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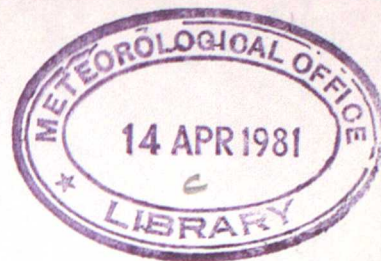
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MET O 19 BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO 60

SKUA METEOROLOGICAL ROCKETSONDE OBSERVATIONS,  
1964-1980

by

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February 1981

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## SKUA METEOROLOGICAL ROCKETSONDE OBSERVATIONS,

1964-1980

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Skua rocketsondes were first flown regularly by the Meteorological Office from West Geirinish (latitude  $57^{\circ} 21'N$ , longitude  $07^{\circ} 24'W$ ) in the Outer Hebrides in 1964. The project was terminated in November 1980. Hamilton, Mason and Bridge (1973), in Meteorological Office Geophysical Memoirs No 119, presented a statistical analysis of the observations made at West Geirinish between 1964 and 1972. The main purpose of this paper is to bring up to date certain of these statistics. The paper also lists Skua firings made at other ranges and publications relating to Skua and its observations.

## 2. THE SKUA ROCKETSONDE SYSTEM

The Skua is a solid propellant, end-burning, rocket 2.5 m in length and 12.5 cm diameter, capable of carrying the sonde payload and parachute to a height of between 70-90 km, where a small charge separates the nose cone and ejects both sonde and parachute. The parachute has a flying diameter of 5 m. It is partially metalized to enable it to be tracked by a COSSOR 353 (10 cm) radar from which wind velocity, payload height and fall speed can be calculated.

The sonde was described by Almond (1969). This design was used, without modification, until 1978. A new sonde of simplified electronic construction, was brought into use from 1979. This new sonde showed no change in performance when compared with those flown previously; either in flight, or during exhaustive laboratory testing.

Throughout the project the temperature sensor remained unaltered from its original design (Clark, 1965). Fundamentally it is a sensitive resistance thermometer, constructed from spiralized tungsten wire of  $13\ \mu m$  diameter and about 8 m in length. A more detailed description of its construction is given by Almond (1965).

Experimental and theoretical investigations of the corrections for the temperature sensor have been reported by Almond (1965) and Mason and Acres (1972). Because of the uncertainty in correcting for direct and reflected solar radiation it was the Office's practice to launch rockets only at night. In these circumstances the raw data received at the ground station need only be corrected for dynamical heating and cooling due to infra-red radiation. These corrections are a function of fall speed and typical values are given in Table I.

Since 1979, however, some flights have been made during daylight. In these circumstances additional corrections are necessary for solar radiation and earth's albedo (see table II and Almond 69)). The values in table II assume that the solar elevation is constant at  $45^{\circ}$  and the albedo 25%. The corrected temperatures were found to be in close agreement with those recorded by the MO MK III sondes at a nearby location (Stornoway) at a height of 30 km. Moreover, comparative daylight and night-time firings of Skua made within a few hours showed differences of  $2-3^{\circ}K$  up to 55 km.



The performance of the Skua rocketsonde system was compared with other (US, French, Japanese and USSR) rocketsondes during trials organised by CIMO at Kourou in 1972. The differences between the Skua and the US system were found to be insignificant (ie mean differences  $< 2^{\circ}$  k, rms  $< 2^{\circ}$  k below 50 km). These trials included both night and daytime flights. The rms of the daytime differences (UK-US) reached  $5^{\circ}$  k at 55 km, but the mean difference remained small to 60 km (Finger et al, 1975).

### 3. OBSERVATIONS AT WEST GEIRINISH

An index of the firings at West Geirinish up to 1972 was given in the Appendix to Geophysical Memoirs No 119. The firings from 1973 to 1980 are listed in Appendix 2 of this paper. Table III gives the number of firings made at West Geirinish in each month from 1964 to 1980. The table only lists those firings which resulted in winds and/or temperature up to at least 40 km. (Up to 1972 only night firings are included.)

Table III shows that almost two-thirds of all launchings from West Geirinish have taken place in the three months of December, January and February. In no other month does the number of firings reach 50% of that in any of these three months. This is because the research programme was directed towards studying stratospheric warmings which occur during the winter months. In the 1970's and until the project terminated a similar programme was maintained but with the added task of firing in conjunction with selected overpasses of both TIROS N and NOAA - 6 satellites, which carry the Meteorological Office's Stratospheric Sounding Units.

Geophysical Memoirs No 119 presented a statistical analysis of the observations at West Geirinish up to 1972, in order to describe the climatology of the stratosphere in that area. Any such analysis is open to question because the series of observations are so fragmentary. With the availability of satellite data, monthly mean values (ie table III of GM No 119) are of limited value particularly when based on no more than ten values. There is still interest in the frequency with which various conditions arise. Tables IV-VI are up-dated versions of the corresponding tables in GM No 119, and give the percentage of observations of temperature, zonal and meridional wind components within specified intervals at height levels from 20 to 60 km in the months of December, January and February. Daytime observations are excluded. Note that in table V a positive zonal component corresponds to a westerly wind (ie a wind blowing from west to east), and in table VI a positive meridional component corresponds to a southerly wind.

(There was a mistake in table VI of GM No 119. The individual percentage frequencies for December at 40 km add up to 106%. It is probable that one or other of the entries for intervals 41-60 and 61-80 m/s (both of which are 6%) should be 0%. In constructing the new table it has been assumed that the previous entry for 61-80 m/s was incorrect.)

### 4. OTHER STUDIES USING THE SKUA ROCKETSONDE

The Meteorological Office has used the Skua system from various ranges other than West Geirinish. A number of campaigns were mounted at Gan, to study seasonal and diurnal (or rather, night-time) variations in winds and temperature close to the equator. In 1970 firings were organised at Thumba and Gan, to investigate the spatial extent of stratospheric features at low latitudes. Similar experiments, involving firings from Kiruna, Aberporth and West Geirinish were made to



investigate the spatial structure of sudden warmings. (The Kiruna flights were made in collaboration with Dr Groves, University College, London.) A number of Skuas were flown at Kourou, French Guiana, in 1973 during a comparison of rocketsonde systems. A few of the development flights of Skua from Aberporth have yielded meteorological data.

A list of the Skua meteorological soundings made from ranges other than South Uist between 1964 and 1980 is given in Appendix 3.

#### 5. AVAILABILITY OF DATA

Temperatures and winds observed at West Geirinish have been made available promptly in ROCOB code via the meteorological telecommunications system. The observations were subsequently processed by computer, extra parameters (eg pressure, density) derived and made available, on magnetic tape, to World Data Centre A. Listings of these tabulated processed data are available in Met O 19 for nearly all the firings listed in the Appendix to GM 119 and in Appendix 2 of this paper.

For the firings at other sites (Appendix 3), and those West Geirinish firing not computer-processed, hand processed results are held in Met O 19. The Skua observations made at Kourou during the 1973 comparison of rocketsonde systems were published by Leviton (1975).

#### 6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Appendix 1 lists all publications relating to the Skua rocketsonde system by Office staff. Part A contains those papers in the open literature. Reference A13 gives a brief guide to these papers. Part B lists internal unpublished reports. Those in the MRCP series are not generally available but apart from B7 (which contains the analysis of the night-time variation experiments at Gan in 1972) most of the information is available in published papers.

No reference is made to papers which refer to Skua data as part of the generality of rocketsonde data (eg using Skua profiles, amongst others, in comparisons with satellite radiometers). References to analyses of firings made at ranges other than West Geirinish are given on the cover-sheet to Appendix 3.



#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors express their thanks to all members of the Skua team for their work over the years in reduction and presentation of the data used in this report.

We also wish to acknowledge the unstinted help given by Army personnel at the Hebrides (West Geirinish) Range and the assistance of SRC, AWRE, PERME and Bristol Aerojet Ltd.



## REFERENCES

- ALMOND R (1965) Techniques of temperature and wind sounding with the Skua meteorological rocket. *Met Mag* 94, 327-331.
- ALMOND R (1969) The Skua meteorological rocket system. *Progress Astronaut Aeronaut* 22, 31-46.
- CLARK D D (1965) A meteorological rocketsonde. *J Sci Inst* 42, 733-736.
- FINGER F G, GELMAN M E, SCHMIDLIN F J, LEVITON R and KENNEDY B W (1975) Comparability of meteorological rocketsonde data by international comparison tests. *J Atmos Sci* 32, pp 1705-1714.
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- LEVITON R (1975) Comparison of sensors and telemetry for meteorological rockets. WMO No 395.
- MASON B D and ACRES J (1972) Temperature corrections for the Skua rocketsonde temperature sensor. *Met Mag* 101, 118-124.



# LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1. Publications relating to Skua rocketsonde by members of the Office.
- Appendix 2. Index of meteorological rocket soundings at West Geirinish; 1973-1980.
- Appendix 3. Index of meteorological rocket soundings made with the Office's Skua system at ranges other than West Geirinish; 1964-1980.



TABLE I. CORRECTIONS FOR DYNAMIC HEATING AND INFRA-RED COOLING FOR A SONDE FALLING AT TYPICAL SPEED

Pressure (mbar)	Height* (km)	Fall Speed (m/s)	Corrections ( $^{\circ}$ k)	
			Dynamic	Infra-red
0.11	61.0	128	-11.3	+0.9
0.21	56.0	97	- 6.3	+0.5
0.43	50.5	68	- 2.5	+0.3
0.67	47.0	54	- 2.0	+0.2
1.33	42.0	37	- 1.4	+0.1
2.00	39.5	30	- 0.9	+0.1
2.67	37.5	25	- 0.6	+0.1
4.00	35.0	21	- 0.5	+0.1

TABLE II. CORRECTIONS FOR SOLAR RADIATION AND EARTH'S ALBEDO (WINTER)

Pressure (mbar)	Height* (km)	Correction for solar radiation and albedo ( $^{\circ}$ k)
0.11	61.0	-15.5
0.21	56.0	-10.2
0.43	50.5	- 5.8
0.67	47.0	- 4.0
1.33	42.0	- 2.5
2.00	39.5	- 2.0
2.67	37.5	- 1.7
4.00	35.0	- 1.2

\* Heights, in both tables, are based on US Standard Atmosphere 1966 for "60° N January, cold".



TABLE III. MONTHLY TOTAL OF SOUNDINGS  
AT WEST GEIRINISH.

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	month totals
Jan.	3	6	-	-	11	7	11	10	5	-	-	7	5	7	2	2	-	76
Feb.	2	5	9	4	15	-	-	8	-	3	-	4	8	4	1	1	4	68
Mar.	-	4	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Apr.	-	3	2	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	17
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
June	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
July	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	3	16
Aug.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	5
Sept.	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	3	10
Oct.	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	12
Nov.	-	1	12	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	24
Dec.	-	-	2	9	5	11	4	7	-	-	7	-	4	-	2	-	-	51
Yearly totals	5	21	40	45	31	20	17	25	5	7	12	11	20	14	6	12	15	306



TABLE IV - FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS OF TEMPERATURE AT WEST GEIRINISH DURING  
DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

		Range (degrees Celsius)												N*
		-90-	-80-	-70-	-60-	-50-	-40-	-30-	-20-	-10-	0-	10-	20-	
		-81	-71	-61	-51	-41	-31	-21	-11	- 1	9	19	29	
	Height km	per cent												
December	60	-	-	-	-	5	27	40	15	7	5	1	-	41
	55	-	-	-	-	2	9	28	28	23	9	-	-	45
	50	-	-	-	-	6	4	19	28	24	15	4	-	47
	45	-	-	-	-	8	16	16	24	21	5	5	5	47
	40	-	-	2	15	19	21	19	7	4	7	2	4	47
	35	-	4	17	40	12	12	9	4	-	2	-	-	47
	30	2	35	45	10	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	47
	25	11	48	30	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
January	20	6	34	40	18	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
	60	-	-	-	2	26	27	35	2	6	2	-	-	49
	55	-	-	-	-	5	33	36	24	2	-	-	-	58
	50	-	-	-	-	5	22	26	20	22	3	2	-	59
	45	-	-	-	2	16	20	18	16	16	10	-	2	61
	40	-	-	-	-	30	23	10	13	8	8	8	-	63
	35	-	2	5	19	27	21	15	4	2	-	3	2	63
	30	-	8	22	44	13	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	63
February	25	3	23	33	31	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61
	20	-	22	32	36	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
	60	-	-	-	-	-	22	35	35	6	2	-	-	49
	55	-	-	-	-	-	4	27	42	23	2	2	-	56
	50	-	-	-	-	-	8	25	45	17	5	-	-	60
	45	-	-	-	2	6	20	37	25	10	-	-	-	60
	40	-	-	3	13	43	17	13	7	4	-	-	-	60
	35	-	-	26	40	18	7	7	-	2	-	-	-	60
February	30	-	8	53	29	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
	25	2	15	59	20	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
	20	-	10	53	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57

\* N = number of observations



TABLE V - FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF THE ZONAL WIND COMPONENT AT WEST GEIRINISH  
DURING DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

		Range (m/s)												N*
		-39- -20	-19- 0	1- 20	21- 40	41- 60	61- 80	81- 100	101- 120	121- 140	141- 160	161- 180	181- 200	
	Height km	per cent												
December	60	-	-	4	22	0	13	26	35	-	-	-	-	23
	55	-	-	7	13	0	7	25	15	15	10	3	5	40
	50	2	2	2	11	4	11	11	11	20	15	11	-	46
	45	2	2	0	4	15	11	13	15	17	15	6	-	47
	40	4	0	0	0	21	28	13	17	15	0	2	-	47
	35	4	0	0	15	28	23	28	2	-	-	-	-	47
	30	-	4	6	37	40	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
	25	-	-	27	69	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
	20	-	3	64	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
January	60	-	12	6	22	22	12	17	6	3	-	-	-	32
	55	-	5	9	11	30	11	11	12	11	-	-	-	56
	50	-	3	14	11	20	17	14	8	11	1	1	-	65
	45	-	9	10	20	13	22	10	9	6	1	-	-	69
	40	3	9	16	17	19	17	10	7	1	-	-	-	69
	35	1	11	24	15	16	24	8	1	-	-	-	-	73
	30	-	15	24	20	26	14	1	-	-	-	-	-	74
	25	-	11	33	37	18	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	76
	20	-	6	51	40	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	63
February	60	-	10	17	14	17	24	10	4	4	-	-	-	29
	55	-	4	14	6	16	14	29	15	2	-	-	-	51
	50	-	-	3	14	20	14	40	9	-	-	-	-	58
	45	-	2	2	16	22	44	12	0	2	-	-	-	58
	40	2	0	3	22	42	26	3	2	-	-	-	-	58
	35	-	2	17	38	25	14	2	2	-	-	-	-	58
	30	-	2	31	32	26	7	0	2	-	-	-	-	58
	25	-	2	46	31	19	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
	20	-	4	57	35	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57

\* N = number of observations



TABLE VI - FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS OF THE MERIDIONAL WIND COMPONENT AT WEST GEIRINISH DURING DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

		Range (m/s)									N*
		-79- -60	-59- -40	-39- -20	-19- 0	1- 20	21- 40	41- 60	61- 80	81- 100	
	Height km	per cent									
December	60	-	-	13	30	26	22	0	9	-	23
	55	-	3	5	27	27	20	15	3	-	40
	50	-	-	4	24	35	22	13	2	-	46
	45	-	-	6	30	28	30	0	2	4	47
	40	-	-	9	36	36	15	4 <sup>x</sup>	- <sup>x</sup>	-	47
	35	-	-	2	60	21	17	-	-	-	47
	30	-	-	4	67	29	-	-	-	-	48
	25	-	-	2	77	21	-	-	-	-	48
	20	-	-	6	69	25	-	-	-	-	36
January	60	3	3	6	22	28	22	10	6	-	32
	55	2	0	4	30	35	16	9	4	-	56
	50	-	3	8	23	40	9	14	3	-	65
	45	-	1	6	29	39	12	10	3	-	69
	40	-	4	4	42	25	13	9	1	1	69
	35	1	1	10	38	26	19	1	1	1	73
	30	1	1	10	45	34	7	1	1	-	74
	25	-	-	9	59	27	5	-	-	-	76
	20	-	-	5	67	28	-	-	-	-	63
February	60	3	0	28	14	35	17	0	3	-	29
	55	-	6	14	41	25	10	2	2	-	51
	50	2	3	14	40	34	5	2	-	-	58
	45	2	2	5	65	19	7	-	-	-	58
	40	-	2	7	62	27	2	-	-	-	58
	35	-	2	7	64	27	-	-	-	-	58
	30	-	-	9	60	29	2	-	-	-	58
	25	-	-	2	74	24	-	-	-	-	58
	20	-	-	5	68	25	2	-	-	-	57

\* N = number of observations

x see text.



Publications relating to Skua rocketsonde by members of the OfficeA. Open publications, in chronological order

- |  |      |  |
|--|------|--|
| (1) Almond, R., Farmer, S.G.F. and Frith, R. | 1964 | Rocket Soundings of the upper atmosphere.<br>Nature, <u>202</u> , 587  |
| (2) Almond, R                                | 1965 | Techniques of temperature and wind sounding with the Skua meteorological rocket.<br>Meteorol Mag, <u>94</u> , 327-331  |
| (3) Farmer, S F G                            | 1965 | Results from the Skua meteorological rocket programme. Meteorol Mag, <u>94</u> , 332-337   |
| (4) Clark, D D                               | 1965 | A meteorological rocket sonde. J. Sci. Inst. <u>42</u> , 733-736   |
| (5) Almond, R                                | 1969 | The Skua meteorological rocket system. Progress Astronaut. Aeronaut. <u>22</u> , 31-46   |
| (6) Shearman, R J                            | 1969 | Meteorological rocket soundings from Can. Meteorol. Mag, <u>98</u> , 318-324.  |
| (7) Bridge, G C                              | 1971 | The stratospheric winter anomaly - a review of rocketsonde observations at South Uist (1967-71).<br>Meteorol Mag, <u>100</u> , 363-371                               |
| (8) Hamilton, R A and Shearman, R J          | 1972 | Diurnal variation of temperature and wind in the equatorial stratosphere Q J R Meteorol Soc, <u>98</u> , 668-672.  |
| (9) Mason, B D and Acres, J                  | 1972 | Temperature corrections for the Skua rocketsonde temperature sensor. Meteorol Mag, <u>101</u> , 118-124  |
| (10) Bridge, G C                             | 1973 | A comparison of geostrophic and rocket winds at stratospheric levels, measured from a small network of rocket sounding stations. Meteorol Mag, <u>102</u> , 205-215. |



- |  |      |   |
|--|------|---|
| (11)Hamilton, R A, Mason, B D<br>and Bridge, G C | 1973 | A climatology of the stratosphere over<br>north-west Europe. Meteorological Offi<br>Geophysical Memoirs No 119                                      |
| (12)Bridge, G C                                  | 1979 | Diurnal variations of temperature and<br>wind in the 25-65 kilometre region of th<br>equatorial stratosphere. Meteorol Mag,<br><u>108</u> , 367-375 |
| (13)D E Miller                                   | 1981 | Skua meteorological rocket programme<br>terminated. Meteorol Mag, <u>110</u> ,  |

B. Internal un-published reports

- |                       |  |            |
|-----------------------|--|------------|
| 1. MRCP 99            | The five-inch meteorological rocket, R Frith   | Oct 1961   |
| 2. MRCP 100           | Meteorological sonde rockets, R Frith and D D Clark  | Oct 1961   |
| 3. MRCP 178           | A meteorological rocket sonde, D D Clark   | Sept 1965  |
| 4. MRCP 179           | Temperature and wind measurements in the upper atmosphere<br>using the Skua meteorological rocket, R Almond and<br>S P G Farmer, | Sept 1965  |
| 5. MRCP 180           | Meteorological rocket soundings, R Frith   | Sept 1965  |
| 6. MRCP 300           | Variations in the equatorial stratosphere, R A Hamilton<br>and R J Shearman,   | Dec 1971   |
| 7. MRCP 334           | Intensive series of night time rocket soundings at<br>Can, Marjory G Roy, B D Mason and G C Bridge                               | April 1973 |
| 8. Met O 19           | Skua meteorological rocketsonde observations,  | Feb 1981   |
| Branch Memo<br>No 60. | 1964-1980, G P Carruthers and S W Francis  |            |



INDEX OF METEOROLOGICAL ROCKET SOUNDINGS AT WEST GEIRINISH  
1973 - 1980

This index contains all soundings from which some meteorological data was obtained.

The index gives the maximum height from which useful data is available.  
The lower limit for data is generally 20km. Time refers to instant of launch.

For firings 1964 - 1972 see Appendix to Geophysical Memoirs No 119.

The West Geirinish launcher is at  $57.3^{\circ}\text{N}$ ,  $7.4^{\circ}\text{W}$ .

Notes

\* M383 - 389 carried chaff and a sonde. Radar data is available but winds have not been derived.

† M406 carried chaff and sonde. Winds available 82 - 60 km and below 39km.



## APPENDIX 2 (cont.)

Date Time Serial Max Ht (Km)  
(GMT) No Temp Wind

1973

7/2 2013 M383 45 \*  
9/2 1845 M384 54 \*  
15/2 1931 M385 54 \*  
2/5 2241 M386 65 \*  
4/5 2154 M387 63 \*  
7/5 2237 M388 64 \*  
9/5 2237 M389 62 \*

1974

24/7 0132 M405 67 77  
29/7 1200 M406 65 82 †  
31/7 0109 M407 69 70  
2/8 0134 M408 69 70  
5/8 0100 M410 67 67  
4/12 1859 M413 60 55  
7/12 1807 M414 70 60  
11/12 1930 M415 65 56  
13/12 1748 M416 65 64  
14/12 1825 M417 70 65  
16/12 1741 M418 65 60  
18/12 1754 M419 65 60

1975

7/1 1809 M421 65 58  
15/1 1757 M424 - 60  
17/1 1859 M425 70 60  
21/1 1805 M426 63 60  
24/1 1821 M427 70 62  
28/1 1834 M428 - 62  
5/2 0058 M431 70 61  
7/2 0150 M432 65 62  
10/2 0039 M433 60 54  
12/2 0055 M434 70 60

1976

12/1 1931 M437 - 50  
17/1 0300 M438 65 55  
22/1 0203 M439 64 56  
24/1 0130 M440 70 50  
30/1 1833 M442 67 60

Date Time Serial Max Ht (Km)  
(GMT) No Temp Wind

1976 (cont)

3/2 0128 M443 70 58  
6/2 0054 M444 68 65  
7/2 1910 M445 70 65  
9/2 2019 M446 70 63  
11/2 0128 M447 67 64  
13/2 0118 M448 68 65  
16/2 0102 M449 70 63  
18/2 0114 M450 70 61  
25/8 2308 M451 47 47  
27/8 0105 M452 68 68  
30/8 2226 M453 41 41  
2/9 2227 M455 64 64  
4/9 0126 M456 67 67  
8/12 1739 M458 64 64  
11/12 0105 M459 66 64  
15/12 1700 M460 67 54  
17/12 1702 M461 75 60

1977

7/1 1759 M462 68 60  
10/1 1738 M463 69 68  
13/1 0034 M464 75 60  
17/1 1733 M465 73 60  
22/1 0131 M466 76 65  
25/1 1756 M467 81 70  
28/1 1758 M468 70 63  
1/2 0125 M469 69 61  
4/2 1810 M470 65 59  
8/2 0045 M471 70 66  
14/2 0212 M472 70 60  
14/9 0106 M474 69 69  
16/9 2300 M475 70 70  
19/9 0135 M476 69 69

1978

25/1 1757 M477 65 61  
27/1 1804 M478 58 60  
1/2 1810 M479 61 61  
11/11 0422 M483 59 59  
13/12 0354 M485 54 54



Date	Time (GMT)	Serial No	Max Ht (Km) Temp Wind
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1979

11/1	0404	M486	65 56
18/1	0428	M487	65 55
23/2	0328	M488	60 60
24/4	0502	M490	70 70
25/4	1300	M491	70 60
9/7	0453	M492	66 65
11/7	0849	M493	71 71
12/7	0828	M494	68 68
29/9	0844	M495	59 45
2/10	0210	M496	64 60
2/10	0943	M497	55 35
14/11	1849	M499	56 60
15/11	0827	M500	53 60

Date	Time (GMT)	Serial No	Max Ht (Km) Temp Wind
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1980

14/2	1850	M501	60 42
15/2	0841	M502	58 56
19/2	1207	M503	56 56
19/2	1850	M504	60 60
21/7	1433	M509	65 60
23/7	0856	M510	63 60
23/7	1421	M511	65 57
16/9	0845	M513	38 60
16/9	1826	M514	70 64
19/9	0917	M515	67 58
19/9	1500	M516	59 59
6/11	0822	M517	58 55
6/11	1802	M518	65 55
13/11	1855	M521	57 60
14/11	0915	M522	55 60



INDEX OF METEOROLOGICAL ROCKET SOUNDINGS MADE WITH THE OFFICE'S SKUA  
SYSTEM AT RANGES OTHER THAN WEST GEIRINISH

1964 - 1980

<u>Range</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Ref</u>
ABERPORTH	52.2N, 4.6W	1964	Vehicle trial	
		1966	Vehicle trial	
		1971	N.W.Europe network	A10,A11
		1973	Skua 4 trial	
		1974	Vehicle trial	
		1975/6/7	Vehicle trials	
GAN	0.7S, 73.1E	1968	Seasonal variations	A6,B6
		1969	Seasonal variations	B6
		1970	Dawn,dusk comparison	A8,B6
		1972	Night-time variation	B7
KIRUNA	67.8N,20.3E	1970	N.W.Europe network	A11
		1971	N.W.Europe network	A10,A11
KOUROU	5.2N,52.4W	1973	Rocketsonde comparison	A12
THUMBA	8.5N,76.9E	1970	Commonwealth venture	B6

Notes

- Only those soundings providing some meteorological data are listed.
- 'Ref' are references to publications in Appendix 1.



ABERPORTH

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>
M27A	64.09.23	1102	20-65	20-62
M28A	64.09.29	1129	20-65	19-59
M79A	66.06.03	0848	19-65	20-65
M324A	71.01.22	1903	19-65	20-60
M326A	71.01.26	1815	19-61	19-61
M328A	71.01.28	1822	19-57	20-65
M330A	71.02.04	1902	19-65	19-62
M332A	71.02.08	1845	19-62	20-62
M334A	71.02.10	1905	19-62	19-62
M390A	73.08.24	1100	21-55	?
M403A	74.03.26	1527	20-65	20-65
M404A	74.03.29	1330	nil	20-65
M435A	75.10.16	2141	20-66	20-64
M436A	75.10.30	1610	20-60	20-60
M457A	76.11.19	1400	21-59	22-58
M473A	77.06.22	1438	21-52	22-51



GAN1968

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
M203G	68.09.27	1412	19-52	20-52	
M204G	68.09.28	1409	20-65	20-64	
M205G	68.09.30	1410	19-53	20-55	
M208G	68.10.04	1407	20-59	20-60	
M209G	68.10.07	1417	19-61	20-65	
M210G	68.10.09	1412	20-62	20-60	
M211G	68.10.10	0740	20-61	20-60	

GAN1969

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
M225G	69.04.16	1445	23-48	20-63	
M226G	69.04.18	1437	23-52	20-52	
M227G	69.04.21	1438	20-60	20-60	
M228G	69.04.23	1423	Nil	20-65	
M229G	69.04.24	1415	Nil	20-64	
M230G	69.04.27	1954	Nil	20-62	
M231G	69.04.29	1400	20-60	20-60	
M232G	69.05.01	2028	20-65	20-62	
M233G	69.05.03	1352	Nil	20-65	
M234G	69.05.03	1957	20-59	20-57	
M238G	69.09.23	1440	20-63	20-61	
M240G	69.09.26	1510	20-40	20-30	



GAN1970

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
M266G	70.03.10	1436	19-65	20-61	
M268G	70.03.12	1400	30-65	20-61	
M270G	70.03.13	1436	19-65	19-61	
M272G	70.03.14	1420	19-61	20-62	
M274G	70.03.16	1412	19-64	20-62	
M276G	70.03.18	1416	19-63	20-60	
M278G	70.03.20	1430	40-63	20-59	
M282G	70.03.22	1541	19-65	19-62	
M284G	70.03.23	1430	23-64	20-59	
M286G	70.09.02	1413	20-62	20-60	
M287G	70.09.02	2307	20-53	20-53	
M288G	70.09.03	1356	19-60	19-62	
M289G	70.09.03	2302	19-65	19-62	
M291G	70.09.05	1515	Nil	19-37	
M292G	70.09.05	2301	20-60	20-62	
M293G	70.09.06	1417	19-65	19-62	
M294G	70.09.06	2305	19-27	19-28	
M295G	70.09.08	1415	19-65	19-62	
M296G	70.09.08	2313	Nil	20-61	
M297G	70.09.09	1416	19-65	19-61	



GAN  
1972

<u>Round</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Temp</u>	<u>Wind</u>
<u>No</u>		<u>UT</u>	<u>Data</u>	<u>Data</u>
			<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Ranges</u>
			<u>in</u>	<u>in</u>
			<u>KMS</u>	<u>KMS</u>
M359G	27 Sept	1350	25-65	23-63
M360G	27 Sept	1425	24-61	24-66
M361G	27 Sept	1529	nil	23-71
M362G	27 Sept	1801	18-58	19-61
M363G	27 Sept	2007	23-52	24-35
M364G	27 Sept	2046	20-67	21-69
M365G	27 Sept	2247	21-62	22-66
M366G	27 Sept	2346	20-69	21-71
M367G	2 Oct	1347	24-65	25-65
M368G	2 Oct	1424	23-56	24-44
M369G	2 Oct	1526	19-66	19-66
M370G	2 Oct	1805	19-68	19-70
M371G	2 Oct	2008	23-68	23-71
M372G	2 Oct	2050	20-55	20-75
M373G	2 Oct	2256	20-70	20-72
M374G	2 Oct	2353	20-65	21-66
M375G	6 Oct	1348	24-70	24-71
M376G	6 Oct	1426	24-65	19-65
M377G	6 Oct	1600	25-65	25-65
M378G	6 Oct	1813	20-69	20-72
M379G	6 Oct	2016	23-69	24-72
M380G	6 Oct	2055	20-66	21-67
M381G	6 Oct	2340	32-66	33-71
M382G	7 Oct	0001	20-67	20-71



KIRUNA1970

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
01	70.01.05	1423	Nil	19-57	
02	70.01.07	1426	19-54	19-54	
03	70.01.09	1444	19-62	19-62	
04	70.01.12	1439	21-65	21-65	
05	70.01.14	1440	20-43	19-43	
06	70.01.17	1446	Nil	19-61	
07	70.01.19	1501	20-63	19-63	
08	70.01.21	1500	20-62	19-62	
09	70.01.23	1506	19-59	19-61	
10	70.01.26	1518	20-63	19-63	
11	70.01.28	1518	20-60	19-60	
12	70.01.30	1527	19-65	19-65	



KIRUNA1971

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
02	71.01.15	1525	20-55	20-55	
04	71.01.19	1520	20-60	20-60	
05	71.01.21	1507	20-60	20-58	
06	71.01.23	1553	Nil	20-55	
07	71.01.25	1610	20-58	20-58	
08	71.01.27	1626	20-37	20-35	
09	71.01.29	1721	20-60	20-60	
10	71.01.31	1645	20-37	20-60	
11	71.02.03	1912	20-60	20-55	
12	71.02.08	2148	20-44	20-44	
13	71.02.09	1900	20-50	20-60	
14	71.02.11	1850	20-55	20-55	
15	71.02.12	1830	Nil	20-55	



KOUROU1973

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>in</u> <u>KM</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>in</u> <u>KM</u>
M392K	21 Sept	0344	25-35	25-27
M393K	21 Sept	1539	nil	25-65
M394K	22 Sept	0431	25-69	25-69
M395K	25 Sept	0051	25-70	25-70
M396K	25 Sept	1835	25-70	25-70
M397K	26 Sept	0101	25-64	25-64
M398K	26 Sept	1435	25-65	25-65
M399K	27 Sept	1420	25-55	25-66
M400K	28 Sept	0306	25-70	25-70
M401K	29 Sept	0324	25-68	25-68
M402K	1 Oct	0402	25-53	25-53



THUMBA1970

<u>Round</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>UT</u>	<u>Temp</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Wind</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Ranges</u> <u>In</u> <u>KMS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
M267T	70.03.06	1345	20-60	20-59	
M269T	70.03.08	1345	20-57	20-57	
M271T	70.03.10	1415	20-58	20-58	
M273T	70.03.12	1345	20-64	20-63	
M275T	70.03.14	1405	Nil	20-62	
M277T	70.03.16	1345	20-60	20-60	
M279T	70.03.16	2350	32-61	20-61	
M281T	70.03.18	1345	20-62	20-60	
M283T	70.03.20	1345	20-63	20-65	
M285T	70.03.22	1345	19-62	19-62	