

It's Still a Mystery Whom the Milky Way Is Hissing At

Latest word on the mysterious radio broadcasts from the Milky Way is that they're still a mystery.

"We still don't know just where or how they originate," Grote Reber said today.

Mr. Reber, radio physicist of the National Bureau of Standards, is one of this country's leading authorities in the infant science of "radio-astronomy." He and others have known for some time that ultra-high frequency radio waves pour out from inside the vast star galaxy of which the sun and earth are infinitesimal units.

They know that these cosmic broadcasts from thousands of trillions of miles away produce a steady low hiss on earthly receiv-

ing sets. They also know that the varying intensity of the broadcasts confirms the astronomer's picture of the shape and structure of the 100,000,000,000-star galaxy.

In general, the broadcasts come in maximum intensities from regions where astronomy says the star population is greatest. They bear out the astronomer's belief that the galaxy's core is in the direction of the constellation of Sagittarius.

But whether the broadcasts originate in luminous clusters of stars, or in the great dark patches of interstellar gas which blot out huge areas of the Milky Way, has yet to be determined.