

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
Charlottesville, Virginia

February 27, 1985

TO: VLBA MEMBERS
FROM: BUCK PEERY
SUBJECT: CONF./SITE MEETING 850220
PRESENT: BENSON, BROWN, BRUNDAGE, HOGG, HVATUM, KELLERMANN,
OTY, PORTER, SEBRING, VANDEN BOUT, WADE, WALKER AND
PEERY

A TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF THE PIE TOWN SITE HAS BEEN COMPLETED. THE A/E HAS SIGNED A CONTRACT. WE ARE WAITING FOR NSF APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT TO START DESIGN.

THE RFI REPORT FOR THE KITT PEAK (MOUNTAIN) SITE HAS BEEN ISSUED (MEMO 423). THE RFI REPORT FOR THE VALLEY LOCATION IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING PUBLISHED. WIND AND ATMOSPHERIC STUDIES HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED.

A VISIT TO LOS ALAMOS AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH THEM INDICATE WE ARE WELCOME TO LOCATE ONE OF OUR ANTENNAS ON THE LANL SITE AND WE WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED. AT PRESENT THERE IS SOME QUESTION AS TO WHETHER WE CAN LOCATE IN AREA TA33, OUR FIRST CHOICE, BECAUSE OF INTEREST IN USING THE AREA FOR ANOTHER TYPE EXPERIMENT. WHETHER THE OTHER EXPERIMENT WILL GO OR NOT WILL BE DECIDED WITHIN A FEW WEEKS. IF IT DOES NOT GO WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO MOVE QUICKLY AND STAKEOUT OUR CLAIM AND PROCEED RAPIDLY WITH THE FORMAL REQUEST FOR TITLE TO THE SITE. THIS IS TENTATIVELY SET FOR MID-MARCH 85 FOR "DRIVING THE STAKE" WHERE THE ANTENNA GOES. REQUEST FOR TITLE WOULD FOLLOW AFTER APRIL 1, 1985.

ALL OF THE DATA FROM THE WATER VAPOR MEASUREMENTS IN HAWAII HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED. THE DATA WHICH HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND PROCESSED HAS NOT GIVEN ANY SURPRISES. A REPORT WILL BE OUT SOON.

RFI TESTS WILL BE STARTED AT THE HARVARD STATION (FT. DAVIS) THE WEEK OF MARCH 11, 1985. IT WAS AGREED THAT RFI MEASUREMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN UP ON THE MOUNTIAN AT THE McDONALD OBSERVATORY AFTER FINISHING AT THE HARVARD STATION. THE DISCUSSION OF THE WIND AT THE TWO SITES, INCLUDING INPUT FROM PAUL SEBRING WHO HAD WORKED AT THE HARVARD STATION AND PAUL VANDEN BOUT WHO HAD WORKED AT McDONALD OBSERVATORY, INDICATED THAT THE HARVARD STATION IN THE VALLEY WOULD BE THE PREFERRED SITE WHEN CONSIDERING THE POTENTIAL WIND PROBLEMS.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE VOA TO OBTAIN INFORMATION USEFUL IN MAKING A DECISION AS TO WHERE TO LOCATE OUR ANTENNA IN PUERTO RICO WILL CONTINUE. BRUNDAGE WILL CONTACT THE DIRECTOR OF THE VOA FOR ADVICE AND CONSENT ON WHEN AND HOW TO CHECK RFI IN THE VICINITY OF THEIR GREENVILLE, N.C. INSTALLATION. THE DATA OBTAINED WOULD BE USED AS A GUIDE IN CHOOSING A LOCATION IN PUERTO RICO.