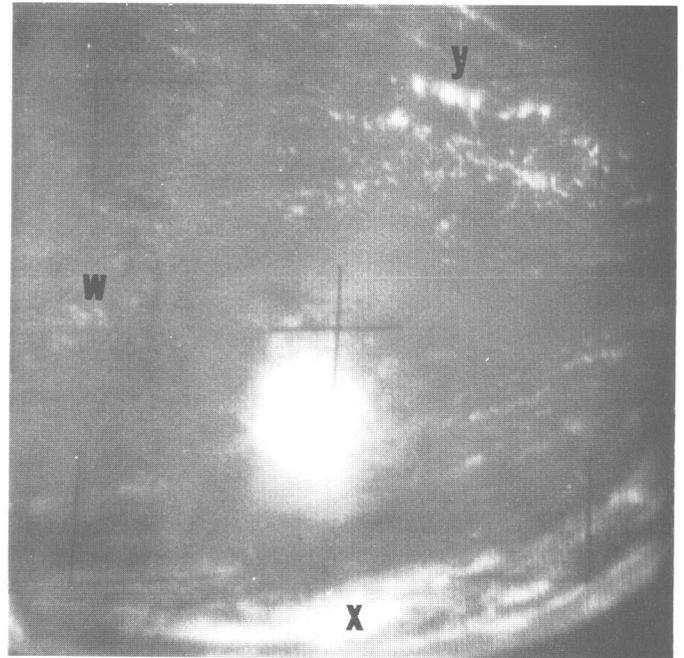
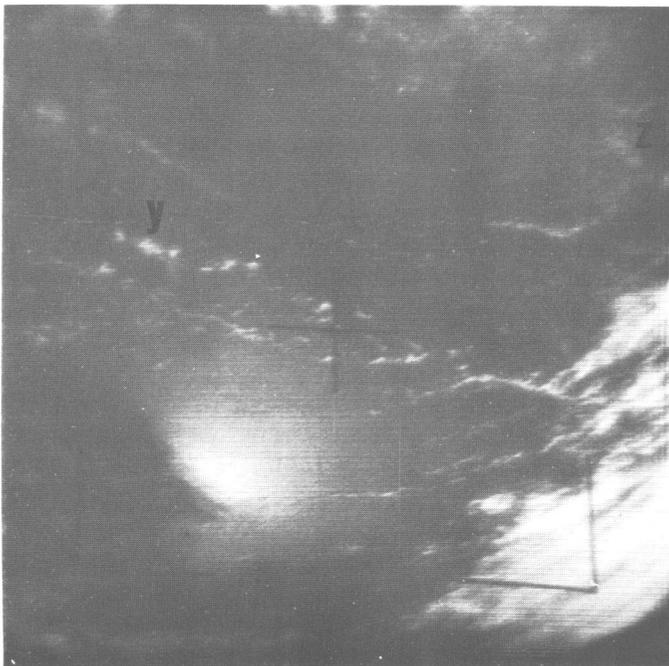


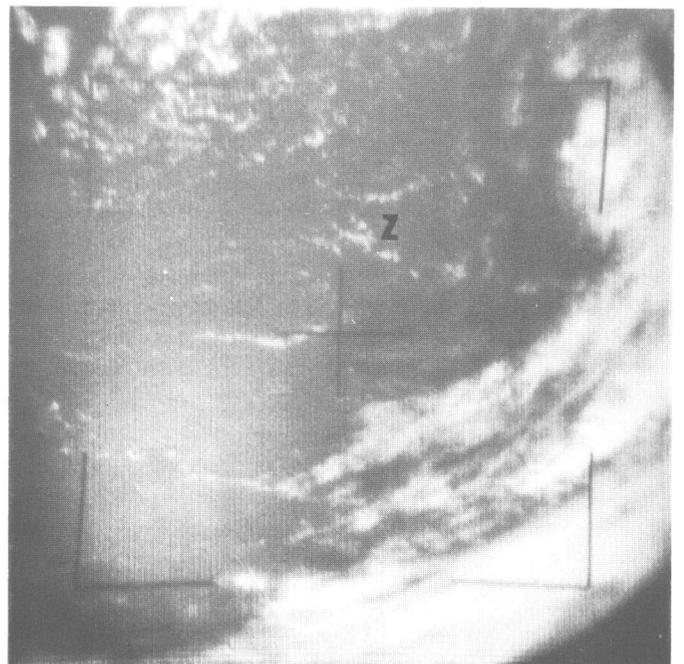
(a) Frame 22, 1321 1/2 GMT



(b) Frame 20, 1322 1/2 GMT



(c) Frame 18, 1323 1/2 GMT



(d) Frame 16, 1324 1/2 GMT

The sometimes highly variable appearance of specular reflection is well illustrated in these TIROS VI photographs (Pass 806/805) Camera 1, November 12, 1962. The photographs were taken at one-minute intervals as the satellite passed northeastward over the tropical North Atlantic Ocean (approximately 5°–25° N.). A few cloud features or areas that appear in successive photos are identified by the letters; w, x, y, z.

The large area of diffused brightness near the center of picture (a) gives way to a smaller, much brighter reflective spot in (b), which in turn becomes an irregular area in (c), and finally a very large area of diffused reflectivity in the lower left quadrant of (d).

It is believed that the concentrated reflectivity in (b) resulted from a locally smooth sea surface and little or no wind; however, ship reports were too sparse to verify this belief. Without the aid of adjoining photos the reflective spot in (b) could be mistaken for a bright cloud mass.

In picture (c) the dark area immediately to the left of the specular reflection may have resulted either from a locally smooth sea (giving very little diffuse reflection) or from a possible change in the reflective properties of the sea surface. Such a change might, for example, be caused by organic material in the sea.