

OVERLAPPING SUNSPOTS

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An unusual sequence of photographs was obtained with the 10-cm Unitron telescope of the Manila Observatory at Baguio in the Philippines on local days 1968 December 10, 11 and 12. It is usual to see sunspots divide and separate, and this is often accompanied by strong flare activity from the region. Here, however, is a case of overlapping and merging of sunspots. Figures 1, 2 and 3



FIGURE 1. E33 group at S33 E45; 1968 December 10^d 0015 U.T.

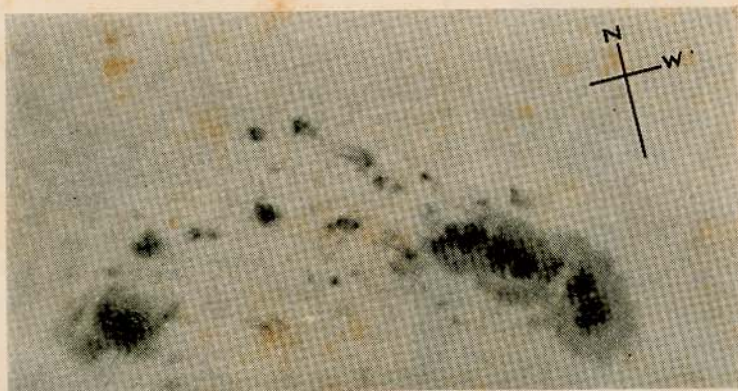


FIGURE 2. E40 group at S33 E33; 1968 December 10^d 2333 U.T.
Second spot in lead or westerly set encroaches on first spot.