

VLBA ACQUISITION MEMO #159

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HAYSTACK OBSERVATORY

WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01886

10 August 1989

Area Code 508

692-4764

To: VLBA Data Acquisition and Recorder Group

From: Alan E.E. Rogers

Subject: Minutes of the VLBA Recorder Telecon Held 9 August 1989 at 1300 EDT

Attendees: Barry Clark - Socorro
Durga Baghri - Socorro
George Peck - Charlottesville
John Romney - Charlottesville
Roger Cappallo - Haystack
Alan Rogers - Haystack

Problems with tape spillage at Pie Town

Barry Clark reported that REC #1 at Pie Town has dumped tape on the floor while waiting for an experiment to start. It is unclear whether the problem occurred during the loading process (which dumps tape into the vacuum column during an attempt to load - but should time-out if the tape doesn't load), or as a result of power glitches. More evidence is needed in order to diagnose the problem.

Recorder firmware update

Roger is planning to update the recorder firmware in the near future and will make changes/fixes on George's list at that time.

Discussions of humidity effects

The major problems with high humidity should not have significant influence on tracking unless the humidity varies dramatically across the tape. However, very high humidity does dramatically increase the tape friction and head wear rate. There is also some concern about the effects of storing tapes under very high or very low humidity conditions owing to the chemical and/or mechanical changes that may result.