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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION**

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COMETS C/2006 A8 AND C/2006 Y10–Y17 (SOHO)

Nine additional near-sun comets have been found on 2006 SOHO web-site images (cf. *IAUC* 8844), all being Kreutz sungrazers except apparently for C/2006 Y12. C/2006 A8 was stellar in appearance and very faint (mag $\approx 7-7.5$) with no tail. All of the remaining objects that were visible in C3 images appeared therein as small and stellar; all of the remaining objects that were visible in C2 images appeared therein as tailless and slightly diffuse, except for C/2006 Y12, which was faint yet more stellar in appearance and unusually small. In the table below, new finder ‘AW’ = A. Watson.

Comet	2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	<i>MPEC</i>
C/2006 A8	Jan. 10.013	19 ^h 36. ^m 4	–24°04′	C3	BZ	2007-L16
C/2006 Y10	Dec. 23.071	18 11.9	–26 33	C3/2	TH	2007-K45
C/2006 Y11	24.821	18 18.4	–25 34	C3/2	MA	2007-K45
C/2006 Y12	27.814	18 31.4	–24 40	C2	RK	2007-K45
C/2006 Y13	28.154	18 35.4	–25 53	C3/2	WX	2007-K45
C/2006 Y14	28.504	18 34.6	–24 38	C2	RK	2007-K45
C/2006 Y15	29.179	18 39.4	–25 51	C3/2	WX	2007-K46
C/2006 Y16	29.413	18 38.6	–24 44	C2	AW	2007-K46
C/2006 Y17	29.529	18 43.9	–25 44	C3	HS	2007-K46

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R. C. Puetter, Center for Astrophysics and Space Science, University of California at San Diego; R. J. Rudy, D. K. Lynch, R. W. Russell, S. Mazuk, and R. L. Pearson, The Aerospace Corporation; C. E. Woodward, University of Minnesota; and R. B. Perry, Langley Research Center, NASA, report 0.4- to 2.5- μm spectroscopy of this nova (cf. *IAUC* 8803, 8807, 8809, 8812) using the Lick 3-m telescope (+ VNIRIS) on May 6 UT, as well as 0.8- to 5.5- μm spectroscopy using the Infrared Telescope Facility 3-m telescope (+ SpeX) on May 31. This nova is still in a very low excitation state, showing strong C I lines and no discernable He I emission. The spectrum shows a significantly narrower [N I] line at 1.04 μm than the permitted emission lines. The reddening derived from the O I lines, which is due in part to the dust shell, is $E(B - V) = 1.7$.