

# **LASER COMMUNICATIONS SPACE EXPERIMENT**

**R. M. F. Linford and F. G. Speno**  
**McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company**



## **ABSTRACT**

A laser communications (Lasercom) payload is to be flown on board the Air Force P80-1 (Teal Ruby) spacecraft. An experiment is to be conducted between laser transmitters at White Sands, NM and the spaceborne receiver to demonstrate the feasibility of Lasercom uplinks. An optical telemetry downlink is also included, and an experiment option will provide for an aircraft-to-space experiment. Details of the experiment and the flight hardware will be described.