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November 5, 1967

Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Sir:

I must apologize for the false alarm raised over the possible discovery of a comet Howell (ref.: Telegram and letter of Oct. 31 from the undersigned). It now appears certain that ghost images were seen by both the "discoverer" and those ~~that~~ checked it. Last night was the first clear night here since Oct. 30, and the image was still visible near Capella, indicating trouble with our 6" refractor.

Although I have received several Comet discovery "scares" in the past, this was the first time it appeared possible to confirm it. It was just bad luck that Mr. Howell's telescope, and our telescope showed similar "ghost" images.

Again, I am sorry for the false alarm.

Yours truly,

James Low, National Coordinator,
Comet and Nova Section,
Standing Committee for Observational Activities,
Royal Astronomical Society
of Canada.