

Grote - I guess John^{K.} will straighten out the details. It's better if someone else talks to Mat Sue Ann; she seemed to detest the mere sound of my voice.

1212 Drake Circle, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

7 May 1996 I hope she

John Kierein, Gilbert, AZ

Dear John: I was holding these 2 minor further items relating to the Flagstaff meeting, to mail when I got around to making up a page on my expenses and related treasurers' matters--which I keep delaying because it is less urgent than almost all other things I can prepare and send (I still couldn't finish it today). But I do have to mail today these details on GROTE REBER'S TRIP. I will try to call tonight too.

On 10 April I phoned the Natl. Radio Astron. Observ., after having written a few weeks previously with no reply, and asked about his funding. Someone not involved in it closely said it was being held up just because of a general shortage of funds. I asked Sue Ann Heatherly, closest to the situation, to call me when she returned. I heard nothing for weeks, and then finally today I called, and talked to a Richard Fleming when she again was not there. He knew no details. But later in the day she did call me, said his travel had been funded and arranged, and gave me the details. She was **extraordinarily nasty** throughout the call. She at first got upset because my voice sounded sleepy--I had been up from 5 to 8:30, then gone back to bed--then got **very angry** when I asked why they had not made a more convenient time for him to leave Phoenix, which might have fit bus schedules or the time someone else would drive to Phoenix, and suggested they might have called us about it, and said she had Grote leaving early on the 4th when he told me he had asked to stay to the 6th--I did not utter this complaint harshly, but plaintively--and then at the end she hung up abruptly in the middle of my thanking her for calling, etc. I cannot interpret this attitude fully; it may be related to her knowing of our opposition to the big bang and SR. But I do think you and Grote ought to know about it as a precaution.

She has Grote landing in Phoenix (from LA) on United #2953 at 1:25 pm on Saturday 1 June; and leaving Phoenix for Dulles Airport, Wash., at 9:25 am on Tuesday 4 June.

Now the big problem is the return. The earliest bus from Flagstaff (\$21.50 one way) arrives at the Phoenix airport at 9:15--not enough time for a connection. There is an airplane connection on America West, leaving Flagstaff 7 am, arriving Phoenix 7:40 am, in plenty of time. It costs \$93 one way (round trips are \$114; one flight leaves Phoenix for Flagstaff at 3 pm Sat.). [America West is at 800-235-9292.]

A third way would be for someone to drive Grote to Phoenix that morning--allowing about 2 1/2 hours would be adequate--or even the previous night. If you want to leave the meeting to get back to work Tuesday, you could I suppose do this. You would not have to feel bound by your chair's role on Tues. am; we could substitute.

Or, the flight could be changed. The only other United flight to Dulles leaves Phoenix at 10:40 am, and arrives at Dulles at 8 pm, via Chicago. That would leave late enough to use the early bus to the airport. This would cost \$59 (or AU\$75) to make the change, I learned today by calling United (at 800-241-6522). If you make a change, call Heatherly at (304) 456-2011, to see if they will pay for it.

As to the arrival, I guess you might want to entertain Grote Saturday night and drive him up there Sunday. I think you said that even if you have to work Monday when your paper is scheduled, you would want to be there Sunday anyway, to meet some people and take in our Sunday sessions (from 3:00 to 6:45 pm).

So, John, I leave you to work this out. Please also check at the motel, at (520) 779-5121, to make sure Grote has requisite room reservations. Technically they are available to us only till 10 May, but I had them hold 3 for a longer time, including one for Grote specifically up to the 26th. If you take all this, the motel and the plane and bus travel, as your project, I would appreciate it very much. I am now deeply immersed in many problems over late extra-session abstracts, withdrawals, etc. The Internet membership drive has been a bust so far, thanks mainly to late computer posting by others--it's yielded only 1 new member as of yes., says Shimmin. Take care, and thanks.

Sincerely,

John Chappell, Jr. / cc: Reber

Doesn't act that way to you. It was she who treated us badly, by staying in my car on your schedule for 3+ weeks.* Take care & travel safely. -John C. Jr. *I asked them to let us know.

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