MAIN COMPUTER

Newsletter of the International Space:1999 Alliance

Dues: $8.00 US/Canada & $12.00 Overseas Issued in Sept., Nov., Jan., March, May & July

Here we are with another issue. As you can see, we've made a few "minor" changes. We hope you like the changes. We would like to hear your comments favorable or unfavorable. If you do not like the changes, we will return to the prior format. If you like the changes, there may be a few more in the future. Please let us know what you think. Now on with the show.

Everything you wanted to know about Alpha

... BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK!"

By: Thomas James Cicirelli - - SPACE:1999's main writer of funny stuff. (ED. Now we know why they were afraid to ask. SORRY Tom.)

.....Why do Eagles crash?

Sitting on the launch pad six stood Eagle one: ready and waiting for lift-off .... sort of... BEEP-CLICK-DEEP-CLICK "Hello? Main Computer?" DEE-DOOP "This is Main Computer in Main Mission Alpha. Which computer do I have contact with?" "This is Onboard Computer for Eagle One." "Go ahead Eagle One. I have time for you now." "Good. Say, what's the weather like where I am going?" "Not too good. Looks to me like some sort of acid is in the upper atmosphere and it could corrode the heat shielding around the bulkhead." "How about farther down toward the surface. Any better?" "Yes, if you consider 100 kph winds mixed with freezing sleet better." "YECHHH!!! Sleet makes my atomic engine stall." "Yes, I know." "What's the surface like?" "Well, let me check out some findings. . . .Ahh, here they are right next to the sports page. Primary reports indicate that the surface is as firm as. . . " ". . The Rock of Gibralter?" "No, as firm as graham cracker crust. Not too good." "No." "There is some good news." "What?" "The planet is totally devoid of any spearchucking natives." "Really?" "Yeah, they are all rockchucking natives. I think theywill throw pebbles and scratch your paint a little." "That does not sound dangerous." "Yeah, but to them pebbles are the size of boulders to humans. They might try to tip you over while the landing party is out exploring." "Who is in the landing party?" "Oh, the usual people plus some security guards for excitement." "Ahh, more importantly, who is flying?" "John Koenig." "Rescue Eagle standing by?" "Naturally. We'll have you back and running as soon as possible." "Sounds good." "I gotta run some flight programming for this mission, have a good trip." DEE-DOOP "I always get Koenig." BEEP-CLICK-DEEP-CLICK

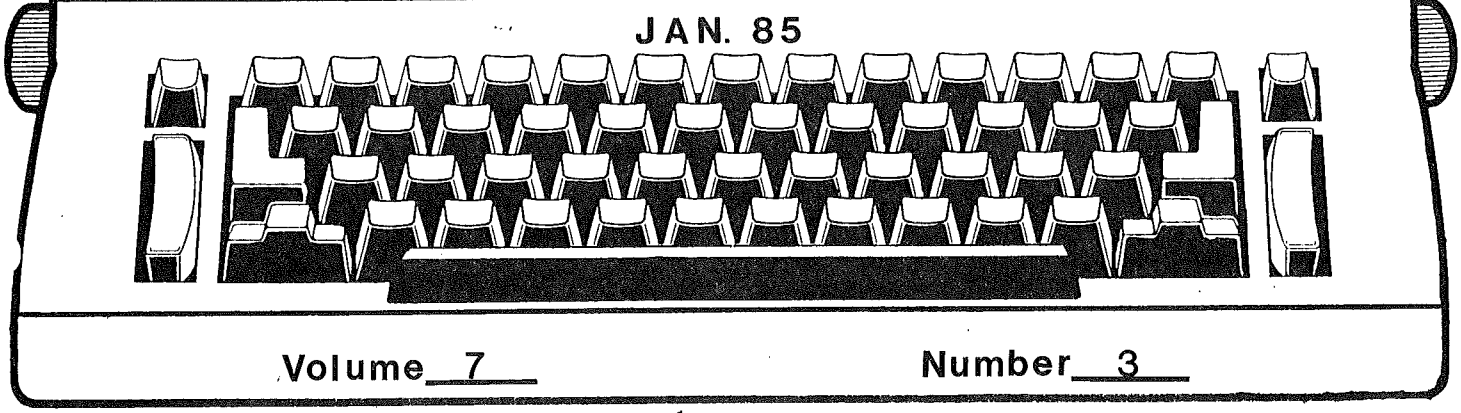
The very next second in Main Mission:

Koenig entered the room, "Alan, do you have those coordinates yet?" "They're commin through now, C'mander." "Good, well, I don't know what we'll find, but let's go." The landing party left for Eagle One. DEE-DOOP "They never ask the right questions." DEE-DOOP

.....What makes up an Alphan Security Guard?

Somewhere deep in the halls of level H a highly interactive meeting is going on between the chief of security, Tony Verdeschi, and the new recruits for security service. They all have been chosen by communistic like elections.

"Now," Verdeschi said to his crew, "can anyone tell me what makes up an alien." "A scriptwriter!" screamed Chuck Breitweg. "Ahh, ha-ha, no. I mean how can you tell an alien from an Alphan." "They don't have a British accent," said Tarra Rosie. "They do have



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a British accent," corrected Clair Vinant. Paul Hensley added to the conversation, "Pointy ears?"
"They are all covered with fur, or scales, or green skin, or rice pudding. I don't know. I just want to go home." Dale Chesnes looked at his bunny slippers. "Well, you have a pretty good idea," Tony said to the group. Looking into their eyes reminded him of his beagle back on Earth. "You can all go up tothe firing range on level C, but please try not to hit the instructor as he changes the targets. He is not an alien."
"How can we tell," asked Tara Rosie. "He has actually been affected by a stun gun. Now, off to level C with you all."

.....Why did Main Mission personnel move to Command Center for one year?

"John," Helena said comming over to the Commander's desk from his office door. "John we have just got to do something about it. I just cannot stand it any longer." She stopped halfway up the stairs to his desk and began the trip down. "I mean it is not like we haven't talked about it. And I think it would give the entire base a morale boost." Helena began to walk over toward the conference table, "I mean it is just so dirty. It isn't like we have been trying to hide it or anything. We have tried to keep it clean, but our fingerprints are everywhere." She sat down on the conference table and looked at John Koenig. A man with his eyes closed and head back. A strong line on his brow. He was taking in all of her story and her dispair. He would make the final judgement. Victor Bergman walked in. Helena motioned for him to sit down, "This is very important, Victor. I must finish." "May I stay?" Victor asked her. "Yes, take your usual seat on the couch." "Thank you, Helena." Victor began to listen to the doctor's speech. "The time has come, John, for you to make the final decision." She half ran to him seated in his chair. She grabbed his hand. Koenig's eyes opened. "Do we, or don't we, John?" she asked him. Koenig looked into her eyes, "Do what you think best, helena. I will agree to it." "Oh, thank you, John!" Helena patted his hand and then half ran over to the door which connected his office to Main Mission. "I know it will work, John. I just know it will." She departed. Victor looked at Koenig, "What the heck was all that about, John?" "She disturbed a perfectly good nap." Koenig said rubbing his eyes. "She has been bugging me about that for a long time now." "About what?" Victor half demanded. "About repainting Main Mission. I guess it is becoming fairly dirty and gray. I don't know. Women get that way you know." Victor breathed a sigh of relief, "I know."

THE END

Launch Pad

from Denise Miller / P.O. Box 179 / Estill Springs, Tn 37330

The last MC (Ed. Vol 6) dealt a lot with the problems of lack of communication and fan interest, and I agree that there is a problem. But I would like to share with you an experience I had not too long ago. Through the Alliance I had met a fellow Space:1999 fan several years agoo, and we had a lot of good talks, etc., about 99. After a while she didn't mention 99 anymore so I didn't either. After she started attending a nearby University, I was able to drive up to see her from time to time. About six weeks ago I went to spend the day with my friend. That afternoon someone asked us how we had met and that led to a long conversation about 99. So it turned out, my friend had stopped receiving Main Computer (I think her membership had run out without her realizing it) and thought that perhaps 99 fandom had dropped out of existence. She told me that she thought no 99 fans existed anymore and that she thought I had lost interest. I have a feeling we'll have some interesting letters this summer, and we already have a date this fall(when Sonya returns to school) to look over some of the zines in my collection that she didn't know existed. I'm not sure just what the moral is, but I wish Sonya and I had had this talk much earlier. Today I received a letter from a penpal I had met through the BNTC (in my last letter I had told her of my plans for attending Con), and she said that last letter was the first time anyone had mentioned Space:1999 to her in a long time. I don't know if this is a symptom of something larger or what.

from Nelliepat Eklund / 2687 Moss Avenue / Los Angeles, Ca 90065

As you have expressed a continued invitation to personal opinions, thought I would mention several of mine. I realize "1999" is becoming a rarity and have no objection whatsoever to the inclusion of other series and films of a similar quality, such as "Galactica", "Buck Rogers" - even "Wonder Woman" and the Bionic duo ("Star Trek" has reached saturation). If, however (PERISH THE THOUGHT) it should ever expand far enough to cover the so-called "modern" and "adult" films laced with sex and gore, I QUIT! Features I most enjoy are "Scanning" and any news, updates or information on 1999 stars and guest stars. I also love to add photos to my collection but have so many from various sources, it is difficult to avoid duplication. All in all, I think MC and the Alliance are GREAT! Keep up the good work and thank you for providing us with so much enjoyment. Looking forward to a long and happy membership.

from Tony Wynn / PSC Box 2289 / Randolph AFB, Tx 78150

To Main Computer Readers,
Let me start by saying "Thank you, Tom" for the great letter, printed in the last issue of MC(#6 Vol.6). It certainly is timely, and I must say that I agree with most everything said. I am certain that everyone is

"tired of journeying across the country" to cons, but there is no city that is close to everyone. I think the convention should be locating in a single city, starting in 1986 after the successful convention in Washington, D.C. After touring the hotel, meeting the helpful hotel personnel, and talking to Steve and Darla, I feel that D.C will be a great site for a con.

I don't agree with the editors of MC, however, about changing the name of "Spacecon". Spacecon does not necessarily mean "Space:1999", but could refer to an entire spectrum of "space shows", as well as an indicator of our willingness to support the space program -- especially since NASA will be heavily in view at the D.C. convention. But, if the decision is made to change the name -- and it should not -- the name "Fancon" may fit. That name could refer to many fandoms; Space:1999, Mission:impossible, Star Trek, Battlestar Galactica, Buck Rogers, etc.

In addition, let me say I definately feel it's time for big changes in many areas, the convention being only one. The Alliance is really the only major Space:1999 club left in the U.S., nearly every other club has folded; either for lack of interest, or personal problems with those running them. The Alliance needs to expand its services, and provide more to people who send memberships in every year. Here are some ideas:

1) Redesign the newsletter, make it more attractive to the eye, and perhaps have it printed in a different format or altered style.
2) Offer a small membership package for those joining the club, perhaps a couple of photos and a history of the club would be nice.
3) Advertise as widely as possible and let closet 99 fans know that there is a club for them.

Thanks for your time, please write to John and Kathy and comment on these ideas. I know you care about our club. Sincerely, Tony Wynn

** Ed. We would definitely be interested in your response to the ideas listed above. We would also like to take the time to explain the reason why we feel we need a new name. The con has never been "officially" called "Spacecon" in any of our advertising, especially in Ohio, because there is already a convention using that particular name in Wapakoneta, Ohio located across from the Neil Armstrong space museum. This convention began in 1979 to celebrate the anniversary of the first moon landing. In all or at least most of our advertising up to the last two conventions, we have always refered to the con as Space:1999 con __. A definite and individual name is necessary to avoid confusion with other conventions. Most major cons have different names. There are some good reasons for this. We feel we have built up a fairly good reputation when it comes to paying bills and this is important to hotels when you are trying to arrange a convention. If a convention fails to pay the hotel bills or has too many conventions which have to be cancelled, it makes it more difficult to get a hotel to let us use their facilities. They don't want to spend a lot of time on a convention which will not allow them to make any money. A bad reputation may make it difficult to find a hotel or you may have to pay most of the bill in advance. It is for this reason that cons try not to duplicate names. You might give an already existing con an undeserved black mark if yours fails or you may cause yourself problems before you start if you chose a name that has negative reputations already associated with it. This is the main reason why cons try not to duplicate names. We still feel that we need a name which does not have 1999 included. It makes the name appear too specific for the type of con and the guests we have. A name from something associated with 1999 but not readily apparent to anyone not a fan of 1999 would probably be OK. Something like "Meta Con" or "Eagle - 8" or "Earthbound - 8" would be acceptable if the majority approved of it. If you have any ideas for a new name, let us know. We could then submit the names to the membership for a vote.

from Robert Johnston / 32 The Heights Dr. #211 / Don Mills, Ontario / Canada M3C 1Y4

All the talk about the Alliance (May '84) has made me think why I joined the Alliance in the first place. So what I did was pull out the very first issue of Main Computer, that I have, and read, "Goals of the Alliance."

If any of you don't have them or forgot, here they are: * to promote a spirit of cooperation and unity among it's members * to work for a return to production of the series SPACE:1999 * to help put SPACE fans in touch with other fans and to inform fans of the latest 1999 developments * to support all Gerry Anderson productions * to encourage and support quality science fiction/fantasy for television * to contribute to charities which are striving toward a better tomorrow for all.

After reading this my questions were answered. It reminded me why I joined and why I'm still a member today. For me personally, the Alliance has filled all these goals, save one. But why should we let ITC stand in our way?

One member wrote in, "...1 999 is already an 'old' show by TV standards..." How can we compare TV standards with our own standards. Television standards are making a dollar, and following what the ratings say. We all have our personal reasons why we like Space:1999, none of which would come close to the reasons why the stations aired the show.

For me Space:1999 was escapism, and sort of a window on the future of what may come. It wasn't far out sci-fi (Ships traveling at light speed, etc.) but about a moonbase, and it's adventures. (It's much more than that, but why go into it. We all know what it is.)

As far as communications goes, of course, they can't be any better, the newsletter is really the only year round link that we have. I live in Canada and the members who live world-wide should be the ones with the problem.

Organization isn't the problem either, how can you have a fan club, without some sort of organization. The problem is, we sometimes forget why we do something, and the answer is to go back and review why we joined.

I really have nothing more to say on this, only that the Alliance is the only means to hang onto something which may be lost forever. And I really don't want SPACE to be a dead subject.

SPACE LIVES!!!!! Robert Johnston

Keep those letters coming. Also send in any ideas for new sections that you would like to see in MC.

We're All Aliens Until We Get To Know One Another

Anja Jacobsen / Gemsenstr. 31 / 4044 Kaarst / West Germany

Hello, my name is Anja Jacobsen. I was born on Sept. 23rd, 1964 and live in Dusseldorf in the most populated region of Western Germany.I liked Space:1999 since they showed the first episode over here (in 1977) and became part by part a fan of it. My favorite characters are Helena and John.

Never the less, I'm not the total sci-fi buff because while reading or watching Sci-fi stories, I'm often dissatisfied with its literary quality or its content.

I'm studying German, English and Philosophy at the Heinrich-Here University in Dusseldorf and would like to get a job at the theatre.

Besides the theatre, the movies etc., reading, music, travelling (haven't come too far until now), and writing letters are my main hobbies.

So if you love Space:1999 but also have an open heart and an eye for the rest of the world, give yourself a push and write. I enjoy getting letters.

Anja Jacobsen

This is the last bio we have at this time. Thanks to all of you who have sent them in.

Anja also sent us the following interview with Brian Johnson which appeared in the May 1984 issue of "Cinema". The interview concerned his work for the film "Die Unendliche Geschichte" (The Neverending Story)

BRIAN JOHNSON - - THE EASIEST EFFECTS ARE THE FINEST

Brian Johnson's career started in a firm which manufactured steel and concrete constructions. When this became too boring for him, the Englishman went into film production. First he was employed as an assistant, but with his ideas, enthusiasum and techniques, he soon got fully into the business. Since then he has worked on more than 20 movies and has gotten two Academy Awards.

CINEMA: What attracted you in this film?
BRIAN: For me it's one of the most enjoyable things to accept a nearly impossible task and to see how it finally turns into a good movie. Besides, there were many things in "Die Unendliche Geschichte" which I hadn't done before, e.g. the construction of the creatures.

CINEMA: For someone who has made so many movies, is there something like a favorite effect?
BRIAN: For me the very simple effects are the finest. Remember the scene in "Der Drachentoter" (Dragonslayer) when the boy walks through the wood with the magician and suddenly an egg is suspended in his hand. We lead a small tube with compressed air through his fingers and the egg, emptied beforehand, was suspended by a stream of air.
CINEMA: You use modern computers but the cameras are at least 20 years old.
BRIAN: At least, these Vistavision monsters haven't been built for a long time, but they are irreplaceable for our purposes. The trick is that with Vistavision the material (the film) does not pass the lens vertically but horizontally. In this way you can get a double wide negative on the usual film material. The bigger the negative, the easier it is to break it down and combine it with other material.

CINEMA: Did you have to rebuild the cameras?
BRIAN: We had to find them first. We bought four cameras in Italy and made two useful ones out of them. It is difficult for the cameraman because he can't look through the viewfinder during shooting.

Thanks to Anja for the article and the translation.

SCANNING

from Martin East, England - Quite a few 1999 stars and guests have been on TV recently: TONY ANHOLT was in a recent episode of 'Minder' - "Windows", he played an Italian small time mafia style gangster. His hair is much longer now and he looked quite a bit different. BRIAN OSBOURNE(Chris Potter, Matter of Balance)was in the 'Minder' episode "Get Daley" and LAURENCE HARRINGTON(Stewart Jackson, Journey to Where) appeared in 'Minder' - "If Money be the Food of Love-Play On. PATRICK TROUGHTON(Archon, The Dorcons) was in the "minder" episode "Windows" also. TOBY ROBINS(Diana Morris, Bringers of Wonder) and BERNARD KAY(? , New Adam, New Eve) were both in 'Minder's' "Willesden Suite". ROY MARSDEN(Crael, Devil's Planet & Alien transport, Rules of Luton) played Mr. Chips in the BBC serial "Goodbye Mr. Chips" and stars as Adam Dalgliesh in a crime serial "Shroud for a Nightingale". LEE MONTAGUE(Dorzak,Dorzak), OLIVER COTTON(the spearman, Full Circle) and TONY OSOBA(1 st Security Guard, Space Warp) were all in the 'Bergerac' episode "Come Out Fighting". NADIM SAWALHA(Zoran, Immunity Syndrome) was in the 'Bergerac'episode "A Touch of Eastern Promise" and ANTHONY VALENTINE(male alien, War Games) was in a drama called "Killer Exposed".

from Terry Bowers - LBFA - SARAH BULLEN(Khate, Main Mission operative) co-hosted and co-narrated a PBS show called "Castle" an animated and live action tale of what it took to construct a 13th century castle. The show also featured the voice of FREDDIE JONES(Dr. Logan, Journey to Where) as one of the animated characters. JEREMY KEMP(Dr. Linden, Voyager's Return) appeared in the 1979 movie "Free Spirit". PETER CUSHING(Raan, Missing

Link) appeared in the 1960 British film "The Brides of Dracula". ANNE LOCKHART(Sheba, Battlestar Galactica) appeared in the "Emergency" tele-movie, "The Steele Inferno" and in several old reruns of "Timmy and Lassie".

from Lew Place, Rhode Island - GABRELLE DRAKE(Lt. Ellis, UFO) is a regular on "The Kelly Monteith Show" on the Arts/Entertainment network. TONY ANHOLT(Tony) also appeared in one episode of the show as a French instructor. ED BISHOP(Mr. Straker, UFO) appeared on one episode of the British series "Two's Company" as a friend of the star of the show.

from Kerry Keene, Florida - CHRISTOPHER LEE(Capt. Zandor, Earthbound) and JOAN COLLINS(Kara, Mission of the Darians) can be seen in a 1974 English film called "Dark Places". CAROLYN SEYMOUR(Eva, Seance Spectre) appeared on an episode of "Masquerade". CHRISTOPHER LEE (above) also appeared in the TV movie "Charles & Diana: A Royal Love Story" in 1982. BRIAN JOHNSON(SFX for 1999, others) will direct the movie "Top Gear" which will film in France. It's an action/adventure film. IAN McSHANE(Anton Zoref, Force of Life) appeared in the 1977 ATV-RAI film called "Jesus of Nazareth". BILLIE WHITELAW(Zamara, One Moment of Humanity) was in the 1959 British film called "Bobikins", a comedy. CHRISTOPHER LEE(above) was in the cable movie "Far Pavillions" and also starred in a 1981 film called "An Eye for an Eye", a crime drama. GEOFFREY BAYLDON(No. 8, One Moment of Humanity) starred in a TV series called "The Television Adventures of Worzel Gummidge". It started in 1979 & has been on British TV for at least 4 years. BERNARD CRIBBONS(Capt. Michael, Brian the Brain) appeared in the fourth season and also appeared in "Dalek's Invasion of Earth - 2150", "Wrong Arm of the Law", "The Railway Children". Jon Pertwee starred as Worzel, a scarecrow who wants to become human. It's a comedy for the whole family.

from Kevin McCorry, Canada - OLIVER COTTON(above) played the disfigured monk in the 1982 TV version of "Oliver Twist". DOUGLAS WILMER(Comissioner Dixon, Dragon's Domain) played a police commissioner in "Revenge of the Pink Panther" and a butler in "A Shot in the Dark". SHANE RIMMER(Kelly, Space Brain) played a submarine captain in the James Bond flic in 1977, "The Spy Who Loved Me". LISA HARROW(Anna Davis, Testament of Arkadia) played a TV reporter in "The Final Conflict". JULIAN GLOVER(Jarak, Alpha Child) played a villain in the 1979 Dr. Who episode "City of Death", CATHERINE SCHELL played his wife. JEREMY KEMP(above) played a villain in the 'Greatest American hero' episode about a sea monster and he was an aircraft pilot in the 1966 war film "The Blue Max". LEO McKERN (Companion, Infernal Machine) played an archaeologist in the 1977 film "The Omen". BILLIE WHITELAW(above) played Ivy Pearson in the 1967 version of 'Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde' with Jack Palance. DEBORAH FALLENDER(Carolyn Powell, The Lambda Factor) played a survivor in 'S.O.S. Titanic'. IAN McSHANE (above) played Sir Eric Russell in the miniseries 'Roots'. LON SATTON(Ben Ouma, Breakaway) played a CIA agent in 'Live and Let Die'(1971) and a night club singer in 'Revenge of the Pink Panther'. PETER CUSHING(above) played a paranoid writer in the 1977 Canadian film "The Uncanny". TOBY ROBINS(above) played a brief part in "For Your Eyes Only". PETER MEDAK(Director, Space Warp, Seance Spectre) directed the 1981 film "Zorro the Gay Blade". BARRY MORSE(Victor) appeared in the CBC show "Front Page Challenge" regarding George Orwell's '1984'. CHRISTOPHER LEE (Above) appeared as a hostile alien in the 1978 Canadian film "Starship Invasions".

from Mary Tchir(and many others) - FREDDIE JONES(above) appeared in the movie "Firestarter". TONY ANHOLT was in the ABC mini-series "The Last Days of Pompeii".

from Kerry Keene - PETER CUSHING(above) starred in the 1957 British film called "The Abominable Snowman of the Himalayas". BRIAN BLESSED(Mentor and Cabot Rowland) and GERRY SUNDQUIST(Malic, Dorcons) can also be seen in the "Last Days Of Pompeii". MARGARET LEIGHTON(Arra, Collision Course) appeared in a 1973 British film called "From Beyond the Grave". JOAN COLLINS(above) appeared in a 1978 film called "Zero to Sixty", a comedy. RICHARD JOHNSON (Lee Russell, Matter of Life and Death) was in the 1967 British film called "Deadlier than the Male". BILLIE WHITELAW(above), LEO McKERN(above), and PATRICK TROUGHTON(above) starred in the 1976 film called "The Omen". LEO McKERN also starred in the 1956 film "X-The Unknown". CAROLINE MORTIMER(Dione, Last Enemy) appeared in a 1981 British TV movie called "The Waterfall". JULIAN GLOVER(above) appeared with PRENTIS HANCOCK in the recent CBS movie called "Kim". LEE MONTAGUE(Dorzak, Dorzak) also was in "Kim". PATRICK TROUGHTON(above) appeared in "Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger" in 1977. BARRY MORSE(above) starred in "Welcome to Blood City" in 1977. PAMELA STEPHENSON(Michelle Osgood,Catacombs of the Moon) starred in a 1978 film called "Day the Screaming Stopped" she is now starring in a new movie called "Finders Keepers"(1984), a comedy. CHRISTOPHER LEE(above) starred in the 1978 film "End of the World". JOAN COLLINS(above) appeared in the NBC film "Cartier Affair". RAY AUSTIN(1999 director) directed the recent CBS film "The Zany Adventures of Robin Hood". CYD HAYMAN(Cynthia Crawford, Alpha Child) starred in an early 70's British TV series called "Manhunt". FREDDIE JONES(above) can also be seen in the 1984 comedy "And the Ship Sails On"

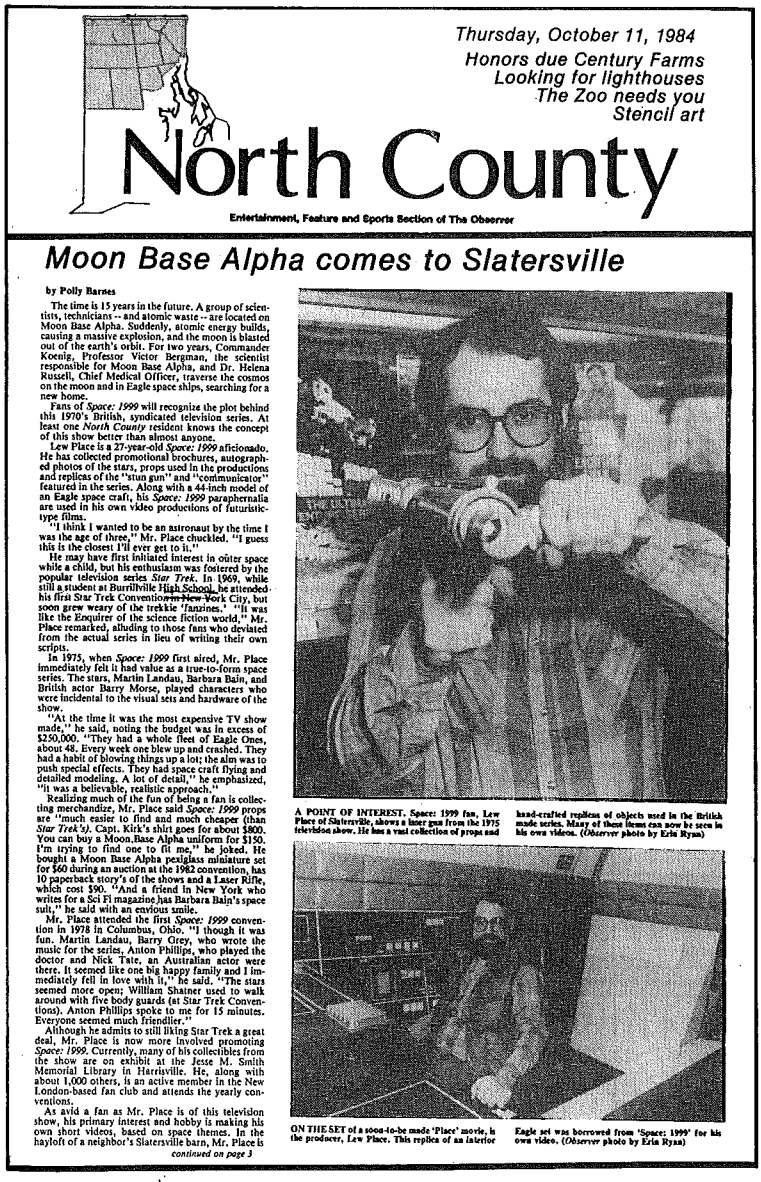
Keep those reports coming. We're almost caught up with the ones we've received to date. Thanks, especially to those of you who send in your reports in the same format used in MC. It makes it easier to type.



John! We know it's your favorite dessert,

but leave some for the rest of us!!

CREATION IS BETTER...



Thursday, October 11, 1984

Honors due Century Farms
Looking for lighthouses
The Zoo needs you
Stencil art

North County

Entertainment, Feature and Sports Section of The Observer

Moon Base Alpha comes to Slatersville

by Polly Barnes

The time is 15 years in the future. A group of scientists, technicians -- and atomic waste -- are located on Moon Base Alpha. Suddenly, atomic energy builds, causing a massive explosion, and the moon is blasted out of the earth's orbit. For two years, Commander Koenig, Professor Victor Bergman, the scientist responsible for Moon Base Alpha, and Dr. Helena Russell, Chief Medical Officer, traverse the cosmos on the moon and in Eagle space ships, searching for a new home.

Fans of *Space: 1999* will recognize the plot behind this 1970's British, syndicated television series. At least one *North County* resident knows the concept of this show better than almost anyone.

Lew Place is a 27-year-old *Space: 1999* aficionado. He has collected promotional brochures, autographed photos of the stars, props used in the productions and replicas of the "stun gun" and "communicator" featured in the series. Along with a 44-inch model of an Eagle space craft, his *Space: 1999* paraphernalia are used in his own video productions of futuristic-type films.

"I think I wanted to be an astronaut by the time I was the age of three," Mr. Place chuckled. "I guess this is the closest I'll ever get to it."

He may have first initiated interest in outer space while a child, but his enthusiasm was fostered by the popular television series *Star Trek*. In 1969, while still a student at Burrillville High School, he attended his first Star Trek Convention in New York City, but soon grew weary of the trekkie 'fanzines.' "It was like the Enquirer of the science fiction world," Mr. Place remarked, alluding to those fans who deviated from the actual series in lieu of writing their own scripts.

In 1975, when *Space: 1999* first aired, Mr. Place immediately felt it had value as a true-to-form space series. The stars, Martin Landau, Barbara Bain, and British actor Barry Morse, played characters who were incidental to the visual sets and hardware of the show.

"At the time it was the most expensive TV show made," he said, noting the budget was in excess of $250,000. "They had a whole fleet of Eagle Ones, about 48. Every week one blew up and crashed. They had a habit of blowing things up a lot; the aim was to push special effects. They had space craft flying and detailed modeling. A lot of detail," he emphasized, "it was a believable, realistic approach."

Realizing much of the fun of being a fan is collecting merchandize, Mr. Place said *Space: 1999* props are "much easier to find and much cheaper (than *Star Trek's*). Capt. Kirk's shirt goes for about $800. You can buy a Moon Base Alpha uniform for $150. I'm trying to find one to fit me," he joked. He bought a Moon Base Alpha pexiglass miniature set for $60 during an auction at the 1982 convention, has 10 paperback story's of the shows and a Laser Rifle, which cost $90. "And a friend in New York who writes for a Sci Fi magazine has Barbara Bain's space suit," he said with an envious smile.

Mr. Place attended the first *Space: 1999* convention in 1978 in Columbus, Ohio. "I though it was fun. Martin Landau, Barry Grey, who wrote the music for the series, Anton Phillips, who played the doctor and Nick Tate, an Australian actor were there. It seemed like one big happy family and I immediately fell in love with it," he said. "The stars seemed more open; William Shatner used to walk around with five body guards (at Star Trek Conventions). Anton Phillips spoke to me for 15 minutes. Everyone seemed much friendlier."

Although he admits to still liking Star Trek a great deal, Mr. Place is now more involved promoting *Space: 1999*. Currently, many of his collectibles from the show are on exhibit at the Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library in Harrisville. He, along with about 1,000 others, is an active member in the New London-based fan club and attends the yearly conventions.

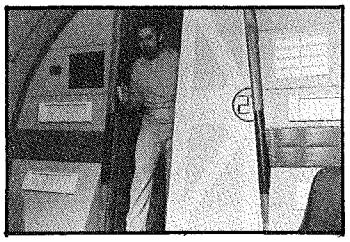
As avid a fan as Mr. Place is of this television show, his primary interest and hobby is making his own short videos, based on space themes. In the hayloft of a neighbor's Slatersville barn, Mr. Place is

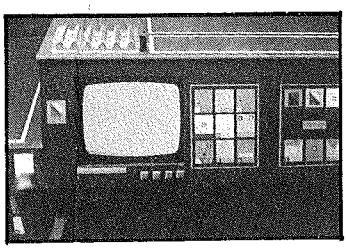
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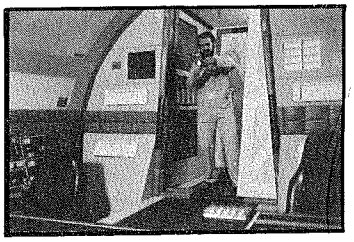
A POINT OF INTEREST. Space: 1999 fan, Lew Place of Slatersville, shows a laser gun from the 1975 television show. He has a vast collection of props and hand-crafted replicas of objects used in the British made series. Many of these items can now be seen in his own videos. (*Observer* photo by Erin Ryan)

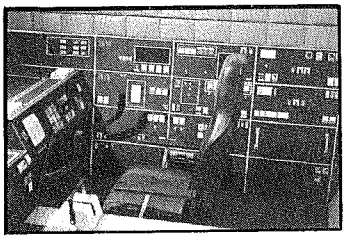
ON THE SET of a soon-to-be made 'Place' movie, is the producer, Lew Place. This replica of an interior Eagle set was borrowed from 'Space: 1999' for his own video. (*Observer* photo by Erin Ryan)

We told you in the last issue that Lew Place had been busy and that we had just received news of what he had been doing and here it is. As you can see, he made the local paper in the entertainment section and has spent his free hours on a small project - a life size replica of an Eagle cockpit. We have color pics and slides and can verify that it looks absolutely fantastic! We're told it takes up a good part of a hayloft in a friends barn. Lew is using the mock-up in his latest 1999 video. I can't wait to see that!!!!









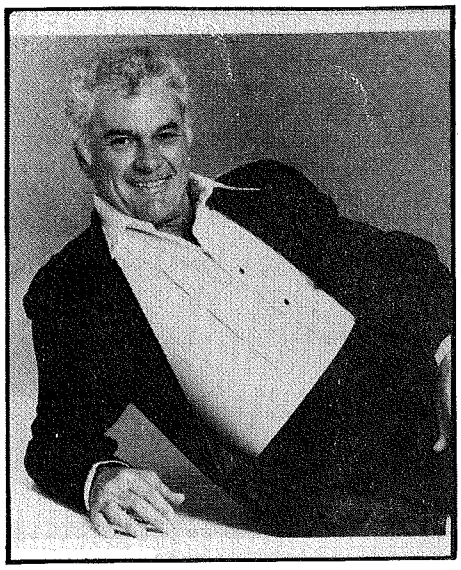
We have also heard from Canadian member Doug Pelton. It appears he will be using his expertise on Gerry Anderson productions to good use. He will be writing articles for "Fantasy Empire" magazine.

Thamks to everyone who has sent us material for this column. You are the people who truly keep 1999 alive for the rest of us and for the many who have yet to discover what it means to be a 99'er.

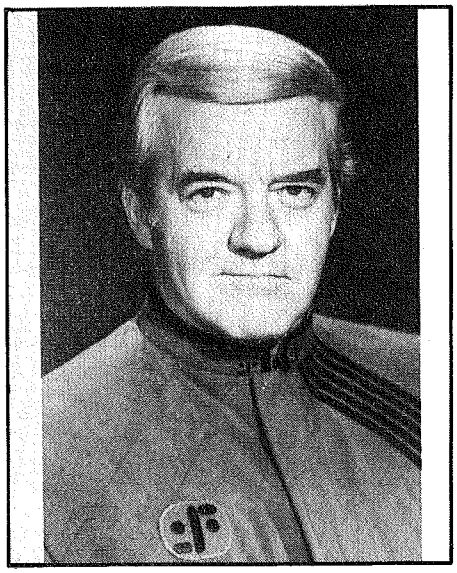
If you have anything you would like to send in updating us on what you may have done in relation to any of Gerry Anderson's productions, please do so.

SPACE:1999 CON - 8 JULY 19-21, 1985

THIS YEAR'S GUESTS INCLUDE:



ROBERT COLBERT
Doug Phillips from "Time Tunnel"



RICHARD HERD
John, The Supreme Commander from "V", and co-star on "T.J. Hooker"



ANGELIQUE PETTYJOHN
Shana from "Star Trek", 'Gamesters of Triskelion'

At this time our guest list includes all the people above. We would also like to add that another name has been added to this list. His picture was not available at press time but we feel you will easily recognize him

★★ FRANK ASHMORE --- The alien, MARTIN, Leader of the "Fifth Column" rebels from "V"

There will also be a presentation by The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and a presentation by the area representative from Universal Pictures.

ROOM RATES: For room reservations made prior to sixty (60) days before the convention (May 20, 1985) the rate will be $55.00 per night for Single, Double, Triple and quad accomodations. After May 20, 1985 room reservations will be charged at the rate of $60.00 per night for the same room arrangements. The convention rates will apply to the rooms beginning on the Tuesday before the convention.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU SEND IN A HOTEL CARD WHEN YOU RESERVE YOUR ROOMS AT THE HOTEL. TO GET ONE OF THESE CARDS, SEND A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO: SPACECON 8 / 230 Denfield Drive / Alexandria, Va 22309 AND REQUEST A HOTEL CARD.

CONVENTION RATES: Three day memberships are $15.00 from Jan. 1, 1985 to June 1, and $20.00 from June 1 and at the door. Banquet tickets are $25.00 at all times. Non-attending memberships are $10.00.

EVENTS: include a large dealer's room, costume party/contest, art show/contest and auction, fan club meetings, charity auction, celebrity attended banquet(100 max., special surprise extra), film room, amateur video contest, autograph sessions and discussion panels, and other "optional" events. A picnic Thursday may also be held.

Enclosed is $_____ for _____membership(s) and/or banquet tickets. $_____ for _____non-attending memberships.

NAME_____ ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____ PHONE ( ) _____ (opt.)

Send info on: HOTEL_____ ART SHOW/AUCTION_____ DEALER'S TABLES_____

TRIVIA/COSTUME CONTESTS_____ MODEL/VIDEO CONTEST_____

MAKE ALL CHECKS OR MONEY-ORDERS PAYABLE TO: SPACECON 8 / 230 Denfield Drive / Alexandria, Va 22309

A PHOTOSTATIC COPY OF THIS FORM IS ACCEPTABLE. IF YOU WISH CONFIRMATION BY MAIL, PLEASE ENCLOSE A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

* * IF YOU WISH TO HELP PUBLICIZE THE CONVENTION, COPIES OF THIS PAGE MAY BE USED AS FLYERS OR POSTERS. * *

A Role In Which To Sink Your Teeth

The following article was sent to us by Tony Wynn. It was written by Kristina Paledes and appeared in the August 24, 1984 issue of the San Antonio EXPRESS-NEWS.

Austin's venerable theater, the Paramount, is making waves in Texas theatrical waters.

In the last two seasons, the Paramount produced shows to take on the road; the mystery thriller "Deathtrap" in 1982, which toured nine Texas cities; and "Mass Appeal" in 1983, which went to New York.

This year, the theater, which reopened 10 years ago after extensive renovation, has even grander plans.

In October, the Paramount will produce "Dracula" starring Martin Landau as Bram Stoker's famous (or infamous) Transylvanian vampire count.

Landau's role and the roles of several of the women are the only ones that have been cast. The others will be cast from auditions at the Paramount next month.

Gail Moriaty, promotions director at the Paramount, said, "The Paramount is establishing itself as a regional theater that includes touring."

It's the first in the area, she said. "We want to create some excitement."

And apparently they are. "Dracula" is the first national tour for the theater. Already hopeful actresses and actors have made reservations for auditions.

Moriaty said 56 cities have been booked to date with a possible total of 72.

The show will open at the Paramount October 18. It will come to the Majestic Performing Arts Center here on October 30 for a week's run, filling the fourth slot in the Majestic's Sixth Broadway Star Series. The Natioanl run will last through March 30, perhaps through April 30, depending on the number of cities in the run.

Don Dailey at the Majestic is palnning to make "Dracula" a big event here. He's arranging to put coffins in the lobby and wants to have the ushers made up like vampires.

The South Texas Regional Blood Bank will be playing host to a national conference in October and Dailey is hoping to arrange a promotional event around the play and the blood bank.

"It's going to be a fun one to have some promotions with," Dailey said. Right at Halloween, too. .....



Debbie Phares was able to catch Martin in his "Dracula" role at one of the Texas stops. She was able to get backstage after the play and get her picture taken with the "Count" himself. Watch out for strange behavior from Debbie next time you see her.

As stated in the last MC, Martin will also be appearing as Dracula in a one night appearance at the T.J. Thomas Hall at Akron University, Akron, Ohio on Thursday February 7, 1985. He will be there for only one night on his way to the East coast for more performances. ****** FLASH ! ! ! ! ****** Thanks to CHARLENE SCOTT we have found out what the tentative schedule is for the rest of the "Dracula" tour. The schedule may change depending on weather or other problems but you should be watching for advertisements in your area close to the dates listed below:

Sat Jan 26 Cheyene, Wy ; Sun Jan 27 Pueblo, Co ; Mon Jan 28 Colorado Springs, Co ;

Wed Jan 30 Des Moines, Ia ; (the next 4 dates are highly tentative, cities and dates may change)

Thu Jan 31 Grandfork, Ia ; Fri Feb 1 Iowa City, Ia ; Sat Feb 2 Cedar Rapids, Ia (cont. next pg.)

Sun Feb 3 Kansas City,Kansas ; Mon/Tue Feb 4/5 St. Paul, Mn ; Thu Feb 7 Akron, Oh ; Fri/Sat Feb 8/9 Milwaukee, Wi *(if not Milwaukee, Peoria, Il only on the 9th) ; Sun Feb 10 Madison, Wi ; Mon/Tue Feb 11/12 Davenport, Ia ; Wed Feb 13 Kalamazoo, Mi ; Fri Feb 15 Joliet, Il ; Sat Feb 16 Springfield, Il ; Sun Feb 17 Champagne, Il ; Mon-Sun Feb 18-24 (7 days) New Haven, Ct ; Wed Feb 27 State College, Pa ; Thu Feb 28 Allentown, PA ; **(the March schedule is very tentative but you should be on the lookout just in case) ; Fri/Sat Mar 1/2 Providence, RI ; Tue/Wed Mar 5/6 Syracuse, NY ; Thu Mar 7 Uttica, NY ; Fri Mar 8 Schenectady,NY ; Sat Mar 9 West Point, NY ; Sun Mar 10 Binghampton, NY ; Wed/Thu Mar 13/14 Hamilton, Ontario Canada ; Fri/Sat Mar 15/16 South Bend, In

**(as of this notification the Boston appearance appears to have been cancelled)

Video Notes

For those of you interested in "The Prisoner", Maljack Productions Inc. of Chicago is releasing all 17 hour long episodes on home video. MPI began selling the tapes in December and will release new episodes every few months. The tape containing the first three episodes released "The Arrival" ; "The Chimes of Big Ben" ; and "A, B & C" costs $39.95. If you are interested in the Prisoner, you should check your nearest video store to see if they can get them for you.

Also in the video line, International Video Entertainment has introduced a new line called "Thrillervideo". Some of the features that will appear on these tapes include releases from the Hammer House of Horrors TV series. If you have been paying attention to the scanning section, you will notice that many 1999 stars also appeared in this series. The fourth Thriller video tape to be released in February will be Milton Subotsky's "The Monster Club" from ITC. The film stars Vincent Price, Donald Pleasence, John Carradine, Simon Ward, Britt Eklund, Stuart Whitman, RICHARD JOHNSON and PRENTIS HANCOCK. The cost is $39.95. You should be on the lookout for this soon.

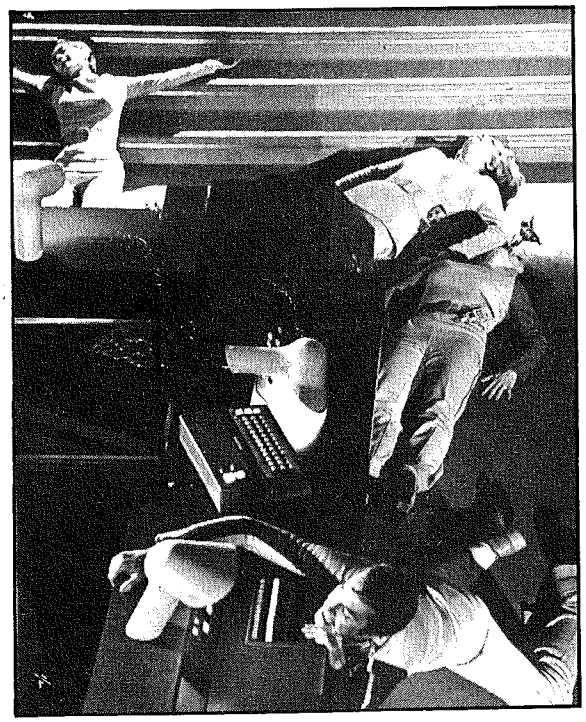
We also found some information which you might be interested in. If you are trying to find out whether a particular film is available in a video format, you can call the National Video Clearinghouse. It is not toll free but it may be the fastest way to find what you are looking for. The phone number is (516) 364-3686.

It has been pointed out to us by Chuck Raue of Mobile, Al that the USA network has been showing quite a few shows which were limited production series. He feels that if enough of us wrote in asking for Space:1999, we might get them to put it on; and since this is a major cable network, Space might be seen by many more people. The address for USA is: USA / Harristown Road / Glen Rock, NJ 07452
208

That's it for this issue. Until next time, keep those cards and letters coming.



MAYA!!! Quit tracking moondust into Command Center!



THE RESULTS OF TASTING THE FIRST BATCH OF TONY'S BEER. ..... HE WAS IMMEDIATELY PROMOTED TO SECURITY CHIEF SO HE WOULD BE TOO BUSY TO MAKE ANY MORE OF THE NOXIOUS STUFF. .....

IT DIDN'T WORK. . .

MAIN COMPUTER

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Tony Wynn Jan 85
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AN X BY YOUR NAME MEANS
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