

**SÉANCE DU VENDREDI 5 OCTOBRE, MATIN.**

**PRÉSIDENT DE SÉANCE : J. M. RAMBERG.**

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## **L'ORGANISATION DES CAMPAGNES DE PROSPECTION**

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**RAMBERG.** — According to the agenda, the discussions this morning are to be concentrated on field surveys. We are very sorry that our Russian colleagues from the Pulkovo Observatory, Drs. Melnikov and Kutcherov, have not arrived; I am sure that all of us would have been extremely interested in hearing about their experiences. We are glad, however, that other astronomers with great experience of field surveys and seeing expeditions will be able to tell us about site testing in Southern Africa, Chile and Australia.

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### **I. — AFRIQUE DU SUD**

**J. DOMMANGET.**

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I have not prepared anything on the subject of the present session.

The best I can do is to take as an example the organization of the field survey in Southern Africa, by the European Southern Observatory (E. S. O.) with which I was collaborating from November 1955 to March 1957.

When one arrives in a big country such as South Africa, one is quite undecided about the way to conduct a site survey, because of the extent of the country and of the small number of people available. In our case, we were four members only.

Under these conditions, there are, in my opinion, two completely different methods of approaching the problem. The first one consists in choosing, on a map, without climatologic or orographic considerations, a regular network of stations at which observations of image quality shall be made. Another method consists in choosing some stations in the different climatological and geographical regions of the country, for the first tests.