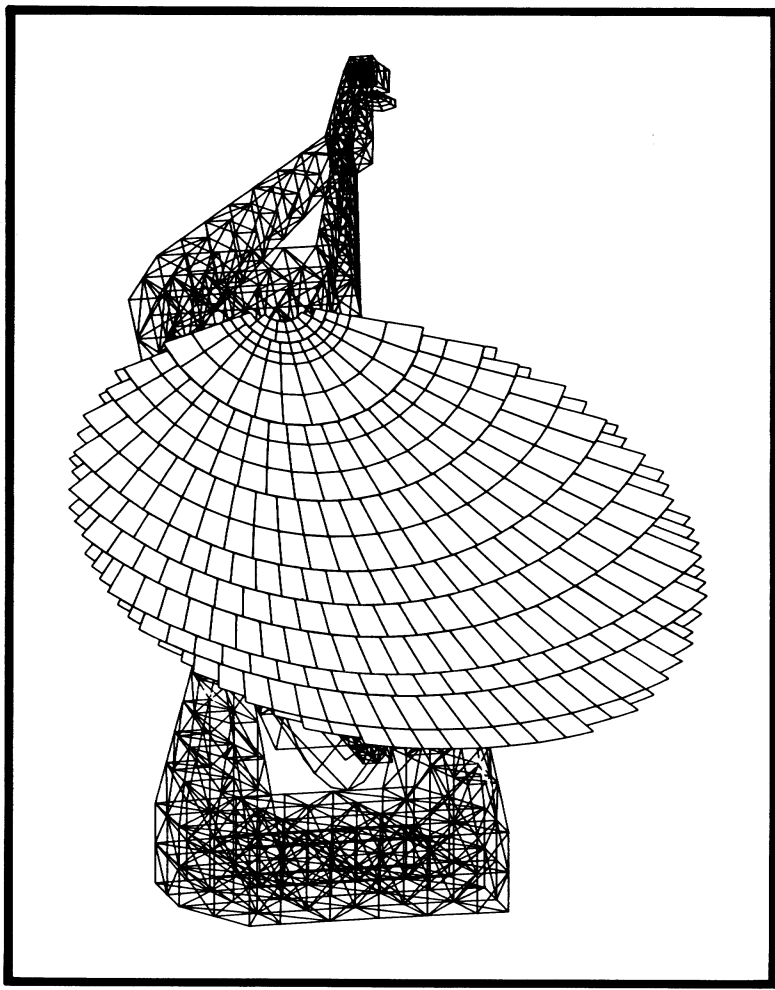


US/GR BK/

Green Bank Telescope



Groundbreaking Ceremony

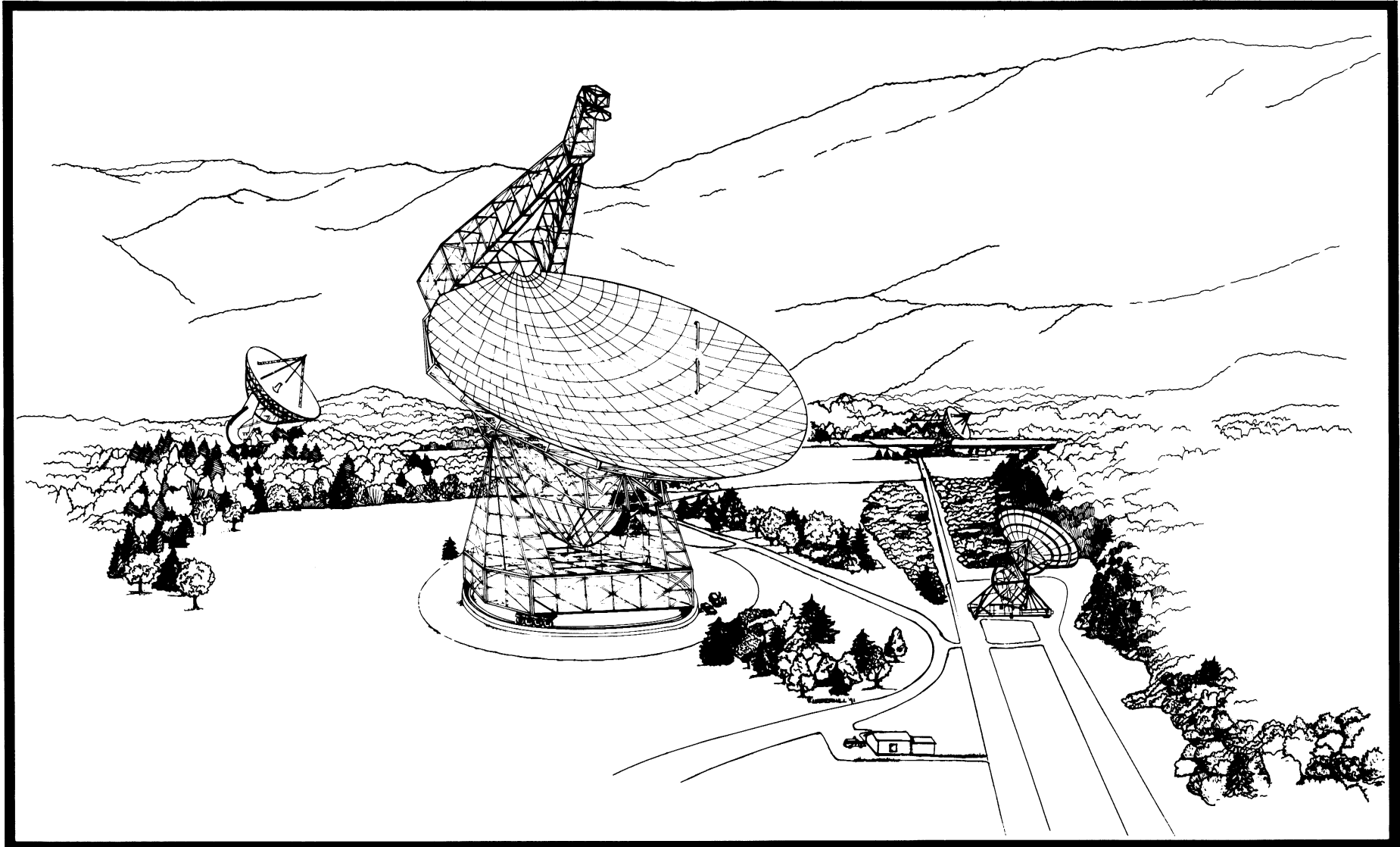
May 1, 1991

Program



Welcome and Introduction of Guests	<i>Dr. Paul A. Vanden Bout</i> Director, National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Introduction of Dr. Massey	<i>Dr. Robert E. Hughes</i> President Associated Universities, Inc.
Presentation to Senator Byrd	<i>Dr. Walter E. Massey</i> Director National Science Foundation
Introduction of Keynote Speaker	<i>Dr. George A. Seielstad</i> Assistant Director, National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Keynote Speaker	<i>The Honorable Robert C. Byrd</i> U.S. Senate
Groundbreaking	<i>Senator Byrd and Dr. Massey</i>
Reception	





Milestones of Green Bank Telescope Project

- 1989: Appropriation for Telescope's construction
- 1990: Associated Universities, Inc. contracts with Radiation Systems, Inc. for design, construction, installation, and testing of Telescope
- 1991: Telescope's foundation installed
- 1992: Assembly of structure begins in Green Bank
- 1993: Component fabrication completed
- 1994: Construction, outfitting, and testing completed
- 1995: First astronomical use

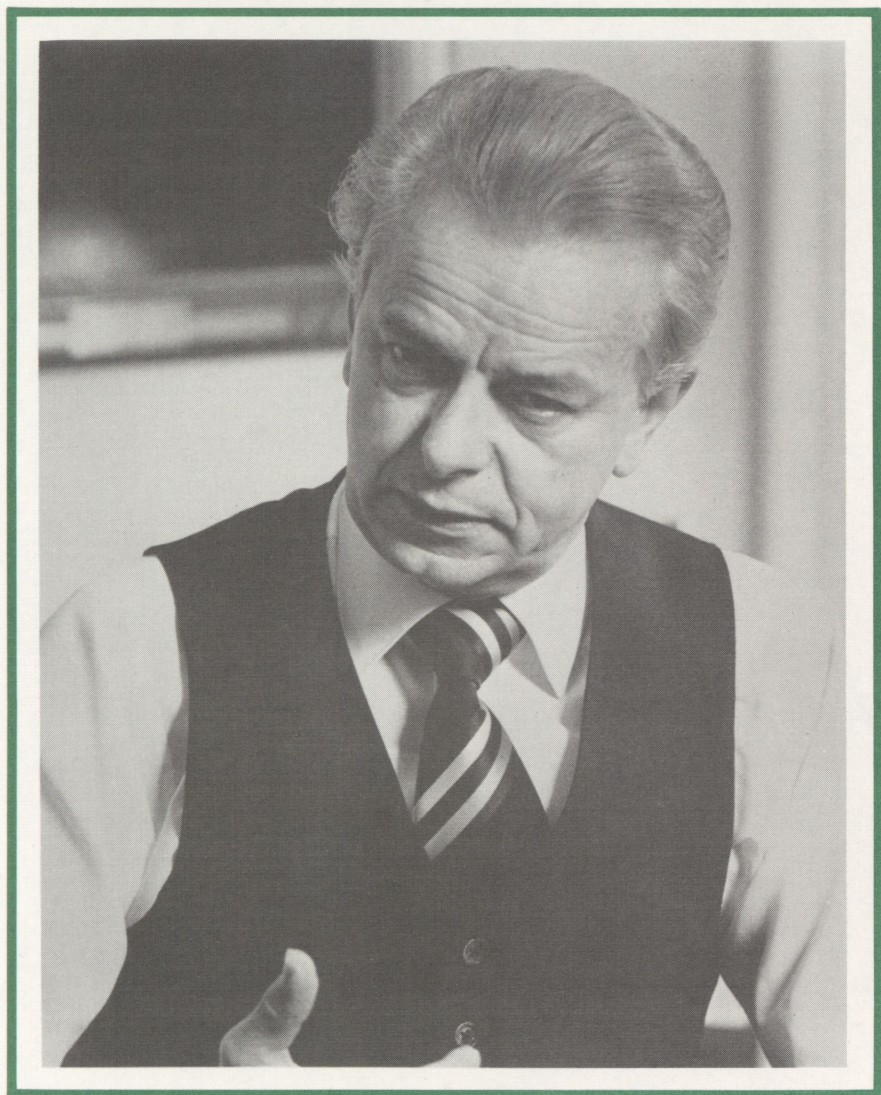
Innovative Features of Green Bank Telescope

- World's Largest Fully Steerable Radio Telescope

Dimensions of reflecting surface	328 ft x 360 ft
Collecting area	2.3 acres
Weight of moving structure	12 million pounds
- Completely Clear Aperture

Instead of the traditional quadrupod to support the receiver and secondary optics, the Telescope uses an offset arm.
- Fully Adjustable Computer-Controlled Surface

Deformations of the surface caused by gravity and temperature changes will be corrected by the 2000 automated adjusters for the reflecting panels.



The Honorable Robert C. Byrd

Biography



Robert C. Byrd was born in Wilkesboro, N.C. on November 20, 1917. His wife is the former Erma Ora James. They have two daughters, Mrs. Mohammed (Mona Byrd) Fatemi and Mrs. John (Marjorie Byrd) Moore, and six grand children: Erik, Darius, and Fredrik Fatemi; and Michael (deceased), Mona, and Mary Anne Moore.

Senator Byrd's distinguished career of public service began with his election to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1946. Since then, he has held more legislative elective offices than any other West Virginian. His service in the House of Delegates has been followed successively by service in the West Virginia Senate, then the United States House of Representatives, and, since 1959, in the United States Senate.

Senator Byrd became a member of the Senate Leadership in 1967. He has, among other offices, served as Majority Leader and as Minority Leader. He is presently Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and is President pro tempore of the Senate, placing him third in line of succession to the Presidency. During his Senate career, he has cast more votes than anyone else in history.

Senator Byrd is an author, winning the Henry Adams Prize and the West Virginia Humanities Award for his book *THE SENATE 1789-1989*. His commitments to education include the Robert C. Byrd Scholastic Recognition Award, providing U.S. Savings Bonds and certificates to valedictorians of West Virginia's schools, and the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program, awarding approximately 5,000 college scholarships annually to graduating high school seniors in every state.





**National Radio Astronomy Observatory is operated by Associated Universities Inc.,
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