

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

April 22, 1986

Dr. Michael A. Minovitch
1888 Century Park East
Suite 1608
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Dear Dr. Minovitch:

It was indeed an uncanny coincidence that you should call shortly after I had unearthed an old NASA press release dealing with the very topic of your telephone call.

I am enclosing a copy of that press release, No. 70-112 of July 5, 1970, as you requested.

We are certainly interested in receiving your donation of computer cards and other materials concerning your computation of an "8-ball" gravity-assist trajectory for an Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth-Mars-Earth-Venus-Earth spacecraft mission. There is a good chance that some of this material might be incorporated in an aerospace computer exhibit now being planned.

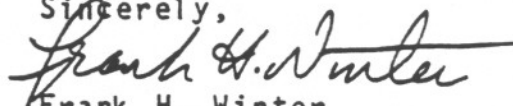
If there are any photos of yourself or of Dr. Victor C. Clarke, Jr. working with the UCLA or JPL computers on those programs we would like to borrow these for copying purposes.

I should add that we are interested in borrowing or acquiring any exhibitable, unique or historic, computer hardware used in aerospace projects.

Following your suggestion, we will attempt to contact Dr. Clarke through the JPL Personnel in order to more fully document the development of the Mariner 10 trajectory computations.

We look forward to receiving your donation. We also convey our appreciation for this material and for your continued support of the National Air and Space Museum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank H. Winter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Frank H. Winter
Space Science and
Exploration Dept.

Enclosure

cc: Martin Collins
Paul Ceruzzi