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HV 1707: A VARIABLE CARBON STAR IN THE SMALL MAGELLANIC CLOUD

On deep blue and red-sensitive objective-prism plates of the Small Magellanic Cloud, taken with the Curtis Schmidt telescope at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory, we recently noted a 16th magnitude carbon star showing very strong H α emission. This object appears as SMC nebula N60 in the catalog of Henize (Ap.J. Suppl. 2, 315, 1956) and corresponds to no.323 in the catalog of Lindsay (A.J. 66, 169, 1961) where it is considered to be a probable planetary nebula. The Harvard X and Y coordinates given by these authors indicate that this star, undoubtedly, is HV 1707 and might be expected to be a long-period variable. It may have been near minimum light when observed by both Henize and Lindsay and thus the apparent lack of a continuum gave it a nebular appearance. We have provided an identification chart for this interesting object which has an appropriate apparent magnitude to be considered as a highly probable SMC member.

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