

Minor Planets Observers Switzerland

Photographer: Robert Glaisen www.minorplanets.ch

On November 23, the Aten asteroid 2017 WJ16 passed the earth in a distance of 5 lunar distances. One night later, Robert Glaisen tried to record the small (diameter 60 m) and weak (16.4 mag) object with the Takahashi Epsilon 500/180mm (f/2.8) instrument from Simplon Adler Observatory (SIM).

Unfortunately, the small and fast moving asteroid wasn't detected. Referred to the size of the chip of the used cam (Altair HC 183 mono), the asteroid needed only 8.8 sec to pass one pixel: Too less time for collecting enough photons.