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September 10, 1987

To: VLBA Data Acquisition/Recorder Group

From: Alan E.E. Rogers

Subject: Minutes of the VLBA Recorder/Data Acquisition Telecon Held 9 September 1987 at 1300 EDT

Attendees: Ken Stefton, Bill Porter, Jon Romney, Paul Sebring, Craig Walker, Dick Thompson and Ken Kellermann from NRAO; Alan Rogers, Hans Hinteregger and John Webber from Haystack

1. Thin Tape

Hans and John reported that the industry plans for production of the "D1" tape (see Acquisition Memo No. 92) are still not clear. Some samples are expected within the next few months. The meeting consensus was to wait and see - at least until REC 1 and 2 are completed. Memo No. 92 was issued with an update missing - it will be reissued in a more complete form when Hans returns to Haystack.

2. Glass Reels

Hans reported that while metal reels with liners work well for thick tape on 14-inch reels they do not work well for thin tape on 16-inch reels. Glass reels will probably be the best solution and Haystack was encouraged to propose a small procurement of glass reel prototype tests. It was pointed out that prototype reels from Corning will probably cost 400-500 each.

3. VLBA Tape Supply

It was agreed that the present network tape supply will suffice for interim operations with VLBA sites so that VLBA tape procurement can be postponed.

4. Recorder Review

The first VLBA recorder should be ready this month if no difficulties are encountered. Design review could be held in early October. Because of the uncertainty, no specific plans are being made at this time.