

WORLD DATA CENTER A

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics



REPORT UAG - 17

IONOSPHERIC DRIFT VELOCITY MEASUREMENTS AT JICAMARCA, PERU (JULY 1967 - MARCH 1970)

by

Ben B. Balsley

Aeronomy Laboratory

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Boulder, Colorado 80302

and

Ronald F. Woodman

Jicamarca Radar Observatory

Instituto Geofisico del Perú

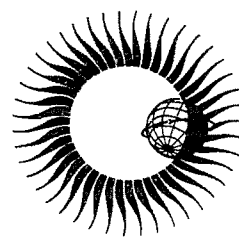
Lima, Peru

Prepared by World Data Center A, Upper
Atmosphere Geophysics, NOAA, Boulder, Colorado
and published by

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

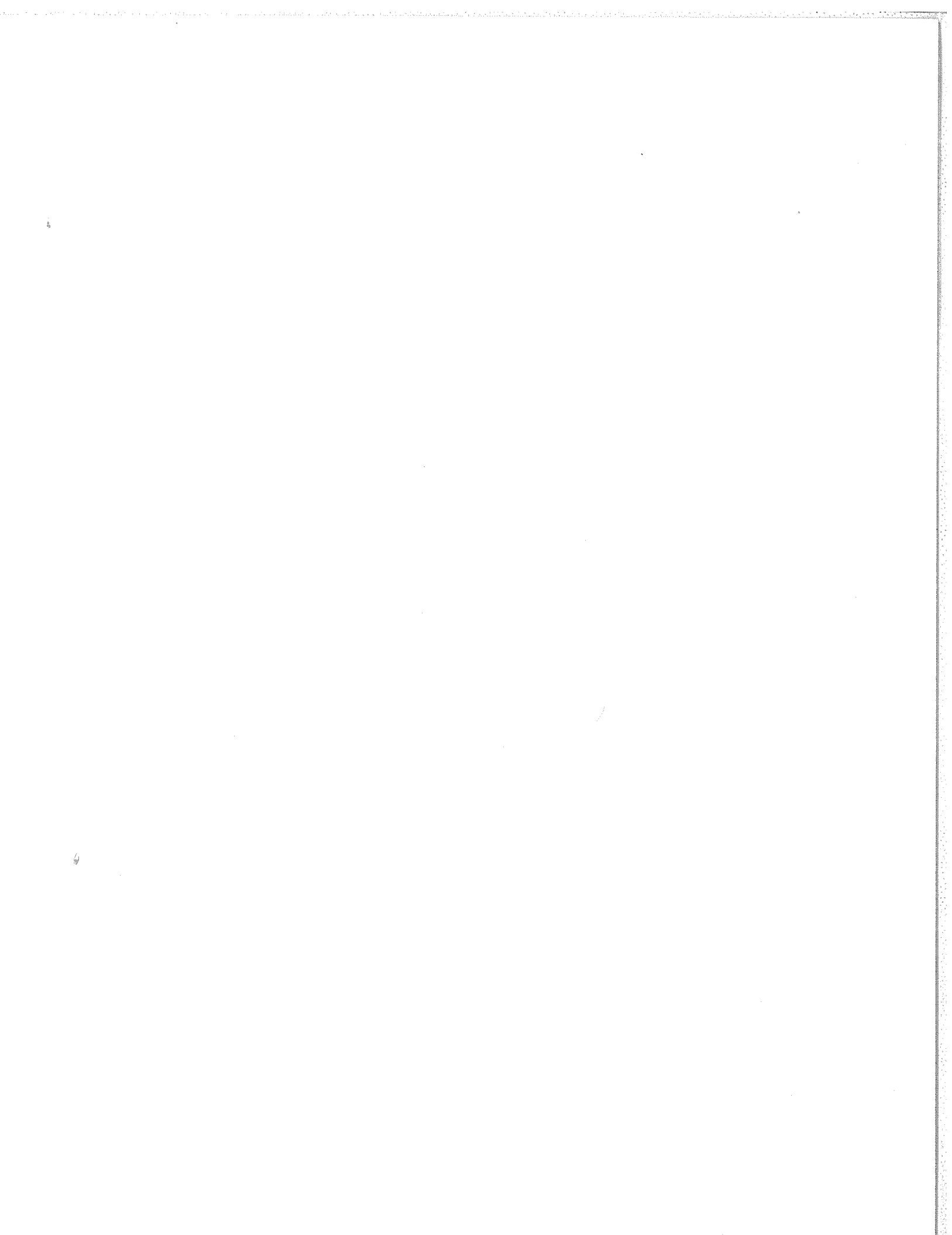
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE
Asheville, North Carolina, USA 28801

October 1971



SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$9.00 a year; \$2.50 additional for foreign mailing; single copy price varies.* Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, and orders should specify the Catalog order number. Orders, remittances, and correspondence regarding subscriptions should be sent to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

*Price this issue \$.35 (Catalog Order Number C55.220:17)



IONOSPHERIC DRIFT VELOCITY MEASUREMENTS AT JICAMARCA, PERU (JULY 1967-MARCH 1970)

by

Ben B. Balsley
Aeronomy Laboratory
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Boulder, Colorado 80302

and

Ronald F. Woodman
Jicamarca Radar Observatory (JRO)
Instituto Geofísico del Perú
Lima, Peru

Introduction

This report is a collection of measurements of electron drift velocity in the E and F regions of the equatorial ionosphere, made at the Jicamarca Radar Observatory (dip latitude $\approx 1^\circ\text{N}$). The data consist of about eighty days of observations during the period July 1967 to March 1970. The measurements consist of (1) the vertical component of the electron drift velocity in the F region, and (2) the east-west component of the electron drift velocity in the E region. Other components of the drifts have been measured but the data are sparse and have not been included here. The horizontal component (H trace) of the magnetic field strength records of Huancayo, Peru, has also been included for reference.

The purpose of this report is to make these data available to the scientific community. Comparison between these measurements and other geophysical phenomena should aid in the understanding of a variety of ionospheric and magnetospheric processes. This type of data continues to be taken at JRO from time to time. For information regarding the more recent data, we suggest contacting either of the authors of this report. The data included in this report are also available in digital form on magnetic tape and punched cards. Inquiries should be directed to the World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, NOAA, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

Data Description

I. F-region measurements

The F-region drift-measurement technique has been described by Woodman and Hagfors [1968]. The method involves the determination of the Doppler shift of incoherently-scattered signals from the F-region ionization when the propagation vector is directed normal to the earth's magnetic field. (When "looking" normal to the magnetic field, the Doppler shifts can be accurately determined because of the narrowness of the signal spectrum.) A presentation and discussion of the F-region data is given in a paper by Woodman [1970].

The data presented here are five-minute-average values of the average drift velocity between 300-400 km. This is achieved by averaging together the five simultaneous drift measurements (each one representing a five-minute-average value) obtained in the five separate height ranges between 300-400 km.

The accuracy of the drift measurement is determined primarily by signal-to-noise levels of the F-region echoes. This is affected by a variety of factors (transmitted power, antenna size, F-region electron density, etc.). Under typical conditions, the drift measurements are accurate to within about ± 2 m/sec.

One major obstacle in obtaining continuous (diurnal) drift velocity measurements is the occurrence of equatorial spread F (field-aligned irregularities in the F region that produce anomalously strong echo returns). Spread F [Farley, *et al.* 1970] is a frequent nighttime phenomenon, typically beginning after F-region sunset and usually lasting until about local midnight. The presence of strong spread-F irregularities in a given region effectively precludes drift measurements in that region by standard techniques. (Doppler measurements during spread-F conditions can be made, but the results do not describe the average behavior of the ambient ionization.) If the irregularities do not occur within the 300-400 km height interval, then the drift measurements can be made; if they do occur within the interval, it is sometimes still possible to obtain a representative value of the true drift velocity by hand-scaling non-affected points at other heights. The reason that this technique is useful is that the F-region drift velocity is roughly height independent under normal conditions [Woodman 1970].

These vertical drift velocities may be used to obtain a value for the (east-west) electric field

in the F region. At F-region heights, collision frequencies are so low that ions and electrons gyrate several times before they are affected by collisions. Thus, motions perpendicular to the magnetic field are effectively Hall drifts of ions and electrons produced by the cross product of the electric and magnetic fields. At Jicamarca the magnetic dip is only 2°, so measurements of (nominally) vertical drift velocities can be taken as a measurement of the horizontal electric field. The relationship between the drift velocity and the electric field is given by:

$$V = 10 E/B \quad (1)$$

where V is the vertical drift velocity in m/sec, E is the electric field strength in mV/m, and B is the magnetic field strength expressed in gauss.

II. E-region measurements

The measurement technique for the E-region drifts has been covered in a series of reports [Balsley, 1969a,b; 1970a,b]. Briefly, the data are obtained by determining the mean Doppler shift of oblique radar returns from a type of electron density irregularity embedded in the equatorial electrojet. These irregularities drift with the electrons so that a measurement of the irregularity drift velocity is equivalent to a measurement of the electron motion itself. The method is limited to periods when the drift velocity is between about 50 m/sec and 360 m/sec (the ion-acoustic velocity): for velocities below 50 m/sec, the irregularities are too weak to be reliably observed with the existing radar system; for velocities greater than the ion-acoustic velocity, the presence of another type of irregularity (generated by the two-stream instability [Farley, 1963]) makes determination of the drift velocity somewhat difficult. It is possible to infer drift velocities up to about 500 m/sec by making reasonable assumptions, and this has been done in the data presented here. The above limitations are not too restrictive, since the observed drift velocities are less than 50 m/sec usually only for a short period when the electrojet current is reversing and exceed the ion-acoustic velocity only for relatively short periods.

The possibility cannot be completely discounted that the E-region (as well as the F-region) measurements are contaminated during periods of intense spread F. For the E-region measurements, the spread-F echoes could be received via a vertically-directed antenna sidelobe, so that the resulting data might contain vertical motion of the spread-F irregularities. Although statistical studies (unpublished three-year averages of E- and F-region drift comparisons) show that this effect is not important on the average, the reader should be aware of this possibility.

The E-region drift velocities which appear in this report represent time-average (2½ minutes) values of the average (over all heights) drift velocity in the electrojet region. The height averaging arises because the mean Doppler shifts obtained from the oblique-echo spectra are a composite of the shifts from irregularities over the complete height range of the echoing region (95-110 km). Therefore, although the electron drift velocity is strongly height dependent within the region [Sugiura and Cain, 1963], the resulting drifts represent a weighted average value for all heights.

The accuracy of the E-region drift measurements may be conveniently classified into three divisions: (1) for velocities below about ±50 m/sec the accuracy is probably no better than ±20 m/sec; (2) for velocities in the range 50-360 m/sec, the accuracy is better than ±15% of the value shown; (3) for velocities in excess of the ion-acoustic velocity (360 m/sec), the plotted values should be considered only as indicative of the probable velocities (the only quantitative statement that can be made for values in this category is that the drift velocity is equal to or greater than the ion-acoustic velocity).

The electron drift velocity may be used to estimate a value for the horizontal electric field responsible for the drift: Sugiura and Cain [1966] show that the electric field is related to the drift velocity by:

$$V_e = E_y(\sigma_2 \cos I) / B(\sigma_0 \sin^2 I + \sigma_1 \cos^2 I) \quad (2)$$

where V_e is the electron drift velocity (assumed to be equal to the irregularity drift velocity) expressed in m/sec; σ_1 and σ_2 are the Pedersen and Hall conductivities, respectively; B is the geomagnetic field expressed in Weber/m²; and E_y is the imposed (east-west) electric field expressed in V/m. For values pertinent to Jicamarca ($B = 27 \times 10^{-6}$ Weber/m², and magnetic dip = 2°), and for the most recent values of the conductivities [Tarpley, 1969], (2) may be written as:

$$E_y \approx -5.9 \times 10^{-6} V_e \quad V/m \quad (3)$$

Data Format

All of the data presented in this report are displayed in one format: the curves representing (1) the F-region (vertical) drift velocity, (2) the E-region (east-west) drift velocity, and (3) the magnetic field strength (H trace) are shown in the time interval 0800 on a given day until 0800 on the following day (75°W. time). This format is adhered to even when only portions of a data day are available, or when only one of the two drift measurements are made.

The vertical axis for the F-region data is scaled between ± 50 m/sec; the positive values correspond to upward drifts while the negative values represent downward drifts. The horizontal-dashed lines that appear occasionally at the -50 m/sec level of the F-region curves indicate times of system outage. The shaded horizontal strips that appear on the zero m/sec line indicate periods of occurrence of equatorial spread F at some height over the observatory. When these irregularities occurred outside of the 300-400 km region (where the average F-region drifts are obtained), both types of data (F-region drift velocities and spread-F occurrence) are shown. When the irregularities occurred within this height range, the normal drift measurements were not possible. In these instances, if it was possible to obtain a representative drift velocity value from a higher region, these results are plotted as dashed lines. If the irregularities were very strong and/or occurred throughout the entire F region, then no data are plotted.

The E-region curves are scaled between ± 500 m/sec; positive for westward drift velocities. As in the F-region curves, the horizontal-dashed lines at the -500 m/sec level indicate periods of system outage. The horizontal-dashed lines that appear occasionally at the ± 360 m/sec levels show the nominal critical drift velocity (V_{i-a}) for the generation of the two-stream irregularities. Finally, the small circles that replace the E-region curves when the drift velocity approaches ± 500 m/sec indicate that determination of the drift velocity is precluded by the presence of strong two-stream echoes.

The vertical-dashed lines indicated by SR, SS, SR', SS' indicate the approximate times of local ground sunrise (SR) and sunset (SS), and sunrise (SR') and sunset (SS') at a height of 100 km (the approximate height of the equatorial electrojet). These data were obtained from Colin and Myers [1966].

The horizontal component of the Huancayo magnetogram has been plotted assuming a baseline of $27,750 \gamma$ for all records. This baseline value was taken from the 1967 Huancayo magnetic records. The actual baseline values during the 1967-1970 observation period increased gradually by about 13γ (the pronounced decrease in the nighttime level apparent during the period is much larger than this and is due to secular variations in the earth's magnetic field [Campbell, 1971]). Reference should be made to the original records if accuracies comparable to variations of this magnitude are desired, particularly since the magnetic field strength curves shown here are merely handsmoothed rescalings of the actual data, and are meant mainly for visual comparison with the other data.

For further convenience, the three-hour averaged values of the Huancayo K indices are shown at the bottom of each figure. These values were obtained from the actual scalings made at the Huancayo Observatory, which were included in the standard magnetic records.

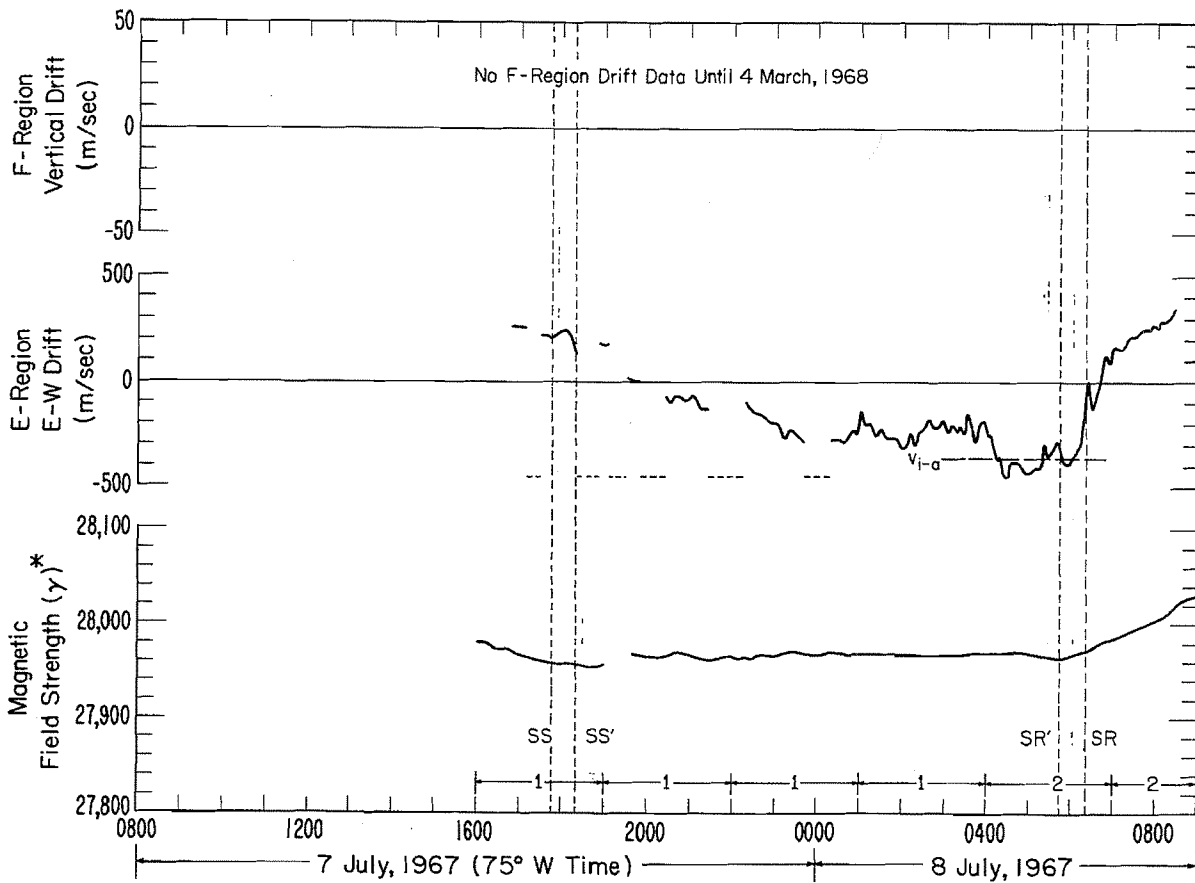
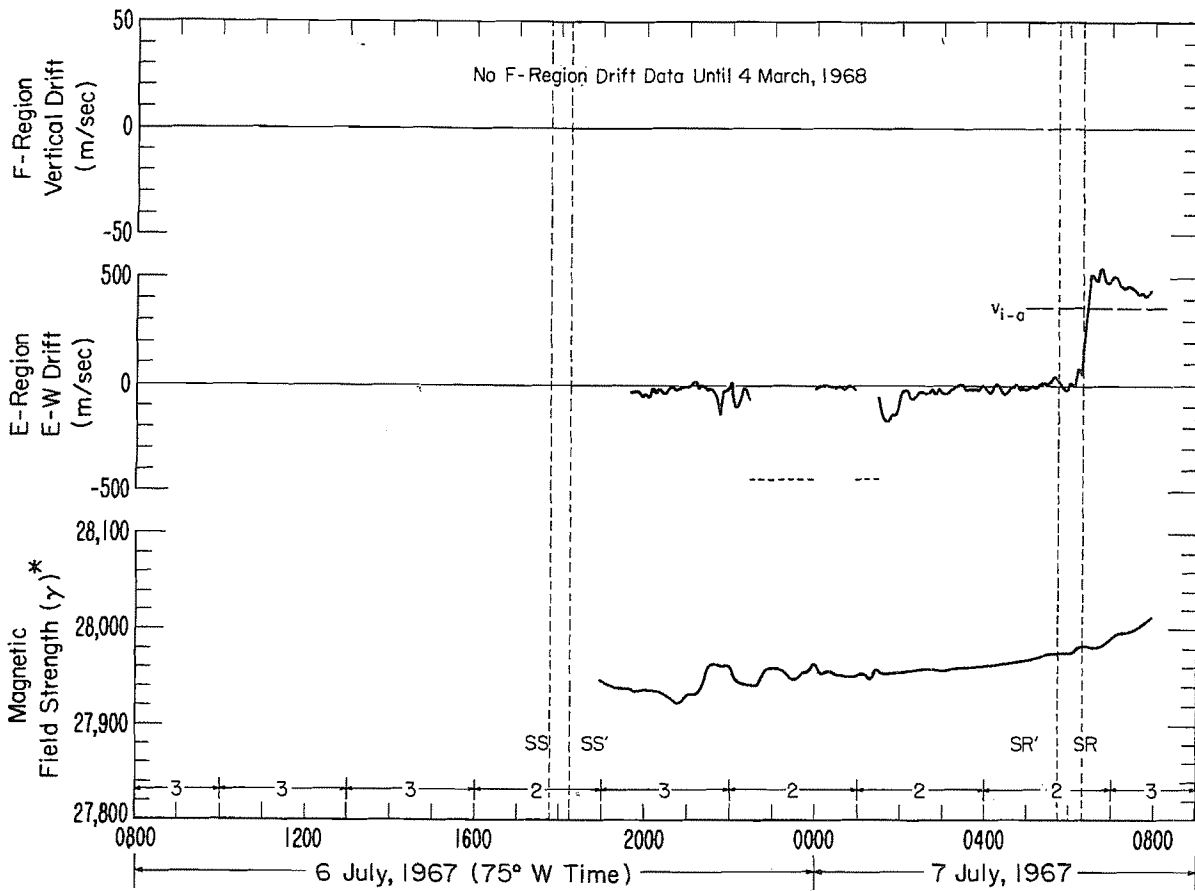
Acknowledgements

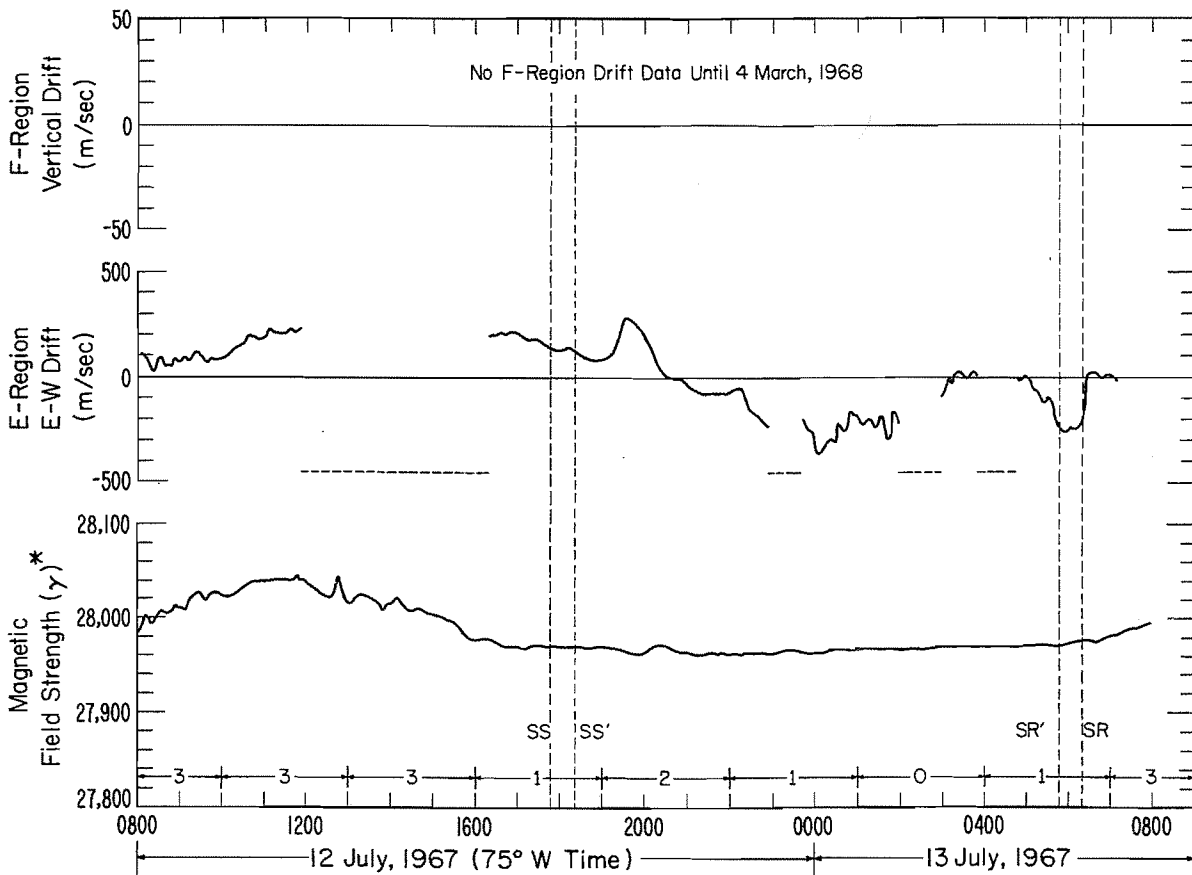
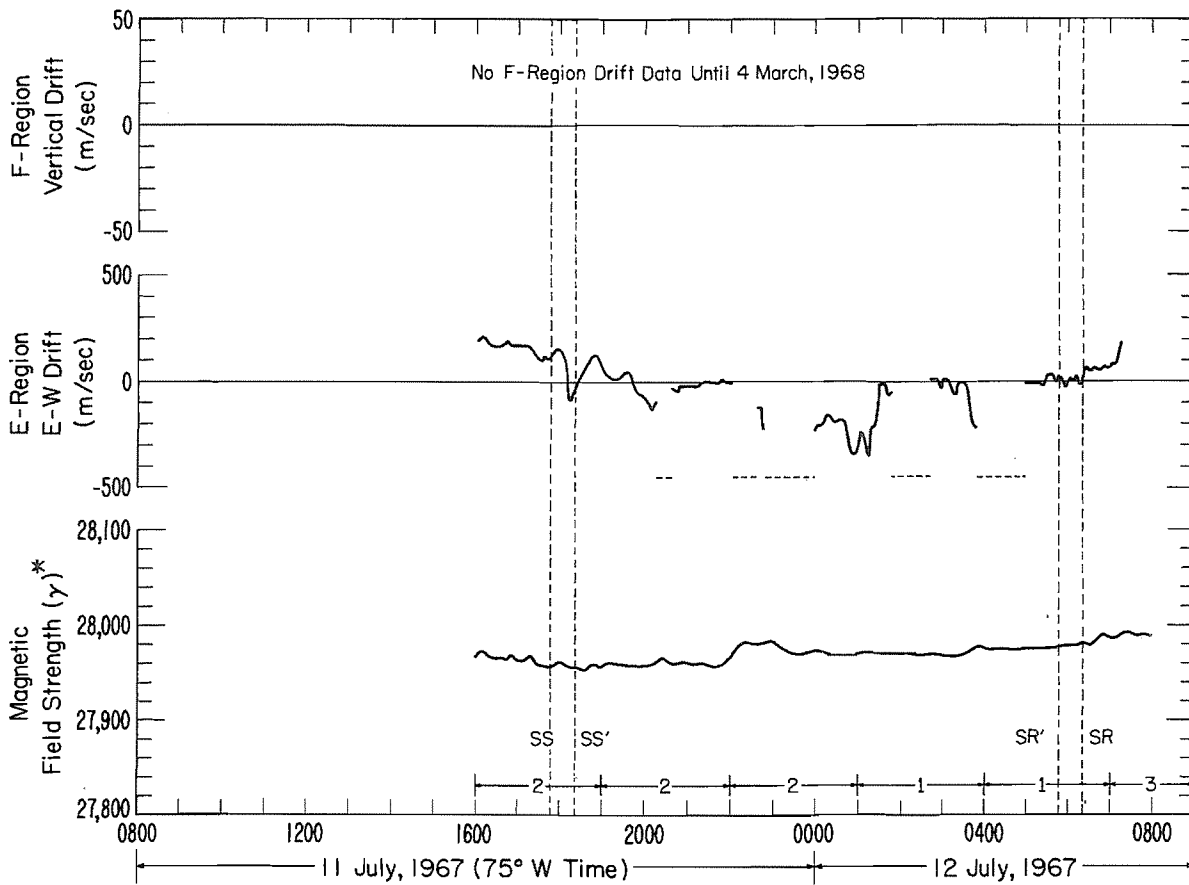
We are pleased to acknowledge the help of the staff of the Jicamarca Radar Observatory in obtaining the ionospheric drift data included in this report. The Huancayo magnetic data were provided by Mr. William Paulishak of the World Data Center A, Geomagnetism, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder, Colorado. We are also indebted to the staff of the World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, NOAA, Boulder, Colorado, for their cooperation in the preparation of this report.

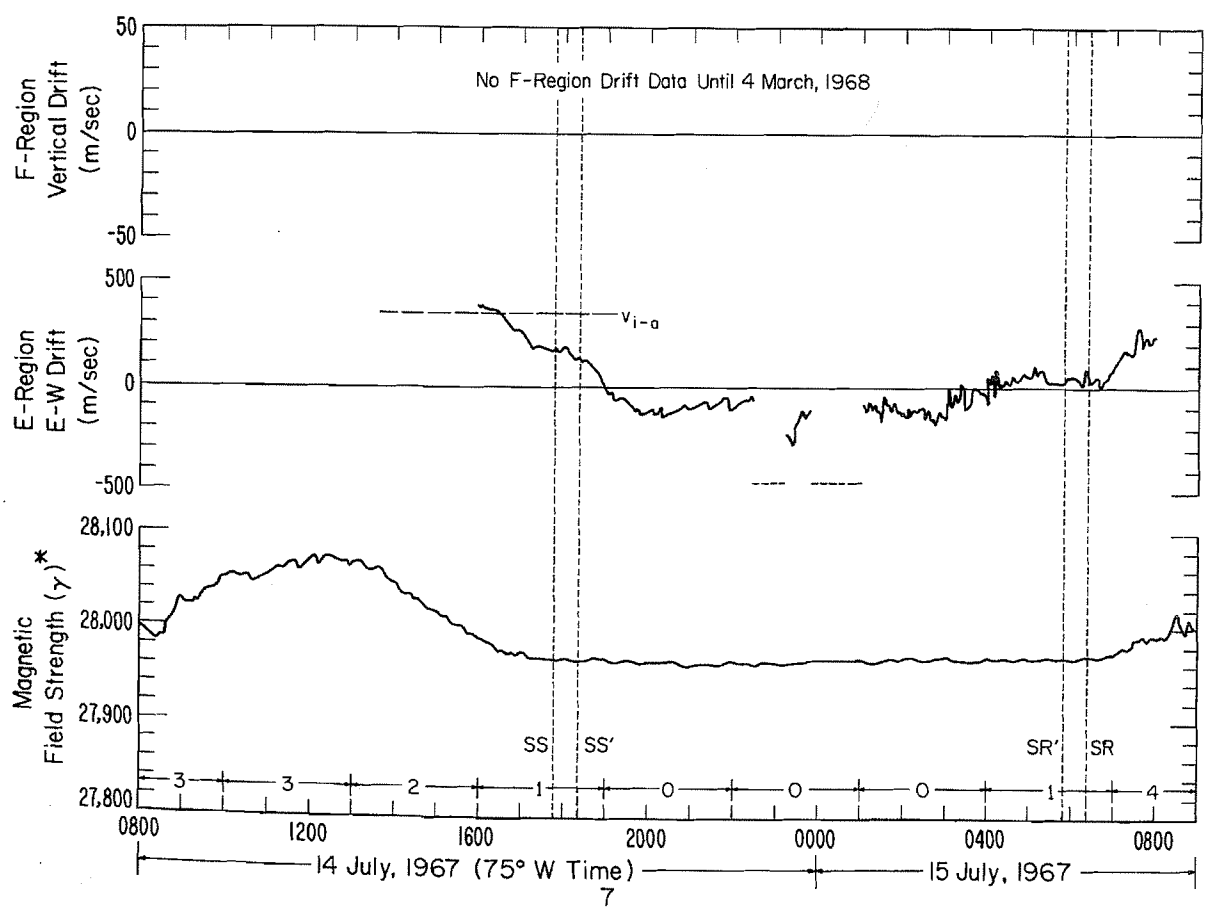
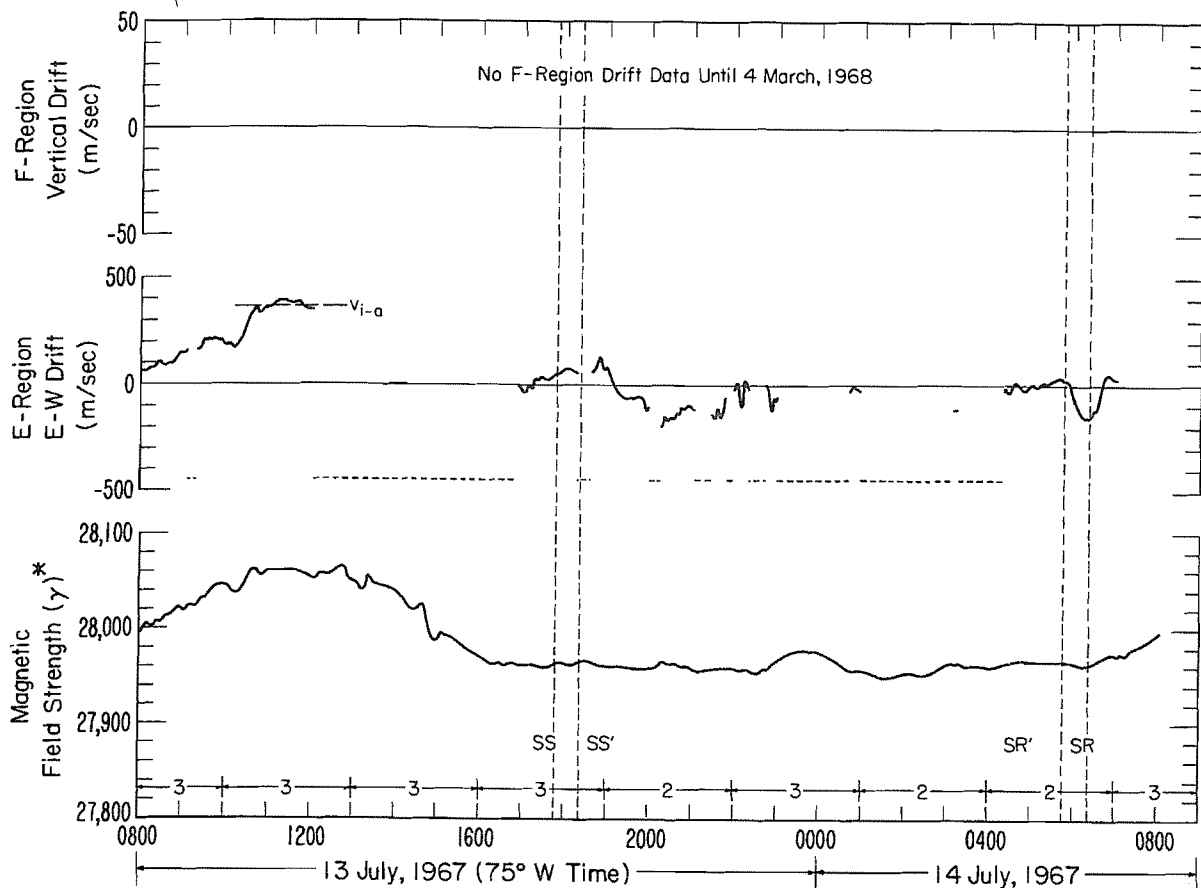
REFERENCES

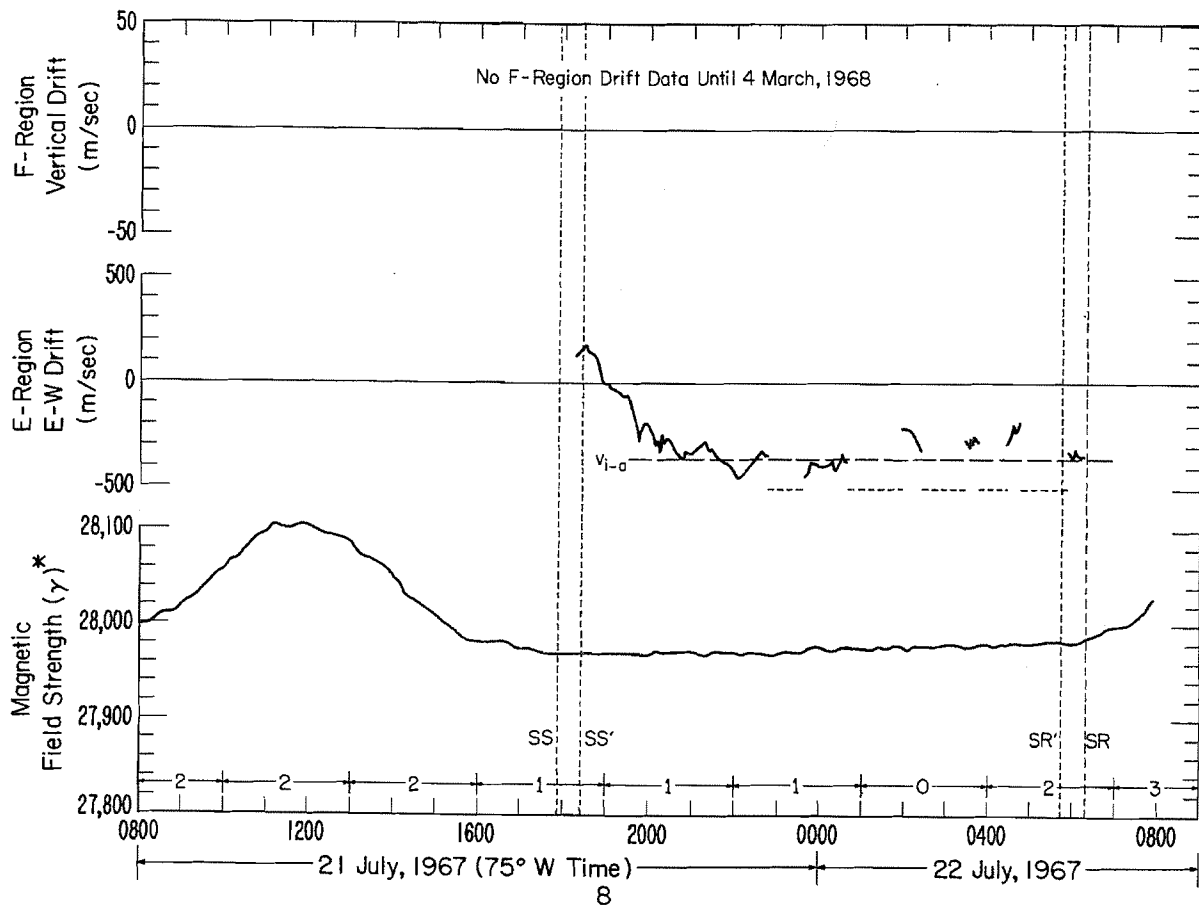
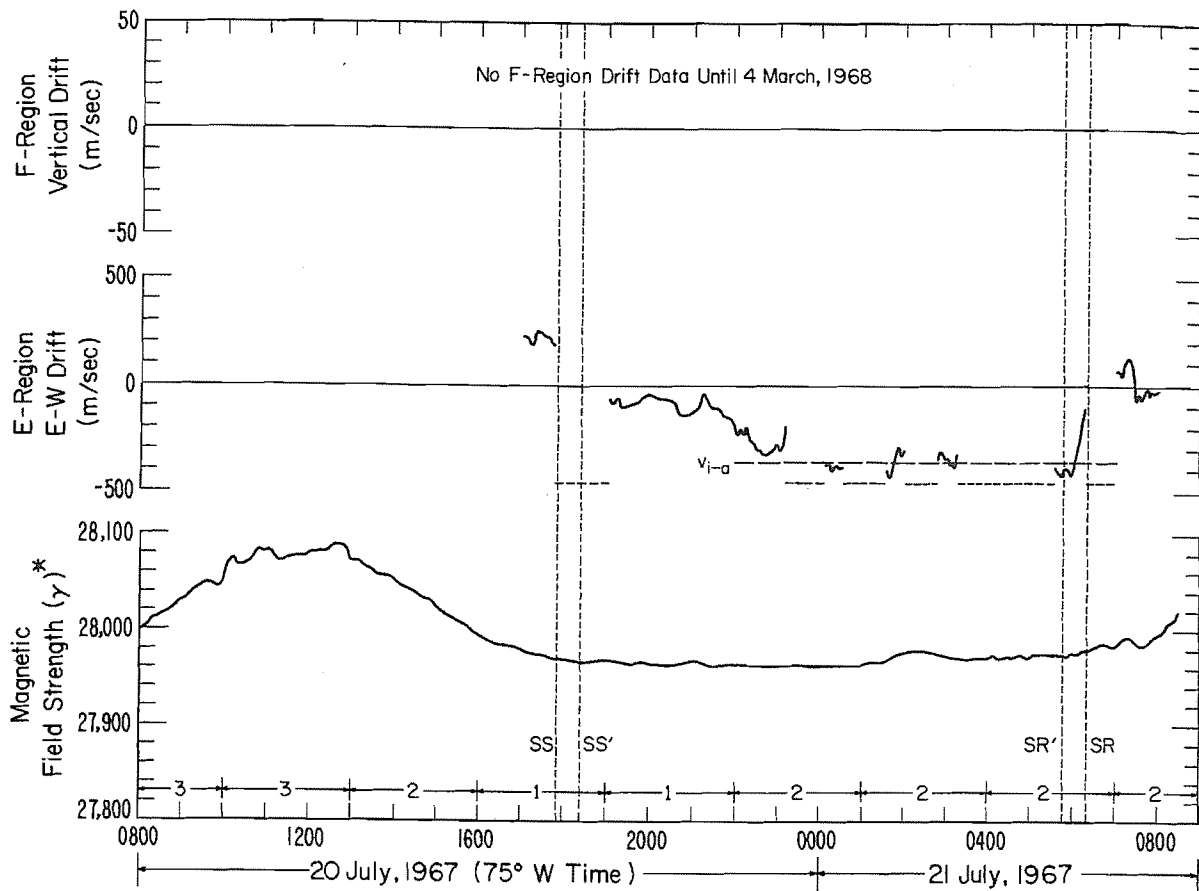
- | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BALSLEY, B. B. | 1969a | Some Characteristics of Non-two-Stream Irregularities in the Equatorial Electrojet, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>74</u> , 2333-2347. |
| BALSLEY, B. B. | 1969b | Measurement of Electron Drift Velocities in the Nighttime Equatorial Electrojet, <u>J. Atmosph. Terrest. Phys.</u> , <u>31</u> , 475-478. |
| BALSLEY, B. B. | 1970a | A Longitudinal Variation of Electron Drift Velocity in the Equatorial Electrojet, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>75</u> , 4291-4297. |
| BALSLEY, B. B. | 1970b | The Equatorial Electrojet: Seasonal Variation of the Reversal Times, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>75</u> , 4369-4371. |
| CAMPBELL, W. H. | | Private communication. |
| COLIN, LAWRENCE and
MARILY A. MYERS | 1966 | Computed Times of Sunrise and Sunset in the Ionosphere, <u>NASA Technical Memorandum X-1233</u> . |
| FARLEY, D. T. | 1963 | A Plasma Instability Resulting in Field-aligned Irregularities in the Ionosphere, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>68</u> , 6083. |

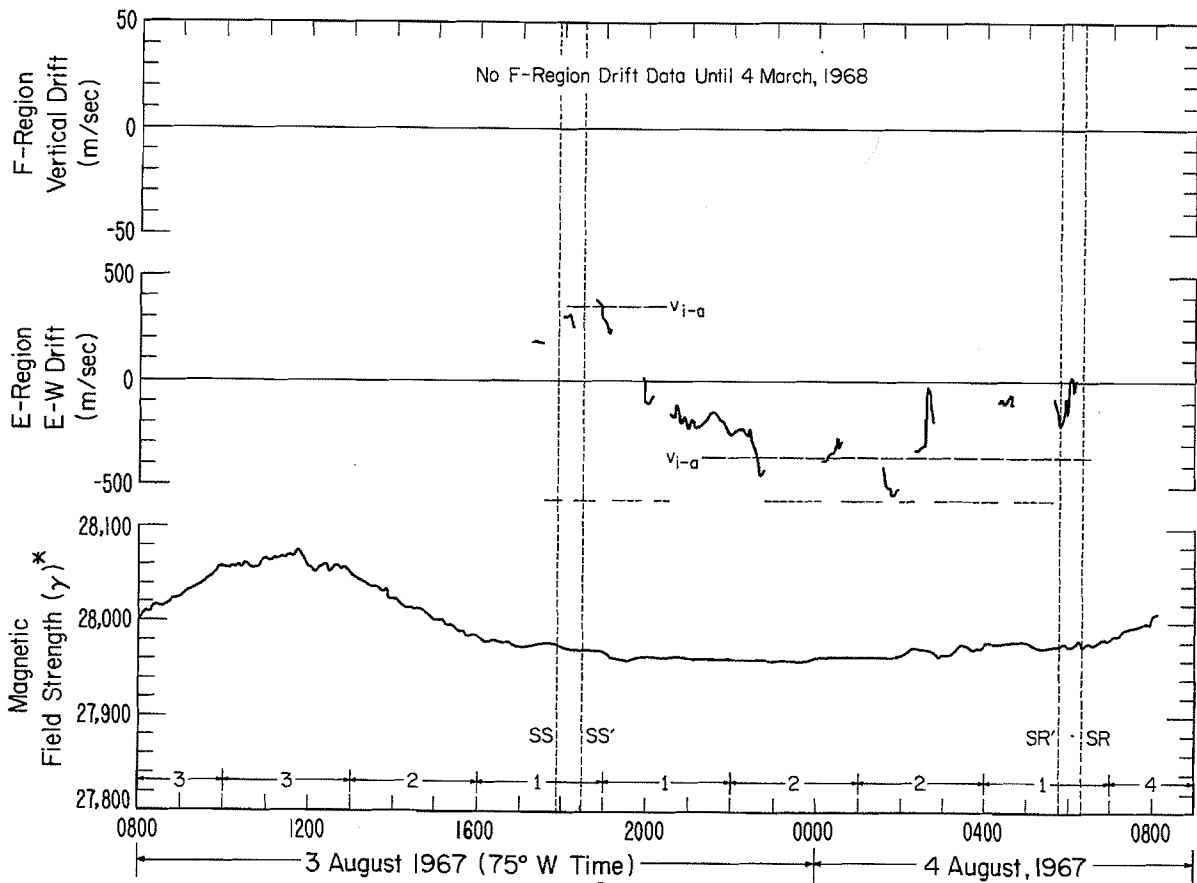
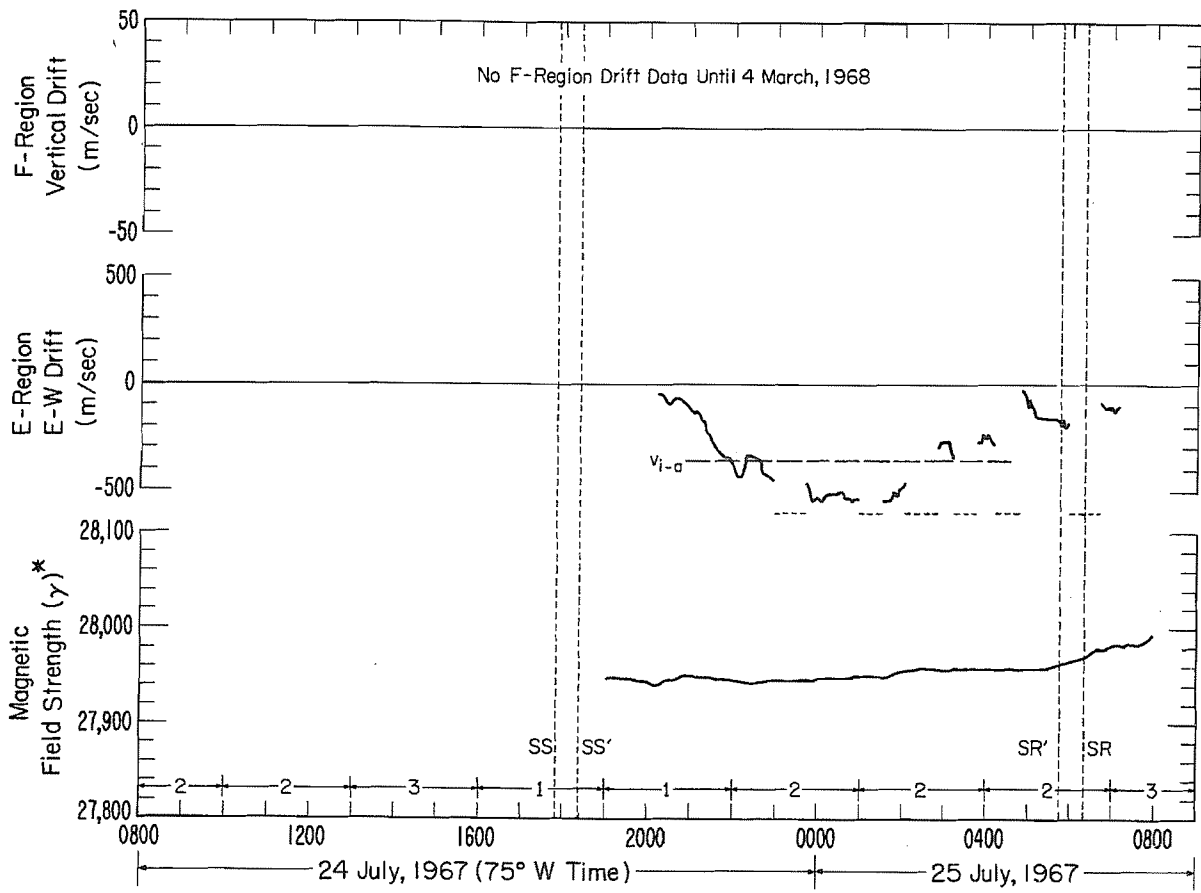
FARLEY, D. T., B. B. BALSLEY, R. F. WOODMAN and J. P. MC CLURE	1970	Equatorial Spread F: Implications of VHF Radar Observations, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>75</u> , 7199-7216..
SUGIURA, MASAHISA and JOSEPH C. CAIN	1966	A Model Equatorial Electrojet, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>71</u> , 1869.
TARPLEY, J. D., Jr.	1969	Ionospheric Wind Dynamo, <u>Ph.D. Thesis, University of Colorado.</u>
WOODMAN, R. F. and T. HAGFORS	1969	Methods for the Measurement of Vertical Ionospheric Motions Near the Magnetic Equator by Incoherent Scattering, <u>J. Geo- phys. Res.</u> , <u>74</u> , 1205-1212.
WOODMAN, R. F.	1970	Vertical Drift Velocities and East-West Electric Fields at the Magnetic Equator, <u>J. Geophys. Res.</u> , <u>75</u> , 6249-6259.

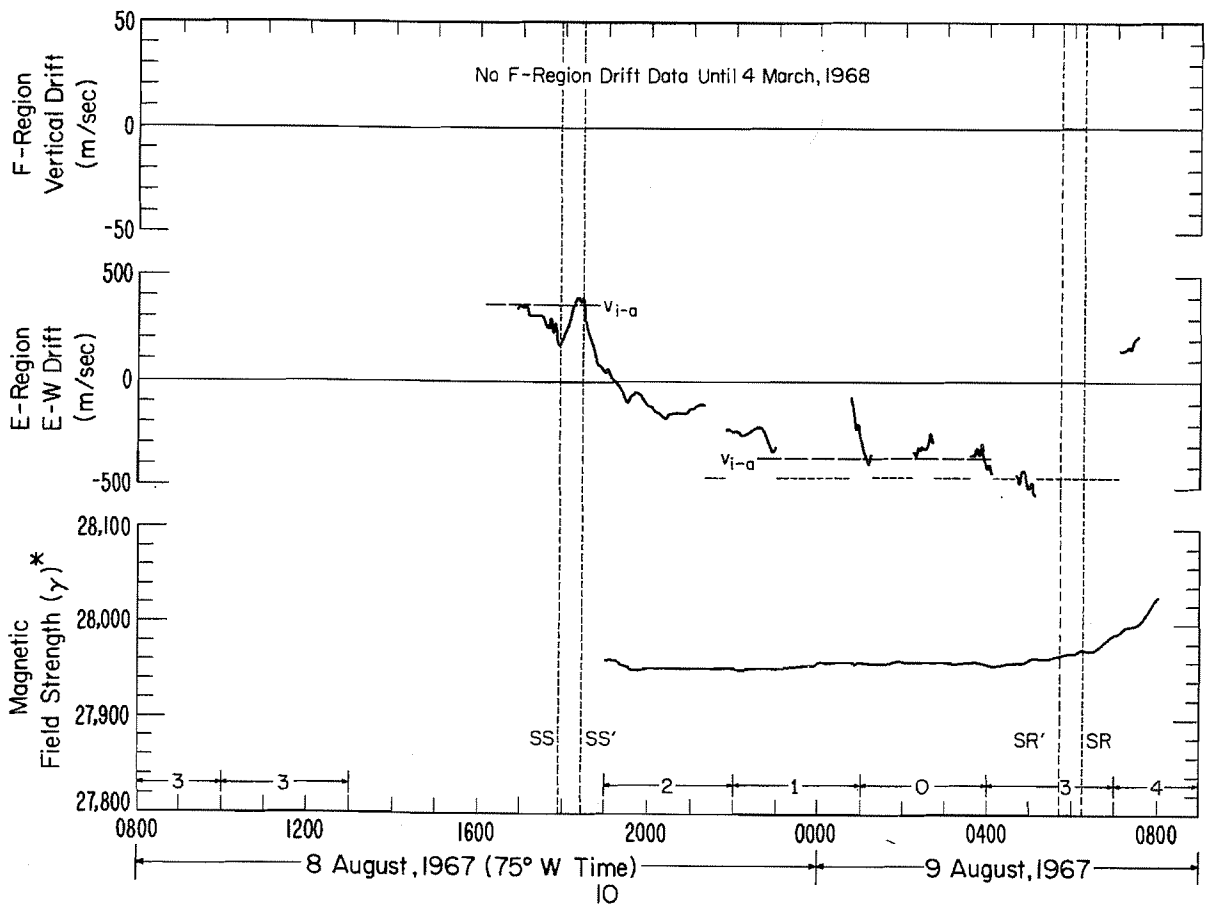
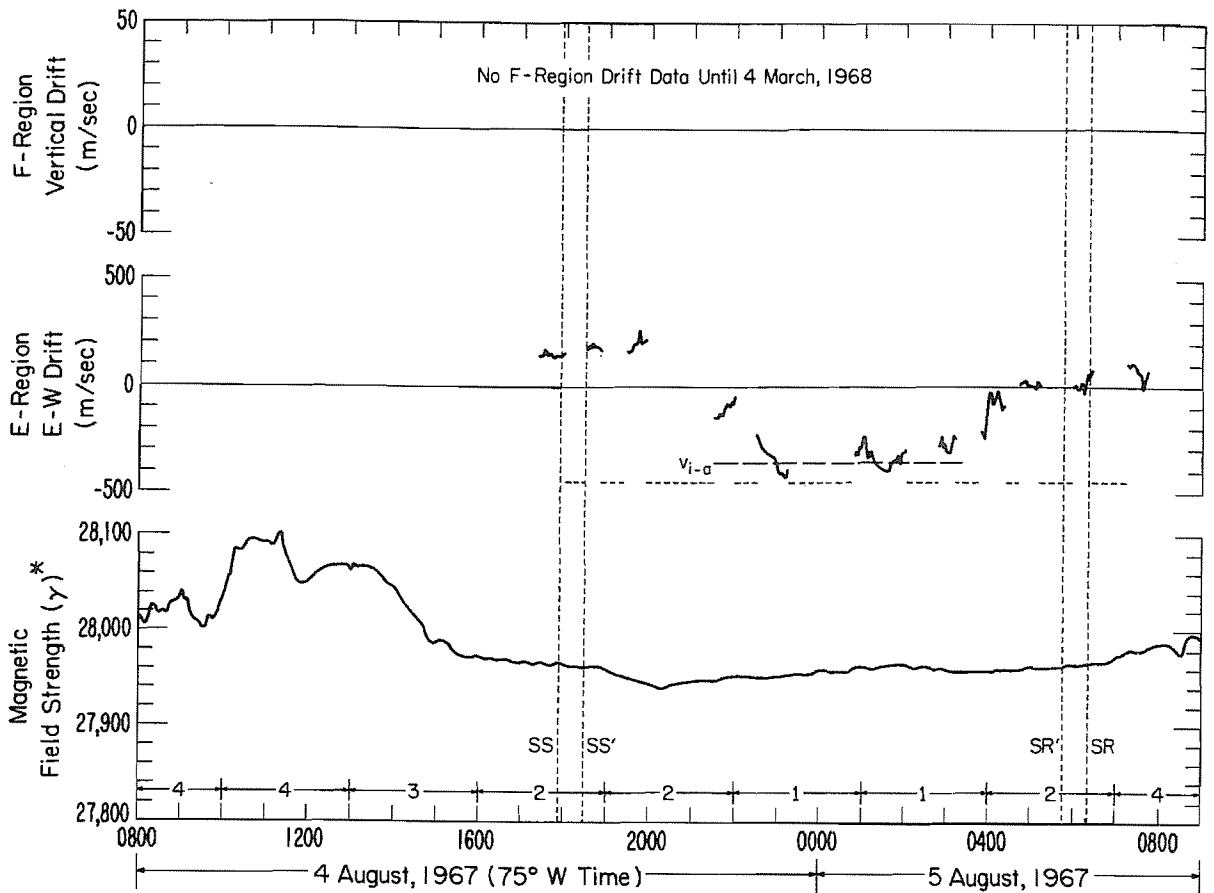


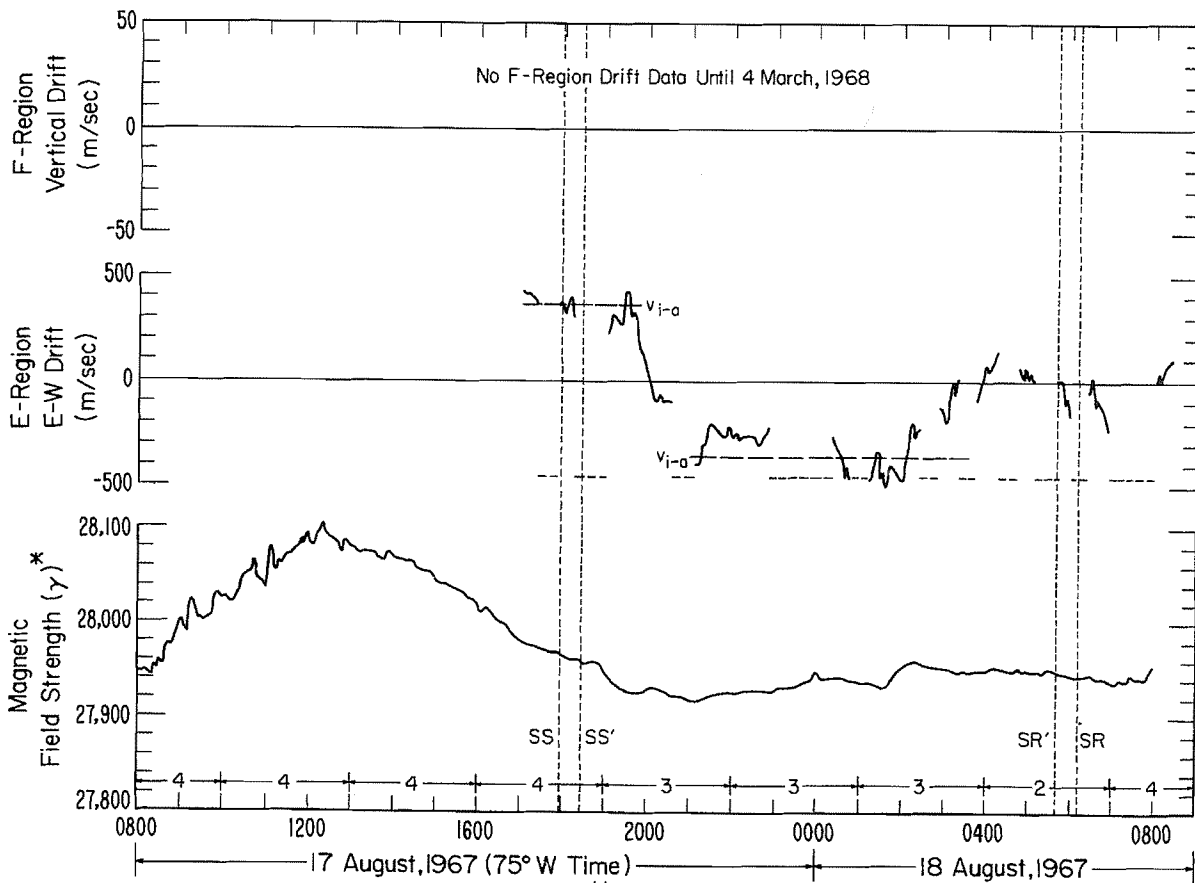
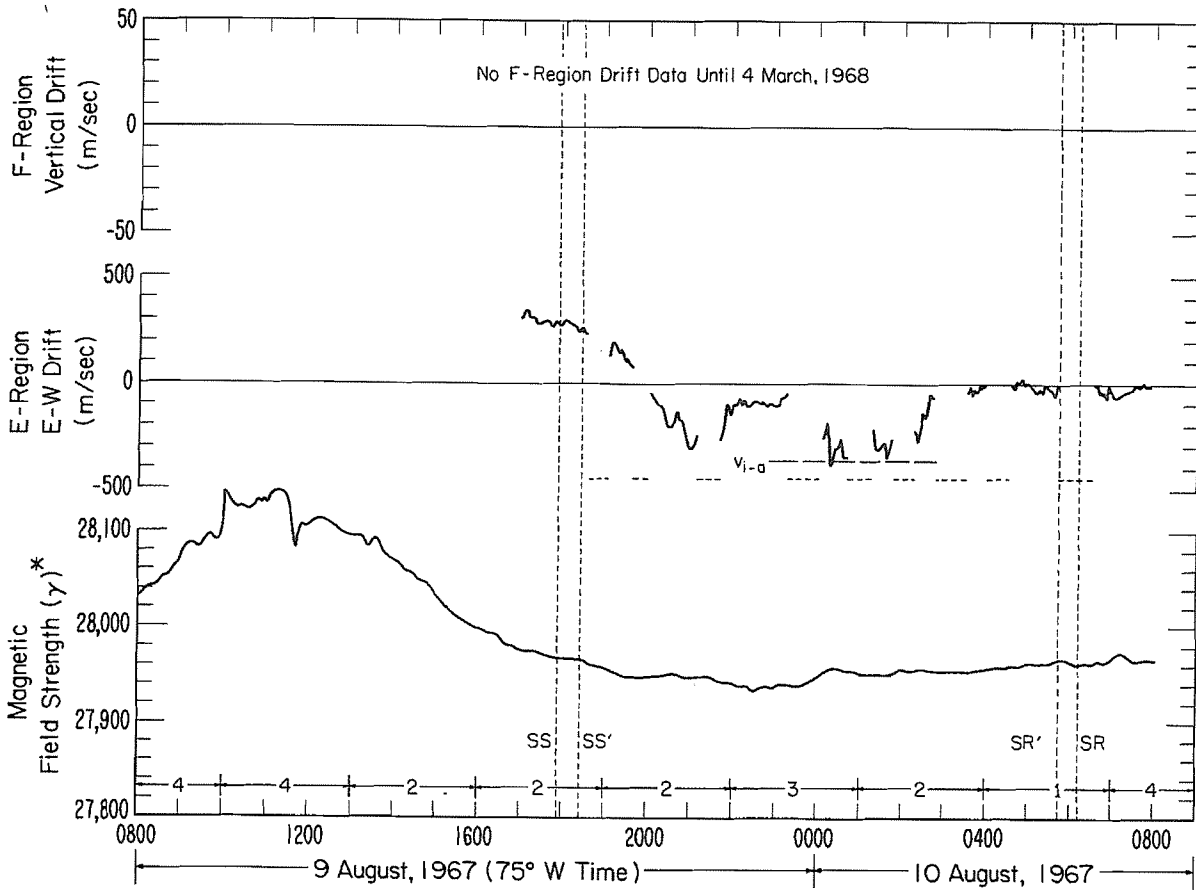


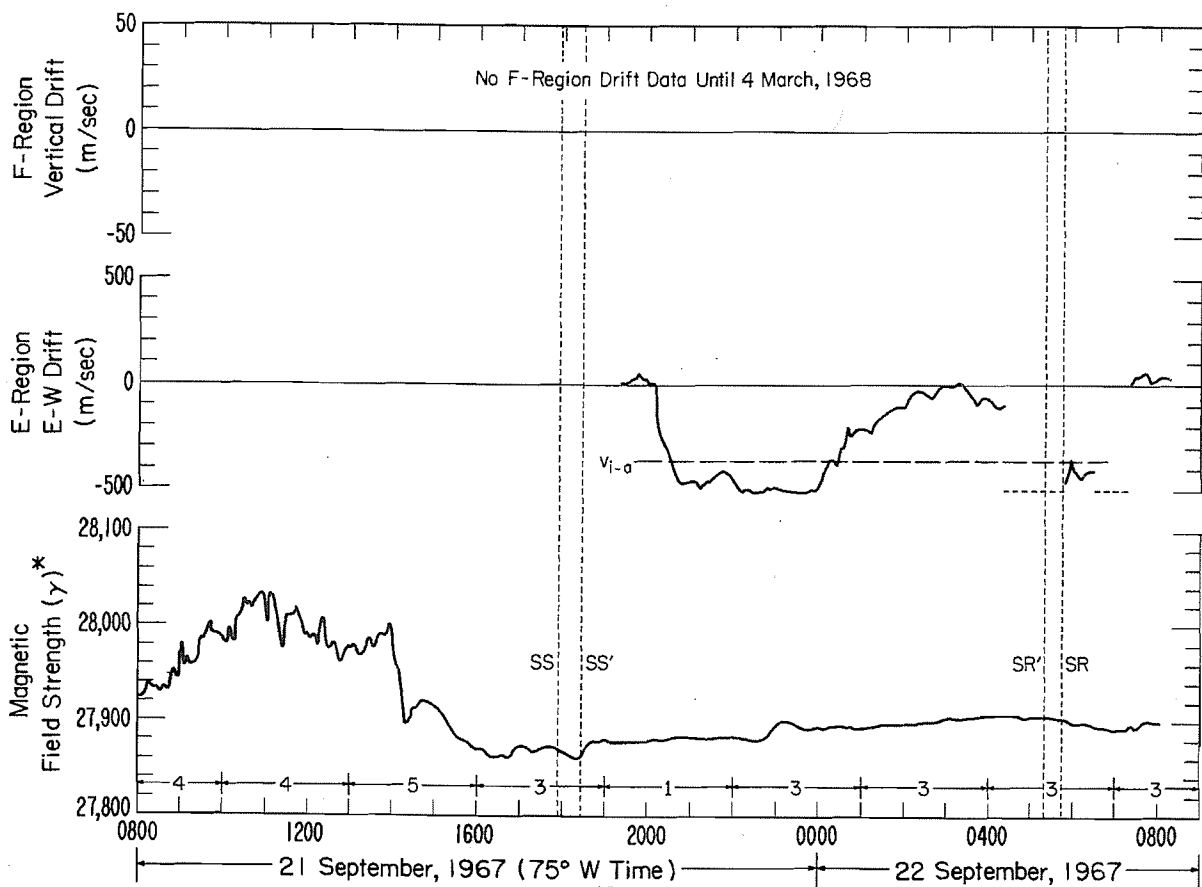
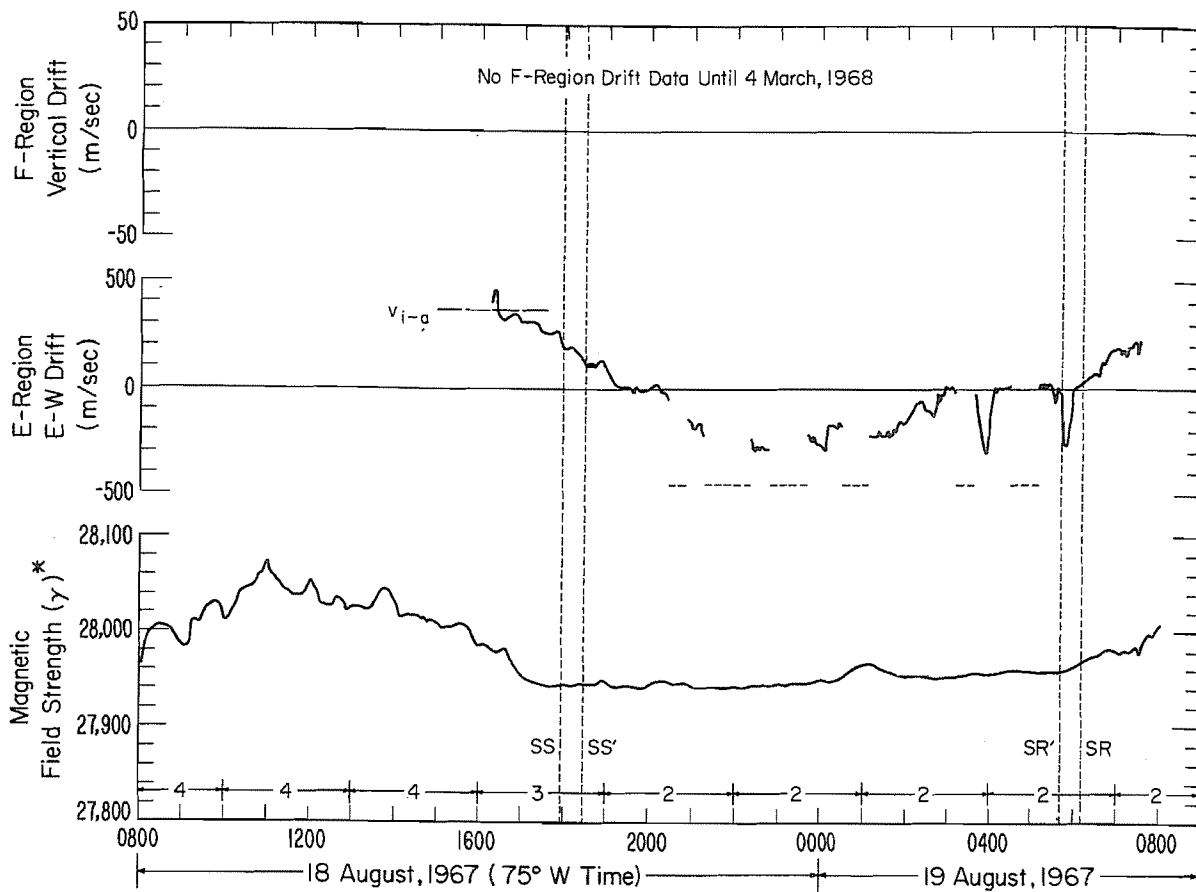


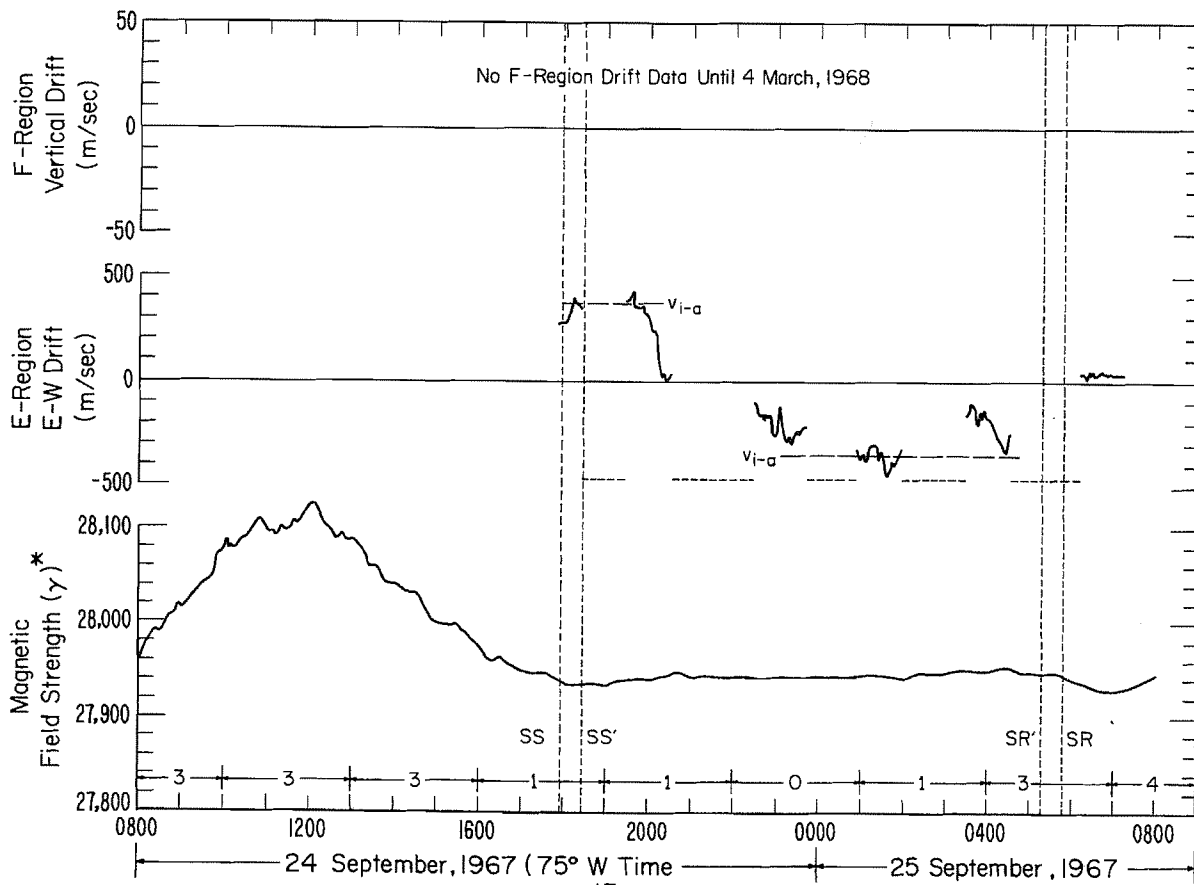
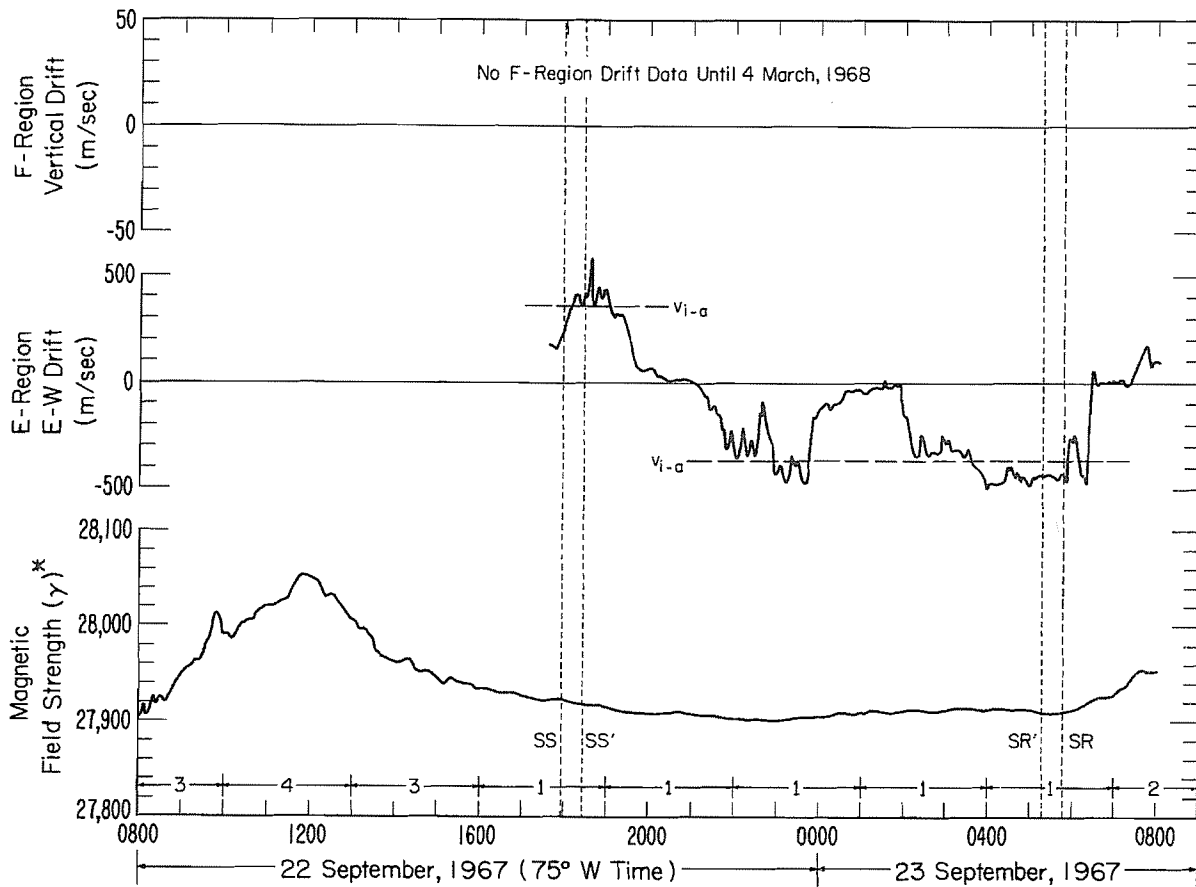


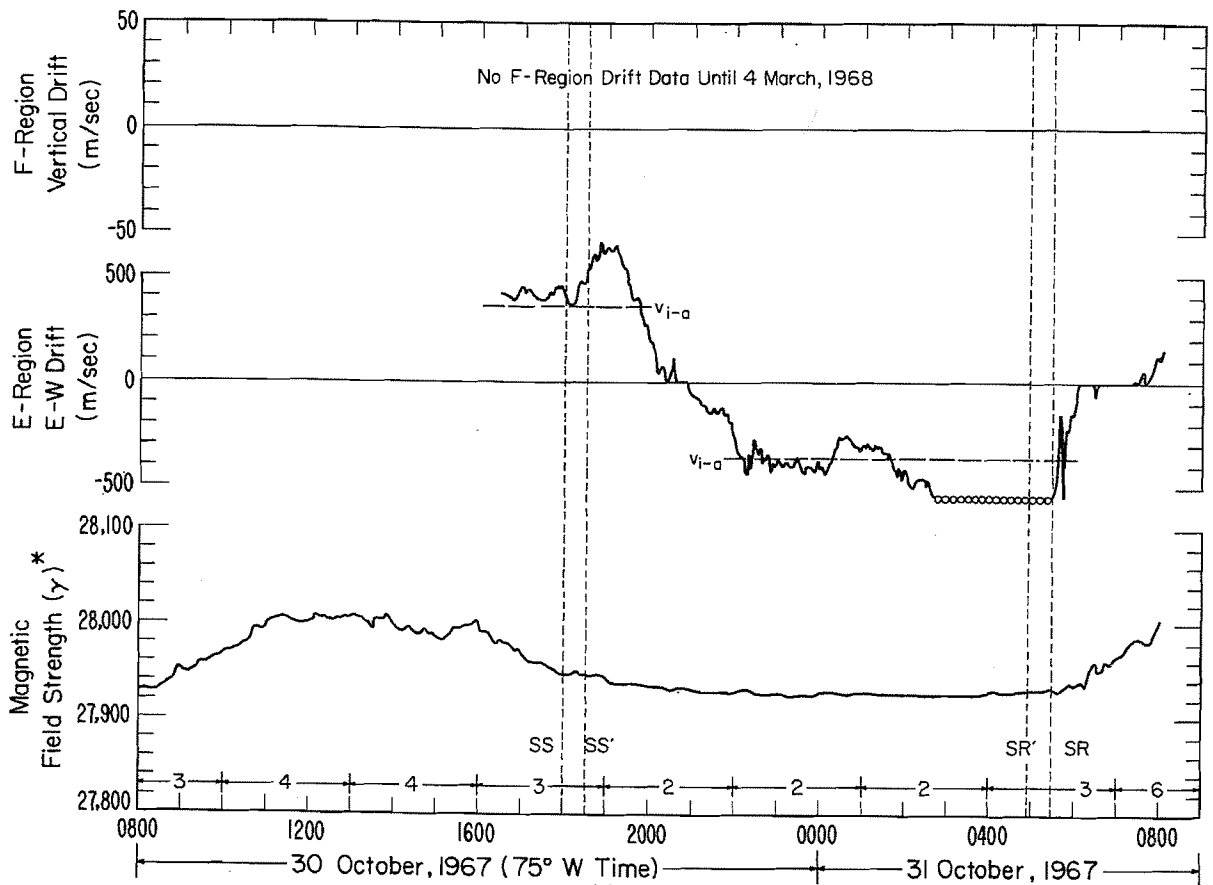
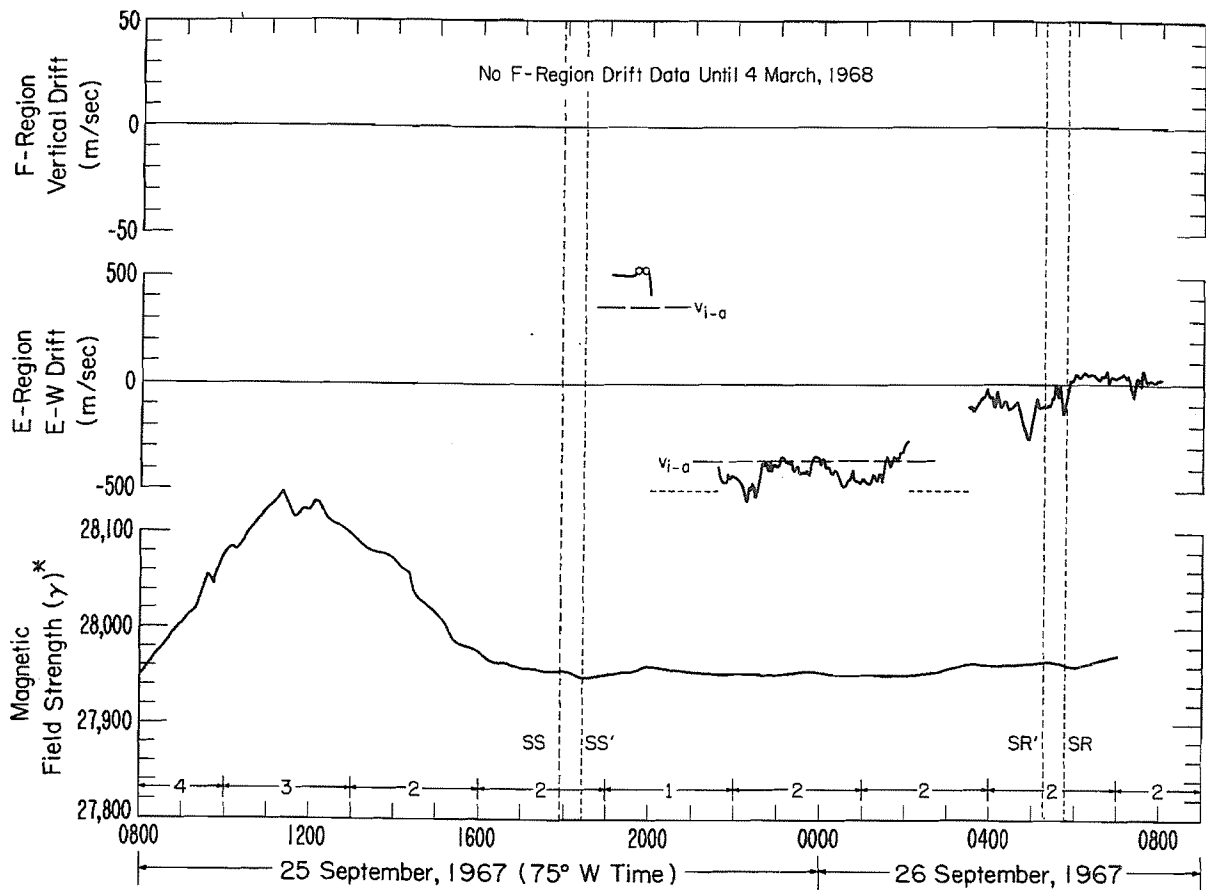


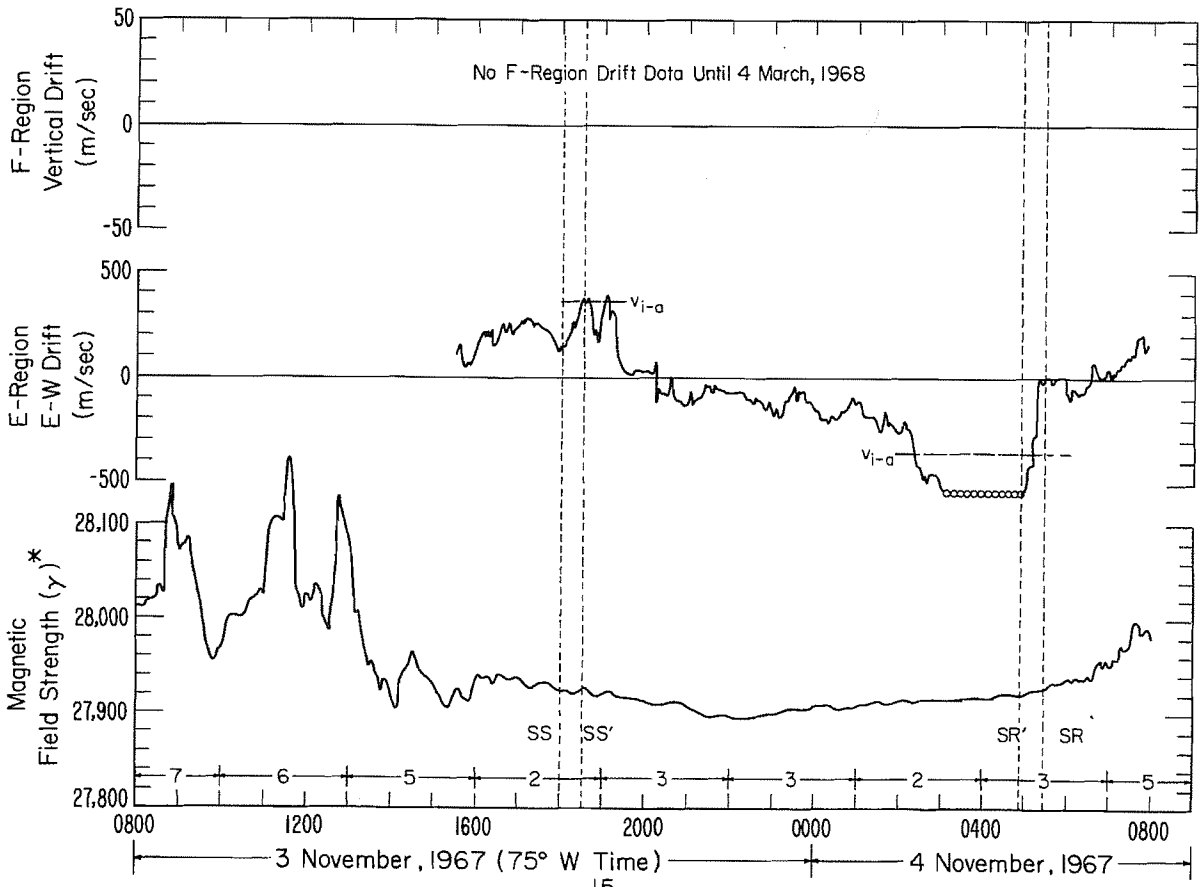
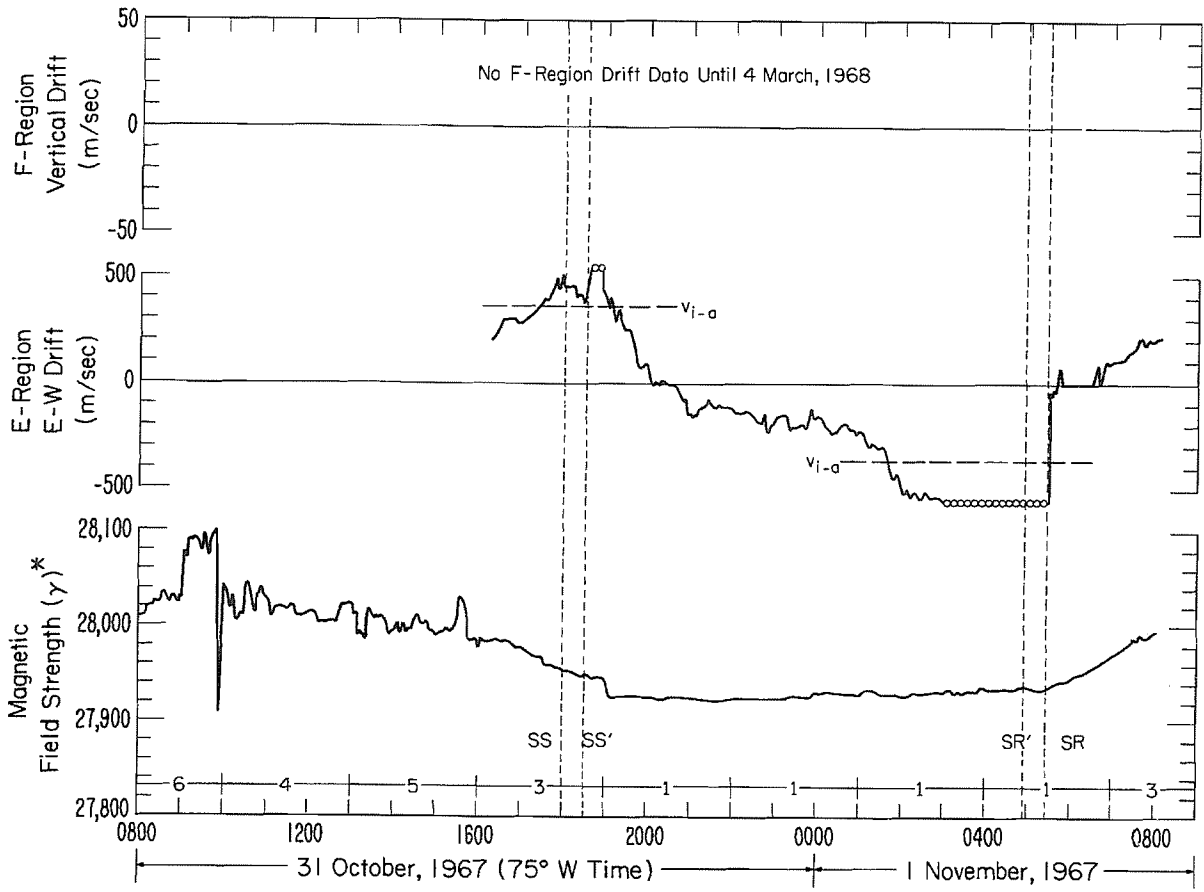


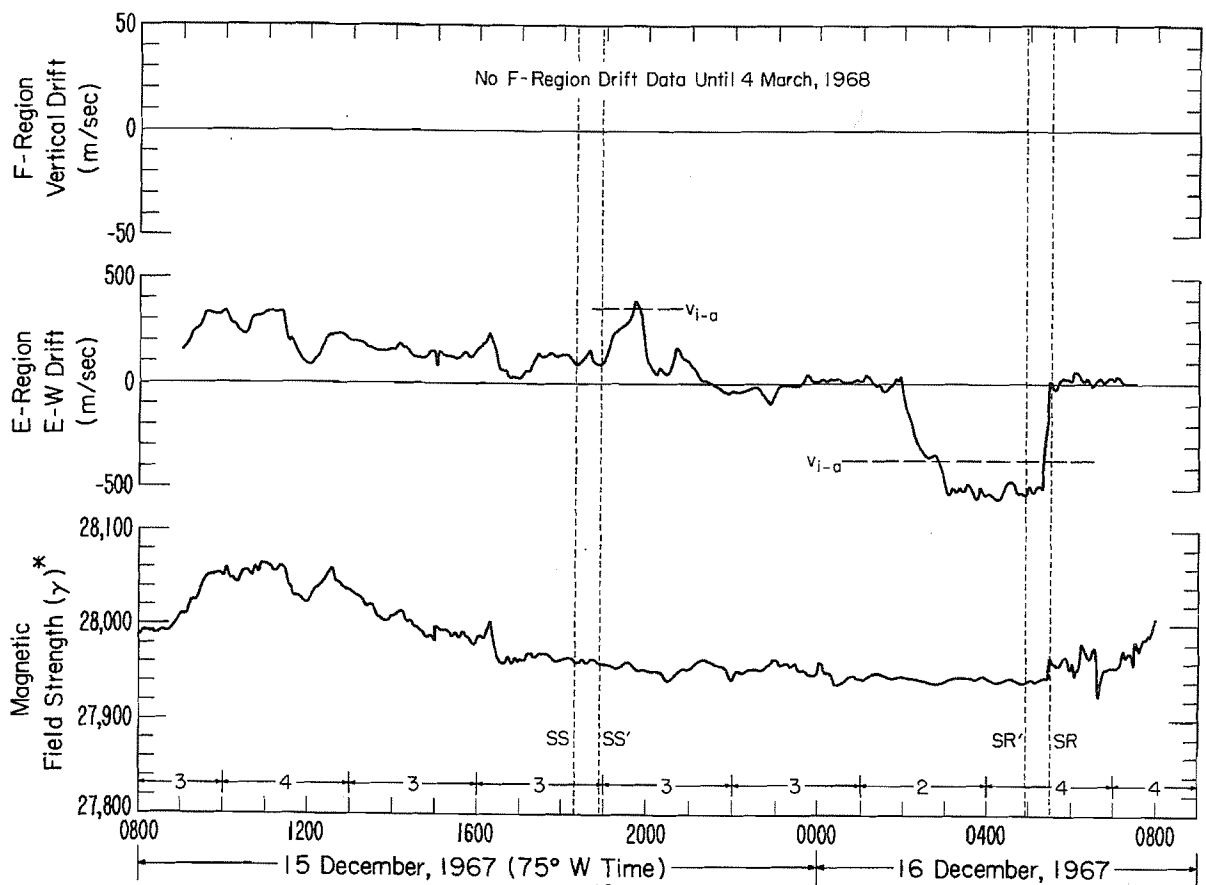
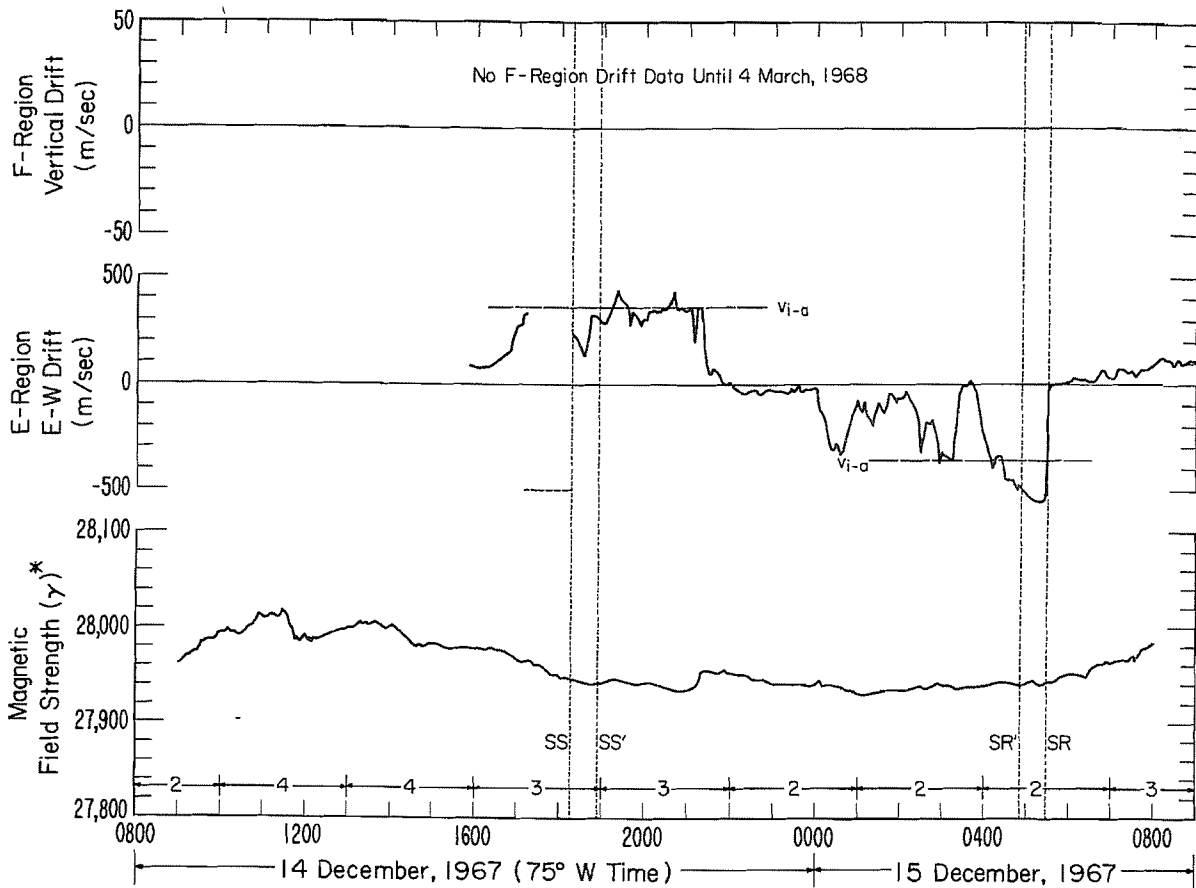


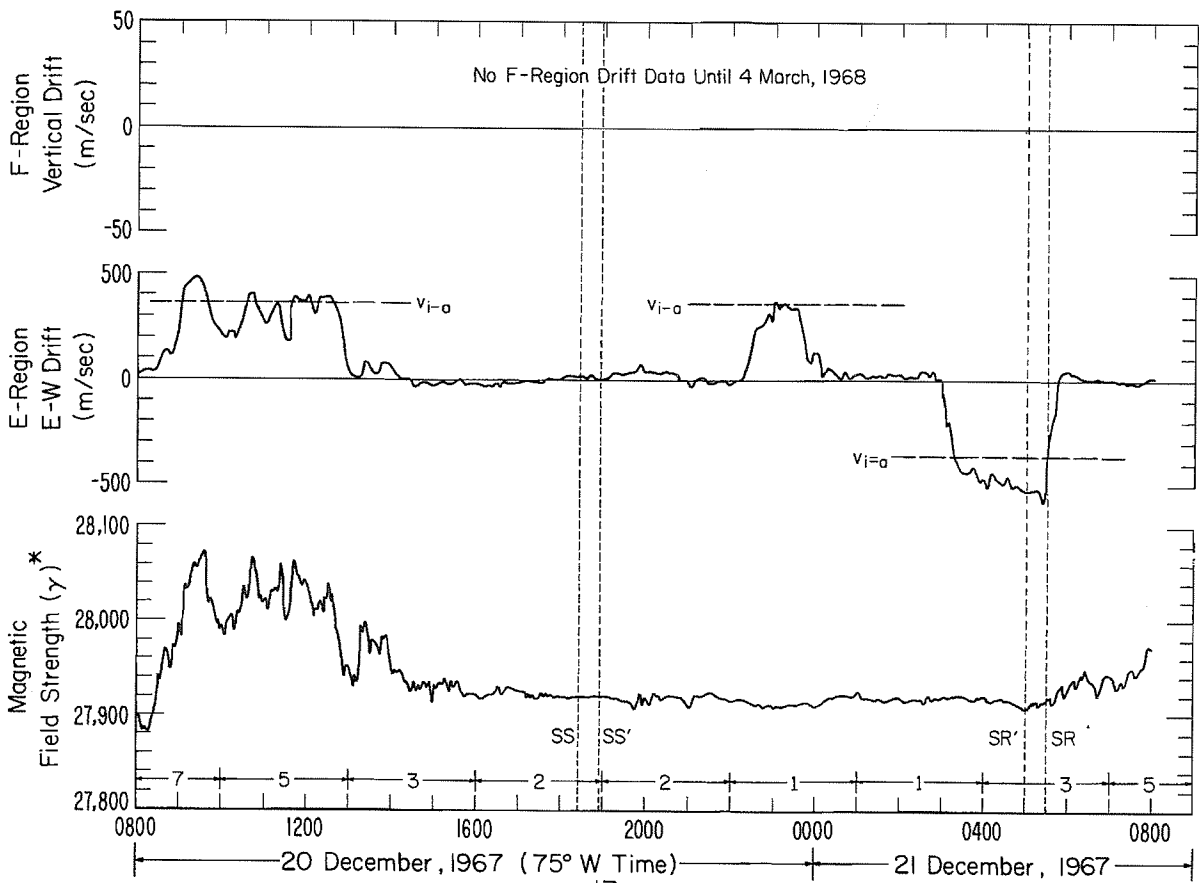
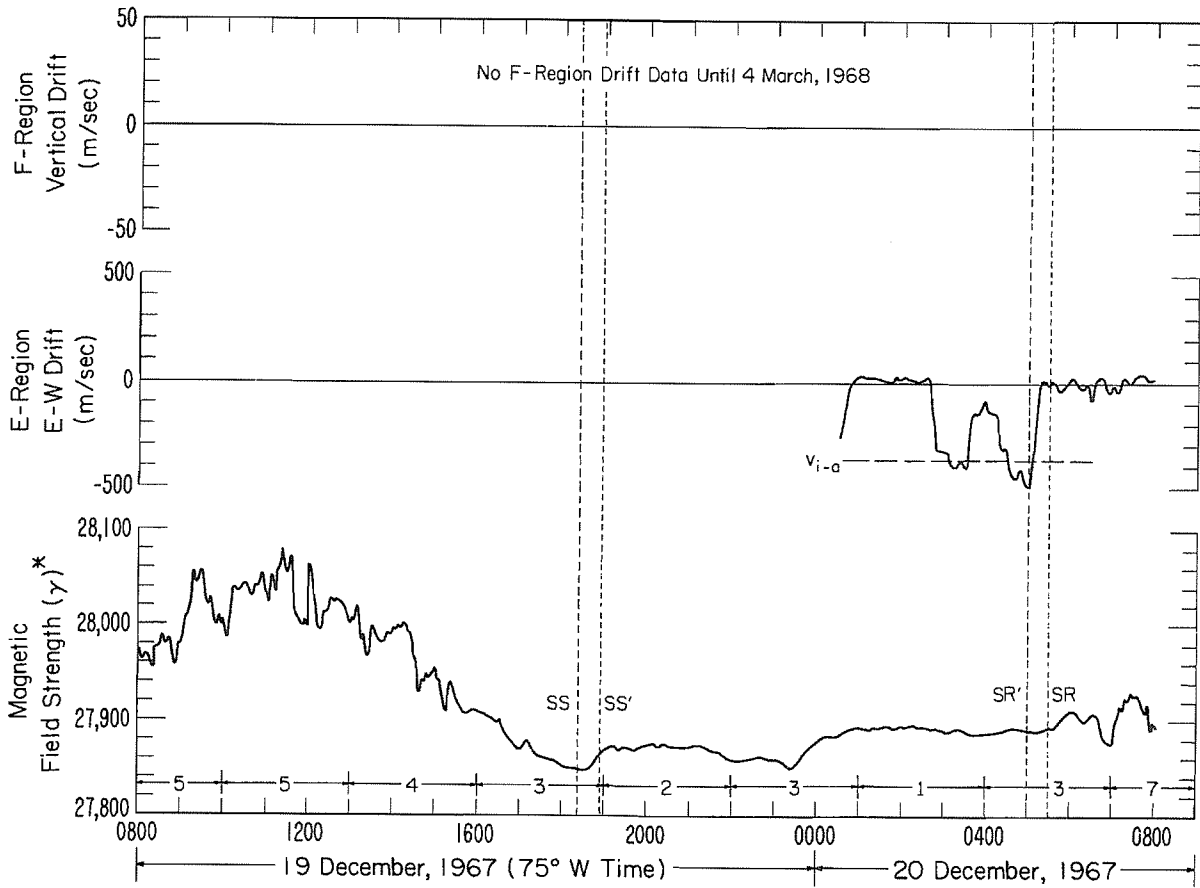


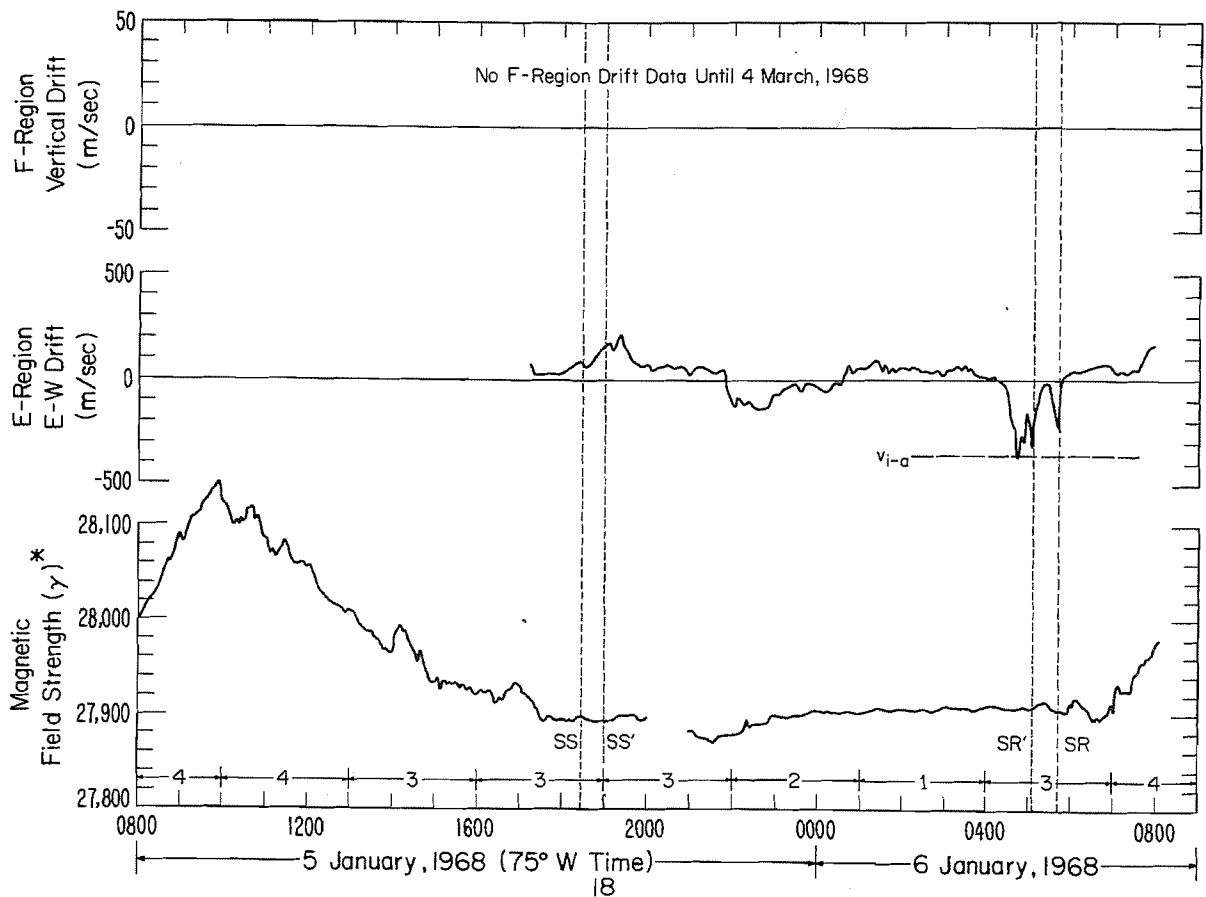
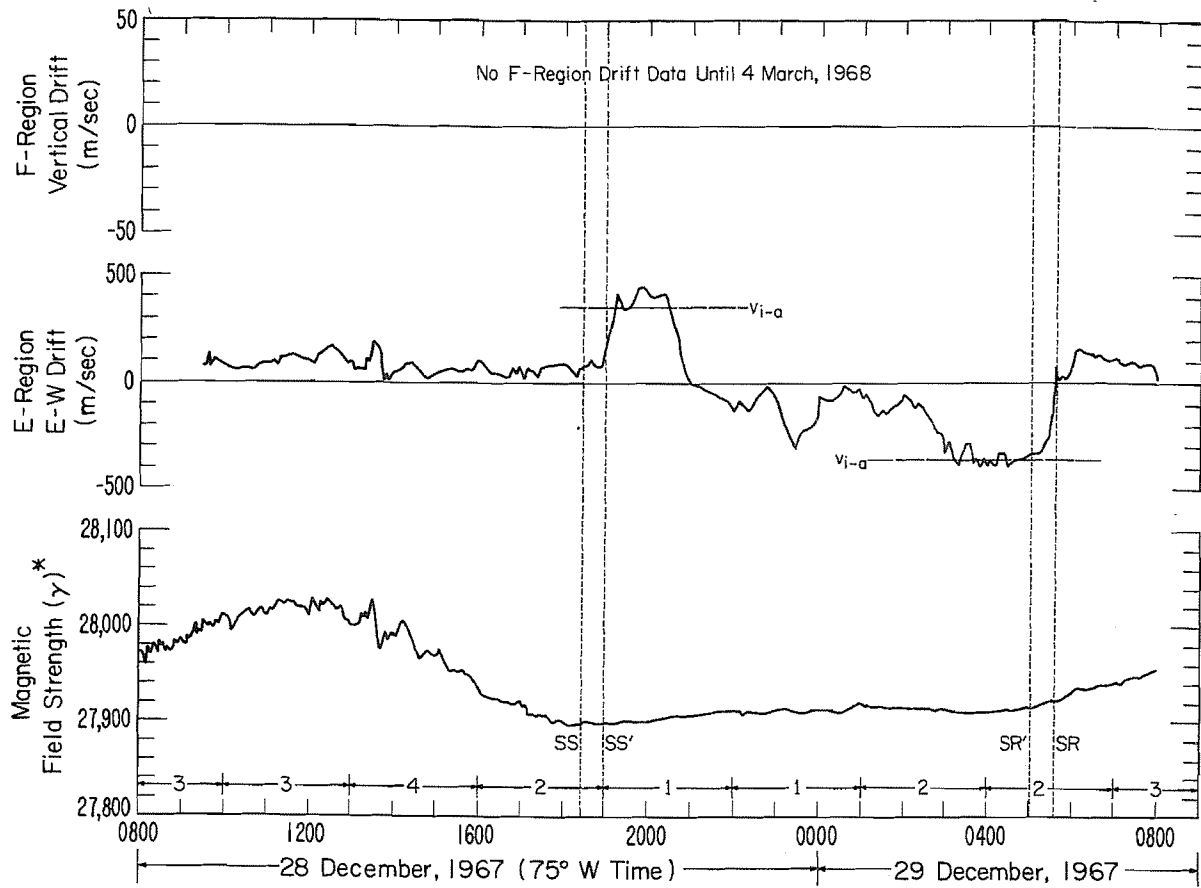


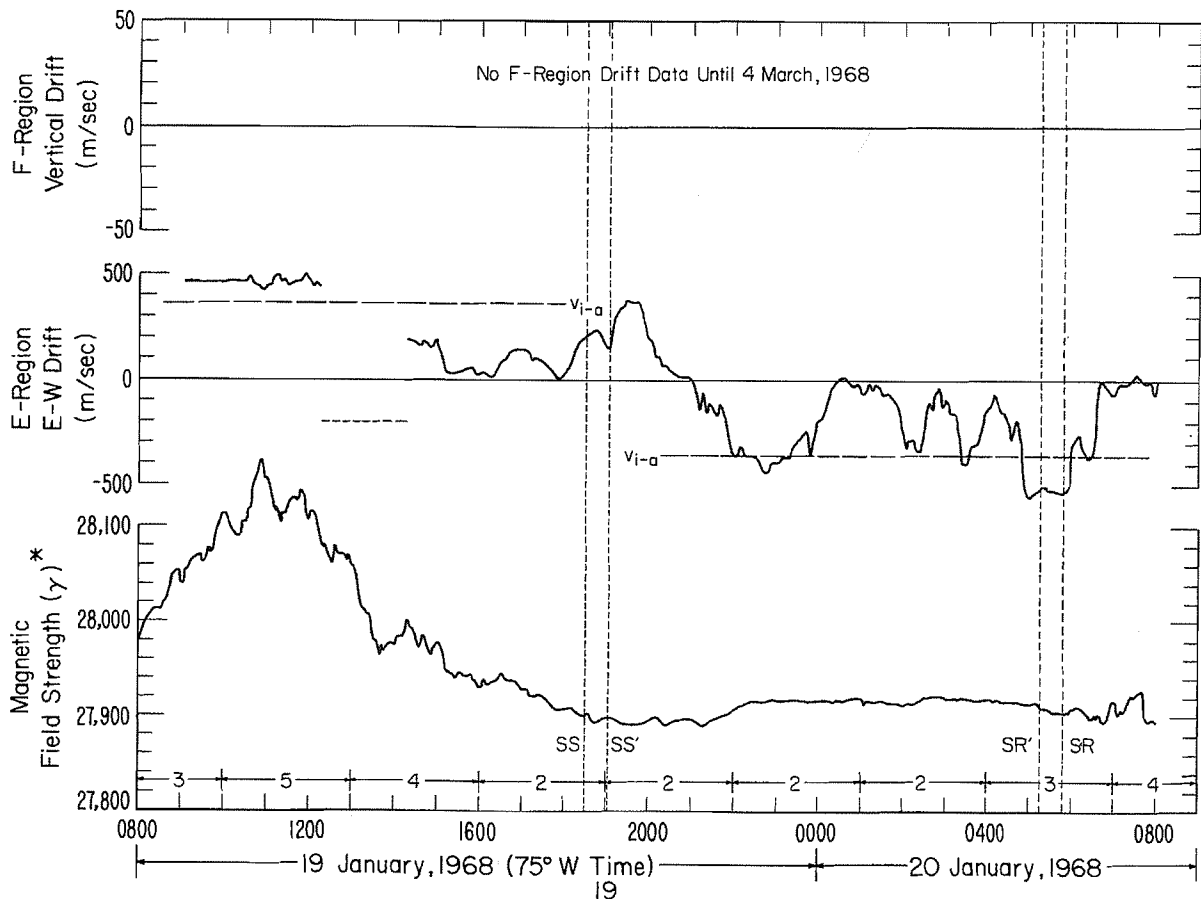
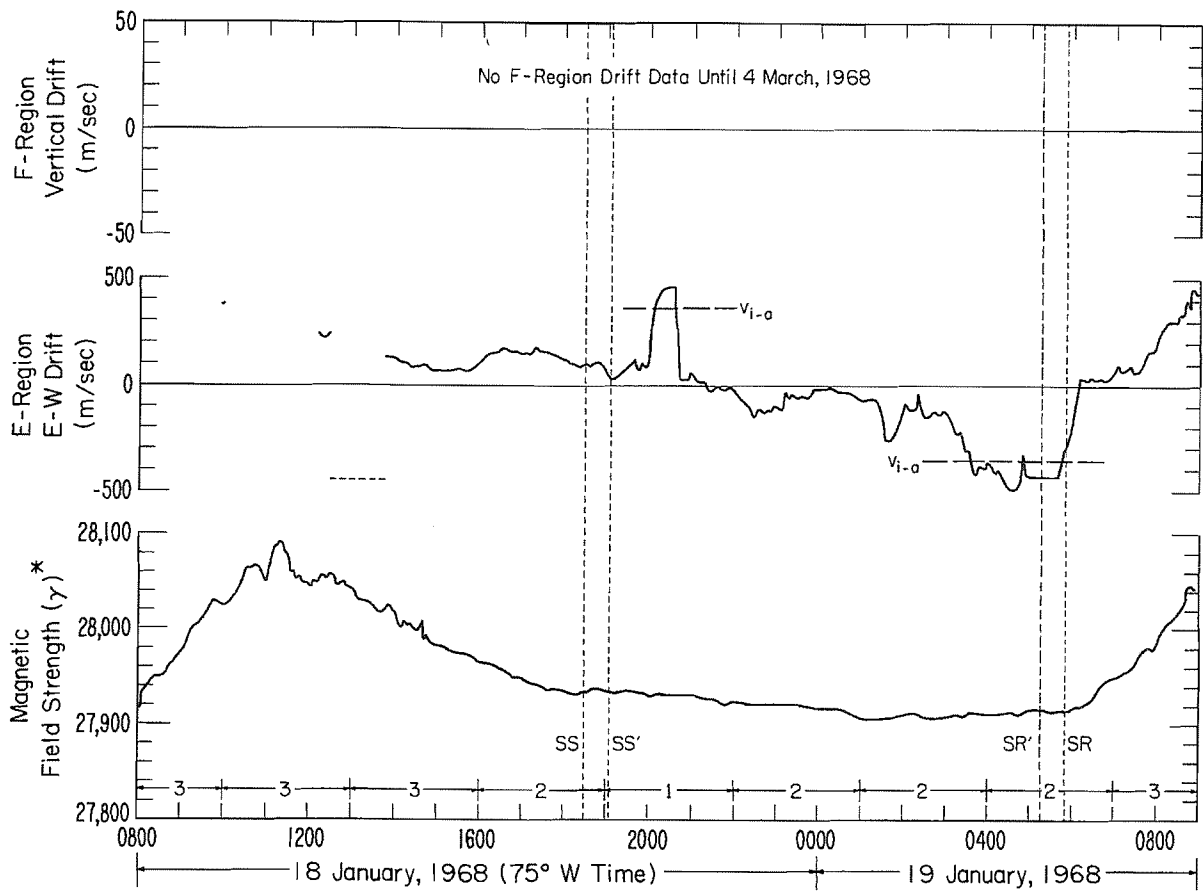


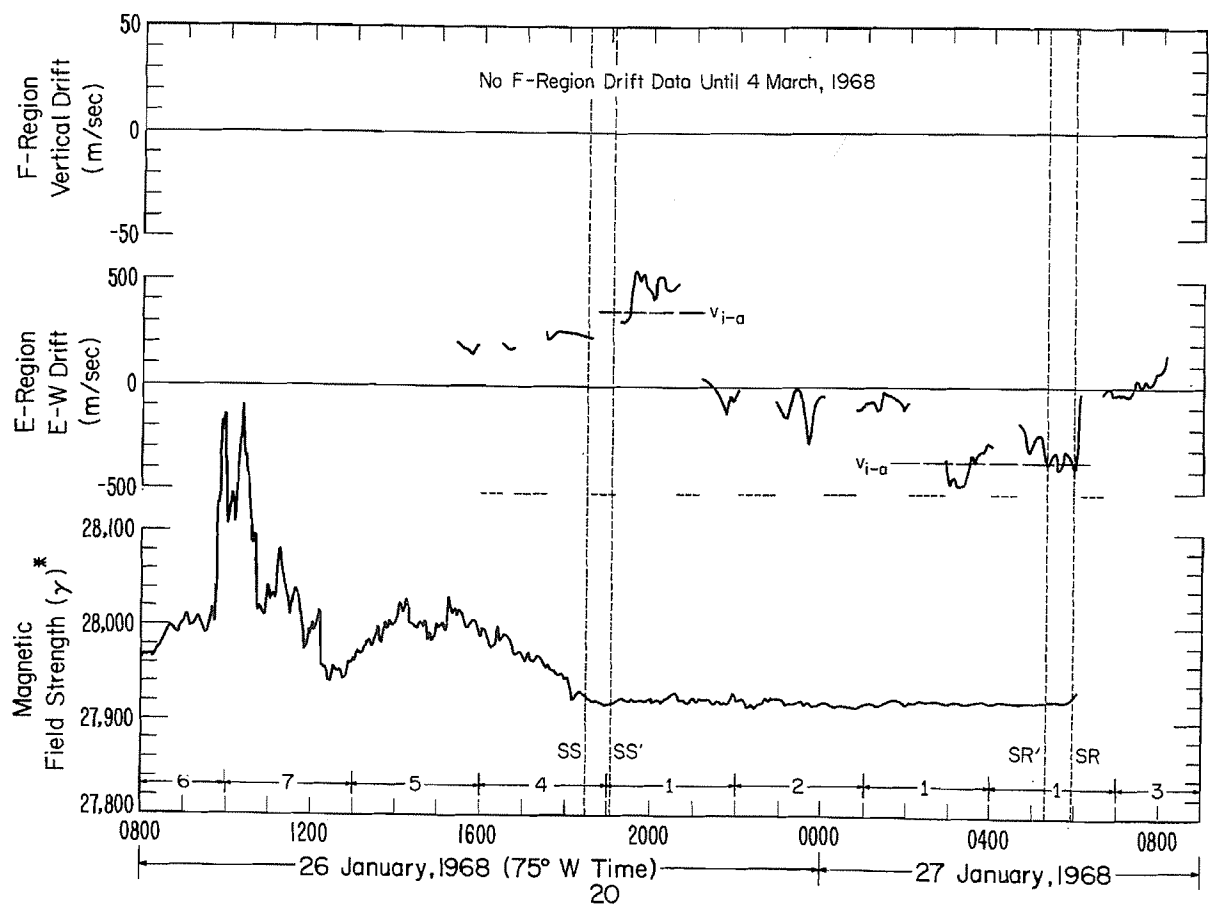
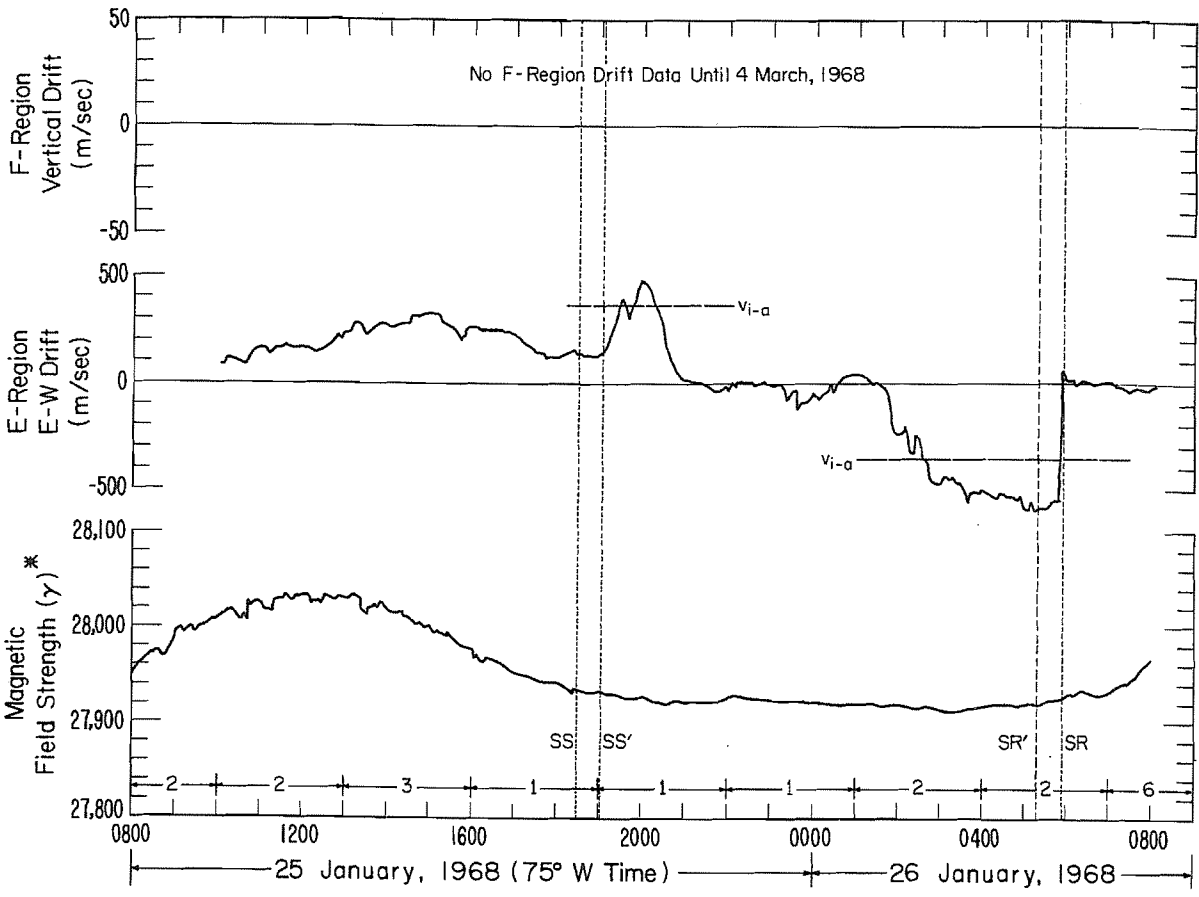


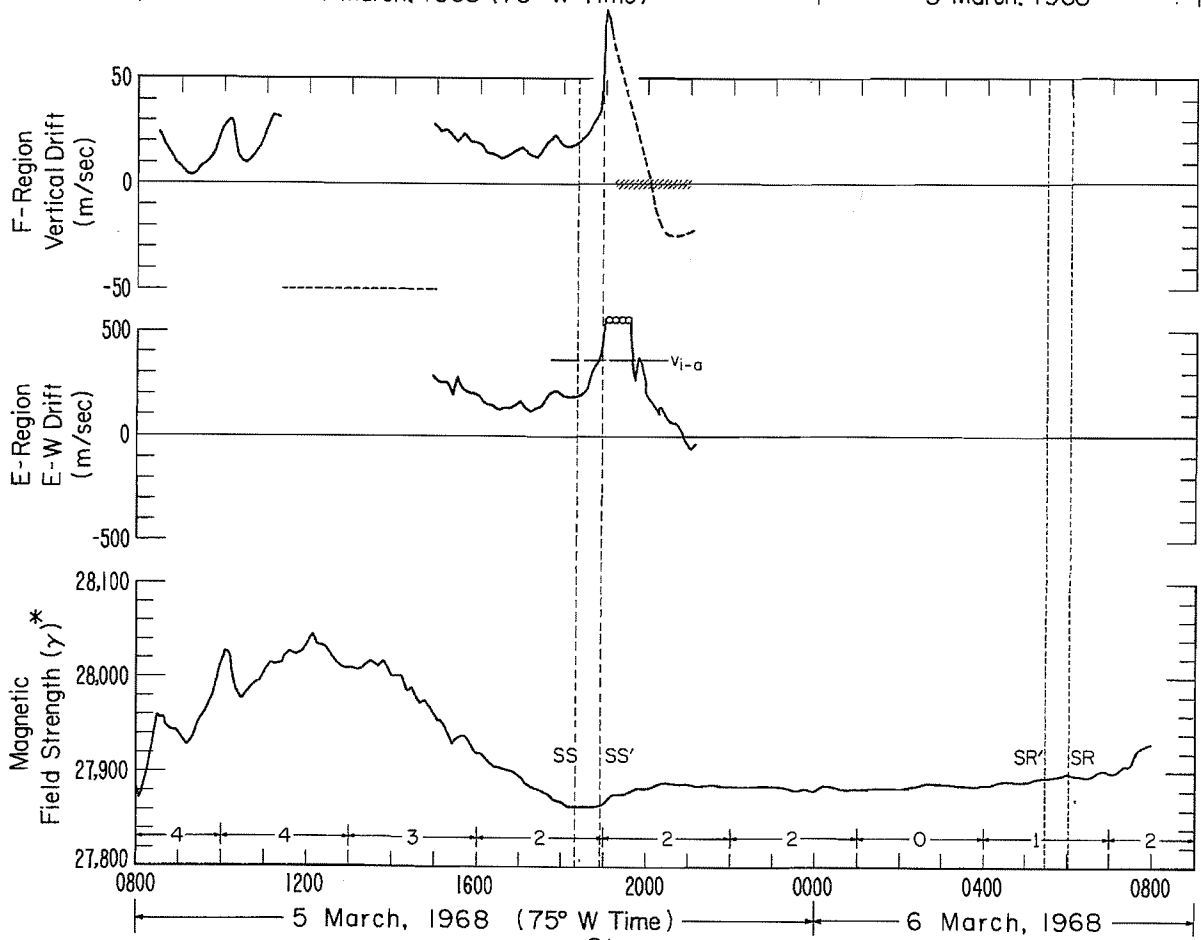
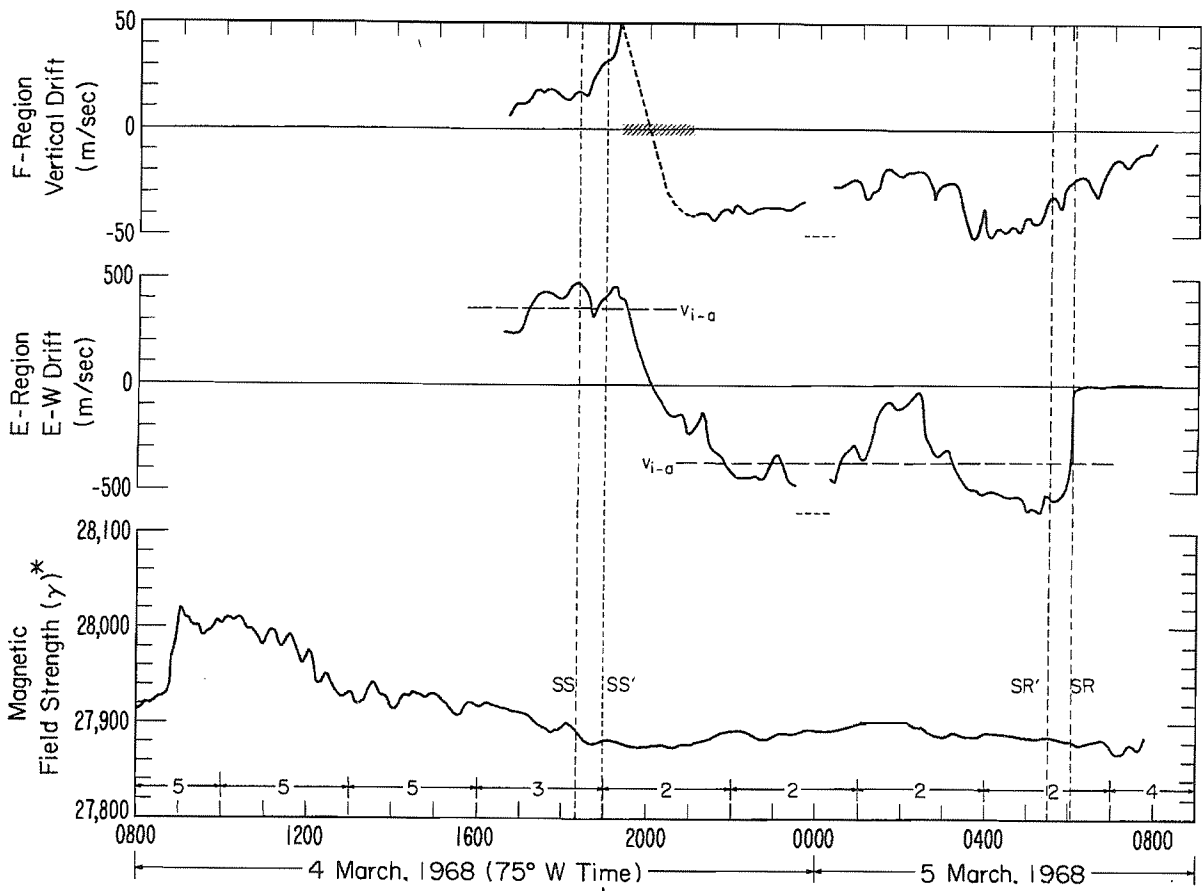


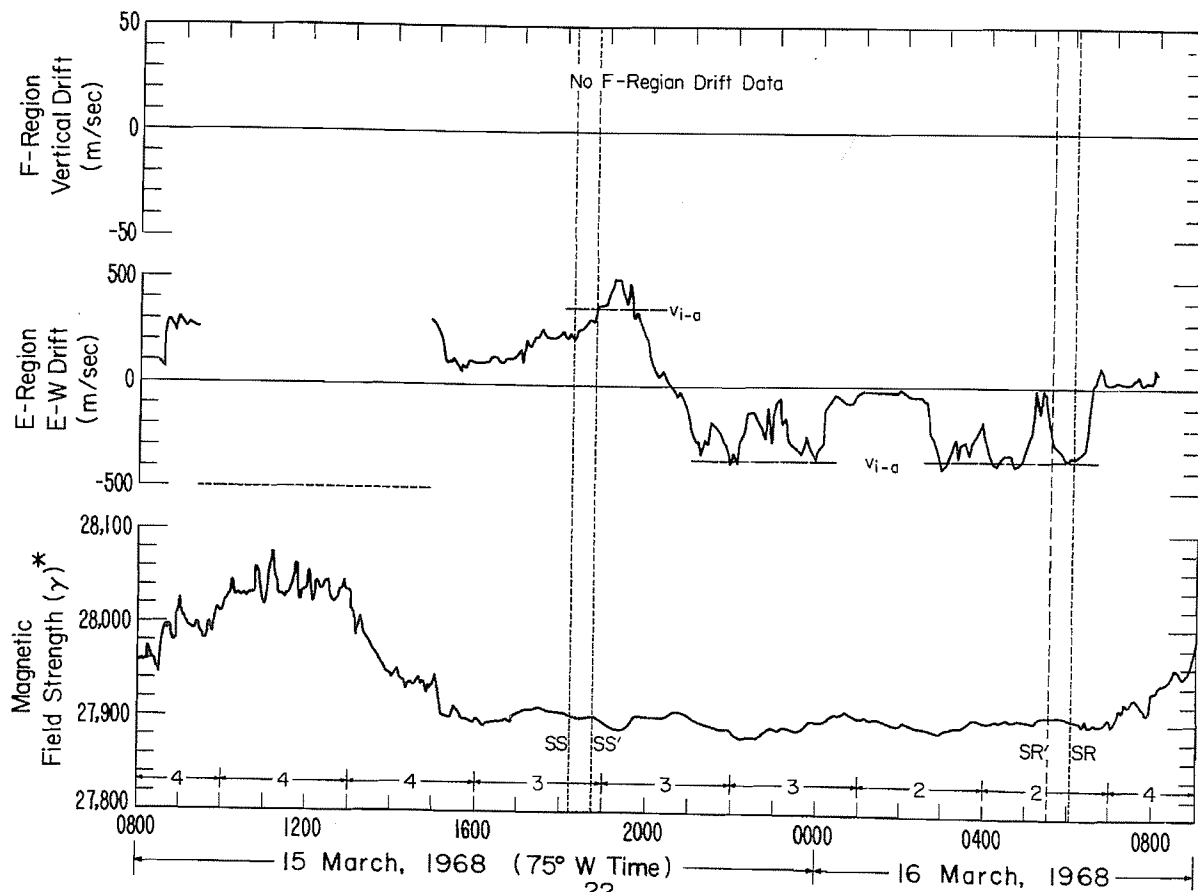
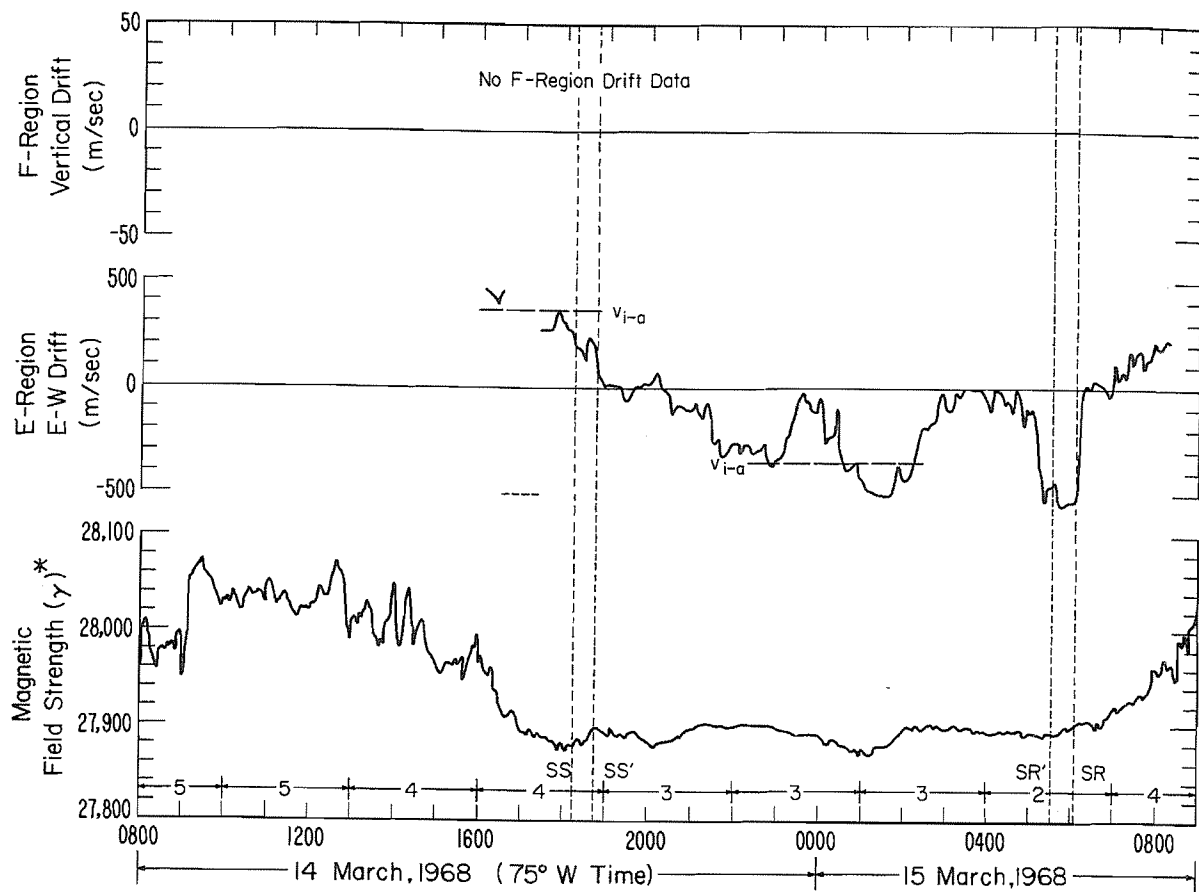


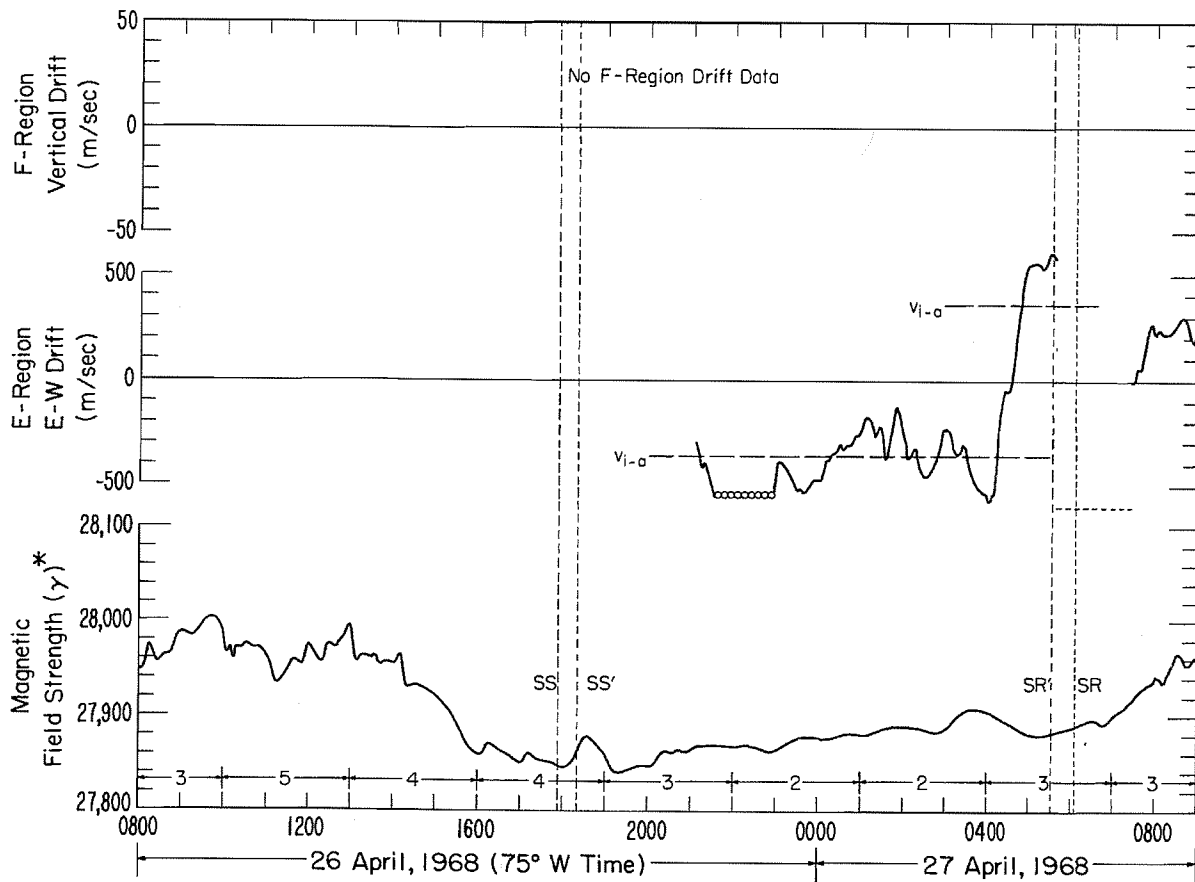
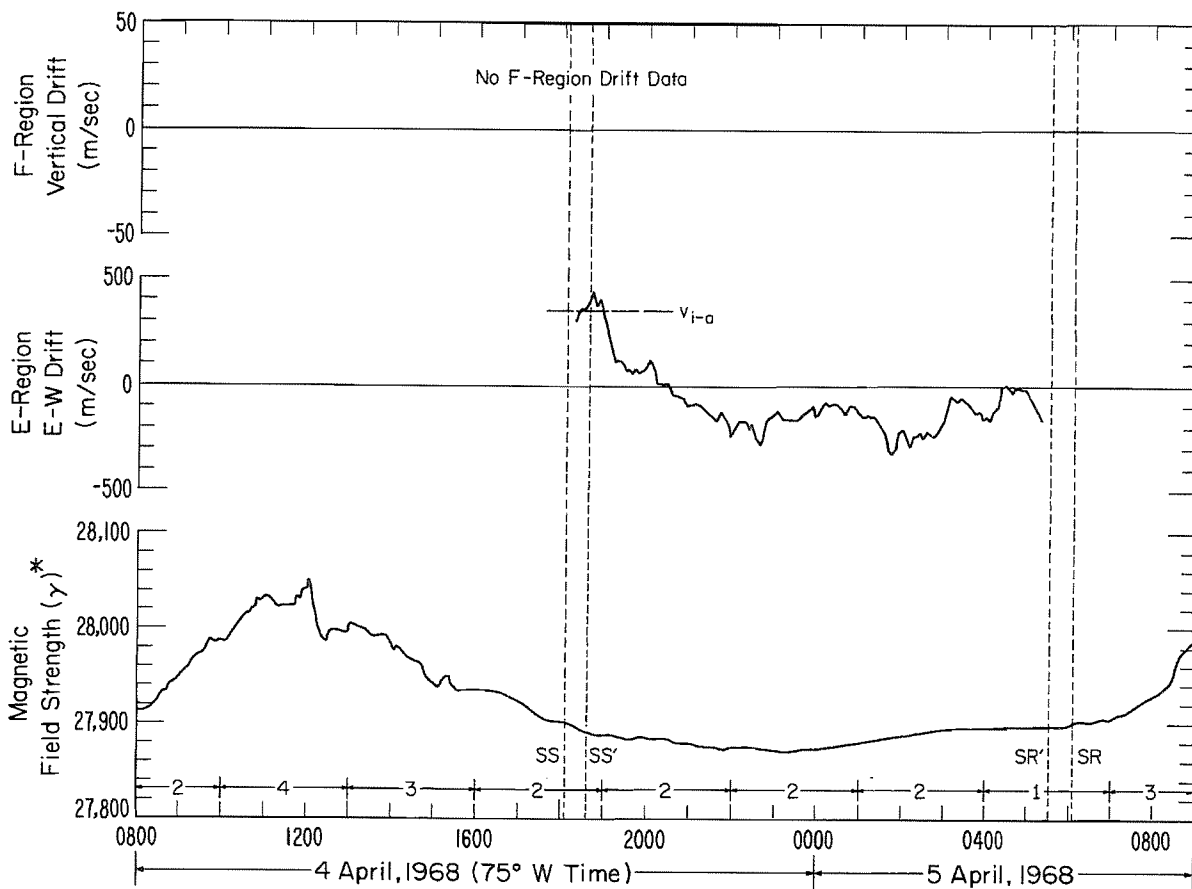


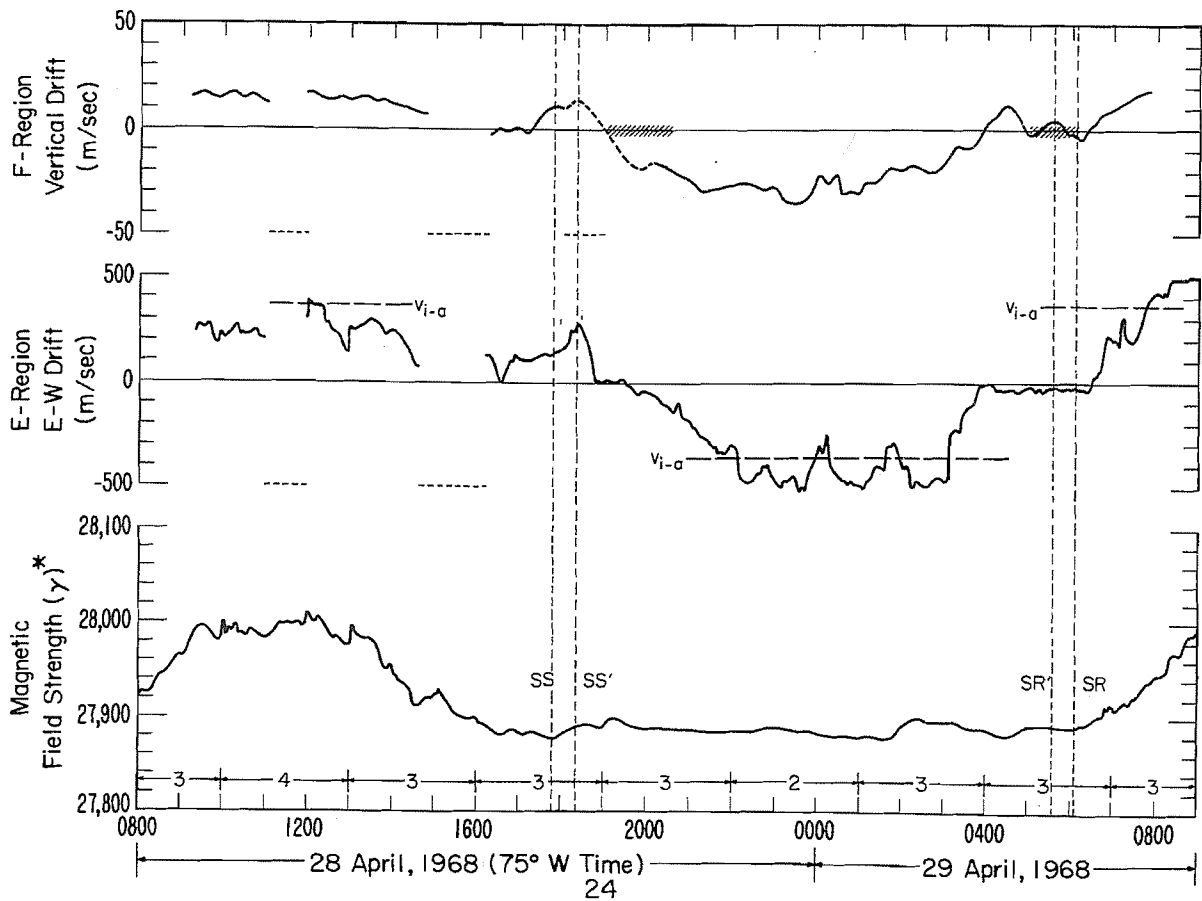
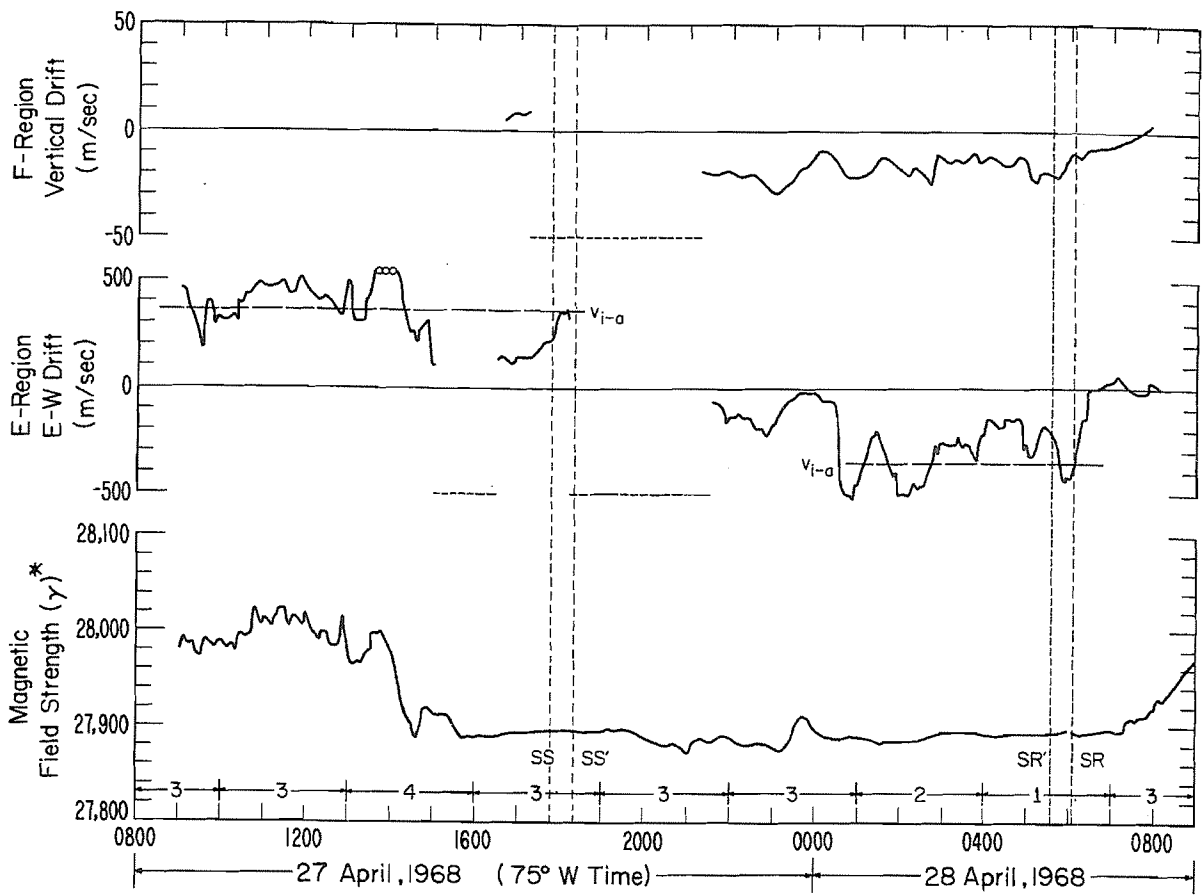


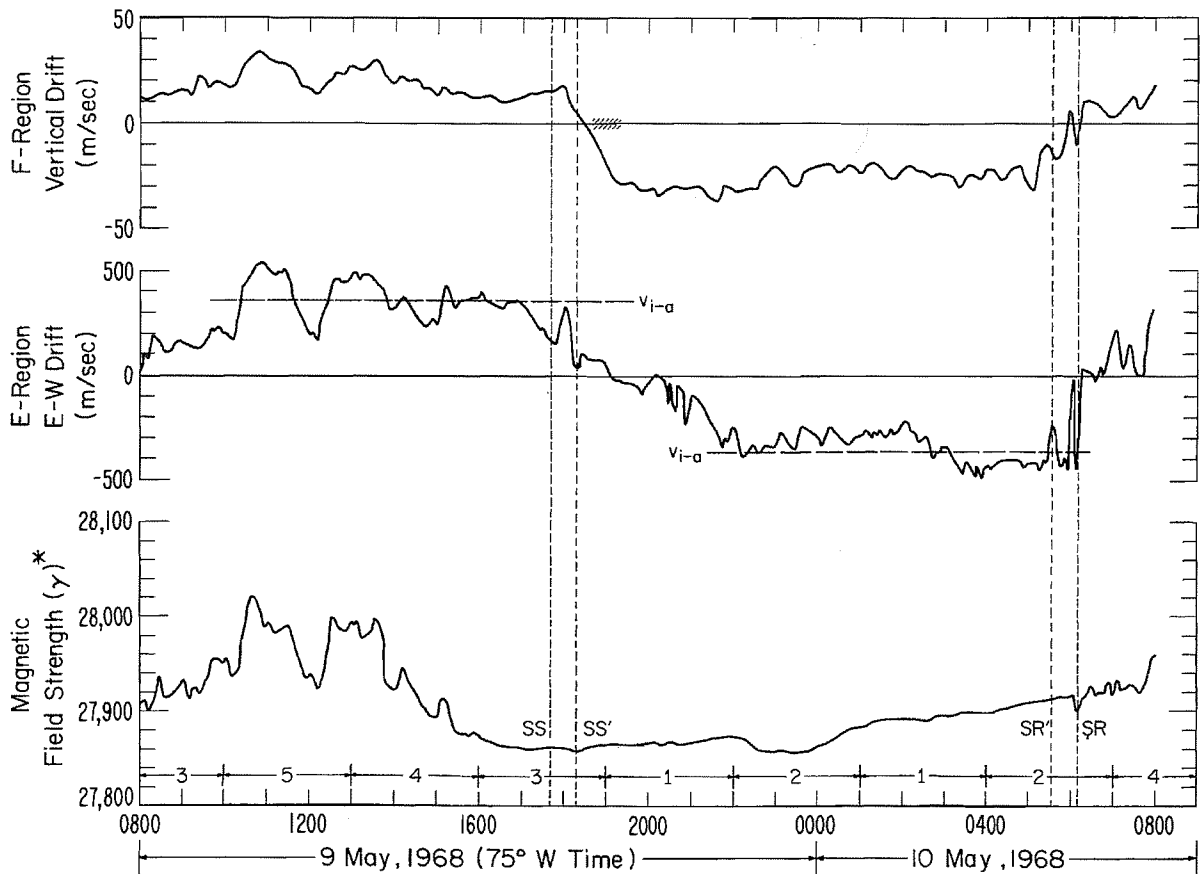
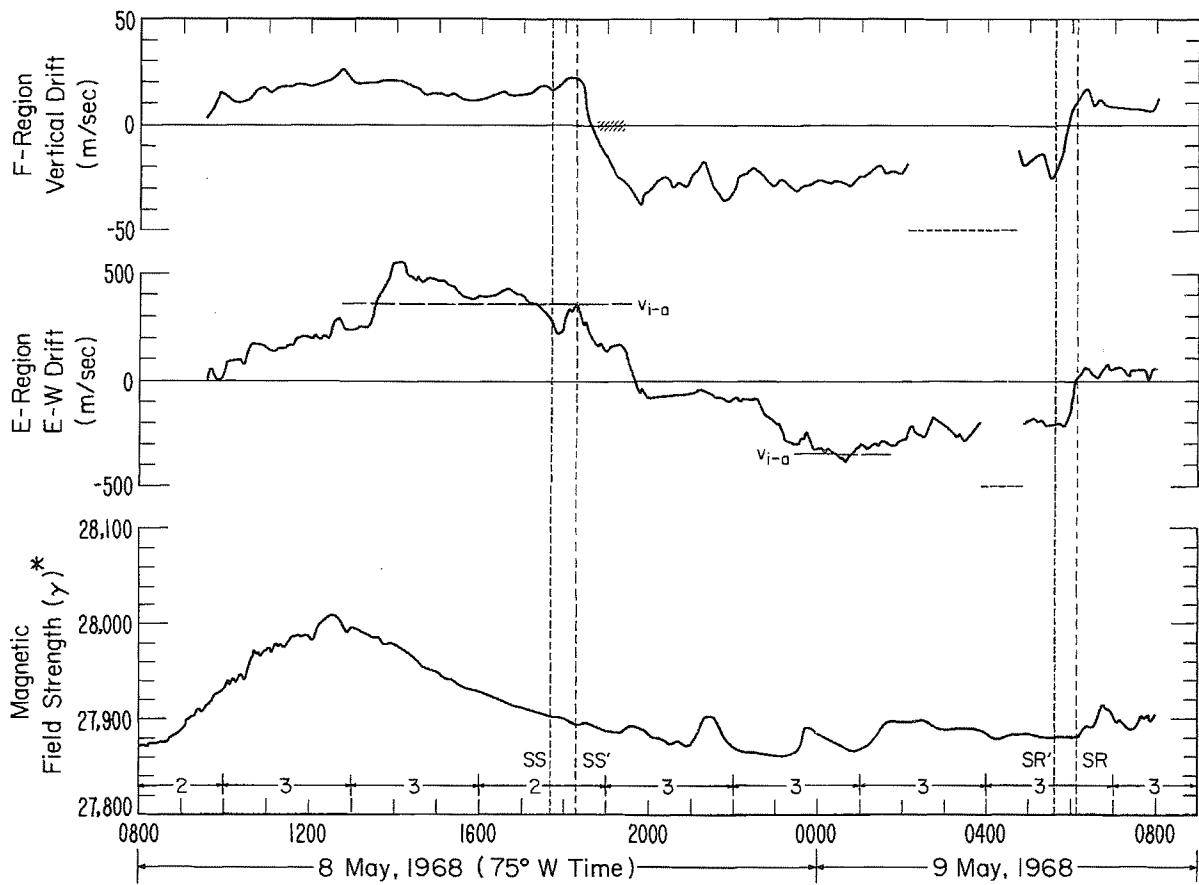


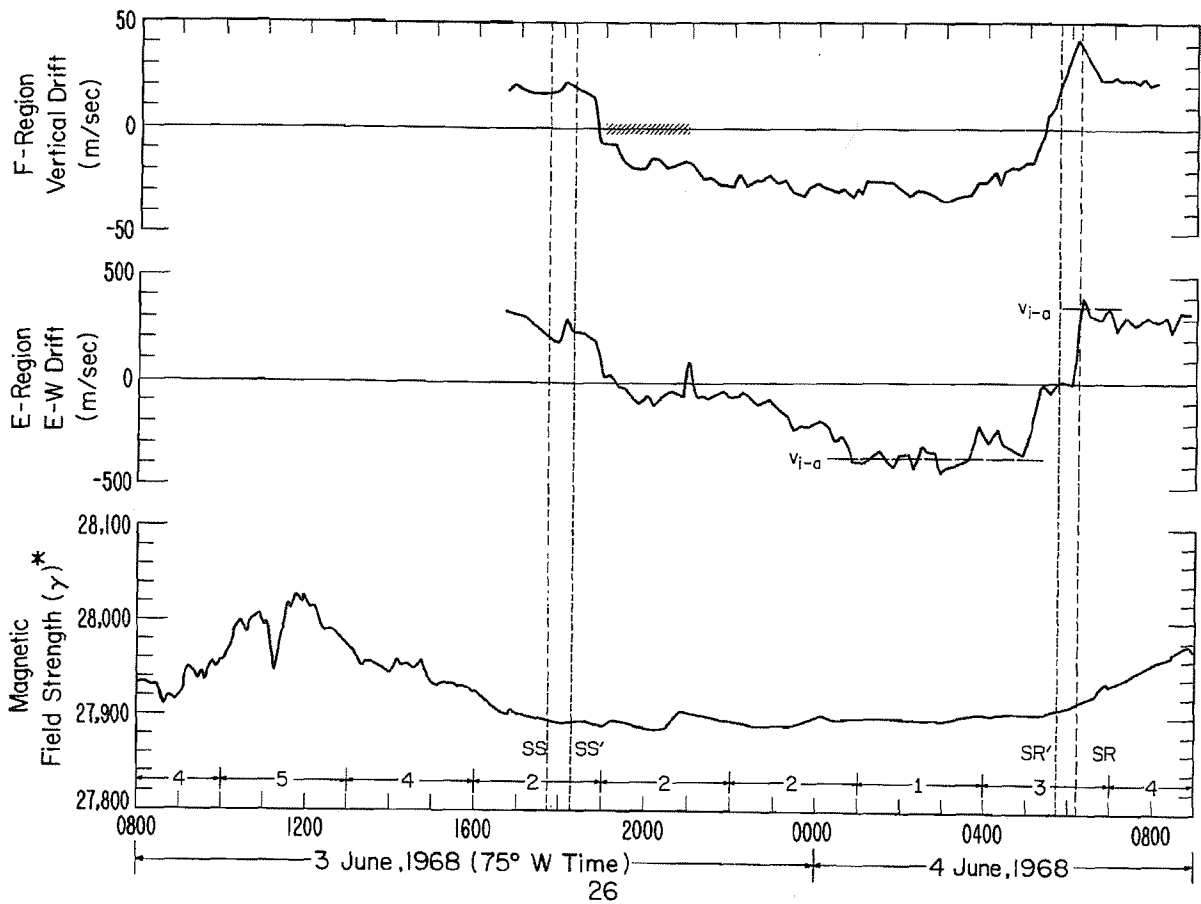
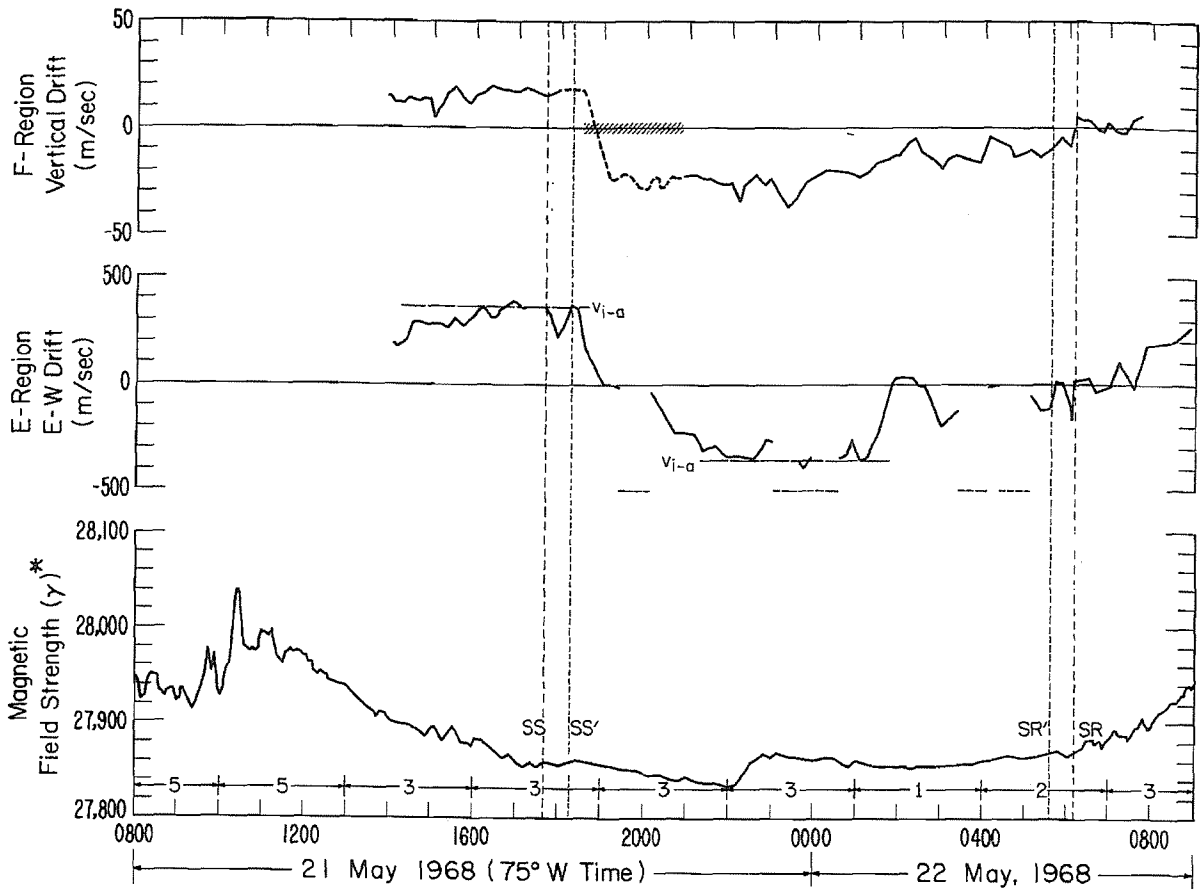


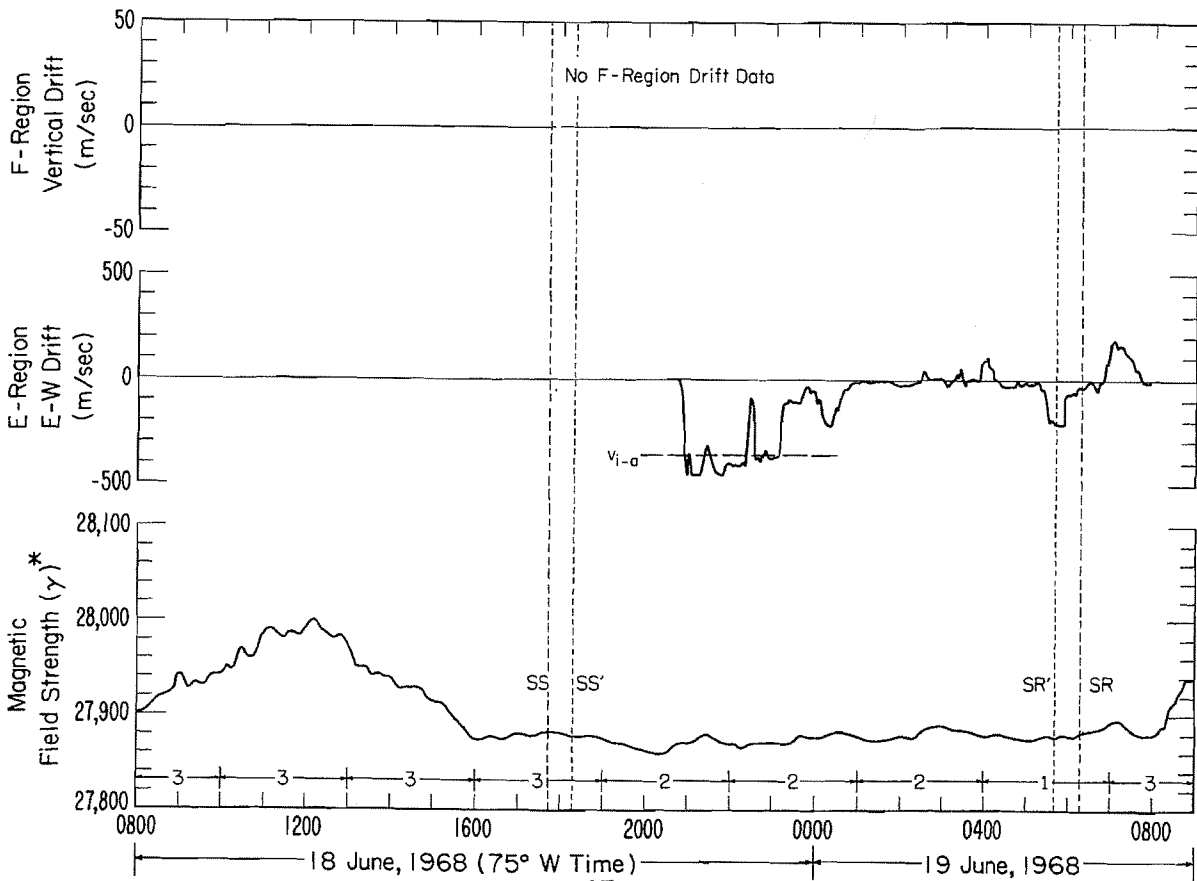
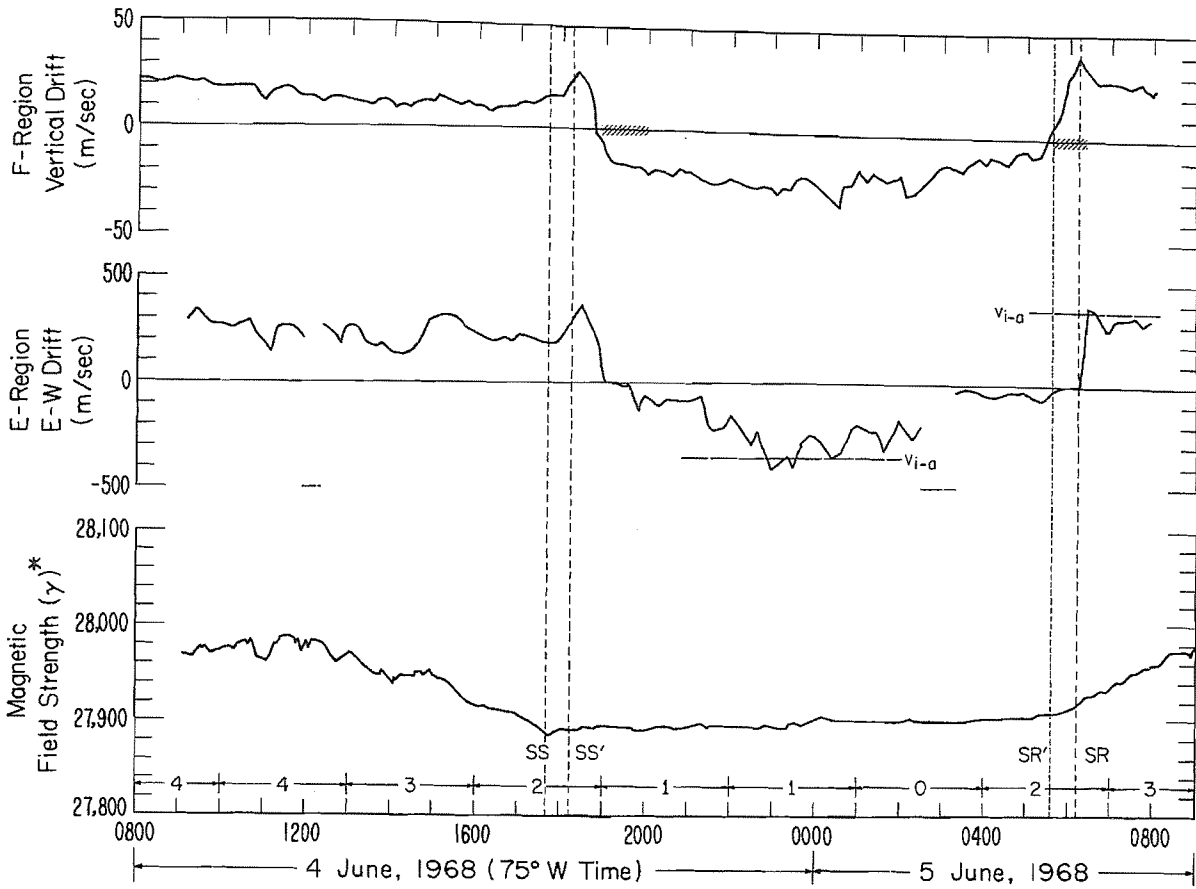


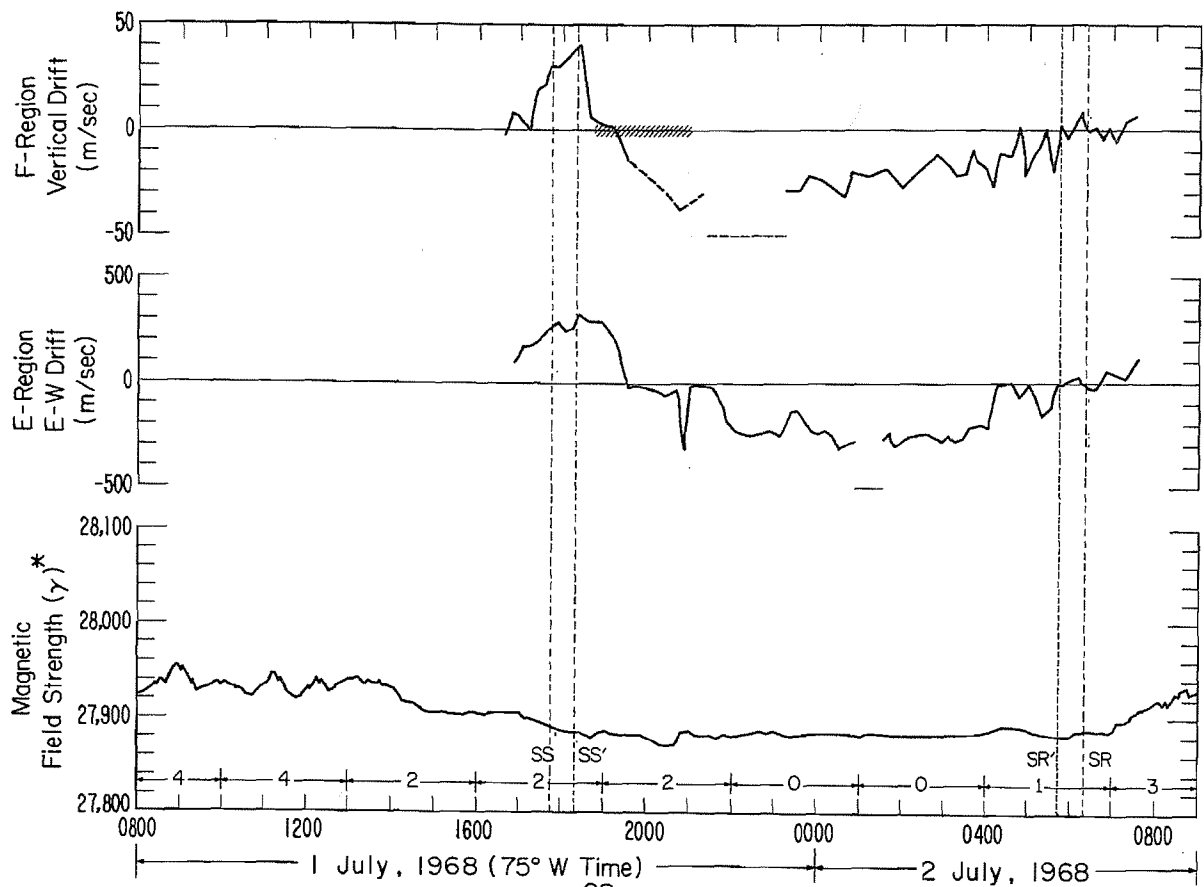
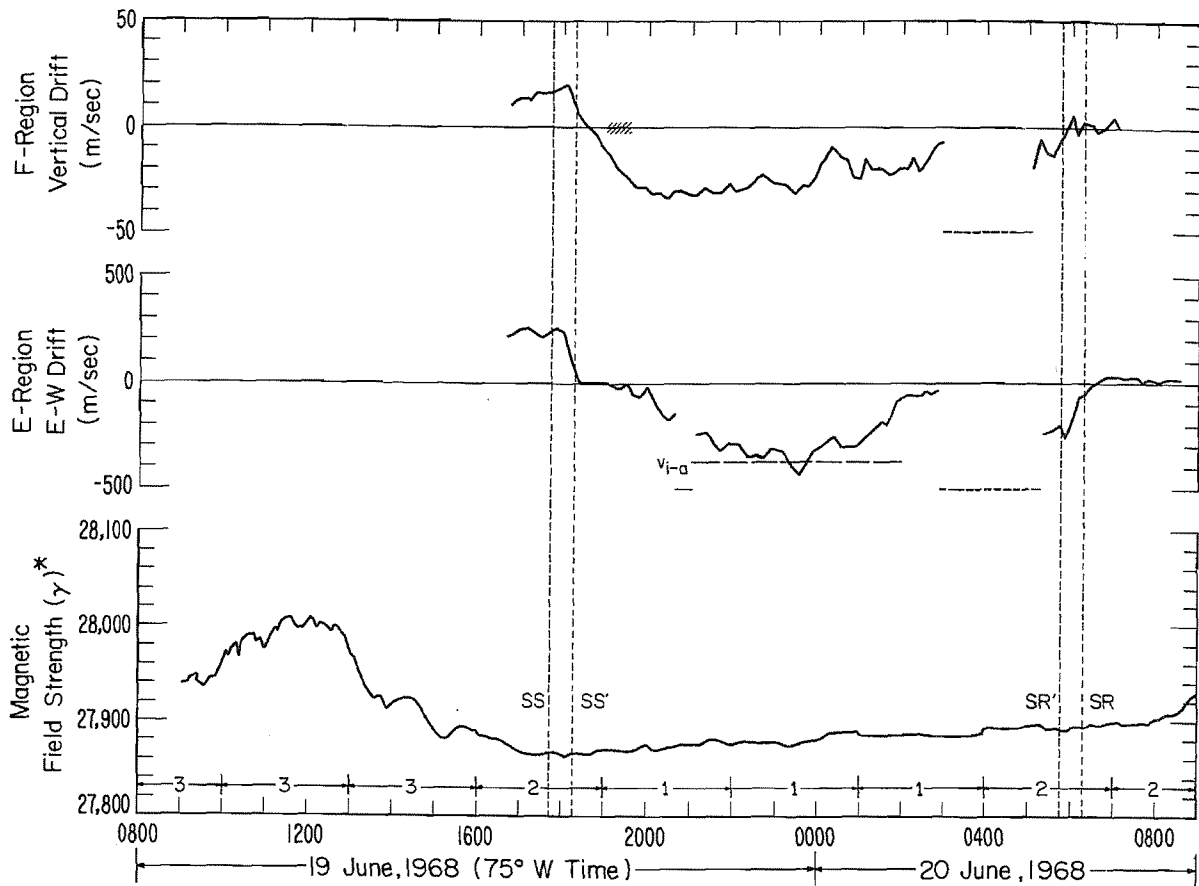


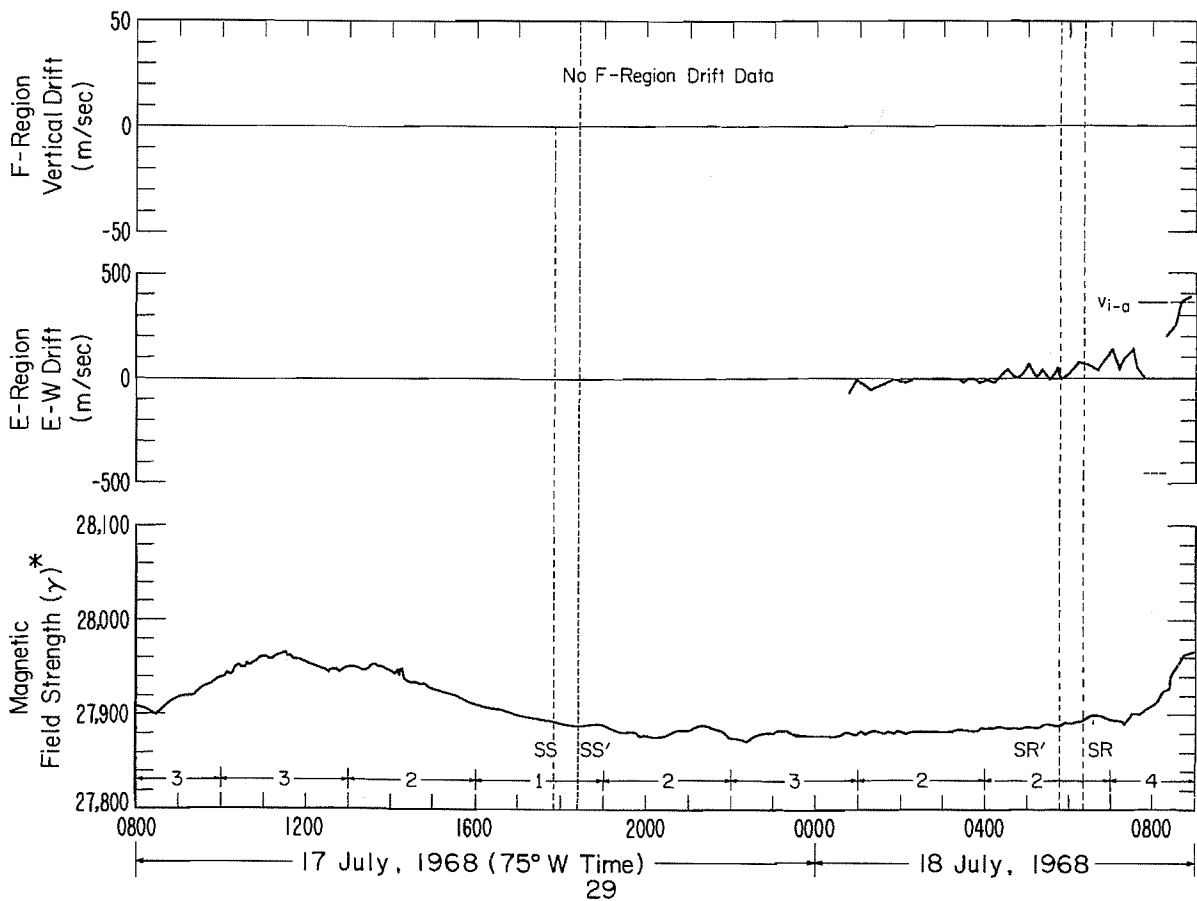
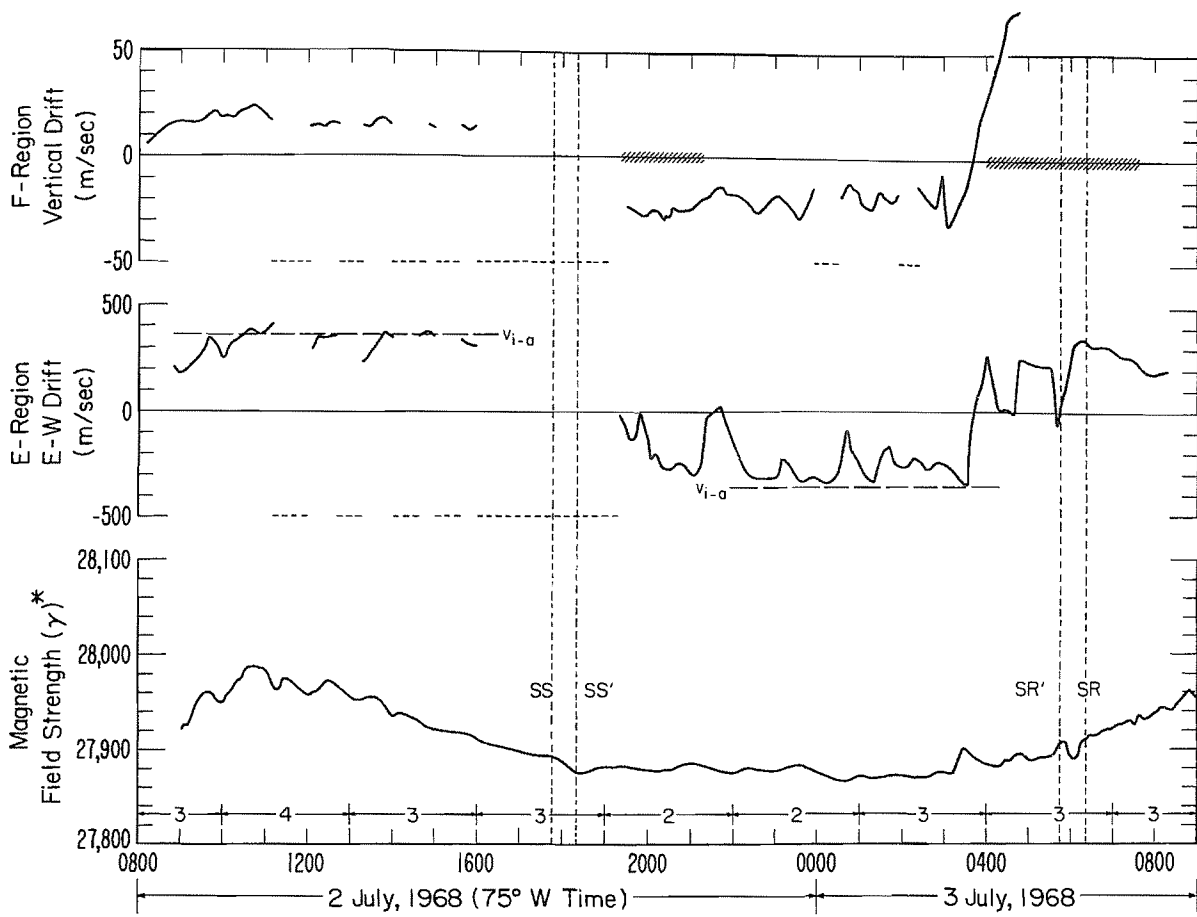


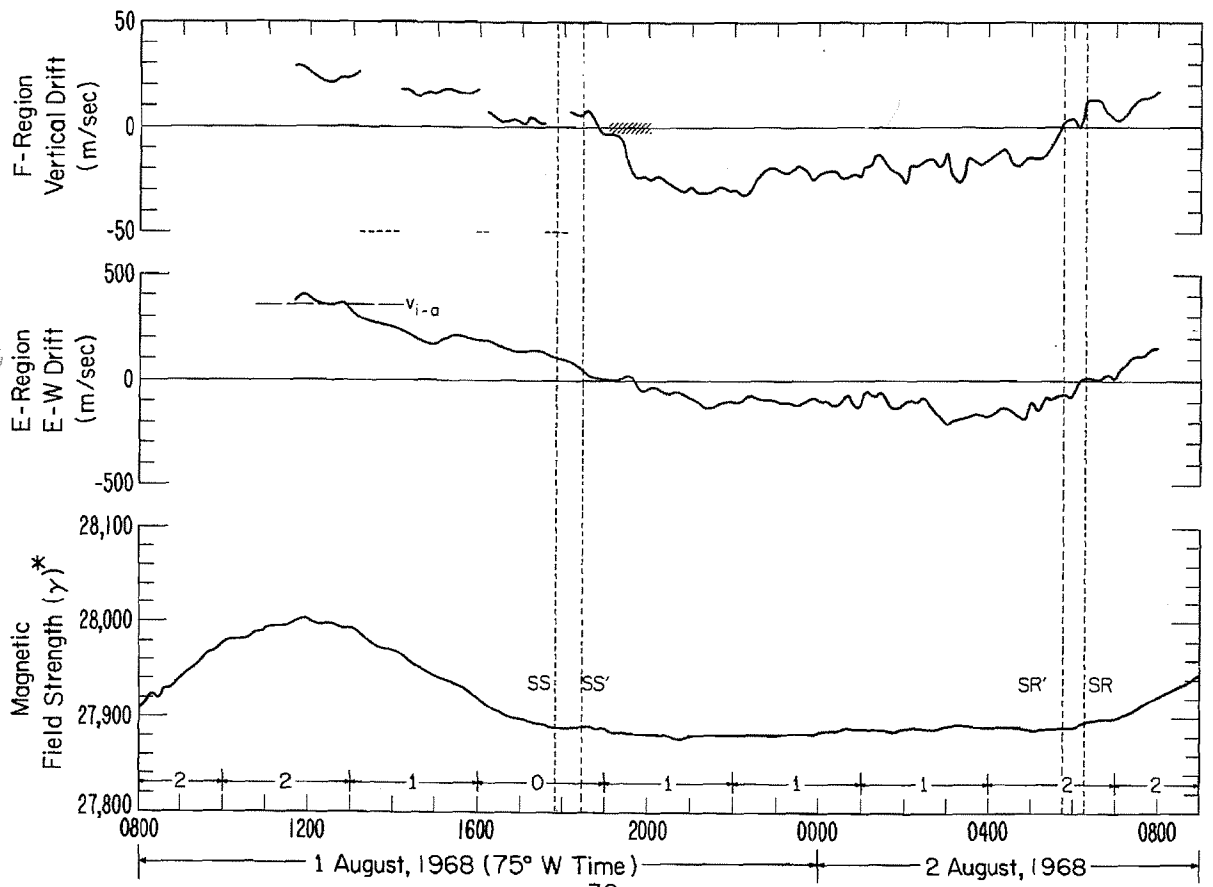
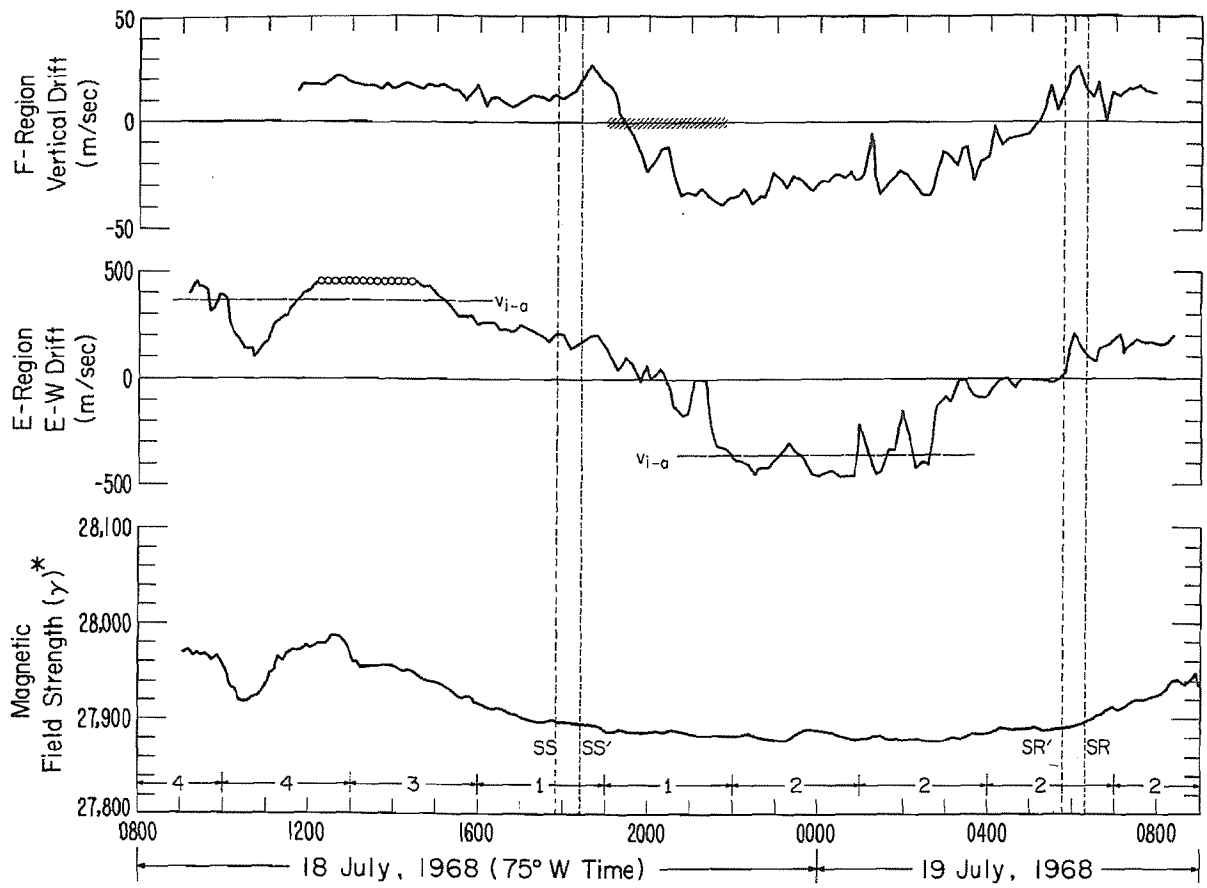


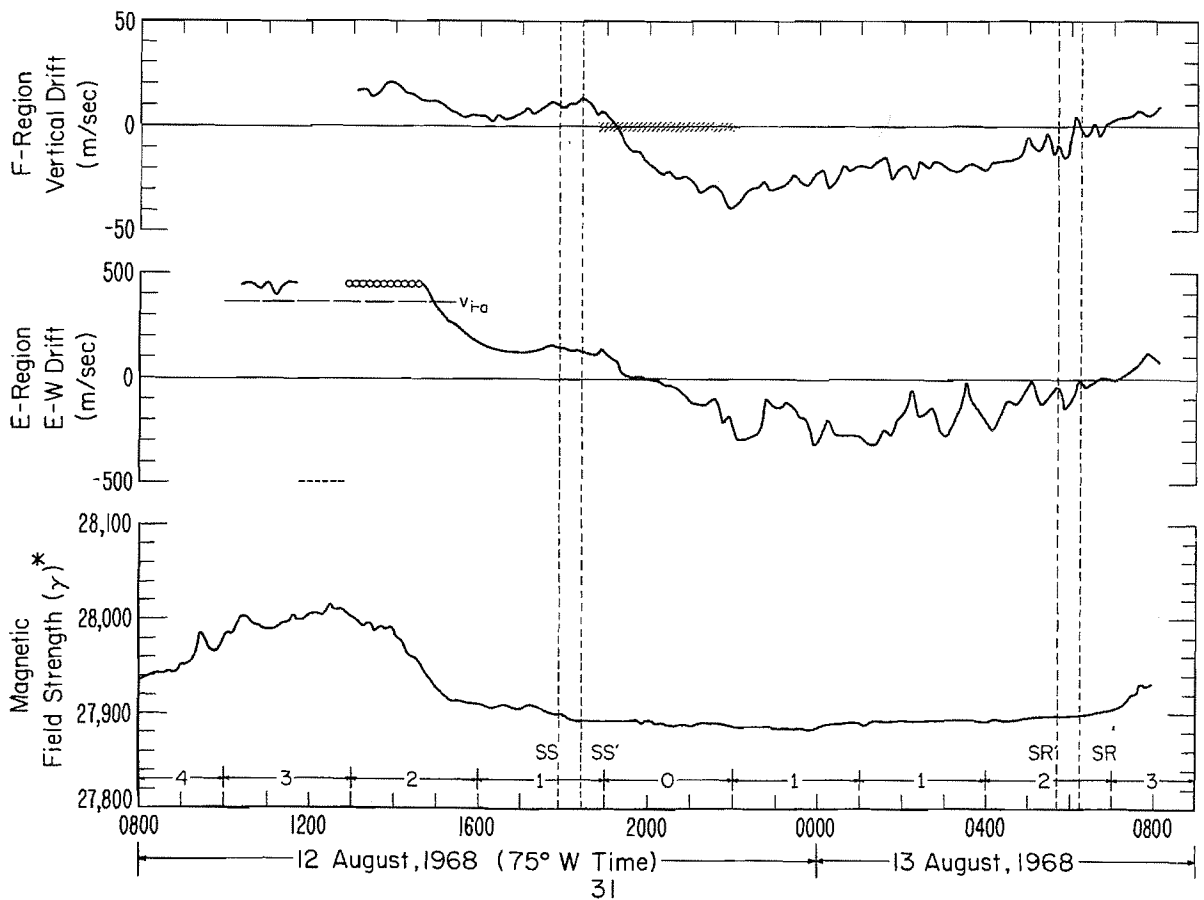
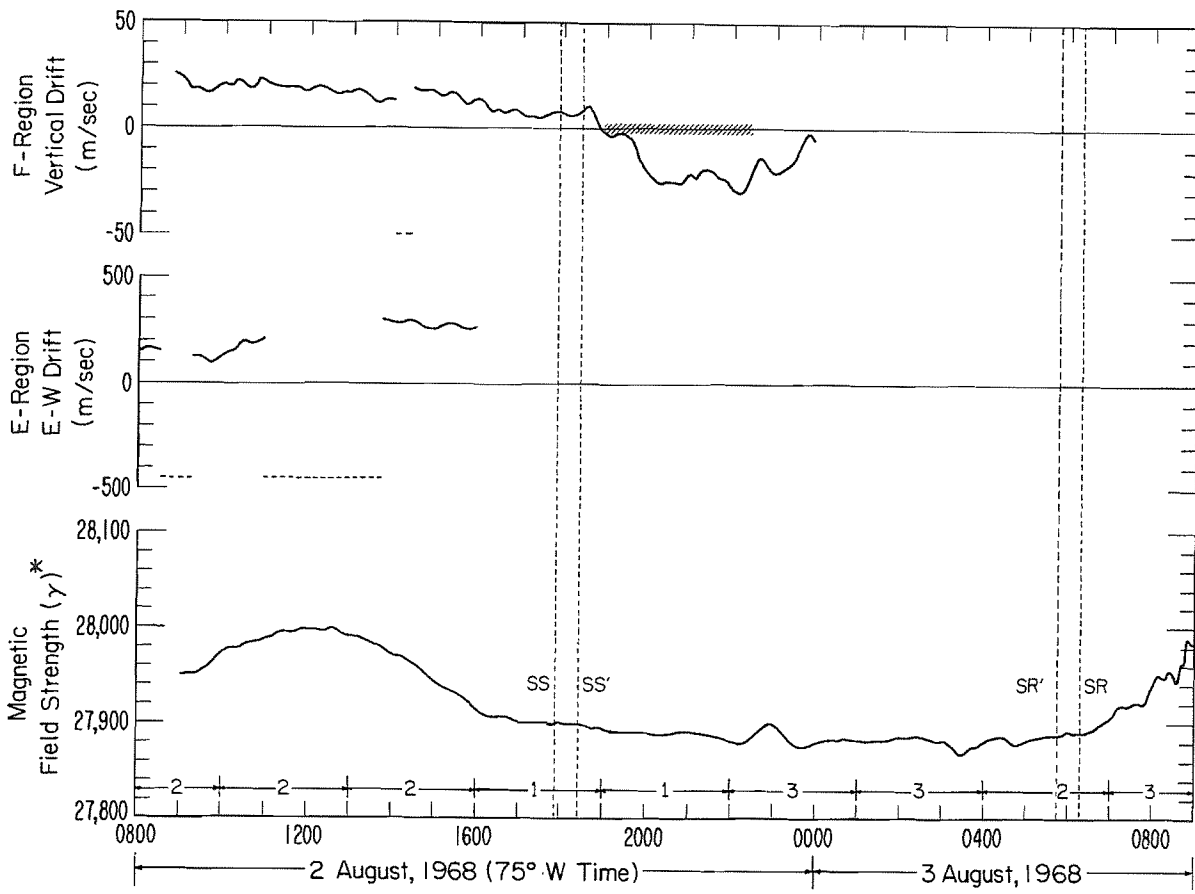


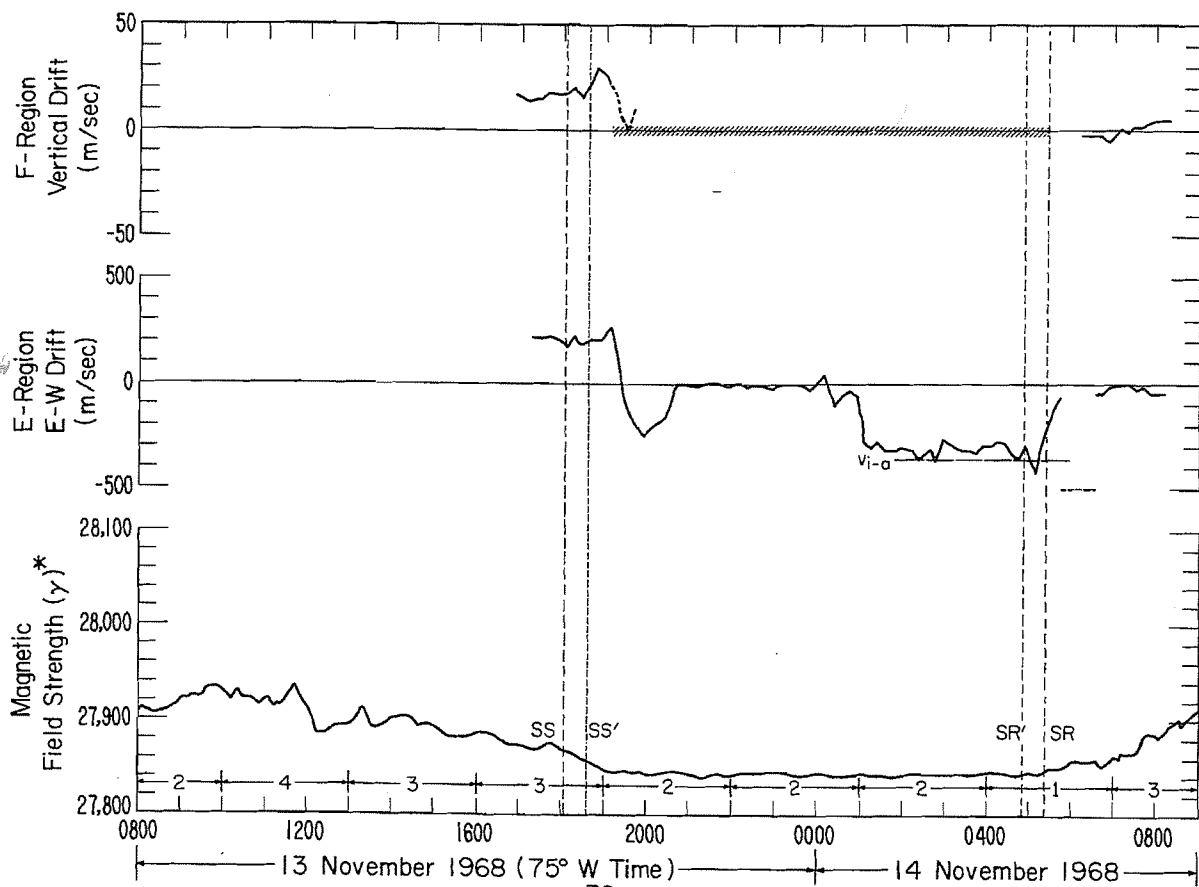
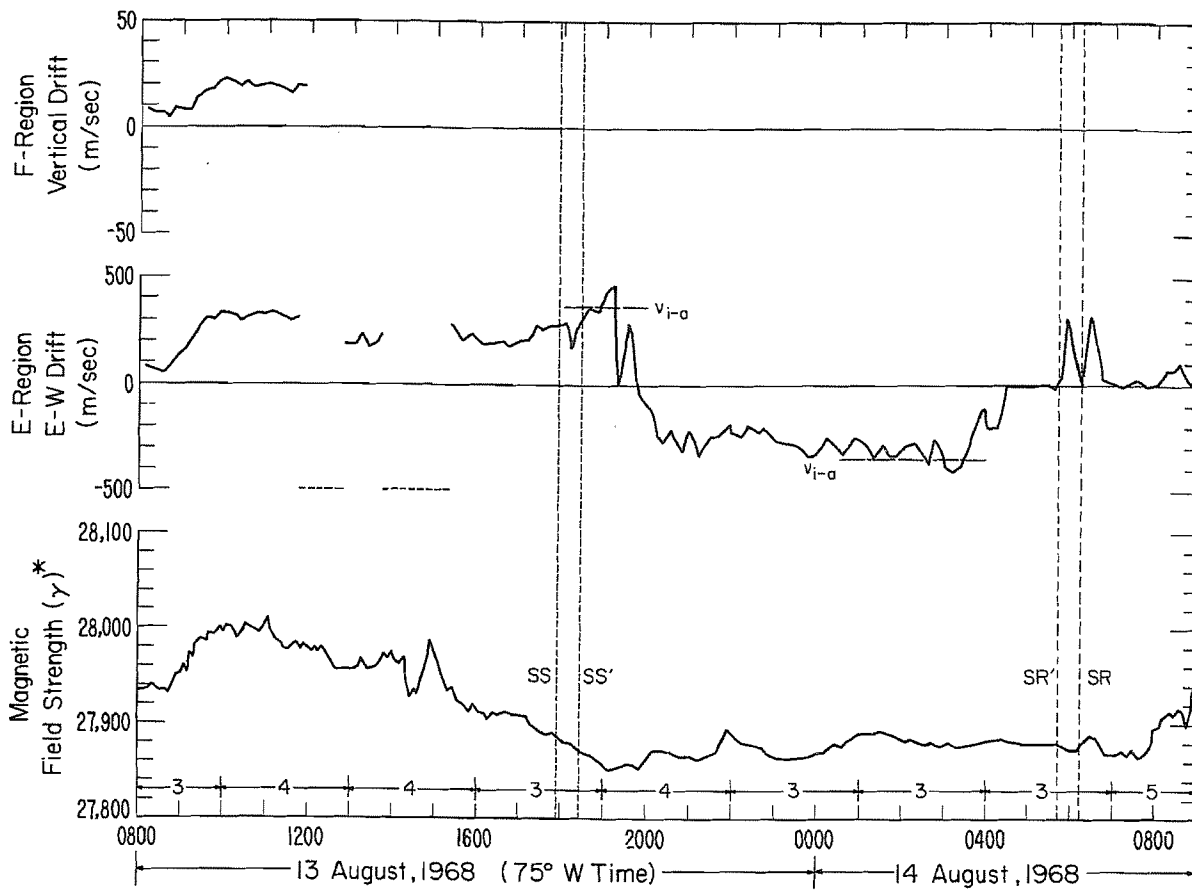


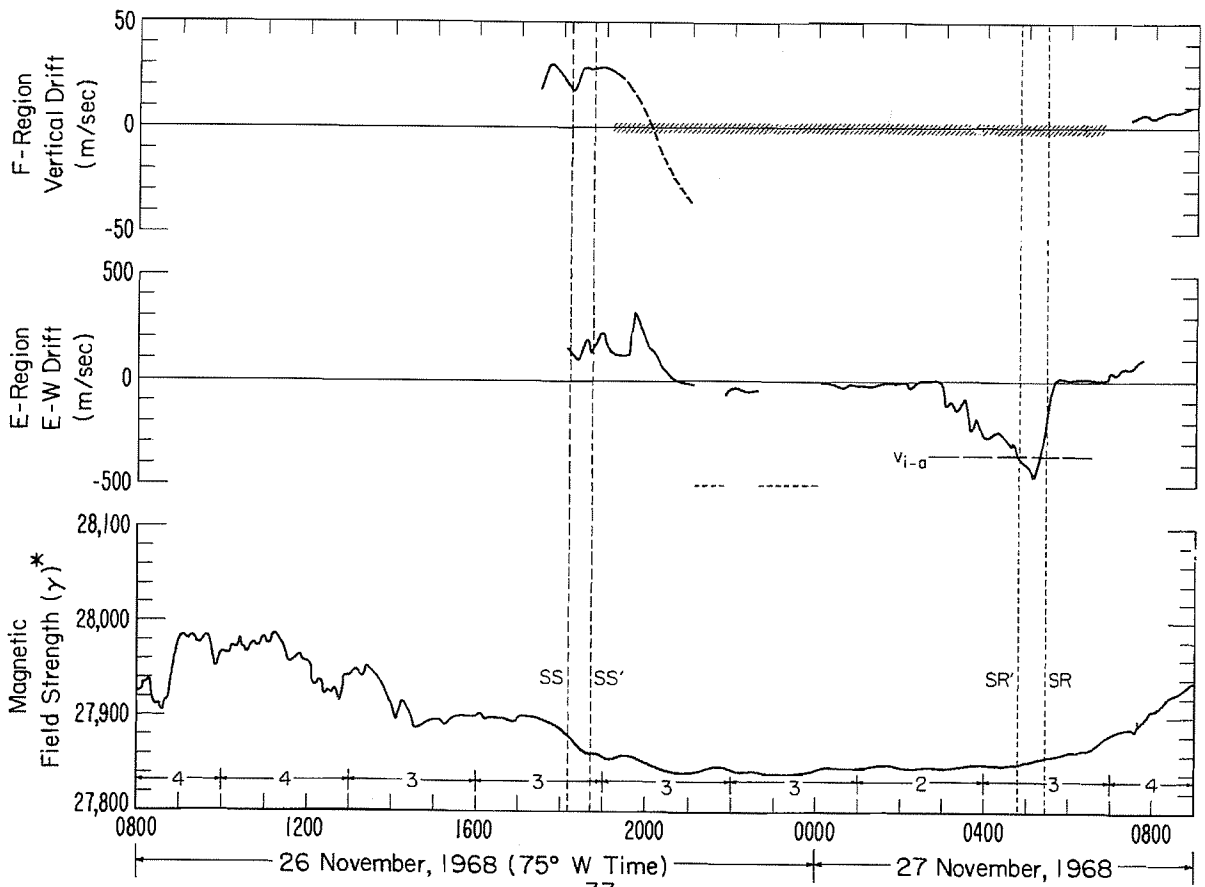
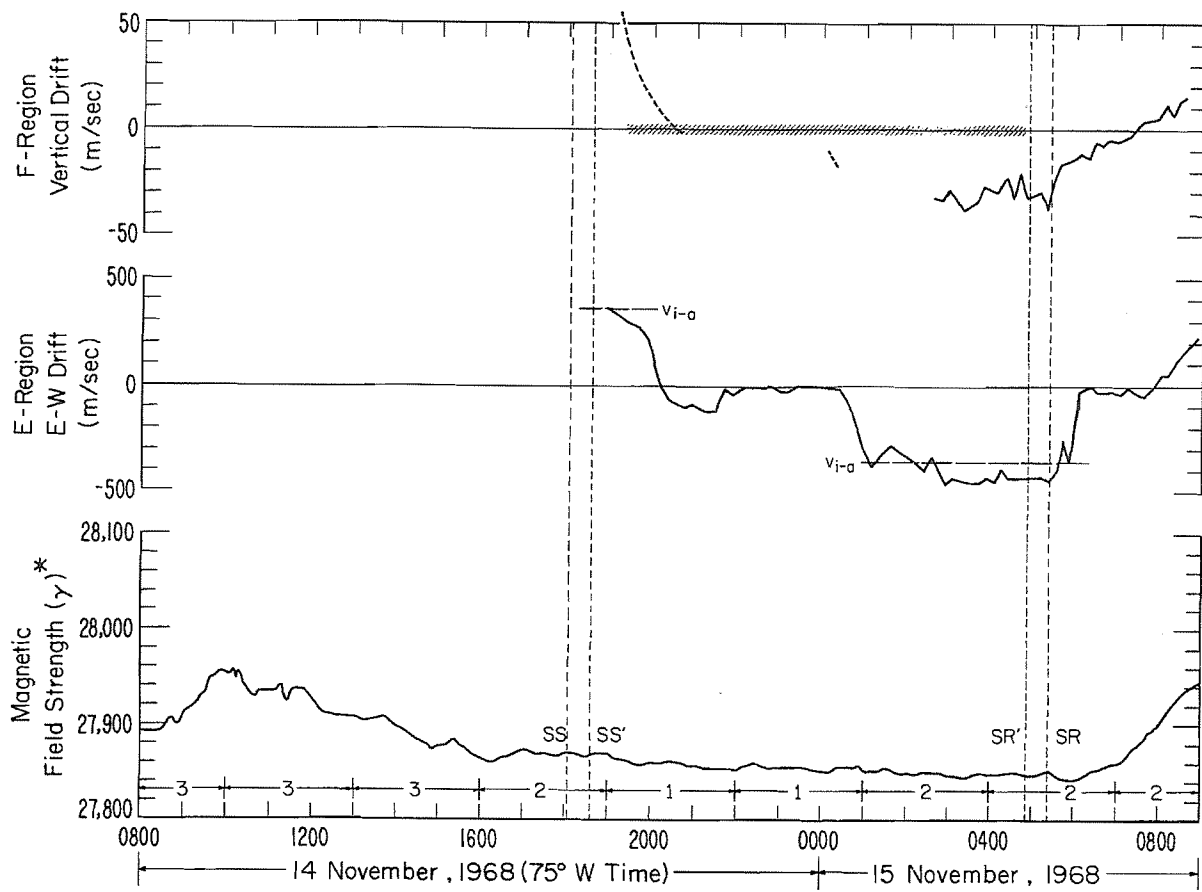


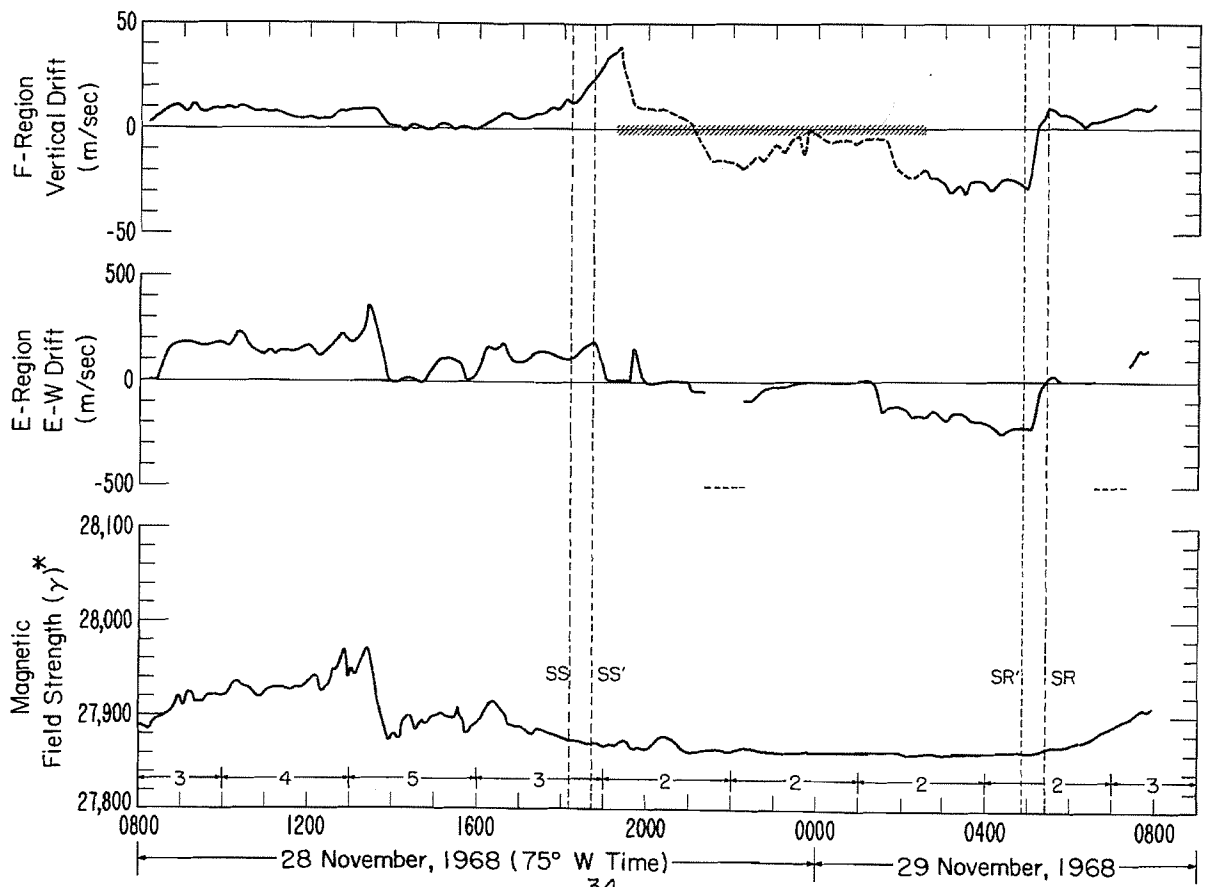
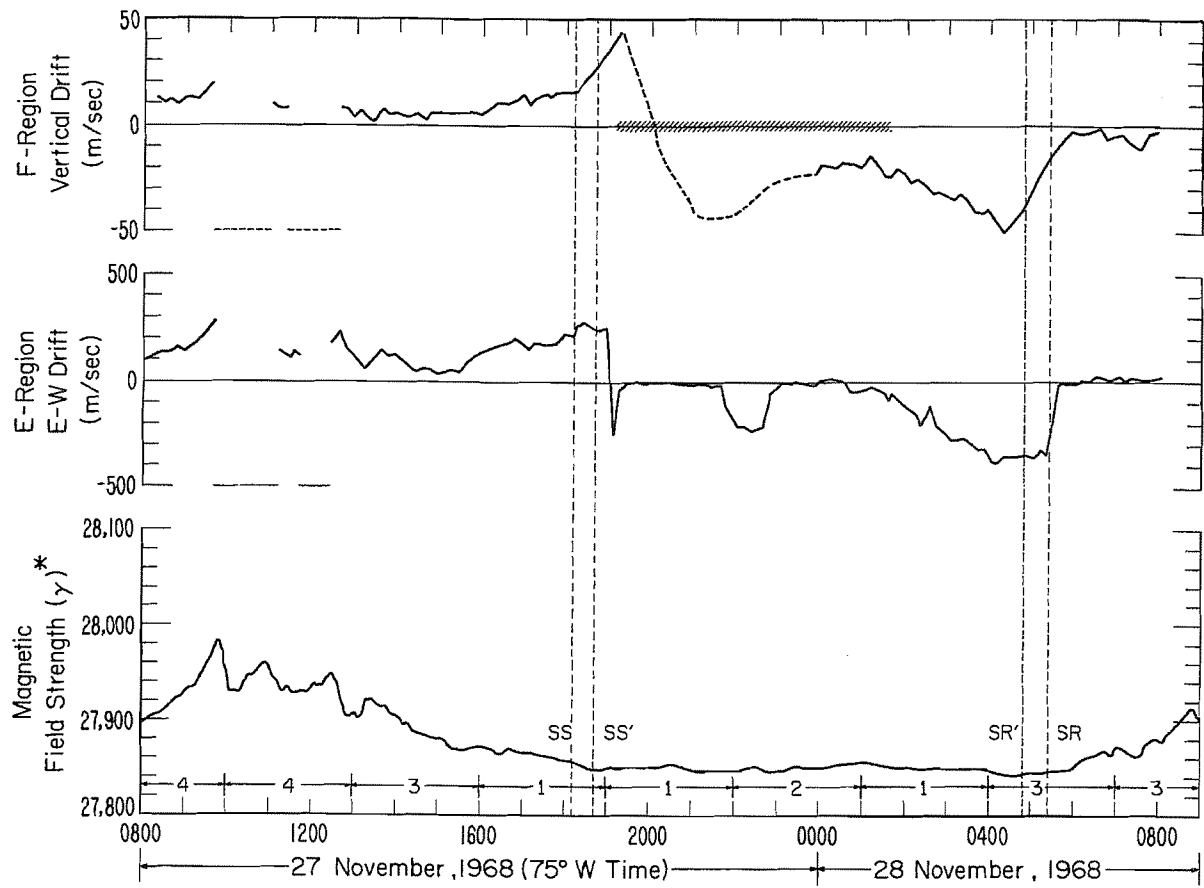


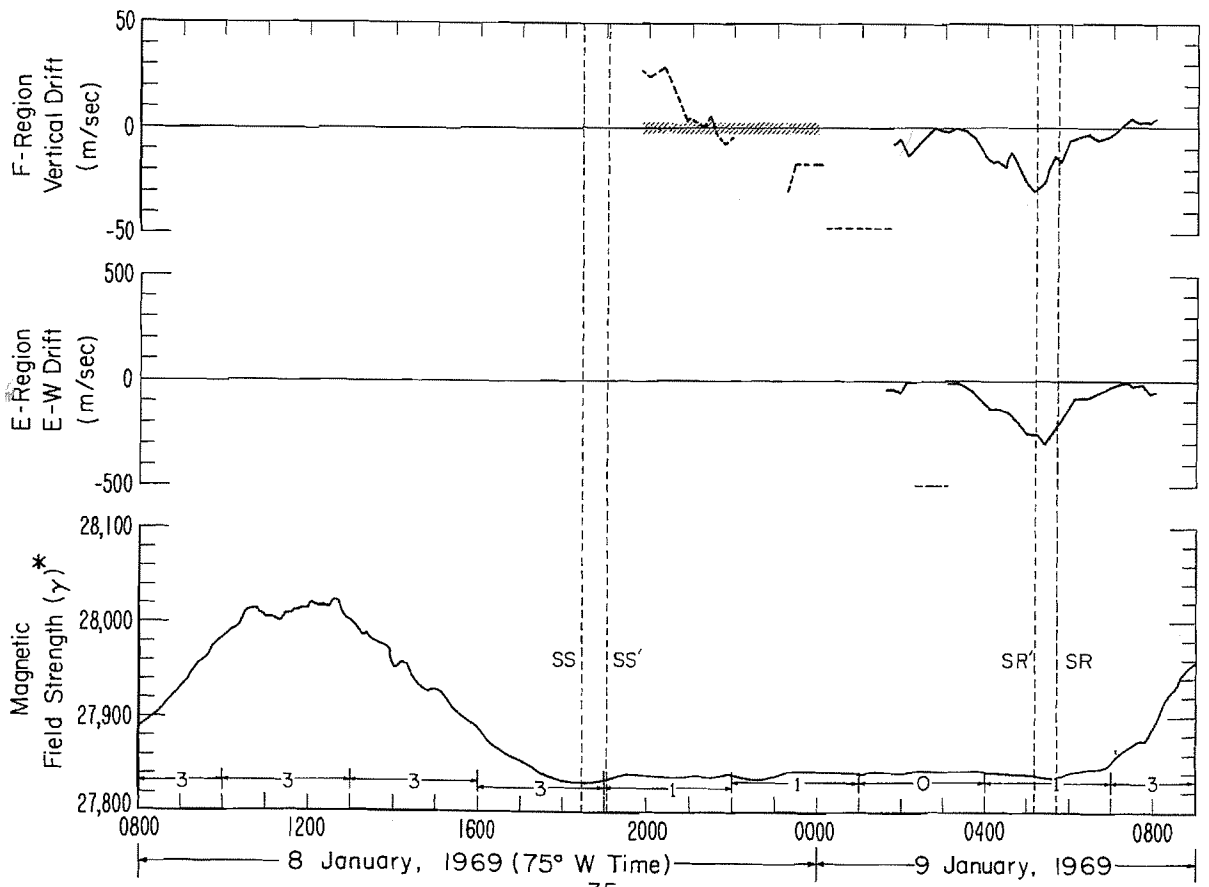
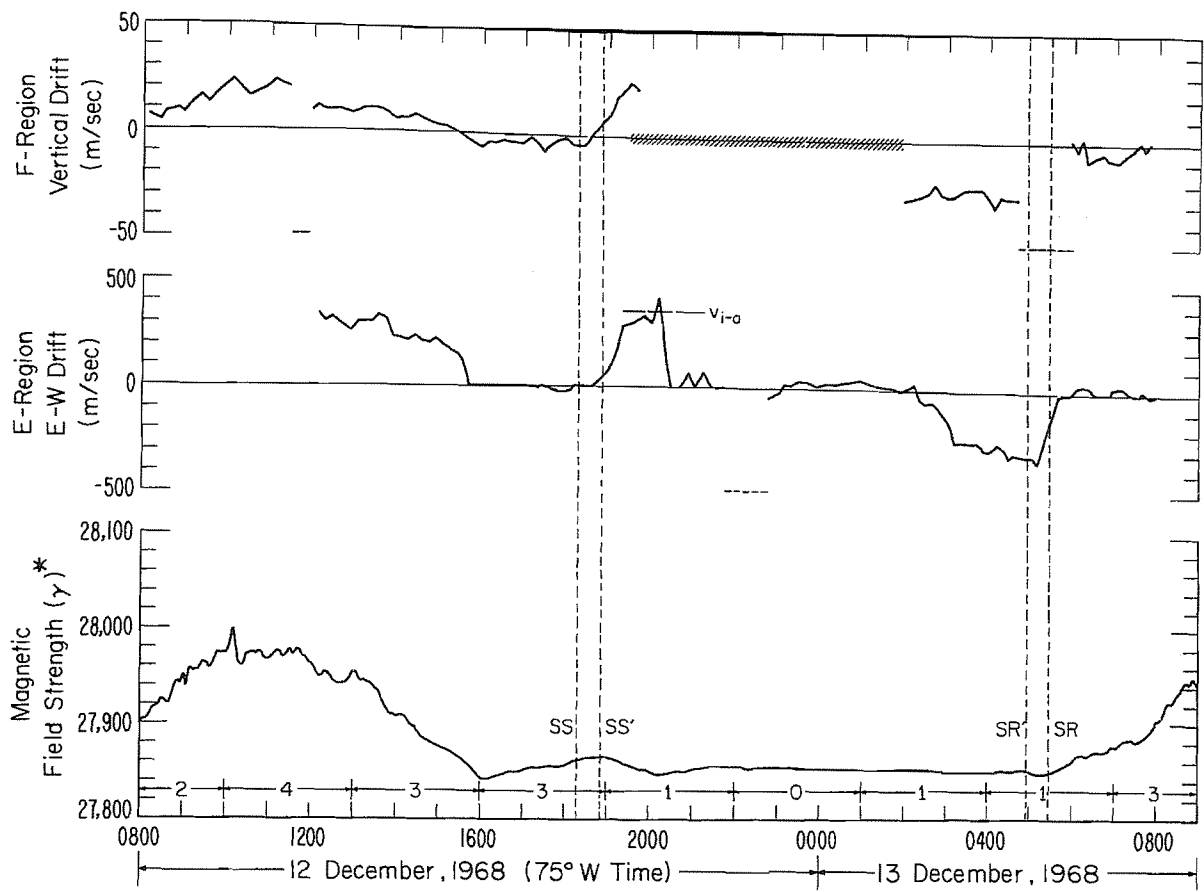


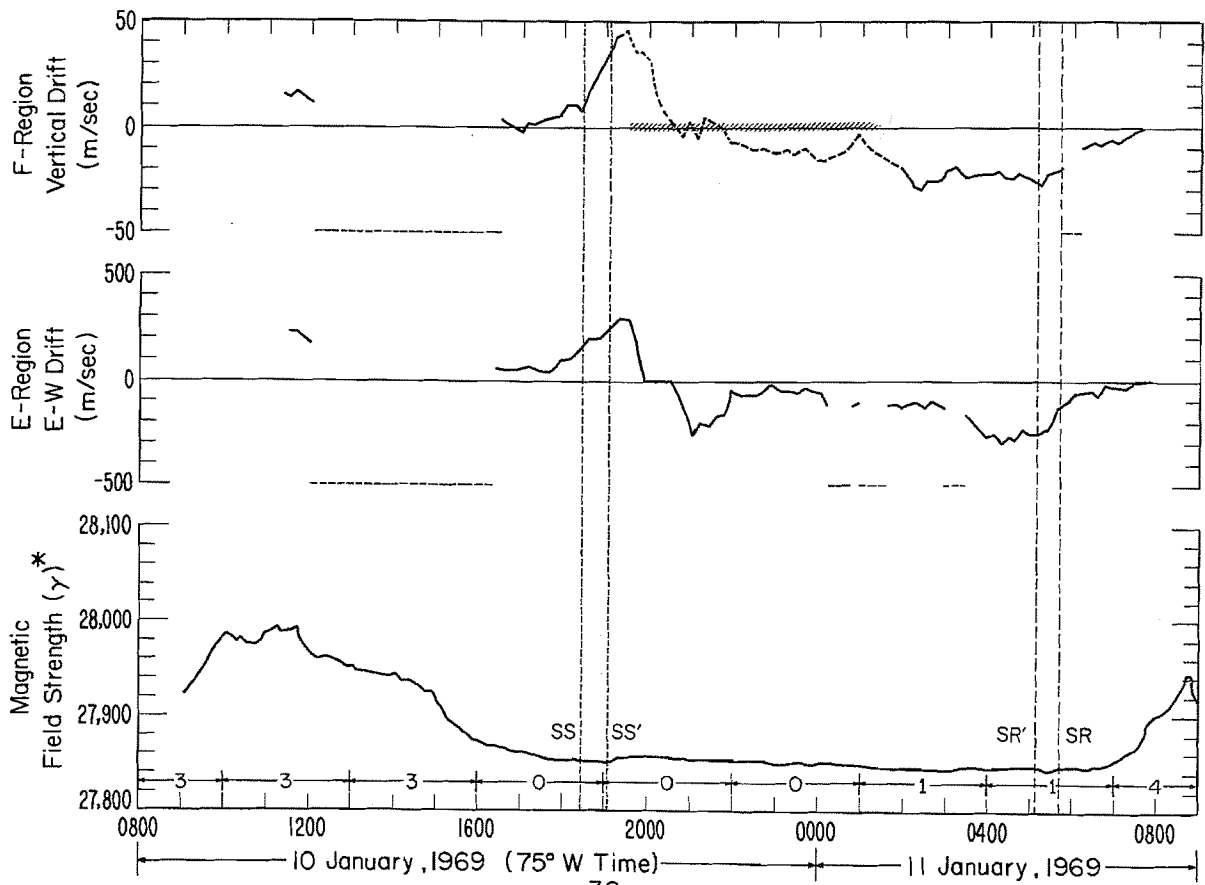
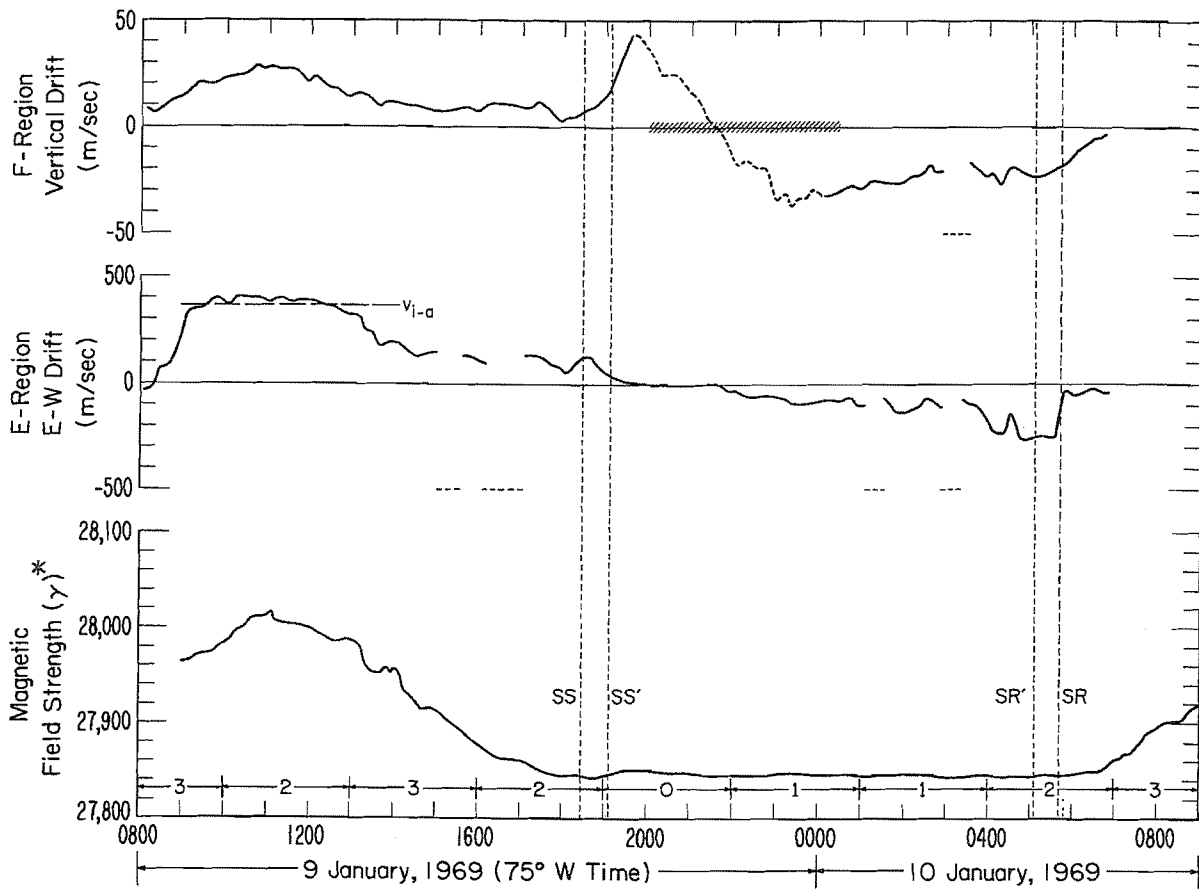


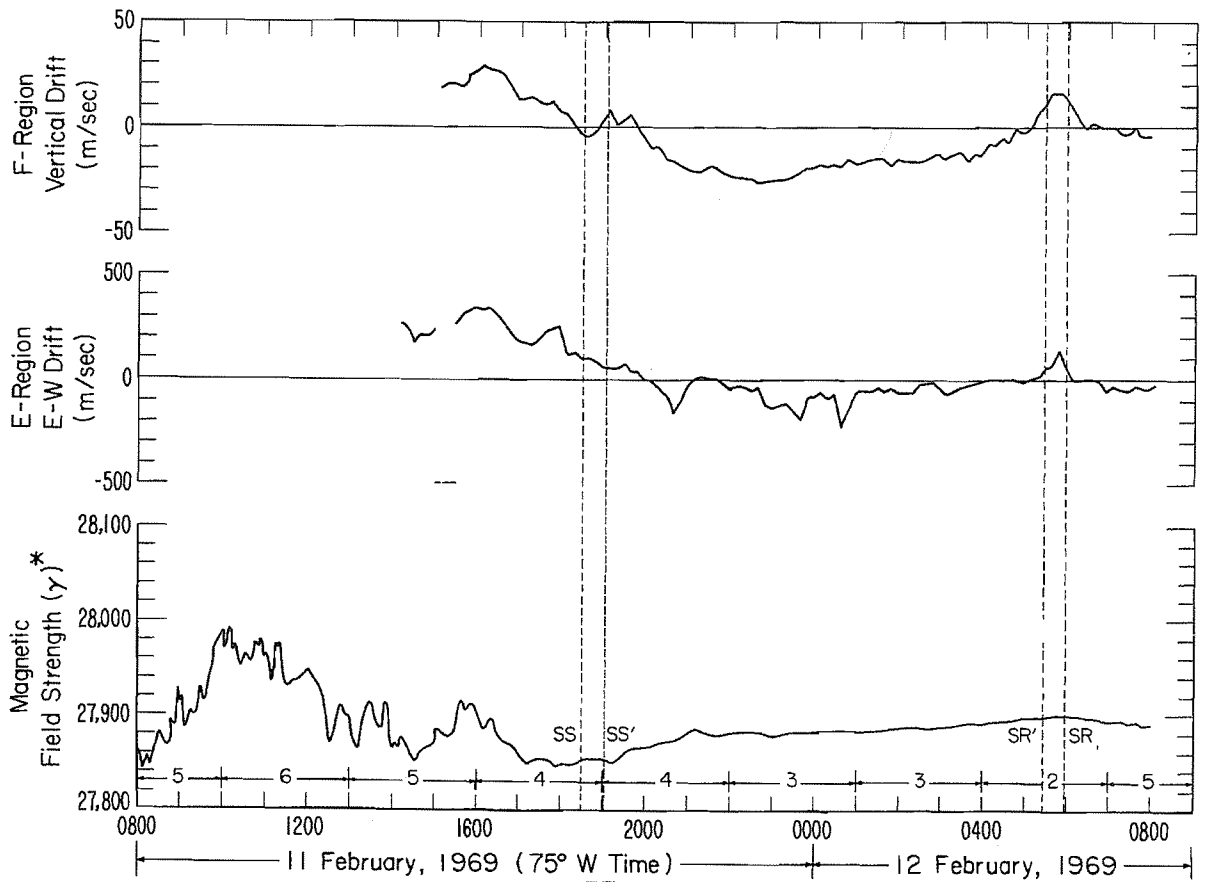
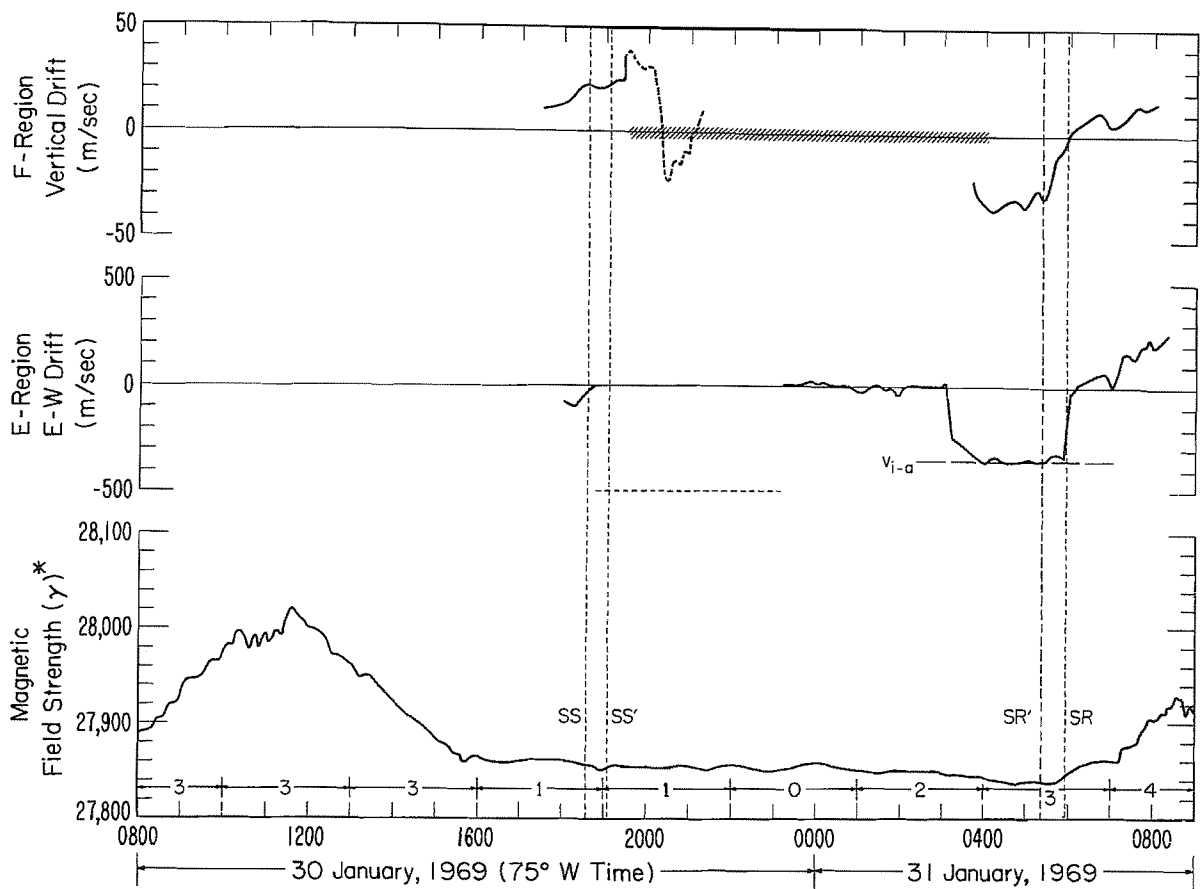


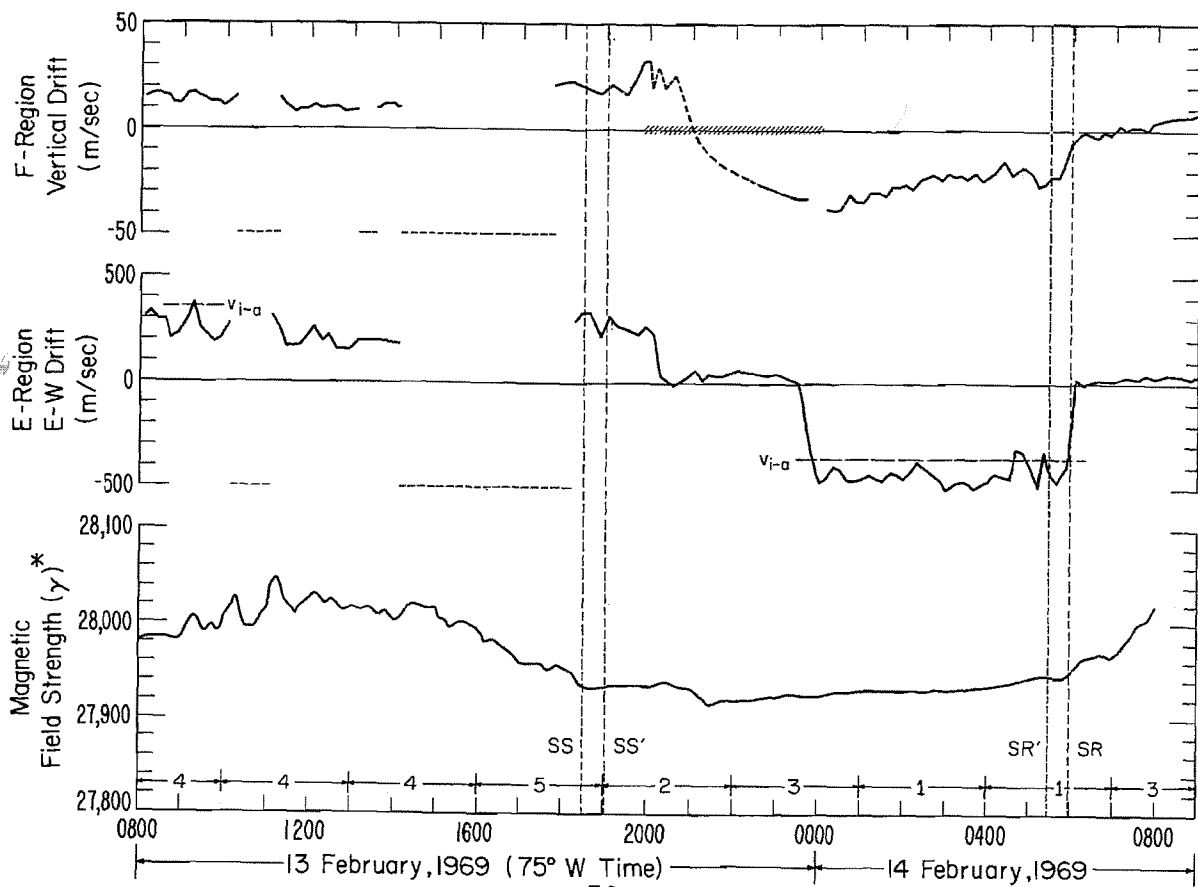
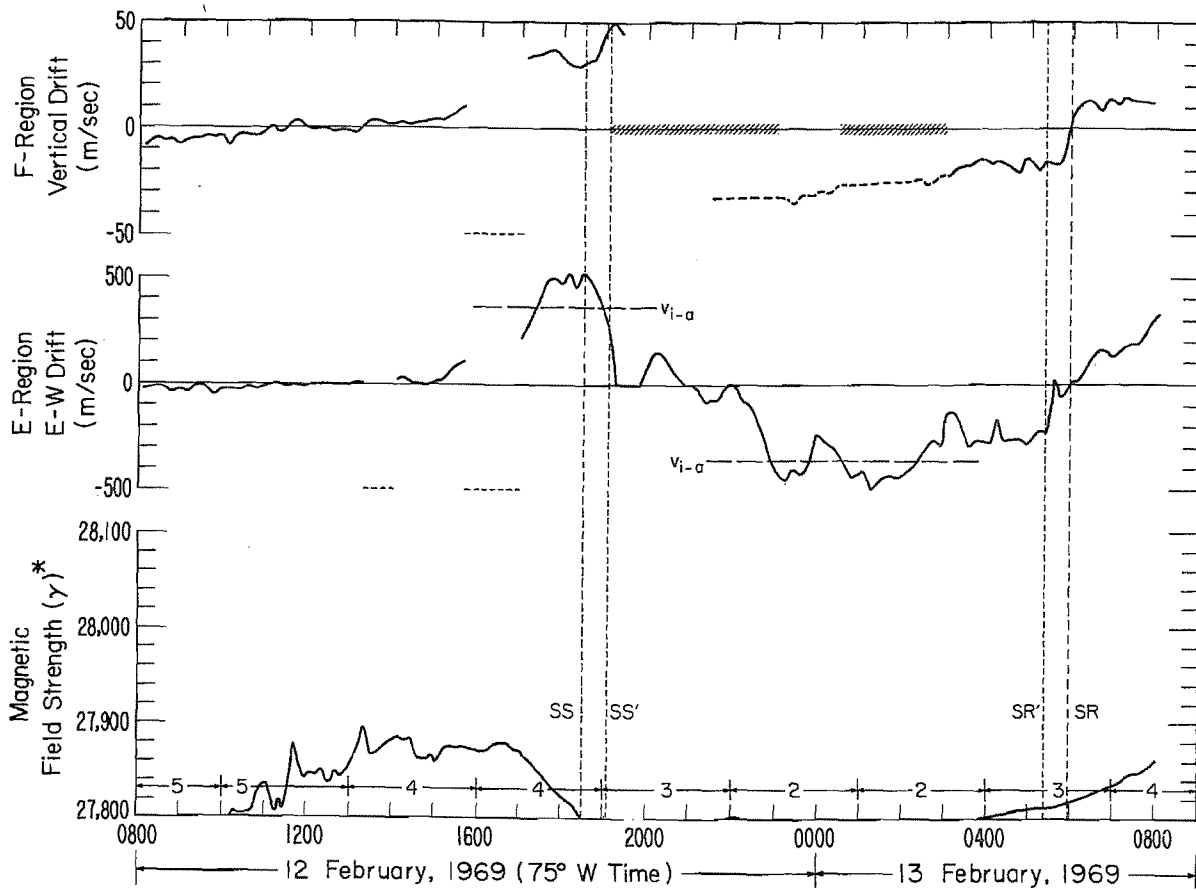


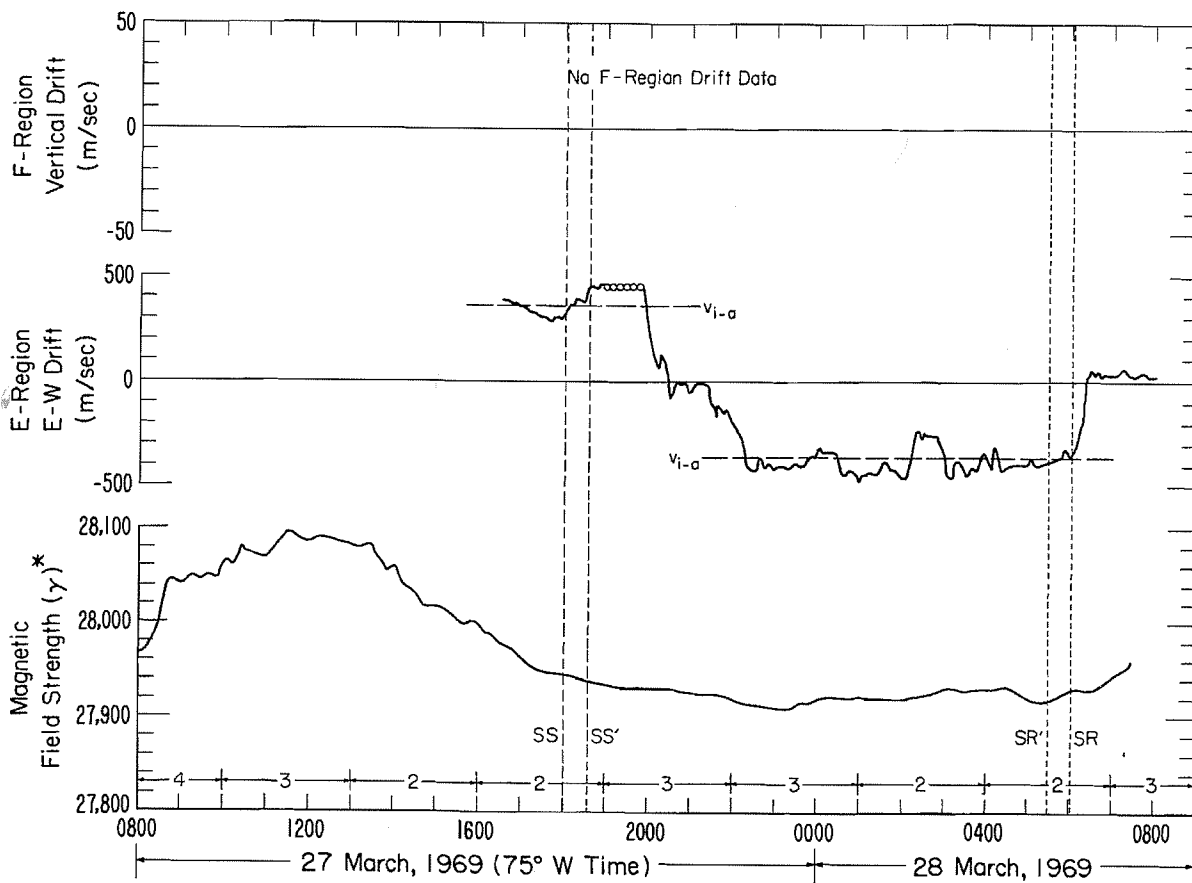
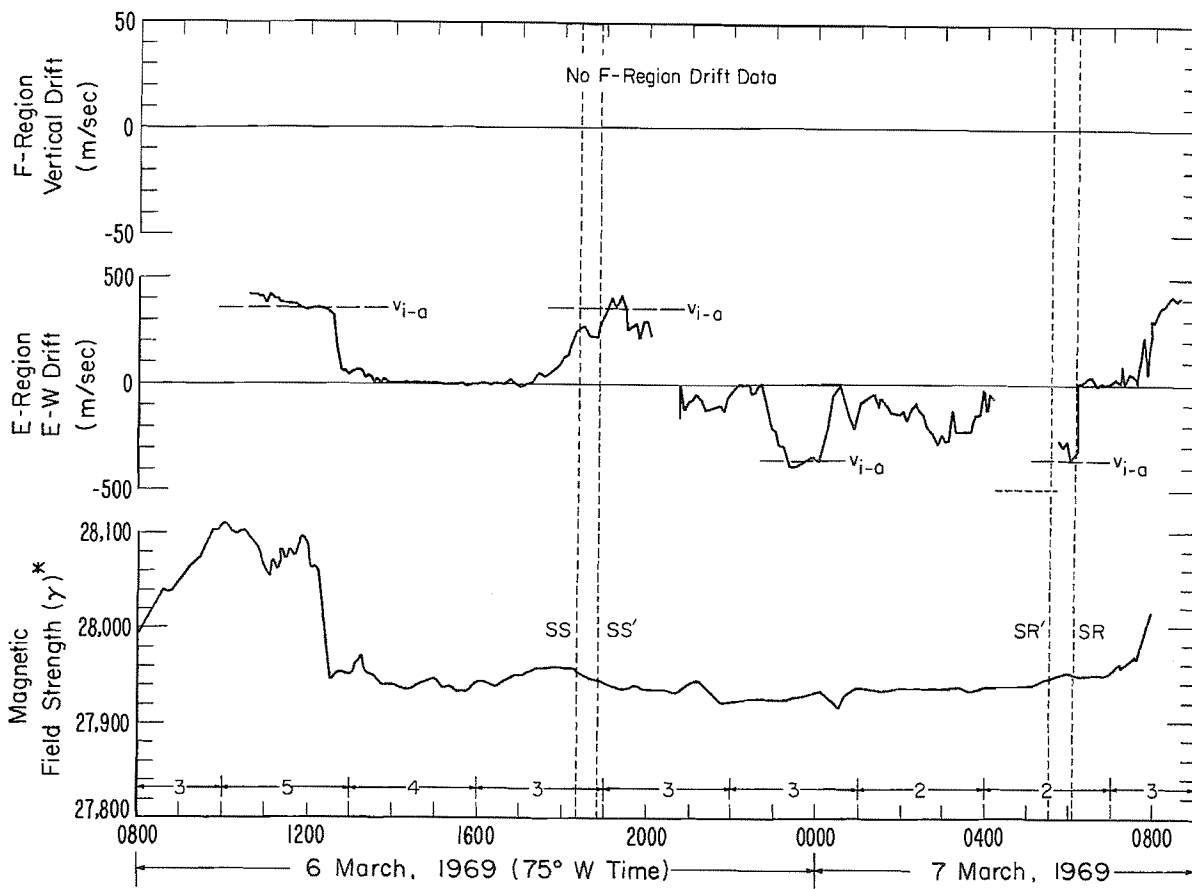


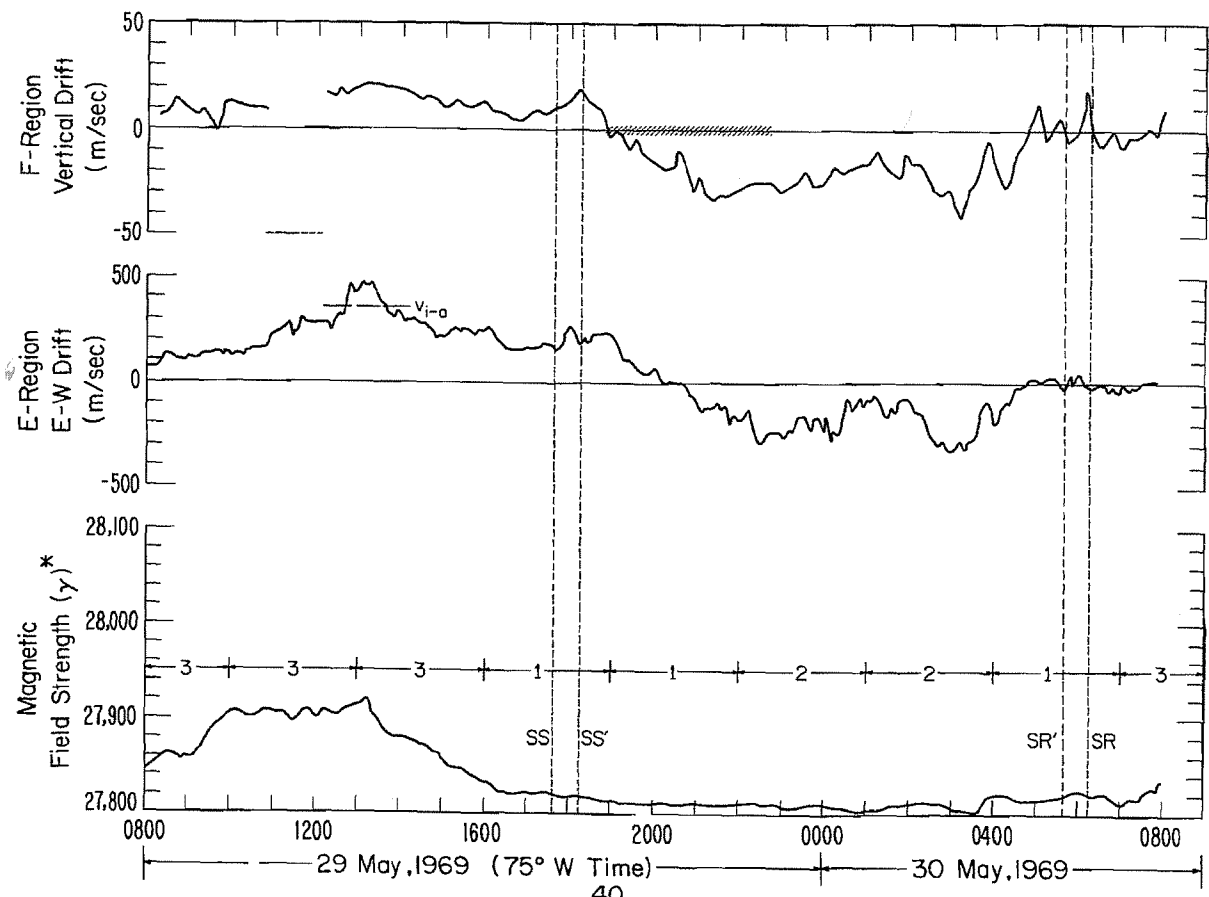
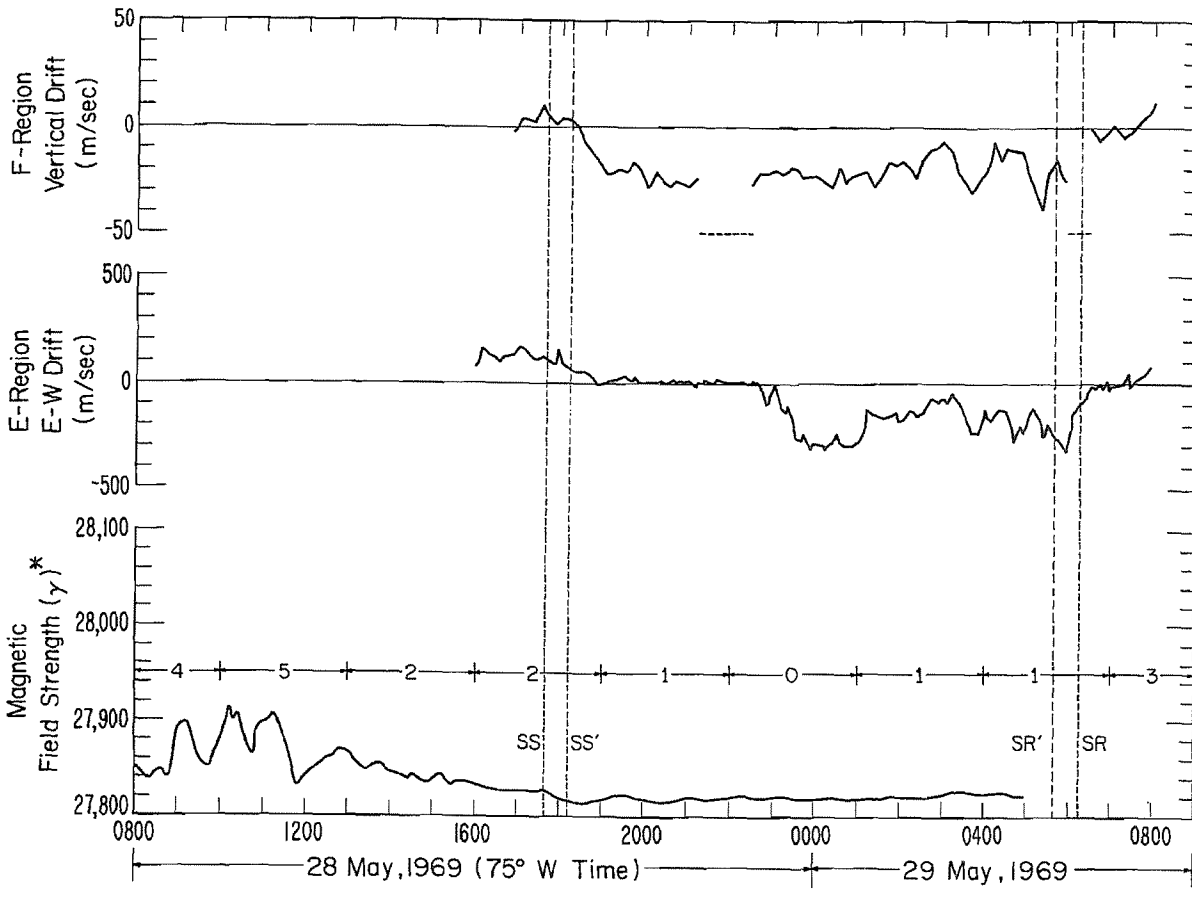


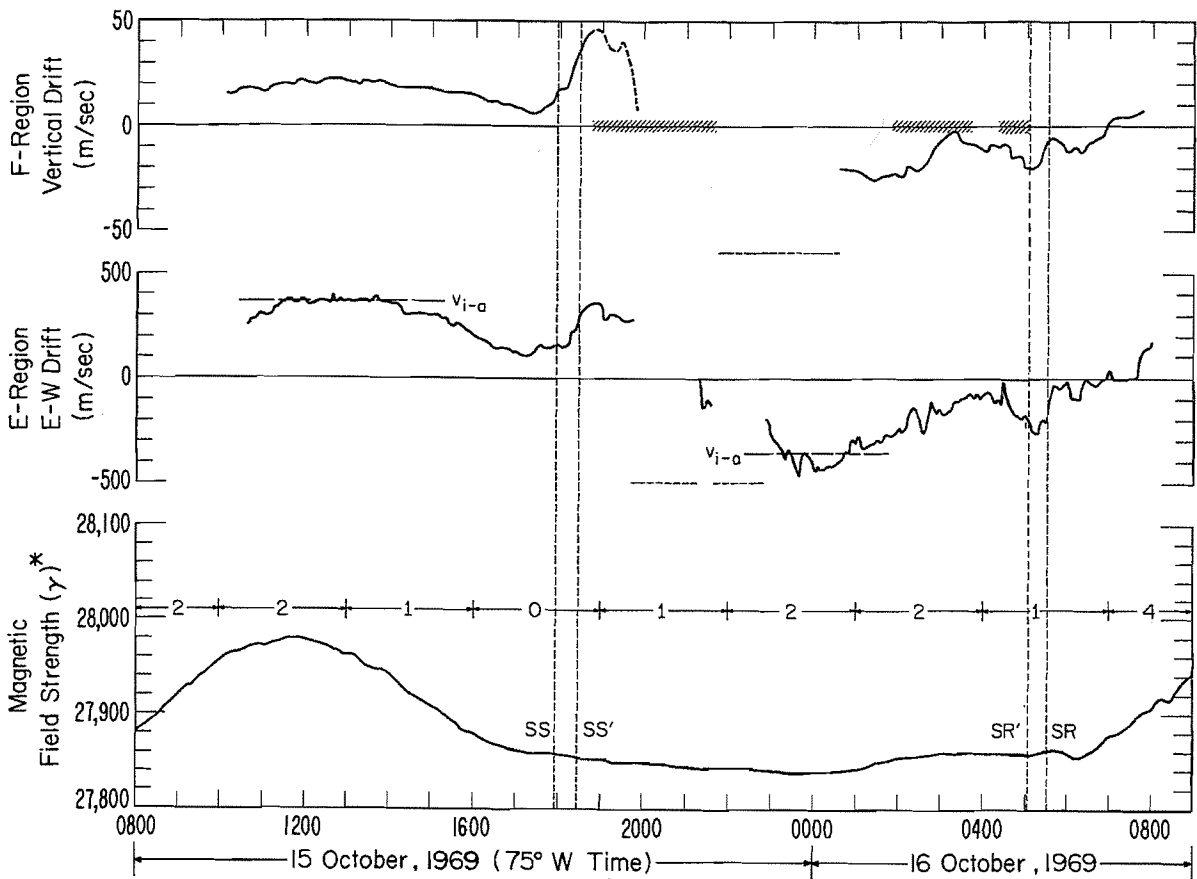
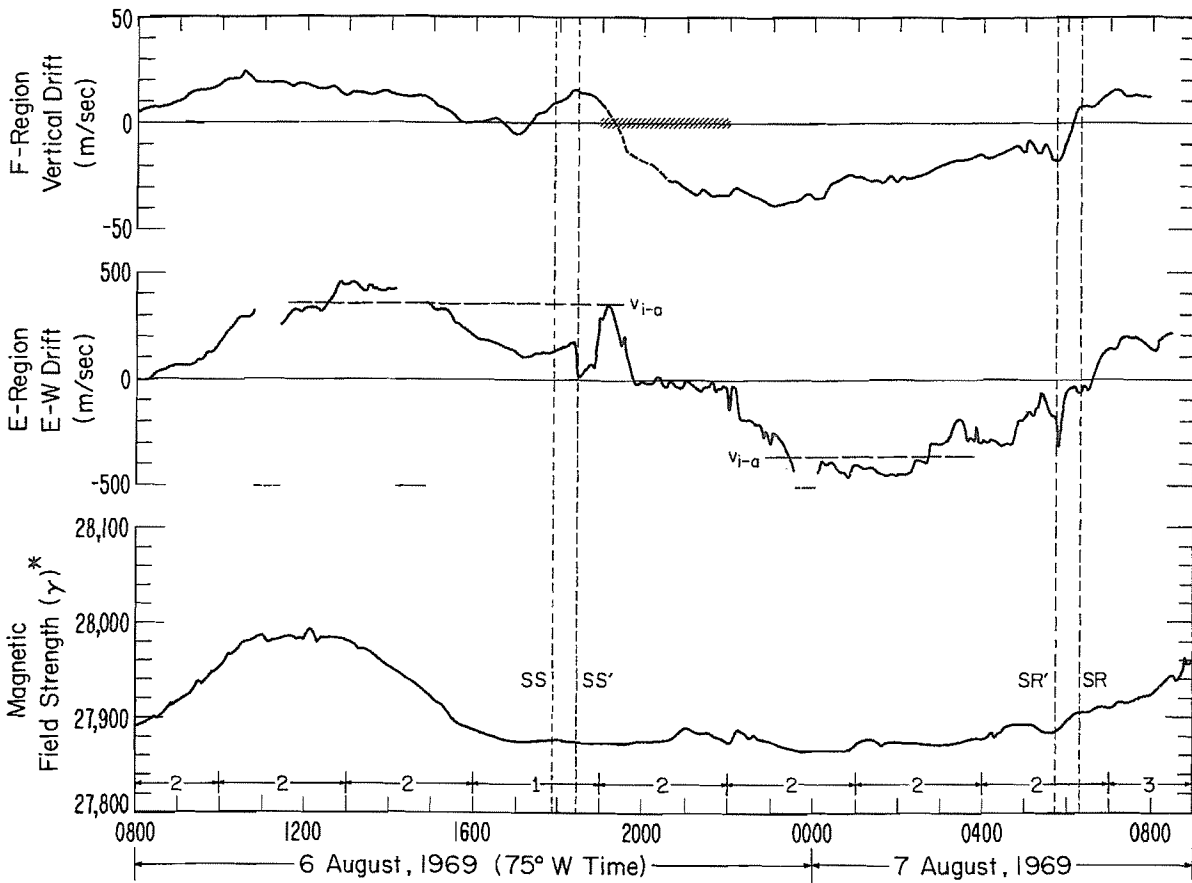


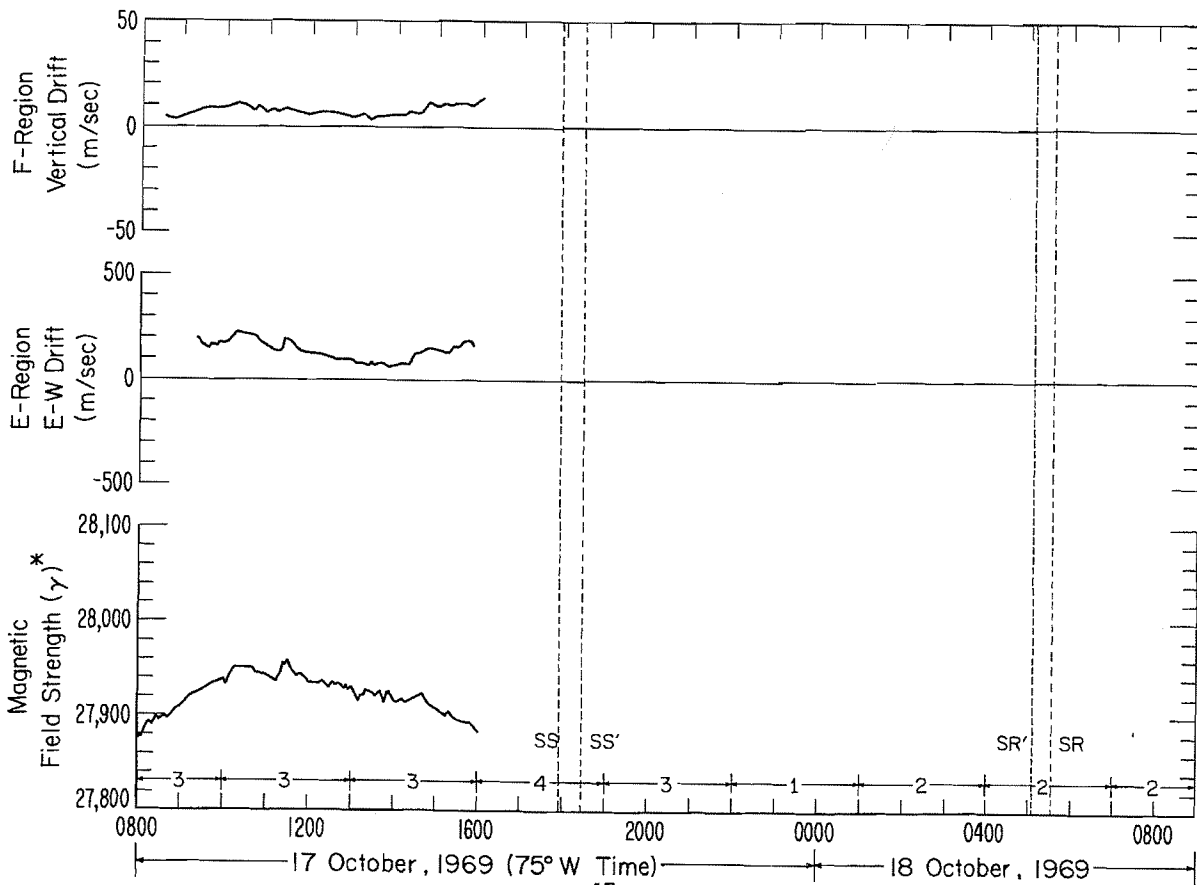
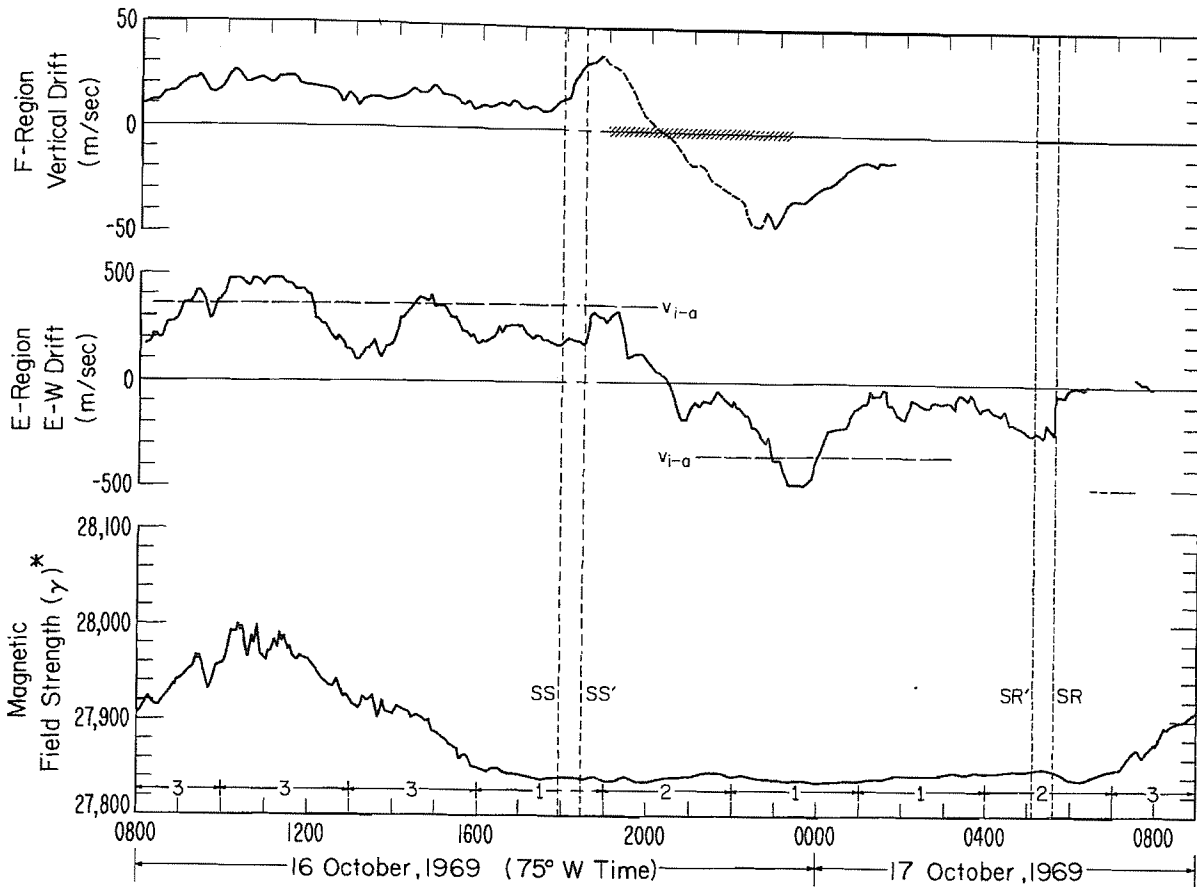


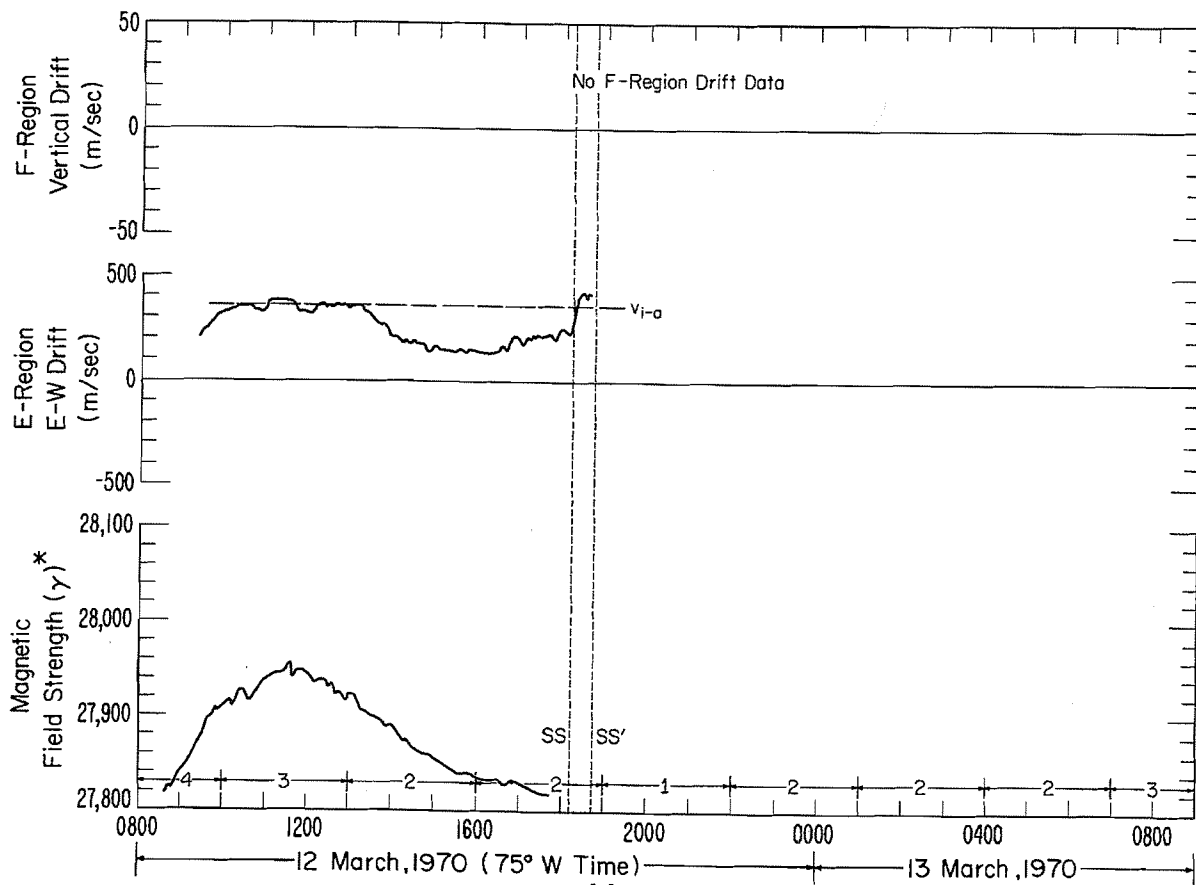
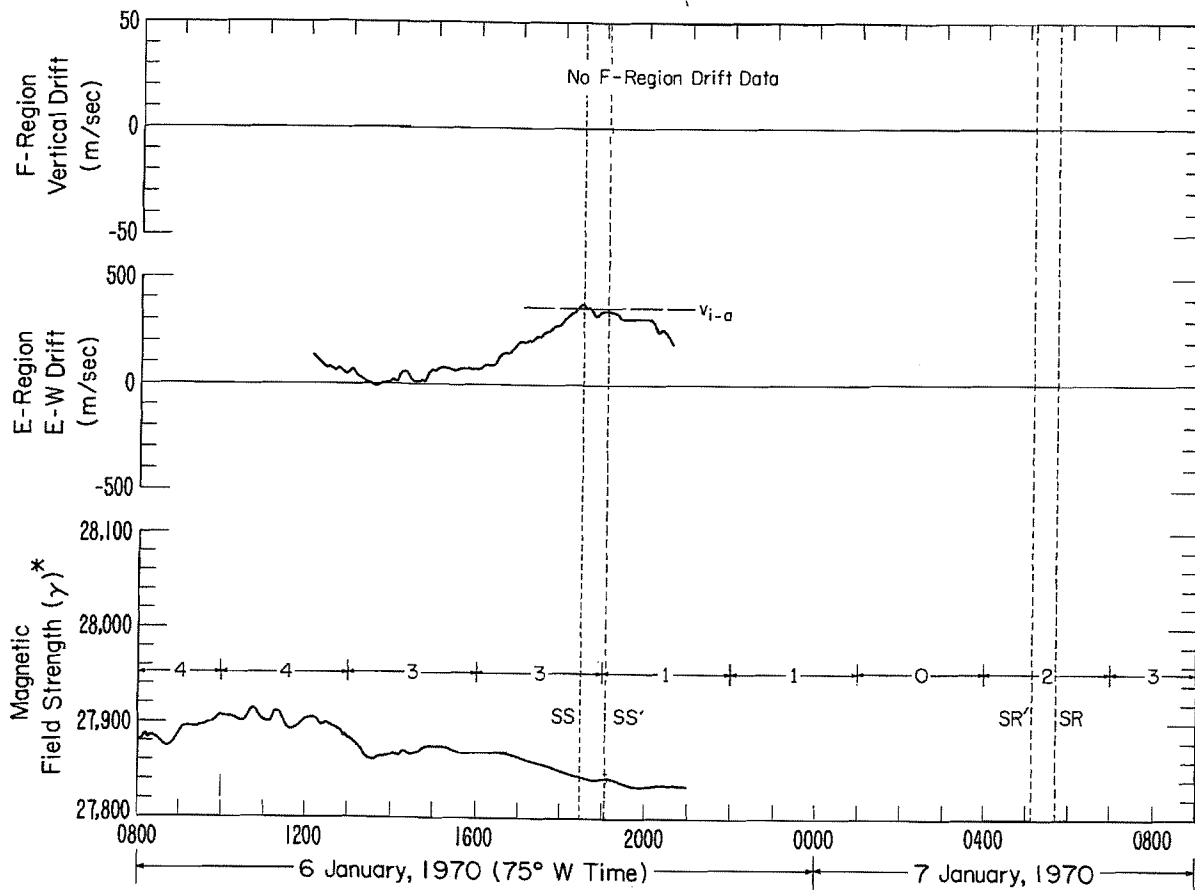












Publication Notice

WORLD DATA CENTER A - UPPER ATMOSPHERE GEOPHYSICS REPORT UAG
(Prepared by World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, NOAA, Boulder, Colorado)

These reports are for sale through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. Subscription price: \$9.00 a year; \$2.50 additional for foreign mailing; single copy price varies. These reports are issued on an irregular basis with 6 to 12 reports being issued each year. Therefore, in some years the single copy rate will be less than the subscription price, and in some years the single copy rate will be more than the subscription price. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-1, "IQSY Night Airglow Data" by L. L. Smith, F. E. Roach and J. M. McKennan of Aeronomy Laboratory, ESSA Research Laboratories, July 1968, single copy price \$1.75. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:1]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-2, "A Reevaluation of Solar Flares, 1964-1966" by Helen W. Dodson and E. Ruth Hedeman of McMath-Hulbert Observatory, The University of Michigan, August 1968, single copy price 30 cents. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:2]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-3, "Observations of Jupiter's Sporadic Radio Emission in the Range 7.6-41 MHz, 6 July 1966 through 8 September 1968" by James W. Warwick and George A. Dulk, Department of Astro-Geophysics, University of Colorado, October 1968, single copy price 30 cents. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:3]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-4, "Abbreviated Calendar Record 1966-1967" by J. Virginia Lincoln, Hope I. Leighton and Dorothy K. Kropp, Aeronomy and Space Data Center, Space Disturbances Laboratory, ESSA Research Laboratories, January 1969, single copy price \$1.25. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:4]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-5, "Data on Solar Event of May 23, 1967 and its Geophysical Effects" compiled by J. Virginia Lincoln, World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, ESSA, February 1969, single copy price 65 cents. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:5]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-6, "International Geophysical Calendars 1957-1969" by A. H. Shapley and J. Virginia Lincoln, ESSA Research Laboratories, March 1969, single copy price 30 cents. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:6]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-7, "Observations of the Solar Electron Corona: February 1964-January 1968" by Richard T. Hansen, High Altitude Observatory, Boulder, Colorado and Kamuela, Hawaii, October 1969, single copy price 15 cents. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:7]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-8, "Data on Solar Geophysical Activity October 24-November 6, 1968", Parts 1 and 2, compiled by J. Virginia Lincoln, World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, ESSA, March 1970, single copy price (includes Parts 1 and 2) \$1.75. Part 1 [Catalog No. C52.16/2:8/1], Part 2 [Catalog No. C52.16/2:8/2]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-9, "Data on Cosmic Ray Event of November 18, 1968 and Associated Phenomena" compiled by J. Virginia Lincoln, World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, ESSA, April 1970, single copy price 55 cents. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:9]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-10, "Atlas of Ionograms" edited by A. H. Shapley, ESSA Research Laboratories, May 1970, single copy price \$1.50. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:10]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-11, "Catalogue of Data on Solar-Terrestrial Physics", compiled by J. Virginia Lincoln and H. Patricia Smith, World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, ESSA, June 1970, single copy price \$1.50. [Catalog No. C52.16/2:11]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-12, "Solar-Geophysical Activity Associated with the Major Geomagnetic Storm of March 8, 1970", Parts 1, 2 and 3, compiled by J. Virginia Lincoln and Dale B. Bucknam, World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, NOAA, April 1971, single copy price (includes Parts 1-3) \$3.00. [Catalog No. C55.220:12/Pt 1, Pt 2, Pt 3]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-13, "Data on the Solar Proton Event of November 2, 1969 through the Geomagnetic Storm of November 8-10, 1969", compiled by Dale B. Bucknam and J. Virginia Lincoln, World Data Center A, Upper Atmosphere Geophysics, NOAA, May 1971, single copy price 50 cents. [Catalog No. C55.220:13]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-14, "An Experimental Comprehensive Flare Index and its Derivation for 'Major' Flares 1955-1969", by Helen W. Dodson and E. Ruth Hedeman, McMath-Hulbert Observatory, University of Michigan, July 1971, single copy price 30 cents. [Catalog No. C55.220:14]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-15, "Catalogue of Data on Solar-Terrestrial Physics", prepared by Research Laboratories, NOAA, Boulder, Colorado, July 1971, single copy price \$1.50. (Supersedes Report UAG-11, June 1970.) [Catalog No. C55.220:15]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-16, "Temporal Development of the Geographical Distribution of Auroral Absorption for 30 Substorm Events in each of IQSY (1964-65) and IASY (1969)" by F. T. Berkey, V. M. Driatskiy, K. Henriksen, D. H. Jelly, T. I. Shchuka, A. Theander and J. Yliniemi, September 1971. [Catalog No. C55.220:16]

Upper Atmosphere Geophysics Report UAG-17, "Ionospheric Drift Velocity Measurements at Jicamarca, Peru (July 1967 - March 1970)," by Ben B. Balsley, Aeronomy Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder, Colorado, and Ronald F. Woodman, Jicamarca Radar Observatory Instituto Geofisico del Perú, Lima, Peru, October 1971. [Catalog No. C55.220:17]