

knew McClain and Strong had submitted to the *Monthly Weather Review*. We wish to apologize for this oversight on our part and for our not being aware of their paper presented at the April meeting of the American Geophysical Union. All of the other published references cited by McClain and Strong provide background information on sunglint patterns, but only make passing comment about anomalous patterns.

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## Mission to Martian Satellites

Alfvén and Arrhenius (1) argue persuasively for a manned landing on an asteroid, a representative of a stage in the development of the solar system before the assembly of the planets. Phobos and Deimos, the two moons of Mars, are of asteroidal dimensions. Very likely they are captured asteroids; their histories should at least be very similar. Admittedly, satellites of Mars are hardly typical asteroids, but the few asteroids that are in earth-crossing orbits may not be typical either.

Missions to the martian moons may intrinsically be more or less difficult than missions to asteroids. Such missions can, however, be carried out as by-products or side trips on martian missions. For example, the Mariner Mars Orbiters in 1971 are expected to transmit photographs of one or both of the moons from as close as 6000 km. These photographs will have a line-pair spacing of about 150 m, or more resolution elements for the whole body than there are for Mars itself on the best earth-based photographs (2). Alfvén and Arrhenius suggest that a program for the investigation of asteroids is more important than one for the investigation of Mars; the presence of Phobos and Deimos in orbit around Mars makes it possible for both programs to be carried out for the price of one.

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### References

1. H. Alfvén and G. Arrhenius, *Science* **167**, 139 (1970).
2. H. Masursky *et al.*, *Icarus*, in press.

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