Test SETI during Transmission of Interstellar Radio Messages

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ABSTRACT

Allen Tough wrote in the past year: "The SETI League's 2003 conference is a good time to think about next steps for the SETI field. In order to achieve success, in order to detect genuine extraterrestrial intelligence (ETI), what should we do next? This paper proposes four simultaneous steps that the SETI field should pursue immediately." From one's part, I would like to suggest one more step, as follows:

• Make a test of SETI radio receiving equipment and methodology during transmission of the next Cosmic Call interstellar radio message.

In fact, the 70-m dish, which we have used three times (for Cosmic Call 1999, Teen Age Message 2001, and the Cosmic Call 2003 transmission -- more info at http://www.cplire.ru/html/ra&sr/irm/index.html) has side lobes. Therefore any who wish may arrive at Evpatoria with mobile receiving equipment, and try to record and then extract such information as is being transmitted for reception by possible ETI.

Imitation of SETI signals would be both complete and partial. In the case of the complete imitation, we shall not provide observers with any prior information about the date, time, frequency, type of modulation, etc, of forthcoming transmission. And in the case of partial imitation, some of the above parameters will be reported before transmission.