#### SYNTHETIC DIAMONDS

Makes an unusual Science Project

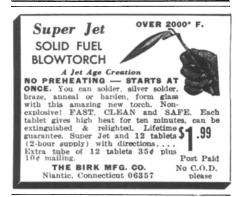
Learn about this unusual, interesting material. Send only \$2.00 for a few small diamonds (about 1/20 carat) and several booklets on how diamonds are used as tools, and a list of experiments you can do with

Leslie Laboratories

Dept. 1-7-67

177 Heath Terrace

Buffalo, New York 14223



## If you change your address ...

or have questions about your subscription, please include your Science News label to insure prompt service.

#### ATTACH LABEL HERE

To change your address please give 3 weeks notice. If you have any question about your subscription please clip this form with label to your letter.

Effective date of change of address	
New address label: Name	
Local address	
Town or City	
State and Zip Code	_

Mail to Subscription Department

### SCIENCE NEWS

1719 N Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

26

1.7.67

ORNITHOLOGY

# Air Force War on Birds

The Mach-2 Air Force has declared war on a 30-mile-an-hour flyer-and is pretty sure it can never win unconditional surrender.

The slow-moving enemy is the common starling, a pest to farmers and car owners as well as flying men.

In a display created for the current meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Air Force acknowledges that "bird/ aircraft collisions are far more common than the public suspects or than pilots care to admit."

The menace grows as planes move faster and greater numbers are jet powered. One airline declares that every jet engine in its fleet has swallowed at least one bird. For the Air Force it is a \$10 million a year problem. Cost of damage to engines alone may total \$4 million to 5 million.

One of the worst offenders is the starling, an avian import that has spread in enormous numbers over the country since it was imported into New York in 1890 by a well-meaning soul who felt that Central Park should house all the birds mentioned by Shakespeare.

Research on the starling, where it lives, how it gets about, why it congregates in certain areas, and whether it might even be a good idea to change airport locations to avoid it, is under way under contract to the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. The work is being done by Dr. William J. Hamilton III, assistant professor of agricultural zoology at the University of California at Davis, and by his graduate students.

"It is very unlikely," the Air Force admits, "that any effort, no matter how concerted, can eliminate the starling altogether.

And if all this isn't bad enough, there are several other imported birds, whose populations, small at the moment, could 'explode" almost overnight.

Three examples cited by Dr. Hamilton, now too few in numbers to do much harm, could launch such an explosion with disastrous results. They are the mynha bird, introduced into Vancouver Island in the 1920s; the three species of parrots now living wild within the city limits of Los Angeles, and the red-billed dioch, a finch that is a "terrible pest in Africa," yet is widely stocked in pet stores in the United





### SEE MIRACLE OF BIRTH

\$498 FOST PAID WITH SIX QUAIL EGGS.
SIX QUAIL EGGS.
You get the new clear plastic dome CHICK-BATOR with 6 Bobwhite Quail Eggs (available year-round) and Egg Hatchers Guide Book. Complete — nothing else to buy. Send check or Money Order today

G.Q.F. MFG. CO., DEPT. CL, BOX 152, SAVANNAH, GA.

#### CLASSIFIED

Classified advertisements are accepted for the following classifications; Books, Business Opportunities, Camps, Colleges, Micro Ads, Personals, Positions Wanted, Services, Travel. All advertisements must be consonant with the character of Science News. Rates . . . single insertion 25¢ a word. Minimum charge is \$5.00. Count 2 extra words for Box and Numbers. Classified advertising is payable in advance. Closing date 3 weeks prior to publication (Saturday).

Employment opportunities are accepted at regular display rates, subject to agency commission. Minimum size 1 inch. Minimum charge 521.70 per inch. Rate cards available upon request.

To speed up insertion, address classified adver-tising . . . Classified Ads. Science News. 1719 N Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

#### **BOOKS**

THE PESTICIDE JUNGLE by Laura Tallian dedicated to influencing officials to make mandatory nontoxic pest control. Box 33, Sunnyside, Calif. 92079. \$1.50.

#### MICRO ADS

FAIRCHILD SEQUENCE CAMERA \$75.00. Cost government \$650.00. Send 25¢ for our surplus optics-electronics 82 page catalog. Meshna, Nahant, Mass. 01908.

#### PERSONALS

LITERATURE SEARCHING. When you're ready to do a literature search, call on ISI. The new ISI SEARCH SERVICE can do the job for you—quickly, efficiently and economically. Our massive data files are yours for the searching. Let us know your information problems. We'll look for the answers. Contact us immediately for details and ISI SEARCH SERVICE forms. Telephone 215/923-3300 or write Institute for Scientific Information, Dept. 76-CI, 325 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106.

THE FUTURIST, published bimonthly by World Future Society, reports scientists' forecasts for coming decades. Subscription: \$5 yearly. Box 19285-S. wentieth Street Station, Washington, Future Society, coming decades. 19285-S, Twentie D. C. 20036.

#### TRAVEL

WORLDWIDE FREIGHTER GUIDE—\$1.25. Contains rates, schedules on 700 passenger carrying Freight Lines. TrayLtips, Dept. SND, 40-21 Bell Blvd., Bayside, New York 11361.

SCIENCE News / Vol. 91 / 7 January 1967