



NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

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VLB ARRAY MEMO No. 134

October 22, 1982

To: VLBA Configuration Group
From: R. C. Walker
Subject: Current Status of the Configuration Search

There were meetings of the configuration group on Aug. 4, Sept. 25, and Oct. 20. The following persons attended one or more of those meetings: Backer, Balister, Benson, Brundage, Cotton, Gaume, Hogg, Hvatum, Jones, Legg, Linfield, Mutel, Peery, Pearson, Reid, Schwab, and Walker.

We have decided to use Mutel and Gaume's array quality measure (see Memo 84) to compare configurations. The necessary software has been distributed to the sites actively working on configurations.

Dave Hogg has obtained radiosonde data for the San Juan airport in Puerto Rico. This should help determine if Puerto Rico can be used at the higher frequencies. The acceptability of Puerto Rico should be determined soon because it is in all of the arrays being considered at this time.

The most important goal of the configuration group now is to find a "final" configuration under the U. S. territory constraint by the end of the year so that investigations of the specific sites can begin. To this end, I have requested that candidate arrays be submitted (eg as memos) in time for the Nov. 17 meeting. This will allow the group to discuss the possibilities at that time and give time for final adjustments before the Dec. 17 meeting when a configuration should be chosen.