

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CAPE 252

CENTRE ~~was~~ held at SAAG on Wednesday 8 September MCMLXXXII at 8pm

The meeting was opened by the new chairman, Mr Mike Kramer and apologies for absence were received from Mr Hurly, Mr Van der Riet, Mr Cleenburg, Dr Cousins and Mr Banner. There were 28 members and 2 visitors present at the meeting.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, Mr Kramer introduced the speaker, who Dr Menzies, who spoke on International U-V explorer satellites.

Because most of the Ultra-Violet radiation from space and the sun is absorbed by the Ozone layer ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ the earth's atmosphere, it cannot be observed from the earth, but only by high altitude satellites outside the atmosphere.

These satellites have been very successful in finding ^{out} more about the hotter ~~and~~ ~~A type~~ stars which ^{emit} radiate very strongly in the U-V region of the electromagnetic spectrum. ~~The satellite is launched into a~~ The satellite is

launched and put into a geosynchronous ^{elliptical} orbit round the earth and it ~~is~~ can be located ^{most of} ~~all~~ the time from the Goddard space ^{centre} ~~institute~~, but only in a small amount of the time from Spain, where Dr Menzies did a lot of his research.

It ^{is} was extremely difficult to go from one target to another, and if the satellite's control ^{is} ~~was~~ lost, it ^{is} ~~was~~ almost impossible to regain control. One of the greatest problems is that the ultra sensitive detecting apparatus could not be pointed within 45° from the sun or near to ~~to~~ the moon or 180° from the sun, where a lot of sunlight was reflected by interplanetary dust particles. In this process, ~~lot of the sky~~ ^{is} observing was ~~only~~ restricted to only small parts of the sky, and large complex baffles had to be installed to keep stray radiation ~~away~~ out.

For the observations, a ~~is~~ Cassegrain telescope of the Ritchey-Chretien type, two spectroscopes and a normal television camera was used. Of-course everything has to be controlled by ^a reliable computer system. During his talk, Dr Menzies also showed some very interesting and well photographed slides of the ~~is~~ tracking station in Spain.

After his talk Miss Booth read out and ^{discussed} ~~spoke about~~ the Galileo Project ~~Symposium~~ which ^{is} ~~was~~ being held at Biemfontein this year, asking how many people were interested and how much transport was needed.

The meeting closed at 9.20 for tea.