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*V2671 OPHIUCHI*

R. J. Rudy, D. K. Lynch, R. W. Russell, and A. M. Gilbert, The Aerospace Corporation; and C. E. Woodward, University of Minnesota, report 0.8- to 5.5- $\mu\text{m}$  spectroscopy of V2671 Oph on June 14 UT, obtained as above. V2671 Oph (Nova Oph 2008 No. 2; cf. *IAUC* 8951) is an “Fe II”-type nova with comparatively narrow lines of FWHM = 1200 km/s. It is at a very low stage of excitation, showing exceptionally bright lines of neutral carbon and strong emission from the Ca II infrared triplet. The O I lines are also strong and indicate a large interstellar reddening of  $E(B - V) = 2.0$ . Weak, first-overtone emission from carbon monoxide beginning at 2.29  $\mu\text{m}$  is present. No emission from dust is yet evident in the spectrum, but the presence of molecular gas suggests that its formation is imminent.

*COMET C/2007 W1 (BOATTINI)*

A. J. Lovell, Agnes Scott College; and E. S. Howell, Arecibo Observatory, report detection of 18-cm OH lines in comet C/2007 W1 with the 100-m Green Bank Telescope. Hyperfine ratios of lines at 1667, 1665, 1612, and 1720 MHz are 8.6:4.8:1.1:1. Production rates  $\log Q(\text{OH})$  are as follows: June 13.75 UT, 28.20; 14.79, 28.21; 15.78, 28.27. Mapping at 8' scale suggests that collisional quenching is present in the inner 20000 km of the coma. Line shapes are consistent with parent (water) outflow velocity of 0.78 km/s.

Visual total-magnitude estimates (cf. *IAUC* 8951) by R. Salvo, Montevideo, Uruguay (7 $\times$ 50 binoculars): June 8.95 UT, 5.6; 10.93, 5.5; 12.91, 5.5; 30.35, 6.0.

*COMETS C/2008 G5 AND C/2008 G6 (SOHO)*

Further to *IAUC* 8956, additional apparent comets have been found on SOHO website images. C/2008 G5 (a Kreutz sungrazer) was very diffuse, very faint (mag 8), and elongated. C/2008 G6, which was small and stellar in appearance (mag  $\sim$  7.5), was suggested by R. Kracht to be a return of the Kracht-group presumed-comet C/2002 S11 (cf. *IAUC* 7991), and an orbit by B. G. Marsden on *MPEC* 2008-L29 links the two apparitions with an orbital period of  $\sim$  5.54 yr.

Comet	2008 UT	$\alpha_{2000}$	$\delta_{2000}$	Inst.	F	<i>MPEC</i>
C/2008 G5	Apr. 10.018	1 <sup>h</sup> 24. <sup>m</sup> 4	+ 7° 12'	C2	MU	2008-L29
C/2008 G6	12.921	1 31.5	+ 9 25	C2	BZ	2008-L29