

S T E R R E W A C H T T E L E I D E N

Mr Grote Reber
212 W.Seminary Avenue
Wheaton
Illinois
U.S.A.

Leyden, March 25, 1947

Dear Mr. Reber,

I am sorry that there has been some delay in answering your letter of February 24, due to absence of the person who had been responsible for the plans for the 25 meter mirror.

I am sorry also that I could not myself send you any prints because these are property of a commercial firm, the firm of Werkspoor in Amsterdam.

Just this morning I have had a telephone message from this firm. There appear to be two difficulties. The first is that the plans are still in a provisional form; the second is that they were made by a commercial firm, which in case the plans are to be used by another firm, want to be paid for the effort and time they have spent in making them. They would be perfectly willing to undertake themselves the construction of your mirror. They might give you an estimate of the cost within a short time. But it would be a great drawback for you not to be able to discuss the details personally, because of the distance. As a provisional estimate of the cost the firm of Werkspoor quoted f 2000.- (two thousand guilders). *L of the plans in their present form* This would comprise three drawings. If they were to make complete working drawings from which any bridge-building company could at once proceed to build the mirror, the cost would be much higher, perhaps around ten thousand guilders. They are making a more detailed estimate about this latter, which I shall forward to you in due time.

The mirror as conceived here would have an altazimuth mounting. The focal length as planned is 10 meters.

Please let me know if you want Werkspoor to send you any drawings.

I hope very much that your plans will come through. They would open up a host of fine possibilities.

Sincerely yours,

J. H. van't Hof