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COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

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28th November, 1961

Professor I. I. Rabi,
President,
Associated Universities, Inc.,
Suite 1750, Coliseum Tower,
10 Columbus Circle,
NEW YORK 19, N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Professor Rabi,

I understand that Dr. Pawsey has already written to you accepting the very interesting proposal that he spend a few years as the Director of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Greenbank. He did this after discussion with me, and since I have known Pawsey and his work for many years I think you are singularly fortunate in being able to attract him to this post. I presumably do not need to tell you this, as his work in radio astronomy is so well-known in your country.

We value very highly the considerable help that has been given to us by the U.S.A. to develop the subject of radio astronomy in the Division of Radiophysics in Sydney. Now that Pawsey has made up his mind to accept your offer I have come to regard this move as allowing Australia, through him, to repay to some degree the generosity of the United States to us here in Australia.

Pawsey has, I understand, accepted your offer for a period of three years and has asked me if he might be given leave of absence from C.S.I.R.O. for that period, while retaining his superannuation privileges with us. It would make my task in this regard easier if you, as President of the Associated Universities, Inc., would write to me officially asking that Dr. Pawsey be given leave of absence for this period.

You will, I hope, share with me the wish that the right things be said publicly about this arrangement. Dr. Pawsey is a very valued scientist, both in C.S.I.R.O. and in Australia, whose personal contributions have been largely responsible for the advancement of radio astronomy in this country. To some it may seem rather odd that we are willing to release him so readily. I wonder if you and Dr. Waterman could give some thought to expressing to the press at the appropriate moment your reaction to our agreement, as well as your satisfaction at the possibility of having Pawsey as Head of Greenbank for this period.

I hope that during Pawsey's period in the United States we will be able mutually to encourage further the already close ties between our two countries that exist in this exciting field of science.

Yours sincerely,

F.W.G. White,

CHAIRMAN