



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

AIR MAIL

FILE 22176

Dr. Grote Reber  
CSIRO  
Tasmanian Regional Laboratory  
Stovell Avenue  
Hobart, Tasmania  
Australia

APR 20 1967

Dear Grote:

Hurrah for the sun spots! They are going to bring you back to the United States if nothing else will. I am requesting the maps which you mentioned from the Division of National Mapping.

Everybody in the family is looking forward to seeing you again. We most particularly want to know what you think about the relationship between the Van Allen belts and the great extension of ionospheric particles which you mention as a result of your studies on top of Haleakala.

I enclose a carbon copy of a letter I sent off to Barbara Middlehurst.

Sincerely yours,

John A. O'Keefe  
Assistant Chief  
Laboratory for Theoretical Studies

Enclosure

**AIR MAIL**

**Miss Barbara M. Middlehurst  
Inner and Planetary Laboratory  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85719**

**Dear Barbara:**

**Gerard Kuiper is one of the very best observers of our times. He is also a thoroughly competent theoretical man, with a good feeling for what is theoretically possible and what is not. Whatever he has to say about the lunar surface is to be given a great deal of weight.**

**Nevertheless, one of my most cherished memories is riding back with Martha and Grote Reber in his panel truck after he had come up to the Observatory in a vain attempt to get recognition for his pioneer work in radio astronomy. We told him what then sounded like the irresponsible chatter of some young people - that his paper was the most important thing that had come out that year and this is what anyone would now concede to be the truth, since it was the first paper after Jansky on radio astronomy.**

**I have no way of telling whether you are right or wrong; it is my experience that one waits in vain for the angel Gabriel to blow his trumpet and say "It is right"! But I think that your arguments are very good; the distribution is impressive and the chances are excellent. My money's on you!**

**Sincerely yours,**

**John A. O'Keefe  
Assistant Chief  
Laboratory for Theoretical Studies**

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