

Jupiter season is back

Telescope: **AS80** (Zeiss AS80/1200 mm)

Eyepieces:

A-10 - Zeiss ZAO-I 10, $f=10\text{mm}$, ($120\times$, 24')

Time: 2014/12/26 23:00-00:15UT

Location: Říčany

Weather: Good transparency with excellent seeing.

Accessories: Baader 1.25" zenith prism



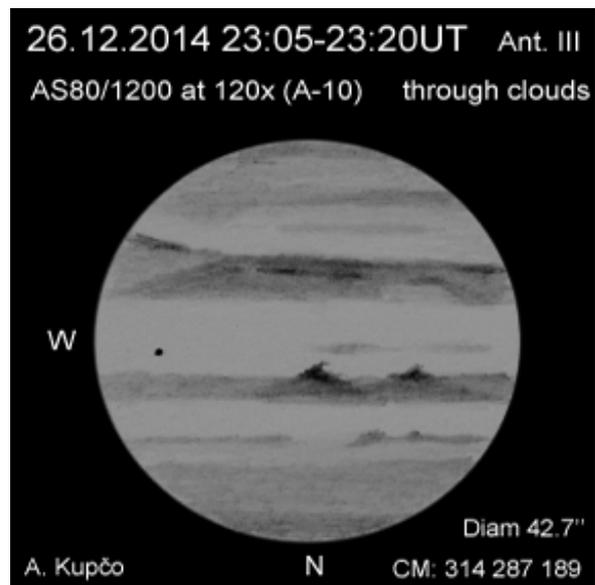
There were not many opportunities to observe Jupiter during this upcoming opposition. The forecast looked good for the second Christmas day so I put my two AS80 lenses in the evening on the windowsill.

At the midnight, I got nervous, as the clouds were still there. Being desperate, I started to draw Jupiter through clouds. In short moments, I was able to glimpse some interesting details although it was hard to record them correctly. You can see the result on the first sketch.

When I was done, the clouds completely disappeared. I was on my way to bed but I decided to stay longer. I switched the lens from the GDR times AS80 to older lens from WW-II. It has nice brass cell and no coatings. At those times, the coating was a war secret technology and Zeiss was not applying them to their astronomical lenses apparently. Although I judge the optics of this old lens slightly better from the optics of AS80 from GDR times, I use it rarely to keep it in the best preserved state. Anyway, the newer AS80 lens is excellent as well.

I was definitely glad I stayed. Seeing was very good and Jupiter was full of details. I simply could not record all of them. I'm not skilled enough in sketching to capture for example subtle changes of greys in the equatorial belt which was showing in short moments rich texture.

In addition, a Czech amateur fellow Jakub Dobeš captured nicely Jupiter through his 250mm Dobson at the same time. This happens rarely, especially with



very good conditions, which are rare by themselves. I could not resist putting his excellent result together with my sketch, see the picture in next page. It looks like my fantasy was not too much on loose.

I wish there were more nights like this. I feel that there is more that could be seen on Jupiter with humble 80mm lens. If only there were more opportunities as more practice is required from my side to improve my observing skills.

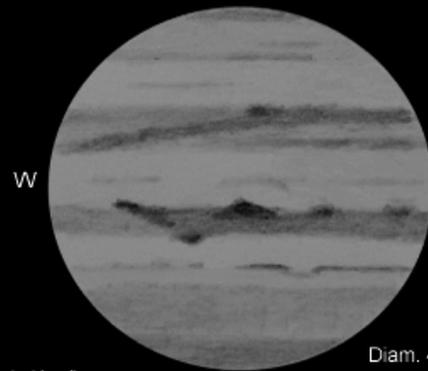
Alexander Kupčo

Jakub Dobeš

26.12.2014



26.12.2014 23:40-23:50UT Ant II
old AS80 at 120x (A-10)



A. Kupčo

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Diam. 42.7"
CM 336 310 211

SW 250/1200, ASI 120 Mc, 5 mm hyp