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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)
URL `http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/iau/cbat.html` ISSN 0081-0304
Phone 617-495-7440/7244/7444 (for emergency use only)

COMETS C/2006 T10 AND C/2006 U8–U11 (SOHO)

Additional apparent comets have been found on SOHO website images (cf. *IAUC* 8780), all being Kreutz sungrazers except C/2006 U10 (Meyer group). K. Battams notes that C/2006 T10 was small and extremely faint (mag ~ 8.5). C/2006 U8 was tiny, stellar, and faint (mag ~ 8.0) in C3 images, and extremely faint and diffuse in C2 images. C/2006 U9 was small and stellar in appearance (mag ~ 7) with big data gaps in C3 images, but slightly diffuse (mag 6.5–7) with a hint of a short tail in C2 images. C/2006 U10 was stellar in appearance and very faint, fading out as it neared the sun. C/2001 U11 appeared stellar and reached mag ~ 6.5 in C3 images, while it showed a stubby tail in C2 images.

Comet	2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	*MPEC*
C/2006 T10	Oct. 12.538	$13^h03^m.0$	$-\ 8^\circ15'$	C2	BZ	2006-X25
C/2006 U8	16.532	13 14.8	−11 01	C3/2	TS	2006-X25
C/2006 U9	19.679	13 20.4	−11 47	C3/2	SF	2006-X25
C/2006 U10	20.104	13 34.6	− 8 45	C2	TH	2006-X26
C/2006 U11	24.138	13 36.1	−13 37	C3/2	HS	2006-X26

COMET C/2006 X1 (LINEAR)

An apparently asteroidal object discovered by the LINEAR survey, and posted on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage, has been found to have a coma of diameter 12″ surrounding a central condensation of diameter 5″ on CCD images taken on Dec. 11.94–11.99 UT by P. Birtwhistle (Great Shefford, Berkshire, England, 0.40-m Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector). A. R. Gibbs reports that four co-added 120-s unfiltered CCD images taken in poor seeing with the Mt. Lemmon 1.5-m reflector on Dec. 12.2 show a compact coma and a narrow 90″ tail in p.a. 260°.

2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Dec. 11.12465	$0^h10^m06^s.42$	$+41^\circ10'59''.8$	19.2

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2006-X41.

$$T = 2007 \text{ June } 24.183 \text{ TT} \qquad \left.\begin{aligned} \omega &= 141^\circ.659 \\ \Omega &= 259.330 \\ i &= 40.731 \end{aligned}\right\} 2000.0$$

$$q = 6.01297 \text{ AU}$$

2006 December 12 *Daniel W. E. Green*