

# South Africa deployment plan for 2017-06-03 occultation by 2014MU69

## May 27

Observing teams depart the US, take two overnight flights to Cape Town

## May 29

Equipment needs to be delivered to Cape Town by this time and available for pick up at Federal Clearing and Forwarding in Observatory. Many observers are staying at the Protea Mowbray Hotel adjacent to SAAO in Observatory; others are in nearby hotels. Observing teams will collect their vehicles either at the airport or at their hotels, as arranged by CABS Car Hire by the U.S. Consulate in Cape Town. Observing teams will collect their telescope equipment from Federal Clearing. Observing teams that arrived on May 28 will set up and test equipment either at the SAAO or the Protea grounds adjacent to SAAO. Most observers will have arrived in the morning and may not be sufficiently rested to begin equipment checkout. Those that are up to it will set up and test their equipment in grassy level area adjacent to the Wild Fig Restaurant parking lot. Teams will receive their “green line” assignments based on the final prediction update.

## May 30

UVA teams will head north up N7 to the Rondeberg Holiday Resort 22 km north of Clanwilliam and scout potential locations along their “green lines”. 16-inch portable teams will set up and test all equipment at either the SAAO or Protea hotel grounds to conduct bootcamp and to assess functionality of equipment. Any repairs or replacements of equipment will be made. Teams will discuss deployment plans.

## May 31

Teams depart Cape Town hotels and drive north to their deployment sites in the daytime to scout out exact observing locations along their assigned “green lines”. Teams will check in to their Clanwilliam area hotels and have dinner before the evening’s observing begins. Full practice night at the Rondeberg Holiday Resort. Goal is to acquire field and practice taking data.

## June 1

Third practice night in deployment locations. Teams should assemble in place and acquire the field when it is at the same altitude as it will be at the event time, approximately 1 AM local time. Once data are acquired on the field, teams can pack up and return to their hotels in the

Clanwilliam area.

## June 2 - event observing night (5:10 am, 05:10 local time)

Teams deploy from Clanwilliam area to assigned observing locations. One vehicle needed for each telescope and team (nominally 13 for this night). The goal is for each team to arrive between 4-5 hours before event time. Longest estimated drive time is 2 hours for the most distant observing site. Setup telescope, acquire field, then take data at the predicted time. The total data collection time is TBD (probably about 45 minutes).

### **Event 2017-06-03 03:09:44 UT (check against latest web page values)**

After data collection is complete (including any calibration data, TBD, probably won't take longer than 15-20 minutes). Tear down equipment and repack. Return back to Clanwilliam area. Rest. Collect data from all stations and distribute backup copies. Prepare equipment for return shipping and hand off to shipping company. Some teams are planning to drive back to Cape Town; others are staying in Clanwilliam area.

## June 4

Return equipment to Federal Clearing and Forwarding in Observatory, Cape Town in preparation for its shipment to Argentina for the next event.

## June 5

Main travel day for departure from Cape Town, back to the US.

## June 6

Everyone is back home.