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GE-9500-ECS-FR
20 FEBRUARY 1969

FINAL REPORT

DESIGN ENVIRONMENT CRITERIA

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EDITED BY:

D. N. VACHON
SPACE PHYSICS LABORATORY

PREPARED FOR:

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
G. C. MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35812
UNDER MSFC CONTRACT NUMBER NAS8-21420

GENERAL  ELECTRIC

RE-ENTRY SYSTEMS
P. O. Box 8555 • Philadelphia, Penna. 19101

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In order to determine the need for updating, refining and/or amplifying the near-earth environment as defined in NASA-TM 53521, reviews of the present state of knowledge were conducted. These reviews were documented in seven scientific reports and provide the basis for the recommended changes to the criteria guidelines given in this final report.

The purpose of this final report is therefore restricted to the end results of the study, with the justification for the values recommended being available in the respective scientific reports listed below:

GE-9500-ECS-SR-1 "The Chemical Kinetics and the Composition of the Earth's Atmosphere", by M. Bortner and R. Kummller, July, 1968.

GE-9500-ECS-SR-2 "Near-Earth Meteoroid Environment", by R. Sobelman and S. Neste, October, 1968.

GE-9500-ECS-SR-3 "Magnetosphere Environment" by T. Galbraith, November, 1968.

GE-9500-ECS-SR-4 "Near-Earth Electromagnetic Radiation Environment", by J. Kaplan, December, 1968.

GE-9500-ECS-SR-5 "A Model of the Geomagnetic Field", by T. Galbraith, December, 1968.

GE-9500-ECS-SR-6 "Solar Flare and Cosmic Ray Environment", by
T. Galbraith, December 1968.

GE-9500-ECS-SR-7 "On the Variation of Density at High Altitudes",
by D. Vachon, December, 1968.

2.0 METEOROID ENVIRONMENT

The recommended meteoroid flux as a function of mass is given in Figure 2-1 along with an estimate of the uncertainty extremes.

The recommended estimate of the penetration depth as a function of the penetrating particle flux is given in Figure 2-2. It is recommended that a listing of the characteristics of the major meteor streams be included in the design criteria handbook (NASA-TMX-53798). Such a listing is presented in Table 2-I and includes the meteor streams incorporated in the recent criteria handbook NASA-TMX-53798.

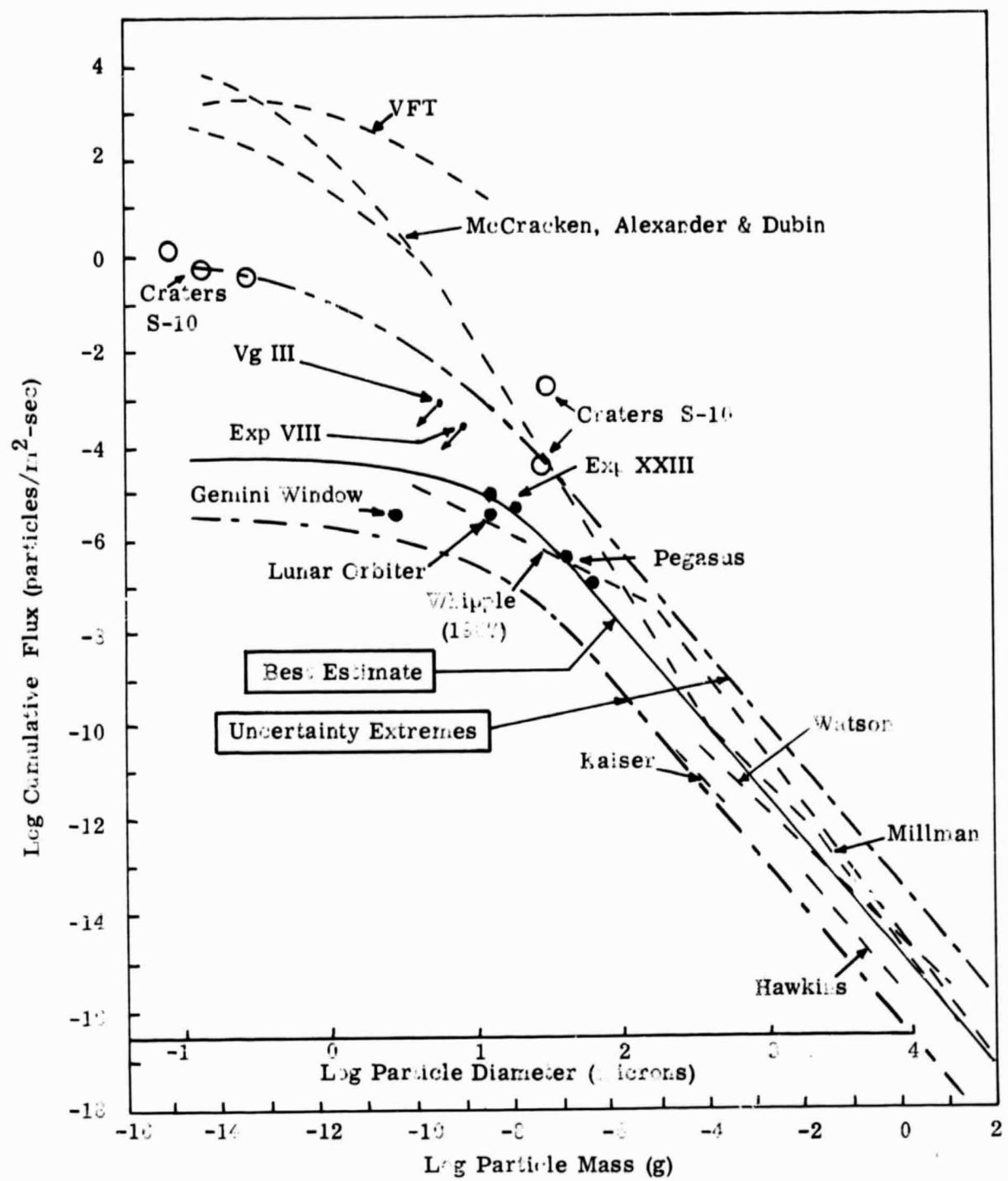


Figure 2-1. Log Cumulative Flux vs. Log Particle Mass and Size (Density 3)

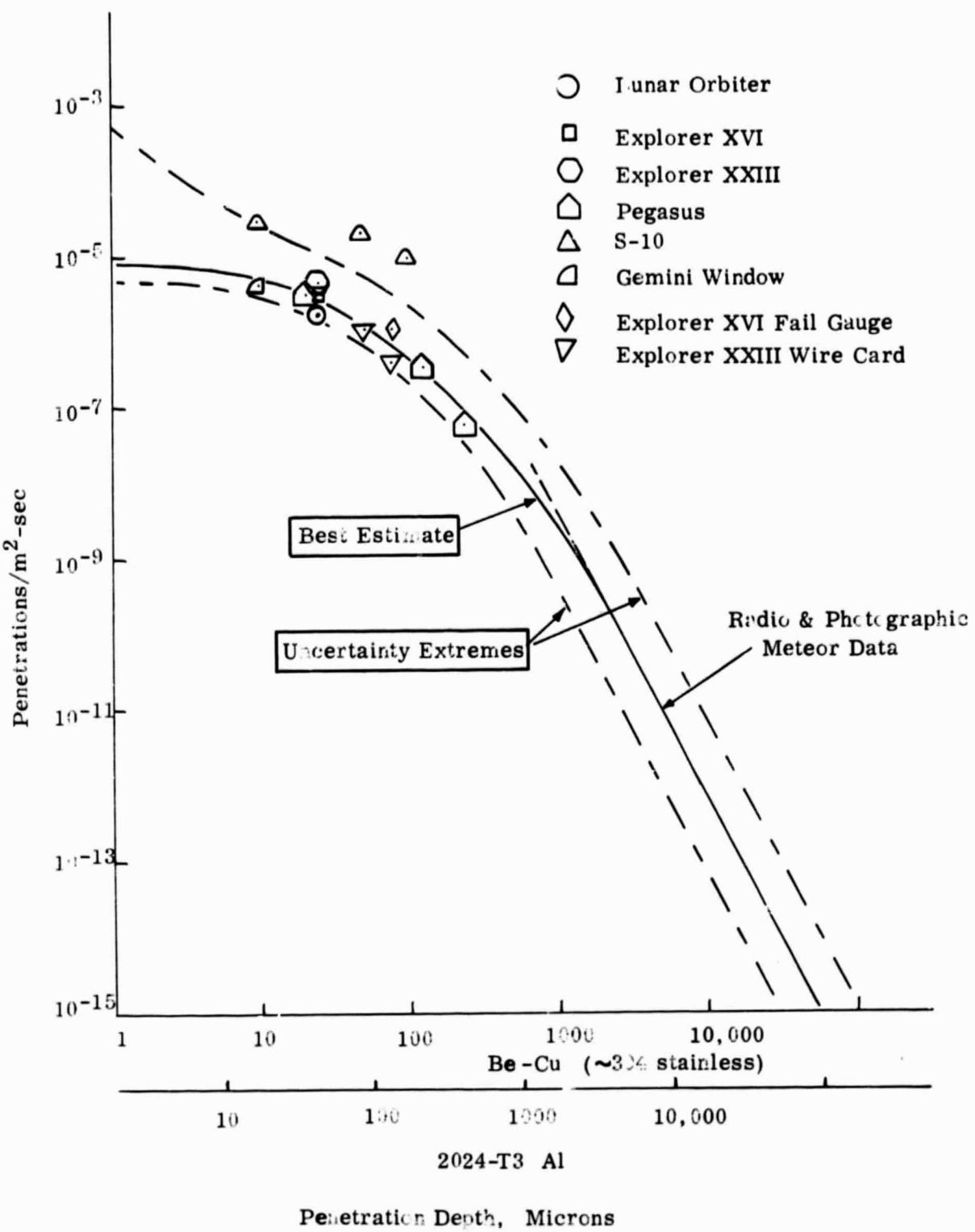


Figure 2-2. Log Cumulative Penetrations vs. Penetration Depth

3.0 RADIATION ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Cosmic Radiation

It is recommended that the cosmic radiation section of the design criteria handbook (TMX-53521) be extended to include an estimate of the cosmic radiation differential energy spectrum given in Figure 3-1.

3.2 Solar Flares

It is recommended that the solar flare section of both the TMX-53521 and TMX-53798 handbooks be extended to provide a representation of the time variations of the integral spectra given in Figure 3-2.

3.3 Trapped Radiation

From the viewpoint of design criteria the radiation environment depiction of widest appeal appears to be the $R-\lambda$ mapping. Since the radiation environment has a very pronounced time-space variation, it is difficult to provide a meaningful presentation for designers. For example, the radiation dose encountered by two satellites with the same perigee and apogee, but different inclinations, can differ by a substantial amount.

In general, the maximum particle flux is encountered over the geomagnetic equator and quite often the design is based on assuming the

maximum flux throughout the orbit. For preliminary design evaluations this is perhaps a most acceptable procedure, and for such usage the values given in Table 3-I should suffice. It is noted that the values given for the electron flux are for a time period of December 1968, which is a period of high solar activity and thus reflect a high intensity of electrons in the outer zone. For more general design usage, the R- λ maps given as Figures 3-3 through 3-7 provide sufficient definition of the vertical variation of the flux to enable bracketing the optimum altitude region for flight. Once the satellite orbital characteristics are bracketed, the integrated particle flux can be defined using the computerized version of the information provided in the NASA-SP3024 reports.

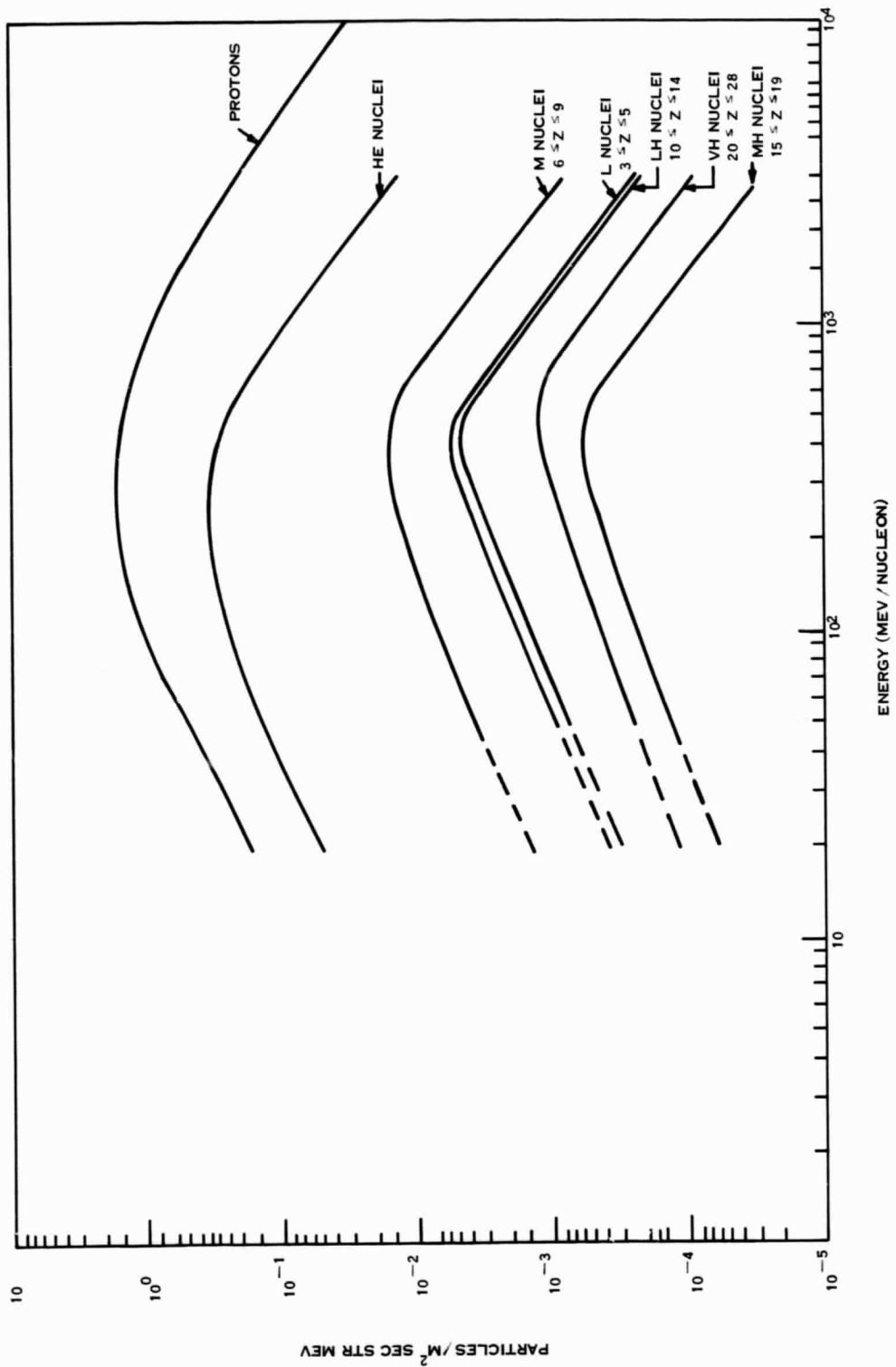
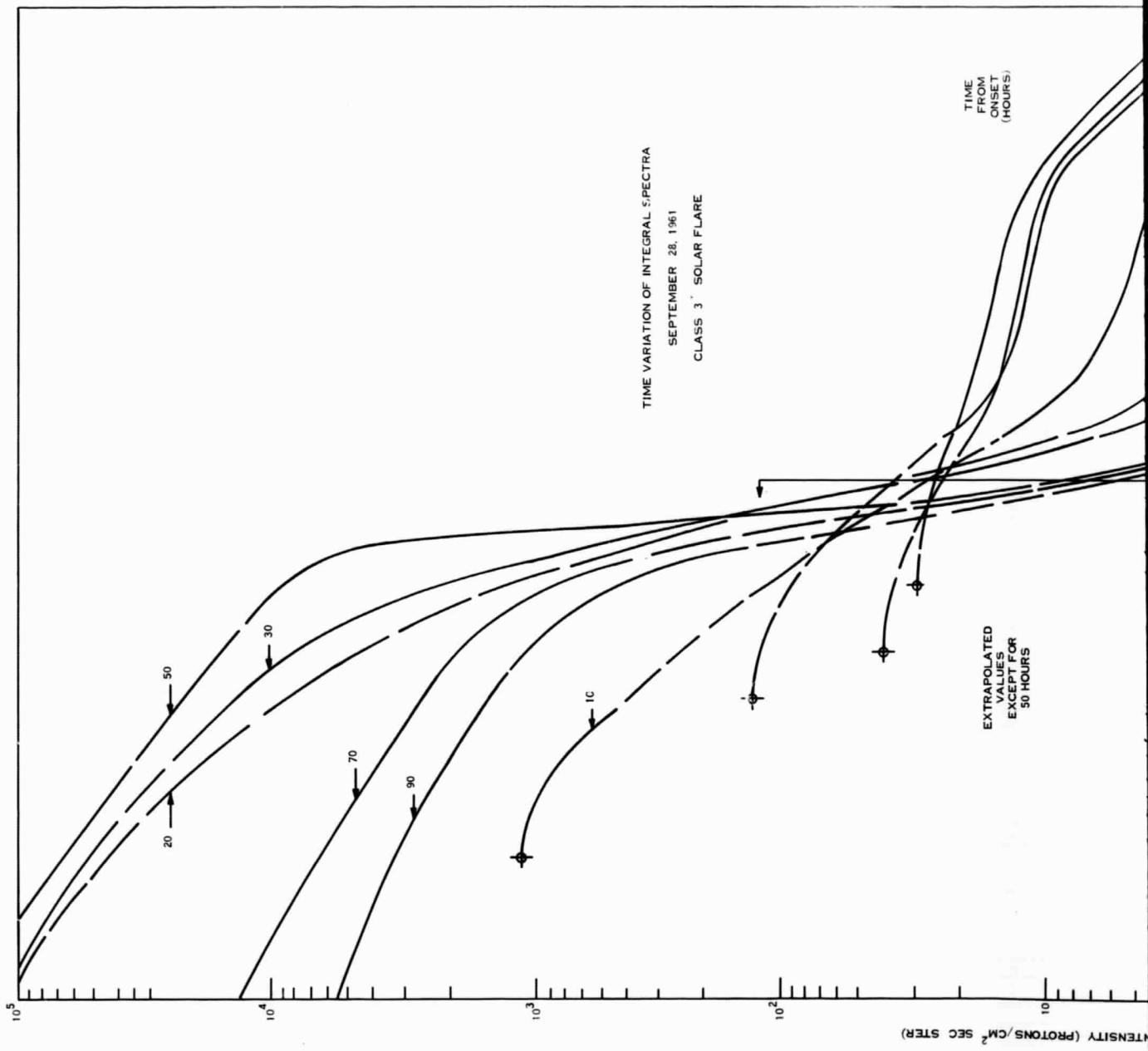


Figure 3-1. Cosmic Ray Differential Particle Energy Spectrum as a Function of Z Number Categories



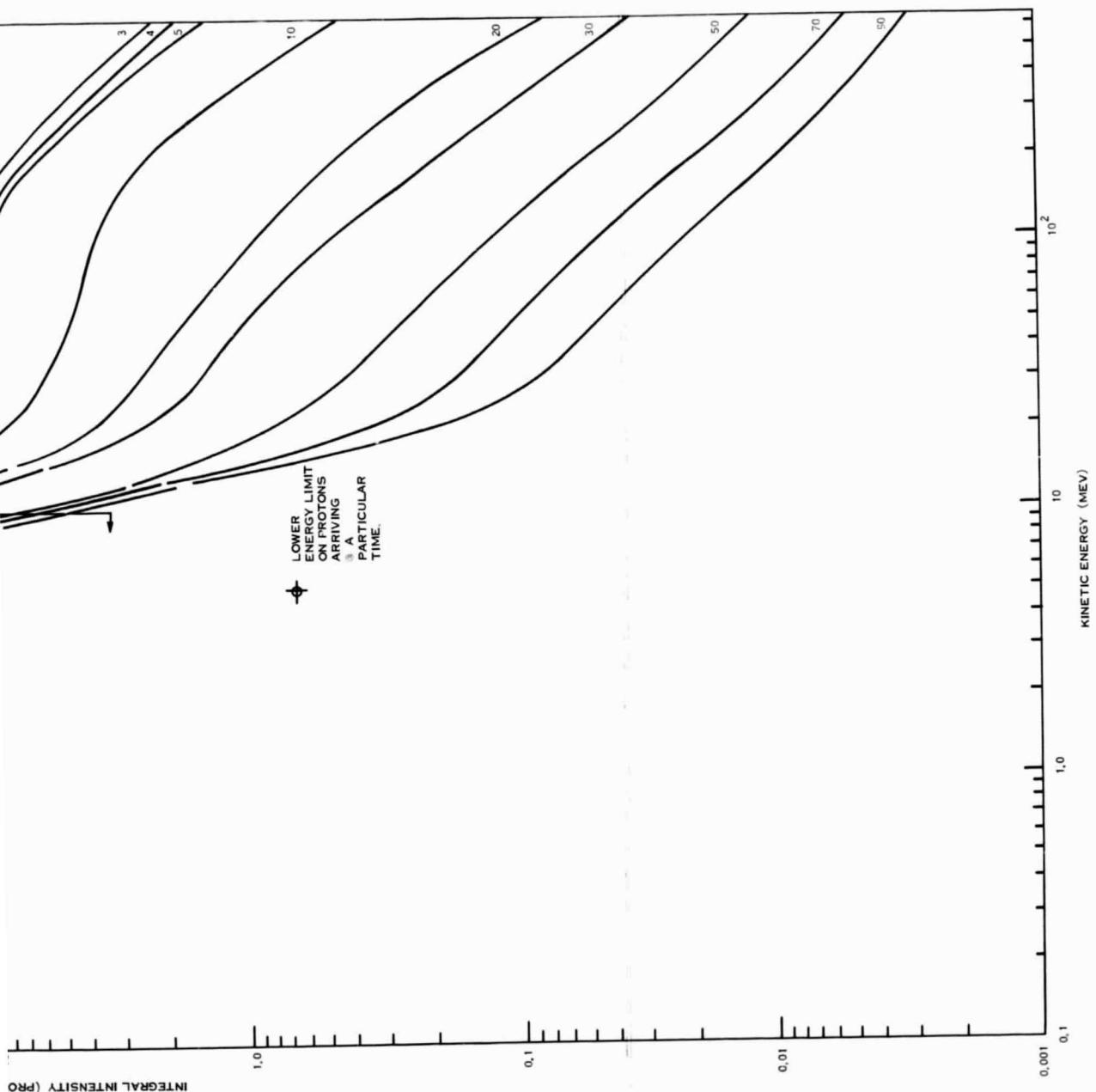


Figure 3-2. Time Variation of Integral Spectra

3-4

FOLDOUT FRAME 2

TABLE 3-I

PARTICLE INTENSITY FOR CIRCULAR ORBITAL ALTITUDE,

INCLINATION = 0°

CIRCULAR ORBITAL ALTITUDE n.m.	PROTONS $E > 4 \text{ MeV}$ protons/cm ² day	PROTONS $E > 30 \text{ MeV}$ protons/cm ² day	ELECTRONS $E > 0.5 \text{ MeV}$ electrons/cm ² day (1968)	ELECTRONS $E > 5 \text{ MeV}$ electrons/cm ² day (1968)
150	$< 10^5$		$< 10^5$	< 1
300	4.57×10^4	2.88×10^4	2.67×10^5	8.4×10^0
450	2.49×10^7	1.01×10^7	4.91×10^8	1.19×10^5
600	2.43×10^8	6.85×10^7	2.51×10^{10}	1.73×10^7
800	1.73×10^9	3.16×10^8	2.17×10^{11}	3.03×10^8
1000	5.8×10^9	7.35×10^8	8.22×10^{11}	1.60×10^9
1250	1.61×10^{10}	1.22×10^9	1.49×10^{13}	6.65×10^9
1500	3.64×10^{10}	1.49×10^9	3.57×10^{12}	1.31×10^{10}
1750	7.65×10^{10}	1.65×10^9	3.03×10^{12}	1.41×10^{10}
2000	1.40×10^{11}	1.83×10^9	1.17×10^{12}	5.47×10^9
2500	2.5×10^{11}	1.49×10^9	1.79×10^{11}	8.80×10^8
3000	2.61×10^{11}	8.26×10^9	8.31×10^{10}	4.04×10^8
4000	1.03×10^{11}	6.08×10^9	1.07×10^{11}	4.34×10^8
5000	3.55×10^{10}	4.39×10^7	3.59×10^{11}	5.19×10^8

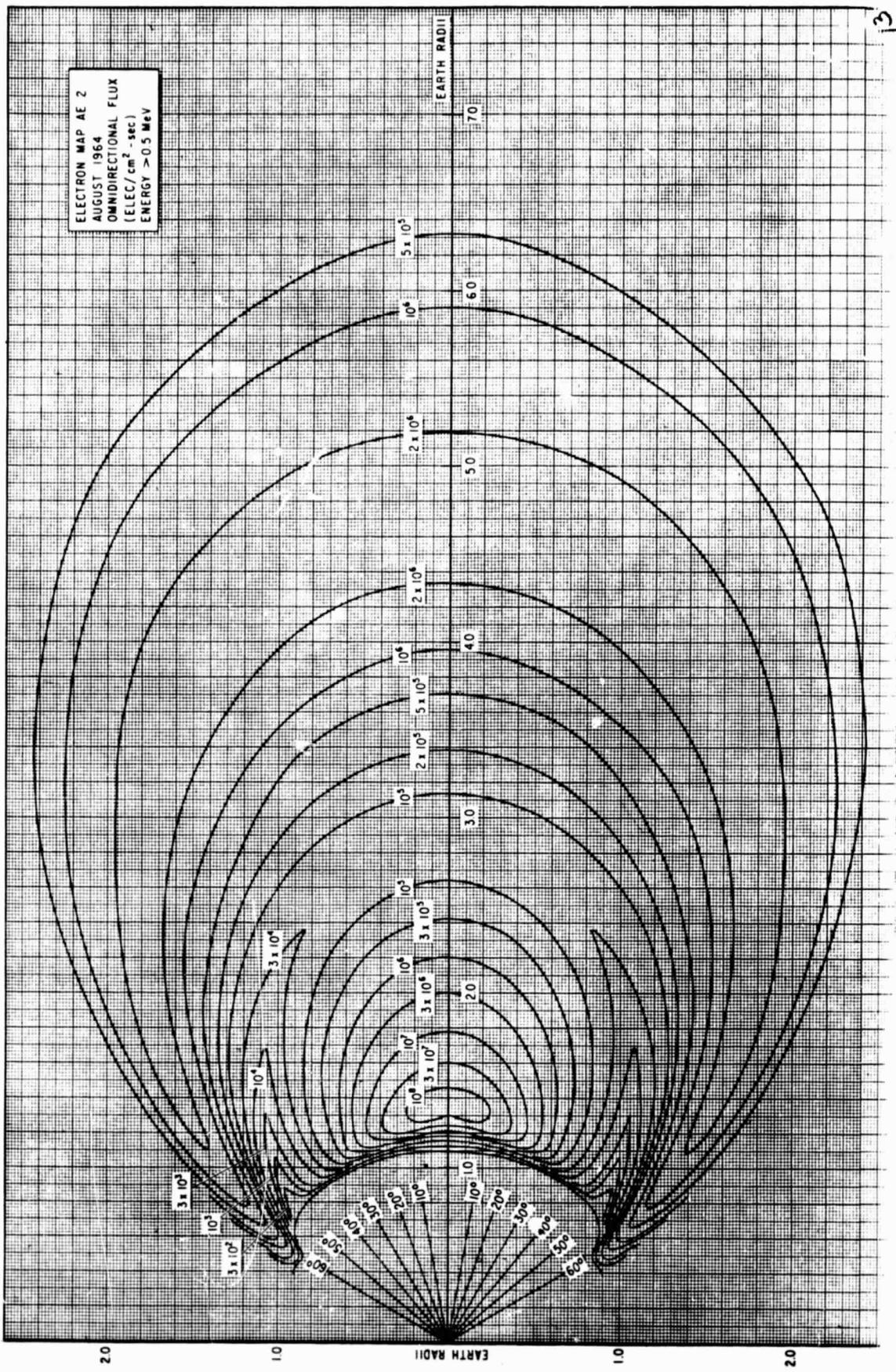


Figure 3-3. Electron Map AE2 August 1964 Omnidirectional Flux (Elec/cm² - sec) Energy > 0.5 mev

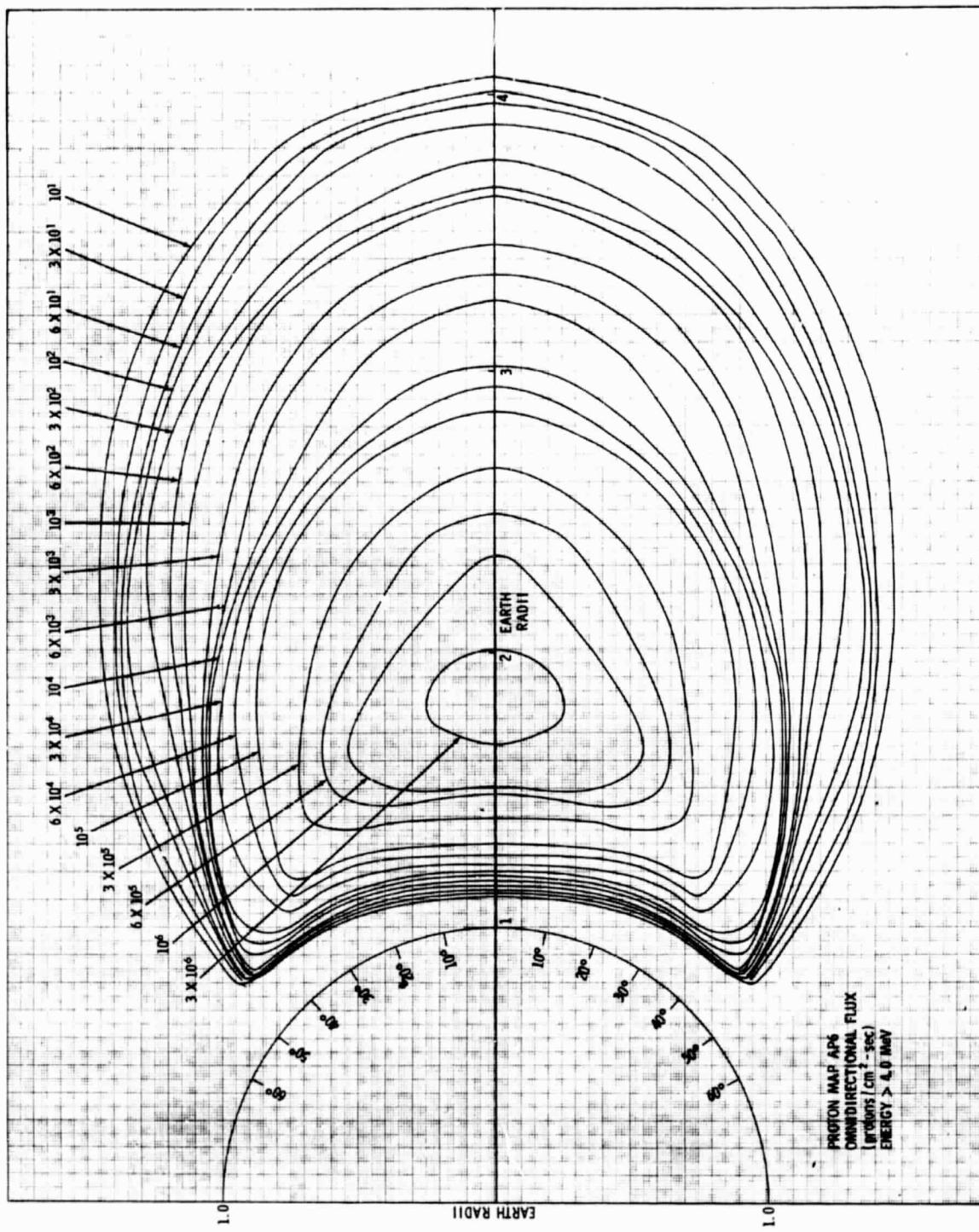


Figure 3-4. Proton Map AP6 Omnidirectional Flux (Protons/cm² -sec) Energy > 4.0 mev

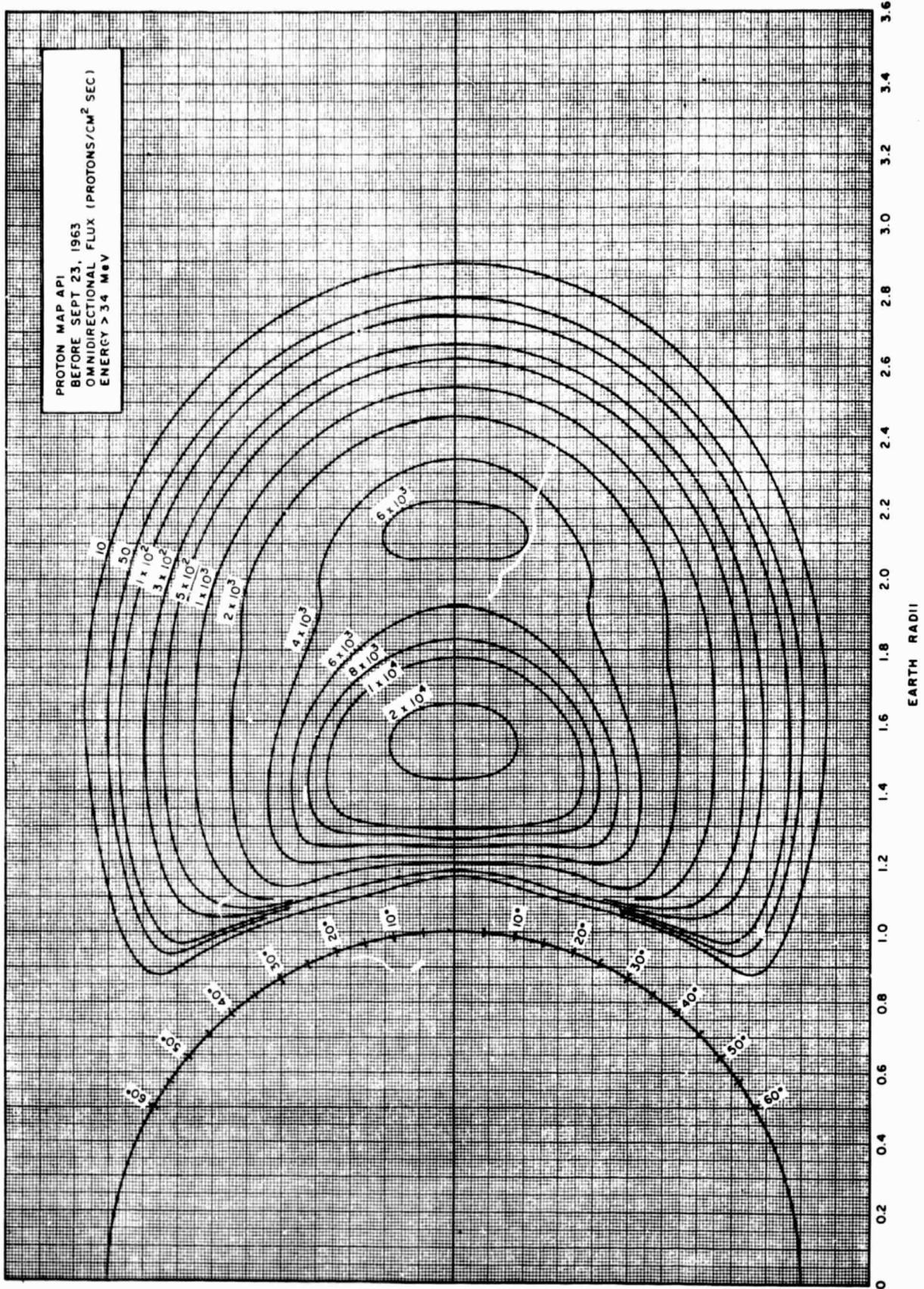


Figure 3-5. Proton Map API Before September 23, 1963 Omnidirectional Flux (Protons/cm² sec)
 Energy > 34 mev

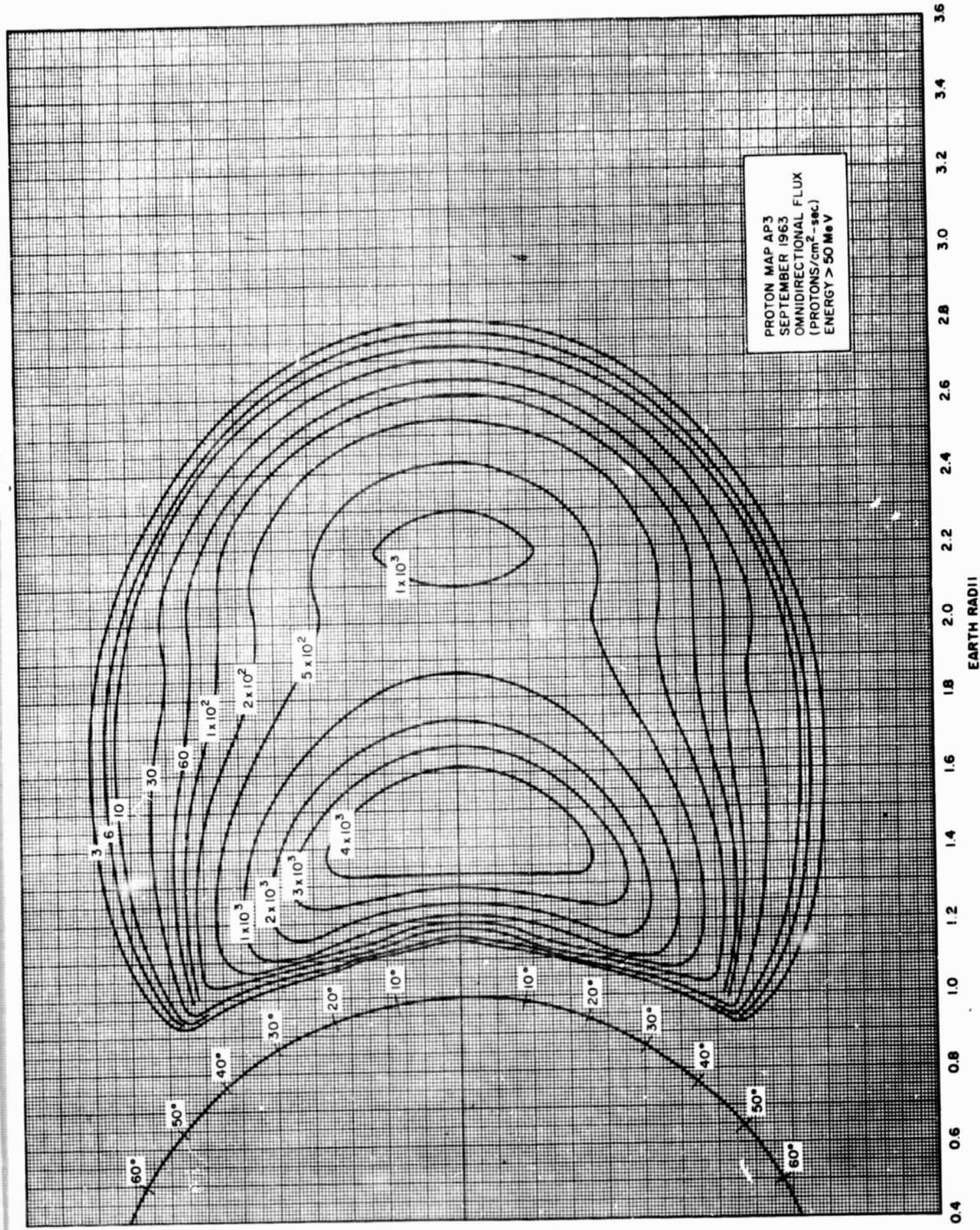


Figure 3-6. Proton Map AP3 September 1963 Omnidirectional Flux (Protons/cm²-sec) Energy > 50 mev

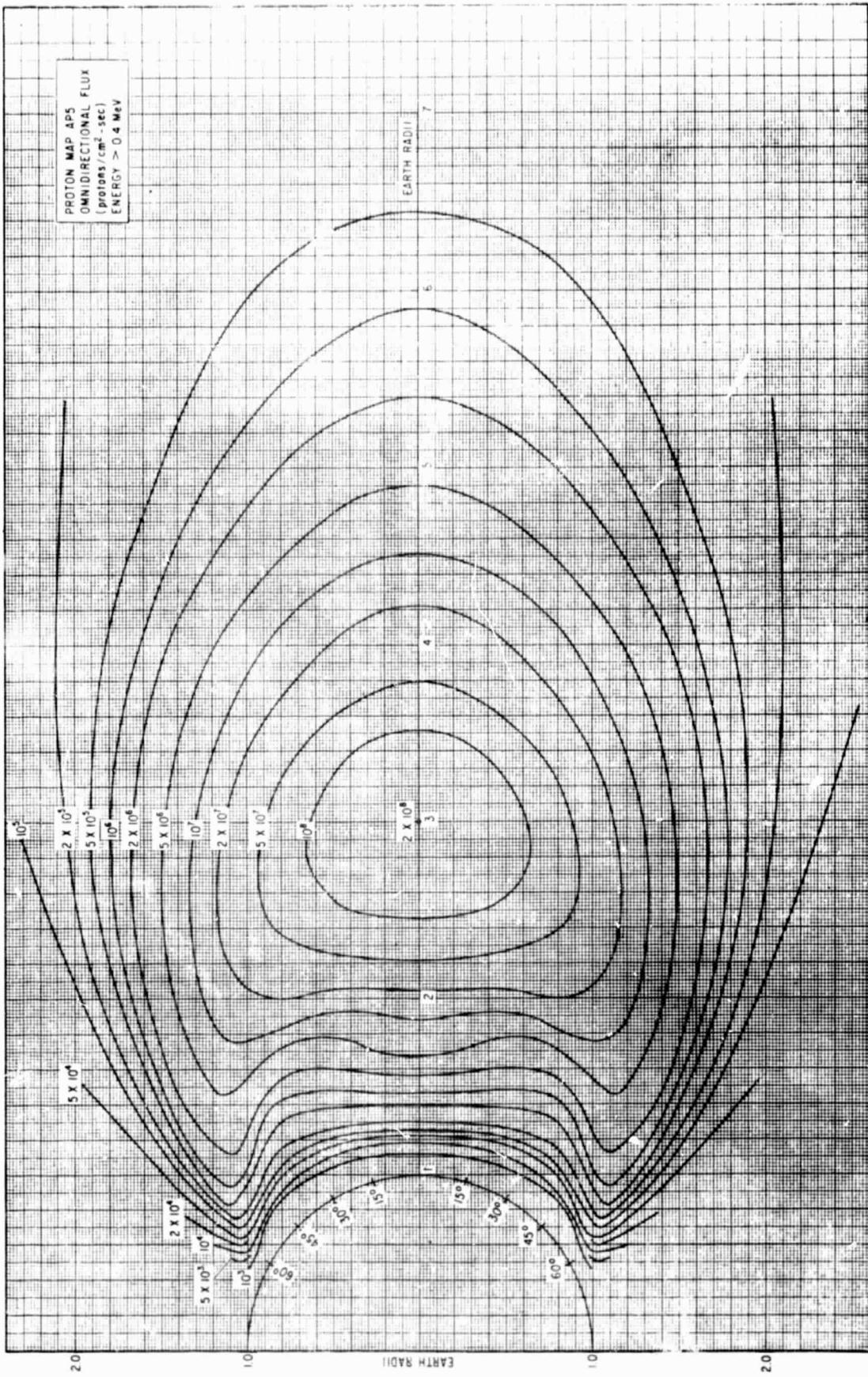


Figure 3-7. Proton Map AP5 Omnidirectional Flux (Protons/cm²-sec) Energy > 0.4 mev

4.0 GAS PROPERTIES

The static diffusion model of the upper atmosphere contained in NASA-TMX-53798 is preferred to the model used in NASA-TMX-53521. Although the preferred model is seriously handicapped by the use of an invariant boundary at 120 kilometers, the model is generally quite acceptable above 250 kilometers and below 1,000 kilometers. It is recommended that the model presented in NASA-TMX-53798 be accepted for use as a design criteria pending future studies directed at extending the model to include self-consistent variable boundary conditions.

For preliminary design purposes, such as evaluating the influence of atmospheric density on particular systems, the range of variation of density likely to be experienced as a function of time is quite useful. The range of variation of density can be obtained through use of the conditions associated with the maximum and minimum of solar activity (Tables 4-I and 4-II).

5.0 ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION

5.1 Solar Radiation Criteria

The solar electromagnetic radiation spectrum shown in Figure 5-1 should be used for the thermal design of space vehicles. Because of the importance of the optical region, the spectral irradiance for that region is tabulated in Table 5-I. The recommended solar constant for the various system conditions is shown in Table 5-II. The tolerance associated with the solar constant is primarily due to the uncertainty as to its absolute magnitude and is not a time variational effect. The time variation of the integrated solar irradiance is shown in Figure 5-2.

5.2 Albedo Radiation Criteria

Using the available data, a mean latitudinal distribution has been constructed and is shown in Figure 5-3. The recommended thermal design criteria is given in Table 5-III. In general, near-Earth orbiting vehicles experience albedo effects for periods of 0.6 to 3 hours (albedo flux considerations become much less significant with greater orbit periods). For systems with a thermal constant between .3 and 3 hours, the suggested tolerance includes the extreme "effective albedos" (as determined by system thermal response) the system may see during a

particular orbit. Systems with small thermal time constants (<20 min.) will respond quickly to variations in the albedo radiation. For this case, the "effective albedo" approaches the measured albedo values, and the tolerance approaches the extreme values of Figure 5-3. For systems with thermal constants <3 hours, global and hemispherical values are of prime importance. The tolerance includes data inaccuracies and a small seasonal variation.

5.3 Earth Thermal Radiation

Assuming the earth-atmosphere system is in near radiative equilibrium and a global albedo of 30%, the equivalent blackbody temperature of the earth-atmosphere system is 254°K , corresponding to an outward long-wave radiation flux of $0.34 \text{ cal cm}^{-2}\text{min}^{-1}$. A mean latitudinal distribution is given in Figure 5-4. There are no seasonal variations of the global or hemispheric averages of the outgoing long-wave earth radiation. No statistically significant seasonal variations at particular latitudes have been established either. The design values are given in Table 5-IV. The discussion of the tolerances for the albedo apply here as well. The small suggested tolerances (percentage-wise) reflect the relatively small impact of the thermal radiation upon the thermal state of orbiting systems.

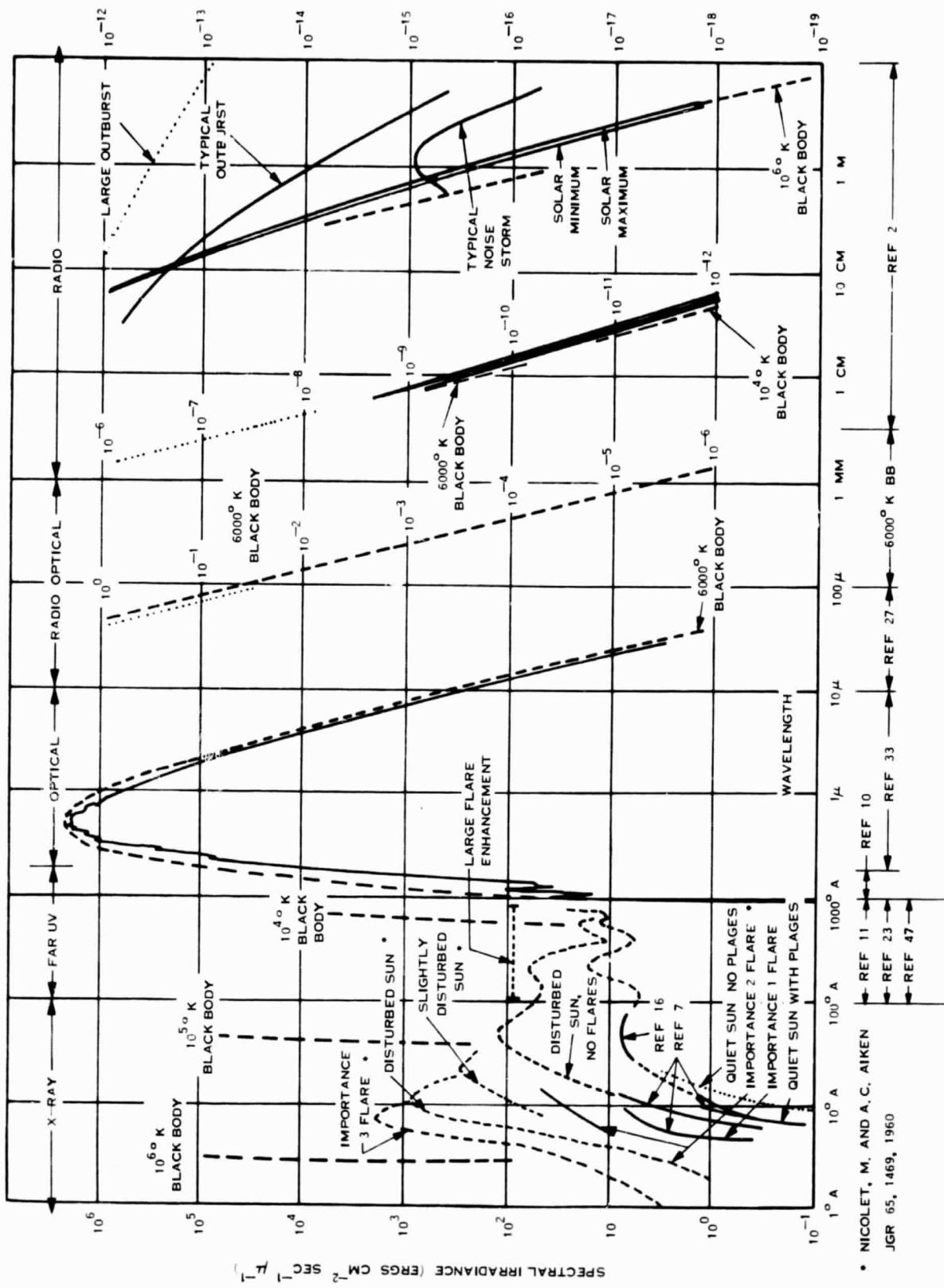


Figure 5-1. The Solar Electromagnetic Radiation Spectrum. Solid Lines Represent Measurements; Dotted Lines, Estimates. (From Malitson, 1965; Includes Data Update where Applicable)

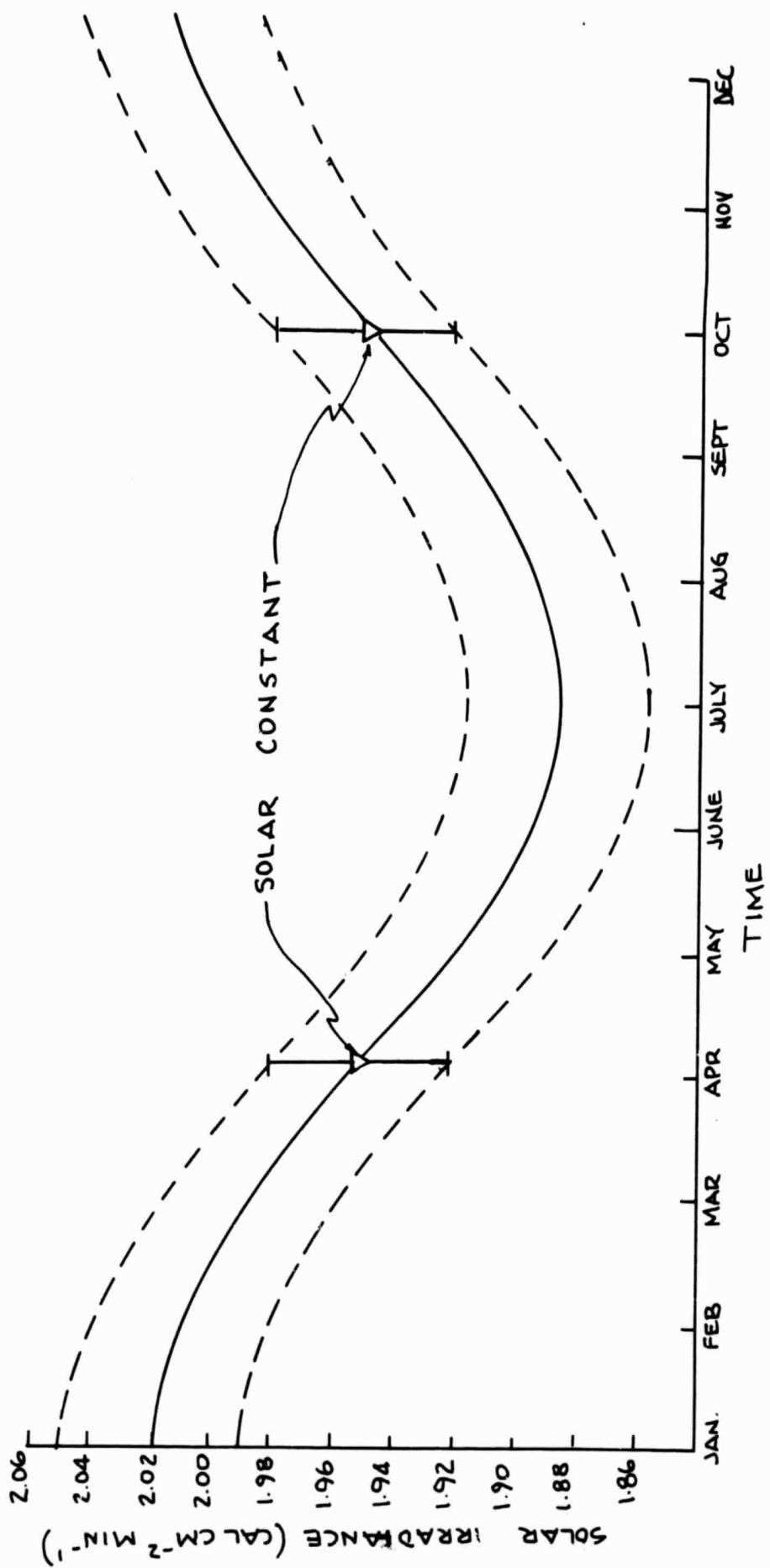


Figure 5-2. Variation of Integrated Solar Irradiance Above the Atmosphere with Time.

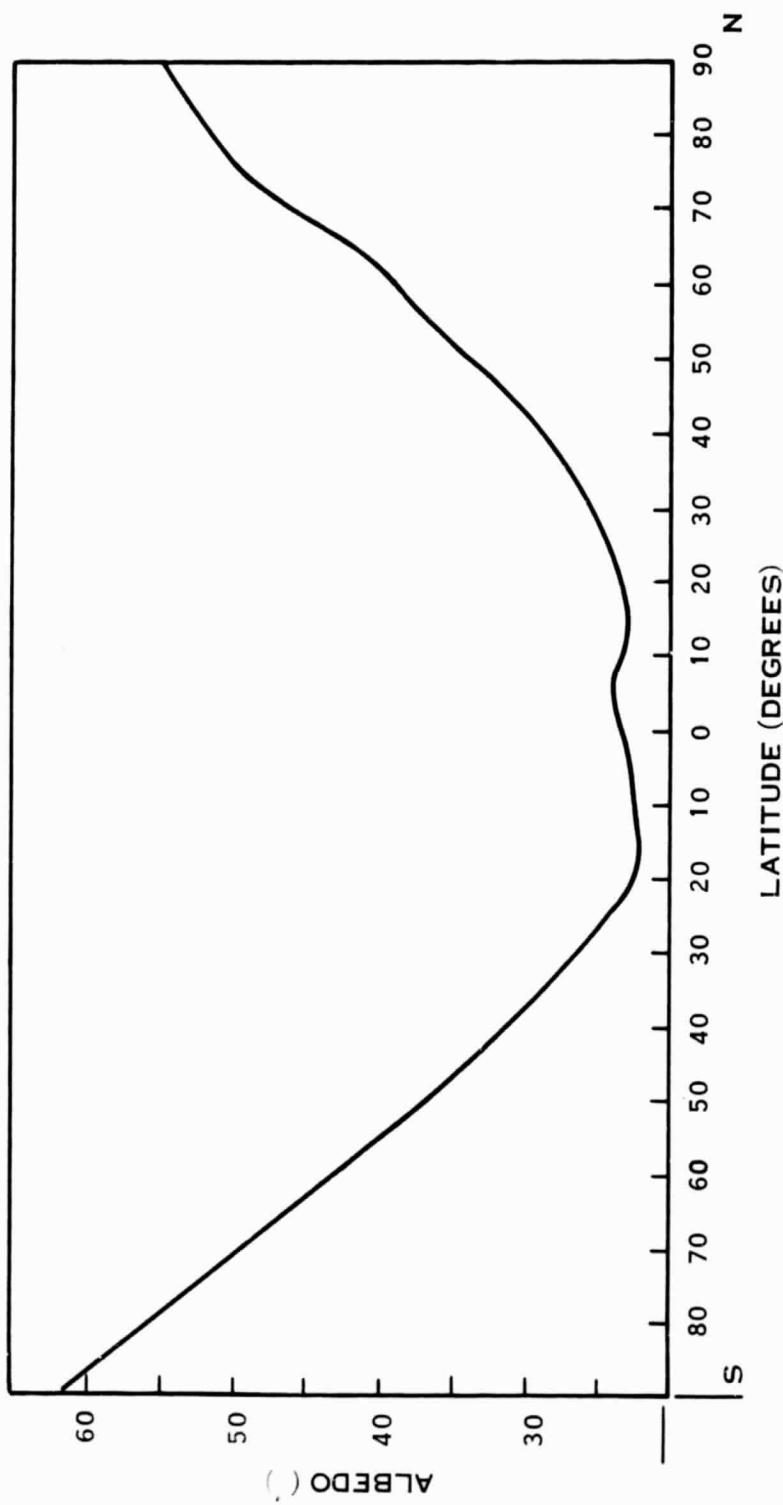


Figure 5-3. Mean Latitudinal Distribution of Albedo

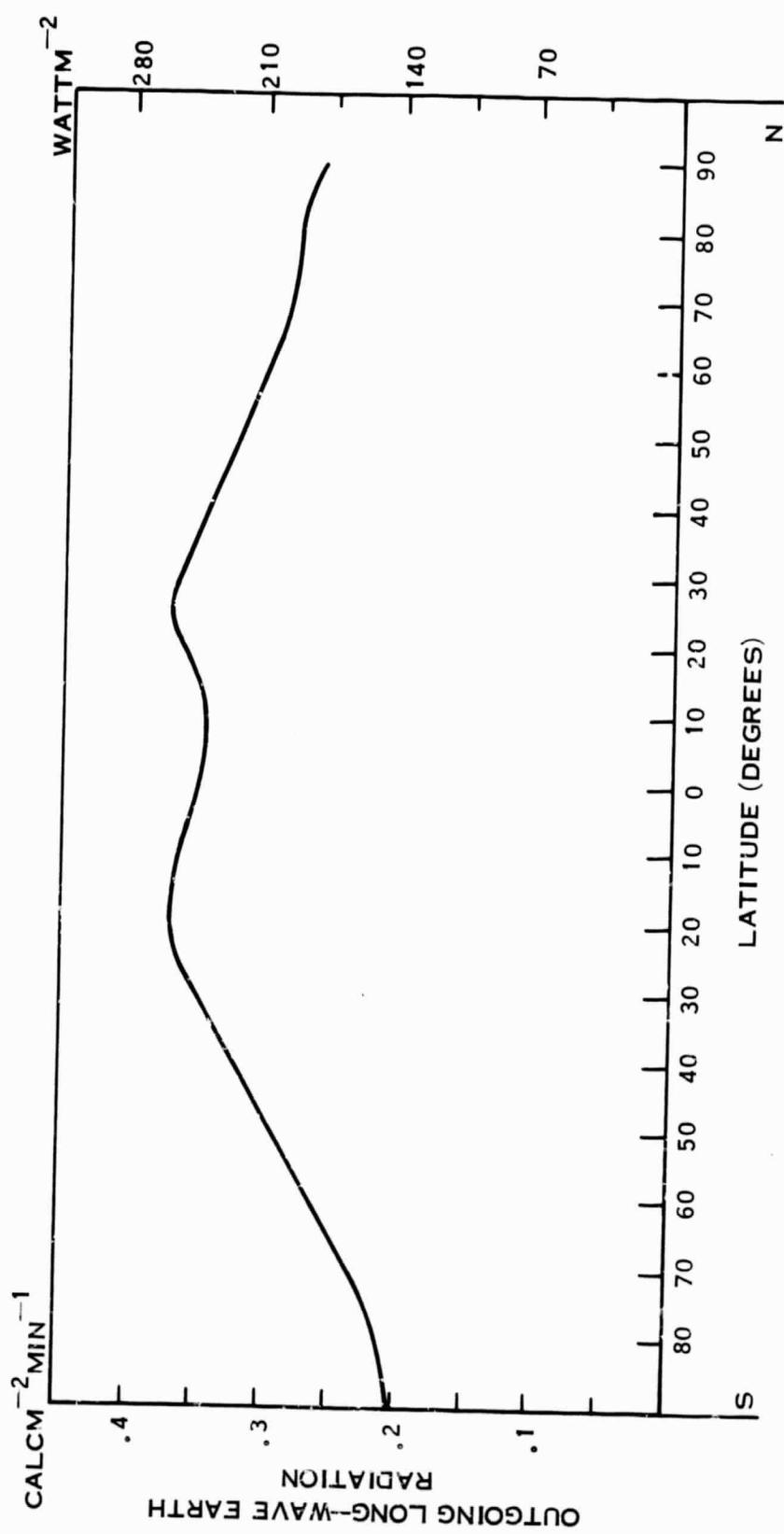
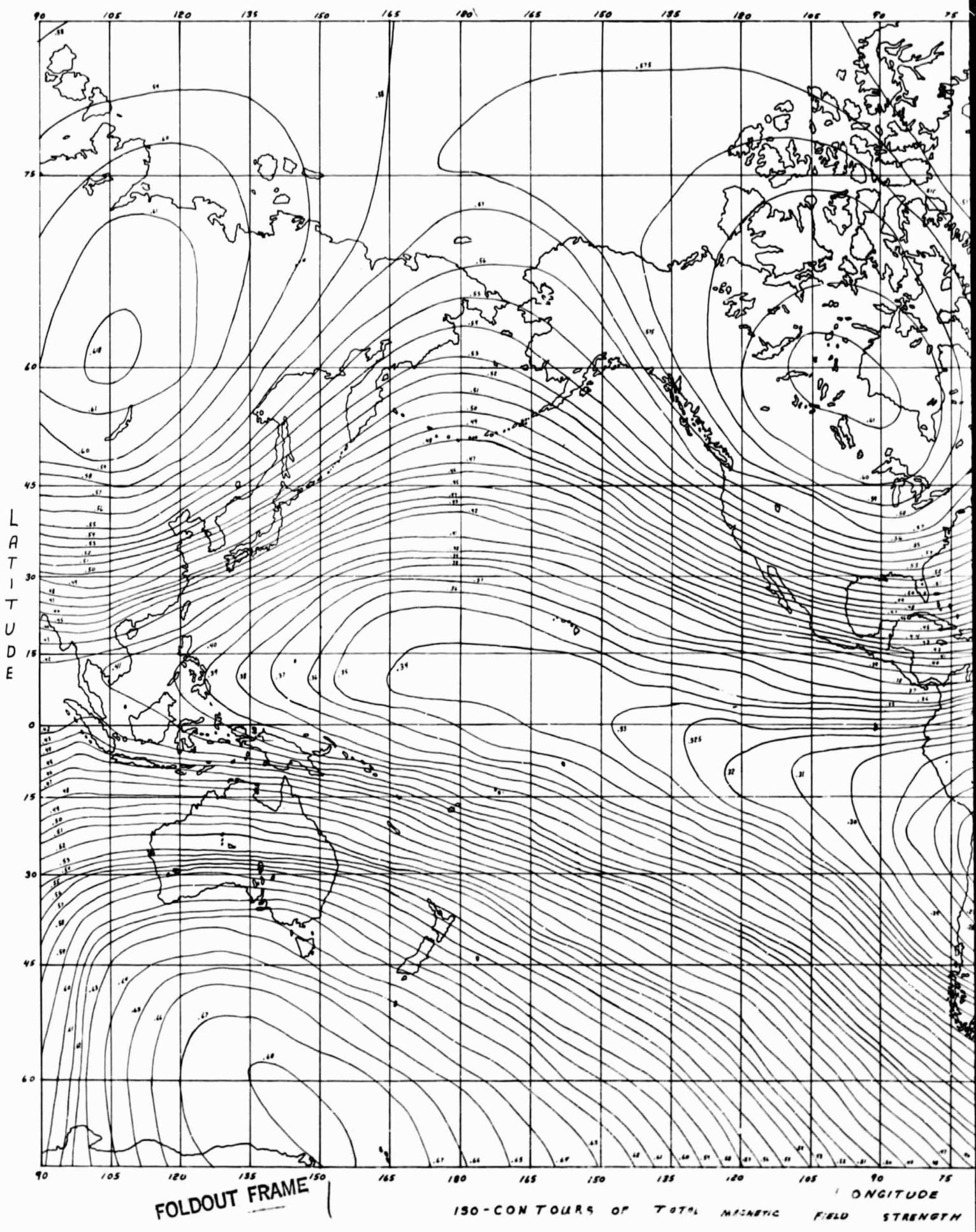
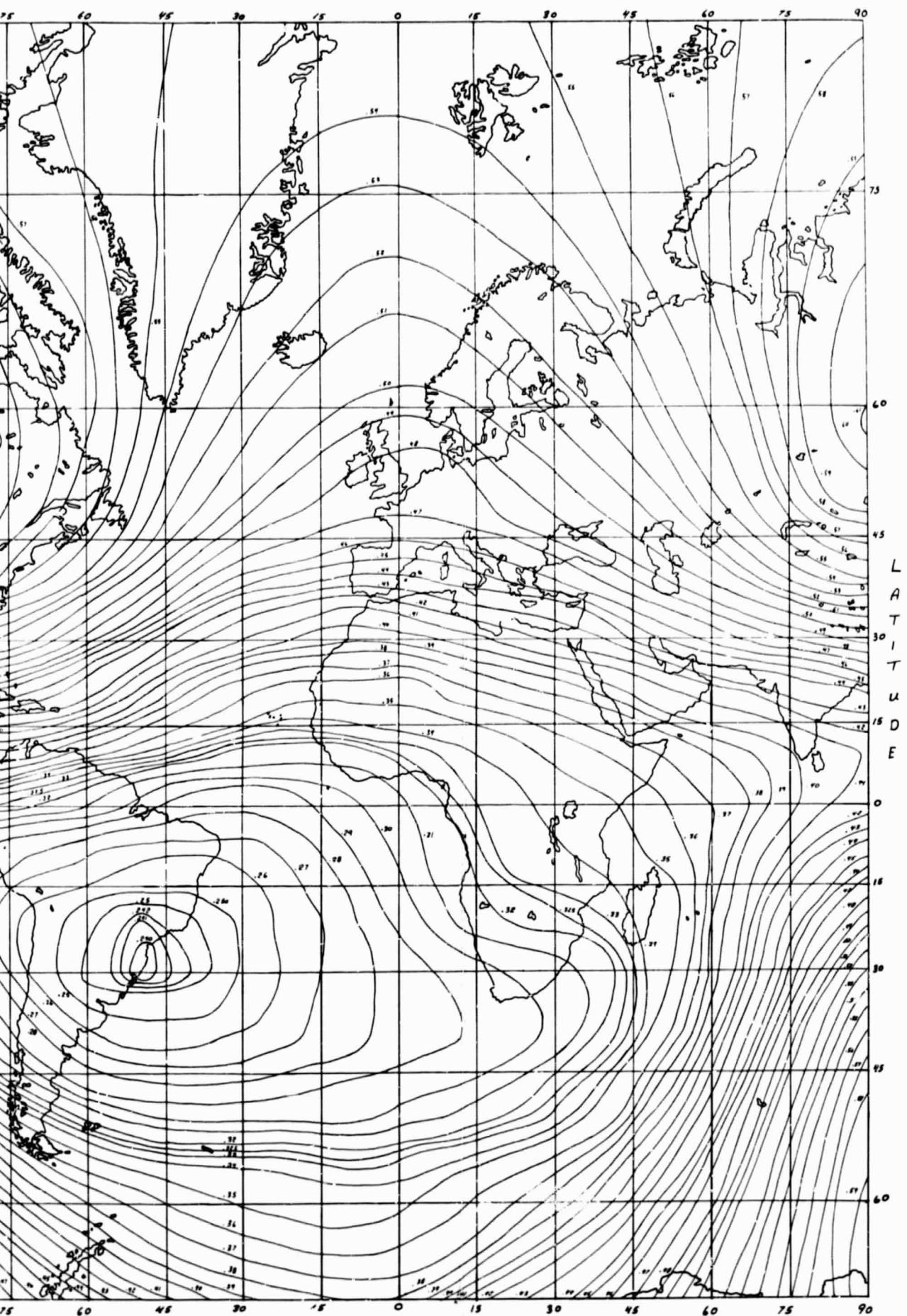


Figure 5-4. Mean Latitudinal Distribution of Outgoing Long-Wave Radiation

6.0 GEOMAGNETIC FIELD

The total field strength at selected altitudes is presented in Figure 6-1 through to 6-7 and was obtained using the NASA-GSFC coefficients published in May 1968. For those instances where additional information is required, such as the component variations, dip angles, etc., it is recommended that use be made of the computerized version of the geomagnetic field contained in: "NASA-GSFC - Data Users Note - NSSDC 68-11, May, 1968".

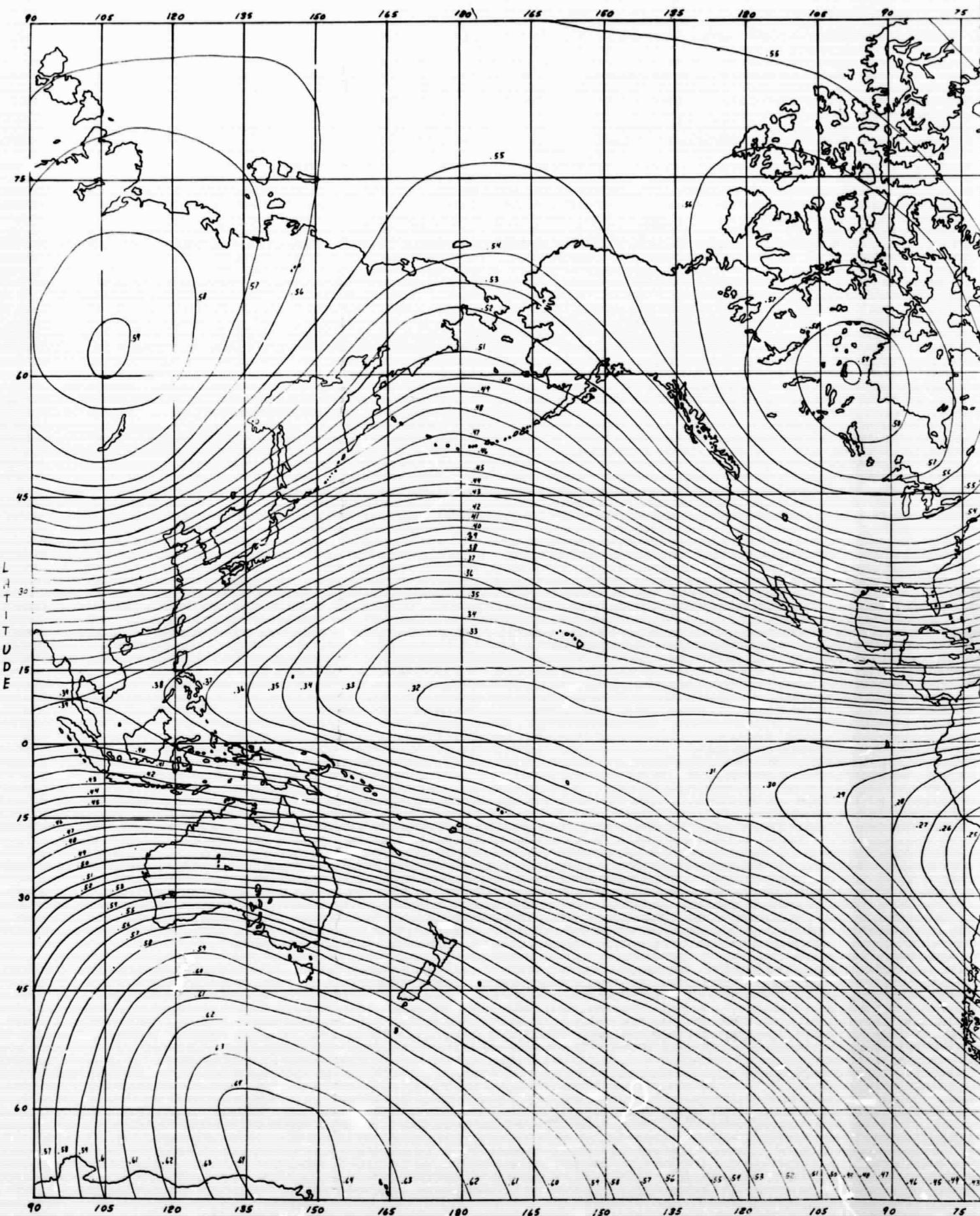




TM (GAUSS)

N = 0 NM

Figure 6-1. FOLDOUT FRAME 6-2



FOLDOUT FRAME /

LONGITUDE
ISO - CONTOURS OF TOTAL MAGNETIC FIELD STRENGTH

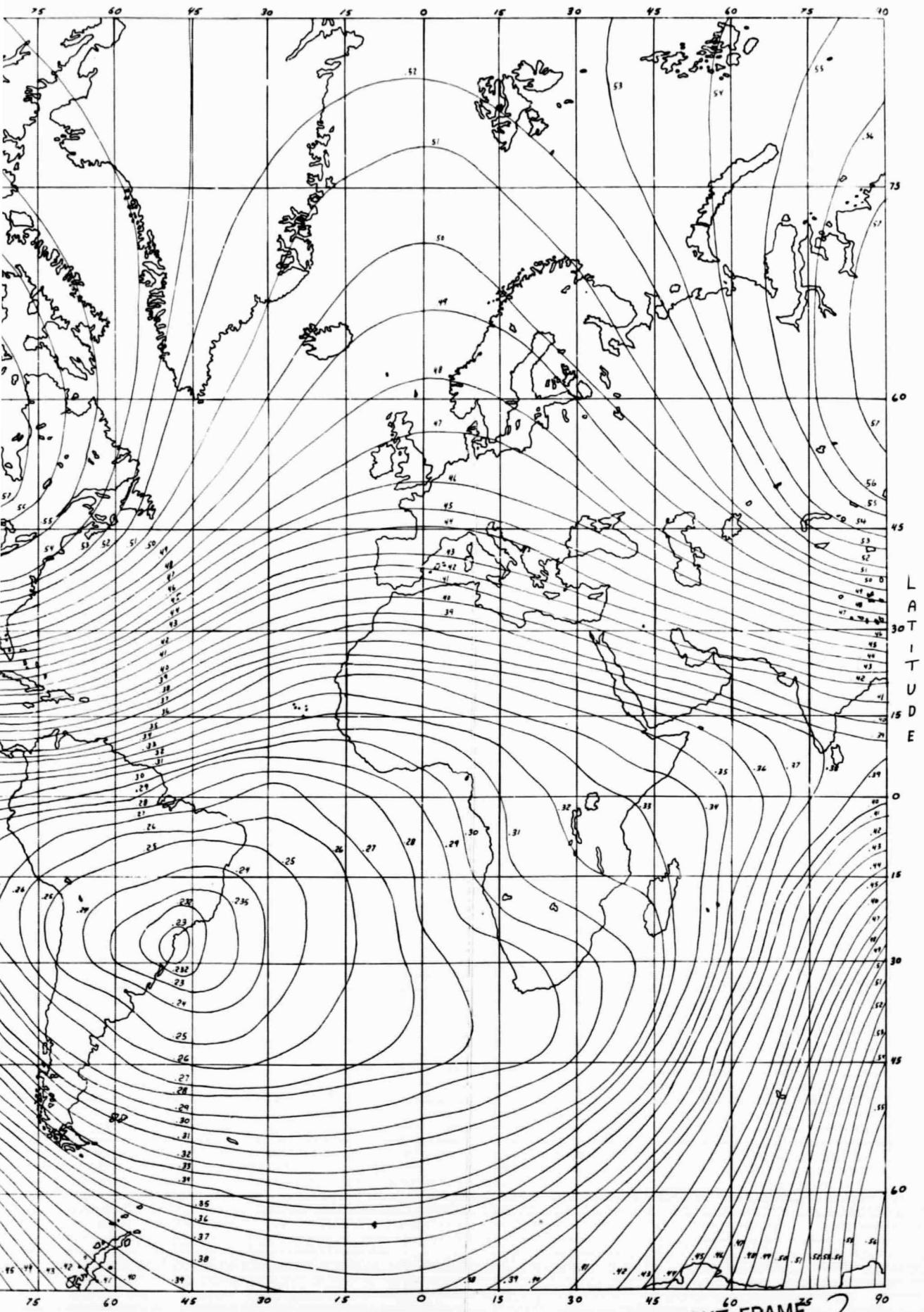
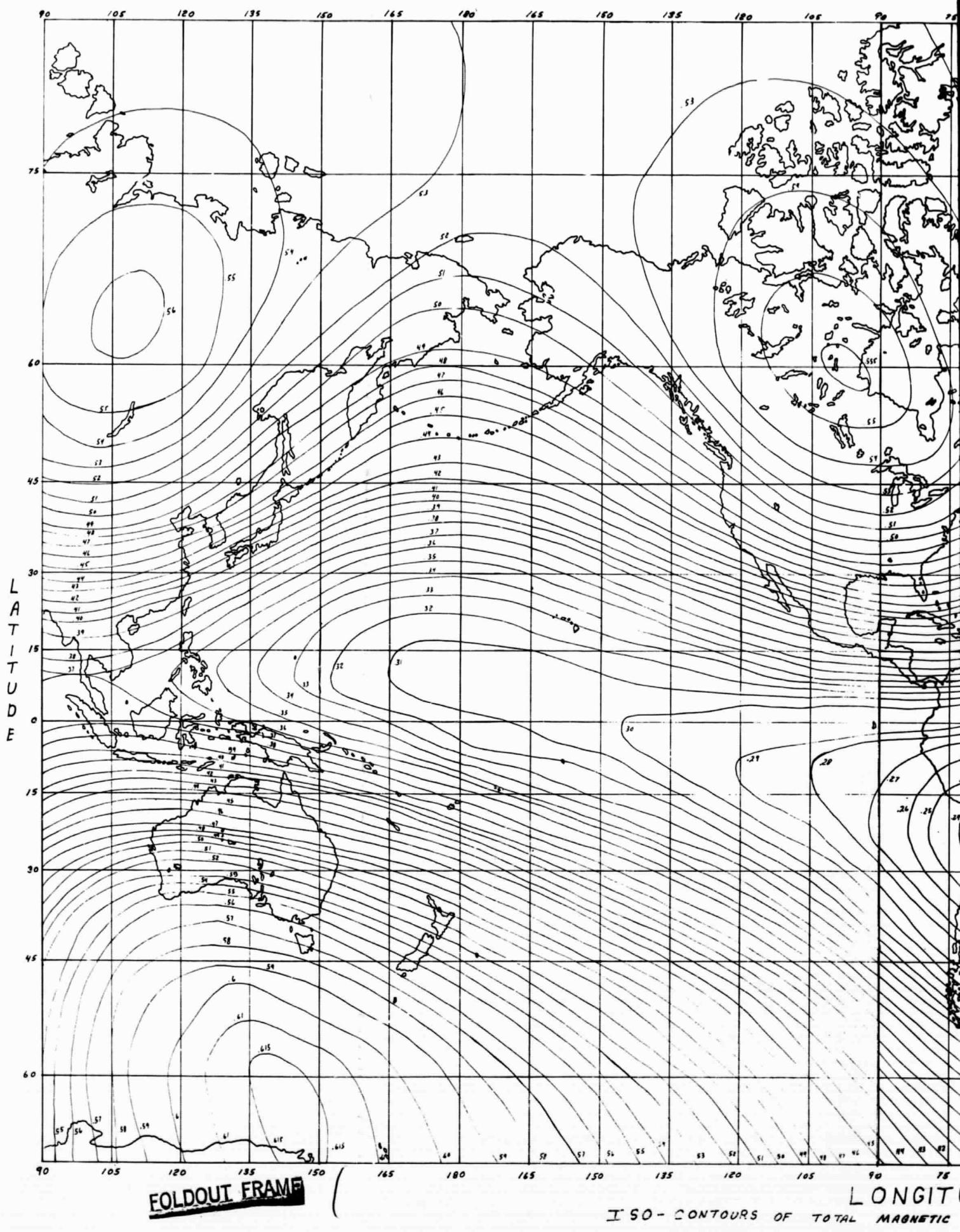


Figure 6-2.

6-3



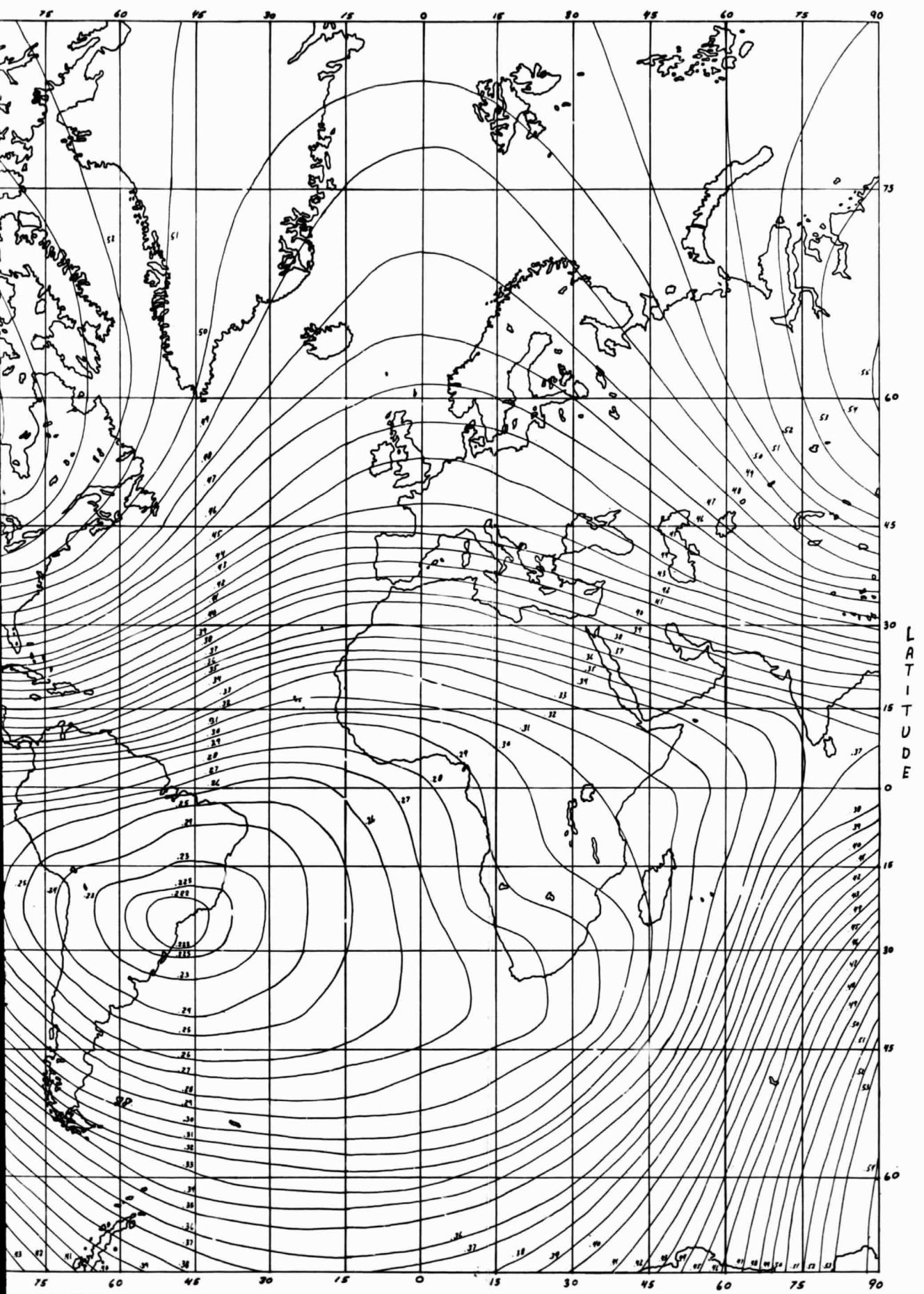
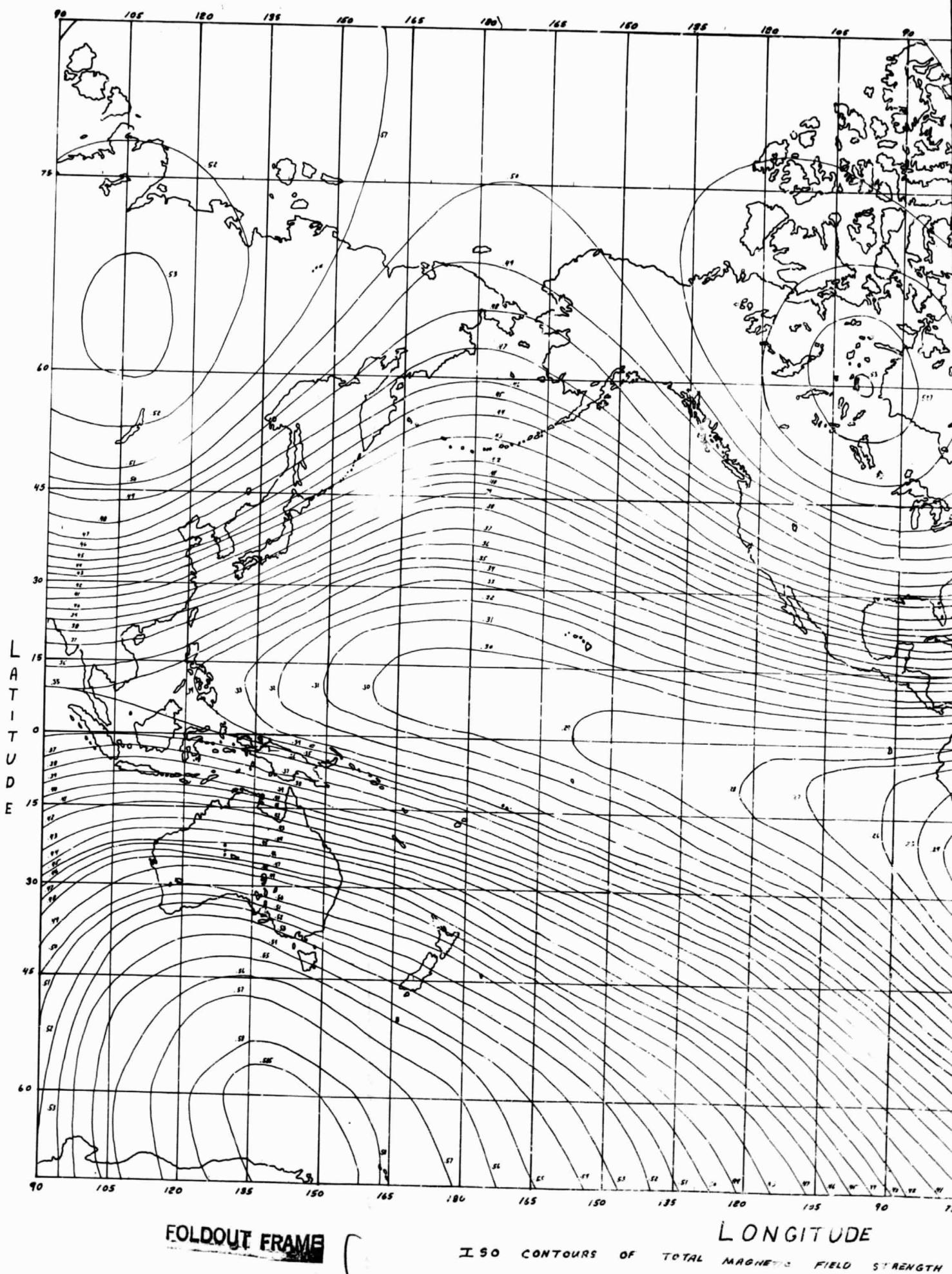
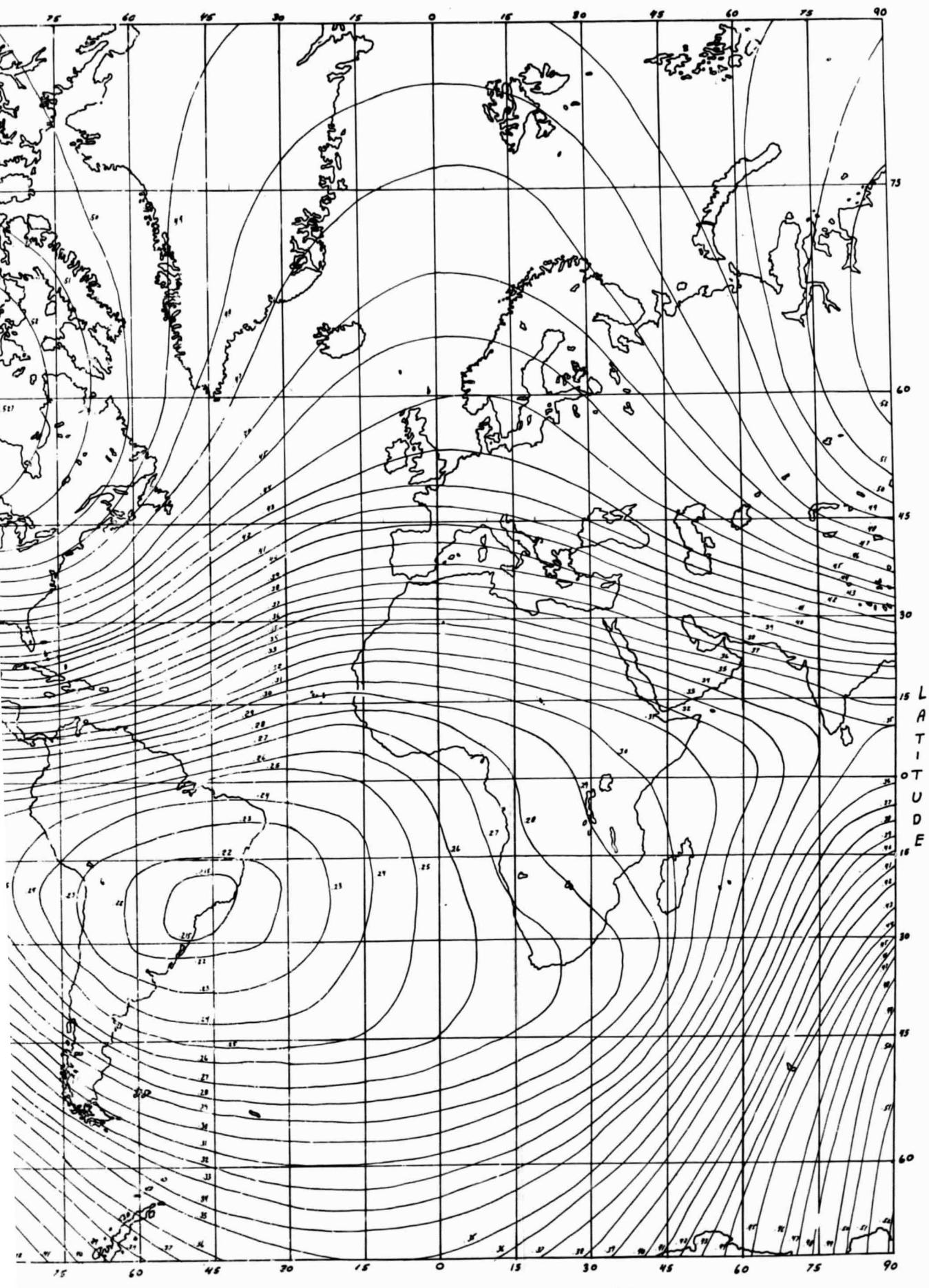
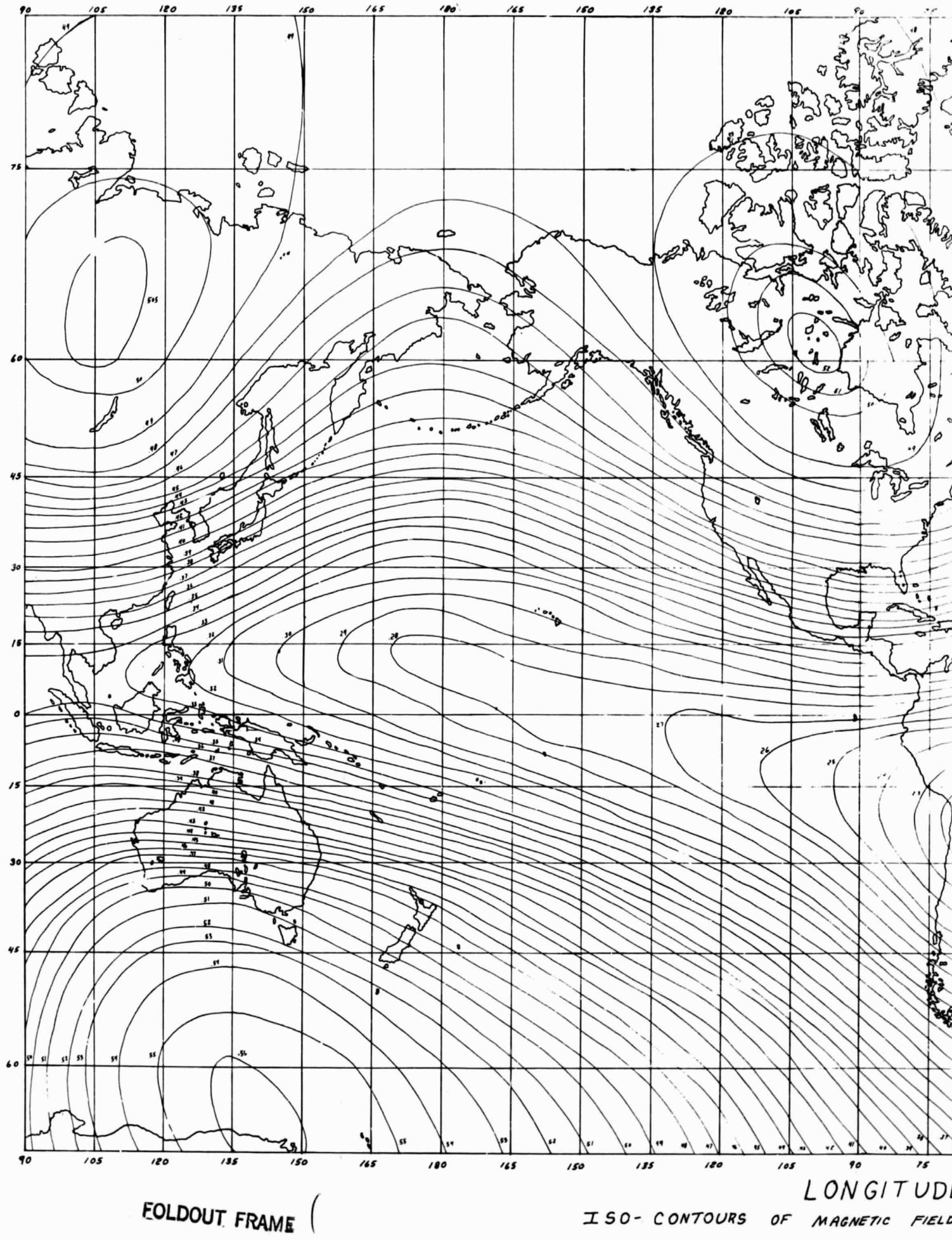
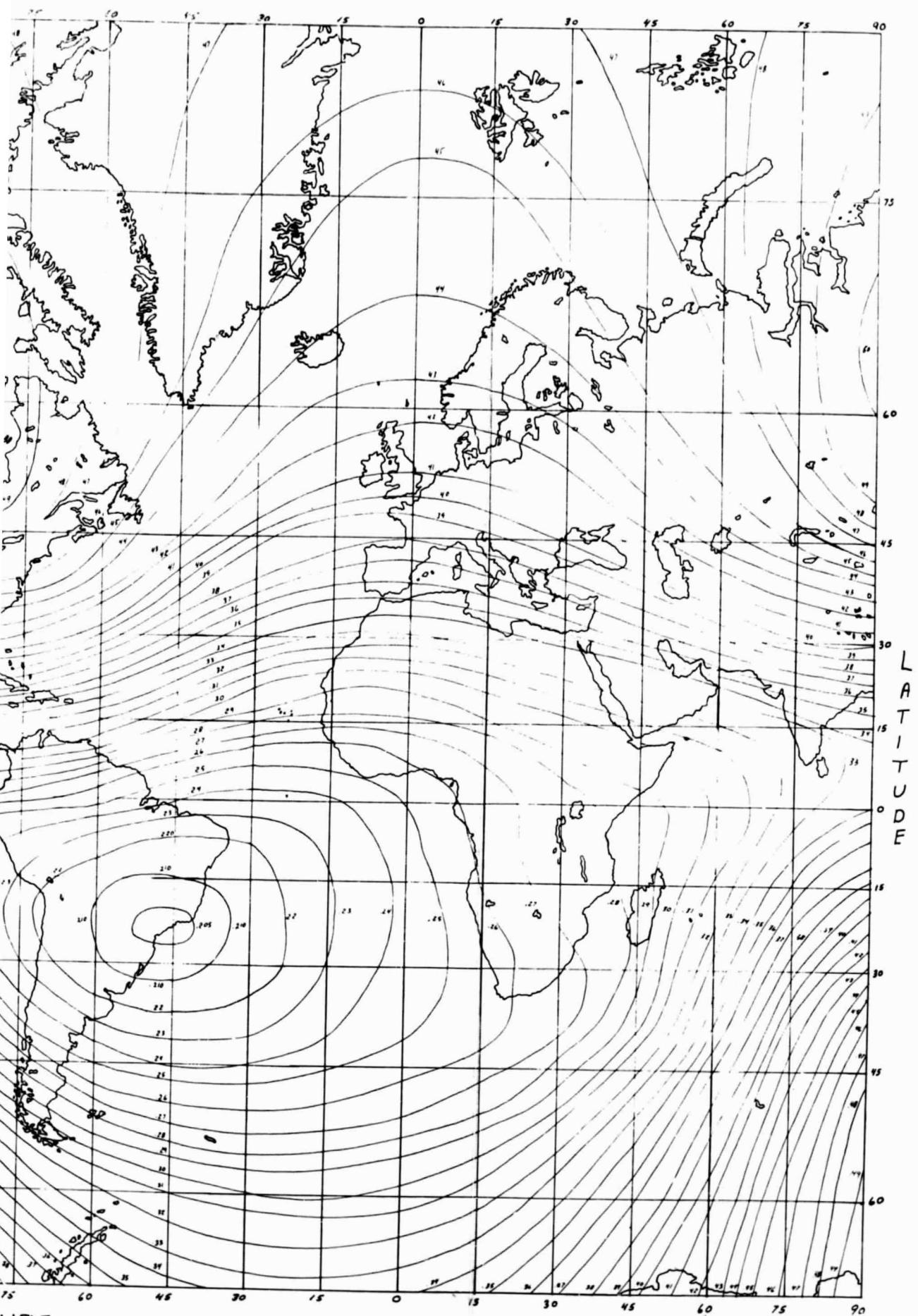


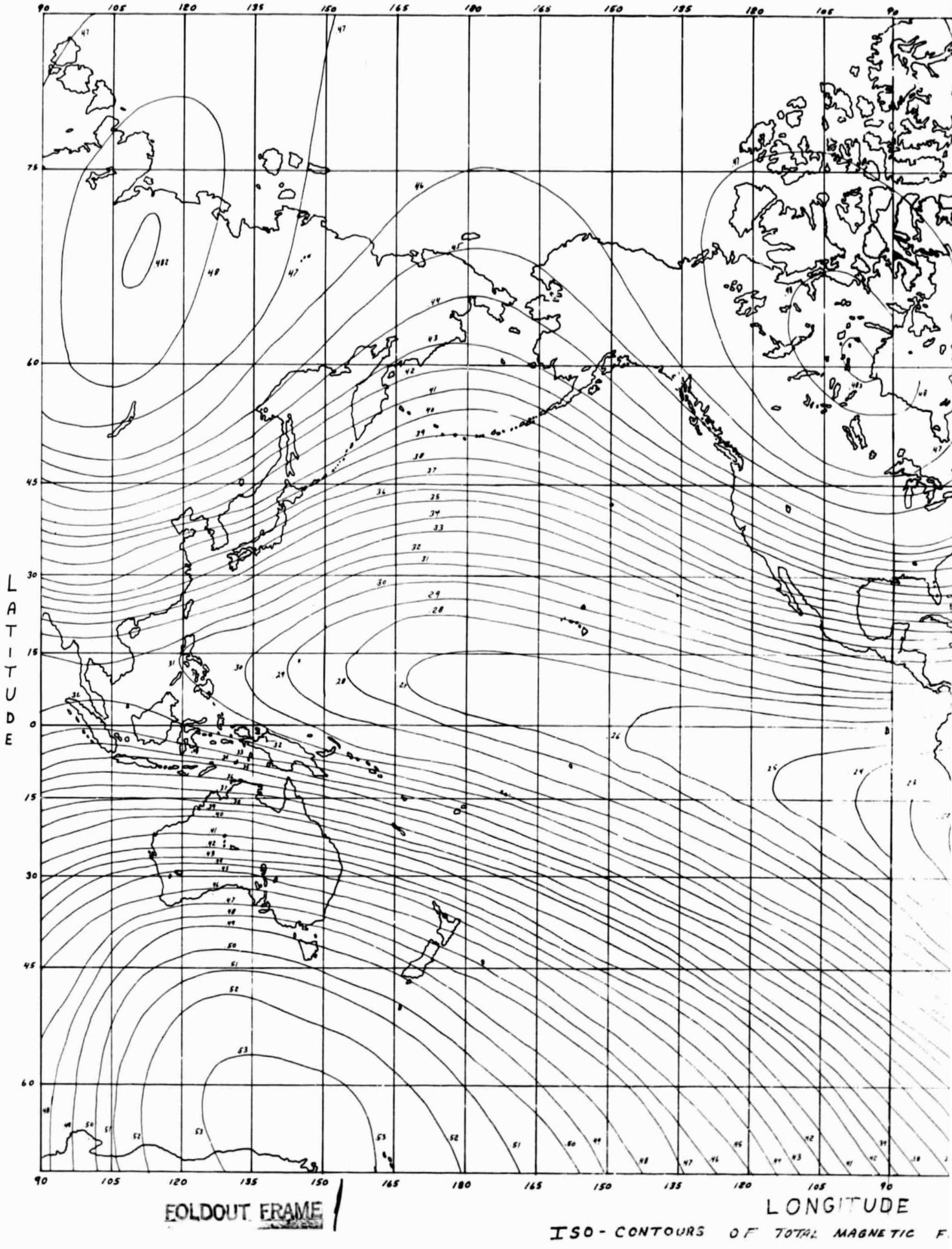
Figure 6-3. FOLDOUT FRAME 6-4
2







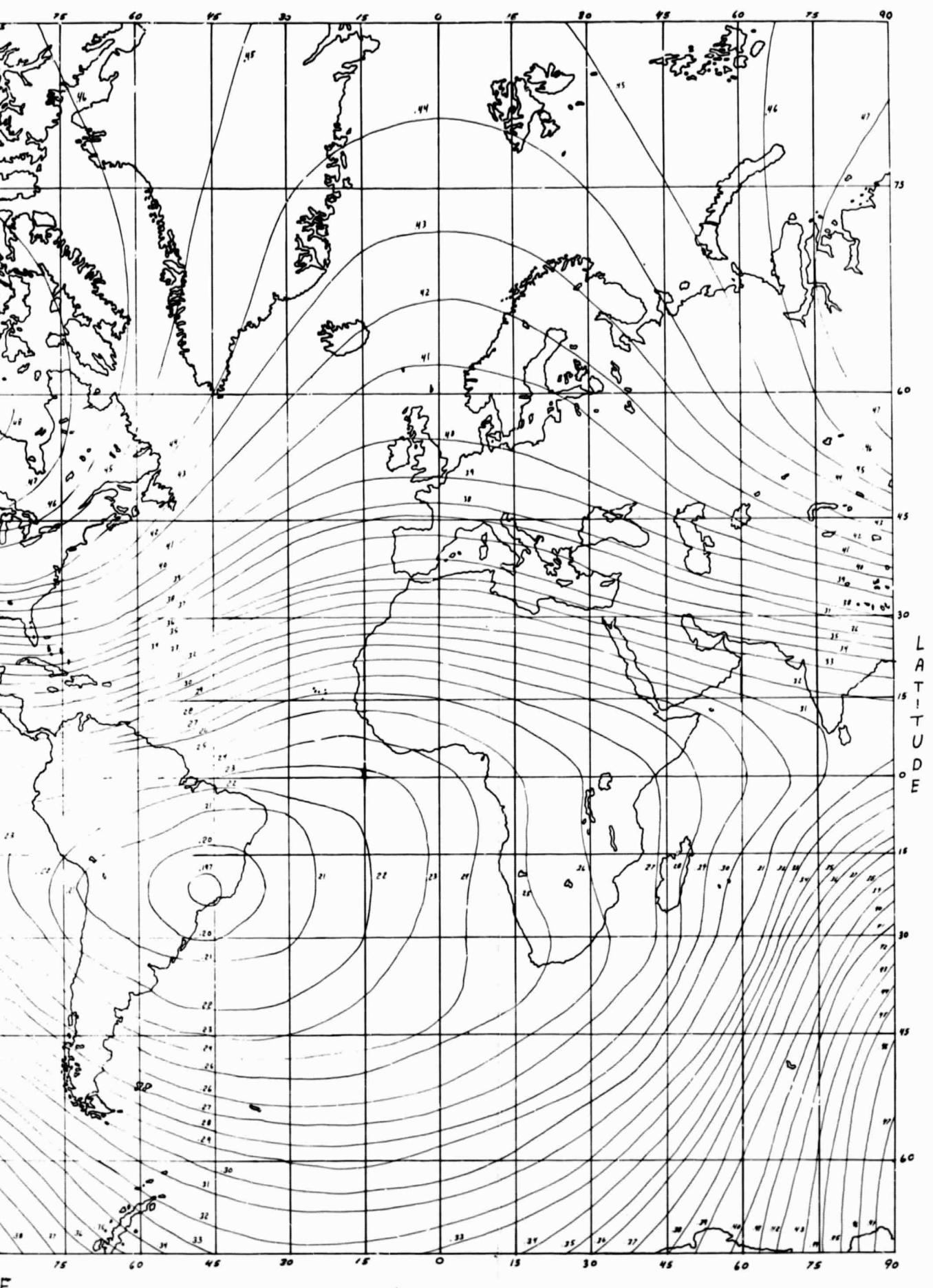




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LONGITUDE

ISO - CONTOURS OF TOTAL MAGNETIC F.

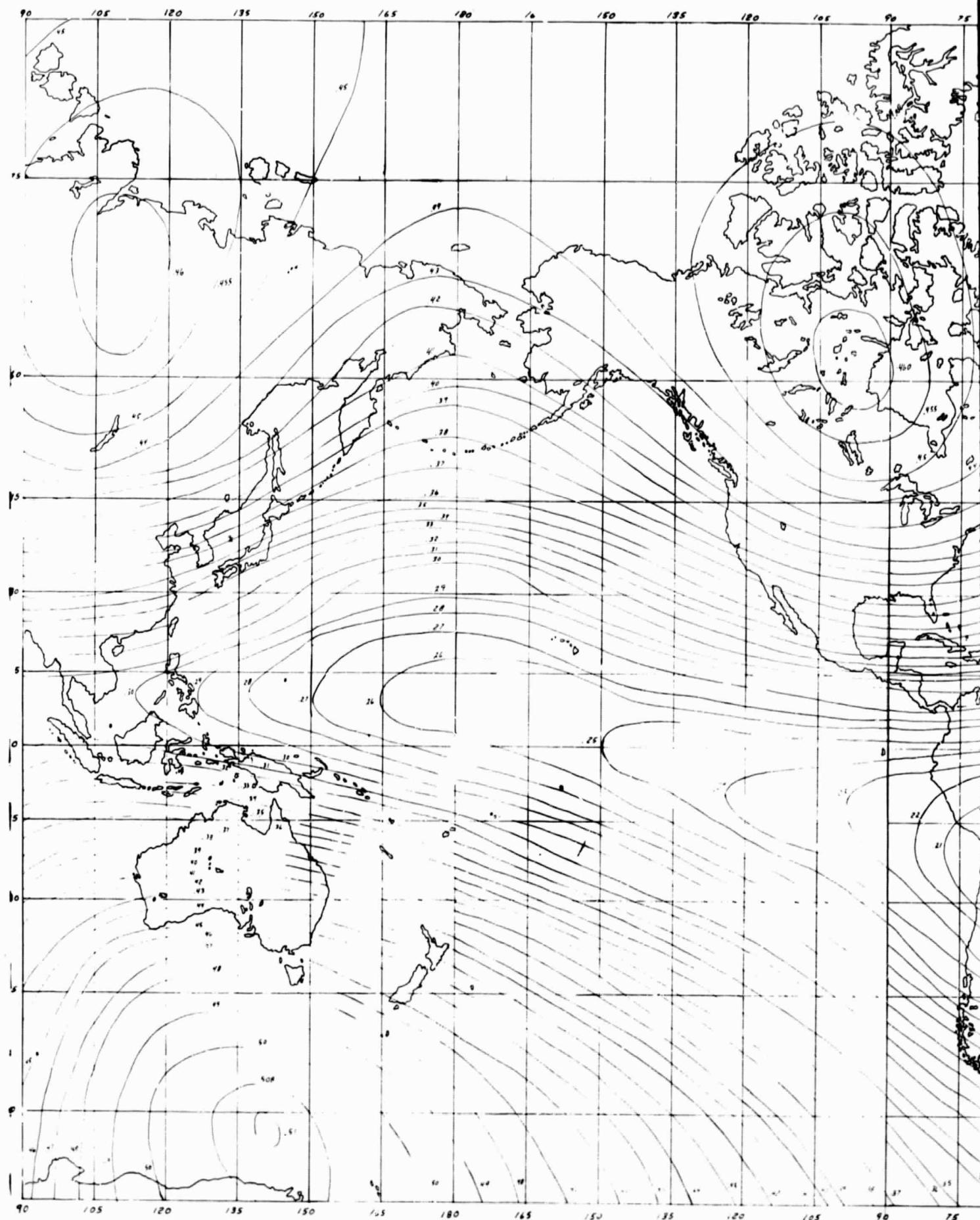


MAGNETIC FIELD STRENGTH (GAUSS) $h = 500 \text{ KM}$

Figure 6-6.

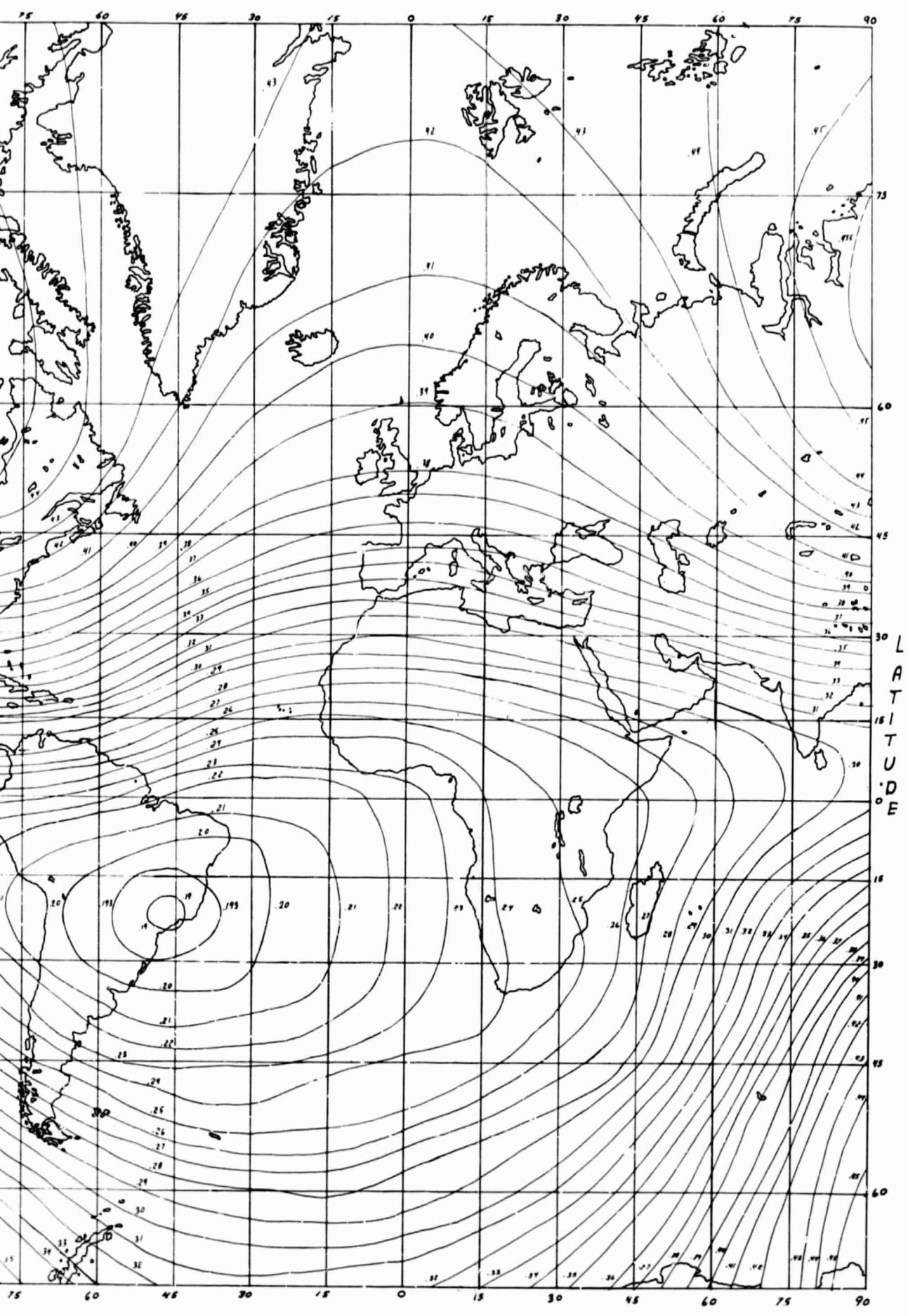
6-7

FOLDOUT FRAME 2



FOLDOUT FRAME

LONGITUDE
ISO-CONTOURS OF MAGNETIC FIELD



E FIELD STRENGTH (GAUSS) $h = 600 \text{ km}$

Figure 6-7.

6-8

FOLDOUT FRAME

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