Astronomy Group Department of Physics

5th December 1968

Dr D.Wills, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Astronomy, Austin, Texas 73712 U.S.

Dear Derek,

First my most abject apologies for not having written for so long. It seems we just missed seeing you at New York, which was frustrating at the time. It would have been fun to have spent a few hours together then.

How is Eexas treating you now ? I would be glad of some Texan weather here at present, we are having a very mucky winter so far with lots of rain and snow mixed, which makes a big mess of everything.

We are settling in Kingston quite nicely now; this year a lot of our friends have moved to our area of town, and on the few blocks around our house we have quite a community of nuts like ourselves. Chris Hodges, who you may remember from Cambridge, is living just over the street at 100, Wellington Street. He is now on staff at Queen's, and the Kingston instant engagement bug got to him too for within a month of arriving in this fair city he got engaged to the librarian in the department!

Work is going along quite well, I have a number of papers in the mill; thought I would send you this reprint of a recent minor lunacy I sent to Nature in case you are short of laughs these days. I am still working on LF stuff at Penticton, despite having another programme growing up at 10 GHz at ARO - at times it is almost schizophrenic being at both ends of the spectrum at once. I have one graduate student, who is very keen and bright, and keeps me on my toes more than I keep him I think. When he has finished his M.Sc. with me I hope to persuade Martin to take him on in the interest of improving the lot of the ex-colonies, etc....

Jim Gower, Chris Purton and I are now part of a low-noise receiver group hoping to get some better receivers on the 150' at ARO. At present the ARO receivers are much inferior to the Greenbank ones, which is a crime because the dish itself is much better.

How is the U. of Texas megarray coming on ?

Are you still contemplating coming up to this frozen land one of these years?

All the best, have a Merry Ho Ho Holiday ! Yours,