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COMETS C/2004 V6–V12 (SOHO)

Additional SOHO comets (continuation to *IAUC* 8451):

Comet	2004	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	<i>MPEC</i>
C/2004 V6	Nov.	4.113	14 ^h 29 ^m .5	−17°16′	C2	TH	2004-X72
C/2004 V7		4.146	14 33.8	−16 43	C3/2	TH	2004-X72
C/2004 V8		7.696	14 39.3	−19 12	C3/2	KB	2004-X72
C/2004 V9		7.754	14 55.8	−18 32	C2/3	HO	2004-X73
C/2004 V10		8.129	14 49.7	−16 43	C2	KB	2004-X73
C/2004 V11		8.746	14 53.3	−18 12	C2	TH	2004-X74
C/2004 V12		10.029	14 40.6	−21 18	C3/2	XL	2004-X74

COMET C/2004 V13 (SWAN)

On Nov. 30, M. Mattiazzo (Adelaide, S. Australia) reported that he noticed images of a faint object moving on SWAN images (his positions below have uncertainties of a degree or more due to the poor resolution of the ultraviolet imager on SWAN/SOHO), speculating then that, if real, the object might become visible in the days ahead in the C3 coronagraph. Today, S. Hönig has reported the appearance of a comet with a tail in C3 images, which K. Battams reports has brightened slightly from mag ~ 6.5 on Dec. 16.26 UT to ~ 6.1 on Dec. 16.70–16.74. While only the first SOHO position by Battams is given below (reduced by B. G. Marsden), a span of 14 hours of SOHO astrometry appears on *MPEC* 2004-Y02.

2004	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	<i>Observer</i>
Nov.	9	12 ^h 48 ^m	−19°5′	SWAN
	16	13 15	−20.5	"
	21	13 41	−21.0	"
	25	14 08	−21.5	"
Dec.	16.154	17 04.9	−19 54′	SOHO

It does appear that the SWAN object is identical with the SOHO object, and the following very preliminary parabolic orbital elements by Marsden also appear on *MPEC* 2004-Y02.

$$\begin{array}{l}
 T = 2004 \text{ Dec. } 21.139 \text{ TT} \\
 q = 0.17727 \text{ AU}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \left.
 \begin{array}{l}
 \omega = 94.253 \\
 \Omega = 207.015 \\
 i = 34.463
 \end{array}
 \right\} 2000.0$$