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PHOTOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS OF NOVA IN L.M.C.

A nova in the Large Magellanic Cloud was reported by J.A.Graham in IAUC 2305 and 2307. The following photographic magnitudes have been communicated by A.Gilmore, Carter Observatory, Wellington.

1971	U.T.	Ptg. Mag.
Feb.	7 15 <sup>h</sup> 53 <sup>m</sup>	12.8
	8 10 09	12.9
	11 13 29	13.3
	16 11 09	13.0
	17 12 11	13.2
Mar.	8 08 57	14.5

Times are those of the middle of thirty minute exposures and the magnitudes are  $\pm 0.4$  mag.

The magnitudes were obtained by comparing the nova with stars on a plate of the Royal Greenwich Observatory Variable Field 1. From plates of this field and the nova taken on 1971 Feb.11, photographic magnitudes were derived for two nearby stars: CPD  $-68^{\circ}$  299 and the brighter star of the pair 1 arcmin north of the nova. Derived values were respectively 10.94 (RMS error 0.21 m in 5 comparisons) and 13.77 (RMS error 0.23 in 10 comparisons).

Similar comparisons of the other plates with V.S. Field 1 were made, deriving a correction for each plate from the deduced magnitudes of the two reference stars. This combined several errors and gave the RMS error of 0.4 mag for the values of the nova given above.

As part of a regular survey programme, B.Ward, Tirau, N.Z. had photographed the L.M.C. on 1971 January 18. The nova was invisible on his negative and certainly fainter than magnitude 12.0.

1971 April 2.

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