[artefact] would have been the spelling in Latin had the word been current when Latin was." If the stem word had been an ordinary third-declension noun, I would not argue with him; but in fact it is one of a special class known as "i-stem" nouns, in which the persistence of the "i" is reflected in certain inflectional forms. One need only look at the actual Latin word *artifex* (and its derivative, *artificium*) to see counterexamples of his argument. I strongly urge him to persuade the Society for American Archaeology to mend the error of their ways.

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ERTS Imagery

In his second report on the Earth Resources Technology Satellite (ERTS) program (Research News, 13 Apr., p. 171), Thomas H. Maugh II refers to a study of vegetation and geology of the western Seward Peninsula, Alaska, conducted by L. Shapiro, A. E. Belon and myself. Although a paper (*1*) is in press and a detailed technical report (*2*) is available, certain aspects of this study should be made clear at this time.

1) The study was intended primarily as an exercise. We only wanted to find out how much information could be derived from the scene, one of the first good ones of Alaska, by direct visual examination, with a minimum of ground data. We had little image interpretation equipment and little ground data on vegetation available at the time. Therefore the vegetation interpretations (*1*, *2*) and the map are subject to revision.

2) The caption for figure 1 indicates that seven distinct vegetation types are shown on the map prepared from the ERTS image. Actually, only five types are shown. Senescent vegetation is not a type, but a phenological phase of certain types, and the term "fire scars" designates areas where the vegetation is in some unspecified post-fire state and has not been distinguished according to type.

3) The caption for figure 1 seems to imply that the earlier vegetation map used for comparison (*3*) has been superseded by a better map. Actually, the existing map served as ground data for the new map. The latter shows

only one additional vegetation type, grassland tundra, which is hypothetical at this point and of secondary areal importance. The new map indicates that considerable detail in the distribution of known vegetation types may be mapped more economically using ERTS imagery than by conventional methods. Also, it shows that areas of recent fires may be delineated and suggests that phenological developments and active vegetation fires may be monitored with ERTS imagery. The new map does not, however, supersede the earlier one, which covers the entire state. The line tracing which we made for comparative purposes and which is reproduced with the new map in figure 1 does not do justice to the beauty and utility of the original map.

4) The caption for figure 1 implies that the black and white image of the Seward Peninsula was used for the vegetation interpretations and mapping. Actually, a reconstituted, simulated, color-infrared, 164 by 173 millimeter print, which provided considerably more vegetation information, was used.

5) Credit for the discovery of the unmapped radial drainage pattern mentioned in the text of Maugh's report should go to my colleague and coauthor, L. Shapiro, instead of to me.

Our studies of the western Seward Peninsula scene and of numerous subsequent scenes show that, with adequate ground data, more vegetation types than are shown on existing maps may be identified; an amazing amount of information is available from some of the better ERTS scenes. Therefore, existing Alaskan vegetation maps may eventually be superseded. However, current funding levels would preclude our preparation of new and properly finished maps for more than a small portion of the state for some time to come.

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2. J. H. Anderson and A. E. Belon, "A new vegetation map of the western Seward Peninsula, Alaska, based on ERTS-1 imagery," in *Interim Scientific Report on Contract NAS5-21833 to National Aeronautics and Space Administration* (No. E73-10305, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Va., 1973).
3. L. A. Spetzman, "Alaska map E," in *Terrain Study of Alaska*, part 5, *Vegetation* (U.S. Geological Survey, Military Geology Branch, Washington, D.C., 1963).

Implementation of Technology

Amitai Etzioni's editorial "Humane technology" (9 Mar., p. 959) surely has the right title, but the content goes a bit awry. Etzioni advises us that "The task before us is to marshal more of technology to the service of *human* purposes." (Italics added.) The confusing of "human" and "humane"—which is doubtless unintentional—is curiously consonant with Etzioni's argument. Within the range of human purposes one can of course find purposes which are humane; the thrust of the editorial is that, within the inventory of man's tools, there are similarly to be found technologies which are certifiably good. Thus Etzioni lists a series of inventions—including automatic switchboards and car seat belts—all of which have undoubtedly contributed to