

VLBA ACQUISITION MEMO #344

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To: VLBA Data Acquisition Group
From: Alan E.E. Rogers
Subject: Minutes of VLBA recorder telecon, held 1300 EST 14 Oct 92

Attendees: George Peck, Clint Janes, Craig Walker, Durga Bagri, Barry Clark,
Carl Bignell - Socorro;
Hans Hinteregger - Haystack;
Jon Romney - Charlottesville.

Accelerated tests of thin tapes

After some discussion it was decided to revise the accelerated tests to reduce work load without significantly altering the objectives. Up to this point the accelerated testing has been used both as a diagnostic of the failure modes and as a tape lifetime test. By eliminating the "wind" test at the sites but continuing to shuttle the tape at high speed it will be possible to continue the lifetime test while reducing the diagnostic aspect somewhat. A full wind test, edge inspection and shuttle will continue at Haystack. Details of the new simplified procedures are to be worked out in the next few days.

Playback problems seen at the correlator

The following problems are being investigated on the VLBA correlator.

- 1] Intermittent cable connections - thought to be in the mass termination 3M connectors. Further diagnosis is in progress.
- 2] Some transport I/O panels are labelled incorrectly - these will be corrected.
- 3] During "loopback" tests the reel servo gain control relays click continuously. This is most likely a software or firmware problem.