

8/11/91

Communications Canada
1241 Clyde Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
CANADA K2C 1Y3

Att: Officer in Charge

Gentlemen:

Since Jack Landry retired over a year ago, I've lost track of events, so I address this letter as above.

During past several years I've been examining Canadian ionospheric data in considerable detail, looking for best place to do low frequency radio astronomy. This means low values of f_oF_2 at nite. Consider period February 1951 thru May 1954. At Prince Rupert there were 431 values $f_oF_2 \leq 1.2\text{mc}$, and 87 values $f_oF_2 \leq 1.0\text{mc}$. At Winnipeg 2, at Ottawa 1, and at StJohn's 1 value $f_oF_2 = 1.2\text{mc}$. At SanFrancisco on same longitude all values $f_oF_2 \geq 2.1\text{mc}$. Clearly, Prince Rupert is better than anywhere else by a large margin.

The solar activity minimum of mid 1950s was quite low. I was observing here at time. Hobart values of $f_oF_2 \leq 1.0\text{mc}$ were frequent. Minimums of 1960s, 70s, and 80s were not as good. The coming solar activity minimum of mid to late 1990s is predicted to be another very low.

The purpose of this letter is to enquire about organizing a low frequency ionosonde at Prince Rupert for period 1994-2000. I'm only interested in frequency range 0.7 to 1.4mc. The rather inefficient Δ antenna is not suitable. A pair of long horizontal dipoles on tall poles would be most useful. I have a system of broadbanding these to cover above frequency range. There is, or was, an old ionosonde at Ashton which could be modified.

There are no open flat places near Prince Rupert. However, over on north end of Graham Island are some large flat places. One is six miles SE of village Port Clements. It could be secured from B.C. Lands department for free. Please consider the above. It is an opportunity which should not be muffed. I am,

Sincerely yours,

Grote Reber

Grote Reber
General Delivery
Bothwell, Tasmania
Australia 7030