



◀ EAST Face South WEST ▶
 * * ◦ • SYMBOLS FOR STARS IN ORDER OF BRIGHTNESS

Little Rock, Ark.	26	3:56	5:27
Louisville, Ky.	20	4:04	5:22
Nashville, Tenn.	25	3:59	5:26
New Haven, Conn.	16	5:09	set
New Orleans, La.	41	3:46	5:36
New York, N. Y.	17	5:08	set
Omaha, Nebr.	3	4:23	4:59
Philadelphia, Pa.	19	5:06	set
Pittsburgh, Pa.	17	5:09	set
Raleigh, N. C.	31	4:58	set
Richmond, Va.	26	5:01	set
Santa Fe, N. Mex.	10	3:05	4:07
Tallahassee, Fla.	44	4:48	set
Washington, D. C.	22	5:04	set

"Set" indicates sun sets eclipsed. Times are local standard times.

The data in this table are taken from a more complete listing in the "American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac" for 1951, a volume which is prepared annually at the U. S. Naval Observatory in Washington, and is published by the Government Printing Office. For the cities in the northeast where no time of ending is given, the sun sets before the partial eclipse is completed. For all these points, the moon's disk will cut across the southern edge of the sun, moving from west to east.

Protect Your Eyes

Since one should not, ordinarily, look directly at the sun, those in the places where the eclipse may be seen should use some protection for the eyes to see the partial eclipse. This may be the traditional smoked glass, a dense photographic film negative, or a pinhole in a card. However, along the Atlantic seaboard the eclipse occurs near sunset, and dust and haze in the atmosphere might dim the sun's light enough that it may be seen without any protection.

In case completely cloudy weather prevents any view of this eclipse, those who live in the eastern part of the country will have another chance on Sept. 1. Instead of occurring late in the afternoon, that will occur in the early morning, with the sun rising partly eclipsed.

Celestial Time Table for March

March EST		
1	11:48 p. m.	Minimum of Algol (variable star in Perseus)
2	2:00 a. m.	Moon nearest, distance 229,-800 miles
4	8:38 p. m.	Algol at minimum
7	3:50 p. m.	New moon; eclipse of sun visible over large area
	5:27 p. m.	Algol at minimum
9	4:36 a. m.	Moon passes Mars
10	1:01 a. m.	Moon passes Venus
15	1:00 a. m.	Moon farthest, distance 251,-200 miles
	12:40 p. m.	Moon in first quarter
20	5:00 a. m.	Saturn opposite sun and nearest, distance 788,600,000 miles
21	5:26 a. m.	Sun crosses equator, beginning of spring in northern hemisphere
22	1:33 a. m.	Minimum of Algol
23	2:54 a. m.	Moon passes Saturn
	5:50 a. m.	Full moon
24	10:22 p. m.	Algol at minimum
27	4:00 a. m.	Moon nearest, distance 228,-600 miles
	7:12 p. m.	Algol at minimum
30	12:35 a. m.	Moon in last quarter

Subtract one hour for CST, two hours for MST, and three for PST.

Science News Letter, February 24, 1951

GENERAL SCIENCE

Security Clearances Slow Defense Program

► THE TIME that it takes to get security clearances for everyone handling classified material in the accelerating defense program is slowing down progress in many cases.

Before the Korean war an FBI investigation could be completed in a couple of months. But now the number of additional employees has piled the load on the investigators until it takes up to six months.

There are several kinds of investigations and clearances, simplest of which are loyalty checks such as anyone in the government, even those not working on con-

fidential or secret projects, must have.

As the secret nature of the project becomes greater, the necessary procedures become correspondingly more rigorous and timetaking.

Even when the help of some expert is needed urgently, it is very difficult to give him an emergency security clearance on the say-so of some official, no matter how high.

Because the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission each have to have their own clearances, there may be delay before, for example, an army officer or scientist would be allowed to work with a contractor on a top secret joint Defense-AEC project. The Army representative already fully cleared in his own organization would have to get one of the famous Q clearances of the AEC done by the FBI and he can not get in the line-up until he does.

This is required by the atomic energy act passed by Congress and the dual clearances seem to make no one, particularly the military, very happy.

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