

APACHE POINT OBSERVATORY
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SUNSPOT NM 88349
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November 21, 1994

Mr. Rex Hunter
NSO/SP
Sunspot, NM 88349

cc: B. Gillespie

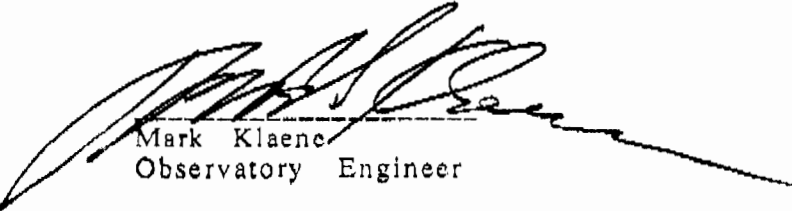
Rex,

Recently we had a requirement for some rush machining. In fact over a period of a week we needed four items modified on a rush basis. Due in part to your proximity, I chose to address each of these jobs with Scott and Dale in the instrument shop. As with previous request, they were quite helpful and agreed to accomplish the work around their schedules and within the time required. In each case the parts were required that same day. Had this work not been accomplished correctly and on time either an instrument or the telescope itself would have been inoperable for that night.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts by both Scott Gregory and Dale Melton in supporting our efforts at APO. I have always been impressed with the response and quality of the work I have received from the instrument shop. In the past week this was once again strengthened. In one case where he had completed the required number of pieces by twilight, Dale stayed late to complete the remaining work because the machine was warmed up. The alternative of waiting until the morning would leave him with a cold machine and this would affect the tolerances and potentially the interchangeability.

The close proximity of your facility provides for a close working relationship. Besides the travel time involved for us to deliver and pick up parts at another facility, when there are questions we can run over and resolve them almost immediately. Your facility is fortunate to have both the equipment and more importantly the craftsmen available to produce such fine work.

Sincerely,



Mark Klaene
Observatory Engineer