THE ASTRONOMER Electronic Circular No 405 1990 April 23 19.30UT
Microlink:MAG60138 JANET:GUYH at UK.AC.SUSSEX.CLUSTER
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1990 HA

A. Mrkos, Klet Observatory, reports his discovery of a fast-moving asteroidal object, as follows:

1990 UT	R.A. (1950)	Decl.	Mag.
Apr. 17.87708	13 09 58.10	+ 6 58 55.2	13.0
17.89132	13 10 01.46	+ 6 58 08.5	
20.83073	13 20 11.59	+ 4 45 31.9	14.0
20.83785	13 20 12.68	+ 4 45 16.7	
22.88102	13 25 12.54	+ 3 37 33.4	14.0
22.88889	13 25 13.53	+ 3 37 17.7	

The following preliminary orbital elements, by the undersigned, indicate that this is an Apollo-type object, with minimum geocentric distance about 0.031 AU having occurred around Apr. 6:

T = 1990 Feb. 23.95 ET Peri. = 307.14
e = 0.6287 Node = 185.02 1950.0
q = 0.8000 AU Incl. = 3.64
a = 2.1544 AU n = 0.31168 P = 3.16 years

1990 ET	R.A. (1950)	Decl.	Delta	r	V
Apr. 19	13 14.36	+ 6 02.8	0.118	1.117	12.4
20	13 17.71	+ 5 18.8			
21	13 20.63	+ 4 40.1	0.136	1.135	12.7
22	13 23.18	+ 4 05.6			
23	13 25.45	+ 3 34.7	0.155	1.154	13.0
24	13 27.47	+ 3 06.8			
25	13 29.30	+ 2 41.3	0.174	1.172	13.3
26	13 30.95	+ 2 17.9			
27	13 32.46	+ 1 56.3	0.193	1.191	13.6
28	13 33.84	+ 1 36.2			
29	13 35.13	+ 1 17.5	0.213	1.210	13.8
30	13 36.33	+ 0 59.9			
May 1	13 37.45	+ 0 43.3	0.233	1.229	14.1
2	13 38.50	+ 0 27.6			
3	13 39.50	+ 0 12.6	0.253	1.247	14.3
4	13 40.45	- 0 01.6			
5	13 41.36	- 0 15.3	0.274	1.266	14.5

IAUC 4998

COMET AUSTIN (1989c1)

Mark Kidger e-mails:

"Estimates 10x50B, Sidgewick, AAVSO charts
April 21.229 m1=4.7, DC 5, 2 degree broad tail seen. Probably longer, but the comet was observed through dust on horizon. Second, half degree tail observed to east at about 50 degrees difference in PA. Am very struck by the complete change in the comet's appearance since yesterday and the increased brightness. NB: no bright nuclear condensation (in contrast to yesterday)
April 22.219 m1=4.8, DC 6, 2 degree broad tail seen. Again, I think that the length was really considerably greater.
Other local estimates (Sidgewick/AAVSO)
April 21.236, Danielle Verde (8x50): 5.0
21.243, Victor Gonzalez (10x50): 5.3
22.229, Victor Gonzalez (10x50): 4.9"

EDITORIAL

Due to a printer malfunction there will be delays in dealing with individual queries until further notice. I hope to restore full service shortly. Circulars are unaffected.

Guy M Hurst