THE FIVE YEAR IUE MERGED LOG OF OBSERVATIONS

In this issue we present the log of observations for images taken in the U.S. by NASA and in Spain by the European Space Agency and the Science and Engineering Research Council of the United Kingdom between 1 April 1978 and 31 March 1983. Some images are also included from the Commissioning period (Jan. 26, 1978 - Mar. 31, 1978). The log is recorded on microfiche, attached to the inside back cover of this Newsletter.

The log is presented in two separate forms. One is ordered by right ascension, except for observations of solar system objects and engineering images. Engineering images may be found at the beginning of the log while the solar system targets are sorted by object name within each object class at the end of the log. The second form of the log is ordered by object class. Within each object class the targets are ordered by right ascension. Care should be taken when using this log. The object class is provided by the GO and is therefore subject to possible errors in classification. Also, a particular target may legitimately be included in several different object classes.

All documentary information about the targets (names, positions, magnitudes, etc.) are those provided by the observer. For NASA images, errors made at the observing console are corrected daily from the observing scripts. The documentation for VILSPA images is listed as received from VILSPA.

Images are identified by camera ID (SWP, SWR, LWP, LWR, or FES) and the image sequence number for that camera. Other information includes observing station (GODDARD or VILSPA), dispersion, aperture, date and time of observation, and exposure time. Listed in the second column from the right is the image processing date. In addition, symbols next to the processing date indicate if the image is lost, not releasable, or available in raw format only. Comments in the right-most column include the exposure level as found in the raw image at the time of observation. Detailed information on the log's data fields is contained in the log's preface.

Copies of the IUE processed data tapes and photowrite images are stored in the National Space Science Data Center (NSSDC) at Goddard Space Flight Center until the data release date when the data are made available to the general science community. The release date for images available through the NSSDC is generally about 7 months after the date of observation.

A description of the procedure for obtaining IUE data from the NSSDC is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

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