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THE ASTRONOMER Electronic Circular No 214 1988 Nov 05 15.36UT.

Telecom Gold 72:MAG60138

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SV ARIETIS

Stefan Korth, Monheim, Germany reports a possible sighting of the
1905 nova SV Arietis which is located:

RA 3h22m11.28s DEC +19 39'22.0" (1950)

Visual estimates:

Nov 2.896UT, 15.5:; 3.900, (15.0; 4.913, 15.5;

The object was found by Wolf on plates of 1905 Nov 6 at mag 12 but
there is only a possible image at the limit of Palomar, at mag 20.

AAVSO Circular gives an observation by Cragg in Dec 1986 of 15.5

and perhaps Rob McNaught could give more information? In the meantime we
urgently need a photograph to confirm the possible
outburst.

COMET 1988N (SMMS)

Further to the notes on E209 & E210, Brian Marsden computes the
following Kreutz-type orbit:

T=1988 Oct 12.07UT, Peri=88.0; Node=9.8; Incl=144.8; q=0.0053AU

IAUC 4668

BZ UMA

Derek Jones, La Palma, e-mails via STARLINK that he observed this
star on Oct 26.1UT on the TV monitor of the JKT and found it to be
slightly fainter than on the Palomar Sky Survey.

SATELLITES

Russell Eberst e-mails via STARLINK that the objects in the photo
by N.James (TA 1988 Oct), described as "Four Parallel Meteor
Trails?", are in fact four of six 'whitecloud' secret USA
satellites which orbit in formation in 107.4 minutes. They have the
designations:

83-56C,D,G and 86-14D,E,H. Heights=1100km.

N.James advises us the photo was taken from Weston-Super-Mare and
not from his home address of Chelmsford.

Guy M Hurst