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S i r :

The Gunningham Comet is not stationary, but is moving rapidly in the vicinity of the Sun. Around Christmas time it set later than the Sun; it was in the constellations of Sagitta and Aquila. Towards the end of this month, the comet is expected to rise earlier than the Sun, towards the east, in the vicinity of the constellation of Sagittarius. Two things will make the comet difficult to be seen with the naked eye towards the end of this month; the first thing is that the glow which precedes the rising of the Sun may be so bright as to extinguish the brightness of the comet, the second is that the comet, having passed already around the Sun, is moving away and decreasing in brightness. From the beginning of the month until now the comet was not visible at all, although it was supposed to be bright, because the comet and the Sun were together below the horizon during the night.

It will be possible for you to arrange with a group of six or eight friends to come to the Observatory between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m., but you take a great risk unless the sky happens to be clear on that particular day and hour. You should advise this Office three days ahead of time when you intend to come.

Very respectfully,

MIGUEL SELCA
Director, Weather Bureau