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ANOTHER SUPERNOVA IN M83 (NGC 5236)

During a search for supernovae in nearby galaxies using plates from the Harvard College Observatory collection, I found an unrecorded supernova in the SBc spiral galaxy M83 (NGC 5236). The image was discovered on blue photographic plates taken in Bloemfontein, South Africa, with a 3-inch Ross-Fecker lens with a focal length of 530 mm.

The supernova, located 97" west and 175" south of the nucleus, had the following R (photographic) magnitudes as estimated from the sequence published by McElroy and Humphreys (1982):

1945	U.T.	B
June	13.0	>15
July	1.9	>14.5
	13.9	14.2
	30.9	13.7
Aug	1.9	14.0
	7.9	14.5

No further plates were taken of the region in 1945, and no other images could be found to approximately 15th magnitude thereafter. The photographic patrol of that region of the sky recommenced in March 1946.

WILLIAM LILLER  
Instituto Isaac Newton  
Ministerio de Educación de Chile  
Santiago

Reference:

McElroy, D.B. and Humphreys, R.M.: 1982, Publ. Astr. Soc. Pac., 94, 828.