

INFORMATION:
Tel: 0604 811030

The Astronomer

PRODUCTION:
ANNE HURST.

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Comet Fujikawa (1978n) = Comet Denning 1881V ?

Further details are now available following the announcement on Circular 30. The comet was discovered by Shigehisa Fujikawa of Onohara, Kagawa as follows:

1978 UT	R.A. (1950)	DEC (1950)	m1
Oct. 9.81250	10 ^h 23 ^m .8	+ 5°24'	11

Marsden has telexed elements and ephemeris from which he comments that the comet is probably short-period and assumed to be identical with Comet Denning 1881V.

Elements based on 3 or more accurate positions over 4 days with residuals between 1"-5":

T = 1978 Oct. 2.036 ET
w = 334.04)
Ω = 40.96) 1950.0
i = 8.68)
q = 0.7786 AU
e = 0.8202

Ephemeris:

1978 ET	R.A. (1950)	DEC	delta	r
Oct. 14	10 ^h 17 ^m .7	+ 9°19'		
19	10 13.8	+12 54	0.376	0.833
24	10 12.9	+15 35		
29	10 13.7	+17 39	0.453	0.908

Observers are encouraged to follow this unusual comet and send in the results to the Editor as soon as possible.

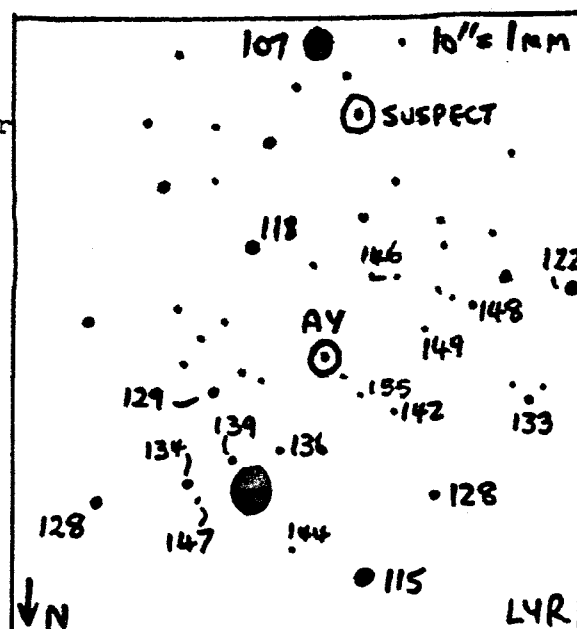
Comet Machholz (1978l)

Following details published in Circular 30, an ephemeris is now available for overseas circular subscribers:

					m1
Oct. 19	5 ^h 11 ^m .6	-54°43'	1.514	1.965	10.8
24	4 38.5	-59 10			
29	3 57.0	-62 36	1.575	2.022	11.0
Nov. 3	3 09.1	-64 46			
8	2 19.4	-65 34	1.702	2.085	11.3
13	1 33.6	-65 10			
18	0 55.4	-63 55	1.880	2.152	11.7

Variable Object in field of AY Lyr

M Verdenet, France, reports a variable object in field of AY Lyr (on BAA programme) in position plotted on chart. It was seen at mag 13 approx on Oct 6 and apparently fainter on Oct 8. I shall be grateful if those BAA members working on AY Lyr could send in estimates of the suspect when made. The position of AY Lyr is RA 18h 42m.6 +37°57' (1950) and the chart is adapted from AAVSO preliminary (e) of 1968. The suspect does not appear to be catalogued in GCVS or supplements.



G.M. Hurst.