



U.S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY
34th and Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20390

IN REPLY REFER TO
6C
3162
Ser 233
19 Mar 1981

ADDITIONAL BASELINE TO INTERFEROMETER

MEMO No. 133

Dr. W. E. Howard III
Director, Astronomy Division
National Science Foundation
1800 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20550

Dear Dr. Howard:

As you are aware, we have asked NRAO to prepare an estimate for the addition of an East-West baseline to the Greenbank interferometer. In his letter of 19 December 1980, Dr. M. S. Roberts submitted a revised version of an earlier study. We have considered this study and have had extensive consultations with the NRAO technical staff.

At this time, we request that NRAO proceed with all deliberate speed with the construction of this East-West baseline following the revised study, with the 15-meter antenna option as the preferred option. The budget of \$1,407,500 is acceptable to the U. S. Naval Observatory. A sum of \$420,000 has already been transferred to the NSF. An additional \$400,000 will be transferred shortly, to be followed by \$400,000 in FY 82.

As the funding which we have identified at this time for the project only equals the total estimated cost and does not account for any contingencies, NAVOBSY and NRAO personnel must work closely together keeping accurate and timely accounts of all expenditures so that the use of FY 83 funds to cover such contingencies can be properly documented. In addition, the new telescope forming the additional East-West baseline should be identified as NAVOBSY property in order to relieve NRAO of any obligation or problems concerning the disposition of the equipment in the event of any unforeseen or unplanned fiscal restrictions.

This letter is to be considered as an addition to the Memorandum of Understanding, and we would appreciate it if the NSF could initiate a proper amendment to this MOU.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND A. VOHDEN
Captain, USN
Superintendent

Copy to:

Dr. M. S. Roberts, Mr. T. Riffe

→ Dr. R. Fisher, Dr. W. Klepczynski