

PRELIMINARY NOTE ON THE ASTRONOMICAL SATELLITE KOSMOS 215

N. DIMOV

Crimean Astrophysical Observatory, U.S.S.R.

The astronomical satellite Kosmos 215 was launched in April 1968 to examine ultra-violet and X-ray stellar radiation. During a period of 40 days the spectral region from 1250 Å to 2700 Å was recorded by 7 photon-counters and photomultipliers mounted in the focal planes of similar telescopes with apertures of 70 mm, fields of view 1° and focal ratios about $\frac{1}{3}$. The optical axes of all the telescopes were parallel. The satellite was not stabilized but special damping was used to reduce the rotational velocity to $0^{\circ}.12 \text{ sec}^{-1}$. The optical telescopes scanned the sky and recorded all stars which crossed their fields of view.

The stellar identifications were determined by means of a magnetometer and two telescopes which gave information about visual *B* and *V* magnitudes.

An X-ray counter had a 4.5 half-width of field of view and recorded in the region 1–54°.

From 10 to 25 stars can be identified for each revolution and the reductions are now in progress.

The work has been carried out by several institutions, namely, Dr. V. Kurt at the Sternberg State Institute, Dr. V. Tiyt at the Estonian Astronomical Institute and Dr. V. Prokofiev and myself at the Crimean Astrophysical Observatory.