

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20771

REPLY TO ATTN OF:

1 July 1971

Mr. Charles H. Schauer Executive Vice President Research Corporation 405 Lexington Avenue New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Schauer:

Thank you for your letter of June 1, 1971, concerning Grote Reber's research at low radio frequencies and for the copy of your 1970 annual report. I was pleased to have an opportunity to learn a little more about Research Corporation. I apologize for the delay in giving you an answer, but I have been out of town for most of the month of June and did not get to see your letter until my return this week.

Reber has produced some very useful work under very difficult conditions. From comparison with measurements at slightly higher frequencies and with recent satellite data, it has been my impression that Reber's 2 MHz data are remarkably reliable. Extension of this work to the 1 MHz range is going to be many times more difficult; however I believe that some effort to make the measurements from the ground is still desirable. To mv knowledge there is no liklihood that any measurements will be made from space at 1 MHz in the next 5 years. with the directionality that can be obtained on the ground. Absolute intensity measurements, on the other hand, will most likely be obtained with considerably better accuracy than can be obtained on the ground.

As you obviously recognize, Reber's efforts at astronomical interpretation of his data are not on a par with his experimental technique. It will be quite beneficial, I believe, if he could be encouraged to collaborate with a colleague who has a strong astronomical background and who could participate in the scientific interpretation of the measurements at an early stage.

In any event, I believe that Reber's proposal is valid and worthy of support, at least at a modest level.

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Sincerely yours,

J.K. Alexander Radio Astronomy Branch