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ON THE NEW ERUPTIVE OBJECT IN LIBRA

Debehogne (1990) reported on the discovery of a new eruptive object in Libra at the position  $15^{\text{h}}07^{\text{m}}31^{\text{s}}.10$ ,  $-1^{\circ}44'01''.7$  (1950.0), which appears bright on the sheets of the POSS, but faint  $14^{\text{m}}$  ...  $16^{\text{m}}$  on other atlases and on archival plates.

Three plates of the Sonneberg Sky Patrol (Ernostar camera) were taken by P. Ahnert at the European evenings just before and after the Palomar plates were exposed. On these exposures the object is invisible ( $\odot$ ). Thus the following table for the blue magnitudes of the star during the time of the eruption can be made up:

1955 Apr. 19	22 <sup>26</sup>	UT	$\odot > 14^{\text{m}}.0$	Ernostar 10502
	20		8 <sup>05</sup> 11.2	POSS O-1402
	20		23 <sup>58</sup> $\odot > 12.5$	Ernostar 10510
	21		23 <sup>45</sup> $\odot > 14.0$	Ernostar 10516

Our magnitude scale has been linked to the M5 sequence of Arp (1955; 1962), stars A, B, D, and E. The brightness on POSS O-1402 is confirmed by a comparison with BD -3<sup>o</sup>3746 on POSS O-1431, made with the help of several stars in common on both sheets: The variable is noticeably fainter than the BD star, the U, B, V data of which were given by Corben et al. (1972) and Roman (1955) and have been compiled by Mermilliod and Nicolet (1977): V = 9<sup>m</sup>.85, B = 10<sup>m</sup>.99.

Nova type and long-cycle dwarf nova variability can be excluded by the short duration of the eruption ( $\leq 1$  day) and the small amplitude. The fact, however, that the object is invisible on most of the 470 suitable Sonneberg Sky Patrol plates taken mainly by P. Ahnert, H. Huth and B. Fuhrmann in the years 1929 to 1990 and barely detectable as a faint trace of  $14^{\text{m}}$  on the rest, but never in strong further eruptions, speaks against an SS Cygni type. It is not a minor planet, as can be seen by blink comparison of the plates of 1955 Apr. 19 and 21.

The red magnitude on FOSS E-1402 is roughly  $10^m7$  - linking to the V sequence of Arp (l.c.) and taking into account the conversion formula of Van den Bergh (1957).

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