1. Record Nr. UNINA9910254587003321 Autore Elbers Astrid **Titolo** The Rise of Radio Astronomy in the Netherlands: The People and the Politics / / by Astrid Elbers Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Springer,, Pubbl/distr/stampa 2017 **ISBN** 9783319490793 Edizione [1st ed. 2017.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XIV, 240 p. 40 illus., 8 illus. in color.) Collana Historical & Cultural Astronomy, , 2509-310X 520 Disciplina Soggetti Observations, Astronomical Astronomy—Observations **Physics** History Astronomy, Observations and Techniques History and Philosophical Foundations of Physics History of Science Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index. Nota di contenuto Chapter 1: Introduction -- Chapter 2: Radio Astronomy in the Netherlands -- Chapter 3: The Making of the Dwingeloo Radio Telescope. -Chapter 4: Joining Forces with the Belgiums -- Chapter 5: The Westerbork Synthesis Radio Telescope -- Conclusion -- Index. Sommario/riassunto Radio astronomy was born during the Second World War, but as this book explains, the history of early Dutch radio astronomy is in several respects rather anomalous in comparison to the development of radio astronomy in other countries. The author describes how these very differences led the Netherlands to become one of the world leaders in radio astronomy. Dominated by the Leiden astronomer Jan Hendrik Oort, the field embarked on an era of success, and to this day, the country still holds this leading position. To tell this story, the book focuses on three key events in the period 1940-1970, namely the

construction of the radio telescopes in Kootwijk (1948), in Dwingeloo (1956), and in Westerbork (1970). These projects show that Dutch radio

astronomers must not be seen as merely scientists, but also as strategic lobbyists, networkers and organizers in a specific political and economic context. It was in the process of planning, designing and constructing these instruments that the interests of the astronomers, industrial partners, politicians and lobby groups merged to create today's existing research centers for radio astronomy.