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Conseil national de recherches
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Herzberg Institute
of Astrophysics

Institut Herzberg
d'astrophysique

File Référence 4712-5

April 18, 1978.

Mr. Arthur Bray,
1187 Agincourt Road,
Ottawa, Ontario,
K2C 2H8.

Dear Mr. Bray:

In reply to your letter dated 11 April 1978, the answers to your two questions are:

1) There were no files dated prior to 1965 transferred to NRC by DND when the transfer occurred in 1968. I have discussed this with Dr. Peter Millman, apparently the only living authority on the subject of the transfer since he was the principal agent involved on behalf of NRC. At the time of the transfer, Dr. Millman was told by DND that the routine operating policy of DND was to destroy all files when they were more than three years old. (The inference was that material that old was no longer of interest to them, and imposed a burden on storage of records.) Everything that the NRC received from DND is in the open files which you have seen often.

2) With regard to the gap in the DND file sequence between 177 and 199, the file simply states "177-199 not allocated". Since DND had the files at that time, we do not know for certain what was done by them. However, we can offer the following guess: that it was an administrative adjustment to tidy up the file. At the time, the Michalak case was in full swing and there was great commotion with letters, reports, etc., going back and forth between some four or five departments and the various other protagonists in the case. It is probable that no one knew where to file what and how often; when the smoke cleared, all material was probably consolidated into file number 200, and the sequence commenced again from there.

Yours sincerely,

Allen G. McNamara,
Head,
Planetary Sciences Section.

AGM:vp

cc: DND,

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