IOTA	389
IOTA Online--Timely Updates	389
IOTA European Service (IOTA/ES)	389

For subscription purposes, this the first issue of 1997.

The deadline for submissions to the next issue is 1997 July 1.

On the cover: The July 25 passage of asteroid Sappho (80) in front of 6.1 magnitude SAO 92979. (This star field was printed from Guide v5.1 from Project Pluto.)

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

What to Send to Whom

Send new and renewal memberships and subscriptions, back issue requests, address changes, e-mail address changes, graze prediction requests, reimbursement requests, special requests, and other IOTA business, **but not observation reports**, to:

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Membership and Subscription Information

All payments made to IOTA must be in United States funds and drawn on a US bank, or by credit card charge to VISA or MasterCard. If you use VISA or MasterCard, include your account number, expiration date, and signature. (Do not send credit card information through e-mail. It is not secure nor safe to do so.) Make all payments to IOTA and send them to the Secretary & Treasurer at the address on the left. Memberships and subscriptions may be made for one or two years, only.

Occultation Newsletter subscriptions (1 year = 4 issues) are US\$20.00 per year for USA, Canada, and Mexico; and US\$25.00 per year for all others. Single issues, including back issues, are 1/4 of the subscription price.

Memberships include the *Occultation Newsletter* and annual predictions and supplements. Memberships are US\$30.00 per year for USA, Canada, and Mexico; and US\$35.00 per year for all others. Observers from Europe and the British Isles should join the European Service (IOTA/ES). See the inside back cover for more information.

IOTA Publications

Although the following are included in membership, nonmembers will be charged for:

- Local Circumstances for Appulses of Solar System Objects with Stars predictions US\$1.00
- Graze Limit and Profile predictions US\$1.50 per graze
- Papers explaining the use of the above predictions US\$2.50
- IOTA Observer's Manual US\$5.00

Asteroidal Occultation Supplements will be available for US\$2.50 from the following regional coordinators:

- **South America**--Orlando A. Naranjo; Universidad de los Andes; Dept. de Fisica; Mérida, Venezuela
- **Europe**--Roland Boninsegna; Rue de Mariembourg, 33, B-6381 DOURBES; Belgium or IOTA/ES (see back cover)
- **Southern Africa**--M. D. Overbeek; Box 212, Edenvale 1610; Republic of South Africa
- **Australia and New Zealand**--Graham Blow, P.O. Box 2241; Wellington, New Zealand
- **Japan**--Toshiro Hirose, 1-13 Shimomaruko 1-chome, Ota-ku, Tokyo 146, Japan
- **All other areas**--Jim Stamm; (see address at left)

ON Publication Information

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International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

IOTA News

David W. Dunham

IOTA Meetings: The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the International Occultation Timing Association will be held July 26 through 28 at the Utah Valley State College Planetarium, 800 W 1200 South, Orem, Utah, close to I-15 about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City International Airport and about 5 miles north of Provo. This will allow observation of the grazing occultation of Aldebaran nearby on Tuesday morning, July 29, which is the best graze in the U.S.A. this year, and is one of the best of the current series of Aldebaran grazes in North America; see p. 293 of the January issue of *Occultation Newsletter*.

The official meeting will start at 9 AM MDT Sunday July 27, and will last until 5 PM that day. We also plan to gather there informally late in the afternoon and early evening of Saturday, July 26, to meet casually and make some plans for the grazing occultation of Aldebaran on Tuesday morning, July 29. The planetarium is also available to us Monday afternoon, July 28, starting at 1 PM. We will meet there to complete any of the agenda not covered on Sunday, and to make detailed plans for the Aldebaran event. The meeting will be officially open to students of Utah Valley State College, and to others of the general public interested in attending, especially amateur astronomers from the surrounding area. Paul Mills is our point of contact at the planetarium; his email address is millspa@uvsc.edu. The planetarium is easy to reach at the intersection of State Route 265 and S800 West, 0.2 mile east of Route 265's intersection with I-15 (exit 272). A map is on IOTA's web site at <http://www.sky.net/~robinson/iotandx.htm>. There are no motels close to the planetarium, but a relatively inexpensive one (US\$34/night for one person, add US\$6 for a second adult) is the Motel 6 in Provo near I-15 exit 266 (US 189, University Ave.) 6 miles south of the planetarium. The phone number for information is 801-375-5064 and 800-466-8356 for reservations. For Monday night, the closest Motel 6 to the Aldebaran graze path is at Midvale, at 496 N Catalpa St. just southeast of I-15 exit 301 (7200 S St.). Topics that will be covered at the meeting will include (but not be limited to):

1. the Aldebaran occultations
 - a. their value, outreach to the astronomical community and the general public for naked-eye events
 - b. videos of the Jan. 19 and April 11 occultations recently-observed (especially Interamnia in December and Campania in March) and upcoming asteroidal occultations
2. IOTA's work with past asteroidal occultations and Hipparcos star catalog data
3. solar eclipse expeditions for Feb. 1998, and Feb. and Aug. 1999
4. changes and improvements to IOTA's predictions
 - a. efforts to improve graze profiles from past observed grazes

6. b. new capabilities of OCCULT
- c. email distribution
- instrumentation
- a. video time insertion
- b. recent successes with the IOTA occultation CCD camera
7. status of IOTA's Occultation Manual and analysis of solar eclipse observations

Contact me if you want to give a presentation. In late June an agenda will be prepared and put on our web site.

Bob Sandy (grazebob@sky.net) plans to lead an expedition from the Kansas City, Kansas area to near Casper, Wyoming, for the July 29 Aldebaran graze; some observers from the Denver area will also probably participate. On July 26 through 27, a local-area IOTA meeting might be held in the Kansas City area, primarily to plan for the expedition to Wyoming. If such a meeting is held, I can provide copies of the view graphs and video that I will prepare for the main IOTA meeting in Utah, and it might even be possible to communicate for a short time between this local meeting and the main meeting in Utah. News of any such meeting, and of preparations for the July 29 graze, will be given on our web site mentioned above. We also want to organize and publicize expeditions at as many other locations as possible along the Aldebaran northern limit from central California to western Ontario (and, in the daytime, near Oslo, south of Stockholm, and near Riga). Please provide me with any of your plans so they can be included in the next *ON*, as well as on our web site. The next *ON* will also have more information about the July 29 Aldebaran and Hyades occultation. It is the second of only three good night crescent-Moon Aldebaran occultations visible under good conditions from populous parts of North America. The first was the April 11 occultation described on pages 312-314 of the last issue, and the third will be visible from the northwestern U.S.A. and western Canada on 1999 April 19 UTC.

There will also be an IOTA presentation at the Astronomical League's (AL) meeting at Copper Mountain Resort the first week of July. That will be a good opportunity to reach many AL members to encourage them to organize local observations for the graze and occultation of Aldebaran on July 29. We want as many people as possible to video record that outstanding naked-eye occultation in order to accurately trace the profile of the following edge of the Moon in detail.

Need help with occultation double stars: We thank Tony Murray in Georgetown, GA, for collecting occultation observations indicating stellar duplicity and publishing articles in *ON* tabulating these discoveries during the past several years. Unfortunately, his circumstances changed recently so that he no longer can take the time needed to perform this important job properly, so he requests that someone else take up this work. Please contact me if you might be interested; email access will help with this job. Tony will continue his very important service to IOTA of printing *ON* at the lowest possible cost.

Second Arab Astronomical Conference: This will be held September 8 through 10 at the Royal Jordanian Geographic Center

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

in Amman, Jordan, in cooperation with Al-al-Bayt University. Topics that will be covered, among others, are amateur astronomy and astronomical culture; ancient astronomy in the Arabo-Islamic civilization; astronomy and space sciences in education; and modern discoveries in the solar system. Mohammed Odeh is planning a presentation on IOTA work using view graphs and video that I will provide to him. If any IOTA or IOTA/ES members could attend this meeting, it will be a good opportunity to promote occultation observation and our work in the Middle East and northern Africa. The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 30. More information can be obtained from:

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ESOP XVI in UK 1997 September 5 through 10

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The dates for ESOP XVI in the UK are Friday September 5, 1997 through Wednesday September 10. The venue is the Royal Greenwich Observatory (RGO) in Cambridge, NOT AS STATED IN THE LAST ON (The date and venue remain the same as I stated at ESOP XV in Berlin last year). [ed.: The dates and location given in the last issue were wrong information obtained from a web site. David Dunham found out the error just as the last issue was sent off to the printer, so unfortunately his last-minute correction didn't make it into the issue. We apologize for any confusion that may have resulted].

The format of the meeting will be as usual--the Symposium will be held on Saturday and Sunday and there will be optional excursions Monday through Wednesday. Planned excursions include:

- Stonehenge ("special" tour), and Avebury, megalithic stone circle sites in Wiltshire. (The Internet virtual reality Stonehenge will also be demonstrated in a workshop!)
- The Mullard Radio Observatory, Stellar Interferometer (Cambridge Optical Aperture Synthesis Telescope - COAST), and Isaac Newton's house, Woolsthorpe Manor (including cream teas!)
- The Old Greenwich Observatory (with planetarium show), and Maritime Museum, in London, with lunch in the Seventeenth Century Trafalgar Tavern overlooking the river Thames.

Accommodation for the duration of ESOP has been arranged in Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 10 minutes walk from the RGO. The cost of accommodation will be £27.00 per person per night (bed and breakfast) for a single room, and £25.00 per person sharing a double room. Only 10 double rooms are

available and preference will be given to couples. A room with computer(s), Internet connection, video, etc. will be available in the College for evening "workshops". Bert and Sheila Carpenter are also arranging local tours of Cambridge and the surrounding countryside on Friday and Saturday for accompanying guests, and we are hoping to have a reception BBQ (barbeque) in the grounds of the RGO on Friday night. The Symposium Dinner will be held on Saturday night in Fitzwilliam College. Finally, there is a grazing occultation on September 11 in South East England. If there is enough support, we are hoping to organize an expedition for participants to observe the graze (weather permitting).

Arrangements are nearing completion but may be subject to last minute changes. We are still finalizing costs for the Symposium fee and excursions. As soon as we have finished this, we will send invitations to IOTA members and former ESOP participants. It would perhaps be as well to warn participants that because of the relatively high cost of living in the UK, and the popularity of Cambridge for conferences, this ESOP will be slightly more costly than previous years. It may be necessary for us to request an accommodation deposit when booking. We have had to pay a deposit on the accommodation and cancellation costs are very high! In order to reduce the cost of the Symposium Program and Proceedings, we will be asking for all papers to be submitted in electronic form--on floppy disk or by email.

Further announcements will be issued in due course but if you have any queries in the meantime please contact me.

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Aldebaran/Camcorder News

David W. Dunham

On Thursday, April 10, John and Mickey Nelson in Bosque Farms, New Mexico, read about "an eclipse of a bright star" in the *Albuquerque Journal*. They had never recorded an astronomical observation before, and had no contact with the Albuquerque Astronomical Society or with any other astronomical organization. Following the instructions in John Fleck's newspaper article about the Aldebaran occultation, the Nelsons used their camcorder to record a few minutes of The Weather Channel a few minutes before the occultation, then took the device, still running, outside and zoomed in on the Moon. After an unsteady moment, the lunar crescent, the Earthlit dark side, and Aldebaran came into view. A short time later, the star disappeared, and the camcorder was brought inside to record some more of The Weather Channel. At the same time, Dale Ireland in Silverdale, Washington, was also recording The Weather Channel along with WWV shortwave time signals (after also recording the occultation directly with his camcorder), and I was doing the same thing in Greenbelt, MD, after having video recorded the occultations of 3 Hyades stars before clouds moved in. By using

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

my copy of Peter Manly's video time inserter with the two calibration tapes, it should be possible to recover the time of the occultation from John Nelson's tape to an accuracy of ± 0.05 second or better, considerably better than any of the many visual timings that were made of the occultation. That's quite good for someone who previously didn't know what an occultation was, and Aldebaran's altitude above the western horizon was only 4° at the time. The Nelsons had also recently purchased a small telescope to observe Comet Hale-Bopp.

The process started two days earlier when I faxed a one-page writeup about the occultation, and a simplified Moon figure showing what would happen (with the local time of the event to the nearest minute) in Albuquerque, to the *Albuquerque Journal*. I had sent similar faxes to 32 other newspapers in other large cities across western North America where the occultation would be visible; see my maps on p. 313 of the last *ON*. For his article, John Fleck had also looked at the additional information on our Web site (whose URL was given in the faxed message) and consulted me by telephone. I had also received inquiries from writers at newspapers in Edmonton, Alberta; and Orange County, California; otherwise, I don't know how well the event was really covered by the media. Rather than the hundreds of videotapes that I had hoped would be made, as of late April I have only received 4 tapes, although I know of about 7 others. John Nelson's tape is the only one that I have now that was clearly the result of IOTA's outreach to the public media; the others were made in response to my widely-distributed e-mail messages about the occultation and almost all by amateur astronomers. Some obtained the information about the occultation from online astronomy news groups and from IOTA's Web page.

More effort is needed earlier, to try to publicize naked-eye events like this in weekly news magazines and on television news. Now we have some actual video examples that can be used for the next good event, which will be the Aldebaran occultation on July 29. In April, too many amateur astronomers were unaware of the Aldebaran occultation, or learned of it only shortly before it happened, since there was no coverage of it in *Astronomy*, and only brief mention of it in *Sky & Telescope*. To a large extent, the astronomical community has been almost totally preoccupied with Comet Hale-Bopp and was unaware of the occultation, one of only three crescent-Moon occultations of Aldebaran during the current series that are visible from North America in a dark sky. At least for the July event, there will be a major article in *Sky & Telescope* stressing the need for readers to spread word about the occultation locally to try to get many camcorder records, and we will also try to get word of the event out at the Astronomical League convention four weeks beforehand. I have rewritten the fax, that I sent to newspapers in April, in a form suitable for the July 29 occultation, so that you might use it as a local press release. It is given here after this article, and is also available on IOTA's [sky.net](http://www.astro.wustl.edu/~iota/sky.net) web site, where you can download it for printing on your astronomical society's letterhead, and possibly modifying for local use. You are encouraged to replace my name and contact information at the bottom with your own. I would rather have you than me collect video tapes made in your area. Also needed is a

simple Moonview diagram like the one for St. Louis given here. Also here is a more detailed Moonview of the occultation showing the tracks for several other cities; the Sun symbol following the names of some cities indicate that the reappearance will take place after sunrise. The detailed Moon view can be used, along with the table of the occultation disappearance and reappearance cusp angles that includes all of the plotted cities and dozens of others, to make a version of the simple Moonview for your city. Consulting the table, get the cusp angles of the event for your city, and then find the two plotted cities with cusp angles that are closest to those for your city. Then you can interpolate to estimate the path behind the Moon for your city; you don't need to be precise for this relatively crude graphic (if you have OCCULT version 4.0, you could instead generate a detailed view showing the D and R points for your site). Just copy the simplified figure for St. Louis, cut out the lines and labels for that city, make another copy of the bare Moon figure, then add the lines and labels for your city. I don't think that the event will be suitable as a public "camcorder" event where the Sun will be above the horizon, or less than 4° below it. Astronomers, especially those in planetariums and in astronomy clubs (and not just IOTA members) need to understand the almost unique potential for public outreach that these naked-eye occultations can have. They provide a link to our past, since astronomers in ancient Babylon, Rome, Greece, China, Japan, and Arabia observed and recorded many naked-eye occultations. Now hundreds of people, not just astronomers, can video record them.

The April 11 UTC (April 10 local time) occultation was not the first attempt. In early March, we put on IOTA's web site a moonview and maps of Europe for the March 14 occultation of Aldebaran, similar to those in the last *ON* for the April event. I also used OCCULT to compute the times of the occultation for almost 150 European and Middle Eastern cities, and distributed this list and an article, again similar to that for the April occultation in the last *ON*, to many email addresses. Newspaper articles and other public outreach attempts were made to obtain camcorder observations in at least Austria, Germany, Israel, and the Netherlands, but those countries were totally clouded out. One observer in the U.K. managed to videotape the event with a camcorder during a break in the clouds at his location, and said that he would send me a copy, but it has not yet arrived. Reports of several visual timings--from Norway, Russia, Spain, Romania, and Jordan--have been received. But as Ovidiu Vaduvescu explained, very few in Romania (and other eastern European countries, where it was mostly clear, or only with thin clouds, for the event) can afford camcorders with the low average incomes there. Matti Suhonen reported that he and a few others traveled to central Finland to try to observe the northern-limit graze there, although it was clear; they failed for various reasons, mainly in locating suitable observing sites in time. The March 14 occultation was better known by Europeans than the April 11 event was by Americans, since it was almost the five hundredth anniversary of an occultation of Aldebaran observed visually on March 9, 1497, by Copernicus, then a student in Bologna, Italy. A celebration and star party was held in Bologna on March 14, and I heard that the city's street lights were turned off for an hour around the time of

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the occultation. But the idea of trying to reach the public to use camcorders for the event was not realized until my e-mail message about it was distributed on March 8. I wanted to prepare and send that earlier, but other commitments, including a considerable amount of work that I needed to do for computation and distribution of detailed IOTA graze and other predictions, did not allow it.

For the July 29 occultation, we need more regional coordinators to make recordings of a selected TV station and WWV. I can provide copies of those with accurate time displayed, so that the UTC of every frame in the broadcast can be read easily. In April, I asked many to do this in widely-distributed e-mail messages, but I did not have time to follow up to confirm that it would be done, so few such calibration tapes were made. We should have at least one in each time zone to try to determine any variations that there might be in the local time of broadcast. In order to have a broadcast that is simultaneous across the U.S.A. (that is, without any local programs of half an hour or more, or any time zone shifts), I have recommended The Weather Channel (TWC). But this might not be the best; for example, it is not available in Canada, which has a different weather channel. CNN might be a better choice since it is available in most parts of the world, and doesn't have the local weather interruptions of TWC. However, not everyone has cable, or satellite dishes to receive these directly. Especially if a local coordinator also serves as the collector of tapes made in the region, it would be better to select a local TV station (or a local affiliate of one of the major networks) to avoid the need for cable TV. I have found that pointing the camcorder at the TV screen, just propped up on a table and zoomed right to fill the view, is easy, but getting good reception of WWV in the house is difficult. Reception is helped by extending a 50 foot length of wire down the hallway and attached to the Timetube antenna, but I think it would be even better if the antenna wire could be stretched outside and extended in a direction roughly perpendicular to the direction to the transmitter (in Ft. Collins, Colorado, for WWV). On April 10, a strong auroral display in southern Canada changed reception characteristics, so that WWV was best received most of the evening at 15 MHz, usually a daytime frequency.

More IOTA members, and especially many other amateur astronomers, are also needed to try to make camcorder observations, especially telescopic video observations of the bright-limb events. For July 29, that will be easier than in April, since the star disappears on the bright side, so it should be easy to find the star approaching the Moon just before the occultation.

I can provide a time-inserted copy of your recording of The Weather Channel (or any other station that you selected for your region). Those who have access to WWV are encouraged to use it, and their tape can be time-inserted, as well. Help with playing the tapes will be needed to spread the work around to get the one accurate time from each tape. Anyone with a VCR that can display single frames can help with this, and are encouraged to volunteer.

The whole idea here is that video timings are about ten times more accurate than visual timings, which may soon become

obsolete for lunar total occultation observations (but not for grazing occultations). And video timings made from as many locations as possible can trace the lunar profile to incredible detail. Star parties for this occultation are discouraged, since a wide geographical distribution is essential to the success of the effort. Just about anyone anywhere in your area will be able to see the occultation, and they can record it if they have a camcorder.

The Moon moves half a mile in its orbit around the Earth each second, but actually slower after subtracting the velocity of the observer on the rotating Earth's surface. So a video timing to 0.03 second will give a relation to the lunar surface to about 80 feet. That's better than the 1994 Clementine spacecraft laser altimeter measurements, which were at best good to 150 feet. Thus, video recordings of the Aldebaran occultation from hundreds of locations across the region of visibility of the occultation can measure the lunar outline to unprecedented detail. This would be extremely

valuable for IOTA's analyses of not only lunar occultations, but also of total solar eclipse timings that have revealed small variations of the solar diameter during the last several years. Since the heat from the Sun received by the Earth is proportional to its diameter, these variations have an affect on studies of global warming and other short-term variations of the climate. The main thing limiting analysis of those observations is the lunar profile error, since the lunar orbit is now known to an accuracy of about a foot from laser ranging to the retroreflectors placed on the Moon's surface more than 20 years ago. And star position errors will be greatly reduced after the European Hipparcos spacecraft data are released later this year. The solar radius measurements have been limited to solar eclipses observed near the edges of the paths of totality, since the polar lunar features are the same from eclipse to eclipse. But if we had good lunar profile data, determinable from many camcorder observations of total lunar occultations, then we could obtain a much better history of solar radius variations from analysis of the much larger number of contact timings made near the central lines of annular and total solar eclipses.

This will not be the first time that camcorders were used by the general public to record an astronomical event. Twenty to thirty years ago, astronomers in Czechoslovakia, Canada, and the U.S.A. set up elaborate networks of special cameras to photograph and time bright meteors, and each caught one meteorite that was recovered after having its orbit determined from the photos. These relatively expensive networks have now been largely abandoned. But a couple of years ago, the orbit of a fourth meteorite was determined from the "Friday evening football network" of camcorders used by coaches and others at high school football games as a bright meteor streaked over Pennsylvania. The meteorite from this fall was the now famous Peekskill (New York) object that damaged a woman's car.

Direct camcorder observations might be made of occultations of other bright stars. I asked observers to try this for the occultation of 3.6-mag. λ Geminorum on April 14 when the Moon was almost at first quarter, but so far I have not learned of any successes for that event. But I think at least one video record

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of the occultation was made with a camcorder held up to the eyepiece of a telescope. That was difficult since the technique, actually eyepiece projection, gives a very high power, even when used with low-power eyepieces where, with the eye, the whole Moon can be included in the field of view, while for the camcorder, the view is less than 10' in diameter. Good focus can be kept when some of the bright part of the Moon is in the field of view, but near first quarter, the star is far enough away from the them that it is hard to maintain focus. On April 17, when the Moon was 73% sunlit (waxing), I was able to record the occultation of 3.8-mag. α Leonis holding my camcorder up to the eyepiece of my C-5. I looked first in the eyepiece to see the pattern of craters relative to the star, then I could find the craters, and then the star, in the much narrower field of view of the camcorder. There were thin clouds, so it was impossible to directly record the star without the telescope. However, just after a crescent-Moon reappearance early last November, I was able to easily record the star and Earthlit part of the Moon with my 12x camcorder. I could have recorded the actual reappearance, but did not do that then since I was busy recording it with my regular (much more sensitive but also much more complex) video system attached to my C-8. So there are a few opportunities each year where camcorders might be used alone to record and accurately time occultations, and we need to make more efforts to obtain such observations. I am very interested in obtaining a direct camcorder video of an occultation of a 3-mag. or 4-mag. star, but so far, due mainly to clouds, I have not been able to do that myself yet.

More telescopic occultation observations with camcorders should also be made, like mine of α Leonis described above. When the star is close enough to bright parts of the Moon so that the image can be kept in focus, I think that occultations of 6-mag. stars can be recorded this way, just by holding the camcorder up to the eyepiece and zooming in until the craters come into focus. Grazing occultations are especially suited for this, since they always occur near the cusp, giving a nearby bright source to maintain focus. And the equipment setup is easy, at least as simple as making visual observations with a tape recorder. It is also robust; if there is any problem in getting and maintaining an image of the star, you can just put the camcorder down (still running to record WWV and your event calls) and you can put your eye to the eyepiece to observe the event visually.

I wrote the following to an observer who was considering buying a camcorder for recording occultations. Many amateur astronomers would rather spend their money on telescopes and related parts rather than camcorders. It is mainly parents and sports enthusiasts who buy camcorders to video record their experiences, and amateur astronomers who are also in these categories may own a camcorder for these other reasons rather than for astronomy.

The variety of camcorders seems to keep increasing, so I may be missing something since I bought ours a year and a half ago. I believe that the CCD's used with most camcorders have approximately the same sensitivity, but the lenses and zoom capabilities are different. Try to get the highest power possible (mine is 12x, but I know that at least 20x models are available) and

the largest aperture (mine says f=5.4-64.8 mm 1:1.8 phi 37; I think the latter means 37 mm aperture, although the front end opens just to 30 mm). It doesn't matter whether they are standard or video Hi8 formats, since most TV's and VCR's still use only standard. For occultations, we are more interested in sensitivity (detecting fainter stars) than in pretty pictures. Then with these constraints, minimize price.

But there are other issues. Camcorders can record only a few of the brighter occultations. They can record, with a telescope, bright-limb events of Aldebaran. And, when used directly without a telescope, they can record ρ^1 Sgr. and other 4-mag. stars. But most can't do dark-limb D's through a telescope, since they have automatic focus, and they need the bright part of the Moon to keep focused on (but see the remarks about gibbous phases above). When you move to the dark side, the image goes out of focus. They can work with telescopes for grazes. I think to about mag. 6 during the crescent phases (fainter with larger telescopes), since the cusp is nearby to focus on. A few camcorders have C-mount adaptors that can be used to connect directly to a telescope, but they are very expensive.

For video recording more occultations, it would be more cost-effective to buy one of the small CCD cameras that can be attached to telescopes, which can reach 7 or 8 mag. on the dark side of the Moon (or at least 3 magnitudes fainter with image intensification; see McManus' article on pages 345 and 346 of the last issue). Something is needed to record the video, and that can be done with a camcorder (which is nice to have to record terrestrial experiences), or with a cheaper VCR that would need an inverter to run from a battery.

OCCULT predictions for dozens of North American cities are given below for the spectacular July 29 Aldebaran occultation. It is followed by data for other occultations of Aldebaran and of Saturn, occurring under less favorable conditions mainly in the daytime, that will occur in June, July, and August, being a continuation of the tables for April and May events that were given on pages 313 to 315 of the last issue. Directions for using the a and b factors for neighboring locations (note that the a -factor assumes that longitudes are positive EAST of Greenwich), and coordinates of the cities, are given in *ON* vol. 6, no. 13, p. 300 and no. 11, p. 234.

Lunar Occultation of 1.1-mag. Aldebaran on 1997 July 29
Disappearance, Moon 23° + sunlit, Solar elongation 57°

Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp Pos	W.	a	b
	h m s	Alt	Alt	Az	Ang	Ang	m/o
Prescott AZ	9 34 12	3 72	-14N	2	11	-1.5	+5.2
Las Vegas NV	9 26 35	5 74	-27N	15	24	-0.9	+3.3
Phoenix AZ	9 16 52	5 74	-42N	30	39	-0.6	+2.4
Flagstaff AZ	9 20 59	7 75	-36N	24	33	-0.7	+2.7
Tucson AZ	9 13 13	5 74	-48N	36	44	-0.5	+2.2
Albuquerque NM	9 17 46	10 77	-43N	31	40	-0.5	+2.5
El Paso TX	9 10 11	8 75	-54N	42	50	-0.4	+2.1
Denver CO	9 30 13	15 81	-28N	16	25	-0.7	+3.4
Cheyenne WY	9 35 23	16 82	-21N	9	18	-0.9	+4.1
Pueblo CO	9 25 26	14 80	-34N	22	31	-0.6	+3.0
Lubbock TX	9 12 22	13 78	-53N	41	50	-0.3	+2.2
Pierre SD	9 45 43	21 88	-12N	0	9	-1.6	+6.1
Monterrey Mexico	8 57 53	9 76	-77N	65	74	-0.1	+1.4
Acapulco Mexico	8 49 14	5 74	-78S	93	99	+0.0	+0.5
Mexico City	8 50 51	7 75	-84S	84	92	-0.0	+0.8
San Antonio TX	9 3 33	13 78	-68N	56	69	-0.1	+1.7

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Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b
	h m s	Alt Alt	As	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o		h m s	Alt Alt	As	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o		
Austin TX	9 4 58	14 79 -67N 55	64	-0.1 +1.8					Cheyenne WY	9 58 27	20 86 24N 324 332	+1.4	-1.2				
Oklahoma City OK	9 15 32	17 82 -52N 40	49	-0.2 +2.3					Pueblo CO	10 0 24	21 95 38N 310 319	+0.9	-0.2				
Brownsville TX	8 57 57	12 77 -79N 61	76	-0.0 +1.4					Lubbock TX	10 1 42	23 85 58N 290 299	+0.7	+0.5				
Wichita KS	9 20 47	19 83 -46N 34	43	-0.3 +2.6					Pierre SD	10 0 14	24 90 15N 333 341	+2.3	-3.0				
Dallas TX	9 9 35	16 80 -61N 49	58	-0.1 +2.0					Monterrey Mexico	9 56 41	22 82 82N 266 274	+0.5	+1.0				
Omaha NE	9 30 30	22 87 -36N 24	35	-0.4 +3.1					Acapulco Mexico	9 46 8	18 78 715 239 248	+0.2	+1.5				
Tulsa OK	9 16 46	19 83 -52N 40	49	-0.2 +2.3					Mexico City	9 49 54	21 79 788 246 253	+0.3	+1.4				
Topeka KS	9 23 55	21 85 -44N 32	41	-0.2 +2.7					San Antonio TX	10 1 15	25 84 74N 274 283	+0.7	+0.9				
Houston TX	9 3 51	15 80 -71N 59	68	-0.0 +1.7					Austin TX	10 2 32	26 85 72N 276 284	+0.7	+0.8				
Kansas City MO	9 23 50	21 86 -45N 33	42	-0.2 +2.7					Oklahoma City OK	10 6 18	27 89 57N 291 299	+0.9	+0.9				
Des Moines IA	9 30 42	24 88 -39N 26	35	-0.3 +3.0					Brownsville TX	9 58 30	25 83 85N 263 272	+0.6	+1.1				
Minneapolis MN	9 41 52	-12 26 92 -26N 14	23	-0.5 +3.8					Wichita KS	10 7 30	28 90 51N 297 306	+1.0	+0.3				
Little Rock AR	9 13 20	21 84 -60N 48	57	-0.0 +2.1					Dallas TX	10 5 15	28 87 66N 282 290	+0.9	+0.7				
Duluth MN	9 48 46	-9 28 95 -20N 8	16	-0.8 +4.7					Omaha NE	10 9 39	-12 29 93 40N 308 316	+1.2	-0.1				
Guatemala City	8 51 17	14 76 -59S 109 118	109	+0.6 -0.2					Tulsa OK	10 8 11	29 90 57N 291 299	+1.0	+0.5				
Saint Louis MO	9 22 17	24 88 -52N 40	49	-0.0 +2.5					Topeka KS	10 9 40	29 92 49N 299 306	+1.1	+0.3				
Jackson MS	9 8 39	25 83 -69N 57	66	+0.1 +1.9					Houston TX	10 5 51	28 86 77N 271 280	+0.8	+0.9				
New Orleans LA	9 4 33	20 82 -76N 64	73	+0.2 +1.6					Kansas City MO	10 10 58	-12 31 93 50N 298 307	+1.1	+0.3				
Memphis TN	9 14 15	23 85 -62N 50	59	+0.1 +2.1					Des Moines IA	10 12 35	-10 31 95 43N 305 314	+1.3	+0.0				
Mobile AL	9 6 8	22 83 -76N 64	73	+0.2 +1.7					Minneapolis MN	10 12 5	-7 31 98 30N 318 327	+1.6	-0.7				
Milwaukee WI	9 34 6	-11 28 94 -42N 30	38	-0.1 +3.0					Little Rock AR	10 10 56	33 92 66N 282 291	+1.0	+0.8				
Chicago IL	9 30 40	28 92 -46N 34	43	+0.0 +2.8					Duluth MN	10 12 9	-6 32 100 23N 325 334	+1.9	-1.5				
Montgomery AL	9 9 31	25 85 -73N 61	70	+0.3 +1.8					Guatemala City	9 43 32	26 78 51S 219 228	+0.1	+2.3				
Indianapolis IN	9 25 24	28 92 -54N 42	50	+0.1 +2.5					Saint Louis MO	10 15 50	-8 35 96 57N 291 299	+1.2	+0.5				
Louisville KY	9 21 41	28 90 -59N 46	55	+0.2 +2.3					Jackson MS	10 11 4	34 91 76N 272 281	+1.0	+1.0				
Cincinnati OH	9 24 6	29 92 -57N 45	54	+0.2 +2.4					New Orleans LA	10 8 41	34 90 83N 266 274	+1.0	+1.1				
Atlanta GA	9 12 41	27 87 -72N 60	69	+0.3 +1.9					Memphis TN	10 13 45	-11 35 94 68N 280 289	+1.1	+0.8				
San Jose Costa Rica	9 5 46	22 76 -20S 184 157	157	+3.3 -5.9					Mobile AL	10 11 27	-12 36 91 83N 265 274	+1.0	+1.1				
Knoxville TN	9 17 14	28 90 -66N 54	63	+0.3 +2.1					Milwaukee WI	10 20 28	-4 37 102 46N 302 311	+1.4	+0.1				
Detroit MI	9 32 33	-9 32 96 -50N 38	47	+0.2 +2.7					Chicago IL	10 20 37	-4 37 102 51N 296 306	+1.4	+0.3				
Tampa FL	9 4 19	26 85 -89N 77	86	+0.6 +1.3					Montgomery AL	10 15 19	-9 39 94 80N 268 276	+1.1	+1.1				
Cleveland OH	9 30 34	-9 32 96 -54N 42	51	+0.3 +2.5					Indianapolis IN	10 21 48	-4 39 101 59N 289 298	+1.4	+0.6				
Jacksonville FL	9 8 5	28 87 -84N 72	81	+0.5 +1.5					Louisville KY	10 21 18	-5 40 100 64N 284 293	+1.3	+0.7				
Charleston WV	9 23 6	-12 31 93 -63N 51	60	+0.4 +2.2					Cincinnati OH	10 23 38	-3 41 102 63N 285 294	+1.4	+0.7				
Sudbury ON	9 44 41	-3 35 103 -40N 28	37	+0.1 +3.1					Atlanta GA	10 19 6	-6 41 97 79N 269 278	+1.2	+1.1				
Charlotte NC	9 16 55	31 91 -72N 60	69	+0.5 +1.9					San Jose Costa Rica	9 24 11	27 76 105 170 187	-2.2	+8.0				
Miami FL	9 3 17	28 84 -82N 86	95	+0.8 +1.0					Knoxville TN	10 21 54	-4 41 100 73N 275 284	+1.3	+0.9				
Pittsburgh PA	9 28 32	-9 33 97 -59N 47	56	+0.6 +2.4					Detroit MI	10 27 25	0 42 107 55N 293 302	+1.5	+0.4				
Charleston SC	9 12 58	31 89 -79N 67	76	+0.6 +1.7					Tampa FL	10 13 53	-8 42 92 82N 251 259	+1.1	+1.6				
Toronto ON	9 36 54	-5 35 101 -51N 39	48	+0.3 +2.7					Cleveland OH	10 29 10	1 43 108 60N 289 297	+1.5	+0.5				
Buffalo NY	9 35 7	-5 35 100 -54N 42	50	+0.4 +2.6					Jacksonville FL	10 18 19	-6 43 96 88N 256 265	+1.2	+1.4				
Raleigh NC	9 19 8	-12 33 93 -73N 61	70	+0.6 +1.9					Charleston WV	10 27 8	-1 44 105 69N 279 288	+1.3	+0.8				
Richmond VA	9 23 17	-9 35 95 -75N 58	67	+0.6 +2.1					Sudbury ON	10 31 26	4 42 113 44N 304 313	+1.7	-0.1				
Washington DC	9 26 24	-8 36 97 -67N 55	64	+0.6 +2.2					Charlotte NC	10 25 23	-2 45 102 79N 269 278	+1.6	+1.1				
Baltimore MD	9 27 35	-7 36 98 -66N 54	63	+0.6 +2.2					Pittsburgh PA	10 31 7	2 45 109 65N 283 292	+1.5	+0.6				
Norfolk VA	9 22 44	-9 36 96 -73N 61	70	+0.6 +2.0					Charleston SC	10 23 50	-2 46 100 87N 261 270	+1.4	+1.3				
Dover DE	9 27 53	-6 37 99 -68N 56	64	+0.6 +2.1					Toronto ON	10 33 40	4 45 113 56N 293 301	+1.6	+0.3				
Philadelphia PA	9 29 56	-5 37 100 -68N 54	63	+0.6 +2.2					Buffalo NY	10 34 15	4 46 113 59N 290 298	+1.6	+0.4				
New York NY	9 32 19	-4 39 102 -65N 53	62	+0.6 +2.2					Raleigh NC	10 29 8	1 47 105 80N 268 277	+1.5	+1.1				
Albany NY	9 36 52	-2 39 104 -60N 48	57	+0.6 +2.4					Richmond VA	10 32 43	3 48 109 76N 272 281	+1.6	+0.9				
Montreal PQ	9 44 16	1 40 109 -52N 40	49	+0.5 +2.7					Washington DC	10 34 35	4 48 111 73N 275 284	+1.6	+0.8				
Burlington VT	9 41 43	0 40 107 -56N 44	53	+0.6 +2.8					Baltimore MD	10 35 34	5 49 112 72N 276 285	+1.6	+0.8				
Hartford CT	9 35 27	-2 40 104 -64N 52	61	+0.7 +2.3					Norfolk VA	10 33 56	4 50 109 79N 269 277	+1.6	+1.0				
Manchester NH	9 39 9	0 41 107 -62N 50	59	+0.7 +2.4					Dover DE	10 37 14	5 50 113 74N 274 283	+1.6	+0.8				
Providence RI	9 36 29	-1 41 106 -65N 53	62	+0.7 +2.3					Philadelphia PA	10 38 30	7 50 115 72N 277 285	+1.7	+0.8				
Quebec City PQ	9 49 2	3 42 113 -51N 38	48	+0.6 +2.7					New York NY	10 41 7	8 51 118 71N 277 286	+1.7	+0.7				
Boston MA	9 37 51	0 41 107 -64N 52	61	+0.7 +2.3					Albany NY	10 42 31	9 50 120 65N 283 292	+1.7	+0.5				
Bangor ME	9 45 20	4 43 113 -60N 48	57	+0.7 +2.4					Montreal PQ	10 43 56	10 49 124 56N 292 300	+1.7	+0.2				
San Juan PR	9 29 8	-8 46 85 -27S 141 150	150	+3.9 -4.2					Burlington VT	10 44 17	10 50 123 60N 288 297	+1.7	+0.3				
Hamilton Bermuda	9 27 23	-2 47 100 -81S 87	96	+1.5 +1.1					Hartford CT	10 45 53	10 52 121 69N 279 288	+1.7	+0.6				
Halifax NS	9 49 33	8 47 119 -68N 54	62	+1.0 +2.2					Manchester NH	10 46 44	12 52 125 67N 282 290	+1.8	+0.5				
St Johns NF	10 8 6	19 54 141 -67N 55	64	+1.3 +1.9					Providence RI	10 46 8	13 53 123 70N 278 287	+1.8	+0.6				

Lunar Occultation of 1.1-mag. Aldebaran on 1997 July 29
Reappearance, Moon 22-° sunlit, Solar elongation 57°

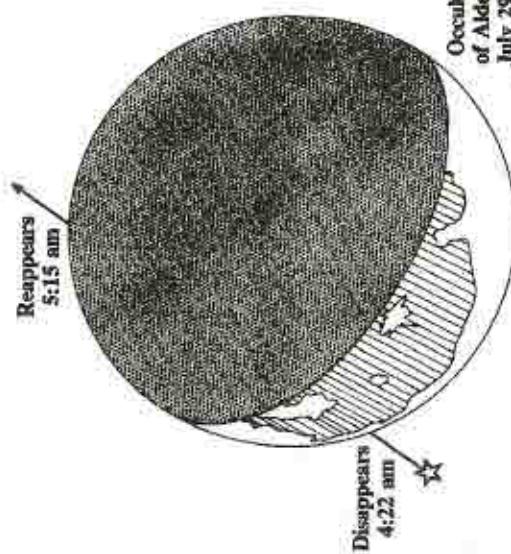
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b
	h m s	Alt Alt	As	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	
Fresno CA	9 47 52	6 74	15N 333 341	+1.2	-2.7			
Los Angeles CA	9 52 9	7 75	34N 314 323	+0.5	-0.5			
San Diego CA	9 53 9	8 76	41N 307 316	+0.4	-0.2			
Las Vegas NV	9 52 40	11 77	29N 319 328	+0.7	-0.8			
Phoenix AZ	9 55 21	13 79	45N 303 312	+0.5	+0.0			
Flagstaff AZ	9 55 28	14 79	39N 309 310	+0.5	-0.2			
Tucson AZ	9 55 45	14 79	51N 297 306	+0.5	+0.2			
La Paz Mexico	9 51 58	12 77	76N 272 281	+0.2	+0.7			
Albuquerque NM	9 58 44	18 82	47N 302 310	+0.7	+0			

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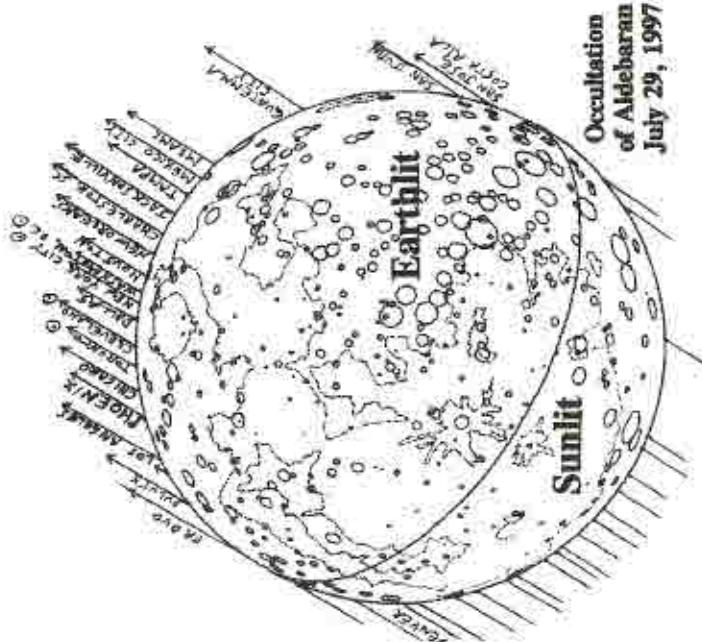
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o		h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o	
Seattle WA	22 47 44	49	42 245	-65	118 127	+1.0	-2.3		Reno NV	17 4 45	41	47 250	-74N	65	73	+1.6	-0.0	
Reno NV	23 18 9	44	38 260	34S	158 167	+0.0	-6.7		Fresno CA	17 5 19	43	48 253	-63N	74	83	+1.6	-0.3	
Boise ID	23 3 17	44	37 257	68	130 139	+0.7	-2.9		Los Angeles CA	17 8 56	45	47 257	-88S	83	92	+1.6	-0.7	
Lunar Occultation of 1.1-mag Aldebaran on 1997 June 4									San Diego CA	17 11 47	47	46 260	-84S	87	96	+1.5	-0.8	
Reappearance, Moon	0- 8 sunlit, Solar elongation	7°							Boise ID	17 11 7	43	42 251	-57N	48	57	+1.4	+0.6	
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o		h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o	
Anchorage AK	23 11 25	49	42 210	33N	267 276	+1.0	-0.7		Reno NV	17 4 45	41	47 250	-74N	65	73	+1.6	-0.0	
Juneau AK	23 28 42	45	39 235	39N	261 270	+0.9	-1.0		Fresno CA	17 5 19	43	48 253	-63N	74	83	+1.6	-0.3	
Vancouver BC	23 45 43	40	33 256	62N	239 248	+0.9	-0.4		Los Angeles CA	17 8 56	45	47 257	-88S	83	92	+1.6	-0.7	
Portland OR	23 46 31	40	34 259	75N	227 235	+1.1	+0.3		San Diego CA	17 11 47	47	46 260	-84S	87	96	+1.5	-0.8	
Reno NV	23 41 50	40	33 264	74S	197 206	+1.9	+4.2		Boise ID	17 11 7	43	42 251	-57N	48	57	+1.4	+0.6	
Lunar Occultation of 0.1-mag. Saturn on 1997 June 28									Las Vegas NV	17 12 31	48	43 258	-63N	74	83	+1.4	-0.4	
Disappearance, Moon	39- 8 sunlit, Solar elongation	78°							Phoenix AZ	17 18 13	52	40 264	-89S	82	90	+1.3	-0.7	
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o		h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o	
Acapulco Mexico	10 48 25		49 101	-36N	13 37	+0.4	+3.8		Reno NV	17 4 45	41	47 250	-74N	65	73	+1.6	-0.0	
Mexico City	10 59 22		52 107	-26N	3 27	-0.1	+4.8		Fresno CA	17 5 19	43	48 253	-63N	74	83	+1.6	-0.3	
Guatemala City	10 50 48	-11	59 104	-62N	39 63	+1.4	+2.4		Los Angeles CA	17 8 56	45	47 257	-88S	83	92	+1.6	-0.7	
San Jose Costa Rica	10 53 42	-6	67 100	-87N	65 88	+2.3	+1.4		San Diego CA	17 11 47	47	46 260	-84S	87	96	+1.5	-0.8	
Tampa FL	11 42 0	12	66 157	-30N	8 31	+0.5	+4.3		Boise ID	17 11 7	43	42 251	-57N	48	57	+1.4	+0.6	
Jacksonville FL	11 53 40	16	65 167	-20N	357 21	-0.3	+5.8		Las Vegas NV	17 12 31	48	43 258	-63N	74	83	+1.4	-0.4	
Miami FL	11 35 54	12	66 157	-45N	22 46	+1.2	+3.2		Phoenix AZ	17 18 13	52	40 264	-89S	82	90	+1.3	-0.7	
Charleston SC	12 11 36	22	63 182	-4N	341 5	+9.9	+9.9		Helena MT	17 19 34	45	37 254	-41N	32	41	+1.4	+1.4	
San Juan PR	11 49 24	25	74 215	-87S	70 94	+2.6	+0.8		Salt Lake City UT	17 16 9	48	39 258	-65N	56	65	+1.3	+0.1	
Hamilton Bermuda	12 14 2	35	59 214	-49N	26 50	+1.3	+2.5		Flagstaff AZ	17 17 46	51	40 263	-84N	75	84	+1.3	-0.5	
Lunar Occultation of 0.1-mag. Saturn on 1997 June 28									Tucson AZ	17 20 41	54	39 266	-86S	85	94	+1.2	-0.8	
Reappearance, Moon	39- 8 sunlit, Solar elongation	77°							La Paz Mexico	17 31 38	60	36 274	-58S	113	122	+0.9	-1.9	
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o		Albuquerque NM	17 23 39	56	34 267	-82N	73	82	+1.1	-0.5
Acapulco Mexico	10 48 25		49 101	-36N	13 37	+0.4	+3.8		El Paso TX	17 26 2	58	34 269	-87S	94	92	+1.0	-0.8	
Mexico City	10 59 22		52 107	-26N	3 27	-0.1	+4.8		Denver CO	17 24 20	54	32 265	-64N	55	64	+1.1	+0.0	
Guatemala City	10 50 48	-11	59 104	-62N	39 63	+1.4	+2.4		Cheyenne WY	17 24 41	53	32 264	-59N	50	59	+1.1	+0.2	
San Jose Costa Rica	10 53 42	-6	67 100	-87N	65 88	+2.3	+1.4		Pueblo CO	17 24 44	55	32 266	-69N	60	69	+1.1	-0.1	
Tampa FL	11 42 0	12	66 157	-30N	8 31	+0.5	+4.3		Lubbock TX	17 29 10	61	29 271	-63N	74	83	+0.9	-0.6	
Jacksonville FL	11 53 40	16	65 167	-20N	357 21	-0.3	+5.8		Pierre SD	17 31 23	53	27 267	-41N	32	41	+1.1	+1.1	
Miami FL	11 35 54	12	66 157	-45N	22 46	+1.2	+3.2		Monterrey Mexico	17 37 12	68	26 277	-72S	99	108	+0.6	-1.2	
Charleston SC	12 11 36	22	63 182	-4N	341 5	+9.9	+9.9		Acapulco Mexico	17 52 18	76	20 282	-38S	133	142	+0.1	-2.4	
San Juan PR	11 49 24	25	74 215	-87S	70 94	+2.6	+0.8		Mexico City	17 47 7	75	21 281	-50S	121	130	+0.3	-1.9	
Hamilton Bermuda	12 14 2	35	59 214	-49N	26 50	+1.3	+2.5		San Antonio TX	17 34 37	66	25 276	-86S	85	94	+0.7	-0.8	
Lunar Occultation of 0.1-mag. Saturn on 1997 June 28									Austin TX	17 34 27	66	24 276	-89S	82	91	+0.7	-0.7	
Reappearance, Moon	39- 8 sunlit, Solar elongation	77°							Oklahoma City OK	17 31 53	62	25 273	-73N	64	73	+0.8	-0.3	
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o		Brownsville TX	17 38 32	70	23 278	-75S	96	105	+0.5	-1.1
Acapulco Mexico	11 42 53	-7	62 111	49N	290 313	+3.4	-0.9		Wichita KS	17 31 38	60	25 272	-66N	57	65	+0.8	-0.1	
Mexico City	11 42 21	-5	62 116	37N	300 324	+4.0	-1.9		Dallas TX	17 33 33	64	24 275	-82N	73	82	+0.7	-0.5	
Guatemala City	12 12 24	7	77 133	76N	261 285	+2.9	+0.6		Fargo ND	17 43 4	52	23 270	-15N	6	15	+2.6	+8.0	
San Jose Costa Rica	12 24 8	14	86 177	77S	234 258	+2.4	+1.7		Omaha NE	17 33 29	57	24 272	-50N	41	50	+0.9	+0.5	
Tampa FL	12 33 16	23	67 190	42N	295 319	+3.7	-2.0		Tulsa OK	17 32 56	62	24 274	-70N	61	70	+0.7	-0.2	
Jacksonville FL	12 30 5	24	65 189	30N	307 331	+4.4	-3.7		Topeka KS	17 33 2	59	24 273	-59N	50	59	+0.8	+0.1	
Miami FL	12 43 53	27	68 204	57N	261 304	+3.2	-0.9		Houston TX	17 36 18	68	22 277	-89S	82	90	+0.6	-0.7	
Charleston SC	12 23 50	25	62 188	14N	324 347	+9.9	+9.9		Kansas City MO	17 33 54	60	23 273	-59N	49	58	+0.8	+0.2	
San Juan PR	13 16 48	45	57 251	77S	235 259	+1.0	+1.2		Des Moines IA	17 35 43	58	22 273	-46N	37	46	+0.9	+0.7	
Hamilton Bermuda	13 17 46	46	49 236	54N	284 307	+2.2	-1.6		Minneapolis MN	17 40 48	55	21 273	-27N	18	27	+1.4	+2.8	
Lunar Occultation of 0.2-mag. Saturn on 1997 July 25									Little Rock AR	17 35 41	65	20 277	-71N	62	71	+0.6	-0.2	
Disappearance, Moon	61- 8 sunlit, Solar elongation	103°							Guatemala City	17 56 22	86	10 285	-40S	131	140	-0.3	-2.0	
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o	Saint Louis MO	17 37 0	61	19 277	-55N	46	55	+0.7	+0.3	
Honolulu HI	20 22 40	58	19 269	-80N	58 82	+0.6	+0.4		Jackson MS	17 37 39	68	18 279	-78N	69	77	+0.5	-0.4	
Hilo HI	20 23 44	61	16 270	-86N	64 88	+0.5	+0.2		New Orleans LA	17 38 48	70	17 280	-85N	76	85	+0.4	-0.5	
Lunar Occultation of 0.2-mag. Saturn on 1997 July 25									Memphis TN	17 37 1	65	18 278	-68N	59	68	+0.6	-0.1	
Reappearance, Moon	61- 8 sunlit, Solar elongation	102°							Mobile AL	17 39 16	70	15 280	-81N	72	81	+0.4	-0.4	
Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	Location	UTC	Sun	Moon	Cusp	Pos	W.	a	b	
	h m s	Alt Alt	Alt Az	Ang Ang	Ang	m/o	m/o	m/o	Milwaukee WI	17 42 42	57	16 278	-31N	22	30	+1.1	+2.0	
Honolulu HI	20 22 40	58	19 269	-80N	58 82	+0.6	+0.4		Chicago IL	17 41 7	59	16 278	-37N	28	37	+0.9	+1.3	
Hilo HI	20 23 44	61	16 270	-86N	64 88	+0.5	+0.2		Montgomery AL	17 39 21	68	14 281	-74N	65	74	+0.4	-0.3	
Vancouver BC	17 8 33	36	44 238	-33N	24 33	+1.5	+2.6		Indianapolis IN	17 40 19	61	15 279	-46N	37	45	+0.7	+0.7	
Portland OR	17 3 9	37	47 240	-52N	43 51	+1.5	+1.0		Louisville KY	17 39 45	62	14 280	-52N	43	52	+0.6	+0.4	
Tacoma WA	17 5 31	36	46 240	-44N	35 43	+1.5	+1.5		Cincinnati OH	17 40 49	67	13 282	-67N	59	67	+0.4	-0.1	
Seattle WA	17 0 41	39	51 248	-81N	72 80	+1.7	-0.2		Atlanta GA	17 39 49	67	13 282	-67N	59	67	+0.4	-0.1	
San Francisco CA	17																	

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Location	UTC	Sun h m s	Moon Alt	Cusp Alt	Pos Az	W. Ang	a	b	m/o	m/o
Los Angeles CA	18 22 59	58	32 269	80N 271	280	+0.6	-1.1			
San Diego CA	18 25 24	60	30 271	84N 268	276	+0.6	-1.0			
Boise ID	18 7 0	51	32 262	46N 305	313	+0.5	-2.6			
Las Vegas NV	18 22 36	59	29 270	71N 280	289	+0.6	-1.5			
Phoenix AZ	18 28 7	63	25 274	77N 274	282	+0.6	-1.2			
Helena MT	17 59 23	49	30 262	30N 321	330	+0.2	-3.6			
Salt Lake City UT	18 15 56	56	28 268	53N 298	306	+0.4	-2.2			
Flagstaff AZ	18 26 6	62	26 273	71N 280	289	+0.5	-1.4			
Tucson AZ	18 30 15	65	24 275	80N 271	279	+0.5	-1.1			
La Paz Mexico	18 34 53	72	23 279	73S 249	253	+0.8	+0.1			
Albuquerque NM	18 29 18	64	21 276	68N 283	292	+0.3	-1.5			
El Paso TX	18 32 48	67	20 278	78N 273	282	+0.4	-1.1			
Denver CO	18 20 10	59	22 274	51N 300	309	+0.2	-2.2			
Cheyenne WY	18 16 53	58	22 273	46N 305	314	+0.1	-2.4			
Pueblo CO	18 23 13	61	21 275	56N 295	304	+0.2	-2.0			
Lubbock TX	18 31 37	67	16 279	69N 283	291	+0.1	-1.4			
Pierre SD	18 7 21	55	21 273	28N 323	332	-0.2	-3.5			
Monterrey Mexico	18 39 37	75	12 283	88S 259	268	+0.3	-0.5			
Acapulco Mexico	18 37 56	84	10 284	55S 226	235	+0.7	+1.1			
Mexico City	18 40 21	81	9 284	67S 238	247	+0.4	+0.4			
San Antonio TX	18 37 5	71	11 283	79N 273	281	+0.1	-1.0			
Austin TX	18 36 12	70	11 283	75N 276	285	+0.1	-1.1			
Oklahoma City OK	18 28 51	65	14 281	59N 292	301	-0	-1.7			
Brownsville TX	18 39 59	75	9 284	89N 262	271	+0.1	-0.6			
Wichita KS	18 24 43	63	15 280	51N 300	309	-0.1	-2.0			
Dallas TX	18 33 3	68	12 282	67N 285	293	-0.0	-1.4			
Fargo ND	17 52 29	53	21 272	3N 348	357	+9.9	+9.9			
Omaha NE	18 15 55	59	16 278	36N 315	323	-0.2	-2.7			
Tulsa OK	18 27 36	64	13 281	55N 296	305	-0.1	-1.9			
Topeka KS	18 21 35	62	14 280	45N 306	315	-0.2	-2.3			
Houston TX	18 36 49	71	9 284	75N 276	285	-0.0	-1.1			
Kansas City MO	18 21 15	62	13 280	43N 308	316	-0.2	-2.3			
Des Moines IA	18 14 21	59	14 279	32N 319	327	-0.3	-2.9			
Minneapolis MN	18 1 38	56	17 277	13N 338	346	-0.8	-5.1			
Little Rock AR	18 29 30	65	9 284	56N 295	304	-0.2	-1.7			
Saint Louis MO	18 21 3	62	10 283	41N 311	319	-0.4	-2.4			
Jackson MS	18 32 54	67	6 286	62N 289	298	-0.2	-1.5			
New Orleans LA	18 35 58	69	5 286	69N 282	291	-0.2	-1.2			
Memphis TN	18 28 17	65	8 285	53N 298	307	-0.3	-1.8			
Milwaukee WI	18 6 9	57	12 281	17N 335	343	-0.8	-4.3			
Chicago IL	18 10 41	59	11 283	23N 328	337	-0.7	-3.5			
Indianapolis IN	18 16 8	60	8 285	31N 320	329	-0.6	-2.8			
Louisville KY	18 20 4	61	7 286	37N 314	323	-0.5	-2.4			
Cincinnati OH	18 17 0	60	7 286	32N 319	328	-0.6	-2.7			
Detroit MI	18 4 24	58	9 284	11N 340	349	-1.2	-5.1			
Cleveland OH	18 7 0	58	7 286	15N 336	345	-1.1	-4.3			
Pittsburgh PA	18 9 29	58	5 287	18N 333	342	-1.0	-3.8			



Occultation
of Aldebaran
July 29, 1997
St. Louis, Missouri



Occultation
of Aldebaran
July 29, 1997

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Naked Eye Eclipse of Bright Star July 29 Can Aid Global Warming Studies

Just before dawn Tuesday morning, July 29, a rare naked-eye celestial spectacle might be seen in the area. If clouds don't interfere, you can watch the thin crescent Moon uncover Aldebaran, a bright orange star in the constellation Taurus the Bull. Moreover, if you have a camcorder, you can point it at the Moon at the right time to film the star's sudden reappearance. Zoom in on the Moon, whose dark side will be faintly illuminated by sunlight reflected from the Earth, a couple of minutes before the star is due to pop out near the Moon's top. Astronomers use the term "occultation" for such eclipses of stars by the Moon. The International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA) is seeking video recordings from as many separate locations as possible in a program to chart the edge of the Moon in unprecedented detail. During the last 20 years, members of IOTA have determined small cyclic variations in the solar diameter from analysis of video recordings of over a dozen solar eclipses. These are probably significant for studies of global warming and other climactic changes, but our work is limited by our current knowledge of the heights of craters and valleys along the Moon's edge.

Select a location where trees or buildings will not block the view of the Moon, which will be rising low in the east. For precise timing, you need to keep the camcorder running, and before and after the reappearance, point the camcorder at your television set and record The Weather Channel, for one or two minutes. Each time, be sure to record part of the national broadcast not including the local forecast. Most camcorders have a time display to the nearest second, and that should be running during your recording.

If you record the occultation, your location needs to be measured to 50 feet or better, which can be done by counting paces from the nearest street intersection (both along the street, and perpendicular to it to the observing location), and by measuring your pace by counting paces between two street intersections. It would be useful to include some views of your observation place in the video. Please send your tape, or a copy of it, with the information about your position, to the author. Enclose a label or piece of paper with your address typed or printed, so that we can return your tape after we analyze it. Also, include a telephone number or an e-mail address so we can communicate with you if we have any questions about your observation.

For those without camcorders, the reappearance can be seen directly with the naked eye. It will help to block the bright part of the Moon with an outstretched finger, or position yourself so that it is blocked by a telephone pole, building, or other obstruction, while the dark side of the Moon remains visible. For those who get up about an hour earlier, camcorders held up to a telescope's eyepiece might catch Aldebaran's disappearance on the Moon's sunlit side not long after moonrise. Some optical aid, possibly binoculars, will be needed to see it.

This is the third occultation of a bright star by the crescent Moon visible from areas where camcorders are now common. The first was an Aldebaran eclipse in Europe in March, but few videos were made due to clouds. The second was visible from the west coast the evening of April 10, but most people interested in the sky were distracted by Comet Hale-Bopp, then at its brightest, so few observed that good event. After July 29, North America will have only one more good opportunity during the current series of Aldebaran events, on the evening of April 18, 1999 in the Northwest. Aldebaran is the brightest star other than the Sun, that can ever be eclipsed by the Moon. The Aldebaran eclipses come in series that last 4 years, with a 14-year gap before the next series, but only a few occur under good-enough conditions for naked-eye viewing from a given place.

More information about this occultation is on our web site at <http://www.sky.net/~robinson/iotaand1.htm>, which includes a list of local times of the event for dozens of cities. A local view of the Moon showing the path of Aldebaran behind it and including local event times is enclosed.

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Grazing Occultation Reduction Status Report

David Herald

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I give a revised list of corrections to grazing occultations in ILOC's files below (only a few of them are given here, as illustrative examples; the full list is available upon request). I was able to identify almost all events with the extra assistance of the IOTA file (one event had both the year and day wrong in ILOC, and the day wrong in IOTA--a tough one!). {The IOTA file is a summary list prepared by Don Stockbauer and Don Oliver, mainly covering grazes from 1974 to 1986. It is posted on IOTA's "sky.net" web site} I am using the P and D system, rather than Watts angle, and longitude and latitude librations, since there are not enough observations to reasonably cover the latter 3-D system. In the P and D system for grazes, P is almost the same as Watts angle, and D is close to the latitude libration for southern-limit grazes, and is approximately the negative of the latitude libration for northern-limit grazes. I am undertaking this analysis mainly to create better profiles in the Cassini regions with OCCULT.

I have made the corrections in my data set, and then re-reduced them all. Then I have split the data into bands of 1° total width, at intervals of 1° in the D coordinate (e.g. D from -2.5 to -3.5 in one file), keeping only data for D's and R's (ignoring blinks and flashes) and only had regard to components of doubles indicated as B, i.e., have tried to use reliable observations only (also, limited to certainty code of 1).

I then read the files into Excel, sorted them by P, and plotted the data. From this I was able to deduce fairly reliably the 'average' lunar profile--and erroneous observations generally stand out--for most values of D. Interestingly, the northern Cassini region is very uncertain for D between -2 and -4, whereas the southern Cassini region is uncertain at around -6 (large scatter in the residuals--suggesting that there is something which affects those observations, such as moon illumination?)

I hope to finish what I'm doing in the next few days. I will then send the updated corrections, and my derived profile data (at 0.5° intervals in P, 1° in D--and the data do not justify higher resolution). I think it may also be useful to publish the profile data in *Occultation Newsletter*--at least so people can have a better feel for the probable uncertainties in the data. I should also add that the profile that I have derived for the northern region is significantly different from what I had derived previously from the old ACLPPP data--generally somewhat lower. (I'm still to do the southern.)

When more data becomes available (e.g. pre 1977, post 1993) it should not be too much trouble to repeat the exercise. The most tedious part of the whole thing has been checking the original data for obvious errors.

Finally, I have come to the conclusion that using all of the graze data is far more preferable to using just 'well observed' grazes--e.g. there are several instances where there are a series of events reported which are quite clearly erroneous. Putting all the data into the solution shows up all such inconsistencies (and there is even one very well observed event that, despite my error checking, is clearly out by 3 arcseconds.)

I have attached the consolidated list of corrections to the ILOC graze data. There are only a couple of events that remain unresolved, although for a number of events where the correction is to the site coordinates, the correction is really only a 'best guess' and the original data ought to be checked to confirm. If that's not possible, the only other option I can think of is for someone to look at relevant survey maps to see what coordinates seem likely (e.g. on a road versus in the middle of nowhere!)--but that will be an incredibly time consuming task. (It might be better to contact the expedition leaders by email and ask them to check the site positions.)

My other observation at this stage concerns the 'certainty' code as reported by observers. Perhaps unsurprisingly, there are a fair few observations reported as certain which are not real. Perhaps observers need more guidance on this--but I suspect there may be an argument that graze organizers ought to be more critical of the reports they receive. For example, there are too many 'certain' events where the residual is more than 3 σ .

I think I have finished the Northern Cassini region in P, D. I have plotted the resulting data in Excel, and there is better consistency than in my previous data set. The profile varies between a maximum of about $+0.5^{\circ}$ (for P around 358° to 1°) and -0.8° (P around 2° to 3°).

For the Southern region, I haven't directly used the data from the Feb 2 graze in Europe--but that data are entirely consistent with the plots of the residuals that I have generated so far.

Some examples from my list of corrections are given below.

X 18369 = S 138744 on 76 Nov 19 at TA432 7601 Star should be X 19634 = S 158105

R1925 on 1976 Aug 27/28, at TD140 7601 Wrong date. Read 28/29

R1744 on 1977 May 28 at T9585 7781 Site coordinates wrong.

R648 on 1977 Feb 26 at TA170 04 hr for 03, read 02 (5 records)

X 23511 = S 160534 on 77 Mar 12 at TB413 7701 The observer's latitude should be 1° further north, i.e. 33° , not 32°

X 11017 = S 96848 on 77 Nov 2 site TB503030101 Observer's latitude appears to be wrong, but correction is not apparent. Latitude is given as $36^{\circ} 40'$, should be somewhere around $34^{\circ} 6'$. (This is a deep North Cassini graze, so it would be good if the error could be found.)

R 106 on 1981 Feb 8 at SI100 Ignore this graze. The data are unreliable. The star was at an altitude of 8° , 3 of the 6 telescopes were clearly of too small an aperture. Although data from 3 observers with 20 cm telescopes looks OK by themselves, they're inconsistent. Best to ignore all.

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

R2399 on 81 Sep 6 Site SN108 8142 Latitude for 39°, read 36°. Also, add 10 mins to all times.

R2513 on 1984 Jun 13 at TVG84. Subtract 10 hrs from all times (Local time reported!)

R483 on 1990 Feb 3 at SN286 Although a miss is reported, there is something wrong with the data (residuals 6700")

R2417 on 1992 May 18 at TU5B2 Ignore. Star mag 7.0 against a 98% moon with a 20 cm telescope. Star 1 mag too faint for visibility. Residuals all too large.

1997 Planetary, Cometary, and Asteroidal Occultations

David W. Dunham and Edwin Goffin

This is a continuation of the article with the same name on pages 316 to 325 of the last issue. The map on page 322 was not part of that article, but rather should have been with the article on occultations during the March 24 lunar eclipse on page 334. Dunham recently discovered an error in his computer program for these occultations that caused the position of the Moon to be up to 16° ahead of or behind its actual position, causing all of the information about the Moon given in the last 3 columns of Table 1 to be in error by that amount, and also the MR and MS points on the maps to be similarly incorrectly positioned, in the last *ON*. The data in Table 1 in this issue are correct, but the MR and MS points on the three regional maps given here have the error. The lunar data in IOTA's local circumstance appulse (LOCM) predictions, and on the charts by Goffin, are all correct.

The paths for 7 events in North America have been shifted from Goffin's prediction, and from those shown on Dunham's maps on pages 73 and 74 of the February issue of *Sky & Telescope*, based on improved positions and proper motions of the target stars from recent observations of them with the Carlsberg Automated Meridian Circle (CAMC). These stars have source code (under column "S", just before the Apparent R.A. and Dec.) "T" in Table 2. But they are not recent updates if the star's position originally came from a CAMC catalog, which is the case for stars whose "DM/ID No" in the middle of Table 2 starts with "CR".

Notes about Individual Events (April 29, May 22, and June 1 to September 19)

April 29, Kleopatra: In the last issue, I gave predictions for occultations of two GSC stars on this date. Jan Manek of Stefanik Observatory in Prague, Czech Republic, investigated this "double" and found only one star. Although the GSC field number (first 4 digits of the GSC number) of the two "stars" is the same, the stars are actually measures of the same star from two different plates, there are some other false "doubles" nearby. The positions of these stars given in GSC 1.2 are nearly identical (much closer than

the 2" difference of the GSC 1.1 positions) and have been used for a new prediction and path shown on the Western Hemisphere map given here. So rather than the two paths given on page 323 last time (extending down the Alaska peninsula, Vancouver Is., Washington to Texas, Jamaica, and just north of Trinidad for GSC 5559 0096, and across much of the north and equatorial Pacific, southern Peru, Bolivia, and Brazil over Belo Horizonte for GSC 5559 1159), there is only one path that crosses much of the Pacific Ocean missing North America well to the south, then crossing Ecuador (6:49 UTC), northeastern Peru (6:48 UTC), the Amazon basin, and just south of Recife, Brazil (6:45 UTC). The motion is east to west, opposite of the order in which I have described the paths. The GSC 1.2 positions are significantly more accurate than those of GSC 1.1 used for the old predictions, so it is quite certain that the occultation will not occur in North America. Too late for *ON*, I distributed this by email to observers in the areas described above the day before the event, and we also placed the Western Hemisphere map that shows the path (along with those for other good events on May 22 and from June 1 to Sept. 19) on IOTA's asteroidal occultation web site at <http://www.anomalies.com/iota/splash.htm>.

May 22, Eleonora: This was also given in the last issue, but now not only do we have a recent CAMC position for the star, but also the orbit of Eleonora has been updated by Martin Fedderspiel using dozens of CAMC observations of the asteroid, some of them very recent. The same technique was used to successfully predict last December 17's occultation by (704) Interamnia to within about 0.02", based on the 9 observations of that event made in California, Arizona, and New Mexico that have been reported to me, so the prediction for this occultation is also likely to be good to a small fraction of the path width, making it worthwhile for those who can to travel into the new path in the Pyrenees region (around 3:26 UTC), northern Newfoundland (3:32 UTC), Quebec (3:33 UTC), southern James Bay (3:34 UTC), and near Lake Winnipeg (3:35 UTC) to try to observe it.

June 2, Pallas: The path has been updated with Twin Astrographic Catalog (TAC) data for the star, and this moves the path northward into populous parts of Australia.

June 10: The star is ZC 3105 = HR 8122

June 15 SAO 187578 is a double star, B 418, with component magnitudes 8.8 and 13.8, separated by 1".5 in P.A. 156°. Separate predictions are now given for the two components, but any events involving B would be very difficult to observe, even if the seeing is good enough to resolve the components directly.

July 25, Sappho: SAO 92979 = 26 Arctis = ZC 370. Lunar occultation observations by Robert Sandy and others indicate that the star may be a close double, as described in *ON* (vol. 5, no. 2, pg. 57).

Aug. 3, Venus: Venus will be 84% sunlit with only a 2".05 defect of illumination in P.A. 110°. So the disappearance will be on the dark side, but so close to the sunlit part of Venus for such a faint star that observation will be doubtful. The central line (maybe with a central flash?) crosses New Zealand.

Aug. 12, Fortuna: SAO 146019 is Aitken Double Star (ADS) 15832 with components mag. 8.9 and 12.1, separated by 0".8 in

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

P.A. 212°. Separate predictions are given for the two components, but any events involving B would be very difficult to observe, even if the seeing is good enough to resolve the components directly.

Aug. 15: Mars will be 89% sunlit with only a 0°66 deficit of illumination in P.A. 111°. So the disappearance will be on the dark side, but so close to the sunlit part of Mars for this faint a star that observation will be doubtful. The central line is in the southern Indian Ocean.

Aug. 19: Simeisa: SAO 78005 = X08360.

Aug. 20, Mathilde: The asteroid is the slow-rotating flyby target of the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) mission. That flyby will be on June 27.

Aug. 28, Flora: SAO 128987 is the double star RST 4159 with components mag. 8.9 and 12.4, separated by 0°8 in P.A. 35°. Separate predictions are given for the two components, but any events involving B would be very difficult to observe, even if the seeing is good enough to resolve the components directly. Flora being 0.2 mag. brighter than the primary star will make B events even more difficult.

Aug. 28, Venus: Venus will be 76% sunlit with a 3°4 deficit of illumination in P.A. 113°. So the disappearance will be on the dark side, but it will be difficult to see a 9-mag. star this close to the dazzling planet. The central line is in the Atlantic Ocean north of Brazil.

Sep. 3, Mathilde: See Aug. 20 note. Goffin's original prediction had the path on the Earth's surface, but it used the GSC 1.1 position for the star; that catalog also gave the mag. as 5.6, which is much too bright. When the more accurate PPM data are used for this star, SAO 93528, the path misses the Earth's surface to the north, but there is a small chance that the actual path could shift south into Scandinavia.

Sep. 16: SAO 76505 = ZC 621 = HR 1297, a spectroscopic binary.

Sep. 3, Amphitrite: SAO 158462 = ZC 2045 = HR 5344.

Sep. 10, Venus: Venus will be 72% sunlit with a 4°2 deficit of illumination in P.A. 112°. So the disappearance will be on the dark side, but it will be difficult to see these two 9-mag. stars this close to the dazzling planet. The central line for PPM 717345 crosses Australia at latitude -20°; maybe a central flash could be seen there? The central line for PPM 717350 is in Antarctica.

Notes for events after Sep. 19 will be given in a future issue. 1

Table 4. Some Priority Events

1997 Date	Occulting Object	North Amer.	Other	IOTA	EAON	/ES
May 12	Rosa		x			
June 2	Pallas			x		
June 9	Polonia					x
June 10	Maria	x				x
June 14	Arachne			x		
June 17	Alsatia					x
June 26	Rosalia				x	x
June 27	Eunomia		x	x		
June 30	Sylvia		x			
June 30	Tercidina		x	x		
July 9	Lotis			x		x
July 13	Priska			x		
July 15	Psyche			x		
July 17	1994 JR1	x				
July 18	Bardwell					x
July 21	Metis	x				
July 24	Cophelia			x		
July 25	Sappho	x				
July 25	Iris			x		
July 27	Pales		x			
Aug. 4	Pallas	x				
Aug. 6	Roberta	x				
Aug. 8	Bavaria					x
Aug. 12	Fortuna		x	x		x
Aug. 13	Alauda		x	x		
Aug. 14	Dictima	x				
Aug. 19	Lanzia		x	x		
Aug. 19	Sylvia		x	x		x
Aug. 22	Marconia					x
Aug. 27	Zelima			x		
Sep. 2	Donnera		x	x		x
Sep. 3	Mathilde		x	x		
Sep. 4	Rusthawelia		x	x		x
Sep. 6	Cora					x
Sep. 13	Rosalia			x		x
Sep. 16	Repsolda	x				
Sep. 18	Euterpe		x	x		x
Sep. 18	Herculina	x				
Sep. 19	Merapi	x				

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 1. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 June - December, and 2 earlier occultations

1997 Universal Date	Time	P L A N E T	S T A R	Occultation	Possible Path														
					m	d.AU	SAO No	m	Sp	R.A. (1950)	Dec.	dm	dur	df	P	L	M	O	N
					V	V	b	m	s										
Apr 29	6 45-56	Kleopatra	12.2 2.457		12.2	13 50.1	-12 15	0.8	8	19 26	-31 -9 -95	6-160	45	172	88	59- e107W			
May 22*	3 25-35	Eleanora	10.6 1.899		9.8	82 16	56.3	4 16	1.2	14	24	3	5 42	-40 48	96 52	151	26 100+	all	
Jun 1	*18 20-25	Emma	13.2 2.134		10.4	16 19.9	-31 19	2.9 11	22	21	123	36	97 34	73 47	170	136	15- e123E		
Jun 2	0 11-28	Eunomia	9.4 1.908		11.3	17 55.7	-32 24	0.2 24	24	10	81-12	9-22	-58	7 160	119	13- e49E			
Jun 2*	14 53-61	Pallas	9.9 2.788		9.2	19 53.2	19 45	1.1	52	32	8	145-52	137-23	107-11	117	94- none			
Jun 3	22 31	Leto	11.3 2.649		9.9	R5 1	6.2	1 22	2.2	4	9 30	67 9	80 11	95 15	57	40 2- e90E			
Jun 4*	19 56-63	Irene	18.1 1.603	187684	9.3	B9 19	3.8	-24 16	1.2 19	30	15	171-55	174-74	-99-75	149 143	0- e171E			
Jun 5	12 23-44	Agrrippina	15.6 2.820		9.8	19 30.5	-30 59	5.9	3	34128	-9 167-38	114-25	144 145	0+ none					
Jun 8	23 36-75	Cornelia	14.7 2.121		9.8	20 24.3	-23 34	4.9	15	64 47	81 10	29-28	-48-35	135 172	14+ none				
Jun 9	3 13-40	Vinifera	15.0 1.915		10.3	12 31.6	-33 8	4.7	7	38 53	143-75-113-27	-91 38	119 78	15+ w157W					
Jun 9	4 16-21	Eurykleia	13.4 2.013		9.3	18 33.7	-33 32	4.2	8	26 33	(Bernuda, s-e USA)?	158 150	15+ none						
Jun 9	17 10-34	Hammonia	14.8 2.335		9.7	14 30.7	-8 15	5.1	6	44 89	145-34	75-34	5-23	139 88	19+ w 54E				
Jun 9 22	6-27	Erigone	14.1 1.951	163078	8.9	R5 19	50.3	-15 10	5.2	10	38 37	126-37	51-47	-25-38	141 164	21+ w 21W			
Jun 10*	8 35-89	Maria	14.0 2.010	164249	6.0	G5 21	12.3	-17 33	8.0	12	71 63	50-71	-74-19-111	58 124	175	24+ none			
Jun 11	1 52-53	Vibilia	12.4 2.311		14.2	1	8.5	2 39	0.2	4	9 23	21-37	39-33	58-28	63 129	30+ none			
Jun 14	4 10	Azachne	14.0 2.593		10.9	R	0 32.9	9 52	3.1	3	11 39	-37 26	-24 32	-11 41	71 169	59+ none			
Jun 14	16 20-24	Froswrpinal	7.7 2.549		9.8	23 58.4	-3 58	9.0	5	17 38	133-5	161-2-168	5 85	169	64+ none				
Jun 15	20 17-32	Alsatis	14.6 2.087	187578A	9.3	G2 18	58.2	-27 37	5.3	5	21 46	128 18	66-19	-14-16	161 80	74+ w 85E			
Jun 15	20 18-31	Alsatis	14.6 2.087	187578B	13.8	18 58.2	-27 37	1.2	2	21 46	110 34	60 2	0 161	80	74+ w 81E				
Jun 16*	5 44-60	Eunomia	9.2 1.849	209207	9.2	R5 17	81.1	-31 52	0.7	21	20 10	2-18	-86-33-163	4 171	59	78+ w 45W			
Jun 16	19 50	Denise	14.7 3.006	99847	9.1	R0 11	51.2	19	3	5.7	19 53	54 58	59 50	69 42	85 46	82+ all			
Jun 17	11 39-54	Metcalfe	14.5 1.900	187379	8.6	R0 18	49.1	-20 26	5.9	5	22 44	-74-37-169-44	111-20	164	57	87+ w115W			
Jun 18	4 11-20	Herculina	9.9 1.833		11.7	19 37.1	-19 48	0.2	20	24 12	5 20	-49-19-125-28	154 60	92+ w 9W					
Jun 18	19 0-40	JUPITER	-2.4 4.419		10.0	G0 21	35.2	-15 12	18691	110 2	Indoc, nAsia, AU, Ryukyu, NZ	126 80	95+ w130E						
Jun 19+23	22-49	Eurydike	11.3 1.159	209690	8.6	R0 18	7.3	-32 51	2.8	7	27 29	87 4	10-25	-74-3 170	19 99+	all			
Jun 21	23 43-59	Eurydike	13.2 1.980		10.1	18 21.8	-33 52	3.2	7	23 32	73 17	8-9	-63 10	168	19 99-	all			
Jun 22*	4 52-63	Medea	13.2 2.410	185330	9.7	W0 17	19.3	-27 45	3.5	10	22 25	-19 22	-77 11-135	33 170	29	97+ e134W			
Jun 23*	6 38	Aspasia	10.8 1.444	161873	8.5	B9 18	46.7	-11 51	2.4	16	23 12	(e-central Canada)?	165 24	92-	all				
Jun 23	14 27-34	Hecuba	12.7 2.252	185994	8.7	B8 17	54.6	-29 34	4.0	5	23 49	-179 41	142 31	103 43	173 41	90- e105E			
Jun 23	15 24-39	Eunomia	9.2 1.841		11.0	17 33.1	-31 23	0.2	21	20 10	-156-9-125-19	55 16	169	47	89- e 75E				
Jun 24	12 51-63	Cherubina	14.1 2.371		9.6	16 41.7	-18 22	4.5	6	22 39	-137 6	166 10	110 39	159 71	82- e132E				
Jun 25	3 49-77	Aeolia	12.9 1.326		10.0	19 23.9	-19 37	2.9	5	31 57	26 7	-48-19-124	-4 163	42	76- e 94W				
Jun 26+16	28-53	Eurydike	11.3 1.140	209533	8.4	R5 17	55.1	-32 54	3.0	7	27 29	179 10	106-14	29 9	169	85 50- e 98E			
Jun 27+18	57-67	Pales	13.3 2.688	18416010	3	F8 16	5.7	-23 14	3.1	13	28 25	-132 24-177 20	137 38	149 120	51- e165W				
Jun 27+23	14-23	Eunomia	9.3 1.843		9.7	17 29.6	-31 4	0.6	21	21 10	(Mideast, s-Europe)?	165 108	45- e 15E						
Jun 28	16 34-48	Sigalinde	13.7 1.942		8.8	A2 17	8.1	-23 29	4.9	8	27 35	-156-57	83-64	13-31	162 123	37- e144E			
Jun 29	1 56-81	Neujmina	15.0 2.176	184039	9.0	R0 20	56.6	-10 27	6.0	5	38 83	66-30	-8-20	-78-1 143	74	33- e 10W			
Jun 29*	9 4	Parthenopei	14.3 2.387	110119	9.4	R0 1	43.8	6 50	2.1	6	11 21	(Mont, s-een Canada)?	71 4	30- e113W					
Jun 30+15	25-43	Sylvia	12.0 2.353	189520	8.9	R0 20	35.7	-29 26	3.1	26	29 13	-156 15	148-32	54-37	152 103	18- e170E			
Jun 30+16	56-75	Nephthys	11.2 1.313	162812	8.9	R0 19	33.8	-11 21	2.4	8	25 27	-165-15-129-41	28-54	162 116	16- e153E				
Jun 30+20	16-30	Tercidina	13.1 1.830		11.9	14 17.0	-7 58	1.5	24	64 27	4 39	27 38	53 40	116 164	16- none				
Jul 1	1* 8 20-27	Herculina	9.6 1.799		9.7	19 25.4	-21 21	0.7	16	20 12	-118 58-143 32	179 25	169 127	13- none					
Jul 1	1 15 47-63	Ursula	11.9 2.041		11.0	16 32.7	-7 44	3.6	1	1.3	27 28	174 7	-114-13	71 32	146 151	10- none			
Jul 1	3 7 55-56	Euterpe	11.8 2.572		10.6	G5 3	0 6	15 48	1.5	3	8 32	-50-29	-47-24	-30-17	54 36	2- e 39W			
Jul 3	22 50-60	Alfaterna	16.6 2.479	165806	8.1	E2 23	35.1	-10 15	8.5	5	34 80	27 49	68 29	96 6	111 101	1- e 92E			
Jul 5*	5 53-68	Massalia	10.0 1.740		10.1	18 41.8	-22 1	0.7	12	21 17	53 20	-16 0	-91 12	178 173	0+ none				
Jul 5	9 3-21	Margarita	14.1 1.752		9.8	R0 19	30.3	-17 30	4.3	3	23 71	-61 14	-131 1	153 6	170 178	14 none			
Jul 6*	15 37-56	Aspasia	10.7 1.446		9.8	18 34.0	-11 6	1.3	16	23 12	-159 0	125 0	49 16	167 152	44+ w 57E				
Jul 9	1 22-35	Lotis	13.8 1.741		9.5	17 41.9	-11 24	4.3	7	25 36	26 35	-26 30	-84 35	156 111	17+ w 59W				
Jul 9 10	21-37	Saskia	15.9 2.549	185170	9.3	G5 17	18.4	-21 7	6.6	4	28 85	-96-20-169-37	113-26	152 100	19+ w160E				
Jul 9 10	25-51	Patroclus	15.8 4.759	183208	9.2	F0 15	5.9	-25 8	6.6	2	77 46	-127-25	176-45	97-45	124 72	19+ w154E			
Jul 10	16 13-25	Brasilia	14.4 2.090	211095	7.9	R0 19	12.2	-38 56	6.6	4	21 52	-152-17	154-62	5-54	163 110	29+ w 79E			
Jul 12	6 26-37	Pallas	9.6 2.576		10.5	19 27.8	-20 31	0.4	34	20 7	-48 46-120	31-176	4 137	100	44+ w107W				
Jul 12	15 37-55	Neucia	13.0 2.323		10.8	17 39.4	-29 15	2.6	6	29 50	-173-16	112-33	38-12 155	69 48+ w125E					
Jul 12	21 27-50	Ottagobe	13.4 1.533		9.5	20 54.2	-7 39	3.9	5	35 62	101 36	38 17	-21 11	154 113	50+ w 31E				
Jul 12	22 17-37	Eichsfeldia	13.2 1.355		10.3	21 6.1	-14 40	3.0	8	29 29	76 46	25 14	-30 4	155 114	50+ w 20E				
Jul 14	2 28-53	Susanna	14.6 2.452		10.1	19 27.9	-3 15	4.6	8	55 83	-106 21	-117-26-168-68	118 19	62+ all					

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 2. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 June - December, and 2 earlier events

1997 Date No.	M I N O R P L A N E T	Motion km-Diam.-//	RSOI Type	"/day	P.A. "	SAO No	DM/ID No	D	U	T	Min.	Geocentric	Apparent			Ephem. Source	
													S	E	R.A.	Dec.	
Apr 29	216 Kleopatra	137 0.08	722 M	0.215	301.8	55590096	6 50.5	1.43N	9 13	52.6	-12 29	Goffin99					
May 22	354*Eleonora	162 0.12	751 S	0.201	279.0	M 163336	3 29.2	3.19N	T 16	58.6	4 14	CIMC-MF					
Jun 1	283*Eros	150 0.10	742 X	0.204	285.3	M 294969	18 22.7	3.82N	M 16	22.0	-31 20	MPC16554					
Jun 2	15 Eunomia	272 0.20	1665 S	0.199	277.9	73821283	0 18.8	0.75N	J 17	58.8	-32 26	MPC24219					
Jun 2	2*Pallas	533 0.26	5341 B	0.121	318.5	16241421	14 57.0	2.79S	B 19	55.3	19 52	Goffin92					
Jun 3	68 Leto	127 0.07	417 S	0.448	66.9	M 144306	22 33.6	1.74N	L 1	8.6	1 37	MPC24548					
Jun 4	14*Irene	158 0.13	628 S	0.171	240.4	187684	M 269816	19 57.7	4.81S	M 19	6.7	-24 12	MPC24219				
Jun 5	645 Agrrippina	32 0.02	86 S	0.116	248.7	M 299120	12 33.3	0.16S	M 19	33.5	-30 53	MPC18085					
Jun 8	425 Cornelia	66 0.04	202	0.070	229.6	M 736211	23 52.0	0.45N	M 20	27.2	-23 24	MPC24549					
Jun 9	759 Vinifera	52 0.04	124	0.123	21.4	M 744420	3 25.9	0.33S	M 12	34.2	-33 24	MPC16006					
Jun 9	195 Eurykleia	89 0.06	322 C	0.180	257.8	M 749868	4 16.0	4.69N	M 18	36.8	-33 29	Goffin96					
Jun 9	723 Harmonia	38 0.02	96	0.096	278.7	M 197668	17 23.9	1.54S	M 14	33.2	-8 28	MPC16392					
Jun 9	163 Erigone	76 0.05	240 C	0.124	264.9	163076	M 236637	22 34.9	2.39S	M 19	53.0	-15 3	Goffin90				
Jun 10	170*Maria	46 0.03	109 S	0.064	344.7	164249	M 238586	9 2.2	0.06N	T 21	15.0	-17 21	MPC24549				
Jun 11	144 Vibilia	146 0.09	467 C	0.498	69.3	CR0 1172	1 55.3	1.26S	T 1	10.9	2 54	Goffin92					
Jun 14	407 Arachne	97 0.05	303 C	0.359	59.5	M 116607	4 11.7	2.73N	M 0	35.4	10 8	Goffin92					
Jun 14	26 Proserpina	98 0.05	332 S	0.246	69.4	M 181751	16 25.3	0.91N	M 24	0.8	-3 42	Goffin96					
Jun 15	971 Alastia	66 0.04	212	0.210	245.1	187578	M 269206	A 20 24.5	0.78N	M 19	1.1	-27 33	MPC12681				
Jun 15	971 Alastia	66 0.04	212	0.210	245.1	187578	M 269206	B 20 24.5	2.28N	M 0	1.1	-27 33	MPC12681				
Jun 16	15*Eunomia	272 0.20	1651 S	0.236	283.6	209207	M 296743	5 52.1	0.11S	M 17	44.2	-31 53	MPC24219				
Jun 16	667 Denise	83 0.04	301	0.196	117.9	99847	M 128632	19 50.0	2.70N	L 11	53.6	18 48	MPC14758				
Jun 17	792 Metcalfia	63 0.05	186	0.214	277.5	187379	M 269005	11 46.0	1.99S	M 18	51.9	-20 23	MPC22666				
Jun 18	532 Hercalina	217 0.16	1145 S	0.200	235.5	63070388	4 18.9	0.65N	J 19	39.9	-19 41	Goffin88					
Jun 18	JUPITER 140904 21.96			0.028	242.6	M 239120	19 27.6	7.63N	M 21	37.8	-14 59	DE200					
Jun 19	75*Eurydike	58 0.07	123 M	0.223	265.3	209690	M 297224	23 35.6	0.96N	M 18	5.5	-32 51	Goffin97				
Jun 21	195 Eurykleia	89 0.06	323 C	0.205	265.3	C3313181	23 51.0	1.84N	M 18	25.0	-33 51	Goffin96					
Jun 22	212*Medea	140 0.08	729 DCX	0.189	278.0	185330	M 265771	4 57.3	2.36N	M 17	22.3	-27 47	MPC25033				
Jun 23	409*Aspasia	168 0.16	684 CX	0.236	286.6	161973	M 235073	6 37.8	6.22N	M 18	49.3	-11 47	MPC24549				
Jun 23	108 Hecuba	67 0.04	231 S	0.189	271.8	185994	M 267569	14 30.5	3.42N	M 17	57.6	-29 34	Goffin96				
Jun 23	15 Eunomia	272 0.20	1644 S	0.237	287.0	73760460	15 31.8	1.06N	J 17	36.2	-31 25	MPC24219					
Jun 24	568 Cheraskia	89 0.05	361	0.195	294.3	M 232106	12 57.4	2.10N	M 16	44.5	-18 27	MPC25167					
Jun 25	396 Aeolia	34 0.04	59	0.183	269.5	M 720617	4 2.4	0.52N	M 19	26.7	-19 31	MPC19474					
Jun 26	75*Eurydike	58 0.07	122 M	0.229	268.8	209533	M 297067	16 40.7	2.44N	M 17	58.2	-32 54	Goffin87				
Jun 27	49*Pales	154 0.08	885 CG	0.142	266.5	184160	M 265176	11 2.6	2.42N	M 16	8.5	-23 21	Goffin96				
Jun 27	15*Eunomia	272 0.20	1640 S	0.232	289.1	M 748797	23 18.5	4.91N	M 17	31.7	-31 6	MPC24219					
Jun 28	552 Sigelinda	81 0.06	275	0.176	288.7	M 266519	16 41.3	2.89S	M 17	11.0	-23 32	MPC16209					
Jun 29	1129 Neujmina	38 0.02	92 S	0.116	283.5	164039	M 238184	2 7.7	0.92S	M 20	59.2	-10 16	MPC19483				
Jun 29	11*Parthenope	162 0.09	601 S	0.388	73.5	110119	M 144968	9 6.0	4.16N	M 1	46.3	7 4	MPC24085				
Jun 30	87*Sylvia	271 0.16	1896 P	0.149	231.2	189520	M 271425	15 33.4	0.11N	M 20	38.6	-29 16	MPC24085				
Jun 30	287*Nephthys	70 0.07	174 S	0.227	248.5	162812	M 236234	17 5.6	3.54S	M 19	36.5	-11 15	Goffin93				
Jun 30	345*Tercidina	100 0.09	316 C	0.075	95.3	CR1 1641	20 13.7	3.59N	T 14	19.5	-8 11	MPC23324					
Jul 1	532*Herculina	217 0.17	1154 S	0.243	239.7	631 2129	8 23.4	4.29N	J 19	29.2	-21 15	Goffin88					
Jul 1	375 Ursula	106 0.07	413 C	0.167	307.6	78660637	15 55.2	2.60N	J 16	36.1	-44 42	MPC24549					
Jul 1	37 Euterpe	116 0.06	352 S	0.490	74.1	M 118780	7 57.9	1.13S	M 3	3.2	15 59	Goffin96					
Jul 3	1193 Alfaterna	45 0.03	117	0.121	125.4	165806	M 2 7761	23 0.8	1.13N	M 23	37.6	-9 39	MPC19984				
Jul 5	20*Massalia	151 0.12	659 S	0.241	265.7	M 734362	1 0.2	1.96N	M 18	44.7	-21 58	MPC24085					
Jul 5	310 Margarita	36 0.03	77	0.213	264.5	M 720773	9 12.0	1.38N	M 19	33.0	-17 23	Goffin90					
Jul 6	409*Aspasia	168 0.16	686 CX	0.233	280.1	M 234795	15 46.6	1.19N	M 18	36.6	-11 3	MPC24549					
Jul 9	429 Lotis	70 0.06	204 C	0.195	272.7	M 233542	1 29.4	3.38N	M 17	44.6	-11 25	MPC15529					
Jul 9	461 Sankia	45 0.02	199 FCX	0.142	272.1	185170	M 266577	10 29.5	0.93S	M 17	13.3	-21 10	MPC14755				
Jul 9	617 Patroclus	149 0.04	1259 P	0.039	268.4	183208	M 263861	10 42.4	0.75S	M 15	8.7	-25 19	Goffin88				
Jul 10	293 Brasilia	58 0.04	175 CX	0.214	251.2	211095	M 298757	16 19.3	2.25S	M 19	15.5	-38 51	Goffin96				
Jul 12	2 Pallas	533 0.29	5382 B	0.202	250.9	16090567	6 30.4	1.11N	J 19	29.9	20 37	Goffin92					
Jul 12	108 Hecuba	67 0.04	231 S	0.149	279.0	C2913687	15 46.6	0.23S	J 17	42.5	-29 17	Goffin96					
Jul 12	670 Ottegebe	36 0.03	69	0.151	253.2	M 2 4643	23 37.4	2.84N	M 20	56.7	-7 28	MPC19476					
Jul 12	442 Bischfeldia	67 0.07	164 C	0.193	240.0	M 722544	22 26.4	3.92N	M 21	8.8	-14 28	MPC15529					
Jul 14	542 Susanna	43 0.02	111 S	0.076	187.0	M 198659	2 35.4	0.77W	M 15	30.3	-3 24	MPC19475					
Jul 15	306*Unitas	49 0.07	88 S	0.173	228.5	164213	M 238525	16 22.5	5.97S	M 21	12.3	-11 50	Goffin96				
Jul 16	1240 Centenaria	60 0.05	156	0.194	292.2	209038	M 297376	13 42.1	1.40N	M 19	11.9	-34 35	MPC17179				
Jul 16	108 Hecuba	67 0.04	231 S	0.134	281.0	C2913837	17 1.8	0.75S	J 17	39.9	-29 11	Goffin96					
Jul 17	0*1994JRL	160 0.01	1083	0.014	273.2	159935	M 231740	3 53.2	0.12N	M 16	28.6	-17 59	MPC25341				
Jul 17	101 Helena	68 0.04	164 S	0.337	56.7	CR0 1044	3 58.3	0.79S	J 1	53.0	15 54	MPC22796					
Jul 17	354*Eleonora	162 0.10	768 S	0.145	198.4	1215142	M 162546	3 58.8	1.96S	M 16	22.1	0 30	Goffin92				
Jul 17	342 Endymion	65 0.03	184 C	0.248	104.2	M 196260	9 30.4	0.17S	M 13	11.5	-9 10	MPC25186					
Jul 17	18 Melampus	148 0.06	648 S	0.310	113.9	+08 2548	17 24.0	0.56S	U 11	52.3	7 34	MPC24085					
Jul 18																	

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 1. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 (continued)

1997 Universal Date	Time	P L A N E T	S T A R	Occultation												Possible Path				E1	M	O	N		
				m	d.RA.	SAO No	m	Sp	R.A.(1950)	Dec.	dm	dur	df	P	LolLat	ZoMLaE	Sun	El	*Snl	up					
h m s	v	b m	v	b	m	s	b	m	s	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Aug 2 12 8-25	Brechia	12.9 1.307	9.7	18 36.9	-34 30	3.2	3	21 51	-143	8 174-37	63-66	146	153	1-	none										
Aug 3 6 27	VENUS	-3.2 1.344	9.7 F5	10 56.4	8 11	251	5	1	172-37	176-39-176-40	32	33	0-	none											
Aug 3 11 49	JUPITER	-2.7 4.055	10.1 F8	21 19.5	-16 37	4462	25	2	Antarctica?	n	173	174	0+	none											
Aug 3 17 14-20	Laurentia	14.4 2.674	9.7	15 18.0	-22 30	4.7	10	30 37	30 24	55 23	81	27	102	98	0+	none									
Aug 3 21 4-31	Unitas	10.6 0.988	10.1	20 56.1	-14 42	1.1	7	26 29	105 40	38 5	-45-29	177	175	0+	none										
Aug 4 1 0-7	Angelica	16.4 3.684	182669	7.6 G5	14 31.6	-22 16	8.8	5	32 99	-93 8	-63 0	-31 5	92	84	0+	none									
Aug 4 1 20-25	Nuwa	14.1 3.094	10.3	14 15.3	-12 26	3.9	9	20 29	-105-19	-73-24	-37-23	85	77	1+	w10SW										
Aug 4* 4 17-21	Pallas	9.6 2.599	104597	7.5 F0	19 10.3	17 55	2.3	31	18	7	(sw Canada, w USA)?s	136	135	1+	none										
Aug 5* 0 30	Hygies	11.9 3.946	76809	8.6 F8	4 50.3	24 49	3.4	14	13 13	29	8 45	16	65	25	58	76	3+	none							
Aug 5 6 28	Amalthea	13.3 2.128	12.4	1 50.6	5 36	1.3	5	32 66	-95 60	-90 60	-82 61	105	125	3+	none										
Aug 6* 5 1-89	Roberta	12.4 1.402	128727	9.1 G5	0 20.3	-6	6	3.3 40	100 22	-92 62	-36 5	7-50	129	160	7+	none									
Aug 7 10 1-18	Barbara	12.3 1.306	9.4	16 51.6	-5 47	3.0	5	23 43	142 32	161-20	-136-58	117	74	14+	w160E										
Aug 8 0 52-72	Nora	12.0 0.814	9.8	20 4.7	-15 25	2.4	7	30 29	51	0 25-33	66-67	164	114	19+	none										
Aug 8*16 49-60	Hestia	13.2 2.091	9.3	15 41.0	-16 47	3.9	13	28 23	23-14	62-22	108-18	101	43	24+	w 7SE										
Aug 9*17 55-109	Marghannat	3.0 1.397	227999	0.5 G5	17 24.8	-46 50	4.5	29	89 26	-23-70	5-31	0 13	124	72	24+	all									
Aug 9 18 44	Bavaria	13.5 1.587	9.3	20 33.9	-17 2	4.2	5	24 42	32 56	30 54	26 52	171	112	24+	all										
Aug 9 22 46	Elpis	13.8 3.189	139550	9.5 F2	13 45.2	-3 44	4.3	7	14 27	-71-33	-46-40	-14-43	70	10	26+	all									
Aug 9 27 26-43	Elfriede	13.5 2.421	9.3	1 55.4	-9 37	4.2	12	30 28	-119 3	-73-26	-5-67	111	163	29+	none										
Aug 9 23 24-39	Chryses	12.1 2.358	164538	7.5 G5	21 35.5	-15	8	4.6	6	21 40	82 31	9-7	-75-21	176	112	35+	w 9W								
Aug 10 14 23-39	Ceres	7.9 2.044	11.3	23 10.7	-21 26	0.0	83	25	3	-159 47	151 0	87-13	153	123	41+	w130E									
Aug 10 16 17-38	Helga	14.7 2.699	187092	9.6 A0	18 36.1	-22 21	5.1	15	44 35	137 30	87	6 30	-3 141	61	42+	w100E									
Aug 12 22 49-54	Philia	17.1 3.068	183078	9.4 A7	14 57.5	-23 46	7.7	3	22 93	-37-23	-1-21	34-11	89	20	63+	all									
Aug 12*23 16-37	Fortuna	9.8 1.237	1460198	8.9 G5	22 17.1	-7 56	1.3	22	28 16	72 48	5 23	-58 12	166	86	65+	w 15E									
Aug 12 23 18-37	Fortuna	9.8 1.237	1460198	12.1	22 17.1	-7 56	0.1	22	28 10	62 51	1 27	-55 17	166	86	65+	w 13E									
Aug 13* 4 12	Alauda	13.4 3.375	11.5	4 8.0	38 35	2.1	8	15 24	-41	8 -25 24	-3 43	73	157	67+	none										
Aug 13 15 55-82	Braunilia	15.0 2.291	210565	8.6 A2	18 43.8	-39 37	6.4	9	46 57	149 9	94-8	37 14	136	31	72+	w143E									
Aug 14 8 9-22	Ianthe	13.5 2.179	10.4	21 5.0	-32 13	3.2	8	20 29	-39-19	-121-46	149-23	161	48	78+	w 76W										
Aug 14* 8 35-42	Diotima	11.5 1.985	213195	9.2 F0	21 37.9	-30 54	2.5	18	24 13	-123 49	-149 29	175 29	164	55	78+	all									
Aug 14 9 55-71	Ceres	7.8 2.027	191707	9.3 K0	23 8.3	-21 52	0.2	79	24	5	-68 5-122-38	129-52	156	76	79+	w105W									
Aug 15 13 40	MARS	1.1 1.552	158218	9.0 F8	13 51.1	-12 4	2.34	8	1	64-39	94-42	127-41	68	72	88+	all									
Aug 17*21 18-58	Flora	9.0 1.095	9.5	0 40.1	-4 25	0.5	42	62	11	7	3	36-27	9-73	134	54	100+	all								
Aug 19* 0 51-69	Lanzia	13.7 2.319	143691	8.7 A0	19 38.5	-2 26	5.0	12	31 29	32 30	-33 20	-97 8	146	41	99-	all									
Aug 19*20 12-22	Sylvia	12.0 2.365	10.4	19 59.9	-32 40	1.8	31	35 13	49 44	20 31	-12 37	167	51	97-	all										
Aug 19 23 30-31	Simeissa	15.2 3.666	78005	7.7 BB	6 5.0	23 45	7.5	3	11 90	44 11	61 18	83 25	55	103	97-	all									
Aug 20 0 16-48	Nora	12.4 0.864	9.6	20 0	-17 44	2.9	8	38 31	36 26	9-21	62-62	152	50	96-	all										
Aug 20 17 34-39	Mathilde	14.3 1.736	9.0	3 21.7	15	6	5.3	4	17 41	92 21	126 30	167 36	95	53	92-	all									
Aug 21 18 51-62	Telamon	16.4 4.313	10.0 F8	0 12.7	3 44	6.4	10	37 54	137 52	79 39	27 29	144	11	84-	all										
Aug 22* 7 11-24	Berthold	13.4 2.511	11.8	22 18.6	-0 31	1.8	11	23 25	47 46	-119 26	175 11	168	47	80-	e150W										
Aug 23*20 45-55	Merapi	13.0 2.314	10.5	23 12.4	-35 20	2.6	13	24 21	76 43	43 13	-2 14	152	70	63-	e 26E										
Aug 26 0 27	Ornamenta	13.9 3.261	10.3 G	7 9.0	22 36	3.7	3	9 30	45 11	56 15	69 21	46	33	40-	all										
Aug 26 11 50-60	Ohio	14.7 2.264	126477	7.6 A0	20 59.4	7 20	7.1	6	22 42	-175 73	135 39	98 8	153	120	35-	e161E									
Aug 27 2 29-40	Eriphygia	12.6 1.626	9.7 G0	22 43.4	-12 27	3.0	4	24 62	(Icel., e.N.America)?s	174	109	30-	none												
Aug 28* 7 19-54	Flora	8.7 1.018	128987A	8.9 F8	0 48.7	-5 27	0.7	38	54 10	-30 13	-46-23	-26-63	144	93	19-	all									
Aug 28 7 17-52	Flora	8.7 1.018	128987B	12.4	0 48.7	-5 27	0.0	38	54 10	-32 13	-46-23	-32-63	144	93	19-	all									
Aug 29 21 33	VERUS	-3.3 1.178	138982	9.2 H5	12 47.0	-4 51	2.9	1	5 1	-43 9	-37 9	-28 8	38	83	15-	none									
Aug 29 22 14-18	Wratislavina	13.8 3.204	9.1 K2	15 48.4	-19 7	4 7	8	20 33	-57-21	-24-17	8 -8	84	129	15-	none										
Aug 29* 6 4-8	Alauda	13.2 3.168	11.0	4 24.3	39 51	2.3	11	20 23	94 22	-78 43	-62 68	85	48	12-	e 70W										
Aug 30 22 26-35	Eurydike	12.3 1.385	10.9	17 43.3	-29 46	1.7	6	24 35	-55 3	-29 14	-2 33	109	131	4-	none										
Sep 1 20 53-66	Hecuba	13.9 2.888	9.7	17 33.1	-27 52	4.2	8	39 63	-39-54	13-38	52-15	105	106	0-	none										
Sep 2 0 8-26	Felicitas	12.8 1.703	10.0	20 45.4	-26 46	2.3	10	29 27	35 20	-23 8	-83 24	147	146	0-	none										
Sep 2* 10 1.091	Aurora	13.3 3.004	11.7	5 39.3	30 16	1.8	9	14 21	41 0	61 12	87 26	74	85	1+	none										
Sep 3 1 49-53	Mathilda	14.1 1.621	93528	8.2 G5	3 35.6	14 59	5.9	6	24 39																

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc (IOTA)

Table 2. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 (continued)

1997 Date No.	MINOR Name	PLANE T Km-Diam.-// RSOI	Motion "/day	S P A R RAO No	Min. Geocentric IM/ID No D	A. T. Sep. h m	Ephem.	
							U. T.	Sep.
Aug 2	323 Brucia	37 0.04 64 S	0.273 232.0	M 749929	12 17.2 2.215 M 18 40.1	-34 27	Goffin96	
Aug 3	VENUS	12220 12.53	1.199 114.0	M 157396	6 24.8 2.268 M 10 58.9	7 56 DE200		
Aug 3	JUPITER	140904 23.95	0.129 251.0	M 238746	11 48.0 25.203 M 21 22.1	-16 24 DE200		
Aug 3	162 Laurentia	105 0.05 423 STU	0.132 105.4	M 264126	17 13.7 2.46N M 15 20.7	-22 41 Goffin96		
Aug 3	306 Unitas	49 0.07 88 S	0.251 231.8	M 722366	21 17.2 1.51N M 20 58.7	-14 30 Goffin96		
Aug 4	965 Angelica	54 0.02 197	0.107 115.3	182669 M 263126	0 59.4 1.34N M 14 34.3	-22 23 MPC25188		
Aug 4	150 Nusa	157 0.07 802 CK	0.188 108.9	M 228586	1 18.8 0.125 M 14 17.9	-12 39 MPC25186		
Aug 4	2*Pallas	533 0.28 5398 R	0.221 224.9	104597 M 135945	4 19.8 2.74N L 19 12.4	18 0 Goffin92		
Aug 5	10*Hygies	429 0.15 4020 C	0.251 83.2	76909 M 93855	0 33.9 0.44M L 4 53.1	24 54 MPC24219		
Aug 5	113 Amalthea	47 0.03 107 S	0.141 87.1	CRO 1944	6 32.6 3.60N T 1 53.1	5 50 MPC25033		
Aug 6	335*Roberta	93 0.09 252 FP	0.055 154.2	128727 M 143429	5 45.9 0.04N T 0 22.8	0 10 MPC25034		
Aug 7	234 Barbara	64 0.05 74 S	0.245 158.1	M 2 142	10 7.3 1.06N O 16 54.2	-5 52 Goffin93		
Aug 8	783 Nora	41 0.07 61 --	0.244 212.6	M 721505	1 1.6 0.655 M 20 7.4	-15 16 MPC19478		
Aug 8	46*Hestia	131 0.09 482 F	0.164 107.8	M 230659	16 49.7 0.12N M 15 43.7	-16 56 Goffin95		
Aug 8	735*Margherita	77 0.08 186 C	0.062 356.6	227999 M 322995	18 15.1 1.98W M 17 28.4	-46 52 Goffin94		
Aug 8	301 Bavaria	55 0.05 136	0.213 245.9	M 722052	18 45.1 5.43N M 20 36.6	-15 52 Goffin94		
Aug 8	59 Elpis	173 0.07 880 CP	0.263 113.6	139550 M 196887	22 43.9 0.94S M 13 47.6	-3 58 MPC24219		
Aug 9	618 Elfriede	124 0.07 524 C	0.138 127.6	M 184063	7 35.1 1.94S M 1 57.7	-9 23 MPC16389		
Aug 9	202 Chryseos	85 0.05 340 E	0.200 241.4	164538 M 239129	23 31.5 0.53N M 21 38.1	-14 55 Goffin94		
Aug 10	1 Ceres	933 0.63 10948 G	0.182 229.7	64010097	14 31.0 2.09N J 23 13.2	-21 10 Goffin92		
Aug 10	522 Helga	113 0.06 568 X	0.090 254.7	187092 M 268703	16 30.1 1.30N M 18 39.0	-22 19 MPC18085		
Aug 12	280 Philis	48 0.02 138	0.172 100.3	183078 M 263664	20 47.8 0.11N M 15 0.2	-23 57 Goffin95		
Aug 12	19*Fortuna	171 0.19 644 G	0.211 248.9	146019 M 2 6231 A	23 26.2 4.06N O 22 19.6	-7 41 MPC24219		
Aug 12	19 Fortuna	171 0.19 644 G	0.211 248.9	146019 M 2 6231 B	23 27.4 4.54N O 22 19.6	-7 41 MPC24219		
Aug 13	702*Alauda	202 0.08 1195 C	0.235 69.4	28788902	4 15.2 0.91N J 4 11.2	38 42 MPC24086		
Aug 13	293 Brasilia	58 0.03 176 CX	0.093 282.5	210565 M 298159	16 10.2 2.09N M 18 47.1	-39 34 Goffin96		
Aug 14	98 Ianthe	169 0.07 462 CG	0.220 270.6	M 3 1051	8 15.8 1.04S M 21 9.0	-32 1 MPC24219		
Aug 14	473*Dictiona	217 0.15 1224 C	0.196 247.2	213195 M 3 1695	8 38.4 3.96N T 21 40.7	-30 41 Goffin92		
Aug 14	1 Ceres	933 0.63 10948 G	0.193 232.9	191707 M 274679	10 2.9 1.14S M 23 10.8	-23 37 Goffin92		
Aug 15	MARS	6782 0.02	0.617 111.7	152128 M 227981	13 37.1 1.78S M 13 53.6	-12 18 DE200		
Aug 17	8*Flora	141 0.18 419 S	0.100 144.8	M 182724	21 38.2 6.115 M 0 50.5	-4 9 MPC24084		
Aug 19	683*Lanzia	116 0.07 516	0.139 257.5	143691 M 2 3178	1 1.6 1.23N M 19 41.0	-2 19 Goffin87		
Aug 19	87*Sylvia	271 0.16 1875 P	0.121 261.8	M 751167	20 16.8 3.35N M 20 2.9	-32 32 MPC24085		
Aug 19	748 Simeissa	107 0.04 456 P	0.308 91.8	78005 M 95450	23 32.9 0.32N M 6 7.9	-23 44 MPC14759		
Aug 20	783 Nora	41 0.07 62 --	0.186 195.3	M 721397	0 31.9 6.745 M 20 2.7	-17 36 MPC19478		
Aug 20	253 Mathilde	61 0.05 128	0.289 88.6	12331090	17 40.0 1.84N J 3 24.4	15 16 Goffin95		
Aug 21	1749 Telamon	115 0.04 820	0.084 256.7	M 143298	18 55.1 1.35N M 0 15.1	4 0 EMP 1986		
Aug 22	420*Bertholdia	146 0.08 797 P	0.178 250.6	CRO 2 651	7 17.4 1.76N T 22 21.0	-0 18 MPC16005		
Aug 23	536*Merupi	158 0.09 830 X	0.175 242.3	M 3 3520	20 49.9 3.00N M 23 15.0	-35 4 MPC17407		
Aug 26	350 Ornamenta	123 0.05 468 C	0.383 84.4	L4 365	0 29.6 0.59N H 7 11.8	22 31 Goffin93		
Aug 26	439 Ohio	79 0.05 289 X	0.197 230.0	126477 M 171151	11 54.8 2.46N M 21 1.7	7 31 MPC25034		
Aug 27	462 Eriphyle	38 0.03 79 S	0.211 243.5	M 723191	2 34.3 5.45N M 22 45.9	-12 11 MPC17797		
Aug 28	8*Flora	141 0.19 416 S	0.120 194.3	128987 M 182735 A	7 32.6 4.95S O 0 51.1	-5 12 MPC24084		
Aug 28	8 Flora	141 0.19 416 S	0.120 194.3	128987 M 182735 B	7 30.1 4.66S O 0 51.1	-5 12 MPC24084		
Aug 26	VENUS	12220 14.30	1.180 115.6	130982 M 195871	21 31.5 4.27N M 12 49.5	-5 7 DE200		
Aug 28	690 Wratislavialia	40 0.06 696 CPP	0.181 93.3	M 230846	22 12.4 0.10S M 15 51.2	-19 15 Goffin89		
Aug 29	702*Alauda	202 0.09 1196 C	0.187 66.4	28832408	6 8.1 1.86N J 4 27.6	39 58 MPC24086		
Aug 30	75 Burydike	58 0.06 112 M	0.229 75.1	C2913959	22 25.8 3.55N U 17 46.4	-29 47 Goffin87		
Sep 1	108 Necuba	67 0.03 233 S	0.100 76.8	M 733353	20 55.6 1.28S M 17 36.1	-27 54 Goffin96		
Sep 2	109 Felicitas	91 0.07 291 GC	0.175 276.0	M 736434	0 17.4 2.97N M 20 48.2	-26 35 MPC23226		
Sep 2	241*Germania	169 0.07 867 CP	0.291 97.1	78707 M 96490	4 11.4 2.25S M 6 45.2	23 39 MPC24085		
Sep 2	94*Aurora	212 0.10 1154 CP	0.275 79.4	24051682	23 7.2 0.19N J 5 42.4	30 18 Goffin94		
Sep 3	253 Mathilde	61 0.05 130	0.212 96.7	83528 M 119242	1 55.0 5.32N M 3 38.3	15 0 Goffin95		
Sep 3	29*Amphitrite	219 0.10 1144 S	0.344 108.2	158462 M 228564	6 15.3 0.63S M 14 16.9	-18 34 MPC23111		
Sep 3	257 Silesia	73 0.03 270 SCTU	0.064 76.5	C2712160	10 58.0 0.16S U 17 58.1	-27 26 MPC17796		
Sep 3	1 Ceres	933 0.64 10946 G	0.212 246.7	M 737272	13 29.9 2.755 M 22 55.0	-23 42 Goffin92		
Sep 3	306 Unitas	49 0.06 89 S	0.117 209.4	M 237747	14 48.2 5.53S M 20 39.7	-18 46 Goffin96		
Sep 4	1171 Rusthawelia	73 0.06 224 P	0.200 242.2	146603 M 2 7355	1 3.4 2.84N M 23 16.4	-8 10 MPC25036		
Sep 5	8 Flora	141 0.20 414 S	0.165 215.1	128967 M 182697	3 39.1 9.03S M 0 49.1	-6 11 MPC24084		
Sep 5	145 Adonea	155 0.07 717 C	0.209 113.2	M 230194	9 41.9 2.81N M 15 24.2	-17 29 MPC15527		
Sep 5	319 Leona	73 0.05 241	0.205 233.9	146204 M 181497	22 54.0 1.58S M 22 37.1	-1 39 MPC25034		
Sep 6	247*Bukkate	137 0.08 439 CP	0.490 89.0	41851 M 49956	9 4.8 0.64S M 7 33.6	44 4 MPC24220		
Sep 8	564 Dudu	50 0.04 114 CDX	0.109 228.6	CRO 1615	19 24.6 2.30N T 2 24.5	-9 39 MPC23111		
Sep 9	307 Nike	98 0.03 179 CX	0.069 98.5	C2414300	12 40.5 0.50N U 10 25.1	-24 49 MPC16996		
Sep 9	9576 Emanuel	86 0.04 278	0.320 94.9	M 266169	14 41.9 1.67N M 15 22.6	-25 30 Goffin95		
Sep 10	VENUS	12220 15.45	1.167 114.1	M 717345	9 7.5 0.82N M 13 43.2	-11 19 DE200		
Sep 10	VENUS	12220 15.45	1.167 114.1	M 717350	9 34.4 6.78S M 13 43.3	-11 19 DE200		
Sep 10	20*Massalia	151 0.09 656 S	0 109 90.7	L3 5380	13 14.6 1.72S M 18 18.3	-22 31 MPC24085		
Sep 12	42 Isis	107 0.07 292 S	0 439 108.9	M 732355	9 55.2 0 175 M 15 47.4	-20 14 MPC22796		
Sep 12	20*Massalia	151 0.09 656 S	0 121 90.3	186655 M 260243	21 57.0 0.72S M 18 19.5	-22 32 MPC24085		
Sep 13	314 Rosalia	61 0.05 160	0 174 215.6	M 7 9119	0 11.2 1.38N M 21 34.0	-8 12 MPC25034		
Sep 16	906*Repsolda	42 0.02 90	0 109 47.1	76505 M 93337	J 6 9.9 3.13N M 4 12.7	22 24 MPC16396		
Sep 17	559 Nanon	80 0.04 265 C	0 281 94.2	96449 M 123481	10 40.0 0.74N M 7 4.5	18 44 Goffin89		
Sep 17	275 Sapientia	103 0.05 383 X	0 219 93.2	94857 M 121398	22 1.9 0.23S M 5 47.3	18 44 MPC25033		
Sep 18	27*Euterpe	118 0.10 332 S	0 359 86.4	77160 M 94351	0 24.5 3.80N M 5 25.4	21 55 Goffin96		

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 1. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 (continued)

1997 Universal Date	P L	A N E T	S	T	R	H	Occultation	Possible Path	E1	M	O	O	N							
Date	Time	Name	m	d, AU	SAO No	m	Sp R.A. (1950)	Dec.	dm	dur	dF	V	LobLal	LoMLan	LoLak	Sun	E1	*Snl	up	
b m m	v	v	v	h m	v	h	m	s												
Sep 18*23 25-33		Herculina	11.0	2.494	187475	9.4	A0	18 53.3	-27	34	1.8	26	37 17	-70	44	-46 36	-19 39	106	104	93- e 59W
Sep 19* 5 26-34		Merapi	13.2	2.371	214169	9.2	G5	22 51.0	-36	15	4.0	14	28 22	-58	36	-90 27	-122 41	143	62	91- all
Sep 20 3 50		Letitia	12.7	2.741	7929710.3	7.0	F7	7 17.5	22	33	2.5	4	13 40	-37	32	-14 39	16 46	69	64	84- all
Sep 21* 2 16-21		Dembowska	10.7	2.314		10.0	F8	4 52.0	26	6	1.2	13	28 23	-6	46	-24 30	-44 14	103	20	75- all
Sep 23 15 42-61		Drakonia	13.7	1.156	109423	9.6	F8	0 42.0	6	24	4.1	4	25 51	-158 29	130 27	55 35	168	79	49- el30E	
Sep 25* 7 18-24		Philomela	11.6	2.356	93227	0.5	K0	2 57.1	10	18	3.2	25	52 23	-160	91 147	71 161	61	136	67	33- el48W
Sep 25 19 9-29		Jokilla	13.0	1.011		9.8	K2	21 3.0	0	12 54	3.3	8	33 31	115 58	76 26	95 11	133	146	28- e 80E	
Sep 28* 3 37-68		Polyxena	12.7	2.033		9.3		20 14.6	-16	8	3.5	31	59 20	-138	6	-94 7	-43 4	118	156	11- none
Sep 30*23 20		Egeria	12.3	3.350	183040	5.7	F4	14 54.6	-21	13	6.6	5	9 23	-77	8	-66 6	-52 3	41	48	0- none
Oct 2 2 33-82		Mathilde	13.6	1.403		9.7		3 48.2	13	20	4.0	16	83 33	38 58	8 1	0 66	130	135	0+ none	
Oct 2* 9 3-27		Frigga	12.2	1.578	146387	8.1	K0	22 52.6	-7	48	4.1	9	32 32	-88 27	156 9	133 3	153	145	0+ w133E	
Oct 2 9 45-50		Proteogenia	14.0	2.922		11.6		18 36.9	-21	30	2.6	8	20 31	132 11	162 5	-164	6	90	82	1+ none
Oct 3*20 16-39		Elektra	10.9	1.622		9.9		22 58.9	-23	16	1.4	24	32 12	71 46	32 2	-23 48	144	123	4+ w 10W	
Oct 3*22 41-66		Julia	10.3	1.506	39208	8.4	A0	3 53.3	44	43	2.1	26	39 14	18 23	11 30	-61 38	121	129	5+ w 63W	
Oct 4* 2 0-34		Chaldene	13.5	2.024	145293A	9.1	F5	21 16.6	-9	47	4.4	17	49 29	-29 57	72 2	-87 72	128	101	5+ w 85W	
Oct 4* 2 1-34		Chaldene	13.5	2.024	145293B	9.1	F5	21 16.6	-9	47	4.4	17	49 29	-29 57	72 2	-86 72	128	101	5+ w 84W	
Oct 4* 8 3		Thisbe	13.2	3.670		9.8		9 8.6	14	28	3.4	7	32 23	-87 58	-69 60	-42 60	55	95	6+ none	
Oct 4 8 14-17		Hebe	14.2	3.361		10.6		17 56.6	-27	14	3.7	3	16 73	154 22	-177 13	-150 0	79	50	6+ w174E	
Oct 5 8 19-22		Manon	14.9	2.828	96851	8.5	A5	7 21.0	18	6.4	4	17	51	-100 19	-74 13	-47 10	82	123	12+ none	
Oct 5*11 58-77		Eugenix	11.8	1.896		10.0		23 4.1	-10	35	2.0	28	31 13	-148 30	149 19	91 2	151	109	13+ w125E	
Oct 6 0 5-20		Valentine	13.0	1.885	110030A	9.8	K0	1 36.4	3	52	3.3	7	24 33	79 48	-5 31	-75 12	167	144	17+ w 53W	
Oct 6 0 6-22		Valentine	13.0	1.885	110030B	12.8		1 36.4	3	52	0.9	7	24 33	74 42	-3 25	-73 6	167	144	17+ w 52W	
Oct 8 4 59-71		Bellisama	14.2	2.154		9.8	A2	6 5.7	24	9	5.4	4	30 84	-75 6	-39 8	2 17	103	173	36+ none	
Oct 8*11 9-26		Pretoria	13.5	2.626	56031	5.1	A0	2 54.2	31	44	8.4	17	31 22	-79 50	-169 34	136 5	142	135	39+ w167E	
Oct 8 19 10		Nysa	12.1	2.713		10.8		18 36.3	-22	24	1.6	4	17 54	-13 30	4 33	25 40	84	5	42+ all	
Oct 10*11 22		Thisbe	13.2	3.596	90475	8.9	F9	9 15.1	13	52	4.3	0	13 22	-146 62	-119 64	-87 64	60	162	61+ none	
Oct 10 12 33-56		Ninina	13.6	2.209	111850	9.1	G5	4 26.9	1	12	4.5	17	45 29	149 61	174 14	136 26	128	125	61+ w151E	
Oct 11 10 48		Erigone	15.0	2.569	162282	9.8	F0	19 8.3	-19	46	5.2	5	20 49	109 43	128 44	149 50	89	26	71+ all	
Oct 12* 1 7-59		Palatia	11.8	1.107		10.0	F5	3 14.5	2	26	2.0	20	53 20	65 54	1 0	-69 54	148	86	77+ w 6E	
Oct 13*22 20-27		Daphne	13.0	2.958		10.9		6 52.4	5	38	2.2	13	25 24	26 29	66 20	99 3	96	114	93+ w 81E	
Oct 14 10 40-40		VENUS	-3.5	0.840	184295	8.7	K0	16 14.8	-24	1	437	6	1	-171 73	-169 72	-165 69	46	110	96+ all	
Oct 14*21 11-19		Daphne	13.0	2.942		11.0		6 52.8	5	32	2.1	14	26 23	43 30	84 19	116 5	97	100	98+ w110E	
Oct 15* 6 2		Pallas	10.3	3.291		10.2		19 11.0	4	32	0.8	24	16 9	-113 69	-127 44	-106 24	89	81	99+ all	
Oct 15 14 50-59		Pariana	13.5	2.065		11.4		0 44.5	-13	16	2.2	7	22 31	165 57	112 42	63 40	157	17	100+ all	
Oct 16*16 6-28		Leto	10.1	1.419		9.5	K2	2 42.5	13	26	1.1	14	26 16	-161 21	122 27	45 15	160	13	100- all	
Oct 17 11 39		Deiphobus	16.4	5.585	207560	9.1	RO	16 16.5	-32	47	7.3	4	13 62	108 37	121 29	136 19	46 150	97-	e117E	
Oct 18 19 48-66		JUPITER	-2.3	4.663		9.7		20 57.4	-18	13	14246	86 2	4-59	41 42	73 25	107	109	90- e 24E		
Oct 18 23 31-35		Pallas	10.4	3.340		11.8		19 13.6	3	59	0.3	23	16 9	-76 3	-50 14	-17 27	86	130	89- e 42W	
Oct 19* 2 47		Eukrate	12.6	2.148	42775	7.7	K0	9 12.7	42	38	4.9	6	12 23	-21 12	5 33	45 48	79	67	88- all	
Oct 19*12 21-27		Polyxena	13.1	2.304		9.9		20 26.5	-16	15	3.2	11	23 23	84 30	115 34	149 43	99 126	85-	e115E	
Oct 20 16 0- 9		Bathilde	13.3	2.195	79096	8.0	F9	7 5.4	20	57	5.3	6	25 44	102 41	152 47	-156 36	101	19	75- all	
Oct 22*18 21-80		Hygiea	11.2	2.845		11.2		5 36.8	25	50	0.8	173	134 10	165 29	99 29	41 10	124	30	54- e 59W	
Oct 23 3 0-14		Letaba	13.8	2.060	90645	8.9	G0	22 34.5	21	29	4.9	6	21 39	-11 64	-102 22	-87 49	133	127	50- e 93W	
Oct 25 21 15-31		Vesta	6.5	1.521		9.7		1 34.6	-2	29	0.1	68	22 3	111 16	47 28	-31 43	164	129	25- e 74E	
Oct 26 4 26		Ine	13.9	3.885		10.4	K0	11 40.1	5	19	3.6	4	10 35	2 69	12 68	26 68	39	19	23- all	
Oct 26*19 36		Ralliope	12.2	3.430	99609	8.9	FO	11 24.3	16	15	3.3	5	10 27	114 30	130 33	151 34	48	12	18- all	
Oct 27 2 58-61		Huberta	15.7	4.001	98692	8.9	A5	9 36.4	10 26	6.8	4	17 57	-20 33	1 34	39 30	70	23	16- e 6W		
Oct 27 3 45		Edith	15.3	3.201	162794	8.8	K2	19 32.4	-19	54	6.5	5	17 49	-147 27	-128 34	-105 43	79	125	16- none	
Oct 27*23 3		VENUS	-3.7	0.737	185305	7.8	A0	17 18.3	-26	27	522	7	1	-79 26	-72 28	-62 33	47	85	11- none	
Oct 29 19 31-50		Parthenope	9.5	1.389		12.1		2 30.0	6	26	0.1	15	22 12	-169 33	107 20	31	-1	172	159	3- e176W
Oct 30* 1 58		Davida	11.9	3.173		11.2		10 51.7	15 42	1.2	10	11 14	9 39	30 43	54 45	58 43	2-	e 49E		
Oct 30* 8 37-56		Alauda	12.5	2.439		10.9		4 35.1	42	54	1.8	23	35 18	-48 25	-121 36	179 4	138	127	1- e 50W	
Oct 30*21 45		Nemusa	12.5	2.547	162691	9.4	F5	19 27.3	-15	25	3.2	5	12 27	-60 39	-40 41	-17 46	74	80	0- none	
Oct 31 30 31		VENUS	-3.7	0.711	185557	9.5	F8	17 34.5	-26	46	550	7	1	111 22	117 24	126 28	47	47	0+ none	
Oct 31*16 58-74		Daphne	12.7	2.686		10.1		5 57.8	3	54	2.7	22	39 21	90 19	118 10	99 51	111 116	0+	none	
Nov 1*22 26-44		Daphne	12.7	2.669		9.2		6 58.0	3	47	3.6	23	40 21	23 75	78 32	90 19	112 130	2+	none	
Nov 2 7 18-24		Delia	16.0	2.813	98033	7.6	FO	8 38.1	16	41	8.4	4	23 76	-109 24	-59 28	-27 20	92	114	4+ none	
Nov 2																				

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 2. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 (continued)

1997 Date	No.	MINOR PLANET Name	PLA N ET km-Diam. km	RSOI Type	Motion "/day	S T A R SAO No	Geocentric No. D	U T Sep.	S R.A. Dec.	Apparent mag.	Ephem. Source	
Sep 18	532	Herculina	217 0.12	1210 S	0.111	102.6	187475 M	269105	23 28.0	3.22N M 18 56.3	-27 30	Goffin98
Sep 19	536	*Merapi	158 0.09	827 X	0.154	276.1	214169 M	3 3137	5 30.3	3.33N T 22 53.6	-36 0	MPC17407
Sep 20	21	Letitia	99 0.05	324 M	0.314	95.5	79297 M	97385	3 53.2	1.32N M 7 20.3	22 28	Goffin96
Sep 21	349*	Dembowska	143 0.09	599 R	0.153	62.4	M	93885	2 23.3	2.39S M 4 55.0	26 13	Goffin92
Sep 23	620	Drakonia	33 0.04	52 E	0.246	267.1	109421 M	143831	15 51.4	4.31S M 0 44.5	6 40	MPC14757
Sep 25	196*	Philomela	146 0.09	713 S	0.082	252.1	93227 M	118731	7 20.4	1.65N M 2 59.7	10 30	MPC15528
Sep 25	726	Joklla	47 0.06	77	0.197	158.1	M	139583	19 19.0	6.88N M 21 5.2	13 5	MPC14758
Sep 28	308*	Polyxo	148 0.10	615 T	0.078	106.6	M	237200	3 46.7	1.06N M 20 17.3	-15 59	Goffin94
Sep 30	13*	Egeria	215 0.09	1084 G	0.396	111.9	183040 FRS	1391 F	23 17.6	0.95N 5 14 57.3	-21 24	Goffin96
Oct 2	253	Mathilde	61 0.06	134	0.088	187.8	06640977		2 54.5	1.01B J 3 50.9	13 29	Goffin95
Oct 2	77*	Frigga	71 0.06	193 MU	0.165	254.2	146387 M	2 6926	9 16.2	1.29N M 22 55.1	-7 33	MPC21760
Oct 2	147	Protageneia	37 0.06	638 C	0.186	87.0	L3	8973	9 44.0	0.48N H 18 39.7	-21 35	MPC16685
Oct 3	130*	Elektra	189 0.16	837 G	0.158	214.7	M	737333	20 29.6	0.60N M 23 1.5	-23 1	Goffin96
Oct 3	89*	Julia	159 0.15	587 S	0.136	0.8	39208 M	46655	22 53.7	3.91W M 3 56.6	44 51	MPC24085
Oct 4	313*	Chaldaea	101 0.07	360 C	0.094	192.9	145293 M	2 5063 A	2 17.0	0.94E O 21 19.1	-9 35	MPC24549
Oct 4	313*	Chaldaea	101 0.07	360 C	0.094	192.9	145293 M	2 5063 B	2 18.3	0.97E O 21 19.1	-9 35	MPC24549
Oct 4	88*	Thiabe	232 0.09	1460 CP	0.281	110.7	08180534		8 5.8	1.41N S 9 11.2	14 17	MPC22572
Oct 4	108	Hecuba	67 0.03	234 S	0.217	84.5	C2712214		8 12.3	0.04B U 17 59.6	-27 14	Goffin96
Oct 5	559	Nanou	80 0.04	265 C	0.228	95.2	96851 M	123954 K	8 23.4	1.52S M 7 23.7	18 21	Goffin99
Oct 5	45*	Eugenia	214 0.16	1135 PC	0.152	241.2	M	723316	12 8.8	2.09N M 23 6.6	-10 20	MPC25033
Oct 6	447	Valentine	82 0.06	274 TD	0.201	251.2	110030 M	144836 A	0 12.2	2.31N O 1 38.9	4 7	MPC24550
Oct 6	447	Valentine	82 0.06	274 TD	0.201	251.2	110030 M	144836 B	0 13.9	1.85N O 1 38.8	4 7	MPC24550
Oct 8	178	Bellanna	37 0.02	74 S	0.149	85.9	M	95521	5 10.0	0.51S M 6 9.6	24 9	MPC19472
Oct 8	790*	Pretoria	176 0.09	1045 P	0.130	246.2	56031 FSE	2205	11 16.3	0.76N 5 2 57.2	31 55	Goffin94
Oct 8	44	Myza	73 0.04	224 E	0.234	90.2	C2213181		19 9.2	2.55N U 18 39.2	-22 22	MPC24548
Oct 10	88*	Thibse	232 0.09	1461 CP	0.269	111.6	98475 M	126296	11 24.8	1.56N L 9 17.7	13 46	Goffin96
Oct 10	357	Ninina	110 0.07	436 CX	0.097	197.9	111850 M	147597	12 44.2	2.74N M 4 29.4	1 19	MPC19474
Oct 11	163	Erigone	76 0.04	233 C	0.207	91.3	162292 M	235612	10 47.6	3.04N M 19 11.1	-19 41	Goffin90
Oct 12	415*	Palatia	80 0.10	186 DP	0.118	211.9	M	146409	1 32.4	0.19N M 3 17.0	2 36	MPC14754
Oct 13	41*	Daphne	182 0.08	1018 C	0.152	129.5	01570277		22 27.1	0.51B J 6 54.9	5 34	MPC22385
Oct 14	VENUS		12220	20.06	1.101	102.7	184295 M	265368	10 38.0	9.10S M 16 17.6	-24 8	DE200
Oct 14	41*	Daphne	182 0.09	1017 C	0.149	130.6	01570783		21 18.7	0.55S J 6 55.3	5 29	MPC22385
Oct 15	2*	Pallas	533 0.22	5416 B	0.225	132.7	04721220		6 2.3	2.41N J 19 13.4	4 38	Goffin92
Oct 15	347	Prianna	96 0.06	364 M	0.211	258.7	CRG 516		14 54.4	3.52N T 0 47.0	-13 0	Goffin92
Oct 16	68*	Leto	127 0.12	439 S	0.208	269.4	M	118509	16 16.4	1.52N M 2 45.1	13 38	MPC24548
Oct 17	1867	Daiphobus	131 0.03	954 D	0.209	84.8	207560 M	294927	11 36.5	0.61S M 16 19.6	-32 54	Goffin88
Oct 18	JUPITER	140904	20 03	5	0.035	71.2	M	722396	19 50.6	1.26S M 21 0.1	-18 2	DE200
Oct 18	2	Pallas	533 0.22	5416 B	0.230	129.1	04721023		23 30.3	0.42N J 19 16.0	4 4	Goffin92
Oct 19	247*	Makrilia	137 0.09	452 CP	0.373	93.2	42775 M	51129	2 50.5	0.49N M 9 15.8	42 26	MPC24220
Oct 19	308*	Polyxo	148 0.09	616 T	0.186	86.1	M	721904	12 21.6	2.78N M 20 29.2	-16 5	Goffin94
Oct 20	441	Bathilde	73 0.05	208 M	0.179	112.9	79096 M	97079	16 8.9	1.19N L 7 8.2	20 52	MPC24549
Oct 22	10*	Hygiea	429 0.21	4005 C	0.029	269.6	18652411		18 38.5	0.34N J 5 39.9	25 51	MPC24219
Oct 23	1264	Letaba	77 0.05	246	0.213	177.9	90645 M	114635	5 6.8	1.79S M 22 36.8	21 44	MPC14762
Oct 25	4	Vesta	759 0.69	6714 V	0.242	256.1	46851451		21 23.3	2.89S J 1 37.1	-2 14	Goffin95
Oct 26	173	Ino	159 0.06	820 C	0.319	106.5	M	158132	4 27.7	1.77N M 11 42.5	5 3	Goffin96
Oct 26	22*	Kalliope	187 0.08	945 M	0.355	107.4	99609 M	128256	19 39.3	0.51N M 11 26.8	15 59	Goffin96
Oct 27	260	Huberta	101 0.03	494 CX	0.194	169.7	98692 M	126662	8 2.8	0.49N M 9 38.9	10 13	MPC16554
Oct 27	517	Edith	95 0.04	377 X	0.217	80.8	162794 M	236211	8 43.4	1.91N M 19 35.2	-19 47	Goffin95
Oct 27	VENUS		12220	22.85	1.051	95.7	185305 M	266736	23 1.1	8.92N M 17 21.3	-26 30	DE200
Oct 29	11	Parthenope	162 0.16	631 S	0.250	252.3	CRG 2610		15 40.3	1.56N T 2 32.5	-6 38	MPC24085
Oct 30	511*	Davidia	337 0.15	2215 C	0.346	100.3	16290270		2 0.3	1.25M J 10 54.2	15 27	Goffin89
Oct 30	702*	Alauda	202 0.11	1201 C	0.121	269.7	28881043		8 44.8	0.30S J 4 38.5	43 0	MPC24086
Oct 30	51*	Hemispha	137 0.07	511 CU	0.342	91.7	162691 M	236078 A	21 44.8	2.81N O 19 30.0	-15 19	Goffin94
Oct 31	VENUS		12220	23.70	1.034	93.7	185557 M	267079	10 28.3	8.38N M 17 37.4	-26 48	DE200
Oct 31	41*	Daphne	182 0.09	1007 C	0.162	161.9	017 2432		17 6.9	2.59S J 7 0.4	3 50	MPC22385
Nov 1	41*	Daphne	182 0.09	1006 C	0.100	165.3	01662183		22 38.8	0.08N J 7 0.5	3 43	MPC22385
Nov 2	395	Delia	54 0.03	154 C	0.170	111.2	98033 M	125588	7 25.0	0.10N M 8 40.8	16 30	Goffin92
Nov 2	2*	Pallas	533 0.21	5416 B	0.252	117.3	124651 M	167901	13 4.2	0.10S L 19 27.7	2 10	Goffin92
Nov 2	455	Brachælia	07 0.04	316 CP	0.202	90.2	80937 M	98739	15 21.5	1.32N L 9 38.0	22 58	Goffin93
Nov 3	524	Fidelio	74 0.04	205 XC	0.294	111.7	98737 M	126743	4 33.0	1.40N L 9 43.9	17 41	Goffin96
Nov 4	41*	Daphne	182 0.10	1004 C	0.096	173.0	01662479		10 50.2	1.08E J 7 0.7	3 28	MPC22385
Nov 7	207	Hedda	60 0.04	139 C	0.220	95.8	M	98989	8 12.6	1.33N M 8 38.7	22 54	Goffin95
Nov 7	1437*	Dicomedes	171 0.06	1420 DP	0.131	257.6	38564 M	45832 A	9 23.3	1.40N O 3 5.7	43 42	Goffin88
Nov 7	1437	Dicomedes	171 0.06	1420 DP	0.131	257.6	38564 M	45832 B	9 22.3	1.44N O 3 5.7	43 42	Goffin88
Nov 7	253	Mathilde	61 0.06	140	0.251	246.8	M	146608	20 43.8	3.49S M 3 29.4	9 41	Goffin95
Nov 9	10*	Hygiea	429 0.22	3999 C	0.117	266.1	18529469		11 8.3	1.71N 9 5 34.0	25 47	MPC24219
Nov 9	286	Iola	96 0.04	382 CX	0.294	94.9	162764 M	236172	21 55.1	2.10N M 19 33.7	-15 50	MPC16383
Nov 10	MARS		6782	4.77	0.753	89.7	186240 M	267816	16 26.3	3.97S M 19 4.8	-24 41	DE200
Nov 11	JUPITER	140904	19.31		0.107	72.4	M	722517	16 45.5	4.59E M 21 7.0	-17 30	DE200
Nov 12	182	Elsa	45 0.04	79 S	0.216	100.3	97837 M	125302	22 9.6	0.30N M 8 27.9	18 37	MPC19472
Nov 13	5	JUPITER	140904	19.23	0.111	72.4	164156 M	236409	2 35.9	15.71N M 21 7.6	-17 28	DE200
Nov 15	130*	Elektra	189 0.13	825 G	0.160	68.0	191559 M	274606	19 33.6	2.45S M 23 6.9	-24 10	Goffin96
Nov 16	180	Garumna	32 0.02	70 S	0.108	69.1	CR1 5280		0 37.1	2.66N T 22 30.3	-8 40	MPC19472
Nov 16	558	Campon	61 0.04	176 M	0.120	260.6	129270 M	183388</				

International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 1. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 (concluded)

1997 Universal Date	P L A N E T	S T A R	STELLAR DIAMETER	Occultation	Possible Path	E1	M	O	N								
	Name	m	d, AU	SAO No	m	Sp	R.A. (1950)	Dec.	dm dmz df	F	Lolilal	LoMLam	LoELam	Sun	El	%Sal	up
		b m m	v		v	b	m	s									
Nov 17 7 43-50	Lutetia	12.1 2.067	79984	9.2 F2	8	6.5	21 35	3.0 36 104 30	(Alaska,Yukon,Arctic) ?s	115 30 90-	all						
Nov 20* 8 5-37	Galatea	12.6 1.575	10.0 K	6 49.8	17 20	2.8 27	56 20	-43 0 -93-12-147-36	135 27	66- e130W							
Nov 21 18 7	MARS	1.3 2.000	187145	7.9 F0	18 38.8	-24 24	147	6 1	-13 39	-9 41	-4 44	40	133 52-	none			
Nov 21*19 7-27	Flora	9.2 1.162		9.7	0 11.3	-9 2	0.5 22	33 12	32-55	54-17	87 9 120	146 52-	e 67E				
Nov 22 11 17	Nemesis	12.7 2.826		11.5 G	20 1.6	-15 13	1.5 4	10 30	102 17	118 21 137	26 60	144 46-	none				
Nov 22 20 34	Comacina	14.4 3.229		9.2 K0	21 40.8	-12 29	5.2 7	18 33	-12-39	13-33	39-27	63 164	42-	none			
Nov 23* 2 39-58	Daphne	12.3 2.390		10.9	6 55.2	1 54	1.7 21	35 19	53 75	-25 31	-81 0 132	60 40-	e 33W				
Nov 24 13 1	Ranike	13.2 3.424		9.6	18 24.0	-10 7	3.6 4	9 30	64 38	74 39	85 40	37 97	27-	none			
Nov 24 13 18-40	Hertha	12.3 1.764		9.8 G0	6 39.8	26 28	2.6 10	32 31	-114 19	176 35	103 18 143	80 27-	e175W				
Nov 24 16 22	JUPITER	-2.0 5.227		9.9 G0	21 10.8	-17 13	3175	20 2	Bur.,e.Africa,sw Asia	73 134	26-	none					
Nov 24*16 21-36	Daphne	12.3 2.372		11.6	6 54.6	1 46	1.2 20	34 19	-169 1	-149-28	97-55	133 78	26- e140E				
Nov 25 17 57-64	Echo	12.5 1.957		9.7	22 57.5	-6 22	2.9 6	25 47	-5 33	27 43	71 54	100 150	18-	none			
Nov 26* 0 28-35	Fides	10.1 1.256		10.4 G0	2 25.8	18 21	0.6 17	34 16	(Yukon, Alberta)?s	157 156	16-	none					
Nov 27 15 38	Felicitas	13.8 2.433	164357	9.1 F2	21 20.6	-18 30	4.7 4	12 39	eastern Europe? s	72 101	6-	none					
Nov 28 12 15	Chaldea	14.3 2.704	164672	9.5 K2	21 46.3	-11 14	4.8 5	16 39	85 16 113	22 145	30 79	98 3-	none				
Nov 29 7 44-46	VENUS	-4.1 0.494	188326	6.0 A3	19 33.0	-24 50	1065	12 1	166-21	178-14-166	-6 45	54 1-	none				
Nov 29 11 0	NEPTUNE	8.0 30.762	188797	8.9 K0	19 56.8	-20 23	2022	44 1	e.Asia,Indon.,Anstral.	51 58	1-	none					
Nov 29*18 49-71	Thalia	9.5 1.202	77068	9.8 G0	5 13.3	25 21	0.6 12	24 16	155 2	86 39	-11 36	167 162	5-	none			
Dec 1 3 51	Henna	14.1 2.642		9.4 R5	21 33.0	-14 17	4.7 3	11 40	-153 28-133	36-106	47 73	60 1+	w146W				
Dec 2 0 26-44	Neoptolemus	16.5 4.278		9.4	1 43.5	-7 55	7.1 8	38 73	28 4	-37 14-116	52 129	109 44-	w 98W				
Dec 2 5 11-38	Catriona	13.1 1.414	26053	8.7 B0	6 53.0	50 4	4.4 6	35 51	-28-29	69 27-150	18 140	140 54	none				
Dec 2* 9 51-74	Karyneme	9.8 1.017	93928	7.5 G0	4 23.3	15 25	2.4 9	27 22	-75-14-141-16	148-44	173 149	64- w160E					
Dec 3 7 22-31	Dike	14.5 2.356		10.8 G0	10 28.2	26 57	3.7 6	23 43	AK-low? (nw?Amex,Svalb.)?s	101 137	12+	none					
Dec 3*22 58	Herculina	11.7 3.603	189113	9.0 K2	20 15.1	-26 23	2.8 6	11 24	-81 31	-74 35	-65 40	49 10	16+	all			
Dec 4*12 7-25	Artemis	13.1 1.929	134036	6.0 B9	6 58.0	-8 20	7.1 11	24 23	-81 47-158	4 120-21	135 147	21+ w145E					
Dec 4*14 12-32	Galatea	12.4 1.601		9.9	6 41.7	17 0	2.6 14	28 19	-118 36	159 40	84 22	151 152	22+ w100E				
Dec 5* 3 40-58	Aurora	11.9 1.988		11.6	6 7.6	35 8	0.9 19	25 14	24 6	-46 34-126	14 158	134 274	w 92W				
Dec 7* 8 31-49	Dembowska	9.7 1.790	76598	8.6 A3	4 22.1	29 41	1.4 12	22 18	-60 2-135	20 145	-2 170	83 51+	w130W				
Dec 8* 2 23	Berbericia	12.5 2.445		9.8	22 59.8	-26 14	2.7 7	13 19	-127 23-118	35-106	51 81	27 60+	all				
Dec 8 20 14-26	Hygiea	10.3 2.499		11.9	5 9.0	25 13	0.2 28	20 8	149 40	48 54	-34 24	177 71	68+ w 76E				
Dec 9 19 10-24	Alkante	12.3 1.904		10.5 G	7 2.3	18 17	2.0 8	27 35	137-27	85-22	32-32	152 84	78+ w101E				
Dec 10 11 12-20	VENUS	-4.2 0.416		9.8	20 4.0	-22 28	1739	18 1	Australia,Indonesia,FI	41 92	84+	all					
Dec 10*17 26-35	Daphne	12.0 2.218		11.0	6 45.3	0 50	1.3 15	23 18	159-30	114-40	56-49	148 68	86+ w135E				
Dec 12 13 21-28	Lucina	13.6 2.580		9.6	6 13.3	34 4.0	9	22 27	83-11 104 18	139 46	97 63	97+	all				
Dec 12*19 6-17	Hektor	14.9 4.473	55368	8.7 F5	2 11.1	34 23	6.2 20	35 28	170 61	9 74	-27 32	138 32	98+ all				
Dec 13 22 42-51	Thalia	9.2 1.166		10.7	4 57.5	26 34	0.2 12	22 15	114 46	91 72-140	75 173	9 100+	all				
Dec 14 10 3	Hilda	14.3 4.132		9.5	12 24.6	-9 8	4.8 7	17 34	-120 27	-94 18	-68 5	73 103	100-	all			
Dec 15 1 34	Ceres	9.1 3.061		11.8	22 51.4	-19 18	0.1 39	14 5	(see Alaska, Yukon)?s	75 116	99-	none					
Dec 15 13 26-34	Oatanina	15.8 2.942	116054	6.3 M4	7 49.5	3 24	9.5 4	26 95	-143-41	169-46	115-51	141 22	97-	all			
Dec 17 1 6-23	Brunhild	12.4 1.489		9.0	7 39.8	26 6	3.4 7	33 44	97 59	-16 73	-96 48	152 11	90- e 92W				
Dec 19 0 31-43	Hygiea	10.4 2.506		11.2	5 0.2	24 53	0.4 29	21 8	77 42	-21 56	-102 29	170 69	76- e 56W				
Dec 20 18 50-62	VENUS	-4.3 0.352		9.0 G0	20 19.7	-20 2	3819	37 1	-3-5	0 0	7 4	34 137	61-	none			
Dec 21 0 35-46	Arsinoe	13.4 2.005		9.9 K2	4 25.0	15 3	3.5 7	20 29	33-36	-26-18	-85-13	158 102	58- e 17W				
Dec 21 7 11-27	Bellissana	12.6 1.586		13.3	5 38.6	25 9	0.5 3	21 62	-27 20-108	41 162	22 176	87 56-	e119E				
Dec 22 9 15-18	Kalypso	13.7 2.370		11.4 G	12 48.1	-2 48	2.4 5	13 29	-115 0	-90 3	-65-10	78 7	46-	all			
Dec 22 23 49-59	Santa	16.5 2.381	91945	7.4 K0	0 29.1	12 38	9.1 3	25 89	-90 23	-44 25	2 18	101 169	40-	none			
Dec 25* 1 14-65	VENUS	-4.3 0.329		9.5 G0	20 21.6	-19 2	5401	50 1	-73-40-114	17-109	23 31	86 22-	none				
Dec 25 18 19-38	Brunhild	12.1 1.452		10.9 K5	7 32.4	26 5	1.5 5	26 43	179 36	93 51	10 28	162 115	16- e139E				
Dec 26 2 59-60	Kolga	13.2 1.821	112393	9.5 K0	5 2.0	5 39	3.7 5	25 52	-86 50-143	63 114	73 155	156 12-	none				
Dec 27* 6 39-54	Nipponia	13.1 1.455	111845	5.5 B3	4 25.9	1 16	7.5 4	26 57	-44 12	-90 37-130	85 144	165 7-	none				
Dec 27*15 29-43	Germania	12.2 2.203		9.9 A	7 14 4	20 30	2.4 12	22 19	-143 16	137 31	54 14	169 142	5- e161W				

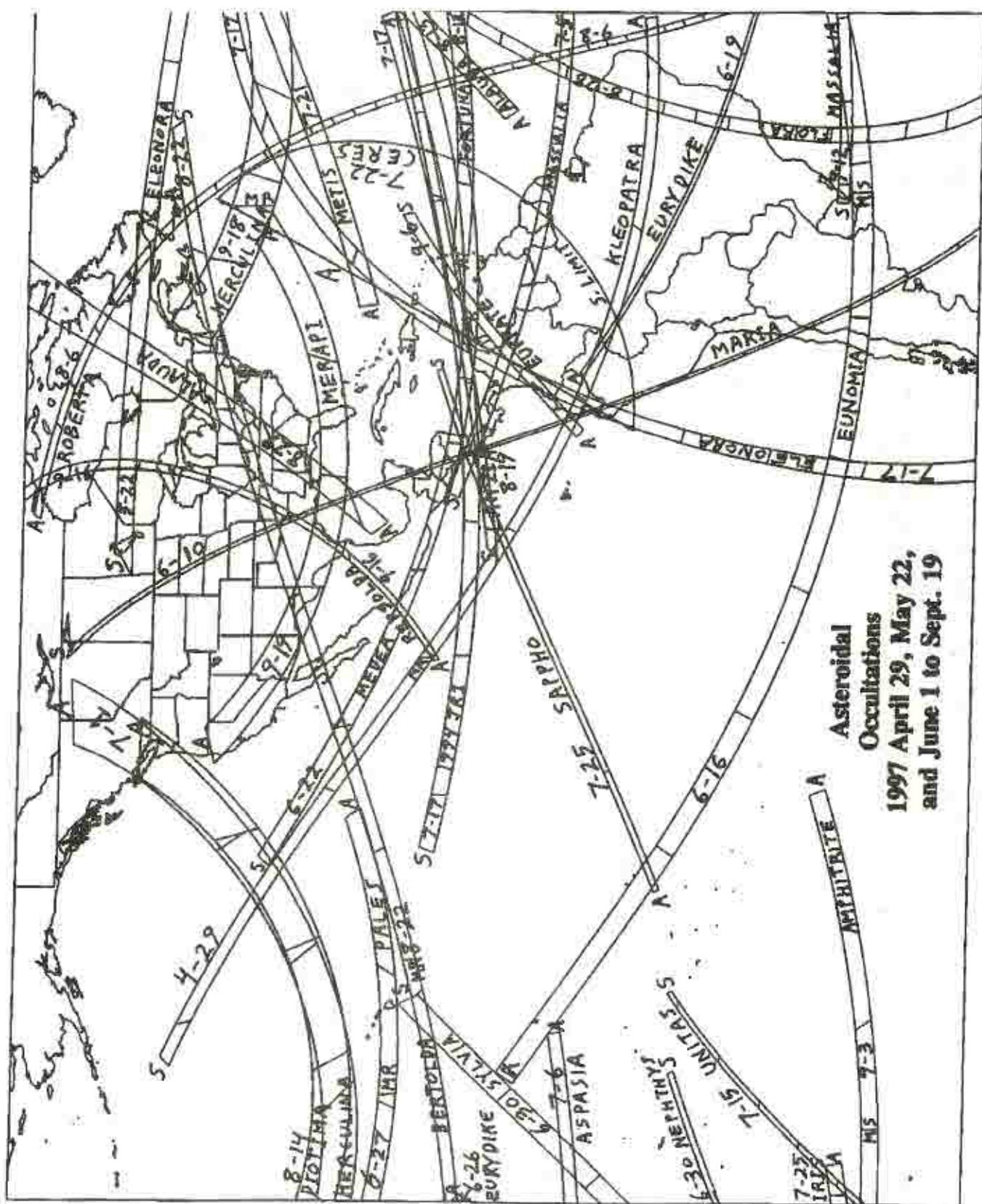
Table 3. Stars with Significant Angular Diameters

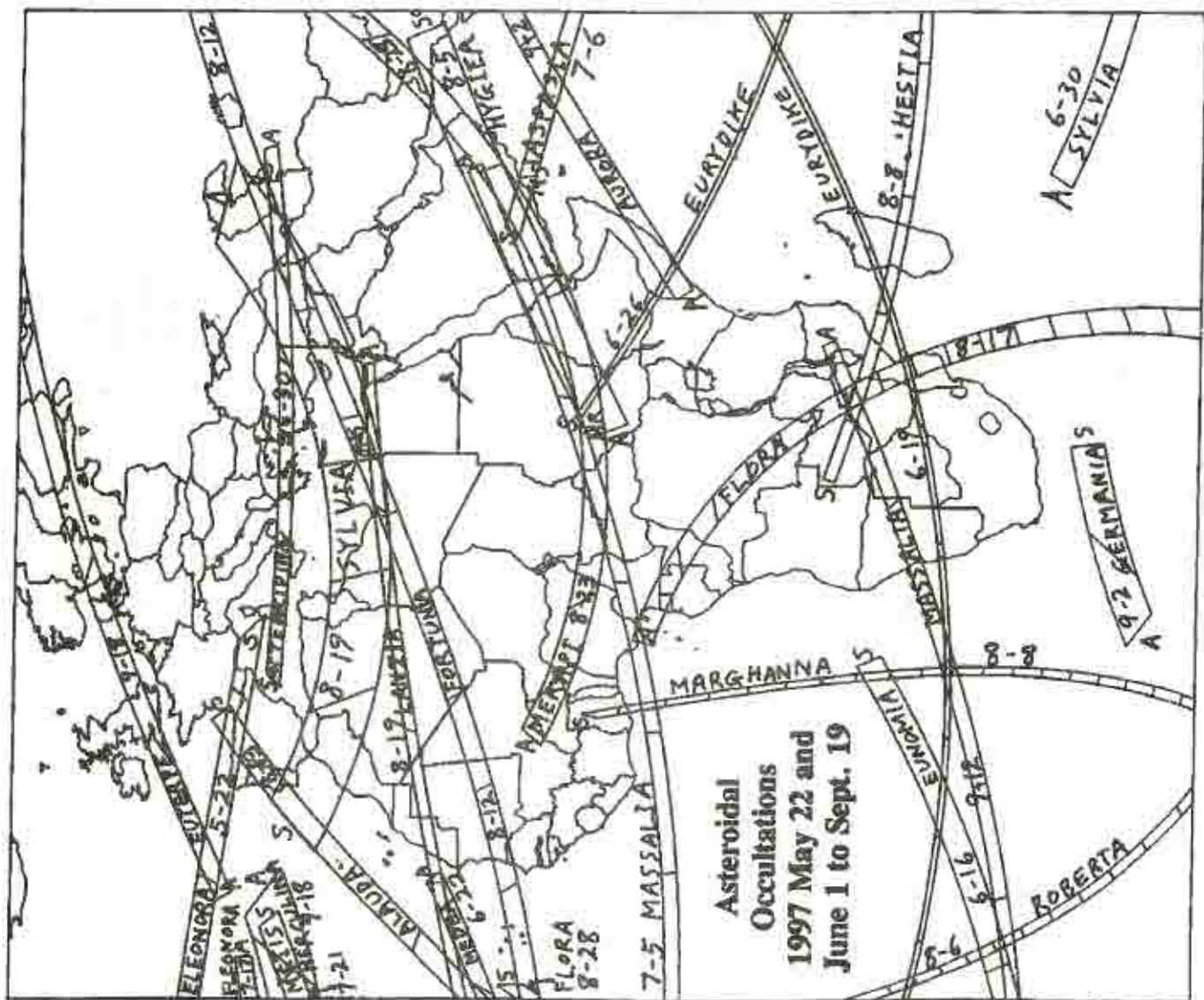
1997 Date	P L A N E T	S T A R	STELLAR DIAMETER		
Date	No	Name	SAO/DM/ID	m/	m time df
Jun 2	2	Pallas	162 41421	0.39	798 78 2.4
Jun 10	170	Maria	164249	0.96	1594 356 5.0
Aug 6	335	Roberta	128727	0.14	141 60 0.6
Sep 3	29	Amphitrite	158462	0.91	2079 64 5.9
Sep 16	906	Repsolda	76505J	0.25	426 55 1.4
Sep 30	13	Egeria	183040P	1.41	3434 86 9.5
Oct 2	253	Mathilde	066 40977	0.19	194 52 0.8
Oct 22	10	Hygiea	186 52411	0.09	195 79 0.6
Nov 1	41	Daphne	016 62183	0.24	464 58 1.4
Nov 2	2	Pallas	124651	0.95	2421 90 6.5
Nov 17	21	Lutetia	79984	0.10	154 57 0.5
Nov 20	74	Galatea	Li 1884	0.22	264 58 1.0
Dec 15	1369	Oatanina	116054	2.44	5198 437 15.4

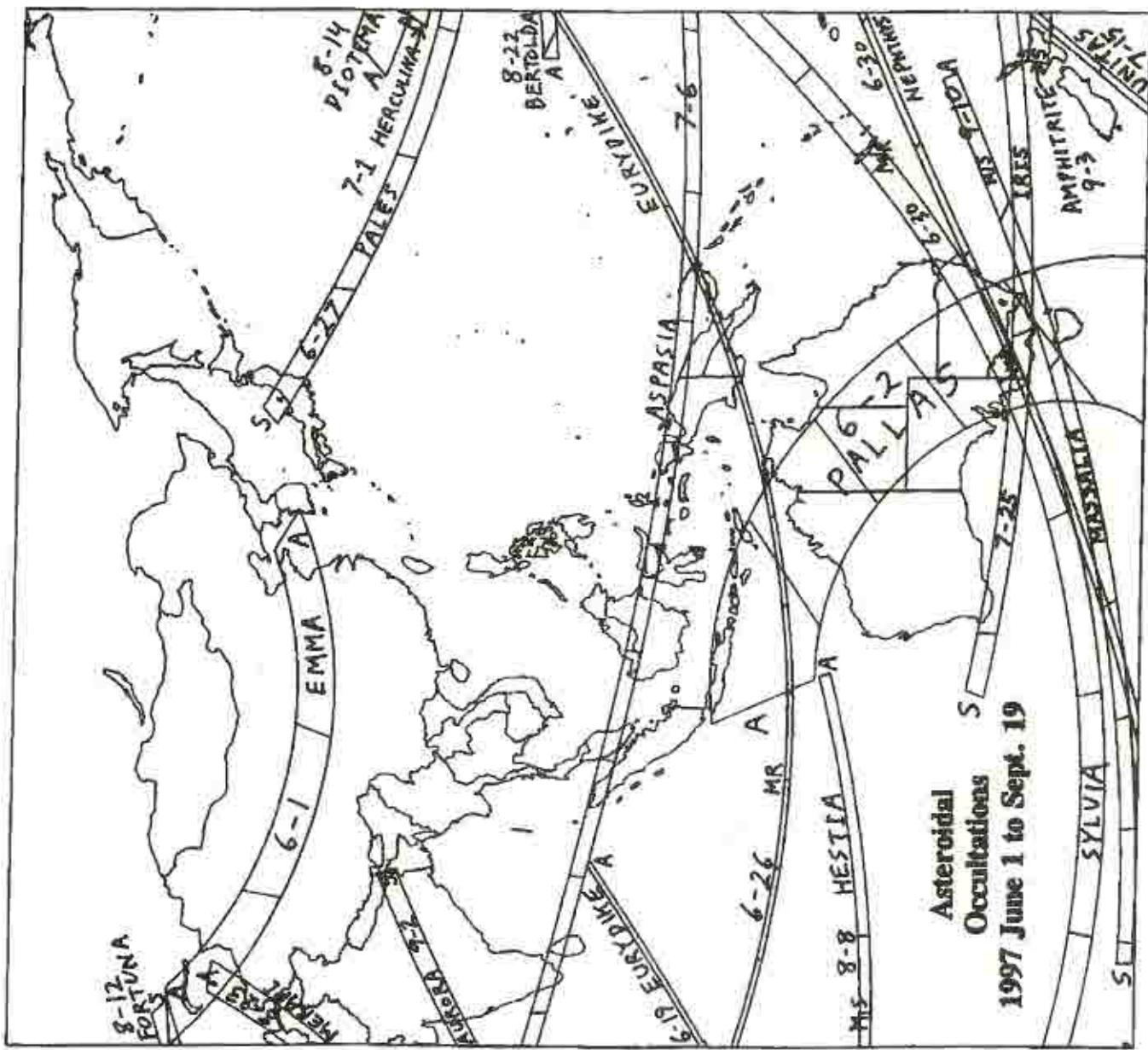
International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

Table 2. Occultations of stars by major and minor planets during 1997 (concluded)

1997 Date No.	M I N O R P L A N E T Name km-Diam.-// RSOT Type	Motion km/day	S P A SAO No	T D M / ID No	A U	R T	Min.	Geoconic	A p p a r e n t	Ephem. Source
Nov 17	21 Lutetia	99 0.07	335 M	0.044	72.7	79984 M	98407	7 59.9	4.53N M 8 9.3	21 26 Goffin96
Nov 20	74*Galatea	123 0.10	435 C	0.091	250.9	L1 1884	8 16.0	2.13S M 6 52.5	17 16 MPC24716	
Nov 21	MARS	6782 4.68	V	0.763	85.9	187145 M	268761	18 5.7	3.50N M 18 41.7	-24 21 DR200
Nov 21	8*Flora	141 0.17	401 S	0.182	40.7	M 182000	19 14.4	4.54S M 0 13.7	-8 46 MPC24084	
Nov 22	51 Nemesis	137 0.07	513 CU	0.389	85.6	L5 2401	11 15.4	1.41M M 20 4.3	-15 5 Goffin94	
Nov 22	489 Comacina	144 0.06	727 C	0.199	93.3	M 239257	20 30.9	1.43S M 21 43.4	-12 16 Goffin87	
Nov 23	41*Daphne	182 0.11	992 C	0.121	230.5	01492148	2 40.7	2.26W J 6 57.7	1 50 MPC22385	
Nov 24	185 Eunice	165 0.07	736 C	0.412	98.4	M 719296	12 59.3	2.00N M 18 26.6	-10 5 MPC24549	
Nov 24	135 Herta	82 0.06	250 M	0.152	278.6	M 98422	13 27.4	0.65N M 6 42.8	26 25 MPC24085	
Nov 24	JUPITER 140904 19.58			0.140	72.2	M 722611	16 19.2	3.69W M 21 13.4	-17 1 DR200	
Nov 24	41*Daphne	182 0.11	990 C	0.126	233.9	01492652	16 25.9	1.38S J 6 57.1	1 43 MPC22385	
Nov 25	60 Echo	61 0.04	144 S	0.187	74.2	M 7 9581	17 57.4	3.00N M 23 0.0	-6 7 Goffin96	
Nov 25	37*Fides	112 0.12	336 S	0.172	294.5	M 118259	0 28.5	7.05N M 2 28.4	18 33 Goffin94	
Nov 27	109 Felicitas	91 0.05	260 GC	0.352	64.0	164357 M	238772	15 36.8	3.56N M 21 23.3	-18 18 MPC23226
Nov 28	313 Chaldaea	101 0.05	353 C	0.256	82.0	164672 M	239387	12 12.6	1.41N M 21 48.8	-11 1 MPC24549
Nov 29	VENUS	12220 34.09		0.768	75.8	188326 M	270015	7 37.6	5.46S M 19 35.9	-24 43 DR200
Nov 29	NEPTUNE	50184 2.25		0.027	79.3	188797 M	270539	10 57.7	0.43S M 19 59.6	-20 13 DR200
Nov 29	23*Thalia	111 0.13	320 S	0.248	292.1	770668 M	94222	16 59.5	1.67N M 5 16.2	25 24 Goffin96
Dec 1	379 Huenna	96 0.05	306 S	0.352	72.6	M 722751	3 49.4	1.97N M 21 35.6	-14 4 MPC25034	
Dec 2	2260 Neoptolemus	85 0.03	501 DTU	0.083	300.3	M 183823	0 35.0	0.92N M 1 45.9	-7 41 Goffin87	
Dec 2	1116 Catriona	40 0.04	74	0.156	317.3	26053 M	30802	5 24.6	2.90S M 6 56.7	50 0 MPC 9459
Dec 2	79*Brunhilda	68 0.09	144 S	0.241	251.8	93928 M	119886	10 2.9	4.90S L 4 26.0	15 31 Goffin89
Dec 3	99 Dike	79 0.05	247 C	0.182	81.0	M 1 426	7 27.8	3.56N M 10 30.8	26 42 MPC15525	
Dec 3	532*Herculina	217 0.08	1257 S	0.327	80.1	189113 M	270948	22 56.4	1.71N M 20 17.9	-26 14 Goffin88
Dec 4	105*Artemis	123 0.09	477 C	0.193	234.4	134036 FK5 1181	12 15.6	1.14N 5 7 0.3	-8 24 Goffin94	
Dec 4	74*Galatea	123 0.11	441 C	0.181	265.5	13340104	14 21.2	2.27N 6 6 44.5	16 57 MPC24716	
Dec 5	94*Aurora	212 0.15	1162 CP	0.182	280.7	24291069	3 48.7	0.098 J 6 10.8	35 7 Goffin94	
Dec 7	349*Dembowska	143 0.11	609 R	0.220	268.5	76598 A	38625	8 40.2	0.81S 8 4 25.1	29 47 Goffin92
Dec 8	776*Berbericia	183 0.10	793 C	0.334	47.4	M 274531	2 20.8	2.02N M 23 2.4	-25 59 MPC19478	
Dec 8	10 Hygiea	429 0.24	3987 C	0.202	262.0	185 1920	20 20.0	1.72N J 5 12.0	25 16 MPC24219	
Dec 9	124 Alkestete	79 0.06	254 S	0.172	271.3	L4 97	19 16.1	2.97S H 7 5.2	18 13 Goffin95	
Dec 10	VENUS	12220 40.46		0.558	65.3	M 735914	11 6.1	21.05N M 20 6.8	-22 20 DR200	
Dec 10	41*Daphne	182 0.11	979 C	0.187	257.6	01481130	17 29.2	2.48S J 6 47.8	0 46 MPC22385	
Dec 12	146 Lucina	137 0.07	592 C	0.189	37.0	M 2 8474	13 20.5	0.03S M 0 12.0	-13 18 Goffin89	
Dec 12	624*Hektor	234 0.07	2420 D	0.088	228.5	55368 M	67094	19 13.2	1.04N M 2 14.0	34 37 Goffin93
Dec 13	23 Thalia	111 0.13	323 S	0.269	287.3	CRO 4850	22 46.5	6.63N T 5 0.5	26 38 Goffin96	
Dec 14	153 Wilda	175 0.06	1178 P	0.191	116.7	M 195501	10 6.5	0.13N M 12 27.0	-9 23 Goffin93	
Dec 15	1 Ceres	933 0.42	10876 G	0.261	56.4	639 252	1 31.8	3.34N J 22 54.0	-18 2 Goffin92	
Dec 15	1369 Ostania	45 0.02	146	0.134	264.5	116054 M	153472	13 28.3	2.18S L 7 52.0	3 37 MPC15860
Dec 17	123 Brunhilda	49 0.05	106 S	0.165	270.2	+26 1630	1 13.4	4.41N U 7 42.7	25 59 Goffin90	
Dec 19	10 Hygiea	429 0.24	3982 C	0.196	260.2	18490751	0 37.1	1.81N J 5 3.1	24 57 MPC24219	
Dec 20	VENUS	12220 47.86		0.301	37.9	M 237331	18 38.5	15.78S M 20 22.4	-19 52 DR200	
Dec 21	404 Araxiok	101 0.07	384 C	0.227	280.9	M 119917	0 41.1	2.27S M 4 27.8	15 9 Goffin89	
Dec 21	178 Belisama	37 0.03	74 S	0.252	270.3	CRO 5447	7 19.0	1.58N T 5 41.6	25 11 MPC19472	
Dec 22	53 Kalypso	119 0.07	396 XC	0.323	106.8	L2 239	9 19.6	0.95S H 12 50.5	-3 3 Goffin87	
Dec 22	1288 Santa	39 0.02	86	0.170	84.0	91945 M	116542	23 50.3	0.72N L 0 31.6	12 54 MPC19986
Dec 25	VENUS	12220 51.27		0.228	5.1	M 721924	1 39.4	21.80N M 20 24.3	-18 53 DR200	
Dec 25	123 Brunhilda	49 0.05	106 S	0.212	269.3	M 97719	18 28.0	2.59N M 7 35.3	25 58 Goffin90	
Dec 26	191 Kolga	51 0.04	129 XC	0.194	281.9	112393 M	148407	10 3.2	4.19N M 5 4.6	5 42 Goffin90
Dec 27	727*Hipponia	37 0.04	67 DT	0.209	308.6	111845 FK5 1123	3 6 46.6	4.69N 5 4 28.4	1 22 MPC25187	
Dec 27	241*Germania	169 0.11	898 CP	0.204	270.5	L4 577	15 35.1	0.77N H 7 17.2	20 25 MPC24085	







IOTA Occultation Predictions

David W. Dunham

All IOTA members who want them should now have 1997 predictions of lunar grazing and total occultations for their region, and local circumstance appulse predictions for planetary and asteroidal occultations. If that is not the case, contact the graze computer given for your region listed on p. 8 of the 1997 Grazing Occultation Supplement for your hemisphere, or IOTA or IOTA/ES, or me. In that list, the telephone number for Henk Bulder is incorrect; it should be 31.1722.11870. Also, the e-mail address for Andrew Elliott in the U.K. has been simplified to aje@compuserve.com.

The graze computers will try to supply you with the updated predictions described below usually only if you can receive the prediction files in a zipped, attached file, as described on p. 9 of the 1997 graze supplement. However, they will supply them upon request in files on an IBM-compatible diskette if you can not easily receive attached files by email, and they will be printed if you do not have free access to a PC and printer.

A few more graze computers are needed to help compute all IOTA predictions for some areas; part of the problem with distribution of this year's predictions has been too much work being done by too few people. Especially needed is help with the predictions for western North America. If you are interested in helping, have an IBM-compatible PC with math co-processor, and can receive relatively large attached files by e-mail, please contact me. The graze computers now also generate and distribute predictions of total lunar occultations, and of local data for appulses by major and minor planets, as well as of lunar grazing occultations.

Total lunar occultations: By the time you receive this, I will have distributed to all of the graze computers a small computer program called IOTASTA that creates a file in the sites.dat format needed by the OCCULT program from the file of stations that is used by the GRAZEREG graze prediction program. This will make it easy for the graze computers to generate total lunar occultation predictions for all IOTA members with OCCULT. However, the GRAZEREG station file does not include the telescope aperture needed by OCCULT, so if you want your OCCULT total occultation predictions to use an aperture other than the default value of 20 cm, send the value you want used to your graze computer. The OCCULT predictions include lunar occultations of major and minor planets that are no longer included in the PC-Evans predictions. If you already have the latter, which have stellar data that is at least as comprehensive as that which can be generated by OCCULT, your computer may send you OCCULT data only for the lunar occultations of the planets. I have not had a chance to complete a program to convert the PC-Evans station and observer information files to the OCCULT sites.dat format, but with the IOTASTA program, that might not be necessary. It is certainly more efficient for the computers to work with only one station file, the GRAZEREG station file (a change to that file that we hope to make will be to include the observer's telescope aperture in cm, probably in place of the currently unused

spectacular travel radius). So for 1998, we may stop using both PC-Evans and its associated station and observer files. In order to efficiently generate the zip files for e-mail transmission of all predictions, the OCCULT-produced prediction file will have a name such as brocc022.997, which would be a code for B-region OCCULT data for station 22 (number in the IOTA station deck for the region) for 1997. "Brocc022" would also be the first 8 characters of the name of the location given in the OCCULT prediction heading, followed by the first several characters (but usually not all of them) of your actual location (usually city) name. **Grazing occultations:** Basic information is included in the hemispheric grazing occultation supplement distributed with the last issue. The latest version of the ACLPPP program new (as of the start of May) lists at the top of each profile "IOTA 1997 MAR.9 ACLPPP WITH 1997 MAR.14 OBSERVED GRAZE DATA". Previous versions of the program only identified the month that it was created, and only starting with the March version is the date of the observed graze dataset also identified, important now that we are adding observed graze data to correct various errors. In general, we will not provide updated ACLPPP profiles for 1997, unless it is relatively easy to do so as part of a prediction update distribution for other reasons, such as described in the sections above and below. So at least if you can receive attached files by e-mail, you should have by now been provided with a new file of ACLPPP profiles with the above dates given at the top, and possibly with a later version of the observed graze data. If you can not receive attached files by e-mail, you will be supplied by your computer a new file of ACLPPP profiles upon request if you plan an expedition for a graze under one of the following circumstances:

If the ACLPPP observed dataset is earlier than 1997 May (or no date is given at the top for the observed data), "ZC 1821 05/25/80" is one of the observed grazes listed at the bottom, and the graze profile includes the Watts angle range 180.0 to 180.8, then a new profile is needed, or you should ignore the "mountain" that appears in the described Watts angle range. The observations on which this was based are about 1°5 too high and will be removed from the observed graze dataset for predictions computed in May and later.

If the ACLPPP version is earlier than 1997 MAR.9 and you plan to observe a graze of ZC 1029 (26 Geminorum), then you need a new profile. Only the 1997 MAR.9 and later versions take into account the significant known error in the declination of this star (previous grazes show that it is about 0°3 south of its catalog position, so that the graze shadows computed with the earlier versions are about 0.5 km too far south). Also, if your version is earlier than Mar. 9 and ZC 1029 is one of the stars listed for used observed grazes at the bottom (for a graze of any star), then you also need a new profile.

If the ACLPPP observed dataset is earlier than 1997 MAR.14 (or no date is given at the top for the observed data), "ZC 970 05/01/79" is one of the observed grazes listed at the bottom, and the graze profile includes Watts angle 183.4 and 183.6, the profile at those points will be plotted about 1°0 too high. This erroneous dataset has been removed from the Mar. 14 version of the dataset.

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If the ACLPPP version is earlier than 1997 MAR, then you should make the correction for southern Cassini-region waning-phase grazes mentioned in the lower left side of p. 9 of the 1997 graze supplement, and you should ignore a "mountain" around Watts angle 182 - 183, especially when observed data for a graze of ZC 2072 are listed at the bottom (that is, the "mountain" in that area is too high by almost 1°). These problems have been taken care of if observed data are listed at the bottom for "ZC 2771 02/02/97" or "ZC 2771 52/02/97". This is the θ Librae graze observed in Europe, and for which a new profile by Henk Bulder is printed on page 377. This dataset will be updated to include the more detailed information of that profile in the 1997 May update to the observed graze dataset.

Observers are reminded that the UTC time, and the longitude and latitude given at the bottom of each ACLPPP profile are for a standard point in the predicted limit used to compute the basic profile information, and not for the point in the predicted limit closest to their location. The standard point is often many degrees of longitude west of the closest point for the observer. However, the important thing is that the profile has been adjusted to the Watts and position angles of central graze for the closest point to the observer, so it is valid for his region, in spite of the location and time information given. The position angles of central graze never differ by more than 1° from the standard point to the closest point. The standard point is generally used for many observers until the central graze P.A. difference exceeds 1°, then a new standard point is computed. In a future version of the program, either the coordinates and/or time for the standard point will be labeled as such, or just eliminated to avoid confusion.

Local circumstance appulses: By the time you receive this, your graze computer will have been sent a final version of the 1997 input dataset of occultations of stars by major and minor planets. They now include SAO numbers whenever these are available for the star, and predictions of the separate components of double stars are now given. Also, improved data for some stars have been used; see the separate article by Edwin Goffin and myself about 1997 predictions of asteroidal and planetary occultations. Even when there are no new updates for the star or asteroid, there may be a small change in the prediction since the formula for ΔT used by the program has been updated.

Errors in XZ94E: Some errors in XZ94E star designations were corrected in PC-Evans total occultation predictions distributed in February 1997 or later, as mentioned on p. 311 of the last issue. The errors may exist in PC-Evans predictions computed before then (but I found that none of the stars in question actually were occulted at my location near latitude +39° during 1997), as well as other programs that use XZ94E, including GRAZEREG graze predictions and OCCULT version 4.0 and higher versions. Only a few stars are involved. The corrections can be found on IOTA's "sky.net" web site and will be published in the next issue. 1

More Web Sites for IOTA

David W. Dunham

Many valuable web sites were listed on pages 339-341 of the last issue. An important site that Kevin Krisciunas told me about recently is the U.S.A. mapping site <http://www.etakguide.com/#FindLocation> which will generate a detailed map given any address or street intersection in the country. But most important for IOTA, it will also give a rather accurate longitude and latitude for the address, or for any point on which a cursor arrow is set on the detailed map. Our tests of these coordinates show that they are accurate to about 2°, not accurate enough for reporting lunar occultation timings, but good enough for reporting asteroidal occultations, and for all predictions. Residents of the U.S.A. should enter their address to check their map measurements. I was surprised to discover with this site that the longitude for my observing location in Silver Spring, MD, where I lived from 1977 to 1988, was in error by 12°. A remeasurement of the 1:24,000-scale U.S. Geological Survey map of the area confirmed the Etak position within 1°. That sold me on this site's value. Also, the database seems to be very up-to-date, including streets in my neighborhood that were laid out only 3 years ago. One drawback to the site is that it does not give height above sea level, so you still need the detailed topographic map for that, as well as for measuring coordinates accurate enough (to the nearest 1°, that is, within ±0.5° of longitude and latitude) for reporting lunar occultation timings. There is a good discussion of this site, and of other mapping sites, by Rob Robinson on IOTA's main Web site at <http://www.sky.net/~robinson/iotaidx.htm>. The Etak coordinates might be more accurate than 2° if they are on the WGS 84 (GPS) system, or perhaps on the 1983 North American Datum; that could explain the differences that we get from measuring the maps to give positions on the 1927 North American Datum. An inquiry to Etak when we get a chance might resolve this. If anyone knows of any sites like this for other countries, please let me know and I will share that in a future *ON*.

Not mentioned last time was another IOTA site, Robert Sandy's site at <http://www.sky.net/~grazebob/index.html> which includes many reduction profiles of grazing occultations, as well as other useful prediction and observing information. It also has an image of one of the best photos ever made of an occultation, taken by Bob of the 1978 Dec. 26 occultation of Venus by the 14% sunlit waning Moon. It is directly linked to from the main IOTA site maintained by Rob Robinson, which is why I did not include it in the article in the last issue. It does have one important item that is NOT linked to anything else, and hence is available only to *ON* readers--replace "index.html" in the URL above with "occmam.zip" and you have the downloadable .zip file containing an ASCII version of IOTA's draft observing manual, as noted in *ON* (vol. 6, no. 13, pg. 278, January, 1997).

There is a link to Fred Espenak's eclipse (mainly solar) web site from the main IOTA web site. Fred has recently completed a new web site for the total solar eclipse of 1999 August 11. The URL is <http://planets.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/TSE1999/TSE1999.html>. This eclipse path passes through

Europe, the Middle East and India. The site includes many maps, tables, weather prospects, and other information. There are also instructions for ordering the new NASA bulletin on this eclipse. The URL for Fred's main eclipse site is: <http://planets.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/eclipse.html>.

Ovidiu Vaduvescu informs us of a web page about the 1999 solar eclipse in Romania: <http://roastro.astro.ro>. The central line crosses Bucharest.

The last issue incorrectly listed the URL for the AAO Lunar Occultations Homepage. The correct URL is <http://www.arcetri.astro.it/~luna/index.html>.

Recently Observed Asteroidal Occultations

David W. Dunham

This gives very preliminary information about some asteroidal occultations that have been reported to me since I wrote "Recent Results from Asteroidal Occultations" in *ON* (vol. 6, no. 13, pg. 300). Jim Stamm will publish more complete information about them later. The observations indicate in general that the nominal predictions for occultations of PPM stars are pretty good, much better than the 1° error bars that we commonly give the predictions. These events usually seem to be within 0.2 to 0.3 of the prediction so that chances of seeing an event at distances greater than 0.5 from the nominal path seem to be quite small. But observers within this distance have a better chance of seeing the event, and are encouraged to monitor these events, even when there is conflicting CCD astrometry. However, the nominal predictions aren't yet accurate enough for portable observers to travel into the paths and have a high (more than 50%) chance of seeing the event. There is good hope of that happening after orbits for the asteroids are redetermined using Hipparcos data, and those data are also used for the stars. The Hipparcos data are due to be released in June, so improvements in the predictions can be expected later this year.

1996 Dec. 17, (704) Interamnia and B.D. +33° 633. Timings of this event have been reported from 9 stations in southern California, Arizona, and New Mexico. An ellipse with dimensions 337 km and 321 km can be fit to these chords. A plot and some details are given on IOTA's asteroidal occultation web site. In addition, timings were made by four stations from Lowell Observatory. The path of the occultation was predicted almost exactly (s. limit within about 0.01) by Martin Federspiel from extensive observations made with the Carlsberg Automated Meridian Circle (CAMC) on La Palma in the Canary Islands. Some observers were misled by astrometry from the Flagstaff (USNO) transit circle that gave a path 3/4 path-widths farther south, so few observations were obtained across the northern half of the asteroid, and none in the northern third of the path. Three "last-second" CCD astrometric predictions gave conflicting results. After the event, Jan Manek re-reduced his measurements using GSC 1.2 data, and that gave a good result, within about 0.06 of the truth. That showed that GSC 1.2 data, available from the Web (see p. 340 of the last issue) are really needed for effective CCD

astrometry; the more widely used GSC 1.1 data are just not accurate enough.

1997 Jan. 6, (363) Padua and SAO 77818: A 3-second occultation was timed by Jose Gomez Castano at Fuenlabrada, near Madrid, Spain. He was near the northern limit since Jose Ripero Osorio, about 20 km to the north at Torrejon, had a miss. The event occurred within a path width (0.07) of my prediction using Jim Roc's GSC 1.2 astrometry obtained the night before with his 20 cm telescope at Oaxaca, Mexico. This confirmed the value of GSC 1.2. The actual path was also well within a path width of the nominal prediction.

Jan. 22, (50) Virginia and PPM 156720: A 1.5-second occultation was video recorded by Leszek Bendedykowicz at Cracow Observatory, Poland. This was near Federspiel's path update based on CAMC data for the asteroid only; the prediction remained uncertain due to a lack of observations of the star. The event was very short relative to the expected 9 seconds for a central event, and the observer reported "strong oscillation" 15 seconds after the reappearance. Also, Rui Goncalves near Lisbon, Portugal, saw no occultation, but obtained CCD images before and after the event, showing that the path passed 0.11° north of his position, in better agreement with the nominal prediction but far from Cracow. There have been no confirming observations; the short Cracow event might have been a secondary extinction rather than one by Virginia itself.

Feb. 4, (84) Klio and PPM 91967: A certain occultation was timed by Orlouf Mitskogen near Oslo, Norway, less than 0.2 south of the nominal prediction. Rui Goncalves obtained CCD astrometry at Lisbon and calculated that the path was 1.5 ± 0.2 north of his site; the Oslo observation shows that the distance at Lisbon was really 1.7 to 1.8.

Feb. 26, (386) Siegena and PPM 153989: Jan Manek timed the disappearance at Stefanik Observatory in Prague, Czech Republic, but clouds moved in 4 seconds later, preventing a timing of the reappearance. Jan could usually resolve the star's companion (PPM 153990), about 0.5 mag. fainter and 4.7° away, and at the time of the D. the stars were resolved and only the brighter star disappeared, so he is 95% confident that an occultation by Siegena occurred. The stellar duplicity prevented CAMC astrometry.

1997 March 21, (377) Campania and SAO 138801: Rik Hill and Jim McGaha, observing at separate observatories in Tucson, Arizona, timed the occultation. Their location was about a path width south of the nominal prediction. Observers east of downtown Phoenix had a miss. The path must have passed over the western half of Phoenix, but nobody observed there. Some observers were misled by CCD astrometry that indicated the path would be a few path widths southwest, along the southern California coast, where no occultation was seen.

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Venus and Jupiter Double Occultation

Isao Sato

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Dear colleagues: A very interesting event, simultaneous lunar occultations of Venus and Jupiter, will be seen from the southern part of the Atlantic Ocean near dawn on April 23, 1998. The event will be seen in the daylight from the southern part of Africa. The best site to see it from is the Ascension Islands (belonging to the UK) in the south Atlantic Ocean. The Venus occultation is nearly a northern graze and it occurs at almost the same time as when Jupiter reappears from the dark limb at 6 h 10 m UTC. It should be a wonderful sight!

Successive lunar occultations of Saturn and Vesta will be seen from the north part of Japan in 2002. 1

PHEMU97: First Observation by IOTA/ES

Wolfgang Beisker

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For the PHEMU97 campaign IOTA/ES observed the first event for this year observable from Munich with the IOTA Occultation Camera (IOC) this morning at 3 h 56 m UTC J4 occulted J2. The elevation of Jupiter was around 17 degrees, the sun was only -2 degrees below the horizon. An RG850nm longpath filter was used to sufficiently suppress the sky background. An 11 inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope with f/10 was used. Exposure time was 0.4 seconds, the image interval time was 0.714 seconds. 1500 images were taken.

All IOTA/ES members are reminded of the PHEMU97 campaign announced by Dr. J. E. Arlot of the BDI. (arlot@bdl.fr). In order to get more information, contact the BDI WWW pages at www.bdl.fr. Information is also available by snail-mail from IOTA/ES. [Also, see Arlot and Wild's article about these events on pages 325-333 of the previous issue]. Good luck with further observations. 1

1997 July 18 Triton Occultation

Larry Wasserman

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Due to the very slow motion and small angular size, occultations of stars brighter than Triton by that satellite of Neptune are rare. One will occur on July 18, and professional astronomers are mobilizing to record it, to learn more about Triton's tenuous atmosphere that was discovered by Voyager 2. My latest predicted path, based upon CCD observations by Lowell Observatory's Ted Dunham made at Perth Observatory, shows that the occultation path starts in southern Texas and Mexico at 10:13 UTC, then crosses the central Pacific Ocean, then clips the northern part of North Island, New Zealand at 10:19, and includes most of Australia at 10:20. The 13.0-mag. star is at J2000 R.A. 20 h 2 m 51.3 s, Dec. -20° 0' 57". Triton will be just

a few tenths of a magnitude fainter, so the total magnitude drop will be about 1.0. A central event should last 118 seconds. Neptune is near opposition (solar elongation 177°) and the Moon is nearly full (96% sunlit) and 26° away from the 8-mag. planet, which will be only a few arcseconds from the star and Triton. These are challenging circumstances, but suitably equipped observers are invited to attempt observations. Wolfgang Beisker estimates that observations will be marginal with his IOTA occultation CCD camera system with an 11-inch telescope, so 14-inch or larger telescopes are recommended. Since there is still some uncertainty in the prediction, observers in the southwestern U.S.A. and New Zealand, in addition to those throughout Mexico and Australia, are encouraged to attempt observations. A map showing the latest path can be viewed on IOTA's asteroidal occultation web site at URL <http://www.anomalies.com/iota/splash.htm>. A finder chart for Neptune is also available there. 1

1997 February 02 Mainz Graze Results

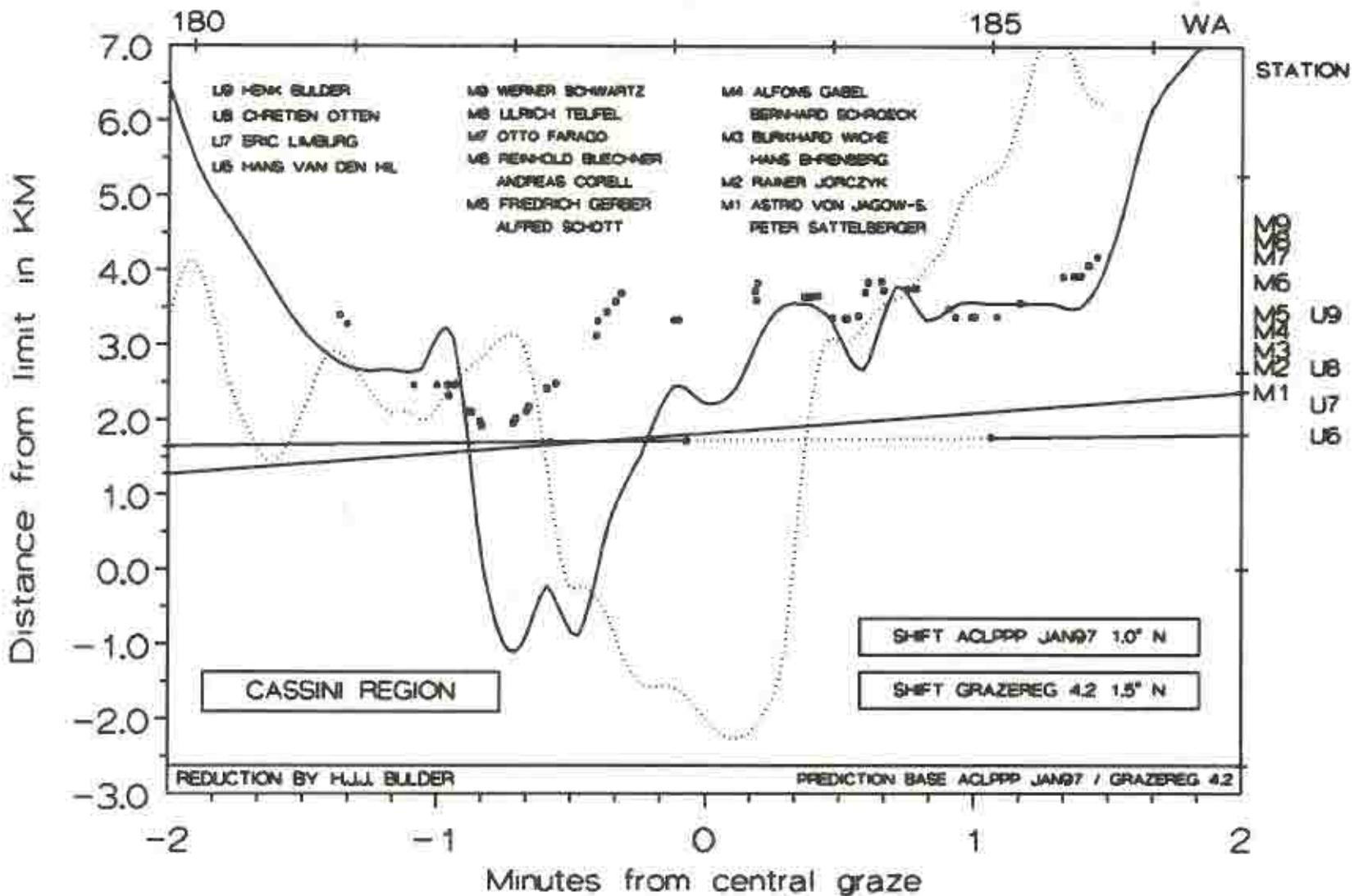
Henk Bulder

HJJBulder@compuserve.com

Here is the profile containing the data of the 1997 February 02 Mainz graze expedition, which I received from Hans Ehrenberg, combined with the Urmond (Maasband) expedition. The observations agree very well. The Mainz expedition gives a lot of additional datapoints. Only 3 of the 16 observers recorded a miss and one had technical problems preventing timings. After skipping some spurious timings made at the bright limb with small instruments, 62 timings remain including 27 coming from a video record which shows many gradual and step events, confirming the suspected duplicity reported in the Urmond (Maasband) expedition. The coordinates for the Mainz expedition are in Potsdam Datum. I didn't correct for European Datum in the graph, since I don't know how to do that. I expect the resulting differences would be very small, though. [The profile is on the following page.] 1

URMOND (NL)/ MAINZ (D) 2 FEB 1997

THETA LIBRAE (ZC 2271) MAG 4.3



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An Analysis of Observations of the Z.C. 1029 Graze on 1996 Oct. 4

Robert L. Sandy
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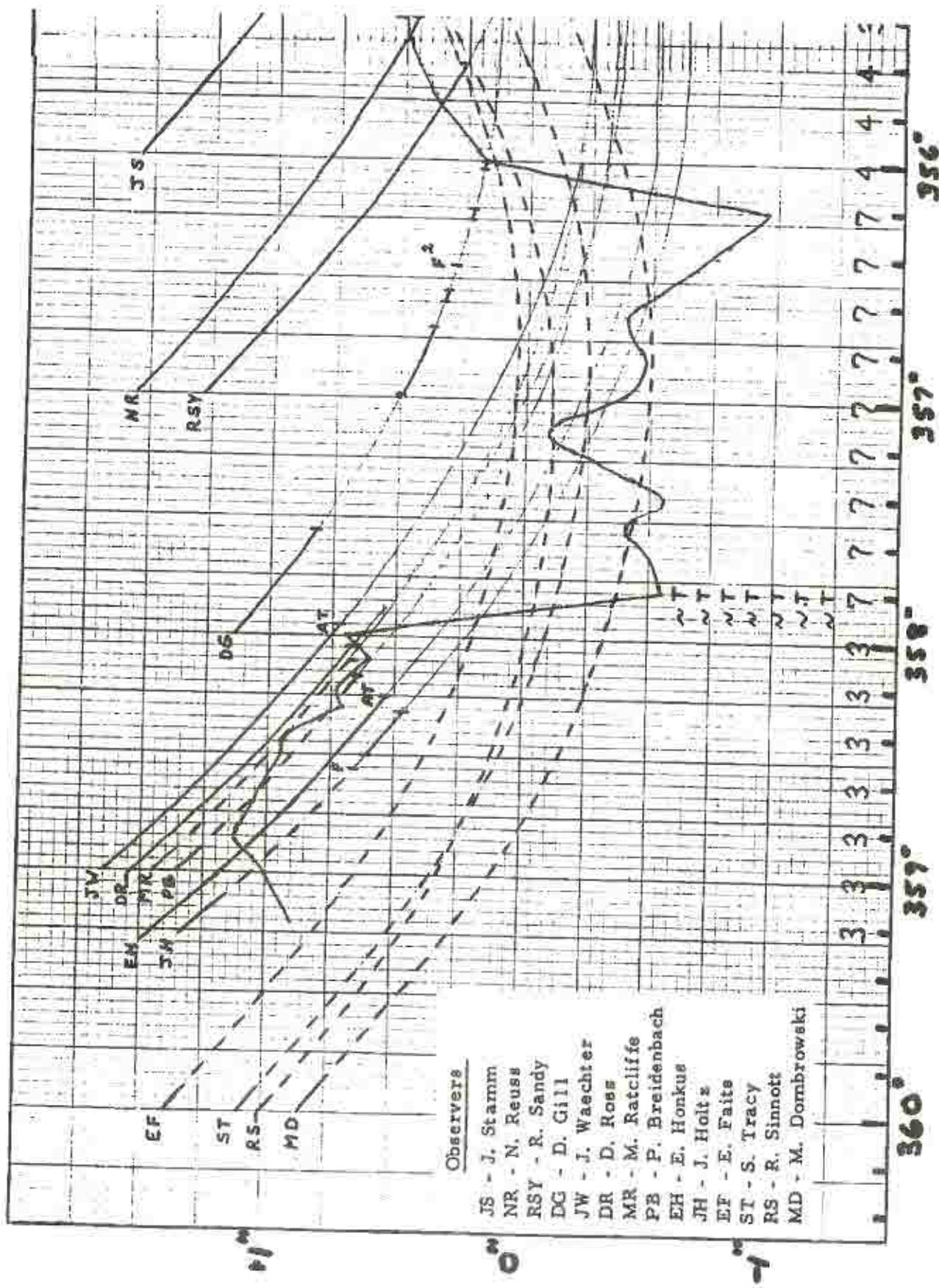
On 4 October, 1996, seventeen observers from across the USA, from Arizona to Massachusetts, were successful (estimated at 90%+) in observing the northern limit graze of +5.1-mag. suspected double star 26 Geminorum. With much time spent in correspondence with expedition leaders beforehand, the writer's Pictorial Reduction (henceforth known as P.R.) was completed on 12/02/1996, and snail-mailed to some of the observers. Of the seventeen observers who observed the graze, only fourteen were plotted on the P.R. for the reasons that (1) three (including Stamm) of the four observers in J. Stamm's expedition observed a miss, Stamm's star plot being the only one shown on the P.R.; and (2) another observer in Stamm's team was running late getting to the graze limit, and therefore set up about six miles (pretty deep into the moon) perpendicular south of the limit, and observed just one D and R, so his observations were not plotted. Of the fourteen observers tracks plotted, a total of 50 timings were plotted, a good 92% of them being considered excellent in accuracy and of non-questionable quality! Considering that the star was lost by some of the observers against the moon's bright features at the initial onset of the graze, I think everyone got very good data during the early morning hours and on a work-day morning.

In past-times, the writer has been plotting on my P.R.'s the pre-predicted profile using the same profile datum from I.O.T.A.'s ACLPPP, but in this case I have plotted the predicted profile based on very detailed/observed data from two observed grazes (of my choosing) that I have in my files, and for which I have drawn P.R.'s. Thus, the data from 359.2 to 358.0 degrees were derived from the observed graze of Z.C. 667 on 9/22/1978, when 6 observers made 10 timings in this Watts Angle region (the other six timings, for a total of 16, were made in the W.A. range of 354.6 to 353.1), and when $L = +6.0$ and $B = +7.1$, a very good choice since the B (latitude libration) was +7.3 for the subject graze. Then from 355.1 to 352.2 degrees W.A., data from the graze of Z.C. 692 (Aldebaran) on 9/12/1979 were used, when 16 observers made a total of 68 timings all the way from W.A. 355.1 to 348.0 degrees, and when $L = +8.3$ and $B = +7.3$; again a good choice since the B (lat. lib.) was exactly the same as for subject graze. It is also good that the Longitude Libration (L) value/s for both chosen data grazes had the same sign and were fairly close (in value) to the subject graze L -value. Special Note: As noted on one of the P.R. captions (upper right corner), the faint predicted profile area from 357.8 to 355.6-degrees W.A. (Code 7 & 4) should not be considered very accurate: this part of my plotted profile was taken straight off of the pre-graze ACLPPP, since I had no good past-observed profile data in my files for this Watts Angle range. Keep in mind that the error bars for Codes 7 & 4's are very long (see *ON* vol. 6, no. 13, pages 304-305 (January, 1997) for the definitions of Codes 7 & 4).

Now, before the Subject plotted predicted profile (shown faintly on P.R.--but not so faint on the copy here so that it would print) could have any meaning at all in relation to the Z.C. 1029 observations, the vertical baseline for both Z.C. 667 and Z.C. 692 had to be related to the same Grazing Elements Computer Version (i.e., 85-E) base line as that for the subject Z.C. 1029 graze. This matching was accomplished by asking Dr. Soma to run 85-E Grazing Elements for some of the observers in the Z.C. 667 and Z.C. 692 expeditions, since both the grazes of 667 and 692 were based on an entirely different Computer Version when this writer/P.R. plotter originally drew the data P.R.'s for 667 and 692.

Summary: Although several observers were unable to get a good timing of their first star disappearance (due to the star making contact with bright limb features at the beginning of the graze period), many good timings were made from then on, as stated in paragraph #1. Therefore, several conclusions can be made, namely (1) the somewhat incoherent timings made by observers JW (he did make a slight late D-timing just a few sec later than the AT shown on the P.R.), DR, MR, PB, EH, and JH agree partially with the predicted profile plotted in the W.A. region from 358.6 to 358.0-deg.; (2) observer DG's observations starting at 357.6 to 356.0-deg. definitely define the true limb profile (it has been this writer's opinion, for quite sometime, that IOTA's ACLPPP limb datums 4's and 7's have been too low in relation to the moon's mean limb/0.0°); (3) from W.A. 356.0 through 352.2-deg., the reported observation agree pretty well with the predicted (faint) profile, except where I (i.e., RSY) reported events quite a bit higher in the W.A. range between 353.0 to 352.4. It's this writer's (RSY) opinion that the deviation here is mainly caused by three factors, (1) the lunar libration L -value between that for subject vs. Z.C. 692 was a difference of 4.6-degrees, enough of a difference to (probably) cause this deviation. This same deviation would also apply to other observer's observations from 356.0 through 353.0, except that the deviation seems to (at some W.A.'s, like between 356.0 to 355.0) be a little less extensive. The other factor (#2) is the Probable Error In Star Declination (P.E.I.S.D.) differences between that for subject graze star vs. that for Z.C. 692 (Aldebaran); as we know, usually the brighter the star, the greater the accuracy of its position in the sky!! Now (#3) since subject star was a double star, with equal 5.9-mag. components at a predicted separation of 0.05", the fact that the star is double usually causes its position in the sky to not be as accurate as with single stars of the same magnitude (although this is usually the case with double-star components of quite unequal magnitudes and a greater separation between them than just 0.05"). Prior to Subject graze, the Heading of this writer's IOTA Limit Predictions GRAZEREG-VER 4.0 BY IOTA/ES, FRIEDEL AND J.H.SENN showed a Probable Error for ZC 1029 = $\pm 0.10''$, but recent information from Dr. Soma (Japan) indicates that it is really $\pm 0.28''$. So in my P.R. Heading, the P.E.I.S.D. should be changed to read $\pm 0.28''$.

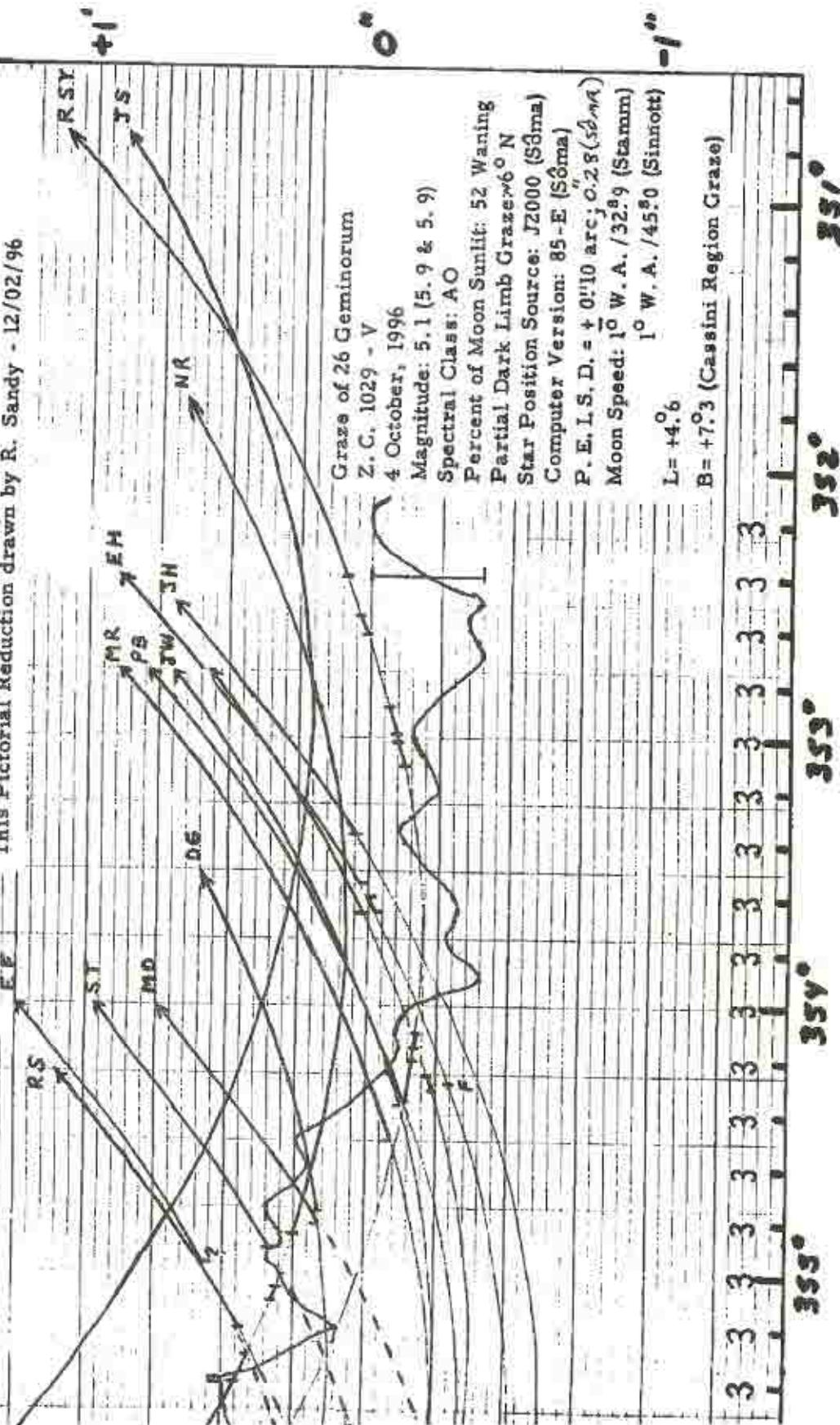
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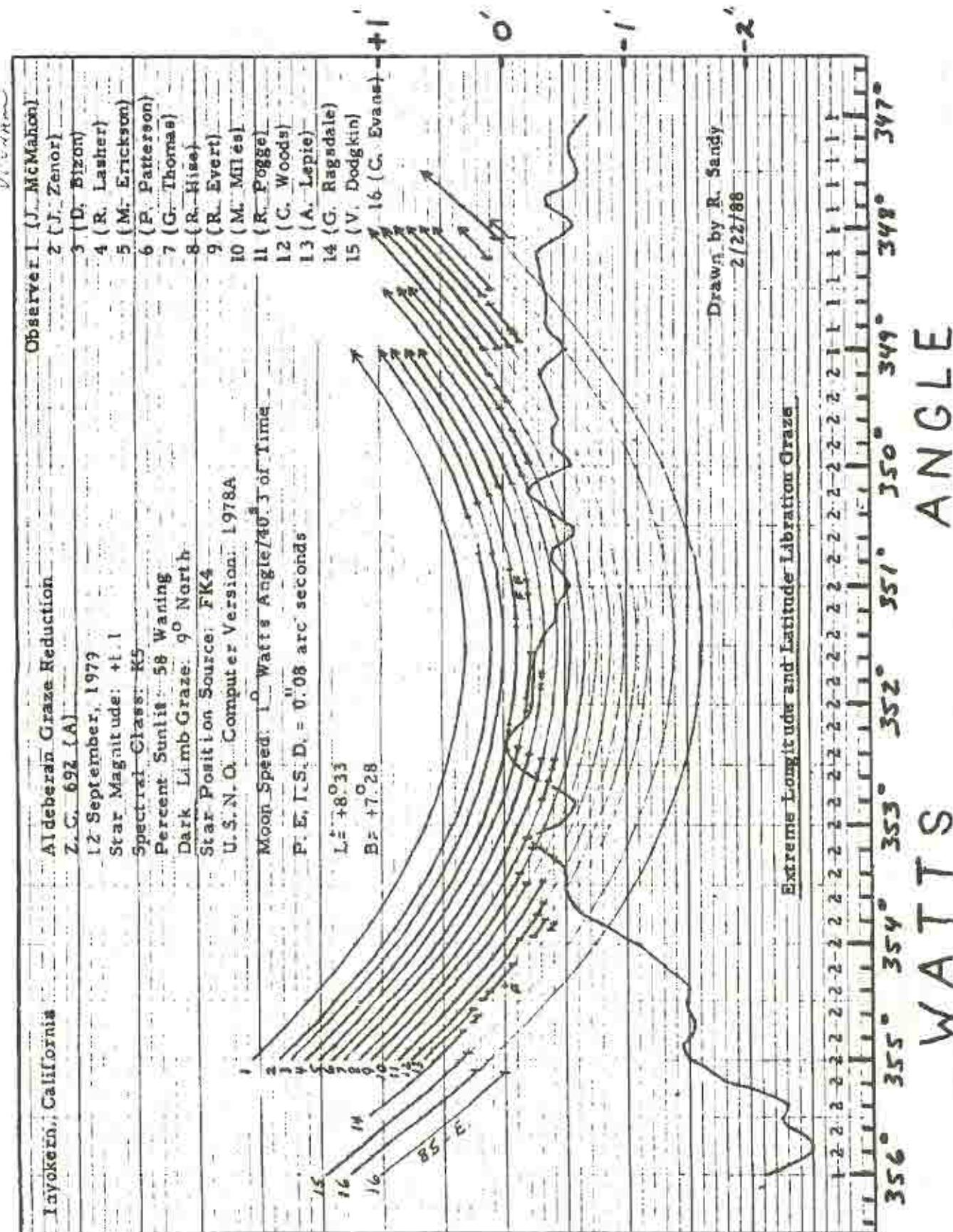


DRAFT AREA

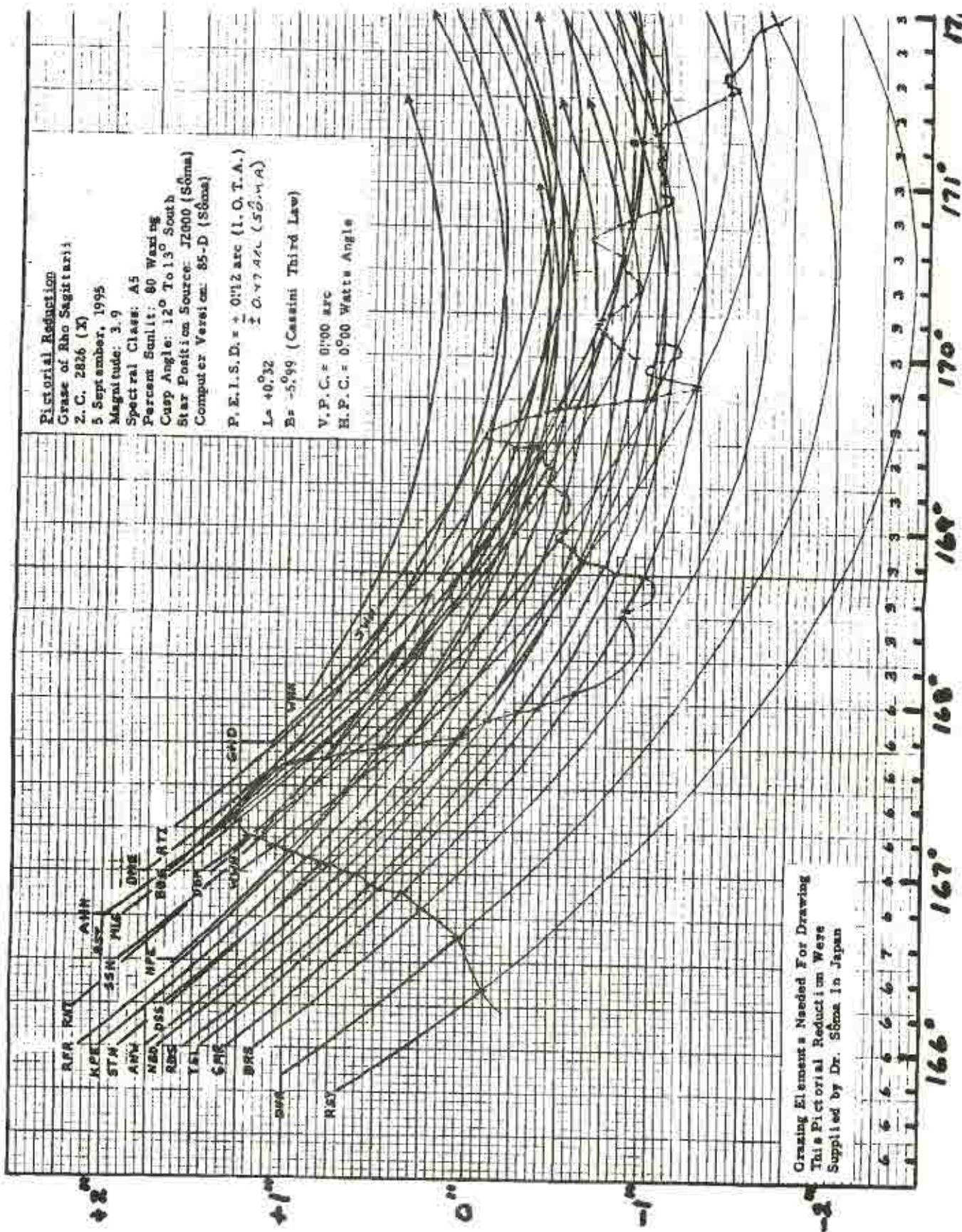
"Faint" plotted profile is based on two past well-observed grazes of Z. C. 667 (6 observers w/16 timings) on 9/22/78, when L = +6°.90 and B = +7°.1, AND Z. C. 692 (Aldeberan) (16 Observers w/68 timings) on 9/12/79 when L = +8°.3 and B = +7°.3. The faint profile from 357.8 to 355.6 Watts Angle (Codes 7 & 4) should NOT be considered very accurate. R. Sandy and D. Dunham

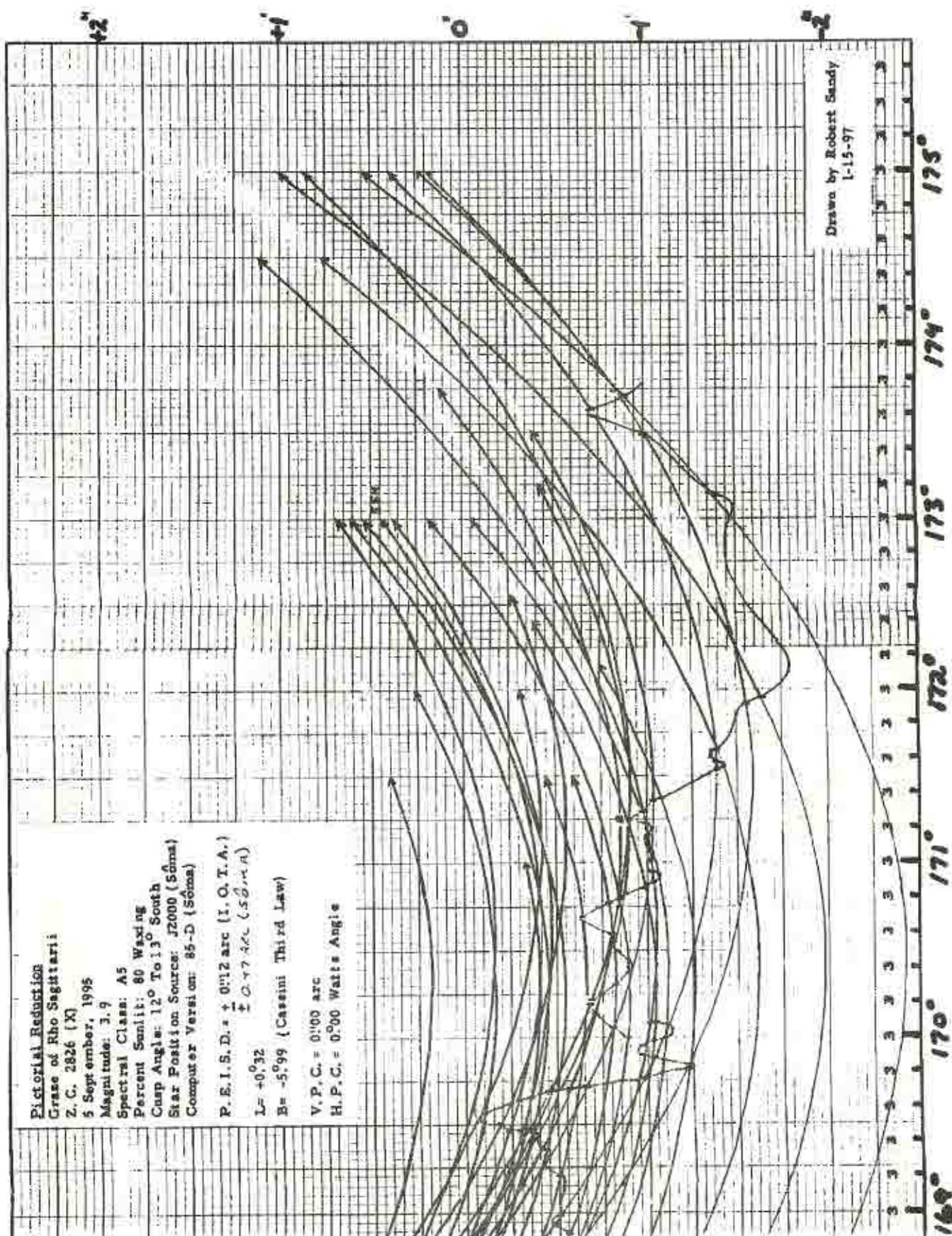
This Pictorial Reduction drawn by R. Sandy - 12/02/96



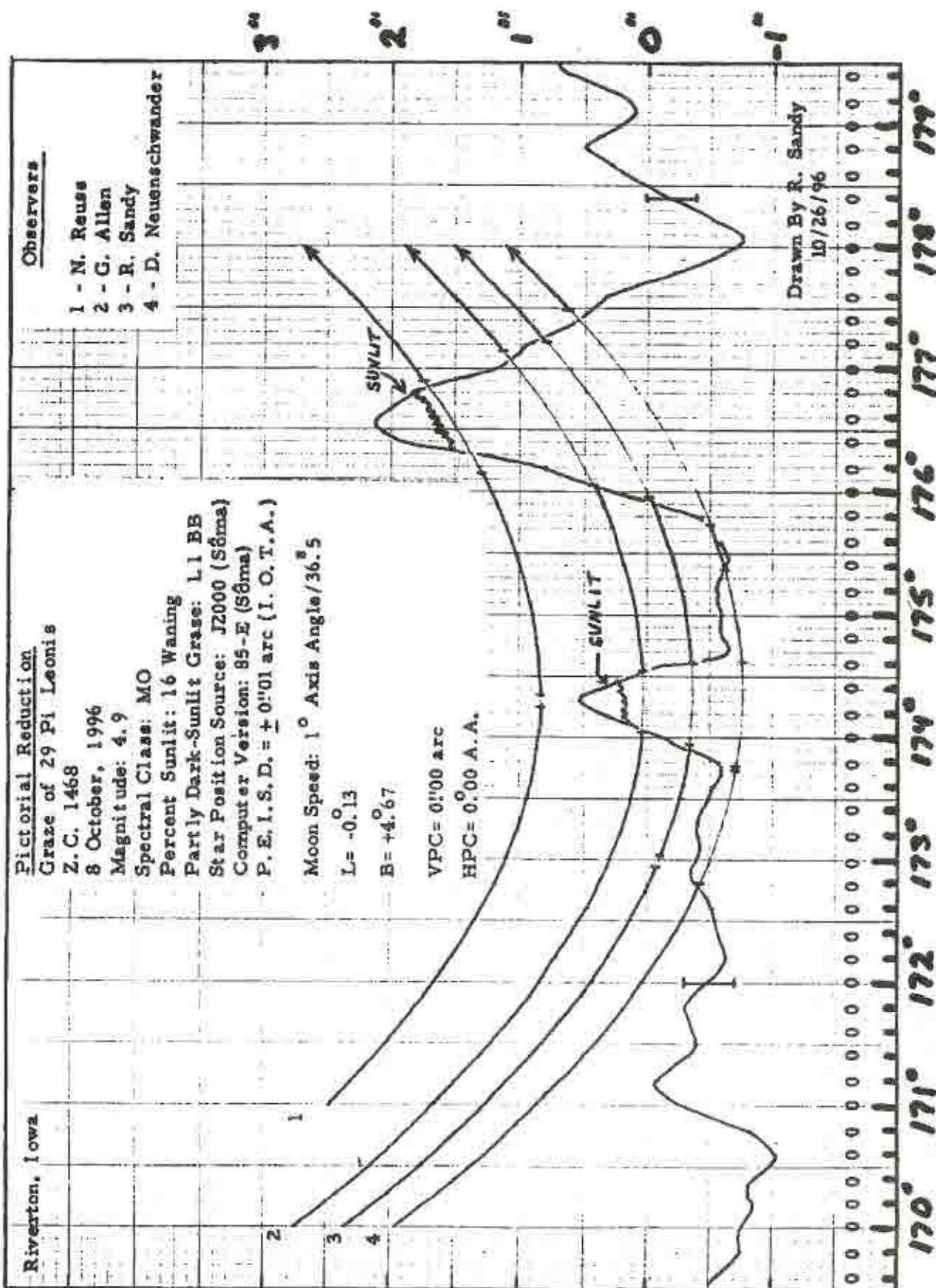


International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)



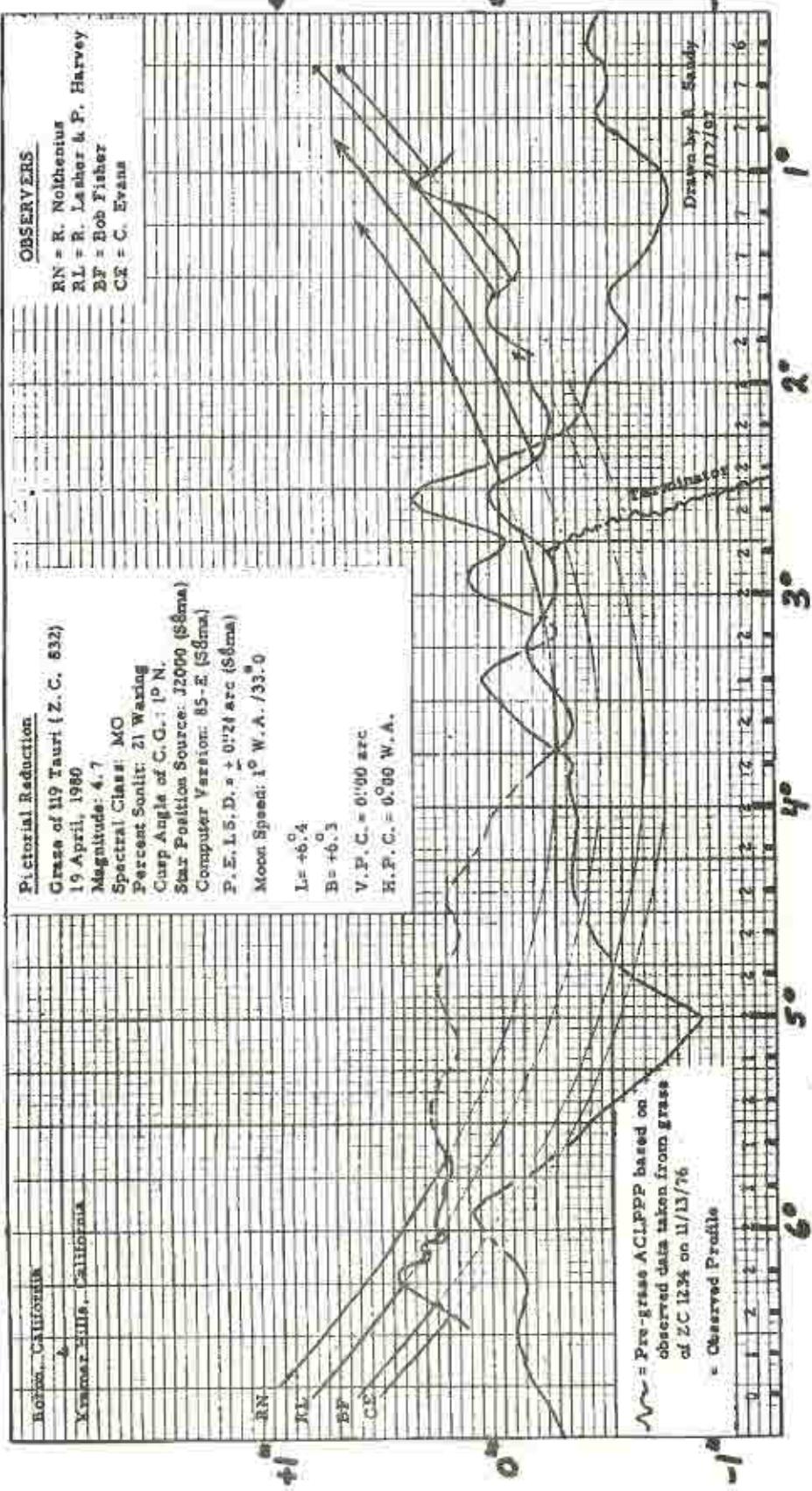


International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)

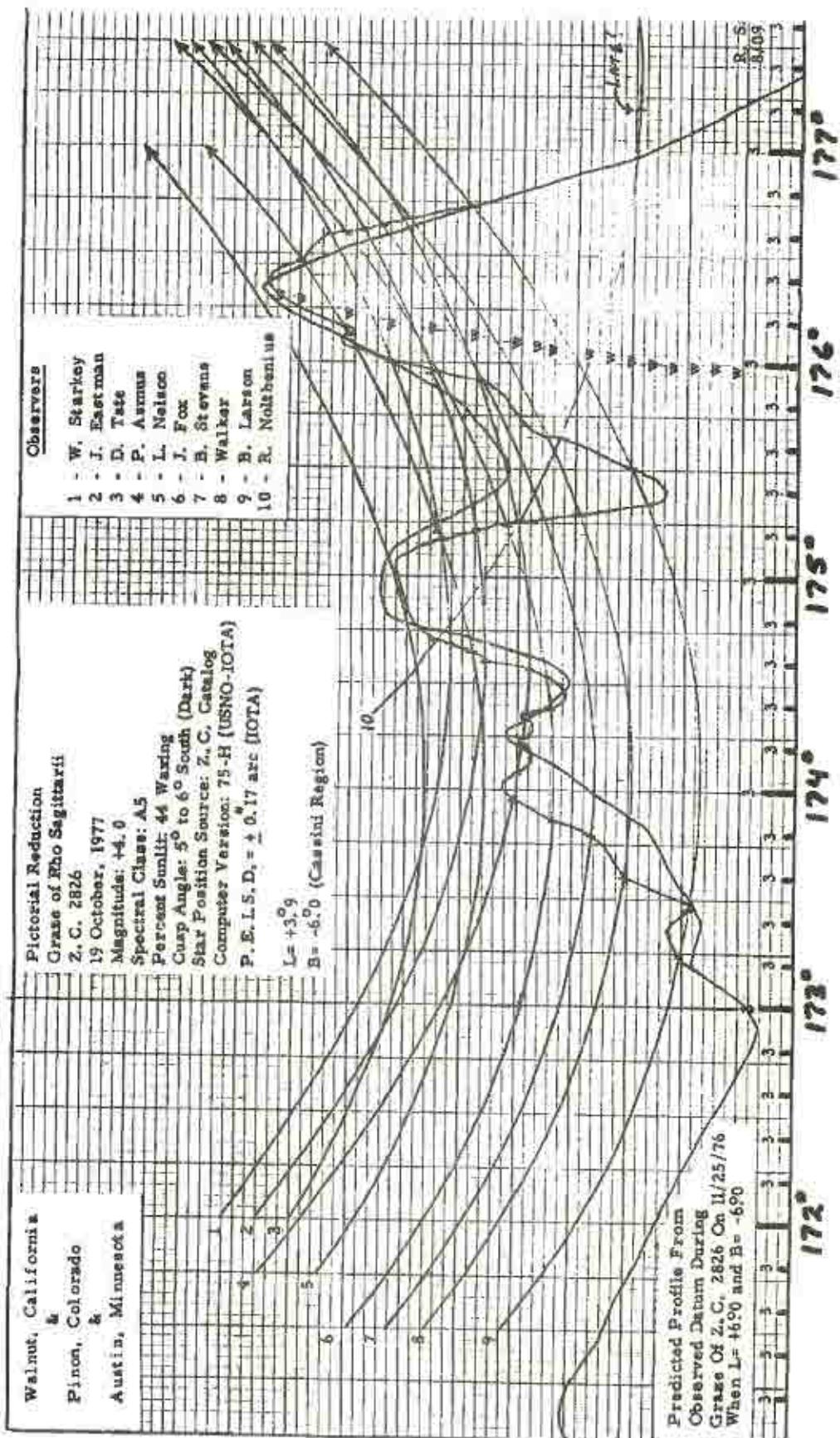


Scheme's Version 85-E is 0'246 DEEPER than U.S.N.O.'s Version 7B-A and 0'026 DEEPER than Version 80-C

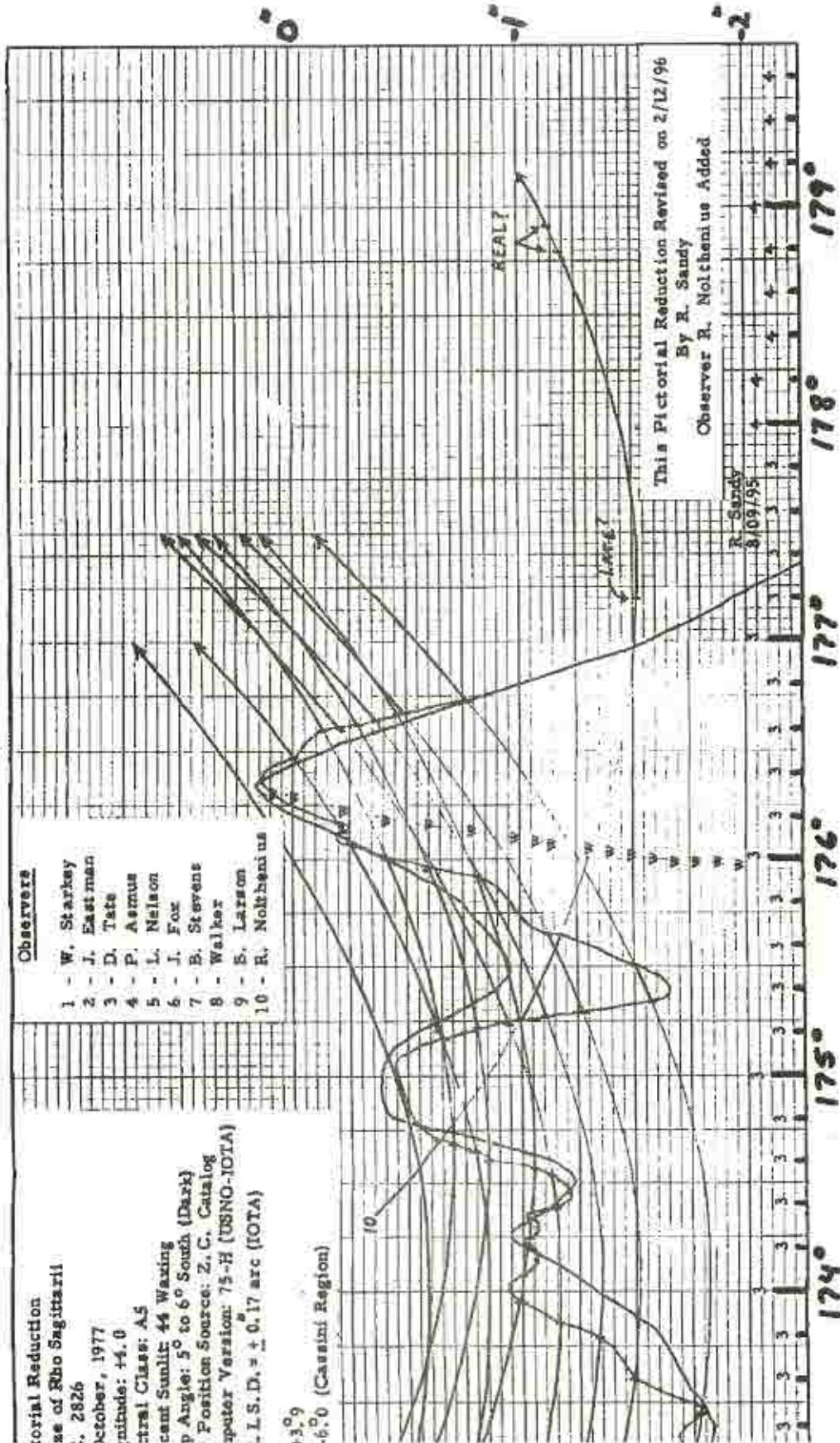
D, w, D.



International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. (IOTA)



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OBSERVED DATA FROM 2.0.1234 GRAZE ON 11/3/76; WHERE $L = -6.1$, $B = +7.9$
 OBSERVERS: 1. W. Warren, 2. D. Dunham, 3. H. Sielski, 4. R. Bolster,
 5. W. Stein, 6. R. Taibi.

Pictorial Reduction

MARVE, VIRGINIA Graze of 115 Tauri

Z.C. 814

13 September, 1979

Magnitude/s: 5.6 & 6.8

Spectral Class: B3

Percent Sunlit: 48 Waning

Dark Limb Graze: 7° North

Cusp Angle of C.G.: 7° North

Star Position Source: FK4 (IOTA)

Computer Version: 78-A (USNO-IOTA)

Moon Speed: 1° W.A./44.9

$L = +8.0 +3.9$

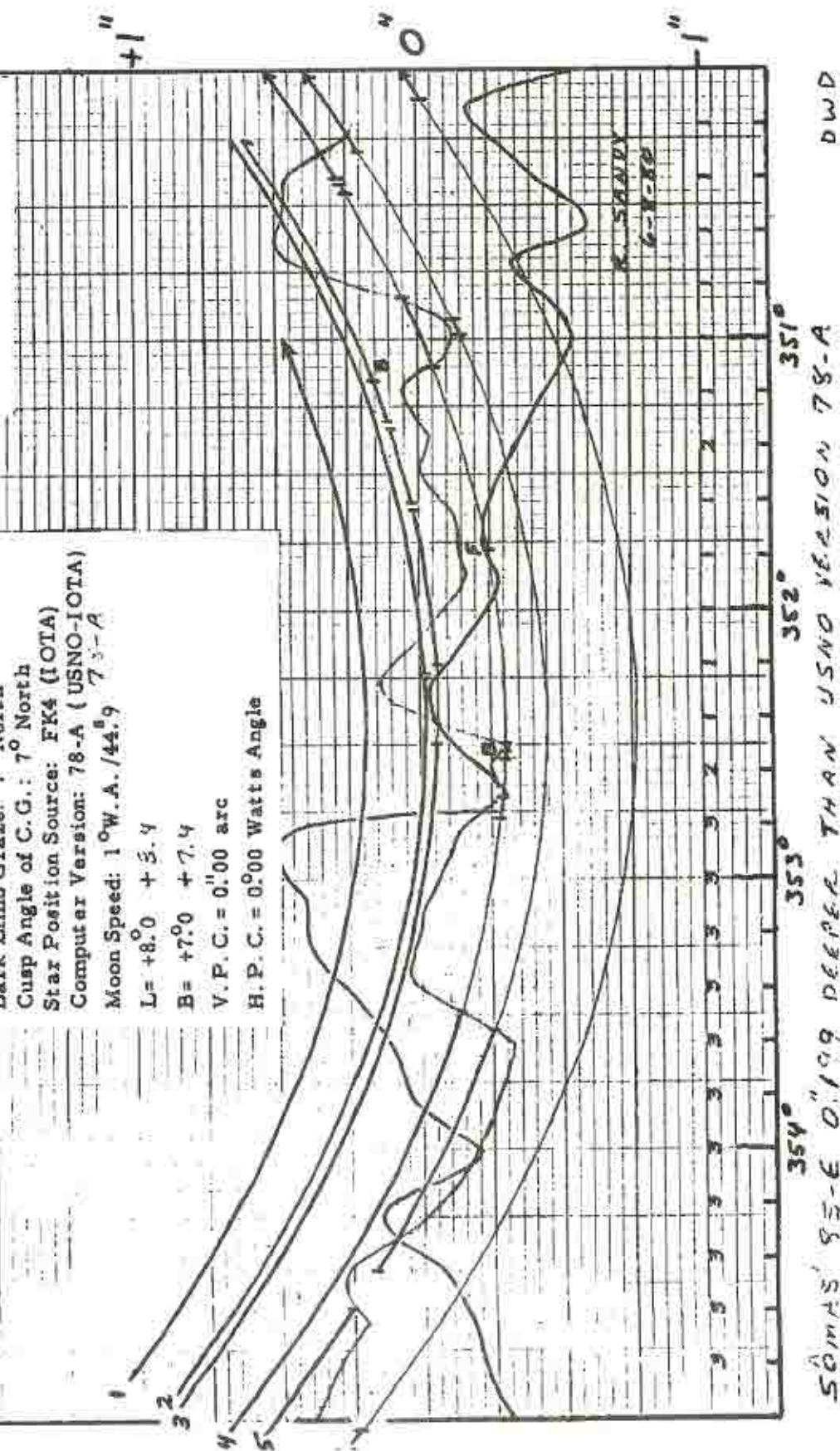
$B = +7.0 +7.4$

V.P.C. = $0.^{\prime\prime}00$ arc

H.P.C. = $0.^{\circ}00$ Watts Angle

Observers

- 1 = W. Warren
- 2 = D. Dunham
- 3 = H. Sielski
- 4 = R. Bolster
- 5 = W. Stein
- 6 = R. Taibi



IOTA's Mission

The International Occultation Timing Association, Inc. was established to encourage and facilitate the observation of occultations and eclipses. It provides predictions for grazing occultations of stars by the Moon and predictions for occultations of stars by asteroids and planets, information on observing equipment and techniques, and reports to the members of observations made.

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IOTA Online--Timely Updates

The Occultation Information Line at 301-474-4945 is maintained by David and Joan Dunham. Messages may also be left at that number. When updates become available for asteroidal occultations in the central USA, the information can also be obtained from either 708-259-2376 (Chicago, IL) or 713-480-9878 (Houston, TX). The IOTA WWW Home Pages are at <http://www.sky.net/~robinson/iotaandx.htm> for Lunar Occultations and Eclipses--maintained by Walter L. "Rob" Robinson--and <http://www.anomalies.com/iota/splash.htm> for Asteroidal Occultations--maintained by Jim Hart.

IOTA European Service (IOTA/ES)

Observers from Europe and the British Isles should join IOTA/ES, sending a Eurocheck for DM 40.00 to the account IOTA/ES, Bartold-Knaust Strasse 8; D-30459 Hannover, Germany; Postgiro Hannover 555 829-303; bank-code-number (Bankleitzahl) 250 100 30. German members should give IOTA/ES an "authorization for collection" or "Einzugs-Ermächtigung" to their bank account. Please contact the secretary for a blank form. Full membership in IOTA/ES includes the supplement for European observers (total and grazing occultations) and minor planet occultation data, including last-minute predictions, when available. The addresses for IOTA/ES are:

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