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SOLAR COLLISION -- Sequence shows a comet approaching the Sun at more than a million kilometers per hour (top) and cometary debris producing a glowing halo high above the solar surface some 11 hours after the impact (below). The images were taken by a U.S. Naval Research Laboratory coronagraph aboard an Earth-orbiting spacecraft. The event occurred August 30, 1979, but was only recently discovered as data and imagery from the experiment were being analyzed. Bright spot at upper left is the planet Venus. (81-3199)

