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PHOTOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS OF THE POSSIBLE COUNTERPART
OF THE X RAY SOURCE 1E 0643.0-1648

In IAU Circ. 3529 Chlebowski et al. communicated that this X-ray source is identified with a star 9' south of Sirius. According to that reference the star is optically variable and shows two states ($V = 11^m$ and $13^m.5$). The object could be observed on about 60 Sonneberg astrographic plates scattered over the years 1941 to 1979. A fairly close series of 1962 October to 1963 February shows on blue sensitive plates, variations up and down between $11^m.7$ and $14^m.2$, the characteristic time-scale being roughly 25 days. Difficulties arose because of the near-by image of Sirius, especially when linking the comparison stars to the magnitudes in NGC 2287 of Hoag et al.

B. FUHRMANN
Sternwarte Sonneberg
Zentralinstitut für Astrophysik
Akademie der Wissenschaften
der DDR