

# IAUC 6659: GS 1843+00; C/1997 J2; C/1997 J1

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## GS 1843+00

A. Santangelo, S. Giarrusso, S. Del Sordo, G. Cusumano, S. Piraino, and A. Segreto, Istituto di Fisica Cosmica e Applicazioni Informatica, Palermo; D. Dal Fiume and M. Orlandini, Istituto Tecnologie e Studio Radiazioni Extraterrestri, Bologna; A. N. Parmar and T. Oosterbroek, Space Science Department, European Space Agency, ESTEC; and L. Piro and M. Feroci, Istituto di Astrofisica Spaziale, Frascati, report: "A BeppoSAX Narrow Field Instrument observation of the transient x-ray pulsar GS 1843+00 was carried out on Apr 4.0798-4.6250 UT. MECS and LECS observed the source at R.A. = 18h45m34s, Decl. = +0052'.5 (equinox 2000.0). The estimated error, which is mainly due to systematic uncertainty, is 30". A search for the unidentified optical counterpart is urged. Pulsations of about 29.5 s were clearly detected from the source. The source fluxes measured were as follows (in units of 10E-10 erg cmE-2 sE-1): 2-10 keV (LECS and MECS), 4.44; 4-40 keV (HPGSPC), 22.1; 20-200 keV (PDS), 15.3. The energy spectrum is well fitted at higher energies (HPGSPC/PDS) by a cutoff power law with photon index 0.39 +/- 0.09 and cut-off energy 20.2 +/- 1 keV, while at low energies the spectrum shows strong photoelectric absorption with n\_H = (2.61 +/- 0.13) x 10E22 cmE-2. Inspection of the XTE ASM lightcurves reveals that the source was still active at a 2-10-keV flux of 12 mCrab as of May 1."

## COMET C/1997 J2 (MEUNIER-DUPOUY)

Total magnitude estimates (visual unless otherwise noted): May 7.99 UT, 13.3 (G. Comello, Roden, The Netherlands, 0.30-m reflector; initially thought to be C/1997 J1); 9.91, 12.6 (M. Meyer, Frauenstein, Germany, 0.25-m reflector); 10.03, 12.8 (R. J. Bouma, Groningen, The Netherlands, 0.25-m reflector); 10.89, 13.3 (H. Mikuz, Crni Vrh Observatory, Slovenia, 0.20-m f/2 Baker-Schmidt camera + V filter + CCD; tail about 2' long in p.a. 350 deg); 10.94,

12.7 (Meyer).

**COMET C/1997 J1 (MUELLER)**

Total magnitude estimates (visual unless otherwise noted): May 7.92 UT, 12.9 (Meyer); 9.95, 13.0 (Bouma); 10.85, 13.5 (K. Hornoch, Lelekovice, Czech Republic, 0.35-m reflector); 10.87, 12.6 (Mikuz, CCD + V filter); 10.94, 12.2 (Meyer).

1997 May 12

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