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Dear Mr. Roach:

You don't know me (as they say in the American Express ads), but I think it's time we became acquainted. Twenty years ago I designed the world's first commercial home satellite TV receiver, launching an industry which I dare say earned Tandy Corporation and others a good bit of money. Now I'm pursuing a new technological challenge which may present you with a similar business opportunity.

No doubt you've been following the progress of SETI, the scientific Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence. When NASA's search was terminated by Congress in 1993, my organization began pushing for a global network of amateur radio telescopes to take up the slack. The enclosed brochure will show you the degree which we've succeeded: 750 members in 41 countries on 6 continents, and growing.

When I lecture around the world, I point out "you cannot buy a radio telescope at your local Radio Shack — you'll have to build your own." And indeed, hundreds have risen to the challenge. But we can only go so far with home-brew technology. If we are to expand our search into the tens of thousands, we're going to be needing commercial manufacturing and distribution, and perhaps some corporate sponsorship.

I hear you are a man of vision. Can you see Tandy as radio telescope suppliers to the world? If so, I stand ready to journey to Fort Worth, to meet with you and your top engineers and executives, to see how our common interests might best be served.

Respectfully,

H. Paul Shuch, Ph.D. Executive Director

Searching for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence

http://www.setileague.org/