

October 9, 1986

To: VLBA Operations Group  
From: C. Bignell  
Subject: Summary of the October 8 VLBA Operations Group Meeting  
Attendants: C. Bignell, J. Campbell, K. Kellermann, P. Napier,  
J. Romney, R. Sramek, C. Walker.

### Mark II Recorders

The write modification has been made to the Panasonic recorder. Test recordings will be made in Green Bank and sent to the correlators in Charlottesville, CalTech and Bonn to verify that they can be read. Ray Escoffier thinks that the modification for the playback mode can be designed such that no adjustments will be necessary when playing back tapes.

The new target goals are:

October 17 Completion of testing of "write" operations and correlator readback of these tapes.  
October 30 Completion of a report on the design and recipe for the modifications.  
November 15 Distribution of the report to the VLBI Consortium and European Network.

### Mark II Formatters

There is no new information on the availability of the two Mark II formatters from JPL. Ken Kellermann will follow up on these formatters by our next meeting.

### Array Operations Center

The final conceptual design of the AOC and how to phase the construction to accommodate two funding periods is complete. The current Phase I building has approximately 32500 square feet with an efficiency of 75 percent. The next stage which begins immediately involves the detailed design of the building. Current major goals are:

November 7 Completion of detailed floor plan with primary emphasis on list of equipment and their power, heating and cooling requirements.  
March 1987 Final detailed design complete and ready to go out for bid.  
Spring 1988 Occupy the Phase I building.

Other.

The question of the need to screen the correlator (to reduce interference to neighboring residences) in the ADC was raised. John Romney felt that it would probably be preferable to screen the correlator than to design it to meet FCC requirements. There is also the question of the need to screen the commercial computers that will be in the ADC and what companies with large computing centers do. John Romney was going to talk to Ray Escoffier again about this question and to Bob Burns about what is needed for computers. Peter Napier will get Jim Oty to carry out some interference tests.