



demonstrated that these telescopes can handle data rates of up to 100 Gbits/second or 2 million times faster than a high-end (56K) PC modem. Such inexpensive telescopes are ideal for future networks requiring large numbers of easily constructed, low-risk modules that can provide greater information collection and exchange in the command, control, and communications (C³) environment.

Finally, the telescopes may also be used for directed energy beam propagation. While the airborne laser (ABL) is now under construction for theater-wide defense, the challenge of global-reach capability is still under development. One possibility would be to use large aperture bounce mirrors to project high-powered laser beams from a CONUS ground station to specific region anywhere on Earth. Since large aperture mirrors would be required for such an application, holographically corrected telescopes might provide a valuable conduit.

More information is available at: www.usafa.af.mil/dfp/research/lorc/tele.htm

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Asian Office on the Move

The Asian Office of Aerospace Research and Development (AOARD) was established in 1992 by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR). AOARD supports the research and development community by identifying foreign science and technology capabilities and accomplishments and by facilitating technical interactions between the Air Force Research Laboratory and their counterparts within Asia and the Pacific Rim. AOARD serves as a liaison with members of the scientific and engineering community and encourages open communication between Air Force scientists and engineers and their counterparts within their areas of responsibility. The office also monitors important research, development, and manufacturing technology of direct and potential usefulness to the Air Force.

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