

Issued by The Astronomer. Editor: Guy M Hurst, Manor Park Observatory,
1, Whernside, Manor Park, Wellingborough, Northants, NN8 3QQ. Price 16p +post.
(Section A, TA Supplementary Subscription service).

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The Astronomer

Founded 1964

VARIABLE OBJECT IN SCUTUM.

Dave Branchett, (Eastleigh, England), UK Nova Search Programme, reports the discovery of a variable object in Scutum on 1981 January 18 at 06h 24m UT. The observation was made with 15x80 binoculars and the magnitude was estimated to be approx. 8.0v.

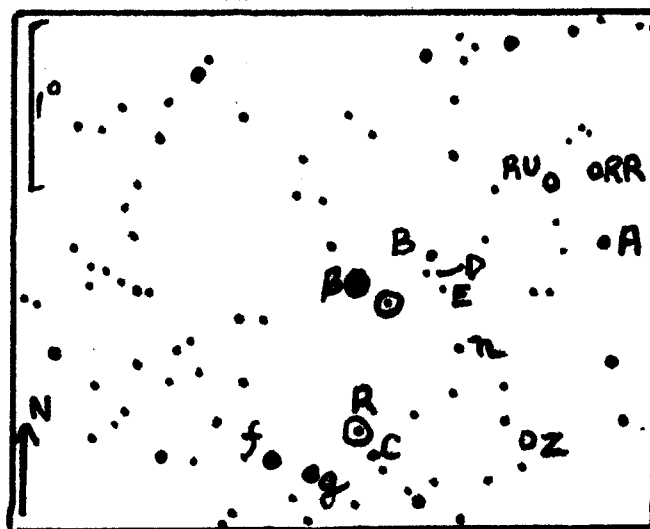
Dr. R. Wood, Royal Greenwich Observatory, assisted by R. Argyle, report that the object has been recorded on a plate obtained on January 20 and the following position has been obtained:

RA $18^{\text{h}}44^{\text{m}}11^{\text{s}}.6$ DEC $-04^{\circ}59'56''$ (1950) Magnitude approx 9.

Research by Guy M Hurst confirms that there appears to be no image in this position brighter than mag 14 on Atlas Stellarum and that there is no appropriate entry in the GCVS, supplements or suspects catalogues.

The field is available, just before dawn, rising in the East, at around 6.15-6.30am at present although twilight problems have hindered the TA Early Warning Team in the attempts at confirmation during the last few days.

Consequently observations of this object are urgently required and a preliminary chart and sequence appears below:



Sequence:

β 4.22	USNOC XXI
f 6.13	S Sct, BSS chart.
g 6.74	ditto.
C 7.05	USNOC XXI
A 7.5	S Sct chart.
B 8.23	USNOC XXI
n 8.31	S Sct.
D 9.0	SAOC
E 9.3	SAOC.

EDITORIAL NOTICE

In addition to D. Branchett, available nights and Guy Hurst available days, as part of the Early Warning Team, John Hosty is also now available for telephone calls relating to possible discoveries. His new telephone number, which is available all night, is: Northampton (0604) 38964.

Recently a number of renewals for the supplementary subscription service have been sent to the secretary of the main TA magazine. ALL renewals, new subs and address changes for the supplementary sub. service must be sent to: Guy M Hurst, 1, Whernside, Manor Park, Wellingborough, Northants, NN8 3QQ. It would also help us if renewals were sent promptly on receipt of first notice.

GUY. M. HURST.