

VLB ARRAY MEMO No. 294

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
Charlottesville, Virginia

November 22, 1983

MEMORANDUM:

TO: VLBA Members
FROM: M. Balister
SUBJECT: Minutes of the VLBA Electronics Group Meeting
on November 16, 1983

Attendees: Weinreb, Moffet, Norrod, D'Addario, Napier, Kellermann, and Balister.

Napier commenced the meeting by advising the group of his reasons for estimating the costs of the WVR's at 50 k\$ per unit.

Kellermann has now read most of the latest version of the VLBA program plan and had some comments regarding the Electronics contribution. He suggested some mention of the possibility of Pie Town as a site close to the VLA which would ease the microwave link problems. The 8 GHz program was discussed and how it would interleave with the JPL Neptune project.

Kellermann made a strong appeal for the lowest noise temperatures at the two highest frequencies. He pointed out that the VLB community is now using masers which give performance better than that proposed for the VLBA in 1988, even if the HEMT program proves a success. Balister and Weinreb pointed out that there is a trade-off between performance and reliability which has to be considered. Balister will ask Brockway for a list of problems that have occurred with the NRAO cassegrain system at the 140' in Green Bank. Very detailed records have been kept for several years and it would be interesting to discuss these at the next Electronics Group meeting.

AT the next meeting, plans for the microwave link should be discussed now that the consultant's report has been issued (VLBA Electronics Memo No. 1).

Next meeting is on December 14, at 1330; telephone (203) 797-9062.