

January 1, 1963

Mr. A. J. Nerad  
General Electric Research Laboratory  
P. O. Box 1088  
Schenectady, New York

Dear Tony:

I very much appreciate receiving your Christmas card and greetings and, at this somewhat late date, wish you the very best for 1963.

I have kept very busy here at Brigham Young University - probably worked twice as hard as I used to work for the Company, and certainly put in twice as many hours. Having the responsibility for all the research that goes on on the campus is quite time consuming, and I have never been able to give up my own research and have tried diligently to keep it going.

It has taken several years to get others here enthused in high pressure research, but the time has now arrived where there are now eleven other professors besides myself engaged in high pressure research. We have slowly accumulated equipment so that now we have quite an array of various high pressure, high temperature devices. We are doing x-ray diffraction research at high pressures and temperatures, are doing electron spin resonance at high pressures, are engaged in inorganic and organic synthesis, and are studying geological phenomena as well as measuring such things as compressibilities, melting points, electrical resistance, etc.

I haven't been able to get away from being a "seat of the pants" mechanical engineer and have been engaged in high pressure apparatus design and improvement ever since I've been here.

Our physical facilities for high pressure research have been very limited and inadequate, but I have now written a program for a new high pressure building, and an architect is busily engaged in developing the plans. If all goes well, we should have a wonderfully equipped building for high pressure research within the next two years.

I have also been trying to build a precision machine shop and we have arrived at the point where we are capable of handling most problems encountered in building rather large high pressure devices. By the time we have our new building we should have the best machine shop in the intermountain country.

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Tony, do you remember the movie that we made about my trip to New York to buy diamonds and the bonding of diamond points to tool tips by means of titanium hydride. There were two copies of this film in existence when I left G. E. Both of these copies were left in my desk. If they are still around, I am wondering if you would be willing to give one of the copies to me.

I see that there is a considerable amount of work coming out of your laboratory nowadays. The direct conversion of graphite to diamond by Bundy was a real accomplishment.

I send my best personal regards to you and the rest of the fellows.

Very truly yours,

H. Tracy Hall  
Director of Research  
Room 224 ELB

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