SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY

No sudden ionospheric disturbances were recorded by Solar Division observers in January but sunspot activity continued to increase. There were only 3 spotless days compared with 8 in December and 16 in November. The provisional sunspot number reached a monthly mean of 17.8, an increase over the December mean which was 15.2. All spots were in the northern hemisphere during January and all were new cycle except the group that came over the east limb on the 29th.

January began with a prominent group that had formed on the disk on 28 December. This group disappeared over the west limb on the 5th. Another prominent group came over the east limb 2 January. This group had faded to nothing by the 10th leaving the disk spotless until a small group formed on the 14th about 3 days east of the central meridian. Two groups were visible on the 19th and 20th. An interesting bipolar group came over the east limb on the 22nd. Its two components were widely spaced so that some observers called it two groups. Mr. Thomas Cragg reports that his observations on the Mount Wilson magnetograph show that it was a single group. The month ended with an old cycle group that came over the east limb on the 29th. The leader of this group was a large prominent spot surrounded by penumbra.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS
AMERICAN RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS ($R_A'$) FOR NOVEMBER 1964

November mean = 5.3

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ZURICH RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS ($R_Z$) FOR NOVEMBER 1964

November mean = 6.9

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PROVISIONAL RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS ($R_p$) FOR JANUARY 1965

January mean = 17.8

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Note:

The above provisional relative sunspot numbers ($R_p$) have been computed from some of the early reports received from Solar Division sunspot observers. They are not meant to be used for definitive purposes.