

## COORDINATED CAMPAIGN TO OBSERVE X-RAY BINARIES

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The coordinated campaign to observe x-ray binaries sponsored by the IAU Commission 42 (Close Binary Stars) and Commission 44 (Astronomical Observations from Outside the Terrestrial Atmosphere) was initiated in January 1974 with Y. Kondo as its coordinator.

The main objectives of the campaign have been: (a) dissemination of information on satellite x-ray experiments and ground-based observing programs; (b) transmission of suggestions and recommendations from campaign participants; (c) designation of campaign dates for observation of specific objects. These functions have, in part, been performed through Campaign Circulars and Special Bulletins; the most recent, Circular No. 23, was issued a few weeks ago.

Currently, about 130 individual scientists and groups encompassing a number of countries in five continents are participating in this campaign. In October 1975, a Workshop on X-ray Binaries was held at Goddard Space Flight Center; some 150 scientists active in this field of research took part in this symposium. The proceedings of this meeting have been published as NASA SP-389.

In 1977, we are planning specific campaigns for intensive simultaneous observations of four x-ray binaries: Cyg X-1 = HDE 226868, Her X-1 = HZ Her, 3U0900-40 = HD 77581, and 3U1700-37 = HD 153919. The coordinator for Cyg X-1 is Dr. C. T. Bolton (David Dunlap Observatory), for Her X-1 Dr. J. E. Nelson (Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory), and for 3U0900-40 and 3U1700-37 Dr. J. Sahade (Instituto de Astronomia y Fisica del Espacio, Buenos Aires). In addition, a campaign for Cyg X-2 = 3U2142 + 38 has been proposed by Dr. S. A. Ilovaisky and Dr. C. Chevalier (Observatoire de Paris) and for 3U0352 + 30 = X Per by Dr. C. de Loore (Vrije Universiteit Brussel); if these two campaigns are scheduled, the proposers will be serving as coordinators. The outcome of these proposed campaigns will depend, to a large extent, on whether or not the x-ray satellites are scheduled about a year in advance of the actual campaign dates.