

IGRGEA LETTER

International Geophysical Research Group / Europe - Africa

AIM OF THE LETTER

At the End of the IEEY, IGRGEA (International Geophysical Research Group Europe Africa) has been organized in January 1995, to follow the research work initiated during IEEY. The IGRGEA Letter has replaced the IEEY letter **edited for the first time in May 1992.**

IVORY-COAST PROJECT

Dr. E. Houngninou (Abidjan University) is presently at LDG/CEA (now DASE) for a 3 month's training course (September to November), to prepare his PhD on "Equatorial Ionosphere Disturbances " as observed by the LDG radar at Korhogo.

SENEGAL PROJECT

Dr. E. Sambou (Dakar University) is spending 3 months at CETP/Saint-Maur (September to November) to prepare his PhD on "the Equatorial plasma fountain". His colleague Dr. B. Barry has travelled to CNET Lannion from September 25 to October 10 , to practise the variety of instrumental functions of the SCIPION radar acquired by ESMT. A collaboration is beginning about this instrument between ESMT and Dakar University (UCAD). The ESMT (Multinational Superior Telecom School) teaches Telecom Engineers for 7 african countries : Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

KORHOGO SITE

The network of the 3 ground magnetometers designed for the OERSTED project in Africa is in its completing stage. Satellite launch should be on January 8, 1999.

The LETTI radar is still awaited at Korhogo.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY

A meeting between Drs Barry and Sambou with Mrs M. Limare, Delegate for Senegal and Togo at the French Foreign Affairs Ministry (Francophonie and cooperation sector) took place on October 9, 1998. A CAMPUS project (twinning of a North and a South region University) is under study.

GIRGEA SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Held on November 5 and 6 at Saint-Maur, it gathered 20 participants from France, Senegal and Ivory Coast, including scientist, Engineers and Foreign Affairs Ministry officers.

Research topics covered : Earth magnetic and telluric fields, ionospheric current global circuits, equatorial F2 layer (fountain mechanism, spread F, ionospheric disturbances) and equatorial HF Telecommunications .

Four University diplomas included in the finishing "Abidjan-Paris/Orsay" CAMPUS project should be concluded in 1999.

The Rennes I-Dakar CAMPUS Project is expected to lead to 6 further diplomas.

CONCLUSIONS

The results presented during the November two-day meeting are pointing towards new research work for the Abidjan and Dakar groups.

The total solar eclipse of August 11 1999 across Northern France is part of the GIRGEA programme.

N° 16 OCTOBER 1998

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