MAIN COMPUTER

Newsletter of the International Space:1999 Alliance

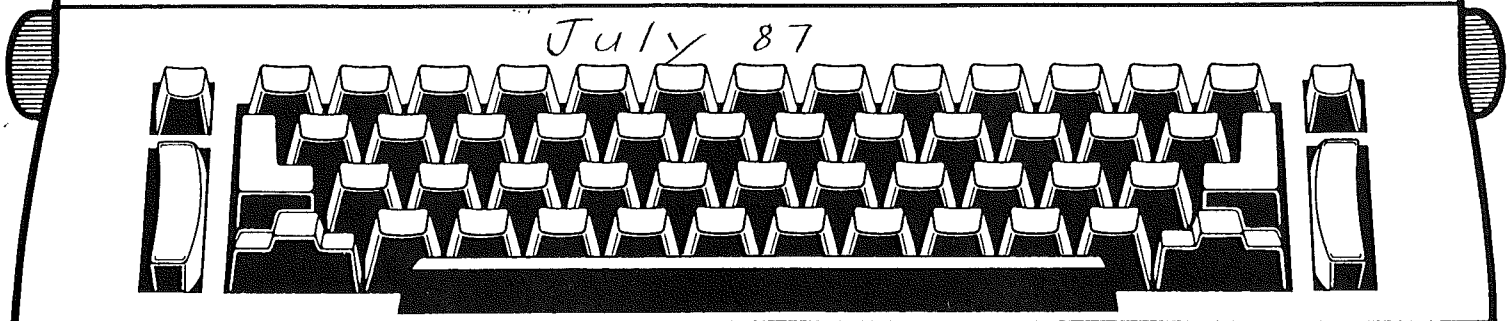
Dues: $8.00 US/ $9.00 Canada/ $12.00 Overseas Issued in Sept., Dec., March, & June

NEW DIRECTIONS

This is the last issue for the 1986-87 year. This is a good time to tell you of some of the changes which will be or we hope will be implemented for our 11th year (11, seems like only yesterday) of the Alliance.

We would like a little more time for Heather and ourselves so we have decided to go from 6 issues a year to 4. The new issue dates are listed above. This will make it easier (I hope) to meet the publication deadlines. There will not be a reduction in the number of pages, only in the number of issues. This will also be better as far as postage is concerned. It costs 22 ¢ postage when we have a 10 page MC. If we go over 10 pages, it costs 39 ¢ because of the additional 2 pages. The new MCs will have between 16 and 18 pages and will cost 39 ¢ for postage. In effect, we will be adding more pages but will not pay any more postage than we have for the last few issues. There have also been some rumblings of a postage increase. Fewer MCs will help offset any future increases. An increase in the length of the MCs also makes it easier to put some longer articles and stories in MC without having to break them up and putting them in 2 or 3 MCs. Some of the best liked MCs have been the double issues which have been longer. Unless we run out of material (Hint, Hint) all of the MCs will be about as long as the double issues that have been put out in the past. We hope you will enjoy the change in format. Please let us know what you feel about this, now or after you have received one of the new issues.

We also want to begin and ask your help in contributing to a new membership drive. We have recently added several new members based on flyers put out by members at various southern SF conventions. Flyers are also being distributed to everyone who attends the Space:1999 Minicon in England. We have also had some old members who we had not heard from for several years rejoin. This appears to be good time for a renewed membership campaign. This may also be critical to the continued existence of the Alliance. It has become very hard to run a convention with the number of members we have. (about 100 active(?) members) Most hotels now want at least 50% of the function room costs 1 month in advance of the convention. If you have an established base of people coming to the convention so you can count on them being there, it is easier to set up a convention in a larger hotel and still have guests. The "regular" attendees will cover the half the hotel costs and most of the airfare and the walk in people will normally cover the rest of the hotel cost and the guests room and board. We must cover the first half of the hotel costs and the airfare or we can't proceed. While this group is one of the most loyal groups it has been my pleasure to be associated with, there just aren't enough of us to keep a major convention going. Those who have run recent conventions can explain the problems and the worries of red ink up to the last minute. We feel an increase in the membership will help to make it easier to keep the annual conventions going. If we don't increase the membership we may have to be satisfied with smaller group get-togethers with no guest stars, and no dealers. Or perhaps we could have Space:1999 meetings at other cons instead of our own. It all depends on what happens in the next year or two. We have finished the catalog (WHAT!!!!!). Yes, after all this time it is finally done. The people who were at the con in Sandusky got a chance to get the first ones. This is another reason why we have gone to 4 issues. We intend to advertise the catalog and the club in as many SF magazines and conventions



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as possible. If the catalog is a success, we will need the extra time to handle the orders. In the past we have kept the cost down on items so that everyone could afford them. At the same time, we did not make much money. We have increased the cost of most items so that they can help support the overall effort. Another problem which has come up beginning in August is that our patch supplier will no longer accept orders for 15 patches at a time. The minimum order is now 50. This means we will have to tie up 3.33 times as much money to restock patches that we run out of. This is a sizable amount of money to have tied up. If any of you know a good place to have patches made that will accept small orders, please let us know.

We would also like to ask your help. We asked in a prior issue of MC for help in designing an Alliance ad for use in magazines. We have received none to date. We will create our own and also a new flyer for use at conventions. They will be ready before the next MC is out. We would like ALL of you to be on the lookout for places to put flyers. This could be your local SF bookstore, comic store, library or local convention. Any place where persons interested in SF might be expected to go. We still get members who say, "I thought I was all alone! I never knew such a group existed." If you have a place to put flyers, let us know. We will send you several flyers to use as originals. Please make as many copies as you need. We are asking you to make the copies so we don't have to pay printing AND postage for a large quantity of flyers. Please let us know enough in advance so we can get the master copies to you in time. Be realistic in the number of flyers you print. Seldom will the total number of people attending a convention be interested in Space:1999. You should print enough flyers to do the job but not more than you require to cover your anticipated need. We hope that this will help to increase the membership and contribute to more and larger cons in the future. If don't have a copier near you, we can arrange to send as many copies as you need but we would ask you to pay the postage. Again, we would like to know your feelings on this. Please write and let us know. There are other sections we hope to include in the MC we want to surprise you with them. Until the next issue, never stop dreaming about tomorrow.

THE DARKNESS

By Debbie Ray

The blips and bleeps of Command Center didn't bother Maya at all. She stared at her console, not really seeing it. Tony watched her, he knew she wasn't well, Her behavoir seemed strange ever since the incident with the Dorcons.

Then suddenly, without warning, Maya's console circuitry started to smoke as sparks flew dangerously close to the Psychon's face. "Maya! Watch out!" Tony cried as he grabbed her and pulled her away from the burning desk.

Maya didn't seem to realize what had happened until Verdeschi had her well away from her desk. The incident gained looks of astonishment from the rest of the crew, including the Commander. The rescue team quickly worked to put out the fire as Tony decided to help Maya to Medical Center.

"Well, care to tell me what happened?" asked Dr. Russell after running a routine check on Maya. "I don't know", she seemed genuinely baffled.

"Don't know?! How could you not know?! That thing almost blew up in your face and you don't know?!" Verdeschi raved hysterically.

"Tony, please," Helena said firmly in an attempt to calm him down. Maya switched her gaze from Tony back to Helena. "A lot of things similar to the incident in Command Center have happened in recent days. Some days I can't see myself clearly in my mirror, and other days I can't see what I'm writing in my reports. Everything is so blurry sometimes." Helena looked at the silent Dr. Vincent and then at the astonished Verdeschi. She knew they thought the same thing that she did. "Maya, I want to run another test on you." She looked over at her colleague, "Ben, get her ready." Then she soundlessly pronounced the words "eye examination."

Ben took Maya out of the room as tony approached Dr. Russell. "What's going on, Helena? Why another test? What's wrong with her?" he demanded.

"I'm not sure, Tony. That's why I ordered another test. I fear something is dreadfully wrong with her sight," Helena explained. "You think she's going blind?" Dr. Russell nodded. "How? What could cause it?" he started to get upset.

"Tony, we don't know just what damage the Dorcons could have done before John rescued her." "Oh my God," Tony felt weak as he sank against Dr. Russell's desk. "We're not sure." "When?" "I'll let you know."

Tony walked down the hall in a trance. He didn't even see Alan Carter until he bumped into him. "Hey, brewmaster, what's up?" "She's going blind," he said, still staring out into space. "What? Who?" Carter didn't understand his friend's strange statement. "Maya," Tony said. "Maya!" Carter echoed. "Tony, I think you and I better have a little talk." Carter led him off

"Oh God, I had hoped my fears wouldn't turn into real-life nightmare," Helena sighed, staring at the computer readout of Maya's eye exam. Ben echoed her thoughts, "The part of her brain that controls her sight is just too weak. And, that substance is deeply intertwined. Will you try surgery?" Vincent asked.

"Are you kidding? It would kill her." Perhaps she'd rather be dead than lose her sight."

"I'm going to leave the final decision up to her, if that's what you're wondering. I just hate giving news like this," Helena paused as if praying she'd wake up in her bed finding it all a bad dream. "Call her in, Ben."

"Helena said she wasn't sure. Maybe it's just eyestrain."

"Alan, for God's sake, she couldn't see her desk blow up right in front of her."

"We'll soon know."

"There must be some mistake. It can't be true!" tears welled up in Maya's eyes as she absorbed the news of her examination. "What choice are you going to take?" Helena asked before she lost her nerve. "What choice do I have?! Die or go blind?!" she cried. "Helena, I..... I want to live." Helena hugged her as Tony and Alan entered.

"Oh no!" Tony cried, realizing the results of the eye test. He ran to Maya and held her as tight as he could. "Tony! I'm going to be blind!" Maya cried in fright. "I know, honey," he tried to sound brave through his tears, "but, we'll all be here with you."

"Helena, are you sure nothing can be done for her?" Koenig asked upon hearing the news. "John, I don't know a thing about that foreign substance in her brain. It could be removed through surgery, but she almost certainly would die."

"Will this alien substance do any other damage?" Koenig tried to sound impartial and professional even tough he worried about the beautiful alien he had saved. "Ben and I don't believe it will. There doesn't seem to be enough of it to do any recognizable harm." "How did this happen? I don't understand," Koenig inquired. "Apparently, the beam they concentrated on her to remove the brain stem contained a substance which is absorbed into the brain, weakening, and finally, eliminating the rest of the brain, leaving the stem," Dr. Russell explained to the best of her limited knowledge of Psychons and Dorcons and what made them tick. "Incredible!" Koenig exclaimed. "You got to her in time to save everything, but her eyes." "Why is it affecting her sight?" "We probably won't know that until later, if ever." I don't know anyone who could replace her. I don't even know how to tell her she must resign." "She knows, John, I'm sure," Helena sighed, "I just wish someone around here knew brail and had some way of converting her computer keys. She could learn the new language fast enough. She's a quick study." "That would mean changing nearly every computer on the base, which would take months. No one knows brail. And, Maya would still be unable to see the readouts," Koenig quickly shot holes in Helena's wish as if to derive some comfort for himself. "Only an idea, John," Helena left Koenig's quarters feeling helpless.

Nightfall came. And, Maya rested as comfortably as possible with Tony just outside Medical Center. "Tony, depriving yourself of sleep won't make the results happen any faster," Koenig made a desperate attempt to pull Verdeschi from his position in front of Medical Center. "John, I told Maya I'd be close by. I just wish they'd let me in there." "Are you kidding? Maya'd never get any sleep wit you staring at her all night." Koenig touched his shoulder," You need sleep just like she does. Come on, I'll get you back here before she wakes up." Verdeschi finally agreed to with Koenig and started to leave with him.

Inside, Maya had become very thirsty as a result of her nervous state. She cautiously peered around the room as if afraid something were about to jump out at her. She believed the room appeared extremely dark. Had it already happened? On second thought, she probably imagined it. She would turn on the light and everything would be there, dim, but there. She clicked the lamp. Why didn't the darkness lift.? Perhaps the lamp was malfunctioning. But, she felt some warmth. "Helena! Tony! maya shrieked. Helena flew out of her office as Tony and John burst in upon hearing the Psychon scream. Helena held her, trying to convince her everything was alright. "It's so dark! It's so dark! I'm all alone in the dark!" Maya cried, gripping at air as Helena held her. "You're not alone," came a familiar voice. Afterwards, Maya felt the strong arms of Verdeschi enfold her. She clung to him, believing it would keep her from falling further into the black hole she had fallen into.

"Has there been any change?" Verdeschi asked Helena somberly when she entered Command Center. "No. She still refuses to see anyone but Ben and I," Helena answered. She turned to John, "Have you been able to find anything she might be able to do?" "Helena, finding a worthwhile job for a blind person to do around the base is just impossible." "Then look for something that's not worthwhile. Maya won't care as long as there's something for her to do. "Did she say that?" Verdeschi demanded.

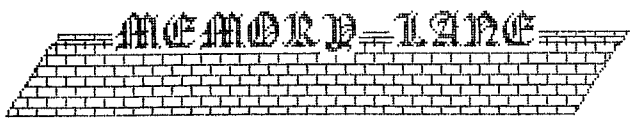
"I was only a couple of words off quoting her, if that tells you anything ," Helena's voice contained a harsh tone. "Have you discovered why her sight was affected?" Koenig changed the subject. "Maya knows, but she won't tell us."

"My powers," Maya began and they turned to see her being escorted in, "the part of my brain that controls my powers is near the region that controls the sight.The Dorcons probably meant to neutralize my powers-" "And, weakend the sight region instead," Helena finished. "Oh God, Helena. You've got to do the surgery," Verdeschi pleaded. "You've worked with Maya on surgical techniques." "Tony," Maya quietly spoke, "I understand Dr. Russell's unwillingness to perform that kind surgery. I haven't the knowledge to prepare her to do this operation. Nothing can be done, Tony. Face it. I have."

Later that night in Medical Center, as Helena wrote her report in her log book, Maya began to dream. It was the same dream she'd had every night since she'd become blind. Each time, she was in her quarters. She'd see Mentor. He was saying something. He was instructing her to use her powers! If she were to successfully transform herself it would dissolve the foreign substance that held back her sight. In previous dreams, her attempts were fruitless. On this night, however, she summoned all her power and when she awoke from the dream this time, she found herself standing up, actually seeing Medical Center. Helena turned around when she heard footsteps, and was greeted by an eight foot tall alien monster. "Maya?" Right before Dr. Russell's eyes, the huge monster became the beautiful Psychon, Maya. "Helena? I can see! I can see you! I can see everything!" she ran to the doctor and they embraced. In their excitement they didn't notice Commander Koenig and Tony Verdeschi walk in. "Hey! What's this?" Koenig asked. "Tony! I can see!" Maya ran into the arms of an elated Tony Verdeschi. "It'S a miracle!" Tony cried. John and Helena looked at each other, then back at the happy, embracing couple.

OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE EPISODE
"JOURNEY TO WHERE"





From Doug Pelton

News about a new live-action Gerry Anderson series, to be called Space:1999 entered my ears at the World Con in 1973, held in nearby Toronto, Ontario. This coming from some fan over here for the Con from South Carolina. This during the annual Labor Day event. Two months later there was this TV Guide teletype mention giving a little bit more about the show. Early in 74 the Monster Times ran the first pictures of the stars against part of the Nuclear Waste Disposal Area One with a meaty paragraph of valued information below. Picking up a London newspaper available on a delay distribution nearby my home, I wrote to their telly editor about 99 and received a letter about the progress being made on what was to turn out to be Year One. The rest of '74 was silent until early '75 when the series went out of production and Barry Morse flew home to Toronto right into a Monday to Friday nationally aired Game Show called "Definition". Here he advanced some word about his Victor Role, and those of the Landaus. This being around February '75. At the same time, observant long-time friend of mine, Greg Shoemaker, of "Japanese Fantasy Film Journal" fame sent me this HUGE ITC Variety "heralding" type two-page advert, with most of the stills run in the HUGE colour brochure that folds out to the size of an Eagle Launch Pad, used in b/w this time. Above it were the series logo lettering in blazing red against the black background. In may '75, the series was announced as purchased by local station CHCH-TV 11 on May 23rd. Sometime that month the U.K. paperbacks starting off with BREAKAWAY, MOON ODYSSEY, etc. came over to Canada. Reading these ahead of the series gave me an eye-opening preview of the Fall Blast to Come! Then the tide of publicity geared up with CFQ-Cinefantastique and National Star running colour and black and white previews in July. At this time the sneak preview ads appeared on CHCH for the Fall preview period of mid-summer featuring brief footage from COLLISION COURSE and BARRY GRAY music which began life in Gerry's SECRET SERVICE 6 years earlier!

By this time I was raiding libraries for New York Times Arts and Leisure sections carrying SPACEy material that centered on its WPIX airings. As well, the Variety pipeline was maintained by Greg Shoemaker. September dawned and since I had access to a range of imported British newspapers, I scooped them up and cannibalised the TV sections for debut listings and viewer reaction. Then the series hit our screens that fateful day 12 years ago and if I dunna stop now you'll not be reading anything more in this edition of MC!!

DOUG PELTON / 65 PARK ST. EAST #508 / PORT CREDIT, MISSISSAUGA / ONTARIO, CANADA L5G 1M3
YOUR SUPERMARIONATION SERVANT!



From Kerry Keene / 417NE 18th Ave. / Pompano Beach, Fl 33060-6543

Greetings all! I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Lew Place for dubbing a video tape of the convention (Ed. 1986) for me. Thanks Lew. I must say that Barry Morse's lecture was great. And seeing Martin and Barbara was also a joy. I think they all could step right back into their roles if, hopefully, a movie is ever made.

Now, on to more serious things, specifically, the, what I think, unfair rap that Freddie Freiberger has been taking over the last ten years from "Space:1999" fans and for over 17 years from "Star Trek" fans. I understand that this criticism of him came up again at this year's con. Personally, I think that fans have taken the easy way out and based on what this man has done before, specifically his work with Trek, they have blamed him for ALL of the short-comings of both "Star Trek" and "Space:1999."

Let me now go into this argument for why Trek and Space are no longer on television, though Trek is coming out with its fourth movie at the end of the year. (ED. This was before the announcement of Trek for the 1987 Fall TV season.) Based on that upcoming movie(#4), I wonder how long these movies will continue since this new movie is essentially another time travel story which isn't that original. But that is another story. But what is the argument for why these two series are no longer on, or at least why they didn't last any longer than they did? The answer always comes up that Fred Freiberger is the blame. Mr. "Show Killer" got his hands on the product and look what happens. I think that's a cop out!

Let me go into why I think blaming Freiberger for the cancellations of the shows is unfair and why I think that there are other reasons for this. First, Trek reasons. It is always the case when a fan or even an actor who worked on Trek is asked for the reason why the show was dropped after only three years, the reason given will inevitably be Fred Freiberger. Let's examine this for a moment. Freiberger came to Trek in its third year, but the show had already been cancelled in the SECOND year, the year with D. C. Fontana as the script supervisor and the writer of various earlier episodes. Even she has blamed Freiberger for the fall of Trek. I find it funny that she never blamed Roddenberry or herself for the shows

cancellation. David Gerrold is no different. And yet his episodes like "Omega Glory", "I, Mudd", "Catspaw", "Who Mourns for Adonis?", "The Apple" and other stupid (ED. Not necessarily everyone's opinion.) episodes were not the responsibility of Freiberger, but Roddenberry. Other Dumb episodes, to me at least are: "Friday's Child", "The Deadly Years", "The Trouble with Tribbles", and "The Gamester of Triskelion", etc. Now, what is my point? The point that I'm trying to make is this: Trek's problems didn't begin in the third year. They began from the very beginning of Trek itself. The series was never very popular nationally from the start (Ed. Strange, I remember the TV room in the apartment I lived in being packed to watch the new episodes.) and has only gained that status once the series went into syndication. It was almost cancelled after one year and was after year two. (ED. Why are there 3 years of episodes?) So, essentially the show was a lost cause no matter who took over the producers chair. I will admit that year three had its clunkers, too. "Spock's Brain" for one, but like the other two seasons that came before it, there were some good episodes as well. "The Enterprise Incident" wasn't bad, nor was "Tholian Web" and others.

I just wish people would rethink their positions on why Trek went sour and was eventually cancelled. Yes, I think that Freiberger has to accept his share of the blame, but no more than people like Roddenberry, Fontana, Coon, some of the writers, etc. Doing a TV series is a team effort and the series either succeeds or fails as a team.

Now, on to "Space:1999" and its problems. Again, the fans, some at least, tend to blame one person for the demise of their favorite show. "Space:1999" did not start having problems the moment Freiberger was hired. Its problems began back in 1973 when Lord Grade decided to do a new series and then dropped the idea, subsequently restoring his support in August of that year. Filming of the first episode began around November of 1973 I believe. It took over a year and a half to make the first season and then not one network bought the series. Credit goes to ITC in getting the series sold as a syndicated show.

As I understand it, the series started out quite strong in the ratings, but soon suffered some ratings decline. Was this Freiberger's fault, too? Be honest fans. Of course it wasn't his fault. So what was the cause of the ratings slump? Could it be because of the unusual premise? Could it be because of some of the totally off the wall plots found in some of the stories, i.e. "Full Circle", "Collision Course" (a favorite by the way), "A Matter of Life and Death" (Another one that I like to a point), etc.? I didn't accept "Space:1999" off the bat, either. It took me a while to get interested in the series and now it is my favorite SF/Fantasy TV series. But it wasn't easy. It was year two that got me interested in the show and for that reason, I have had a fondness for year two and always will have. Agreed, there were some pretty dreadful episodes, but Freiberger admitted that. But to blame one person for the cancellation of Space doesn't make any sense to me. Reread Martin Landau's interview and read his opinion on why the show was dropped, so that Lew Grade could spend his time making movies. Yes, he also said that he preferred year one, and that's fine. But, personally, I don't think the series could have gone on with the style of year one. Despite the fact that I enjoy most of the concepts of yeay one, however outlandish that they may have been, I don't think that most did (I'M aware of the year 1 vs. year 2 polls of the fans. I speak of the broader audience.) I've heard criticism of both years.

Another factor I think led to the changes in the series was the fact that Sylvia Anderson left the show. I wonder what year 2 would have been like if she had stayed. I wonder if ITC would have funded another season with the style of year one. (Note: It is not my intention to lay all the blame on year one, just trying to analyze what could have been.) It has been said by some that year two had something of a "Soap Opera" feel to it. Well, if having the characters form relationships is a soap opera, then what is the new fanzine "Full Moon", which by the way, I enjoyed greatly? I enjoyed the evolution of the characters on Space. If there is one thing that bugs me with TV, it is that the characters are the same week after week. I'm glad that Helena Russell opened up and expressed some emotion and that Koenig could be seen at a time of great emotional stress to perhaps show that he too is not expected to be the strong, fearless leader, that he is human like the rest of us. And Alan and Tony are similar in that they are the types that get things done, and yet they both have a sensitive side to them. I think that this was also done, to a degree, with Paul and Sandra. It was shown that these two had feelings for one another in episodes like "The Last Sunset" and "The Black Sun" (Both real favorites).

Another knock against year two was that it used "to many monsters". Outside of the aliens that Maya transformed into and the aliens in "Rules of Luton", there weren't many alien "Monsters". I don't include "The Beta Cloud" because the "creature" was a robot designed to frighten. I do agree, however, that sometimes Maya's abilities weren't used in the best ways, as the same could be said of Spock's mind reading. Most of the aliens that the Alphans met on their journey were humanoid. Their cultures were vastly different (thank goodness), but the aliens were definitely humanoid. And this applies to both seasons. In some cases, we didn't see the aliens at all. Like in: "The Last Sunset", "The Black Sun", "Testament of Arkadia", "The Immunity Syndrome", etc. One of the criticisms that Carl Sagan has of SF is that the aliens are always portrayed as human looking. He has speculated on his "Cosmos" series, and elswhere, that aliens may look and be biologically totally different from us. If this is the case, and if the day ever comes that we do make contact, and if the aliens do look totally different from us, will we shoot first and ask questions later? (Ed.- Or will they?) Isn't that a form of prejudice? Maya comments on this in "Journey to Where" after Tony's calling her an alien in a little sarcastic way. Though I think that she said it in something of a playful manner, I think she made her point. I do agree, however, that "monsters" on a weekly or biweekly period can be a little boring, but so can metaphysics when fed to the viewer on a weekly basis, as can "space opera", something "Star Trek" was guilty of more often than not.

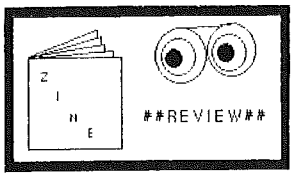
Finally, Maya, abscence of characters, and Main Mission vs. Command Center. First, Maya. Many have called her a rip-off of Spock. I, as one who thoroughly enjoyed the character and Catherine Schell, I find her to be far more interesting than Spock or Leonard Nimoy. Maya was portrayed without the constantly repeated lines as was done with Nimoy's Spock.

And I liked the way Maya was given a gentle and caring side and does express her feelings without shame. I always felt that Spock felt a certain amount of guilt towards his "human half". And as to why an alien was introduced? I have read that the letters received by Anderson from fans wanted an alien character on the show. They wanted more off duty time shown and what is done during those times.

As for the changes, well I think that we can only speculate in some cases. I know that Barry Morse had some contract problems and perhaps other reasons. Hancock, Jones, and some of the others didn't return for various reasons. Some had other work and didn't want to wait the near year between the two seasons. And that's another question. Why did ITC wait that long between seasons? Do fans also blame Freiberger for ITC and the dropping of Victor, David, and others? I can't see it.

Now, to the debate over Main Mission vs. Command Center. In the recent poll, I voted for Command Center for two basic reasons. First, it reminds me of the control room of the Johnson Spaceflight Center in Houston. Second, those big windows really gave me a problem. And when they were opened in "The Last Sunset", that really gave me a pain. Even the windows on the shuttle seem to be a little dangerous. (Jeff, I could use some help even though I know of glass formulations that are strong enough to be formed into nails and pounded into concrete and carbon reinforced polyester has ben used to replace steel in engine supports in some cars.) I have a photo where a chunk of debris hit one of the windows and cracked it. Fortunately, it didn't penetrate the window. Another reason for my liking of Command Center is that it is underground giving better protection. I do like the layout of Main Mission and particularly Koenig's office, but I think that the consoles in Command Center had far more capability than those in Main Mission. The staff can do many things from them without having to enter the query directly at the computer wall, although this can also be done.

Well, that is about all for this go round. It is not my intention to start the year 1 vs. year 2 debate again. (Ed. Why not? We have new members who have not been a part of the debates before.) I hope that we have progressed beyond that, but I hope that people will think about what I have said. As for future conventions, I hope that the convention committees can get some behind the scenes people like Brian Johnson, Keith Wilson, Gerry Anderson, and yes, Fred Freiberger along with others. Take care, Kerry. 1999 LIVES!!!!



Full Moon - Review by Kevin Peterson / 930 1/2 5th Street / Golden, Co 80403-1454

Edited by Terry Bowers, the first issue of FULL MOON is s must-read for all fans of John and Helena. There are only two stories in the fanthology that don't specifically center on these two characters. There are seven stories in all. (In reading the following, please keep in mind that these are the opinions of one person---namely, me---and that the editors can't take the blame for my views.)

INSOMNIA by Rebecca Eisenhuth - While I do think it is to Terry's credit that this ties in fairly well with another story in FM, on the other hand this story could have used a re-write. Although the idea of a space vampire is a hackneyed one, Rebecca does some interesting things with it. Why the re-write, then? Various little things that effect the overall tone of the story. In one paragraph, I can't decide whether she is using flashback or narrative. In other parts seemingly intended to represent the aliens viewpoint, it was more like a narrative containing the alien's thoughts. If they could have been written from an alien stance, I think the bits would have been more effective. The only other problem I had with it was the transitional where the alien gets control of Helena. If I took the scene at face value, that would make Helena only so much unresisting pasteurized cheese. Dealing with a hidden mental mechanism--why it happened the way it did--or using some careful dialogue would have helped. HOWEVER...the mental domination this ectoplasmoid fiend uses over John to manipulate his innermost feelings is truly frightening, and the reactions of both characters were, in that scene, dead on target. She also makes some unforgettable images in the scene where Helena discovers the true nature of the alien. Worth a read if you look past its flaws.

NOW, VOYEUGERS by George Spelvin - This is good science fiction. The science is a <u>little</u> wonky, but so what! The story is tongue-in-cheek (or tongue in ?) anyway. Good plot, good humor, good sex, good art,and an interesting glimpse into the psyches of our prolific protagonists. Fans of "The Devil in Miss Jones" will like this also. Art by Clare Deere.

VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE by Denton Williams - A hilarious short-short that is, in the story's own words, "deliciously deviant".

MISSION: MORALE by Lucy D. Witt - Am I glad this was reprinted from R & R 1, or else I probably never would have been exposed to it. This is a fan-fiction classic if I ever saw one. Read it and share in a command wedding--not to mention the wedding night. Not a thing is done wrong here--I for one would like to know how Lucy did it.

BARRACUDA by Isobel Hoy - The odious Diana Morris returns. This story gives some insight into her character -- the more one understands about her, the more one pitties her.

IN OTHER WORDS by George Spelvin - Another humorous effort that examines how other authors might have written 1999. Another good job.
PRIMEVAL CIRCLE by Dallas Hadaway - I had a personal pet peeve about the science involved, but that has nothing to do with Dallas's writing. She takes a deeper look than the episode "Full Circle" did, and comes up with the unlacquered realities that were probably too harsh for mid'70's prime time America. Dallas also brings up some thought provoking stuff concerning evolution and reincarnation which she leaves largely unexplored, and rightly so; as it is she sticks to the plot and doesn't become lost in the various levels of the story's background. A good example of speculative fiction. Art by Rebecca Eisenhuth is some of her better work.

Barry Morse Tours Canada

MORSE PLANS NATIONAL TOUR AS FUND-RAISING SCHEME

From the Calgary Herald - July 9, 1987.

Veteran actor Barry Morse is planning what is billed as the most extensive theatrical tour of Canada, a one-man show he is "donating" to raise funds for the Performing Arts Lodges of Canada.

So far, performances have been scheduled in 120 cities and towns in every province but Newfoundland and organizers say they expect to arrange additional dates as the tour progresses. The tour opens in Toronto October 4 at the Priemer Dance Theater and concludes around the middle of next May with stops in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. The largest venue booked so far is the 2,200 seat Hamilton Place and the smallest is a community hall in Fort St. James, B.C., which seats 50.

London-born Morse is one of Canada's best know actors and has also appeared in or directed productions on Broadway and London's West End in addition to scores of movies. On TV, he was best known for his role as Lieutenant Philip Gerard in "The Fugitive series, which ran for five years in the 1960s.

On tour, he will present Merely Players, which he describes as a theatrical scrapbook about backstage and onstage events and stories about world stars.

We have contacted Vivian Stanley, president of the Barry Morse Fan Club and she has provided us with a partial list of the stops Barry will be making. Barry also informed Vivian that he had edited or compiled the play from various areas of theatre and several different plays and writers. The show will have drama, comedy, musicals, etc. (Yes, Barry will sing.) During the two weeks from September 1-14 Barry will be doing interviews in the Toronto area. Watch for TV and newspaper coverage in Canada on in the Northern U.S. where you may receive Canadian TV. We would appreciate copies of any reviews or interviews that you find for inclusion in Main Computer. During the period from September 14-October 4, Barry will be in rehearsal for the play. We did not have dates available for all cities listed as of this notice.As our information is updated we will keep you informed even if it takes a special mailing. The scheduled stops we know about are listed below. If you can get to one of these plays, it will be memorable event not soon forgotten.

TOUR SCHEDULE

DATE	CITY/BUILDING	ADDITIONAL STOPS / NO DATES YET
	NOVA SCOTIA	
Oct. 13,1987	Sydney	Then: Antagonish, Annapolis Royal & Halifax.
	QUEBEC	
Nov. 16 (all week)	Montreal	
	ONTARIO	
End of Nov. to Dec. 19	Toronto / 2 wk. Young People's Theatre	
	CHRISTMAS BREAK - Dec. 19 - Jan. 10	

DATE	CITY/BUILDING	ADDITIONAL STOPS / NO DATES YET
	ONTARIO (Cont.)	
Jan. 10, 1988	North York	Then: Kitchener, Barrie, & Oakville
End of Jan.	Ottawa / National Art Theater	Then: London, Niagara Falls (Shaw Festival) & North Bay
February		Sudbury, Timmins & Kenora
	MANITOBA	
February		Winnipeg & Brandon
	SASKATCHEWAN	
Feb.-early Mar.		Yorkton, Regina, Moose Jaw & Saskatoon
	ALBERTA	
Mar. 14, 1988	Edmonton / Cidel Theater	Then: Red Deer, Lethbridge & Medicine Hat
Mar. 28	Calgary (all week)	Then: Grande Prairie, Peace River & Grimshaw
	BRITISH COLUMBIA	
Early April		Dawson Creek, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Fort St. James, Kelowna, Vernon & Penticton, Vancouver Vancouver Island at Nanaimo

Tentative end of the play run is May 14th.

This is only a partial list but it is all we have. Please watch your local papers and TV for dates and times in your area.

BREWER'S DELIGHT !!

Reprinted by request of Tony Verdeschi.

Scintist's old hops may mean tastier beer.

Beer connoiseurs, take heart! A government scientist has recaptured the Old World flavor and aroma of beer by breeding new varieties of a European-type hop that fell victim over the years to a fungal disease.

Brewers have been using the flowers of the hop vine to impart character to beer for at least 1,200 years, but some of that quality has been lost over recent decades.

By combining the best from the past and the present, modern genetic research techniques are expected to make new flavorful varieties available to American brewers by 1990.

The original hop, called *Hallertauer mittlefrueh*, has been lost over the last 20 years to a fungal disease called verticillium wilt. With acreage down about 80 % in Germany, it has virtually disappeared from world markets and European hop growers have been forced to switch to higher-yielding, healthier varieties.

Flavor can have a high priority once again now that Alfred Haunold, a plant geneticist in Corvallis, Oregon has successfully crossed a genetically modified *Hallertauer mittelfreuh* with other European hops.

Haunold produced five flavorful new hops selections that are both high-yielding and disease resistant. The hops, the result of 12 years of breeding and genetics research, have the "aroma and flavor of their *Hallettauer mittelfrueh* parents and twice the yield," he said.

We can only hope that the somehow the seeds of this rare flower might have been gathered by John, Helena or Alan while searching for fungus and carried back in a pocket before the great galactic eclipse which separated Moonbase Alpha from Texas City and Earth. If they did, we can only hope that Tony can find the seeds and if he does that he knows what to do with them. Alpha could really experience the delight of Verdeschi's Vineyard Vintage '2010.

ADS & NOTES

PRETTY GOOD CONVENTION - to be held Labor Day weekend (Sept. 4-7) 1987 at the Lansing, Michigan Sheraton. Memberships are $21.50 until Sept. 1. There will be no memberships at the door. What is a "Pretty Good Con"? A Pretty Good Con gives you a chance to have 4 days of fun with people you haven't seen all summer long. It is a non-profit organization. The features include a real movie theatre (Enclosed projection booth, stereo sound, 35mm equipment fixed seats, etc.), 50 dealers tables, Art show, Costume Competition and Masquerade ball, Discussion panels, Zine reading room, and other function rooms for receptions, parties, etc. For information write: Pretty good Conventions / PO Box 602 / Okemos, Mi 48864-0602

BARRY MORSE - If you can't make it to a performance of Barry's "Merely Players", here's an excellent way to show your support. BARRY MORSE Official Club - MORSE CODE is contributing to Barry's project PAL (Performing Arts Lodges) by giving proceeds of its '87 photo calendar ($2.50) and Morse Code Chronicle ($5.00) sales. The calendar features xerox photos of Barry in various TV series, films and mini-series. The Chronicle is a well done collection of Morse Code Journal cover art from #1-30.

Send orders in US or Canadian funds to: Vivian Stanley / General Delivery / High Level, Alberta / Canada T0H 1Z0 or to: Bev Stanley / 815 14th Ave. SW Apt. 305 / Calgary, Alberta / Canada T2R 0N5

WANTED: VHS video tapes of the following SPACE:1999 episodes. "Earthbound", "Alpha Child", "Guardian of Piri", "End of Eternity", "Missing Link", "The Black Sun", & "Dragon's Domain. They can be recorded on LP mode. Contact: David Kaplan / 321 Frost Pond Road. / Glen Head, NY 11545-2413

NOW ACCEPTING orders for the 'adult' Space:1999 zine FULL MOON II. Over 40 pages of fiction and art by Rebecca Eisenhuth, Dallas Hadaway, Isobel Hoy, Amanda Russell, Kevin Peterson, and more. Cover art by Lew Place. Cost is $8.00 U.S. and Canada / $10.00 Overseas (U.S. funds ONLY, please) via First Class / Airmail. Please make check or Money Order payable to: Terry S. Bowers / 603 N. Clark St. / River Falls, Wi 54022 U.S.A. S.A.S.E. to address above for more detailed info on zine's contents.

WANTED: VHS video tapes of "Seed of Destruction" and "Space Warp". I've been unable to find them. Write to: Sonya Warren / 1515 Massey Ave. / Lawrenceburg, Tn 38464.

FOR SALE ! LUNAVISIONS 3 is now available. This 60 page Space:1999 zine contains stories by Terry S. Bowers, Kevin Peterson, Ellen Lindow & Roni Demirdjian and Karla Von Huben. To order send $6.00 ($10.00 overseas--US funds only) to: Denise Miller / 5266 Edmondson Pike Apt. 610 / Nashville, Tn 37211 Several copies of Lunavisions 2 are still available for the same costs as Lunavisions 3. I also need stories and artwork for Lunavisions 4. Send all submissions to the address above.

FOR SALE - ORIGINAL ALPHAN UNIFORM FROM SPACE:1999 SERIES also Original Dress Uniform from Galactica TV series. (ED. We have seen the Space:1999 uniform. It is an original.) Serious inquiries only, please. Write to: Daryl Bartosh / 5925 Manon St. / La Mesa, Ca 92041

NOTICE The same group that published the "Space:1999" Japanese guidebook which is full of color pictures from 1999 has now done a book covering all of Gerry Anderson's shows including Space:199. It can be purchased from Star Tech (ED. I think they advertise in Starlog magazine) for $24.95 plus $3.00 postage. Beautiful book!! From Kerry Keene

LAST CALL - You have heard of "The Book of Lists", "The Complete Book of Lists", and "Yet Another Book of Lists". Now it is time for the "ALPHAN BOOK OF LISTS! Send me YOUR lists of things the Alphans would be concerned with-- movies, songs, books in the library, perfumes -- anything. Examples: Some of the songs on the Alpha Top 40 might be "Moonriver", "Moonlight Bay", etc. Their favorite movies might include "Deathmoon", "Moon Pilot"(The autobiography of Alan Carter), or "Racing with the Moon". What soap operas do the Alphans watch on their lunch break, what are some of their favorite sayings or quotes, who are some of their favorite fictional characters? Be creative! All lists will be compiled into "THE ALPHAN BOOK OF LISTS, offered through the Alliance. Deadline for submissions is DECEMBER 31, 1987. Please send all contributions to: Terry S. Bowers / 603 N. Clark St. / River Falls, Wi 54022, USA Thanks

SPACE:1999 ON THE AIR: Lew Place wrote to inform us that Space:1999 was running (May) on Channel 18 WHCT, Hartford, Ct. It was on every weekday at 5:30 PM. We also heard from Karla Von Huben that uncut episodes of Space:1999 and UFO appear back-to-back from 5-7 PM every Sunday courtesy of KTTY. If you know a station that broadcasting any of Gerry Anderson' works and especially Space:1999, please let us know. These would be the best areas for advertising for the Alliance.

MC ART AUCTION

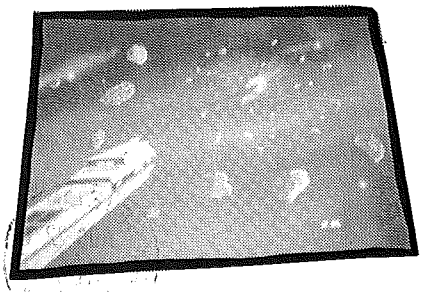
The auction is open to everyone. If you don't want to bid but know someone who might be interested, show them the sheet. We will accept bids until Sept. 31, 1987. Any bids arriving here after that date will not count. We will, however, accept phone bids followed in the mail by this form if you don't think the form will arrive in time and you still want to bid. (Phone (419) 929-3351 BEFORE 10 PM EST) The following rules should be followed when bidding:

1) Please base your bid on the fact that you will also be paying postage on each piece you win.
2) Bid only as high as you would be willing and able to pay assuming you get the pieces you want.
3) Please make bids in $5 increments - example: $35, $40, $45 etc.
4) Do NOT send any money with your bid. The person who has the highest bid will be notified when to send the money.
5) If you are the highest bidder at the ending date and your bid is greater than $10 higher than the next highest bid, you will only be asked to pay that additional $10 over the next lowest bid.

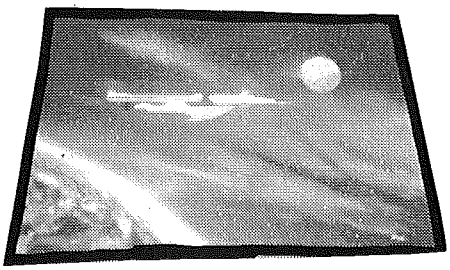
PICTURE DESCRIPTIONS

1) 15 1/2 x 13 picture of moonbuggy on Moon's surface. Dark blue star filled sky and lt. blue planet surface in upper left. Min. Bid= $10
2) 14 1/2 x 17 1/2 (non-Space:1999) dk. blue & black star studded background with ship blasting meteor swarm. Min. bid= $7.00
3) 26 x 21 picture of Alan and Sandra Min. Bid = $15
4) 24 x 19 Trek style ship. Ship colors are lt, blue, gray and white. Dk. blue-black star studded field with nebulous gas clouds. Left corner planet is dark blue with clouds. Small planet is lt. blue with clouds and continents. Min. Bid = $15
5) 26 x 21 Alphan in moonbuggy on gray moon surface. Planet in background is green with many clouds. Min. Bid = $$15
6) This is a banner on cloth and was prepared for the Con in Sandusky. We are giving everyone a chance to bid on this. The banner in Los Angeles went for $450. We were surprised to find in a catalog of business items that a specially prepared flag like ours would have cost $400 and that without the graphics. These banners are excellent quality and worth the cost. The minimum bid which we already have is $70.00.


1


2


3


4


5



6

Please place your bid on the line next to the number of the pictures you want to bid on.

1 . 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 .

NAME . ADDRESS . PHONE .

We will get back to everyone by phone after the deadline or by letter if you have no phone.

SPACE:1999 MINI-CON ! SEPT. 13, 1987

This convention is being held at the Ladbroke Dragonara Hotel / Neville St., Leeds / West Yorkshire, England LS1 4BX Phone: 1-0532-442000. Registration will be open from 6-10 PM on Saturday and 8AM-9PM on Sunday. Under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Guests: There are no definite confirmations but PRENTIS HANCOCK & SUZANNE ROQUETTE have expressed interest in attending. The programme will contain a selection of episodes from both seasons, a guest panel(guests permitting), a Phil Rae slide show and charity raffle. Also possibilities: a British Nick Tate Club slide show and talk, a talk by Phil Rae on the making of the models for the series and on Saturday a mini-mastermind contest for those interested. There will be a dealers room and also a display of original Space:1999 models generously displayed by Phil Rae. This Fanderson associated group is doing a great job of keeping Space:1999 in the public eye. We want to thank them for all their effort and hope the convention is a great success. If any of our members get to the convention, we would like a report on how it went. Maybe someday we can get together and have an international convention. It's an interesting thought.

MAIN COMPUTER

c 198 International Space:1999 Alliance/ a Non-profit organization

Main Computer # Volume 198

John and Kathy Von Kamp, MC Editors, 86 First Street, New London, Ohio 44851-1196 USA

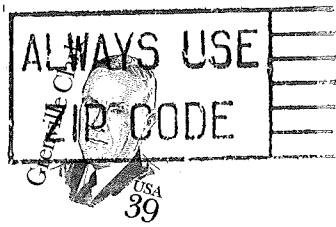
/For a reply send a SASE or 2 IRC's(non USA)No non US Stamps

Newsletters published in the following months: Sept, Dec, March & June

Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAN CLUBS, 2730 Baltimore Ave., Pueblo, Co 81003

INTERNATIONAL SPACE:1999 ALLIANCE
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86 FIRST STREET
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AN X BY YOUR NAME MEANS
IT'S TIME TO PAY DUES FOR ANOTHER YEAR