



INFORMATION BULLETIN D'INFORMATION

BULLETIN NO. 23

1990 SECOND SEMESTER

Pluto and Charon

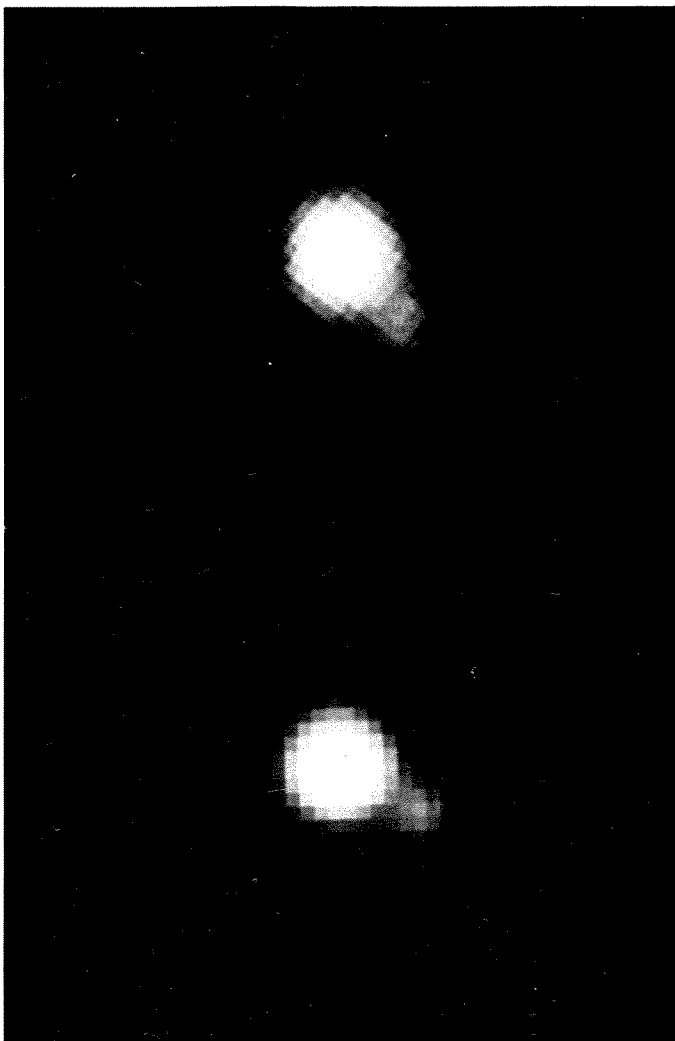


Figure 1: These I band images of Pluto and its satellite Charon, taken during engineering tests of the DAO High Resolution Camera and the SAIC 2 CCD at prime focus, are some of the finest yet obtained of the pair. The 60 second exposure at the top (FWHM = 0.54 arcseconds) was taken using the full 3.6m aperture of the telescope. The bottom image (FWHM = 0.48 arcseconds) was taken with the primary mirror stopped to a 1.2m aperture.

D. Salmon

Important Notice Regarding CFHT Observing Schedule for July 1991

The total solar eclipse of 11 July 1991 is expected to produce severe pressure on airline bookings and accommodations in Hawaii. In anticipation of this, CFHT intends to extend its first semester 1991 observing schedule to include the July dark run (until approximately July 18). Observers who wish to apply for time in the July 1991 dark run must therefore submit their proposals in the upcoming competition (deadline September 1)

R. McLaren

Change of Directors

After eight years spent at CFHT, first as Visiting Astronomer, Resident Astronomer, Associate Executive Director and finally as the Executive Director for the last three years, Robert McLaren will leave CFHT on August 1st. During his term as a director, major achievements included the complete implementation of the HP9000 platforms to control the instruments data acquisition; the implementation of a fast and reliable data link between the CFHT headquarters in Waimea and the Mauna Kea summit; a detector program that gives today's CFHT observer a choice of more than 7 high quality CCDs; the definition and construction of two new major instruments, a new Coude instrument and a multi-object high resolution spectrograph; an image quality program that allowed substantial improvements in the telescope optical quality as well as a better controlled thermal dome environment coupled to an open visiting instrument policy for VHR instruments which provided image quality as good as $0''.3$ FWHM.

Although Bob leaves CFHT, he will not be far away as he has accepted a position with the Institute for Astronomy of the University of Hawaii, where he will assume responsibility for the astronomical development of Mauna Kea, thus continuing to enrich the scientific influence of the Mauna Kea observatories. The whole CFHT corporation and local friends will join in a "Paniolo Farewell" celebration for Bob and his family July 28, to be held in the heart of the Waimea community at the Hale Kea. We extend a warm Aloha to Bob and his family for their contribution to the growth of the CFHT Corporation and the Waimea community.