

(Section A, TA Supplementary Subscription Service. Editor: Guy M Hurst).

# The Astronomer

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MONTHLY

## COMET SUGANO-SAGUSA-FUJIKAWA (1983e)

Please reply to: Editor.

Marsden telexes that a new comet has been discovered in Japan, independently by three observers. Discovery details from observation by Sagusa:

1983 May 8.76889UT RA  $1^h 33^m 7^s$   $+39^{\circ} 27'$  (1950)  $m_1 7$

Unfortunately other discovery positions, and follow up data was somewhat inaccurate and did not provide a consistent daily motion or ephemeris.

Peter Birtwhistle, observing for TA, did observe the comet as follows:

May 10.13UT  $1^h 30^m 0^s$   $+39^{\circ} 45'$  (1950)  $m_1 7.6$

The comet was 2' dia as seen in 20x80B. This position was telexed to the Central Bureau who still reported insufficient positional data. Subsequent observations reported in response to a TA Cable alert message:

May 12.07UT,  $m_1 8.0$ , dia 2.1' (J. Shanklin); 13.11, 7.5, 2' (S. Lubbock); 14.08, 8.0, 6' (M. Taylor).

Ephemeris by Hurst, using programme by Manning, based on elements by Urata:

May	15	$1^h 16^m 7^s$	$+40^{\circ} 40'$	Earth	0.836	Sun	0.578	Elong	$35^{\circ}$	$m_1$	7.9
	17	$1^h 11.5$	$+40^{\circ} 53'$		.780		.607		37		8.1
	19	$1^h 06.5$	$+41^{\circ} 01'$		.723		.637		39		8.2
	21	$1^h 01.4$	$+41^{\circ} 07'$		.666		.669		41		8.3
	23	$0^h 56.4$	$+41^{\circ} 09'$		.609		.702		43		8.4

Research by Hurst indicates closest approach to Earth June 13 at mag 3, 0.05 $\Delta$

Guy M Hurst.