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COMMONWEALTH



OF AUSTRALIA

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

DIVISION OF RADIOPHYSICS

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UNIVERSITY GROUNDS,  
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

26 Nov. 1961

REFER TO

Prof. I. I. Rabi,  
President, Associated Universities Inc.  
Suite 1750, Coliseum Tower,  
10 Columbus Circle,  
New York 19, N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Prof. Rabi,

Further to my note of Nov. 9, I have now seen Dr. E. G. Bowen and Dr. F. W. G. White and am in a position to reply to your letter of Oct. 31 offering me the position of Director of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory.

For my part I should like to accept your invitation for a three year appointment under the conditions set out in your letter and commencing about October 1962 and with the possibility of returning to my employment in Australia at the end of that time.

Dr. Bowen and Dr. White were each sympathetic to the proposal. Dr. White, who, as Chairman of C.S.I.R.O., is the person concerned with appointments etc. at my level, said that he thought it would be possible to arrange for me to have leave without pay from C.S.I.R.O. for the period. This would conserve my superannuation privileges here. He said that he would like to discuss the proposal directly with you or Dr. Waterman and would write you shortly. I shall therefore leave the question for discussion between C.S.I.R.O. and A.U.I. and N.S.F. in the expectation that a satisfactory general arrangement will be worked out. Details may require further discussion between us.

I should again like to thank you and the members of your Board for the honour you have done me in inviting me to take this position. My tentative acceptance has been very much influenced by the expressions of confidence conveyed in your letter from yourself and the Greenbank folk and I shall, if appointed, do my best to justify them. I should also like to mention two points not directly restricted to Greenbank. The first is that I am deeply interested in the future of radio astronomy in the United States generally, and I hope, in conjunction with the other radio astronomers in the country and the N.S.F., to be able to play some part in endeavouring to stimulate radio astronomy in America. The second is that I shall retain very close ties and interests with Australia and I hope that my presence in the United States may lead to cooperation between the two countries which could be most helpful to both.

In your note of Nov. 17 you stressed the desirability of

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of the new Director taking up his appointment, or at least going to Greensbank, earlier than October next. I appreciate the urgency but foresee serious difficulties about getting away permanently before then. It would however probably be quite easy for me to make an extended visit at a considerably earlier date, perhaps a month about March or April next. Do you think this would be worth while?

With best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely,

*J. L. Pawsey*  
J. L. Pawsey

Copies to F. W. G. White, E. S. Bowen.