

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
Charlottesville, Virginia

April 7, 1987

To: VLBA Electronics Group

From: A. R. Thompson

Subject: VLBA Electronics Group Meeting, April 7, 1987

Attendees: Bagri, Balister, Bradley, Brundage, Morris,
Spaulding, Thompson, Walker, Walter.

Plans for the immediate future call for completion of construction of the electronics for the second antenna by April 24 and shipment of equipment to the VLA site in mid-May. Completion of construction of electronics for the third antenna should occur by mid-May, allowing shipment to the VLA site in June. The electronics for the Pie Town antenna will be moved to the antenna site in June.

Bill Brundage reported that there have been no failures of model 22 refrigerators on the VLA during the past month. All of the 8.4 GHz front ends installed from this point onward will incorporate the Envex bushings. Examination of some units with Envex bearings that have been in operation on the VLA shows no wear at this time. Units with the modified Scotch yoke are also operating satisfactorily. There are now nine 8.4 GHz front ends on the VLA.

On the 2.3 GHz front end, Rich Bradley reported that the mechanical drawings for the Dewar are complete, and work on the cold load has begun. The amplifier design is one developed at JPL, and has achieved a noise temperature of 4.9 K with a G. E. HEMPT. In Charlottesville, work on the 23 GHz front end is continuing with a projected completion date for construction of June 1, and testing complete by July 1.