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Pre-discovery observations of SGR 1935+2154 in Swift archival data

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TITLE: GCN CIRCULAR

NUMBER: 16535

SUBJECT: Pre-discovery observations of SGR 1935+2154 in Swift archival data

DATE: 14/07/07 13:45:22 GMT

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Swift/XRT observed the new magnetar SGR 1935+2154 (Stamatikos et al. GCN 16520)

twice before the activation of the source during the monitoring of the Galactic plane.

The first observation took place on Dec 30, 2010 for 519 s (obsid 00045278001).

SGR 1935+2154 is far off-axis and it is barely detected at a rate of $5.4\text{E}-03 \pm 3.9\text{E}-03$ cts/s (using sosta within XIMAGE at the enhanced Swift XRT position, Osborne et al. GCN 16521).

The second observation took place on Aug 28, 2011 for 623 s (obsid 00045271001).

SGR 1935+2154 is detected at a rate $1.55E-02 \pm 0.63E-02$ cts/s at

RA(J2000) = 19h34m55.75s

Dec(J2000) = 21:53:49.15

with an error radius of 8.6 arcsec.

This position lies at 1.4 arcsec from the enhanced Swift position.

If the source was in quiescence at that time, the outburst showed only an increase of the persistent flux of a factor of a few.