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CLASSIFIED

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This is a composite of three photos taken the night of January 13, 1974 showing the tail of comet Kohoutek stretching 38 million miles into space as it heads out from the Sun toward the edge of the solar system. It was not photographed with the Moon just above and to the right. The white disk was added by an artist to indicate what the comet would look like in relation to the Moon as viewed from Earth if both were in the same portion of the sky at the same time, which they were not. The pictures were sent to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md. from the Joint Observatory for Cometary Research, South Baldy Mountain, New Mexico where the photos were taken. The observatory is a joint project of NASA-Goddard and New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.

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Science: Astronomy

Esta es una composición de tres fotografías tomadas la noche del 13 de enero de 1974, mostrando la cola del cometa Kahoutek extendiéndose más de 60.000 kilómetros en el interior del espacio cuando se dirige fuera del Sol hacia el borde del sistema solar. No se fotografió con la Luna justamente encima y a la derecha. El disco blanco se añadió por un dibujante para indicar cómo debía aparecer en cometa con relación a la Luna tal como se vería desde la Tierra si ambos estuvieran en la misma posición del cielo, al mismo tiempo, cosa que no sucedía. Las fotografías fueron enviadas al Centro de Vuelos Espaciales Goddard, de la NASA, en Greenbelt (Maryland), desde el Observatorio Conjunto para la Investigación de Cometas, en South Baldy Mountain (Nuevo Méjico) desde donde se habían tomado las fotos. El Observatorio forma parte de un proyecto conjunto entre NASA-Goddard y el Instituto de Minería y Tecnología de Nuevo Méjico.

(Foto NASA)

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