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For Immediate Release

High Altitude Observatory Names Curtis Deputy Director

Boulder, Colorado---The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) has announced the appointment of Dr. George William Curtis to the newly created position of deputy director of the High Altitude Observatory (HAO) of NCAR.

Dr. Curtis joined the senior staff of the High Altitude Observatory in 1966. For the past three years, he has been scientific coordinator and expedition leader for the U.S. eclipse expedition that went to Africa to observe the total solar eclipse that occurred last June. Before that, he had served as scientist in charge of HAO's solar observing station at Climax, Colorado.

Dr. Curtis attended the Faculte Polytechnique du Hainaut in Mons, Belgium. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in physics and a doctorate in astrophysics from the University of Colorado, and attended the Institut d'Astrophysique in Paris on a Fulbright Fellowship. He is a member of the American Astronomical Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, and Sigma Xi.

Before joining the HAO senior staff in 1966, Dr. Curtis had held appointments at the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics in Boulder and Sacramento Peak Observatory in Sunspot, New Mexico.

The High Altitude Observatory is a research division of the National Center for Atmospheric Research, which is operated under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, a non-profit consortium of 44 universities. HAO's research programs are centered on the sun and its influences on the interplanetary medium and the earth's atmosphere.

Welcoming Curtis to his new position, Dr. Gordon A. Newkirk, Jr., director of HAO, said:

"We look forward to having Bill's management skills, which he has so amply demonstrated in his work with the Climax station and the eclipse expedition, employed in making HAO a more effective organization."

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