

411 Brixton Avenue
 St. Lambert, P.Q., Canada
 30 October, 1963

Demetrius P. Elias
 Scientific Rockets Research Group
 14 Hermes St.
 Athens (126), Greece

Dear Mr. Elias,

In reply to your letter published in the November "Sky and Telescope" I am sending you a list of magnitude estimates for Comets Ikeya and Alcock which I have received.

COMET IKEYA, 1963a

Date and U.T.	Magnitude	Instrument	Observer	Location
Feb. 25 00h.7	3.0	7 x 50 bin.	H. Maclean	Niagara Falls
29 00h.7	4.5	not given	H. Maclean	Niagara Falls
Mar. 6 00:00	1.6 (?)	not given	J. Matte	Quebec
8 00:40	4.6	7 x 35 bin.	J. Low	Montreal
16 00:40	5.5	3" Refr.	T. Dickinson	Toronto

COMET ALCOCK, 1963b

Date and U.T.	Magnitude	Instrument	Observer	Location
Apr. 4 06:15	fainter 7.5	8", 4½" refl.	H. Maclean	Niag. F.
June 1	4.0	4½" refl.	" "	
15	6.5	" "	" "	
16	6.5	" "	" "	
17	6.5	" "	" "	
18	6.6	" "	" "	
21	6.7	" "	" "	
22	6.8	" "	" "	
23 09:00	10.5 (?)	not given	A. Morehouse	Battle Creek
24	7.5	4½" refl.	H. Maclean	N. F. (U.S.A.)
25	8.0	" "	" "	

No information on comparison stars was given, however, it is my understanding that most observers used "out of focus" stars to estimate the magnitudes of the comets. The (?) means I have doubts about the estimates listed --- they seem way out of line. All observers are amateur astronomers.

Jim Low
 National Coordinator
 Comet and Nova Section
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 of Canada