

C19S67F3
BEYOND THE MILKY WAY -- A radio telescope, described as the world's largest, is under construction near Socorro, New Mexico. Named "The Very Large Array," it will consist of 27 dish antennas, each having a diameter of 25 meters and weighing 160 tons. The moveable antennas will be distributed along three arms of railroad tracks, arranged in the shape of a "Y" and measuring 21, 19 and 21 kilometers in length. The facility is to be used to study such things as quasars, black holes, star formation, structure of galaxies and interstellar molecules. It is expected to be in full operation by 1981. Associated Universities will manage the telescope for the National Science Foundation.

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