

## 2. MIDAS Hot-Line Service

As announced in the last issue of the Messenger, a MIDAS *Hot-Line* service has been started. Questions and problem reports concerning MIDAS can be sent to the Image Processing Group by Telex (52828222 eso d, attn.: MIDAS HOT-LINE) or electronic mail (SPAN: ESO MC1:: MIDAS or EARN/BITNET: MIDAS @ DGAESO 51).

A MIDAS Support telephone extension was created with the number + 49-89-32006-456 (note: the number was misprinted in the last MIDAS Memo). This extension can be used in urgent cases to obtain help with MIDAS-related problems.

## 3. New MIDAS Directory Structure

In anticipation of the portable MIDAS, a new directory structure will be introduced for the MIDAS system. The general structure has been based on the AIPS model but adapted to the special needs of MIDAS. It will allow a clear separation of the released version of MIDAS and of the local code which has been developed for the MIDAS environment. Special directories will be created for calibration data, tutorials and test procedures. The structure will also be used for the portable version and thus support different operating systems (e.g. VAX/VMS and UNIX). This will make it possible to maintain support of old releases of VAX/VMS.

## 4. Status of the Portable MIDAS

The development of the portable version of MIDAS is now well under way and still on schedule for release in the spring of 1988. The new version of the ST routines which interface application programmes to the system has been written in C and based on a set of operating system dependent OS routines. The ST and OS levels have been tested successfully on the beta-test sites. These tests included a number of different UNIX implementations on computers such as Bull SPS 9, Apollo DN 570, DN 3000, DSP 9000 (Alliant FX), Sun 3/160 and HP 9000.

The new set of TB routines for table access will be tested in May-June. It is expected that a VAX/VMS version of the OS routines will be made during the summer after which performance of the implementations can be compared. Also during the summer, a conversion of the application code from VAX-Fortran to standard Fortran-77 with five well-defined extensions will be started.

## STAFF MOVEMENTS

### Arrivals

#### Europe:

BROCATO, Enzo (I), Student  
HEYER, Hans (D), Laboratory Technician (Photography)  
JOHANSSON, Lennart (S), Fellow  
NEUVILLE, Hélène (F), Adm. Clerk Purchasing  
POSTEMA, Willem (NL), Mechanical Design Engineer

### Departures

#### Europe:

AURIÈRE, Michel (F), Fellow  
AZZOPARDI, Marc (F), Associate  
BORTOLETTO, Favio (I), Fellow (Astronomical Detector)  
CAVAZZINI, Egildo (I), Associate  
MALASSAGNE, Serge (F), Designer/Draughtsman  
STAHL, Otmar (D), Fellow

## New ESO Posters and New Edition of ESO Publications and Picture Catalogue Available

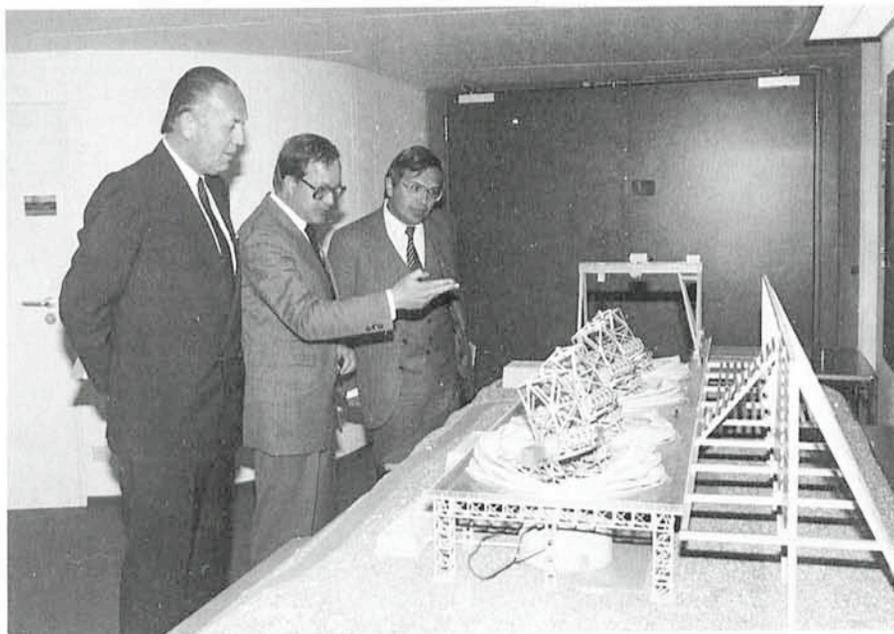
Eight beautiful colour posters (60 × 80 cm) have just become available. They show the most recent aerial view of the ESO observatory La Silla, a model of the ESO 16-m Very Large Telescope, the Supernova 1987 A in the Large Magellanic Cloud, Messier 104 – the Sombrero Galaxy, the barred spiral galaxy NGC 1365, Comet Halley and the Milky Way, the Large Magellanic Cloud, and the Eta Carinae Nebula.

If you want to know more about prices and how to obtain the posters or any other material – like slide sets, colour prints, postcards, video tapes, brochures, books, etc. – please apply for the new edition of the ESO Publications and Picture Catalogue. It is free of charge and will be sent to you on written request to the ESO Information and Photographic Service, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, D-8046 Garching b. München.

## The Chilean Consul General Visits ESO

The Chilean Consul General in Munich, Mr. Hans Zippelius, visited the ESO Headquarters on May 12, 1987. After an introductory stroll through the building, the discussion focussed on the

various ESO projects, including the Very Large Telescope. From left to right at the VLT model: the Consul General, Dr. R. West (ESO) and the Chilean Consul in Munich, Mr. Rodolfo Berlinger.



## El Cónsul General Chileno visita ESO

El Cónsul General de Chile en Munich, Sr. Hans Zippelius, visitó la sede de la ESO el día 12 de mayo de 1987. Después de una visita de introducción por el edificio, la discusión se concentró en los varios proyectos de la ESO, incluyendo el Gran Telescopio (VLT).

De izquierda a derecha con el modelo del VLT: El Cónsul General, Dr. R. West (ESO) y el Cónsul Chileno en Munich, Sr. Rodolfo Berlinger.