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COMET P/2007 Q2 (GILMORE)

An apparently asteroidal object discovered by Alan C. Gilmore on CCD images taken with the Mount John University Observatory 1-m reflector (discovery observation tabulated below), and posted on the 'NEOCP' webpage, has been found to show a diffuse coma and a tail $6''$–$8''$ long in p.a. 320° on a co-added 600-s image obtained by K. Sárneczky and L. L. Kiss on Aug. 30.6 UT with the Siding Spring 1.0-m reflector. Also, Q.-z. Ye, Guangzhou, China, writes that four stacked 120-s CCD images obtained by C.-S. Lin with the Lulin Observatory 1.02-m $f/8$ reflector on Aug. 27.7 UT in strong moonlight (seeing $\sim 1''.0$) show a possible weak coma of diameter $\sim 1''.9$ with a wide, short tail $\sim 3''$ long in p.a. $\sim$ 340°–10°.

2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Aug. 22.58265	$22^{h}44^{m}16^{s}.31$	$-0^{\circ}46'07''.9$	19.1

The available astrometry, the following preliminary elliptical orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2007-Q43.

$$\begin{array}{llll} T = 2007\ \text{Aug. } 23.465\ \text{TT} & \omega = 162^{\circ}.931 & & \\ e = 0.67176 & \Omega = 172.256 & \Big\}\ 2000.0 & \\ q = 1.83906\ \text{AU} & i = 10.235 & & \\ a = 5.60282\ \text{AU} & n^{\circ} = 0.074318 & P = 13.26\ \text{years} & \end{array}$$

COMET C/2007 Q3 (SIDING SPRING)

An apparently asteroidal object discovered by D. M. Burton with the 0.5-m Uppsala Schmidt telescope in the course of the Siding Spring survey (discovery observation tabulated below), and posted on the 'NEOCP' webpage, has also been found to show cometary appearance by Sárneczky and Kiss, who on Aug. 30.8 UT found a $6''$ coma and $12''$-long tail in p.a. 290° on a 1800-s co-added image taken with the 1.0-m reflector at Siding Spring. Also, N. Teamo and J. C. Pelle write that CCD exposures taken on Aug. 29.6 with a 0.35-m reflector at Punaauia, Tahiti, show the comet's FWHM image to be larger than those of neighboring stars of similar brightness.

2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Aug. 25.76023	$3^{h}28^{m}35^{s}.22$	$-46^{\circ}39'40''.7$	17.8

The available astrometry, preliminary parabolic orbital elements (T = 2009 Oct. 19.198 TT, q = 2.31933 AU, $\omega = 0^{\circ}.675$, $\Omega = 151^{\circ}.078$, $i = 66^{\circ}.275$, equinox 2000.0), and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2007-Q44.

2007 August 30 *Daniel W. E. Green*