



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
McDONALD OBSERVATORY AT MOUNT LOCKE

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Dear Alan and Mary,

I'm not sure whether I wrote to you from McDonald while I was there. I know I started to but for some reason didn't finish. Anyway, possibly repeating my earlier message, I won't be around you way after all, this week. Bev is at ARO with Bryan until ~ 24 Feb, but I have a research grant proposal to write within the next week (it includes Bev from October next, so it's doubly important to get it submitted!). I'll be up in Columbus shortly after her return there but - looks like we missed it again. We'll make it one day before 2000 A.D.!

You possibly heard about our 107-inch mirror being used for target practice by a beserk employee. He held me & another guy at gunpoint for $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ hr, lowered the telescope horizontal &, after I'd heroically escaped (!) to summon the Fort Davis sheriff, attached the mirror with a hammer and 7 bullets. Damage was small ($\sim 2\%$ light loss) & I used it again next night - images were, if anything, better quality!

Hope Green Bank observing went well,

Sorry to miss you again (going to IAU? We hope to) — All the best to you both,