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VHF SCINTILLATIONS AND TEC AT MANILA.(U)

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VHF SCINTILLATIONS AND TEC AT MANILA

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Scientific Report No. 1

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25 May 1981

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE (When Data Entered)

19 REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE		READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING FORM
1. REPORT NUMBER AFGL-TR-81-0188	2. GOVT ACCESSION NO. AD-A102467	3. RECIPIENT'S CATALOG NUMBER
4. TITLE (and Subtitle) VHF SCINTILLATIONS AND TEC AT MANILA.		5. TYPE OF REPORT & PERIOD COVERED Technical Interim rept.
7. AUTHOR(s) Victor L. Badillo		6. PERFORMING ORG. REPORT NUMBER
9. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS Jesuit Seminary and Mission Bureau Philippine Desk/Manila Observatory 39 East 83rd St., New York NY 10028		8. CONTRACT OR GRANT NUMBER(s) AFOSR-80-00410
11. CONTROLLING OFFICE NAME AND ADDRESS Air Force Geophysics Laboratory Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts 01731 Monitor/John P. Mullen/PHP		10. PROGRAM ELEMENT, PROJECT, TASK AREA & WORK UNIT NUMBERS 4643405-AD 61102F
14. MONITORING AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS (if different from Controlling Office) 12 5		12. REPORT DATE 25 May 1981
		13. NUMBER OF PAGES 4
		15. SECURITY CLASS. (of this report) Unclassified
		15a. DECLASSIFICATION DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE
16. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of this Report) Approved for public release; distribution unlimited		
17. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of the abstract entered in Block 20, if different from Report)		
18. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES		
19. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) VHF scintillations Total electron content		
20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) A daily 24-hour monitor is maintained at Manila of total electron content and of scintillation at 136, 244, 257 and 1541 MHz signals from geostationary satellites.		

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE (When Data Entered)

VHF SCINTILLATIONS AND TEC AT MANILA

Victor L. Badillo

Scintillation data of VHF signals from geostationary satellites and ionospheric total electron content (TEC) data were obtained at Manila Observatory located at $121^{\circ} 05'E$, $14^{\circ} 38'N$. The site was chosen to determine a longitudinal effect of these phenomena.

The scintillation data, suitable for calculation of scintillation indices, were determined from recordings of the received amplitudes while the TEC was determined from the Faraday rotation of the signals of satellite ETS-2. The $n\pi$ ambiguity was resolved using f_oF_2 values from the ionosonde operating one mile north of the polarimeter site. Reception was monitored continuously over 24 hours. The satellites, their transmission frequencies and locations are as follows:

satellite	Long. $^{\circ}$	f(MHz)	Az. $^{\circ}$	El. $^{\circ}$
Marisat 3	176.3E	257.55 1541.5	100	26
ETS-2	129.5E	136.11	148	71
Fltsatcom	75. E	244.14	256	35

The transmissions of ETS-2 provided the signals for determining TEC and scintillations at that frequency. The other two satellites provided signals for scintillation data, with Marisat 3 also providing signals for scintillation

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data in the L-band. The TEC equipment was the Air Force VHF polarimeter. A 12-foot parabolic dish was used to receive the Marisat signals while a short Yagi sufficed for the Fltsatcom signals.

TEC data and scintillations at 136 MHz were determined from April 1980 onward, except when the satellite was turned off during the equinox period. Unfortunately scintillation data at the other frequencies were not obtained till the start of 1981. Readings were taken at each quarter of the hour and then encoded for punched card format following procedures described in the Manuals. These were sent at the end of the month to Air Force Geophysics Laboratory.

The data obtained is useful for determining the characteristics of equatorial TEC and scintillations at Manila's longitude and for synoptic studies. They provide material for studying the ionospheric effects of solar disturbances.