Circular No. 8566

Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams
INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
Mailstop 18, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A.
IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU or FAX 617-495-7231 (subscriptions)
CBAT@CFA.HARVARD.EDU (science)
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COMET C/1981 W1 (SOLWIND)

R. Kracht, Elmshorn, Germany, reports that he has found a previously unrecognized Kreutz sungrazing comet on Solwind spacecraft images taken on 1981 Nov. 20. C/1981 W1, which showed a small tail, was fainter than the previous Solwind comets (cf. *IAUC* 4129, 4229, 4230) — perhaps of mag 2–3. The observations below were provided by Kracht.

1981 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}
Nov. 20.059	$15^h37^m.9$	$-21°52'$
20.062	15 37.9	−21 52
20.066	15 38.0	−21 51
20.069	15 38.0	−21 50
20.073	15 38.1	−21 49
20.076	15 38.2	−21 48
20.079	15 38.2	−21 49
20.083	15 38.3	−21 47
20.086	15 38.3	−21 47
20.090	15 38.4	−21 46
20.265	15 41.3	−21 12
20.272	15 41.4	−21 11
20.275	15 41.5	−21 09
20.279	15 41.6	−21 09

The following parabolic orbital elements are by B. G. Marsden:

$$T = 1981\ \text{Nov. } 20.61\ \text{TT} \qquad \left.\begin{array}{l}\omega = 97^\circ.36\\ \Omega = 24.63\\ i = 135.48\end{array}\right\}2000.0$$
$$q = 0.0048\ \text{AU}$$

COMET C/2005 K2 (LINEAR)

Additional offsets of the secondary component from the primary (cf. *IAUC* 8548) from CCD images, reported via E. Jehin, European Southern Observatory: June 14.932 UT, 40''.0 in p.a. 47°.1 (O. Nielsen, Rijswijk, The Netherlands, 0.20-m reflector); 14.940, 40''.2 in p.a. 47°.7 (E. Bryssinck, Antwerp, Belgium, 0.28-m reflector).

Visual total-magnitude estimates: June 11.87 UT, 9.0 (G. Santa, Szeged, Hungary, 0.11-m reflector); 13.93, 9.6 (A. Baransky, Bucha, Ukraine, 0.20-m reflector); 17.91, 9.2 (J. J. Gonzalez, Leon, Spain, 0.20-m reflector); 24.35, 9.9 (D. A. J. Seargent, Cowra, N.S.W., 0.25-m reflector).

2005 July 12 *Daniel W. E. Green*