Circular No. 3185

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Postal Address: Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams
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1978 CA AND 1978 DA

J. and A. Surdej, European Southern Observatory, report that UBV photometry was done with the standard photometer on the 100-cm telescope during Mar. 1^d02^h-1^d08^h UT for 1978 CA and during Mar. 2^d04^h-2^d09^h UT for 1978 DA. 1978 CA was found to have a rotation period of $3^h43^m \pm 3^m$ with a maximum amplitude in V of 0.8 magnitude; the mean V magnitude was 13.26 ± 0.02, and the color indices B-V = +0.90 ± 0.05 and U-B = +0.48 ± 0.15 showed no obvious variation. The observations of 1978 DA showed one clear symmetric maximum of V = 14.28 at 6^h00^m UT and one clear minimum of V = 14.62 at 7^h50^m UT; for this object B-V = +0.83 ± 0.05 and U-B = +0.41 ± 0.15. Integration times were 15-20 seconds; diaphragm size was 22".

COMET BRADFIELD (1978c)

D. Herald, Kambah, near Canberra, reports further precise positions as follows:

1978 UT	α_{1950}	δ_{1950}	m_1
Feb. 9.69375	$18^h54^m21^s.07$	-46°33'43".9	
9.70868	18 54 27.04	-46 33 00.6	
11.72153	19 07 42.20	-44 54 22.4	
11.73542	19 07 47.81	-44 53 40.8	
12.72257	19 14 12.63	-44 01 31.7	
12.72639	19 14 13.56	-44 01 24.4	
13.75036	19 20 48.98	-43 04 45.2	
13.75556	19 20 51.51	-43 04 26.9	
19.74375	19 58 06.89	-36 40 34.6	7.4
19.75035	19 58 09.17	-36 40 10.4	

There was a tail 5' long in p.a. 220° on Feb. 19.

The following total visual magnitude estimates have been reported: Feb. 20.75 UT, ~ 6 (D. Seargent, The Entrance, New South Wales, 15 × 80 binoculars; probable tail in p.a. 215°); Mar. 4.50, 5.4 (P. Maley, San Antonio, Texas, 15-cm refractor; somewhat condensed, very low in twilight); 5.50, 5.3 (Maley).

UBV photometry by P. Bouchet and J. Surdej at the European Southern Observatory gives the following (uncertainty ± 0.2 magnitude, air mass ~ 3.5): Mar. 1.392 UT, V = 6.2, B-V = +0.4, U-B = -0.6, diaphragm 88"; 1.399, 7.5, +0.6, -0.3, diaphragm 22".

1978 March 7 Brian G. Marsden