MAIN COMPUTER
Newsletter of the NATIONAL SAVE:1999 ALLIANCE Volume 2 Number 4

CLIFTON JONES Since Con '78

I had been going on for several sentences about the beauty and pleasures to be had in Atlanta in the State of Georgia in the United States of America, to politely dissenting voices at the *SPACE:1999* Convention in Columbus, Ohio at the Sheraton Hotel in 1978. Their reaction was not surprising, as the majority of my audience were not from that state and I had never set foot there. So, taking a hint from my audience, I changed the subject and went on to speak on some other matter; but nevertheless, in my mind, I was rather looking forward to my trip to Atlanta as I had planned to write a screenplay set there.

Atlanta was chosen for me as a setting for the story by an extremely attractive young black student of law who I had met in London while she was studying there. She came from Atlanta and had convinced me that no other place in the U.S. of A. would do for my story. So, leaving behind some of the friendliest and warmest human beings I have ever met at the same time, I left for Atlanta, alone, away from the hugs, attention of go-phers, admirers, colleagues, and friends, having just made the plane as Nick's car ran out of petrol (gas) and had to be pushed to a gas station. That's the last time I accept a lift in a car driven by Nick Tate fans; they only care about what happens to him.

I arrived in Atlanta and booked in at the Holiday Inn Motel next to the airport. Mistake! Big Mistake! If any of you ever have to visit Atlanta, take my advice. There are better places you can stay. After I had changed and got ready to visit the people who were to be my contact in town, I went out into the glaring, bright, hot, humid Atlanta sunshine. Wrong. That was when I got off the plane. By the time I had changed, the atmosphere had changed to a rumbling, angry, black-skied, heavy, lightning-charged place, eager to show mere mortals that the heavens can still dominate them whenever it chooses. This same sky, which I had assumed also hung over England, New York and the Caribbean, was now raging at me for setting foot in Georgia. If all the water that was hanging up there, seemingly only about twenty feet up, in those blackened skies ever fell, surely no mortal would be left alive on this earth--ever again. I stood, riveted to the spot, fearful, alone. I looked around for other humans, my thinking being if they live here and they are going about their business normally, then it's okay. Where are they? There were lots of cars, or rather a few cars racing about, but cars aren't people; they are things that move about at great speed and crush you to a pulp if you get in their way. Where were the people? True, there was a lone black woman waiting at a bus stop for a bus, but maybe no one had told her about the impending disaster. Poor woman, while she was standing there waiting for her 89 bus, the rest of the population was probably right this minute piling into some makeshift Noah's ark.

I decided to return to the safe bosom of the motel foyer (lobby) until this certain disaster had passed. I stood, waited, went into the bar and had a drink...waited...listened to the heavens swear and curse man in their heavenly tongue. Only no one down here understood a word. Well, it rained a little, about five minutes to be truthful, and what came down was wet, water, but not enough to drown a rabbit. Then the sky cleared, the sun came out and so too did the people from wherever they had been hiding, and all was back to normal. I stayed in Atlanta for one week and had a wonderful time. Incidentally, I changed hotels; my friend arranged that for me. I followed him around for two of those days, getting up at 5:30, while he canvassed votes as he was running for office. I went to the theatre, saw a not-very-good play, a quite good revue at the Omni, the nearest thing to Metropolis I have ever seen: a huge building that has in it hotels, cinemas, shops, skating rink, bars, restaurants, theatre. Have I left out anything? Quite possible. You name it, the Omni has it in there. Oh yes, I bought a couple of things in one of the shops for my girlfriend. Funny, but I don't remember seeing her *(cont. on pg. 2)*

CLIFTON JONES (*cont. from pg. 1)*
wear any of them. Could it be??? No...still schoolteachers are funny people. I shall ask her where she wears them. Maybe at school...yes, one did have four pockets, useful for pencils, chalk, rubber, things like that. Useful I thought at the time. Not big enough for a book on English grammar though.

Clifton's article will conclude in the next issue of *MC*.

From the Editor

Because of all the great response you've given, we are a bit cramped for space this issue. So, we'll deal with a limited number of topics this time and include the others in next month's *MC*. Please keep your comments coming. How about some opinions on the wise and wonderful *Dr. Who*? Any views of TV's recent *Brave New World* or *The Aliens Are Coming*? Most importantly, I'd like to take a survey of which you would prefer if given a choice: a third season of *1999* for TV, an original theatre film of *1999*, or a completely new Gerry Anderson series. See you next month and don't stop believing for a minute...

1999 Lives!
Mare

Letters

TOO MUCH BUCK? *I found it rather shocking to find that several pages of the* SPACE:1999 *newsletter dealt specifically with* Buck. *Isn't there enough news to tell about* 1999 *that we don't need to go to other shows?* Tony Kluck, Westlake Village, CA

ALL SF OK *I am glad that* MC *discusses other media SF besides* SPACE. *Of course, the thrust of* MC *should be basically* SPACE, *but I'm glad that you're open to other programs.* Lenore Dunlop, Seaford, NY

NO ROOM FOR DIFFERENT TASTES??? *I'd rather have no SF on the tube than that garbage like* Buck Rogers *and* Galactica:1980! *I like* 1999 *as far as it goes, but to support stuff like* The Black Hole, 1980, *is a disgrace! So try to be more critical from now on.* Tom Sorlie, Ankeny, IA

TREK FANS SUPPORT 1999 *I am continually insulted by anti-*Star Trek *comments and insinuations in* MC. *I am specifically referring to Jeff Jones' cover story in the last issue. If any of that trash were true, I would not have been a loyal member of the Alliance for the past three years.* Eric A. Stillwell, Eugene, OR

Star Notes

EXCITING NEWS! ANTON PHILLIPS wrote to tell us that the play *Throne In An Autumn Room*, in which he plays one of the lead parts, has been invited to the Lincoln Centre in NY. Performances will run from May 20-25. Hope to see a lot of you there!

NICK TATE is currently on location in Belgium with a TV movie.....PRENTIS HANCOCK is wrapping up work on a TV play *Lives of Our Own*.

Local News

Tony Kluck (Westlake Village, CA) writes, "Hey! We've got *1999* back in LA!".....At a recent *Trek* Con in NY, a group of Alliance members organized *1999* day. George Eichler (Brooklyn, NY) reports a pleasant reception and many new friends made.....Jeff Booker (1801 Hereford Ln/Cary, NC 27511) would like to start a letter blitz on WPTF TV 23/ Programming/Bx 3540/Durham, NC 27702) to get *1999* back on the air there. Local members may write directly to the station. Everyone else can help by writing a letter (or 2... or 3...or...) to the station (do not include your address on the correspondence), address and stamp it, and mail it in another stamped envelope to Jeff who will then mail it to assure a local postmark. Good luck, North Carolina fans!

D:MA - WOW!

On the 9th of February, DESTINATION:MOONBASE ALPHA *made its Toronto television debut on CFTO-TV Channel 9. I only saw around an hour of it, but I caught the most important part, the opening that led into the old* Bringers of Wonder.

Remember how Star Wars *commenced with the narration reading this scroll-like passage that receded into the background? Well that is how* D:MA *began. This led into a general introduction of the* 1999 *situation, explaining how Alpha was conceived and what it does as a research-defense-garbage dump site. Then, continuing with this, it uses* Breakaway *crisis scenes, like after Simmonds got there until and including the Big Bangs and the GTV telebroadcast that allowed the Alphans their last and only news of their home planet after the separation.*

But as the Breakaway *footage ends, we get the* D:MA *credits, the title of the film, then a swooshing pass made by an Eagle, then the writer-director-producer, chief behind the camera crediting. Then some Year Two footage of John and his Martin Landau name on the screen and an itty-bitty description of his role as leader of MBA.*

This same treatment is accorded Catherine Schell and Barbara Bain. From here we go to a split-screen film clipping introduction for Nick and Tony, but they are not given this treatment of having their character roles explained. Poor Zienia is left off this and it's a bit of a downer at this point.

Between all of these credits sequences, we had the same Eagle swooshing until after the final sequence it segues deftly into John's opening erratic flying exhibit near the re-done Waste Area. That's all I saw until having to report for work that afternoon. Doug Pelton, Mississauga, Ontario

*Even though I had seen [*Bringers of Wonder*] before, I thought it was one of the best shows I had seen in a long time, and I noticed the fantastic music much more than in the two-part series. When it comes, don't miss it.* Richard Bendell, Woodstock, Ontario

Happy Birthday

This will be very short notice for a lot of you, but if you'd like your name and address on a list accompanying a birthday card to Gerry Anderson on April 14, please contact Alliance headquarters ASAP. If your newsletter doesn't arrive soon enough, another listing of belated wishes will be sent at the end of April.

Con '81 Survey

So far, no city has a clear lead in the survey. The top choices so far are: Philadelphia, PA; Cincinnati, OH; St. Louis, MO; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL and Los Angeles, CA. You may still send in your choices for another month or two.

Section News

Promotional materials to help advertise Con '80 are still available from your Section Rep. Besides posters and flyers, we'll make bumper stickers available if response is big enough. Send a SASE to your Section Rep for full details.....Chris Hantzopulos is not Section Rep for Europe as previously reported. The Alliance presidents are currently handling this area. Any overseas members interested in this position?.....Tod Ellsworth, Eastern Section Rep, wants to get a lot of action going with con-voys from various areas of the country. The Southern con-voy is picking up a lot of steam, so how about it, midwest, north and east? Write to your Rep now and save a lot this summer.

With great sadness, we report the untimely death of Jay Winslow, husband of Alliance member Diana Winslow (Watauga, TX). Dee wishes that we "let everyone know how much I appreciate their sympathy and their concern." Our gentlest thoughts are with you, Dee.

Want Ads

WANTED: Super8 *SPACE:1999* films: *Breakaway, War Games, Spacewarp, Dragon's Domain,* and *Earthbound*; Eagle & Hawk model parts. Send list, price & SASE. M. Rozak/5901 Lancer Ct/Huber Hts, OH 45424

FROM THE ALLIANCE: 8x10 color photos of Landau & Tate at Con '78 ($3.50 ea + 67¢ post/2 for $7.00 + 67¢ post)...Back issues MC Vol 1, except #3 ($3.00 + 80¢ post)... Con '78 Reports ($2.00 + 41¢ post)...1979 Calendars, excellent art (just 67¢ each!)

FOR SALE: 1 2nd season promo book. Best offer over $30.00. Charlene Scott/3632 Linden Ln/Mobile, AL 36608

CON '80 OR BUST! Searching for *1999* fans in southeastern MI or northwestern OH area who are interested in sharing ride & other expenses to Columbus. Make Jimmy Carter happy--save gas! Make yourself happy!--save money! Make me happy!--Write! Bonnie Yoman/ 174 E Madison/Petersburg, MI 49270

FOR SALE: *1999* Golden All-Star Book. 2 orig sh stories, illus. $1.25 + 41¢ post ($1.76 post overseas). Mare Fitzgerald

AUCTION BY MAIL: Available to highest bidder, one (1) set of 3 *1999* novels published by Star Books of Gr Britain. Set contains *Planets of Peril, Mind-Breaks of Space* & *Space-Jackers*. These paperbacks are brand new condition. Priceless or worthless? Set your own price, but SEND NO MONEY NOW. Winning bidder will be notified by return mail. Deadline for bids is May 31, 1980. Write: Bonnie Yoman/174 E Madison/Petersburg, MI 49270

SHUTTLECON COLUMBUS II. April 11-13/Arts & Crafts Ctr/OH State Fairgrounds. 3-day: $12.50; 1-day: $5.00. Group rates avail. 3740 Atkinson Rd/Columbus, OH 43227

DEADLINE FOR ADS IN MC2/5 IS APRIL 10, 1980

SF DOES HAVE AN AUDIENCE According to *Variety*, the top ten money-makers of the cinema include three SF films: *Star Wars* (1), *Superman* (6), and *CE3K* (9).

WELCOME to our new member in Scotland!

Fan Clubs & Publications

FAN FUND Help raise money to allow a deserving fan to attend Con '80. Everyone benefits from the Fund: lots of great sale items & ad space available in their publication. SASE for details. Mary Bloemker/5 Lamson St/E Boston, MA 02128

LODESTAR Magazine. Issue #1 of new, all fiction zine now avail. *Wars, 1999, Galactica, Avengers* & orig SF. $4.50 + $1.18 postage. Gail Zehner/889 Maple La/Meadville, PA 16335. Orders & submissions also being accepted for #2. SASE for submission guide.

WHAT DID PRENTIS HANCOCK LOOK LIKE 10 YEARS AGO??? Join his Fanclub and find out! $5/ year ($6 overseas) 123 Fawn Valley Dr/ McMurray, PA 15317

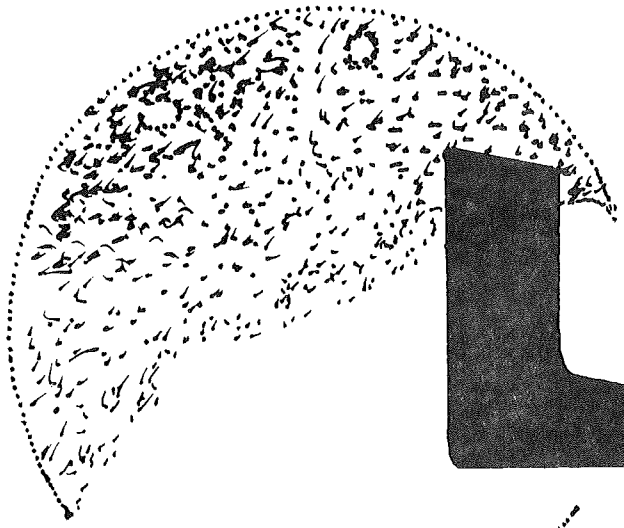
ALPHA HUMOR BOOK now being compiled. Send your best jokes, cartoons, riddles, puns, etc. to Doug Pelton/65 Park St E #508/Port Credit Postal Station/Mississauga, Ontario L5G 1M3/Canada or to Mare Fitzgerald. SASE for details.

NEW CHICAGO TRIBUNE, the exciting new *Buck Rogers* fan club. First newsletter is out & it's a winner! SASE for details Darryl Riley/613 Garrard St/Covington, KY 41011

BRITISH NICK TATE CLUB, the club with all the latest news about Nick. Large newsletters & lots of extras. One of the very best! 2 IRC's for details to Eileen Skidmore/69 Francis Rd/Acocks Green/Birmingham B27 6LT/England.

Merch. Search

Anyone who knows of popular *1999* items still sold in stores, please let us know. We're looking for items for resale or auction. Anyone interested in Dinky models from *1999*, *U.F.O.* or *Thunderbirds*? We've found a limited supply through a national toy store. Write to headquarters for details.



LUNAR

The New Space 1999 fanzine

LUNAR is fandom's first regular, full-sized, all 1999 fanzine. The first issue of LUNAR is due out in July of 1980, in time for the International SPACE:1999 Alliance Convention in Columbus, Ohio. Subsequent issues are expected annually.

LUNAR will be all SPACE:1999 and will include original fan fiction and artwork. LUNAR will be at least 100 pages, professionally photo offset. Submissions for the first issue are now being accepted.

FICTION:

There is no limit as to the length of stories submitted. It is preferred that all stories include both Year One and Year Two characters, however, well-written stories concerning one particular year will be considered. Stories that display overly blatant sexual or violent content may not be accepted, but will be considered. Submissions should be typed, double-spaced, however, legible handwriting will be accepted.

ARTWORK:

All artwork submitted must be pen and ink (no pencil and no blue ink or ball point) and should be no larger than 8½ by 11 inches. If you are interested in illustrating a story, send a sample of your work and arrangements will be made.

All submissions must be in by June 1, 1980. Please accompany all submissions with proper return postage so that we may return your work if necessary. Also include a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) or IRC. Accepted contributors will receive one complimentary issue.

SECOND RATE PRESS
1088 East 43rd Street
Brooklyn, NY 11210

Views & Comments

There are no clear-cut crowd pleasers on screen or tube lately, according to our membership. After reporting generally favorable reactions to *Buck Rogers* last issue, we've lately been receiving more negative than positive reviews of that series. Here are your views on several recent offerings; next issue we'll see what you've said about *Star Trek Trek: The Motion Picture* and *Galactica:1980*.

Alien, Time After Time, *and* Buck Rogers *were the best SF projects of last year. Everything else---from* Star Trek TMP *to* The Lathe of Heaven *have been vast disappointments.* Steve Dailey, Springfield, MO

THE LATHE OF HEAVEN

The production was absolutely marvelous. I couldn't believe that such a quality piece of film could be shown on the American PBS. Finally quality SF is getting a chance to be heard. Amy Kisil, Cleveland, OH

Ursula K. LeGuin's Lathe of Heaven *is a schizophrenic's view of his world. The story is faulty and illogical.* Ruben Avila, San Leandro, CA

BLACK HOLE

Black Hole *was interesting, but not very good. Not much emphasis was given the characters except for the robots.* Mark Robertson, Baton Rouge, LA

A spectacular for the kids, but for the serious-minded student of SF, I recommend he or she look elsewhere for their celluloid nourishment. Frances Emerson, Geneva, NY

THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES

The Martian Chronicles *really had me clapping and stomping. I felt Mars was now more than a dull red planet, full of old Viking modules. I hope* Martian Chronicles *gets reshown so I can savour it once again.* Amy Kisil, Cleveland, OH

I absolutely treasured Part 1 of Martian Chronicles, *the Martian culture, masks and weapons. But I thought Parts 2 and 3 were the downfall of the series.* Steve Wychorski, Worcester, MA

BUCK ROGERS

The characters did not seem real to me. The stories were, shall I say, less than mature, and the SpFX, while very good, were not state of the art. The program wasn't all bad though. At times it was very cute, light entertainment. The problem was that the creators of the program didn't seem to realize that it's possible to be too cute. Kathi Overton, Arlington, VA

Let Us Know

If you've had newspaper articles, ads, interviews, etc. printed locally about the Alliance, please send copies to headquarters. We're also interested in seeing any individual efforts of posters, buttons, stickers, or anything else that helps promote *1999* awareness. Not only does it keep us informed of localized efforts, but your idea sharing can be a huge help to everyone.

MAIN COMPUTER
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A Non-Profit Organization
Volume 2 Number 4 * April 1, 1980

Mare Fitzgerald, Editor * 123 Fawn Valley Drive * McMurray, PA 15317
Personal replies require a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

CONVENTION '80 UPDATE 1

SPACE:1999 CONVENTION '80 * JULY 25-27, 1980

From the Presidents

There are several items we'd like to either bring to your attention or to receive your opinions of, before *MC*5 if possible. To save space, they are listed below.

Kathy & John Von Kamp

CON GUEST LIST With Con '80 just four months away, we must start finalizing our guest list. A handful of you have expressed strongly pro or con views about inviting non-*1999* stars. You've previously given your preferences for other areas of Alliance emphasis (*MC*2/3), but do these other areas of interest also apply to the cons? Unless we hear a majority request to invite only *1999* stars, present plans will stand.

CON-VOYS We're still willing to help organize ride service. If you need a ride, or have one to share, contact your Section Rep. Notice to Indiana members: Joyce Whitmill (919 Park Ave/Anderson, IN 46012) has one or more rides to share.....From the south: Anyone who can supply rides should contact Alice Newsom (130 Chris Dr/Warner Robins, GA 31093); members looking for rides should contact Ann Hester (107 Lemuel Ct/Warner Robins, GA 31093).

FREE ALLIANCE MERCHANDISE Alliance members may receive free merchandise (except for postage) for extra con tickets or Alliance memberships they sell. More details on the photo/merchandise list.

THRIFT TIPS Anyone have tips on cutting costs when attending cons? Send your ideas to *MC* Editor and we'll list the best in future newsletters and updates.

Con Specifications

NEIL HOUSE HOTEL (41 S High St/Columbus 43215; phone (614) 221-5221 or toll free: (800) 848-1973, in Ohio (800) 282-1958)
Room rates: Single $32; Dbl/Twin $38; Triple $43; Quad $48 See hotel reservation card for additional information. To share rooming costs send a SASE to: IS:1999A ROOMING SERVICE/1136 Neill Ave/Columbus, OH 43201

THE GUEST LIST:

1999: Barry Gray, Prentis Hancock, Martin Landau, Gerry Anderson will attend, work schedule permitting. Invitations now out to other *1999* cast members.

Buck Rogers: Gil Gerard will attend, work schedule permitting. Invitations out to Erin Gray, Tim O'Connor and Pamela Hensley

Galactica: Invitations out to Dirk Benedict and Anne Lockhart

U.F.O.: No invitations sent yet. Contact Jim Main (121 Railroad St/New Milford, CT 06776) or Bob Caudill (513 N 4th St/Flatwoods, KY 41139) if you'd like to have us invite Ed Bishop and you can either come to the con or buy a supporting membership. *U.F.O.* exhibit scheduled for the con regardless.

Dr. Who: Nothing definite yet on Tom Baker. Must be brought from England, so advance ticket sales must be considered.

EVENTS: Question/answer lectures, costume party/contest, star banquet, autograph sessions, charity auction, art show/auction, fan club meetings, SF films, videotape *1999* episodes, selected shorts of past and recent work of *1999* cast and producer on videotape, dealers' room, Dungeons & Dragons room, amateur film contest, original *1999* musical *What's It All About, Alpha?*. LOONEY RUN: We need costumed fans for our walks around Columbus on Friday and Saturday mornings.

PRICES: 3-day $15 (no increase to $20 this year); $7 14-yrs & under
1-day $6; $3 14-yrs & under
NEW FAMILY PLAN $25/3 days; $10 1 day (family of 4, children 14 & under, one or both parents must attend)
NON-ATTENDING SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP $7 (con booklet & post con report)
PLEASE NOTE: Foreign checks must be payable through US bank. International Money Orders are also acceptable. Otherwise a collection fee of $5 or more could be charged.

SPECIAL CON ADDRESSES: Please use these addresses to assure quickest response to your inquiries. SASE required on * listings.

*COSTUME CALL: Alice Newsom (130 Chris Dr/Warner Robins, GA 31093) Pre-registration required to enter.
*ART SHOW/AUCTION: Marty Siegrist (1200 Pulaski St/Lansing, MI 48910) Pre-registration required to show your work.
*GO-FER SQUAD: Ann Hester(107 Lemuel Ct/Warner Robins, GA 31093) Volunteers needed in all areas.
AMATEUR FILM CONTEST: Any volunteers to coordinate and register entrees in this event? Write to Alliance Headquarters.
CHARITY AUCTION: Chuck Raue (804 Rowell St/Mobile, AL 36606) Your donations welcome.

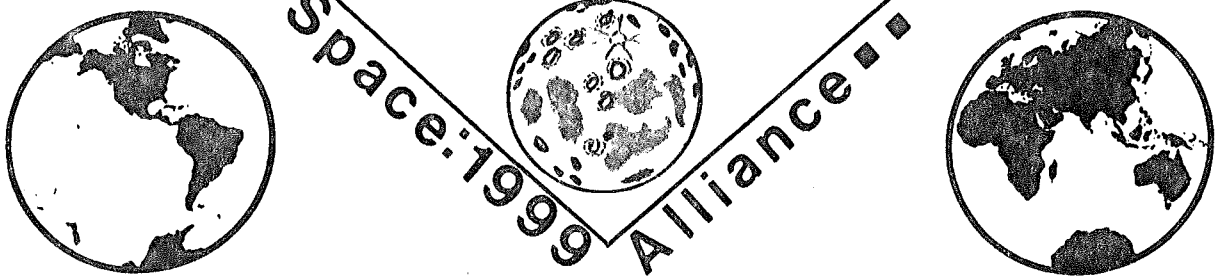
MARGARET WANTS TO KNOW: HAVE YOU STARTED MAKING YOUR COSTUME YET??? Remember, you don't have to enter the costume competition if you wear a costume...and cons are so much more fun when you get right into the spirit of things!

BE SURE AND USE THE CORRECT ADDRESS WHEN WRITING...ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS IS:
86 FIRST STREET * NEW LONDON, OHIO 44851

INTERNATIONAL SPACE:1999 ALLIANCE
86 FIRST STREET
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Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
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New London, OH 44851
Permit No. 11

Tony Wynn
1660 Lorane Hwy.
Eugene, Or 97405



3-14-80

Dear Tony:
As promised, here are the posters. I just got them today.
If you can use any more please let me know.

Thanks again
'99 Lives
Mary Tchir

WESTERN U.S. SECTION—MARY TCHIR•1101 S.E. 184th•PORTLAND, OREGON 97233