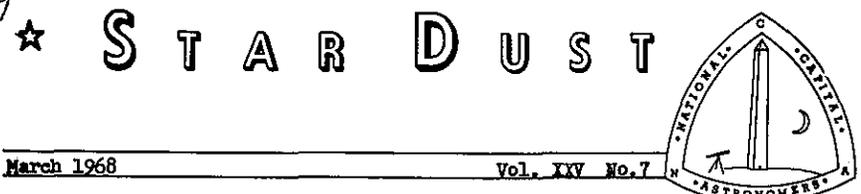


U. S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY COMPLETE LUNAR OCCULTATION PREDICTIONS
 COMPUTED FOR WASHINGTON (LAT 38.925 LONG 77.065) DISTANCE FROM STANDARD STATION = 0 MILES
 STANDARD STATION AT LAT 38.920 LONG 77.065

DATE	TIME (H M S)	ACC	V	D	Z.C.	USNO REF. NO.	S.A.O. NUMBER	MAG	SP	PH	PERCENT	ELG	PA	CUSP	VA	MOON ORB. ANGL.	SUN ANJ. ALT.	SUN ANJ. DEP.	LIBRATDIN MIN	MIN	LAT	LONG	MAG		
MAR 21	7 22 33	6	6	4		217606	186003	9.2	GO	R	51	MAN	91	257	775	298	4	133	257	5.1	7.1				
MAR 21	7 25 33	5	6	6		217610	186005	9.0	BB	R	51	MAN	91	282	788	323	5	134	283	5.1	7.1				
MAR 21	7 32 25	6	6	6		217623	186016	9.0	AO	R	51	MAN	91	243	635	284	5	135	252	5.1	7.1				
MAR 21	7 32 43	5	6	6		217640	186031	8.4	BO	R	51	MAN	91	374	1048	13	6	134	359	5.1	7.1				
MAR 21	7 42 32	17	5	9		217653	186041	7.1	KO	R	51	MAN	91	210	305	248	6	138	210	5.1	7.1				
MAR 21	8 4 7	5	6	5		217663	186051	9.2	AZ	R	51	MAN	91	303	578	338	9	140	304	5.1	7.2				
MAR 21	8 19 2	5	6	6		217673	186060	9.1	AS	R	51	MAN	91	252	825	295	10	143	262	5.0	7.2				
MAR 21	8 35 3	5	7	6		217694	186078	9.1	DS	R	51	MAN	91	264	845	294	13	146	264	5.0	7.2				
MAR 21	8 58 44	6	6	9		217720	186099	8.1	ES	R	51	MAN	91	252	745	272	15	150	252	4.9	7.3				
MAR 21	8 48 46	9	6	9		217721	186100	7.7	GO	R	51	MAN	91	224	445	252	14	148	224	5.0	7.2				
MAR 21	8 35 36	5	6	6		217723	186102	9.1	AO	R	51	MAN	91	336	848	8	13	146	337	5.0	7.2				
MAR 21	9 20 38	5	6	6		217753	186128	9.0	AO	R	51	MAN	91	276	848	299	17	155	277	4.9	7.3				
MAR 21	9 42 49	9	6	6		217769	186142	9.1	KO	R	51	MAN	90	261	815	280	13	159	262	5.0	7.3				
MAR 21	9 25 41	19	7	8		217790	186151	8.3	BB	R	51	MAN	91	204	245	224	17	156	205	4.9	7.3				
MAR 21	9 51 14	5	5	9		217795	186156	7.9	BB	R	50	MAN	90	259	795	276	19	161	259	4.8	7.3				
MAR 21	9 44 20	11	6	6		217796	186166	8.9	BS	R	51	MAN	90	215	355	233	19	160	216	4.8	7.3				
MAR 21	10 1 17	5	6	6		217890	186170	9.1	AO	R	50	MAN	90	230	595	253	20	163	230	4.8	7.3				
MAR 21	10 15 17	5	6	6		217887	186210	9.0	KO	R	50	MAN	90	283	778	291	21	172	283	4.7	7.4				
MAR 21	10 45 13	11	9	9	2609	217879	186237	9.3	FPP	R	50	MAN	90	210	305	216	21	173	211	4.7	7.4	5.1			
MAR 21	10 47 13	15	6	6		217891	186248	8.7	BB	R	50	MAN	90	345	158	351	22	173	346	4.7	7.4				
MAR 22	8 15 5	5	6	3		A	218420	187597	8.4	BO	R	40	MAN	78	279	708	13	6	279	8.8	7.5				
MAR 22	8 27 25	5	7	5		219639	187610	9.2	GO	R	40	MAN	78	264	898	305	5	133	271	5.7	7.6				
MAR 22	8 11 35	5	7	3		219656	187628	9.1	AS	R	40	MAN	78	183	105	245	5	131	190	5.8	7.5				
GRAZING OCCULTATION NEARBY						APPROXIMATE S. LIMIT LAT.																			
MAR 22	8 21 11	6	7	7		219675	187638	8.6	DS	R	40	MAN	78	233	615	268	9	139	239	5.7	7.6				
MAR 22	8 48 43	28	7	6		219692	187652	8.9	DS	D	40	MAN	78	172	65	209	7	137	170	5.7	7.6				
GRAZING OCCULTATION NEARBY						APPROXIMATE S. LIMIT LAT.																			
MAR 22	9 1 35	28	7	6		219692	187652	8.9	DS	R	40	MAN	78	192	205	238	9	139	199	5.7	7.6				
MAR 22	10 4 43	5	7	3		219723	187673	9.2	GO	R	39	MAN	78	276	788	302	16	151	283	5.5	7.6				
MAR 22	10 8 32	5	6	6		219726	187677	8.9	KZ	R	39	MAN	77	285	678	310	16	152	-12	292	5.5	7.7			
MAR 22	10 34 20	2	7	6		219744	187693	9.0	ES	R	39	MAN	77	280	728	300	19	157	-27	287	5.5	7.7			
MAR 22	10 41 32	15	7	6	2788	219757	187701	6.2	KZ	R	39	MAN	77	282	708	301	19	159	-6	288	5.5	7.7			
MAR 23	8 45 14	6	6	2		221257	188973	8.1	GO	R	29	MAN	65	304	438	249	1	125	312	6.2	7.9				
MAR 23	8 58 20	5	8	2		221254	188980	9.5	F8	R	29	MAN	65	209	445	247	1	124	220	6.1	7.9				
MAR 23	9 15 32	15	7	6		221295	189001	7.4	KZ	R	29	MAN	65	265	528	297	2	130	-12	275	6.0	7.6			
MAR 23	9 47 52	5	8	7		221291	189010	8.7	KZ	R	29	MAN	65	250	878	295	10	130	269	6.1	7.6				
MAR 23	9 38 55	8	6	4		221295	189013	9.0	ES	R	29	MAN	65	209	445	247	1	124	220	6.1	7.9				
MAR 23	10 1 45	5	8	9		221303	189017	7.4	KZ	R	29	MAN	65	265	528	297	2	130	-12	275	6.0	7.6			
MAR 24	8 42 58	5	7	6		221321	189025	9.1	GS	R	29	MAN	65	264	818	294	14	146	-26	276	5.9	7.6			
MAR 24	9 37 31	5	8	9		222248	189964	9.5	GO	R	20	MAN	53	272	678	316	4	124	288	6.3	7.1				
MAR 24	10 51 32	5	7	6		222262	189973	8.7	GO	R	20	MAN	53	282	578	322	11	131	-8	298	6.2	7.1			
MAR 25	10 9 23	6	6	3		223523	192471	8.9	KO	R	12	MAN	51	221	675	269	3	117	-11	240	6.2	6.4			
MAR 26	10 32 16	5	9	4		224270	192527	8.6	KO	R	6	MAN	29	293	778	302	3	109	-6	274	5.8	5.4			
MAR 27	23 59 12	2	9	4		201102	193775	9.1	F5	D	1	MAN	11	34	748	3	277	-9	72	1.2	5.0				
MAR 28	23 59 12	7	9	7		201111	193781	8.7	KO	D	1	MAN	11	113	755	5	276	-6	136	1.3	5.0				
MAR 30	23 44 23	3	9	2		201276	92748	8.3	F5	D	4	MAN	22	80	775	27	18	273	-3	99	0.3	1.4			
MAR 31	0 45 25	6	8	9		201790	92763	6.3	MB	D	4	MAN	22	98	595	46	7	282	117	0.2	1.4				
MAR 31	0 59 18	8	9	3		191884	92749	9.1	KO	R	4	MAN	22	108	655	57	4	284	127	0.2	1.4				

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March 1968 Vol. XXV No. 7

THE EARLY DAYS OF THE NAVAL OBSERVATORY

Our attention this month will be focused on the early days of our growing American nation when John Quincy Adams' vision of "lighthouses of the skies" began to bear fruit in the 1840's. Central in the rapid growth of American observatories is the U.S. Naval Observatory, the outcome of the urgings of chiefly one Lieutenant James Gilliss, U.S.N. An interesting and important chapter in the history of science will be recaptured by Dr. David Musto, who has studied this period in some detail.

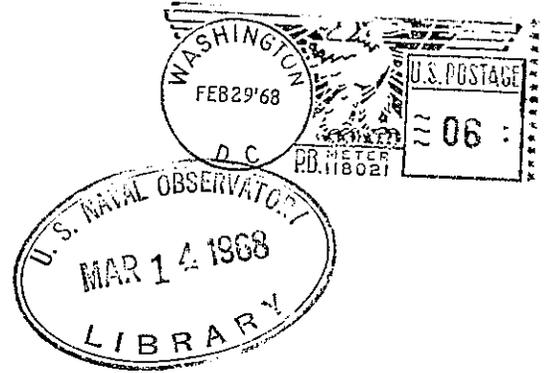
Dr. Musto is by profession a physician, but one whose orbit has been strongly perturbed by an absorbing interest in the history of science. He holds an M.A. degree in the history of science, obtained from Yale University; he is a member of Commission No. 41 (history) of the International Astronomical Union. He is presently a visiting assistant professor of history at Johns Hopkins University.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to hear his paper given at the A.L. Convention in July will look forward to its sequel, and another entertaining description of the beginnings of American astronomy.

CALENDAR

- MARCH 2..... 6:15 p.m. Dinner with the speaker. Bassin's at the corner of 14th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Call Jerry Hudson; 948-2809 to make reservations.
- 2..... 8:15 p.m. THE EARLY DAYS OF THE NAVAL OBSERVATORY Dr. David Musto. Dept. of Commerce Auditorium. Followed by regular business meeting.
- 16..... 8:15 p.m. DISCUSSION GROUP. Dept. of Commerce, Room 2062. Topic will be variable stars; the emphasis is on amateur participation in this interesting and highly useful area. Conducted by Mr. Sterling Anderson.
- 1,8,15,22,29 Telescope making classes at Chevy Chase Community Center. 7:30-10:00 p.m.
- 29..... OBSERVING AT THE FIVE INCH on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Observatory 8-10 p.m. with Larry White.
- NEXT MONTH... The lecture topic for April promises to be meteoric, when Dr. Henderson, Smithsonian Institution--well-known expert in this area--will be our guest speaker.

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 8610 Queen Elizabeth Blvd.
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JUNIOR:

David D. Engle
 6807 Rosewood Street
 Annandale, Virginia 22003

FEBRUARY LECTURE -- GRAVITY WAVES

Using a 1 1/2 ton aluminum cylinder suspended in vacuum, Dr. Joseph Weber, Professor of Physics at Maryland University and our February speaker, hopes to detect gravitational radiation. The gravity waves move at the speed of light according to Einstein's formulation. The cylinder is elaborately isolated from mechanical and electrical sources of energy lest their signals swamp the delicate detector. (However, Dr. Weber mentioned that the apparatus did notice a large Caterpillar tractor--driven by at midnight!) By this means, and by use of electronic tricks involving a superconducting coil, the sensitivity was raised to the Johnson noise limit. This allows gravity-wave-induced changes in length of one part in 10¹⁶ (less than a tenth of a nuclear radius between the cylinder ends) to be detected. This sensitivity was tested with an artificial gravity signal source. To date, he and his students have been observing about one carefully screened simultaneous "event" a month at two detectors more than a mile apart. The origin of these signals is not known at present, although Dr. Weber mentioned collapsing supernovae as a possible source. Optical confirmations are lacking for this. It appears that more distantly separated detectors with stringent simultaneity checks will be required to rule out some unknown local source.

Another experiment using the vibrations of the earth (one cycle per 54 min.) as a sensor is being set up. Although the earth intercepts much more gravitational energy, it is also much noisier than the aluminum cylinder. The small changes in gravity at the earth's surface are detected. To date, no signals have been seen with this apparatus, but Dr. Weber hopes to place a similar one on the moon where natural noise (earthquakes, storms, sea tides, etc.) would be much less.

- James Krebs

DATE	TIME (UT)	ACC	V	D	Z.C.	USNO REF NO	S.A.D. NUMBER	MAG SP PH	PERCENT SUNLIT	ELG PA DEG	CUSP WA ANGL	MOON ALT DEG	SUN AA ALT DEG	LIBRATION MIN				
MAR 1	0 5 13	5	9	7		200916	128558	8.8	K0	D	3	MAX 19	40	58N 34W	5 264	62	3.2	2.5
MAR 2	0 31 1	7	8	6		20088	109473	8.9	F0	D	7	MAX 31	109	49S 57	11 246	130	1.0	1.0
MAR 2	1 32 32	10	8	1		200702	109486	9.2	G5	D	7	MAX 31	122	36S 7	2 294	144	2.0	1.0
MAR 2	23 36 34	6	7	5		201314	109925	9.2	F8	D	13	MAX 41	28	50N 33W	33 255	-7	4.8	1.1
MAR 3	0 31 56	5	7	8		201349	109947	8.4	K0	D	13	MAX 42	57	79N 5	22 265	77	1.0	-0.4
MAR 3	1 15 18	14	7	0		201364	109950	9.0	F5	D	13	MAX 42	133	24S 82	14 271	154	-0.1	-0.3
MAR 3	7 15 27	0	7	6		201940	97855	9.1		D	20	MAX 52	101	59S 5	44 251	-7	11.9	-0.1
MAR 4	7 5 2	5	7	5		201984	92881	9.3		D	20	MAX 53	46	65W 35E	16 277	63	-0.4	-1.9
MAR 4	3 27 22	5	7	2		202136	92900	8.0	A0	D	21	MAX 54	89	71S 3	1 289	106	-0.5	-1.9
MAR 4	6 42 34	4	7	7		202506	93006	8.7	B	D	20	MAX 64	61	70N 8	42 241	7	6.2	2.4
MAR 5	4 20 8	8	6	5		202588	93309	7.7	K0	D	29	MAX 65	112	51S 62	2 284	127	-1.9	-3.1
MAR 5	23 59 7	5	6	4		203190	76265	9.0	A3	D	37	MAX 74	86	81S 35	41 242	-11	97	-2.6
MAR 5	3 45 56	4	6	4		203207	76325	8.9	F8	D	38	MAX 76	49	82N 55E	26 261	122	-3.2	-4.3
MAR 6	3 26 51	6	6	7		203278	76336	8.6	K2	D	38	MAX 76	111	54S 38	22 283	122	-3.2	-4.3
MAR 6	4 30 31	6	6	6		203306	76360	9.0	F5	D	38	MAX 76	48	61N 35W	11 292	98	-3.3	-4.2
MAR 6	4 26 23	5	6	6		203307	76361	9.0	K5	D	38	MAX 76	62	75N 1	12 241	73	-3.3	-4.2
MAR 6	4 40 3	6	6	9		203315	76366	7.8	K0	D	38	MAX 76	122	49S 7C	9 293	132	-3.3	-4.2
MAR 7	0 14 25	5	2	8		203835	76725	8.5	K5	D	46	MAX 86	96	76S 46	47 242	103	-3.8	-2.8
MAR 7	23 49 23	15	4	9	RA0	204572	77293	6.5	K0	D	56	MAX 97	154	24S 14W	76 191	-9	156	-4.7
MAR 7	23 53 14	2	4	2		204595	77315	5.5	F2	D	56	MAX 97	85	87N 7	79 195	-11	87	-6.1
MAR 8	1 10 55	5	2	5		204639	77346	9.3	K0	D	56	MAX 97	60	70N 12	67 245	70	-5.0	-6.0
MAR 8	1 34 37	5	3	6		204643	77351	9.0	K5	D	56	MAX 97	71	73N 15	64 253	73	-5.1	-6.0
MAR 8	2 2 42	4	3	7		204655	77359	8.7	B0	D	56	MAX 97	122	65E 62	99 247	124	-5.2	-6.0
MAR 8	2 35 25	3	6	6		204683	77383	8.4	F5	D	57	MAX 97	116	60S 5	83 266	120	-5.3	-6.0
MAR 8	3 26 57	15	7	7		204701	77396	8.7	F0	D	57	MAX 98	165	14S 104	43 274	167	-5.4	-5.9
MAR 8	3 56 48	30	3	6		204708	77401	9.1	G5	D	57	MAX 98	15	16N 21E	41 276	16	-5.4	-5.9
GRAZING OCCULTATION NEARBY-- APPROXIMATE S. LIMIT LAT. = 39.120 + 0.461W LONG. = 77.001																		
MAR 8	3 22 0	5	3	8		204725	77415	8.5	B9	D	57	MAX 98	116	63S 57	44 273	118	-5.4	-5.9
MAR 8	4 23 36	5	5	6	BAHA	204806	77478	7.8	A0	D	57	MAX 98	113	65S 54	91 283	114	-6.0	-5.9
MAR 8	5 10 13	5	4	6		204848	77514	8.9	K0	D	57	MAX 98	77	78N 15	24 287	49	-5.0	-6.8
MAR 8	5 24 49	6	6	6		204857	77521	8.7	B0	D	58	MAX 98	48	49N 35E	21 285	49	-5.0	-6.8
MAR 8	6 1 19	5	6	9		204905	77563	8.0	A3	D	58	MAX 99	115	64S 62	14 295	110	-5.7	-5.8
MAR 8	6 56 10	6	6	4		204954	77604	7.3	K0	D	58	MAX 99	125	54S 77	5 361	126	-5.7	-5.7
MAR 8	7 22 7	6	5	9		204973	77617	7.1	F5	D	58	MAX 99	132	47S 86	2 305	127	-5.7	-5.7
MAR 8	7 18 35	5	7	6		204977	77621	7.8	M0	D	58	MAX 99	87	88N 4	3 364	86	-5.7	-5.7
MAR 8	7 23 28	25	8	3		206079	78461	8.1	A0	D	63	MAX 108	36	32N 82	73 124	-5	33	-5.4
MAR 8	7 7 34	7	3	6		206110	78475	9.0	F2	D	64	MAX 108	61	43N 75	78 151	48	-6.1	-6.4
MAR 9	0 7 5	5	3	9		206117	78483	7.6	A2	D	66	MAX 108	111	74S 13E	74 122	-12	108	-5.0
MAR 9	0 16 24	5	7	6		206123	78488	8.7	A5	D	66	MAX 108	110	75S 12W	78 162	107	-5.5	-6.5
MAR 9	0 42 47	7	2	9		206136	78496	7.8	K2	D	66	MAX 108	136	49S 12E	74 141	133	-5.6	-6.5
MAR 9	0 57 7	9	3	5		206137	78497	8.4	F0	D	66	MAX 108	108	51N 10E	74 142	133	-5.6	-6.5
MAR 9	1 31 17	33	4	6		206146	78506	9.0	K0	D	66	MAX 108	178	75 13W	75 232	175	-5.8	-6.4
GRAZING OCCULTATION NEARBY-- APPROXIMATE S. LIMIT LAT. = 38.737 + 0.201W LONG. = 77.261																		
MAR 9	1 34 30	1	1	1	IGOR	206178	78524	8.1	A0	D	66	MAX 108	113	68S 71	70 243	113	-5.8	-6.4
MAR 9	1 53 30	6	3	6		206180	78532	9.1	A3	D	66	MAX 109	56	51N 3	70 243	52	-5.9	-6.4
MAR 9	1 53 31	6	3	6		206180	78532	9.1	A3	D	66	MAX 109	63	58N 11	71 243	59	-5.9	-6.4
MAR 9	1 52 0	5	3	5		206181	78533	9.3	K0	D	66	MAX 109	109	76S 58	71 242	109	-5.9	-6.4
MAR 9	2 34 34	6	4	5		206198	78544	9.4	G0	D	66	MAX 109	138	47S 79	65 255	134	-6.6	-6.4
MAR 9	2 52 49	5	4	6		206213	78553	8.9	G5	D	66	MAX 109	109	76S 49	68 259	105	-6.1	-6.4
MAR 9	3 34 26	8	4	9		206246	78580	7.4	A2	D	67	MAX 109	131	54S 69	48 272	127	-6.2	-6.3
MAR 9	4 34 50	7	9	9		206294	78632	8.9	B9	D	68	MAX 110	84	44E 87	16 280	76	-6.5	-6.1
MAR 9	4 59 12	5	6	9	1035	206426	78710	6.8	K0	D	68	MAX 111	80	74W 27	14 294	76	-6.5	-6.1
MAR 9	7 24 37	5	7	6		206445	78725	9.0	K0	D	68	MAX 111	197	79S 5	105 298	102	-6.5	-6.1
MAR 9	23 11 10	5	6	1		206450	78733	8.0	M0	D	68	MAX 111	107	84S 94	114 294	102	-6.5	-6.1
MAR 9	23 44 14	5	7	6		207420	79431	8.3	K2	D	75	MAX 120	194	67S 159	64 112	-7	98	-5.8
MAR 10	1 56 13	5	4	5		207497	79484	9.3	F5	D	75	MAX 122	118	74S 13	97 278	109	-6.3	-6.6
MAR 10	2 44 46	22	4	6		207501	79490	8.7	G5	D	75	MAX 122	185	43E 136	65 282	136	-6.4	-6.5
MAR 10	3 10 34	6	5	5		207533	79511	7.3	K5	D	75	MAX 122	116	92S 86	74 27	131	-6.4	-6.5
MAR 10	3 19 49	5	5	5		207543	79520	9.0	K0	D	76	MAX 121	127	65S 72	64 250	118	-6.5	-6.5
MAR 10	3 30 40	5	5	7		207555	79530	8.4	K0	D	76	MAX 121	154	88S 47	62 253	95	-6.6	-6.5
MAR 10	3 36 0	5	5	9		207561	79533	9.0	F5	D	76	MAX 121	100	88S 47	61 254	91	-6.6	-6.5
MAR 10	6 17 52	8	8	5		207657	79595	9.0	F2	D	77	MAX 122	62	50N 3	31 281	53	-5.9	-6.3
MAR 10	6 57 37	7	8	5	1162	207674	79618	8.5	K2	D	77	MAX 122	151	42S 95	23 286	142	-6.9	-6.2
MAR 10	7 28 19	5	7	5		207707	79625	9.0	G5	D	77	MAX 122	109	44E 29	48 289	142	-6.9	-6.2
MAR 10	8 1																	