

Pelícano, including the houses of the Quebrada inhabitants (with their permission). During the summer time, the disinfections are repeated monthly and in the winter time, about every 2 to 3 months.

The vinchuca bite itself is not hurtful but there is a risk of later infection as the beetle may be host animal, carrier and transmitter of a parasite (*Tripanosoma cruci*) which also may affect man. The infection in man is called "Chagas disease" and is still widespread, for instance in certain tropical and underdeveloped parts of Brazil.

Only a small fraction of any vinchuca population is ever infected with *Tripanosoma cruci*. None of the vinchucas so far found on La Silla, and sent to the Institute for Tropical Diseases in Hamburg (FRG) for investigation, was infected. Such a check can also be made on a person who has been bitten, and anyone bitten by a vinchuca (or who suspects that he may have been), should undergo the necessary tests so that he may receive medication if necessary and thus avoid a severe infection.

The infection with Chagas disease typically presents itself with an initial feverish stage and may much later reappear as a heart condition or in the form of other internal troubles.

It may be of interest that the infection from vinchuca to man is not directly transferred by the bite of the beetle but by its droppings (a common reaction after the bite) which may get into the tiny wound inflicted by the bite.

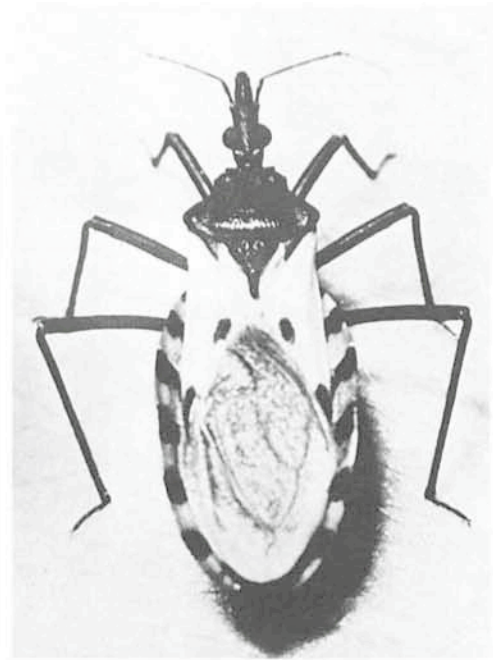


Fig. 2: One of the vinchucas that were sent to Europe for a test. Photographed by Dr. G. Schaub of the Zoological Institute of the Freiburg University (FRG).

Visiting Astronomers

April 1—October 1, 1979

Observing time has now been allocated for period 23 (April 1 to October 1, 1979). As usual, the demand for telescope time was much greater than the time actually available.

The following list gives the names of the visiting astronomers, by telescope and in chronological order. The complete list, with dates, equipment and programme titles, is available from ESO/Munich.

3.6 m Telescope

- April: Stenholm, Kohoutek, Schnur/Sherwood, Gillespie, Vogt, Pakull, Melnick/Quintana, Gammelgaard/Laustsen/Pedersen, Möllenhoff, Balkowski/Guérin, Chevalier/Ilovaisky/Motch.
- May: Chevalier/Ilovaisky/Motch, Epchtein/Turon/Puget/Wamsteker, de Loore, Audouze/Thuan/Dennefeld/Kunth, Kunth, Zuiderwijk, Bergeron/Boksenberg, Boksenberg/Caloi/Cannon/Castellani/Danziger, Boksenberg/Danziger/Fosbury/Goss, Boksenberg/Danziger/Fosbury/Goss/Bergeron.
- June: Boksenberg/Tarengi, Ulrich/Boksenberg, Terzan, van den Heuvel/van Paradijs, Wamsteker/Pedersen, Shaver/Danks/Pottasch, Alloin/Tenorio-Tagle.
- July: Alloin/Tenorio-Tagle, de Vries, Wamsteker/Pedersen, Lyngå, Vogt, Adam, Lub, Phillips, Rahe/Schnur/Bouchet.
- August: Rahe/Schnur/Bouchet, Bergvall/Ekman/Lauberts, Bergeron/Kunth, Hayli, Seggewiss, West/Kurtanidze, Alcaïno.
- Sept.: Sherwood/Kreysa, de Vegt, Wehinger, P. Véron, Norgaard-Nielsen/Kjaergaard Rasmussen, Goss/Shaver, Wamsteker/Danks.

1.52 m Spectrographic Telescope

- April: Grosbøl, Lindblad/Lodén, Bouchet, Ahlin/Sundman, M. Spite, Ilovaisky/Chevalier/Motch, Houziaux, Möllenhoff.
- May: Möllenhoff, de Loore, Zuiderwijk, Henrichs/van den Heuvel/van Paradijs, van Dessel, Rahe, Ahlin/Sundman, Metz/Pöllitsch, Appenzeller/Krautter/Mundt.
- June: Appenzeller/Krautter/Mundt, Imbert, Sterken, Renson, Manfroid/Heck, Bouchet, Ahlin/Sundman, Querci/Bouchet.
- July: Querci/Bouchet, de Vries, Arpigny, Bastiaansen, Rosa, King.
- August: King, Bouchet, Ahlin/Sundman, Häfner, Bergvall/Ekman/Lauberts, Schnur/Sherwood, Loibl/Schulz.
- Sept.: Loibl/Schulz, Bouchet, Ahlin/Sundman, Macchetto, Büscher/Bruch, Crane/Materne/Tarengi/Chincarini.

1 m Photometric Telescope

- April: Kohoutek, Hunger/Groote/Schultz, Schmidt/Engels/Schultz, Wamsteker, Wamsteker/Weiss, Bensammar, Lundin, Pakull, Pedersen, Vogt.
- May: Pedersen, Vogt, Shaver/Danks/Wamsteker, Moorwood/Salinari, Bouchet, Wielebinski/Schnur/Mattila, Metz/Pöllitsch, Neckel.
- June: Neckel, Tarengi/Tanzi, Vogt, Mattila/Schnur/Pedersen, Schnur/Mattila, Querci/Bouchet.
- July: Querci/Bouchet, Epchtein/Turon/Roucher/Guibert/Nguyen-Q-Rieu/Wamsteker/Bouchet, Guibert/Nguyen-Q-Rieu/Turon/Epchtein/Roucher/Wamsteker/Bouchet, Lub, Adam, Bernard, Tinbergen.
- August: Tinbergen, Wamsteker, Wamsteker/Weiss, Alcaïno, Bergvall/Ekman/Lauberts, Schober.
- Sept.: Schober, Reipurth/Wamsteker, Büscher/Bruch, van Woerden/Danks, M.-P. Véron.

50 cm Photometric Telescope

April: Vogt, Kohoutek, Bouchet, Lundin, Houziaux, Debehogne.
May: Debehogne, van Paradijs, Wielebinski/Schnur/Mattila, Gahm.
June: Gahm, Metz/Pöllitsch, Mauder, Mattila/Schnur/Pedersen, Schnur/Mattila, Terzan.
July: Terzan, Lundvall, Bastiaansen, Bouchet.
August: Bouchet, Häfner, Schober, Loibl/Schulz.
Sept.: Loibl/Schulz, Macchetto, Drechsel/Groote, Bouchet.

40 cm GPO Astrograph

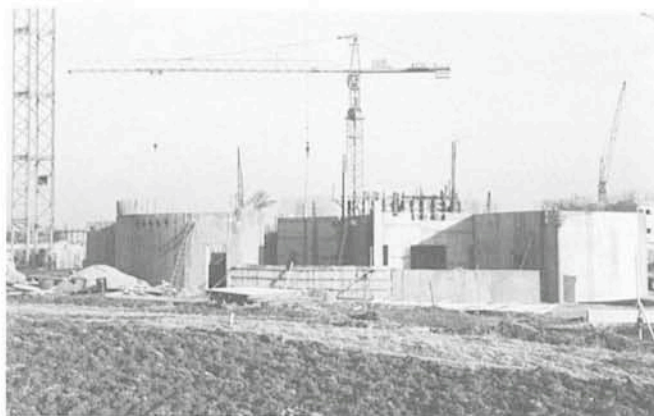
April: Bensammar, Debehogne, Giesecking.
May: Giesecking.
June: Giesecking.
July: Giesecking.
August: Giesecking.
Sept.: Giesecking.

50 cm Danish Telescope

June: Renson, Sterken/Vanbeveren.
July: Sterken/Vanbeveren, Ardeberg/Gustafsson.

61 cm Bochum Telescope

August: Lagerkvist.
Sept.: Leandersson.



This photograph of the construction site of the ESO Headquarters building at Garching, taken on March 1, 1979, shows the progress made since mid-November last year (see Messenger No. 15, p. 25).

ESO Headquarters Agreement Signed

On January 31, 1979, the Director-General of ESO, Prof. L. Woltjer, and Staatssekretär Dr. P. Hermes signed the ESO Headquarters Agreement at the German Foreign Office in Bonn.

Among other things this Agreement stipulates that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany provides

ESO with a site and the buildings for their European Headquarters. The site, which is situated at Garching, shall be granted to ESO by the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft for a period of 99 years by means of a building lease.

The building is already under construction and shall be ready in summer 1980.



Signature of the ESO Headquarters Agreement by the Director-General of ESO, Prof. L. Woltjer, and Staatssekretär Dr. P. Hermes. From left to right (clockwise): Dr. Sandtner, Prof. Priester, Prof. Denisse, Prof. Woltjer, Dr. Rau, Mr. Loosch, Dr. Zelle and Dr. Hermes.