

2003

Apr 10

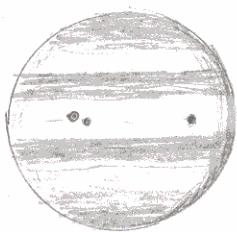
Cont'd

JUPITER

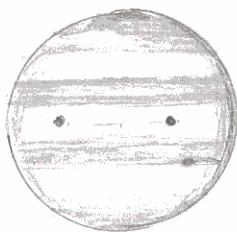
9:05PM



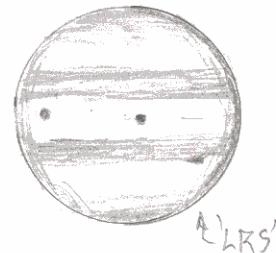
9:19PM



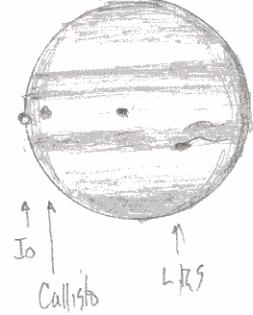
9:29PM



9:47PM



9:59 PM



All obs @ 360x (12mm + 3x barlow)

An awesome set of events follows!
Callisto partially occults Io while
crossing Jupiter! & a shadow to boot!

GSC
1396-0149

To
Ganymede

9:05 - at first, Callisto is very easy to see - actually saw it before Io's shadow on Io! Callisto is an ash-gray ~50% as dark as Io's shadow & approx same size.

By contrast, Io is only ~2/3 the size of Callisto & is a light salmon colour. It is not too hard to pick out of background of Jupiter, but it is only ~20% as distinct as Callisto. At 9:19 PM, moons are getting close to merging.

In 9:29 PM drawing, moons are merged, but Io can no longer be seen. (Sky is not good, maybe 4/10 - variable haze & very unsteady - good seeing w/o scintillation maybe available 5% of time). Details of bands indistinct, filters do not help.

9:47PM - after 9:29 merge, Io is no longer visible in its trip toward the edge, hiding in slightly darker limb. However, Little Red Spot (LRS) shows up!

At 9:58PM, Io begins to show as a very white disk against the dark gray limb. By 9:59PM, Io is ~1/2 off of limb.

LRS & wavy band much clearer. Callisto is blending with limb darkening.

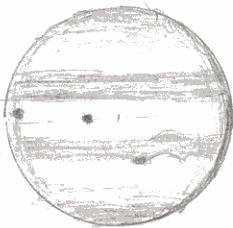
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Cont'd

JUPITER (cont'd)

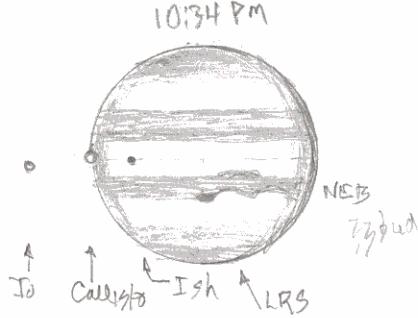
10:19 PM



Callisto is deep into limb darkening
Io is well separated

10:34 PM

Europa



By contrast to Io, Callisto is very slow-moving & takes forever to move to limb by off. By 10:33 PM, Callisto is showing as a bud on the edge of Jupiter, but it takes many minutes to move free of the planet. Europa has moved in. LRS has made it to ~ meridian

& complex WEB following the LRS is rippled by the spot.
- Very nice show tonite, even though sky is poor,
unsteady & image is rarely good.

6504