NATIONAL RADID ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
EDGEMONT ROAD CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22901
TELEPHONE 8042960211 TWX 5105875482

July 27, 1982

## 12 METER MILLIMETER WAVE TELESCOPE MEMO No. $\quad 185$

Dr. Sam Baker
Isabelle Project
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, Long Island, NY 11973
Dear Sam:
Thank you for the measurements of my fixture you sent with your letter of July 21. They look fine and plenty good enough for my purposes. I shall be working near $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for the next few weeks, so the knowledge of the actual steel is near enough (it is cold-rolled). But I have asked Buck to track its purchase in case I do need to know more about its expansion coefficient.

We think we are OK--after about 20 days continuous work. Last Saturday afternoon we finally "set" 6 radii, with an average error of below 70 microns. By "set" I mean I adopted a near-enough nominal profile to set to and got the 72 measured points to fit that well enough in one try. I could do better by readjusting, but for the present I am happy.

Anyway, yesterday we took the Green Bank structure apart and started taking the old Kitt Peak telescope down, so we have burnt our boats. I shall work at Green Bank for about five weeks more improving my absolute measuring accuracy, so your. work fits with my plans in a very well-timed way.

When I come to the setting problems on Kitt Peak, I shall probably call you again. I plan to survey and adjust my 144 edge balls into a plane good to 25 microns. Then I want the elevation of the center of this plane above my center-ball (a distance of about 69.75 inches ( 177 cm )), to about 50 microns if possible. I expect to work to these accuracies only in a quite narrow temperature window, which I have not yet chosen. To do this it might be very helpful if I could transfer my center-ball level out to a point below an edge ball--see sketch.


You told me once of a firm (Orinda Controls) who make levels, and John Payne is calling them to see. But if you have any further ideas, we will talk sometime. Direct $N$-III levelling is OK but clumsy.

So, I repeat, thank you very much for your help so far, and we will keep talking.

## Yours,

John W. Findlay

JWF/Pj
cc: R.E. Hughes
N. P. Samios

July 21, 1982

Dr. John W. Findlay
National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Edgemont Road
Charlottesville, VA 22901
Dear John:
As a follow up to our telephone conversation on the 20th, I am enclosing the calibration values for your measuring fixture. The fixture is being returned via UPS to Green Bank, West Virginia. I would estimate delivery some time during the week of July 26th.

I am satisfied with the measurements obtained. The mean, centerline to centerline, measurement with the H-P laser interferrometer was 21.96784 (reduced to $68^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ ). The length by the Central Shop Inspection Report attached, is 21.9676 (at $68^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ ), or a difference of 0.00024 inches. As I recall, this is well within the limits you desired.

I am pleased that we could assist you in this manner and trust that our work will contribute to a most successful project.

Sincerely,

Sam Baker
Attachments
/lsk

| Date | Acct. No. | I.L.R. No. | W.O. No. | P.O. No. | Insp. No. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

DESCRIPTION

| Length Pieces |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |

VENDOR
EXPLANATION


INSPECTION FINDINGS



