

6TH May 1960
General Delivery
Wailuku, Maui
Hawaii

Charles H. Schauer
Research Corporation
405 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Hap:

Things are about finished here. I leave on the 9th for Honolulu to complete a few formalities and give a short talk before the local IRE chapter. On the 12th I arrive in Los Angeles and go up to Santa Barbara to see Vance Phillips who has a very fine collection of antique radiogear. While in L.A. area I will see Bill Woods and try to locate other collectors of old radio apparatus. Maybe Bill and I will visit Bolton at his radio astronomy installation near the Nevada border.

Recently I've been in contact with Hal Ramsey and will probably be in San Francisco from 19th to 24th; then fly direct to NYC, arriving on the 25th. This will allow me to get down to Green Bank on 1st of June. If you will not be in your office during this period, I can stay on into the first week of June. Please have your girl get me a reservation at the George Washington Hotel on Lexington Avenue near 25th Street for one week starting on the 25th.

While in NYC area I'd like to visit the Research-Cottrell plant at Bound Brook, New Jersey. A prepaid shipment of 30 cases of radio apparatus (113 cu.ft. & 3028 lbs) is on its way to the FINDERNE Plant coming in at the Newark dock. Presently the name of the ship is unknown and cases are at wharf here. However all necessary papers are being made out and will be sent to you direct via air mail. I am sending 12 cases to Australia on the S.S. Orsova leaving Honolulu on 19th May.

About all that is left here is the large steel turntable and track. This little knoll called Kole Kole has become a matter of some controversy. It seems the Air Force has tried to put up its radar at two other places and has been stopped. Now they have a variety of people including the NASA lined up against them on the Kole Kole site. The telephone company got cold feet and turned the property back to the lands office. Already the debate has reached the Honolulu papers in some acrimony.

What little information I've received about Green Bank indicates that the turmoil and confusion are still going strong. I intend to close up my affairs there permanently. What equipment I cannot use in Australia, I'd like to add to the stack in storage at FINDERNE Plant. We can discuss this and related matters when I see you. If possible, I hope to finish at NRAO by late June. It is my intention to visit some other radio astronomy installations while in USA.

Perhaps I forgot to mention that I dug some charcoal from the bottom third of an aboriginal kitchen midden about 10 miles from Hobart. I had this dated (you probably have the bill) and find it to be 2080 ± 100 years before the present. This seems to be the first time anything like it has been done in Tasmania and opens up a new field of endeavour there. Those "blacks" had been present for a lot longer than anyone had guessed. Details will be published in the Annals of the Tasmanian Historical Society eventually.

Recently I received a note from Mr. Geoffrey Edgell, "Dennistoun", Bothwell, Tasmania, Australia indicating that he proposed to give me a license to use his property for radio astronomy purposes. Papers are in process of being drawn up for consideration now. The fee is to be ten pounds a year for five years with a possible renewal of five more years. His property is as flat as a pancake and about ten times the size of what NRAO has at Green Bank. It might be helpful if you could write to him a short note indicating that I am an experienced, responsible person of good judgment; that you feel certain whatever agreement is reached will be fair and proper and that a worthwhile and important scientific installation will be made in due time. All details have been left open as this gives me more of a free hand at present. I will only be obligated for fifty pounds. I'll describe to you the details of installation I propose when I see you. However, no work is to be done until I've had several months experience operating the installation near Sydney first. If these results are auspicious; and if I can come to an agreement with Mr. Edgell, then we can proceed with something more ambitious at "Dennistoun".

If necessary, you may contact me via Bill Woods or Hal Ramsey.

Best regards,

Grote
Grote Reber

P.S. I've been counting up and this adventure in Hawaii has produced a total of eleven scientific papers on a wide variety of subjects. I think it can be considered a success.

G.R.