

COMET IKEYA, 1963 a.

February 24, 1963, p.m. E.S.T.

Sky was quite clear and very windy, and after very little effort, the comet was found. It was quite bright in spite of street lights. After it was located in 7 x 50 binoculars it was seen with the unaided eye. There was some difficulty putting a comparison star out of focus, as the cold weather thickened the grease on the focusing mechanism. There was no star close by the comet that was of comparable brightness. V Ceti was used for this purpose although it was only half as bright as the comet. The brightness estimate was 3.0 which seems brighter than predicted.

H.N.A. Maclean  
Niagara Falls Centre

February 24, 1963.

Viewed with 7 x 50 binoculars. No tail visible.

Dr. J.F. Booth  
Niagara Falls Centre

February 25, 1963, p.m. E.S.T.

Tonight was partly cloudy and the comet could not be compared with any stars for brightness or position. Observations were made with 7 x 50 binoculars and 4" f 14 reflector. In the 4" it was a hazy patch with a bright nucleus. No tail was visible. It could be seen with the unaided eye with averted ~~image~~ vision. It seemed about 7' in diameter.

H.N.A. Maclean  
Niagara Falls Centre

February 26, 1963, p.m. E.S.T.

We observed the comet with an 8" f5 and 8" f8 reflector. Dr. Booth suspected that the comet had a slightly asymmetrical coma with no tail visible. H.N.A. Maclean took a photograph with no tail visible.

H.N.A. Maclean and  
Dr. J.F. Booth  
Niagara Falls Centre