

**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)

COMET C/2006 M1 (LINEAR)

An apparently asteroidal object discovered in the course of the LINEAR project (discovery observation tabulated below) has been found to be cometary following posting on the 'NEO Confirmation Page'. P. Birtwhistle, Great Shefford, Berkshire, U.K., reports that CCD exposures with a 0.40-m $f/6.0$ Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector on June 22.0 UT show a small, concentrated coma of diameter $6''$ and mag 17.9 with a very thin, straight tail $50''$ long in p.a. 235° . J. Young reports that CCD frames taken on June 22.3 UT with the Table Mountain 0.61-m $f/16$ Cassegrain reflector shows an $8''$ coma of mag 17.5, slightly pear-shaped along the tail axis, with a tail $40''$ long and $\sim 10''$ – $16''$ wide spanning p.a. 225° – 235° .

2006	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Mag.
June	18.32118	$20^{\text{h}}00^{\text{m}}54.76^{\text{s}}$	$+44^{\circ}01'01.4''$	18.4

The available astrometry, the following preliminary parabolic orbital elements, and an ephemeris appear on *MPEC* 2006-M26.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} T = 2006 \text{ Nov. } 17.002 \text{ TT} \\ q = 4.09039 \text{ AU} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \omega = 100.820 \\ \Omega = 236.028 \\ i = 55.944 \end{array} \Bigg\} 2000.0$$

COMETS C/1997 B5–B7, 1997 O3, 1997 V8 AND V9, 1997 X7 (SOHO)

Additional comets have been found on archival SOHO website images (cf. *IAUC* 8722) — all being small and stellar in appearance, of mag 7.5–8.0, and with no tails. C/1997 O3 and C/1997 V8 were Kreutz sungrazers, C/1997 X7 was a Meyer-group object, C/1997 V9 belonged to no known group, and the rest belong to the Marsden group.

Comet	1997	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	<i>MPEC</i>
C/1997 B5	Jan.	29.497	$20^{\text{h}}55^{\text{m}}.5$	$-16^{\circ}51'$	C2	RK	2006-C49
C/1997 B6		29.604	$20^{\text{h}}56.1$	$-16^{\circ}49'$	C2	RK	2006-C49
C/1997 B7		29.647	$20^{\text{h}}56.4$	$-16^{\circ}49'$	C2	RK	2006-C49
C/1997 O3	July	31.906	$8^{\text{h}}30.0$	$+16^{\circ}55'$	C3	RK	2006-J44
C/1997 V8	Nov.	6.216	$14^{\text{h}}34.7$	$-19^{\circ}27'$	C3	RK	2006-J44
C/1997 V9		14.240	$15^{\text{h}}13.5$	$-19^{\circ}32'$	C2	RK	2006-J44
C/1997 X7	Dec.	15.413	$17^{\text{h}}32.8$	$-22^{\circ}14'$	C2	RK	2006-J45