

## A LITTLE-KNOWN SECONDARY CRATER CHAIN

By Joseph H.C. Liu

On October 09 UT, I had the chance of recording lunar surface features in the region of craters Vendelinus and Langrenus. Upon processing the recorded images, a tiny, yet quite interesting surface detail caught my attention. I noticed a chain of craterlets situated between the mentioned large craters, just east of the crater Lohse (this chain of seven or eight craterlets is near the center of the photograph). The feature is not shown in the *Atlas*

*Of The Moon* by Antonin Rukl (see Chart 49 on page 125) or maps drawn by Walter Goodacre in his book *The Moon— Its Surface and Formation*.

However, upon checking the exact position for this tiny chain on the actual photographs # 1 & 2 in Section E of the Consolidated Lunar Atlas (personal collection), the chain appeared (barely discernable—probably due to lighting or libration differences—but it appears to me that it is there).



Above: Secondary craters between Vendelinus and Langrenus craters. Joseph H.C. Liu - 2006 October 09 08:19:32 U.T. California.AstroPhysics 20.6cm f/7.7 EDF refractor. 12.5mm Orthoscopic eyepiece for afocal projection. Nikon Coolpix 995 digital camera Non-filtered. Exposure:1/15 seconds @ ISO 200. Image enhancement with Photoshop from a single frame image.Likely a secondary chain of impact craters, this is a difficult call since no spacecraft images are available to detail the actual shapes, impingement of chain elements on each other, herringbone patterns, etc. A lot of secondaries are in the region from Petavius, though this chain is a bit more tangential than usual...but still not out of the running. It is visible on E2 of the CLA; it is also visible in the Times Atlas (a reproduction of the LAC maps: page 76--which shows the chain nicely); the New Photographic Atlas of the Moon by Kopal (just barely visible here--plate 62); and the USAF Lunar Atlas (just barely visible--A5b, A5d); it is not visible on LOPAM (due to the appropriate images being washed out).