

Sept. 19, 1974

9/20/74

A.M.P.

To: B. Peery

From: W. Y. Wong

Subject: Notes on 9/13/74 meeting - 25 m π 1 mm telescope

Meeting Started with

General description of the telescope, with data based on the engineering report dated 4/17/1974. No questions^{aroused} on the design. The cost estm. of 2.46 million dollars in 1972 price, escalated to 1977 price of \$4.34 million was considered by several members as low.

There was no objection that the telescope is to be protected by either a radome (space frame) or an astro-dome. There were debates but no clear decision on ^{what kind of} ~~this~~ protective structure.

Choice of site was the main concern and was the most controversial. It is believe that since this is a high frequency instrument, the front end receiver might require constant attention. Remote site might be difficult to attract qualified personnel. White mountain is worth serious consideration only if one can shorten the access time. There is good road up to 6000 ft. Cable

Cable system will shorten the access time from ground level of 6000 ft. to the site of 13000 ft. to approx. 1 hr. Questions on cable car system are:

- 1) How good is the cost estm. of \$1.1^m?
- 2) Will U.S. Forest dept. object to it.?
- 3) How many extra personnel needed to operate this system?

Another question about this site was why NASA veto-ed the I.R. Astronomers to build their observatory on White Mountain? NASA recommended Mauna Kea instead.

There was a general feeling that the VLA is a viable back-off site.