

TRANSIT OF MERCURY

NOVEMBER 11, 2019

VIEWED FROM LICK OBSERVATORY

MOUNT HAMILTON, CA.

PHOTOS BY RICK BALDRIDGE

Transit of Mercury: 2019 Nov 11

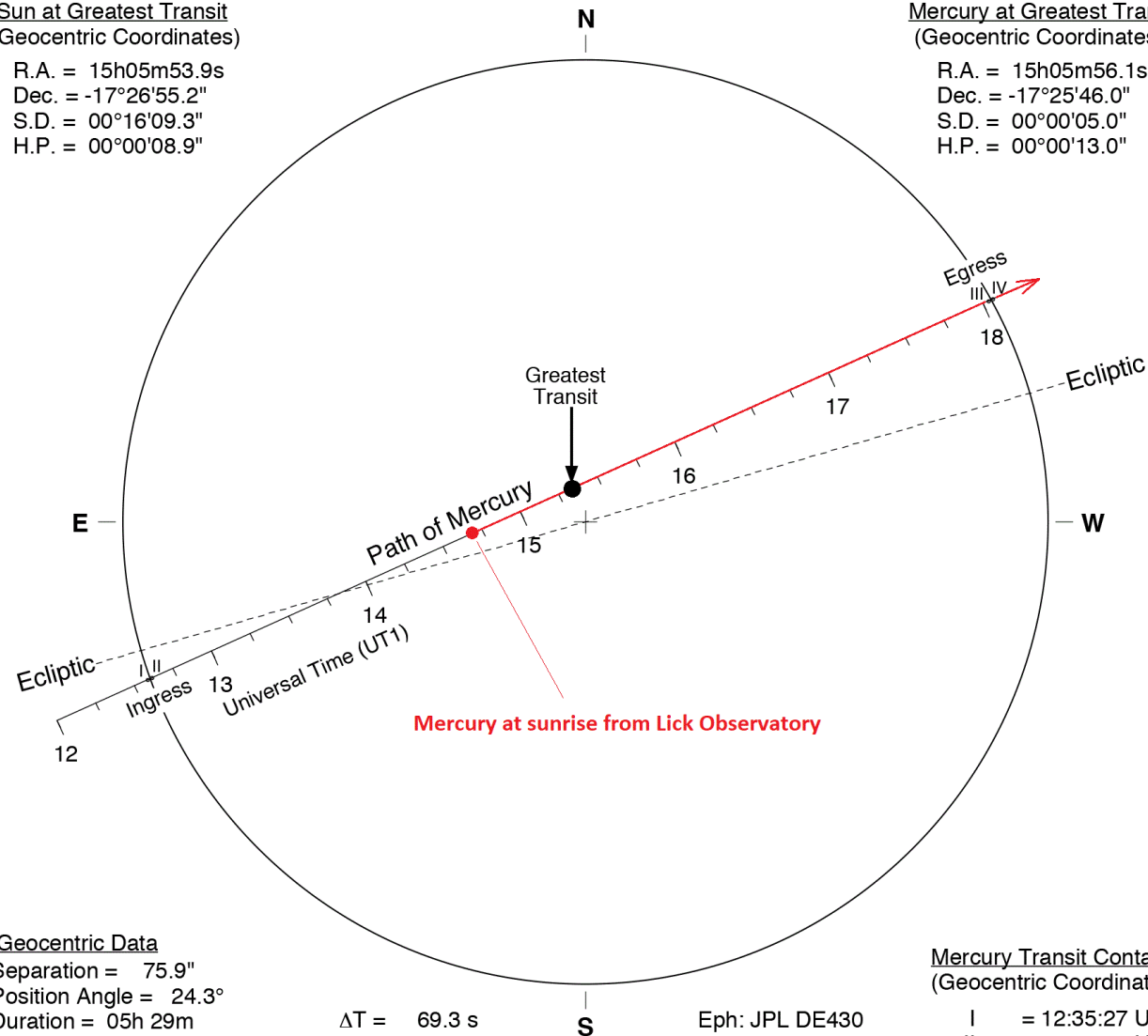
Greatest Transit = 15:19:47.7 UT1

Sun at Greatest Transit (Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 15h05m53.9s
Dec. = -17°26'55.2"
S.D. = 00°16'09.3"
H.P. = 00°00'08.9"

Mercury at Greatest Transit (Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 15h05m56.1s
Dec. = -17°25'46.0"
S.D. = 00°00'05.0"
H.P. = 00°00'13.0"



Geocentric Data

Separation = 75.9"
Position Angle = 24.3°
Duration = 05h 29m

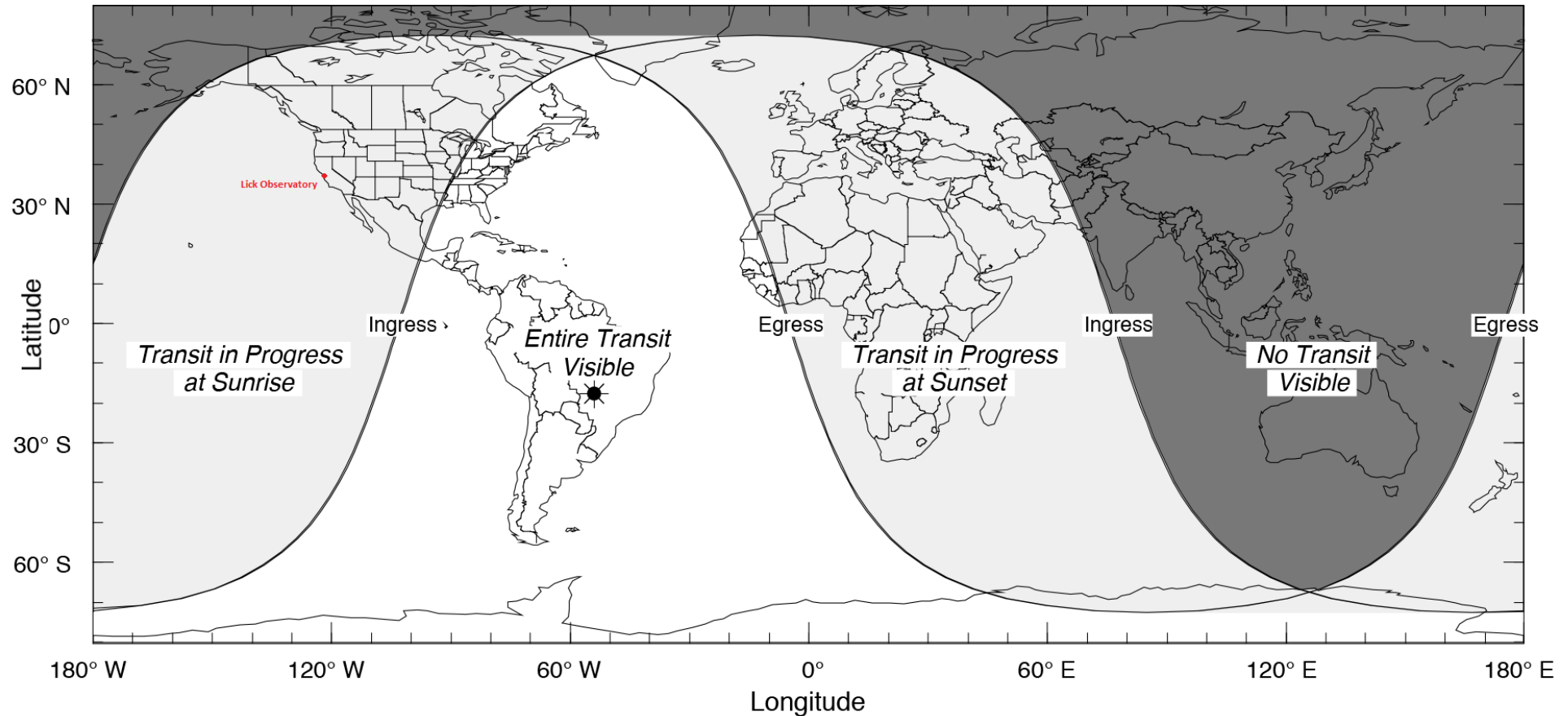
Ascending Node

Transit Series = 247
Sequence No. = 11 of 19

Mercury Transit Contacts (Geocentric Coordinates)

I = 12:35:27 UT1
II = 12:37:08 UT1
Greatest = 15:19:48 UT1
III = 18:02:33 UT1
IV = 18:04:14 UT1

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The next Mercury transit visible from the West Coast of the United States will be May 7, 2049

We miss the transits of 2032 and 2039.



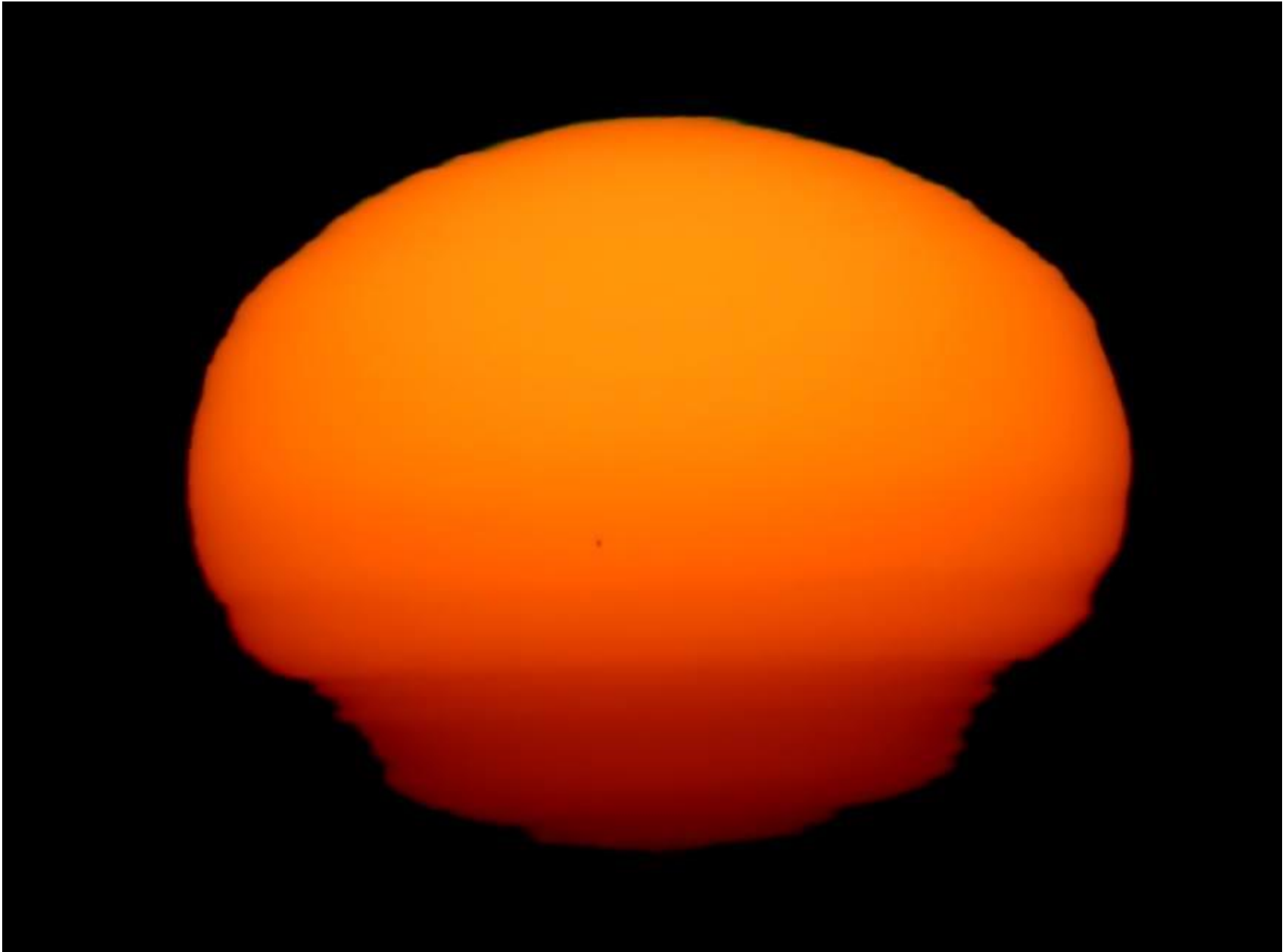
Our view to the east before sunrise. Silhouette line of the distant Sierra is just visible. Faint layer of smoke from recent fires, too!



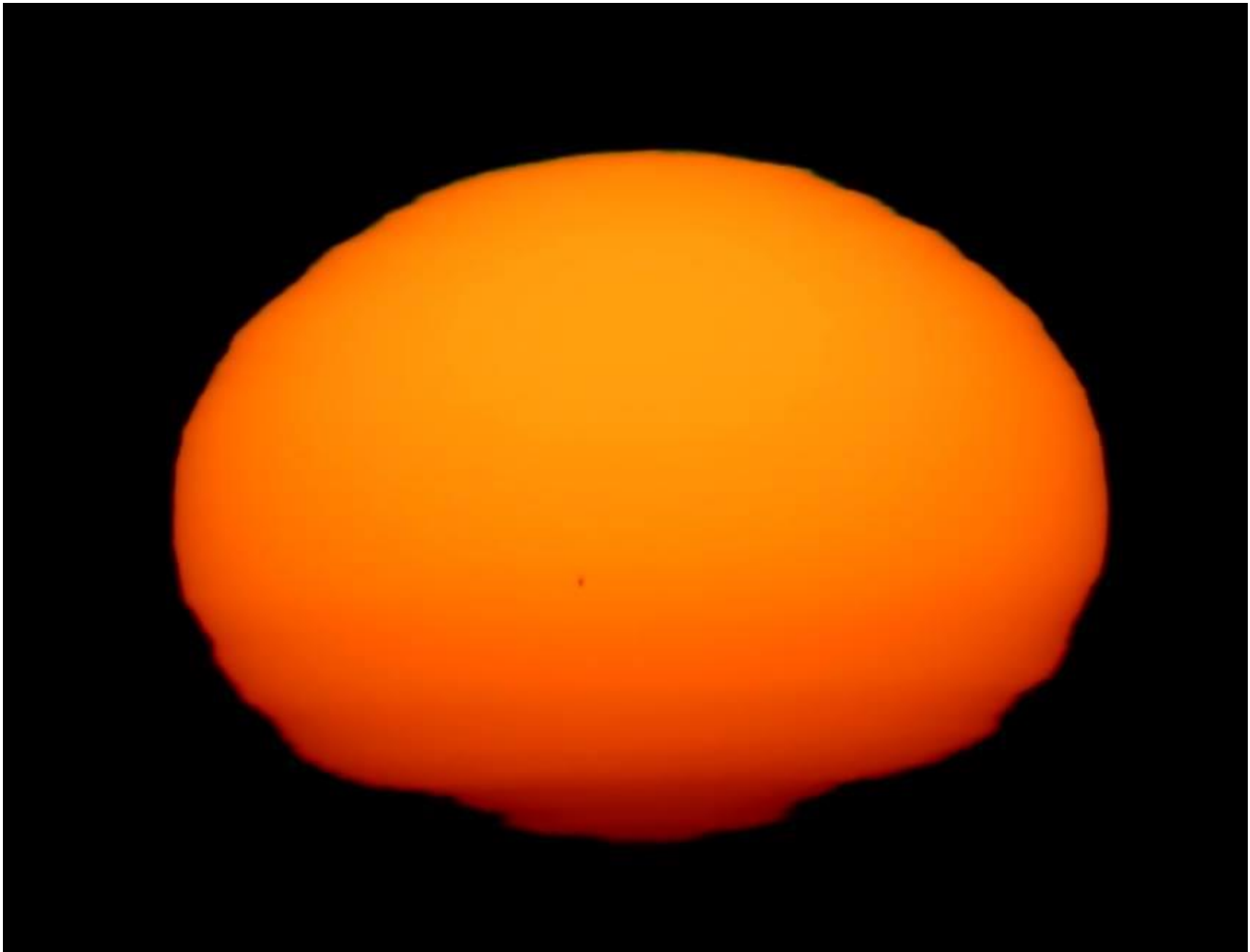
Lick Volunteer Eric Zbinden with his amazing Starfire Refractors – securing filters and waiting for sunrise.



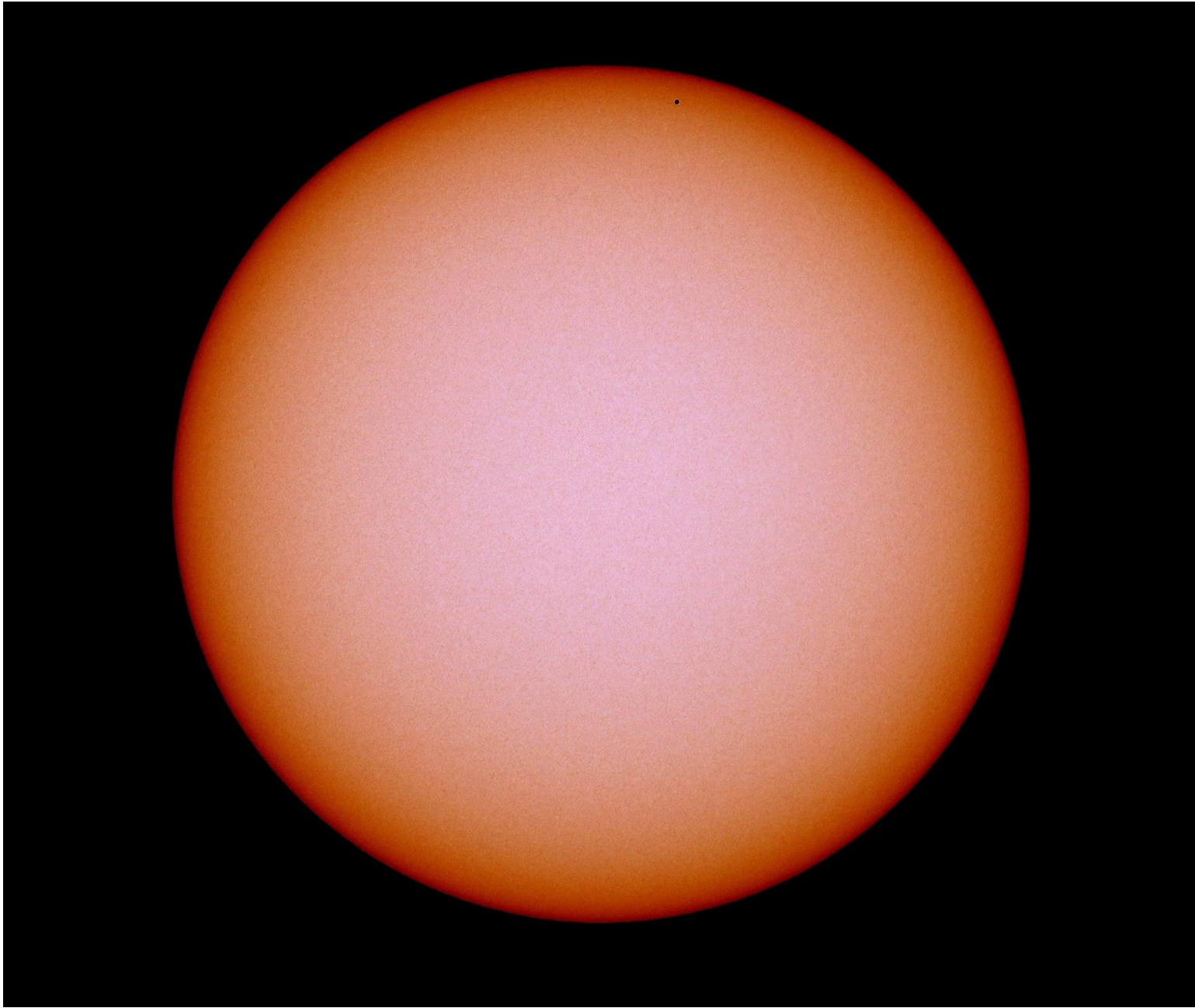
Sunrise about 6:41am PST Nov. 11th 2019 from Lick Observatory. Did not think Mercury would be visible through all the murk, but it was!



Interesting Sun shape because of inversion layers. Mercury barely visible.



Mercury still there.



Mercury about 15 minutes before the end of the transit, which was at 10:04am PST.



One of my highest resolution single shots. Used an Orion EON 130mm Refractor with a Canon 70D DSLR.



Set-up near the Lick 36" Refractor dome at Lick Observatory. Telescopes looking east towards the Sun.







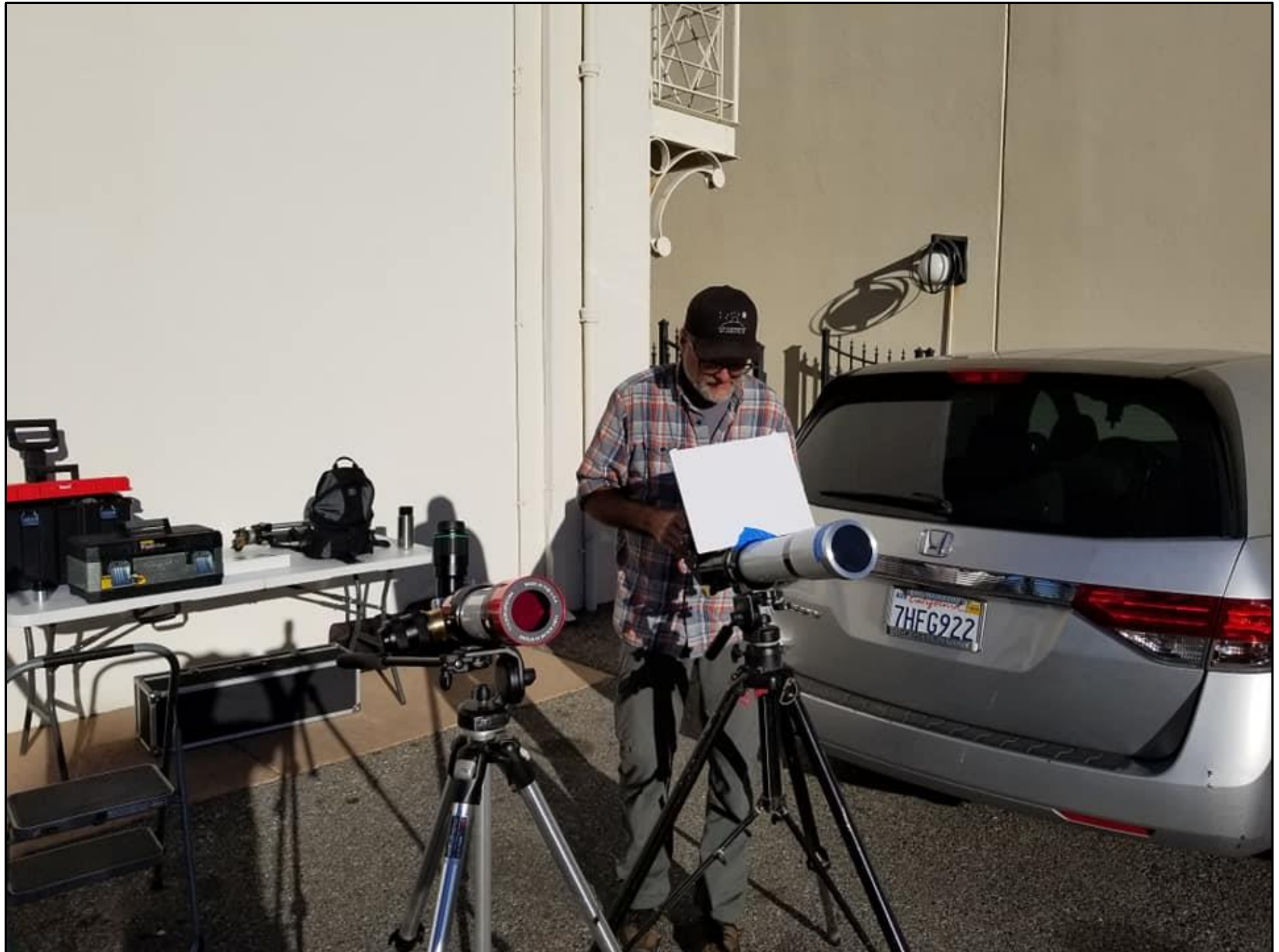
UCO/Lick Public Programs Telescope Operator (PPTO) **Andy Macica** with his 80mm ED Refractor feeding a Calcium K-line filter and video system.



Lick Staff Astronomer **Paul Lynam** (center), **Michael Maloney** (left) and **Andy Macica** (right).



My Orion 130mm ED Refractor set-up near center with Baader-film solar filter. Lick support staff **Donnie Redel** (left) and PPTO **Keith Wandry** (right).



Two of my three telescopes set up for the transit. Lick PPTO **Keith Wandry** adjusts my 80mm ED Refractor on a tripod.



THE END!