

Sans titre

Circular No. 7627

Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Mailstop 18, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, MA 02138,  
U. S. A.

[IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU](mailto:IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU) or FAX 617-495-7231 (subscriptions)

[CBAT@CFA.HARVARD.EDU](mailto:CBAT@CFA.HARVARD.EDU) (science)

URL <http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html> ISSN 0081-0304

Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

POSSIBLE NOVA IN AQUILA

G. M. Hurst, "The Astronomer", Basingstoke, England, communicates:  
"M. Collins, Everton, Bedfordshire, has reported his detection of a  
variable

object in Aquila during photography with a 135-mm telephoto lens on Kodak  
2415 film for the U.K. Nova/Supernova Patrol. The object was recorded on  
May 11.988 UT at mag 10.9. An image by Collins from 2000 Nov. 26.8 failed  
to show the object (limiting mag 12.8), which was also absent from a  
master

patrol image obtained on 1997 Aug. 25.9 (limiting mag 13). A patrol image  
from 2001 Apr. 25.1 may show the object near mag 12.1, but as the Milky  
Way  
field is crowded this is rather uncertain. In response to an appeal, N.  
D.

James, Chelmsford (0.30-m reflector), obtained a 30-s CCD frame of the  
field

on May 16.966 UT and found the object at  $V = 12.6$  (GSC system) in the  
measured position R. A. = 19h07m28s.41, Decl. = +11d44'45".8 (equinox  
2000.0;

15 GSC stars, mean error 0".24 in R. A., 0".15 in Decl). The nearest star  
(R = 16.2) in the USNO A2.0 catalogue has position end figures 28s.34,  
52".1."

COMET C/2001 A2 (LINEAR)

E. Jehin, A. Jaunsen, H. Boehnhardt, M. Kiekebusch, H. Nunez, R.  
Amestica,

C. Herrera, J. Navarete, F. Delgado and R. M. West, European Southern  
Observatory, report: "Images of comet C/2001 A2 have been obtained using  
the

8.2-m Very Large Telescopes Melipal and Yepun with the Nasmyth and  
Cassegrain

test cameras, respectively. On May 14.98 UT two components were seen in  
R-band

images, the eastern, tailward one (component A) about 1 mag fainter than  
component B (within an aperture of 1".3) at a separation of 12".6 in  
p.a. 105 deg. Both components had individual comae elongated  
approximately

in the antisolar direction. Component B showed sunward-extended isophotes  
in

the very inner part of the coma. On May 16.98 UT the distance between the  
components had increased to 14".6 (in the same position angle). In

addition, the sunward fragment appeared to have split into two components  
with

a separation of 1" in p.a. 135-315 deg; these components were of about the  
same brightness (in R) and surrounded by a joint coma. V-band images  
revealed

very extended isophotes perpendicular to the separation direction of this  
new

pair. This could indicate the presence of a large amount of gas in the  
coma

Sans titre

in addition to the dust."

J. Broughton, Reedy Creek, Queensland (0.25-m Schmidt-Cassegrain), reports further CCD astrometry on May 14.4 and 16.3 UT, noting that on the latter occasion component A was at least two magnitudes fainter than and was separated from component B by about 14" in p. a. 102 deg.

2001 May 17

(C) Copyright 2001 CBAT  
(7627)

Brian G. Marsden