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# Solar Limb Spray of 31 August 2002

ROBERT B. SLOBINS

On the afternoon of 31 August 2002, I set up my Hydrogen-alpha observing equipment for a session. I use an 200 mm f/10 Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope and a Coronado Instruments ASP-60/BF15 H-alpha filter combination. This makes this telescope into an f/33 system. I load a Nikon F2 body with Fuji Velvia (ISO 50) film and attach it to the BF15 filter. The exposure for moderately bright prominences is 1/11 second.

At 21:20 UTC on 31 August 2002, I observed a sudden surge prominence on or behind the eastern limb near the solar equator. This was in a region of continuing activity and fast motions that lasted for several more days. This surge developed into several prominences that sprayed out from this surge like a water fountain. I proceeded to photograph the event. The ground glass viewfinder blurred most of the detail, but I could see very fast motions in this spray structure that caused distinct changes in this prominence to be visible over the span of fifteen seconds. Some of the material was seen to over 1/4 solar radius, a distance of halfway to the moon from the earth. This show lasted to 21:54 UTC.

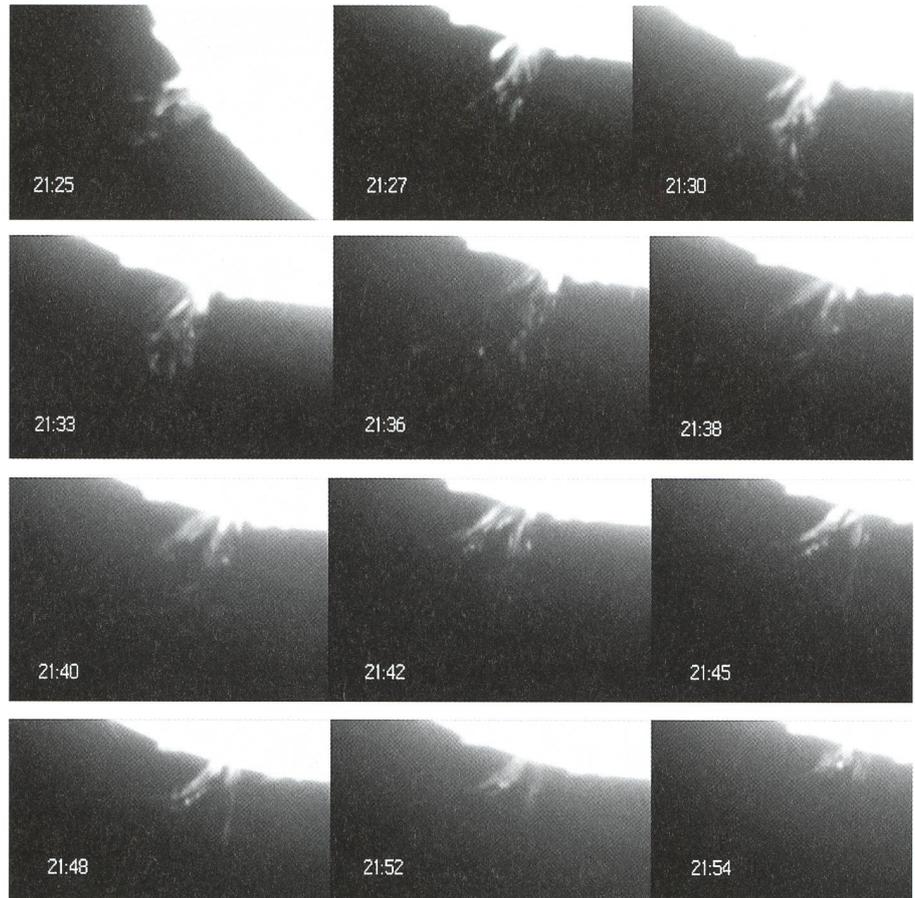
The significant aspect of this rare limb spray was that no one else recorded or witnessed it. All of the H-alpha ob-

servatories in the USA and Australia did not record it. The monitoring site on [WWW.spacew.com](http://WWW.spacew.com) was receiving nothing from California or Hawaii as is usually the case at that time of day.

On the afternoon of 5 September 2002, a long filament on the sun collapsed on the solar surface. The result was a Hyper flare and a coronal mass ejection that arrived at the earth about 16:30 UTC. North America witnessed the final parts of the geomagnetic storm on 7-8 September (UTC).

ROBERT B SLOBINS

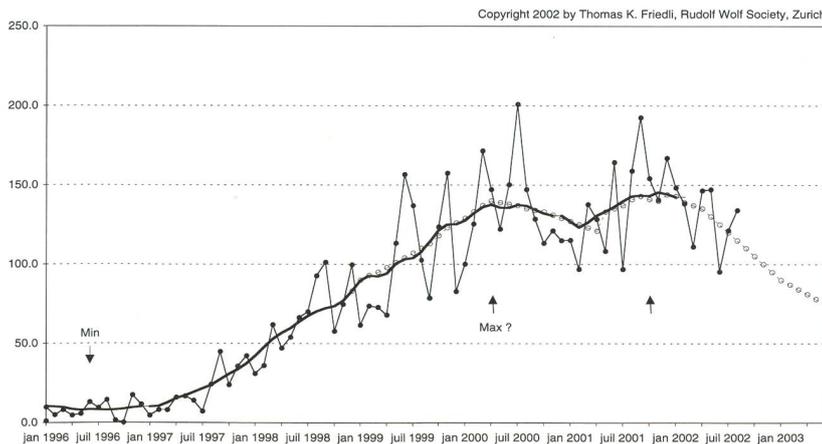
President Informatics International, Inc.  
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Solar limb spray of 31 August 2002  
(times in UTC)

## Swiss Wolf Numbers 2002

MARCEL BISSEGER, Gasse 52, CH-2553 Safnern



Juli 2002

Mittel: 125.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
77	64	68	92	105	122	70	78	81	74	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
64	62	86	88	137	122	147	111	102	82	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
79	114	143	184	193	227	209	195	204	209	168

August 2002

Mittel: 141.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
181	153	133	116	100	134	135	70	83	90	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
147	124	138	202	207	191	195	174	170	153	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
147	129	138	148	100	90	103	83	93	111	121