

2110 Huldry -  
Houston 19, Texas  
July 3, 1963

Dear Jim,

"The 'new comet Alcock' is definitely Comet Ikeya. The mix-up was caused by an incorrect daily motion determination by Alcock and Candy. It has been an expensive fiasco for astronomers around the world: I have received 3 collect telegrams from Harvard.

I observed it on June 20 7:30 UT as a blob 10' in diameter and mag  $8\frac{1}{2}$ . From its position (and comparing with Candy's) it was clear that the comet was Ikeya, headed nearly due West. I could not see a nucleus, although both Candy and Van B. noted one. On the 20th Ikeya was predicted by Marsden to be 12.2.

I have received positions made on 5 consecutive mornings by Gordon Solberg in Las Cruces, N.M., from June 23 UT to June 27 UT. These show the comet moving about 3' of RA west per day and mag 3' of Dec north.

Emil Leutenegger in Switzerland has sent an obs. of June 27<sup>UT</sup>, with positions and a mag estimate of 8.5.

Both Solberg and Leutenegger plot on the Bonner D.

Solberg ~~also~~ reports an interesting obs. of Comet Alcock 1963B. He watched a condensation move east of the main nucleus from June 17 to June 22 UT.

I observed it on June 11 UT at mag  $6\frac{1}{2}$  with a  $\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  tail and an elongated nucleus.

On June 14 UT I noticed a starlike nucleus along with an elongated nucleus (or coma?)

Sincerely  
Dennis Milon

ALPO Comet Recorder Dave Meisel and his wife will be passing through Houston July 24 on their way to Edinburgh, etc.