

INFORMATION: TEL
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The Astronomer

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PRODUCTION:
ANNE and GUY
HURST.

1979 October 2.

Comet Meier (1979i)

Brian Marsden telexes that Rolf Meier of Ottawa, Ontario has discovered a comet as follows:

1979 UT	Sept. 20.06250	13 ^h 34 ^m .5	+68°38'	m1 = 11.5 Meier
	20.21128	13 34.7	+68 38	13.5 Giclas
	21.16119	13 32.2	+68 13	12 Bulger

Meier described the object as diffuse with condensation. Giclas commented that the comet was very diffuse and uncondensed and Bulger indicated that there was a possible tail.

The comet was observed by G.M. Hurst with 26cm reflector on Sep 24.8UT when the magnitude was about 12 although made more difficult by artificial light glow. The coma was estimated to be of 1.5' diameter but no tail was detected.

Brian Marsden provides the following ephemeris: Geoc. Helioc.

1979 Sept. 29	13 ^h 18 ^m .2	+65°17'		
Oct. 4	13 11 .3	+63 36	1.501	1.456
9	13 05.4	+62 03		

Both Earth and Solar distances are gradually decreasing at the moment as the comet approaches perihelion on approx Oct 16 and we therefore assume the approx magnitude to be 11.5-12 at present.

Reports, in writing please, to the Editor.

ERUPTIVE Object in Andromeda

Marsden telexes that P. Wild has discovered an eruptive object located at 00h39m.2 +26°21'(1950). On Sept. 16.90UT, the object was fainter than mag 17pv. Latest results: Sept. 19.01UT, 13.0pv; 27.88, approx 15pv. Whilst appreciating that identification could be difficult, could anyone with prime focus or telephoto shots of the region taken during the last month send their negatives on loan to the Editor for analysis.

SU Tauri

This star, of the R-CrB type, which is on the BAA programme has commenced a fade. Observations by P.L. Collins (USA): Aug 31.31UT, 9.5pv; Sept. 8.32, 9.6; 10.27, 10.0; 13.24, 10.1; 16.30, 10.7; 18.37, 10.7. Further estimates to be sent please to Melvyn Taylor, our Variable Star Editor.

DRACONID Meteors

S.S. Mims, James-Mims Observatory, points out that there exists the possibility of a meteor shower around Oct. 9.36UT when the earth passes within 0.0017AU of the orbit of P/Giacobini-Zinner, which will have passed the point 236 days earlier. Reports to Colin Henshaw please.

ANNUAL MEETING

It is apparent that some people have still not returned their booking slip for the meeting to be held at the Grand Hotel, on Saturday Oct 6 for which charges are £2 admission plus additional £4.50 if Hotel luncheon is required. Please send these to the Editor by return of post.

GUY.M.HURST.