on the transparency of Saturn's outer ring from observations of a stellar occultation; a determination of the 1970 atmospheric circulation period of the Venus atmosphere; experiments with image tremor stabilization; some advances in photoelectric data systems; participation on the Viking (Mars 1975) Orbiter Imaging Team; and participation in the instrument definition phase of the Grand Tour Outer Planets Mission.

The support of NASA Headquarters is gratefully acknowledged.

WORKING GROUP ON MARTIAN NOMENCLATURE

G. de Vaucouleurs

The nomenclature for the 30 Martian provinces has been selected after extensive discussions. These provinces coincide with the 30 charts of the 1:5000000 Mars Atlas in preparation at the U.S. Geological Survey in Flagstaff and at the University of Texas in Austin.

The work on the crater designation is well in hand and should be substantially completed early in January 1973. The present scheme calls for the assigning of names of prominent astronomers, physicists, meteorologists, and other Martian workers to the 120 to 150 largest Martian craters. The survey of the largest Martian craters has been completed and the first list of craters with names is being prepared. For the smaller craters a double letter designation scheme has been adopted which allows for the designation of about 700 craters in each of the 30 provinces. The designation of craters in this scheme should be completed within a few weeks. Dr Carl Sagan has also selected a score of names for the designation of craters on the two Martian satellites. Schemes for the designation of topographic features other than craters, i.e., canyons, valleys, volcanoes, etc. are under active discussion.

G. H. PETTENGILL

President of the Commission