Circular No. 8914

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COMET P/2007 VQ_{11} (CATALINA)

A slightly diffuse object found by A. Boattini on Catalina images taken on 2008 Feb. 1.1 UT was posted on the Minor Planet Center's 'NEOCP' webpage. J. Young (Table Mountain 0.61-m Cassegrain reflector) confirmed the object on CCD images from Feb. 1.2 UT as having a very diffuse, round, $8''$ coma with no tail visible in fair seeing with light cirrus clouds. T. Spahr then identified this object with several observations from 2007 Nov. and Dec., including an apparently asteroidal object discovered by the Catalina Sky Survey on Nov. 3 (discovery observation tabulated below) that had been designated 2007 VQ_{11} after being linked to observations made on Nov. 6 at the Xu-Yi station of Purple Mountain Observatory (cf. *MPS* 225184).

2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
Nov. 3.42085	$4^h11^m40^s.45$	$+3^\circ21'51''.5$	18.8

The new astrometry, the following orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2008-C02.

$$\text{Epoch} = 2008 \text{ Feb. } 24.0 \text{ TT}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} T = 2008 \text{ Feb. } 13.5568 \text{ TT} & \omega = 277^\circ.6529 & \\ e = 0.502035 & \Omega = 164.0574 & \Big\} 2000.0 \\ q = 2.693808 \text{ AU} & i = 12.3249 & \end{array}$$

$$a = 5.409639 \text{ AU} \qquad n^\circ = 0.0783342 \qquad P = 12.582 \text{ years}$$

COMETS C/2007 U5 AND C/2007 U6 (SOHO)

Further to *IAUC* 8912, additional Kreutz-sungrazing comets have been found on SOHO website images, as tabulated below. C/2007 U5 appeared stellar (mag $\sim$ 7.5) in C3 images, and was slightly diffuse with no tail in C2 images. C/2007 U6 was very faint (mag $\sim$ 8) and quite diffuse.

Comet	2007 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	*MPEC*
C/2007 U5	Oct. 24.488	$13^h45^m.8$	$-13^\circ04'$	C3/2	MU	2008-A51
C/2007 U6	24.729	13 49.2	-12 55	C2	AK	2008-A51

COMET 17P/HOLMES

Corrigendum. Regarding the gas-expansion velocity reported on *IAUC* 8891, the correct value is $\sim$ 1.0 km/s, further confirmed using the CS(3-2) line.

2008 February 1 Daniel W. E. Green