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ACTIVITY REPORT

Preface

The Research Institute of Atmospheric was established in 1949 for the purpose of studying the basis of atmospheric and its application. The main objectives of research in the early years were restricted to atmospheric (radio waves radiated from lightning discharges), thunderstorms, and solar radio emissions (studied for the prediction of ionospheric disturbances). Since IGY, the field of research has been expanded to include studies on whistlers, magnetospheric plasma waves, atmospheric electricity and minor constituents in the upper atmosphere, and the solar wind (interplanetary scintillation of radio sources). Recently, computer-simulation studies of the solar wind and magnetosphere have also been started. Thus the research field now covers the greater part of the solar-terrestrial system. In these circumstances, we have decided to reorganize our institute with the aim of developing synthetic research of the solar-terrestrial environment, placing great importance on global ground-based observations and coordinated data analyses. Six laboratories, except the Laboratory for Radio Astronomy, have been reorganized into the following three research groups:

- Group 1 (**Solar Wind and Magnetosphere**), which studies observationally the solar wind, the magnetosphere, and their interaction
- Group 2 (**Ionosphere and Atmosphere**), which studies observationally the ionosphere, magnetosphere-ionosphere-atmosphere coupling, atmospheric minor constituents, and thunderstorms
- Group 3 (**Interactive Study of Solar-Terrestrial Environment**), which makes interactive study of the solar-terrestrial environment using coordinated data analyses as well as modeling and computer simulation

The Laboratory for Radio Astronomy moved to the National Astronomical Observatory last July, in order to collaborate in the construction of a new radioheliograph.

