

mounted in the focal plane of the telescope in one of the positions of the aperture wheel and it is therefore compatible with the other observing modes. It is used in conjunction with a pupil mask mounted in the grism wheel which reduces the contribution of the scattered light acting as a Lyot stop (1, 2). Due to bad weather during the test period the performance of the system could not be explored in depth. We would welcome feedback comments from future users.

### A Spectropolarimetry Option

Following the positive experience with field polarimetry with a Wollaston prism (3) a second Wollaston of larger size (to avoid vignetting when mounted on the grism wheel) has now been installed. It can be used in combination with any of the standard slits and grisms for spectropolarimetry of objects as faint as 19th magnitude. The separation between the two images (or spectra) of perpendicular linear polarization is 20 arcseconds. If

sky subtraction in the spectra is essential, special care must be taken in the alignment of the Wollaston to obtain an image separation along the rows of the CCD. *H. Dekker and S. D'Odorico*

### References

1. F. Vilas and B.A. Smith, 1987, *Applied Optics* **26**, 664.
2. F. Paresce and C. Burrows, 1987, *The Messenger* **47**, 43.
3. H. Dekker and S. D'Odorico, 1986, *The Messenger* **46**, 21.

## Remote Control from Garching

As an alternative to travelling to La Silla, remote control from ESO Garching has been offered to astronomers with observing time at the 2.2-m telescope since 1st July 1987. The instruments available are a Boller & Chivens spectrograph with a CCD detector and the CCD used directly with the 2.2-m adapter.

The same control consoles as those in the 2.2-m telescope control room are

available to users in Garching. They can obtain field monitor, finder telescope frames and CCD images on-line, and are able to send commands to instruments and telescope (see picture). This is made possible by a leased line, which is also used for telephone communication.

Although most of the allocated July nights turned out to be almost unuseable due to bad weather, several as-

tronomers had the opportunity to become familiar with the system.

Field identification of fairly faint objects ( $m_v = 19$ , seeing =  $2'$ ) was also attempted satisfactorily with a B & C in a test night in August.

By October 1987, the CES spectrograph (using the CAT telescope) with CCD will also be available by means of remote control from Garching.

*G. Raffi*



Remote control consoles at ESO Garching.



Figure 1: The NTT Telescope at INNSE at Brescia (mid-August 1987). Photo: H. Zodet, ESO.