How the TelRad® finder works

Components of the TelRad® finder

1) Clear glass window – reflects the reticle image and superposes it on the sky
2) Projection lens
3) Reticle brightness control/off-on switch
4) Reticle
5) Battery access cover plate – slides off to access battery holder
6) Red LED light source
7) Battery holder – uses 2 AA batteries (The unit will not light if batteries are not installed properly)
8) Alignment screws – moves mirror (#9) to match reticle to telescope field
9) Front surface mirror

As of Jan 1st, 2006, the TelRad® unit power finder is to be left attached to the 24-inch telescope. It is imperative that, on shutting the 24-inch telescope down, that the switch on the TelRad® be turned off, to conserve batteries. In the near future, provision for rechargeable AA batteries will be made on the observation desk area.

To adjust the TelRad® to match the view in the 24-inch telescope

In the photo below, note the three adjustment knobs. These allow us to move the apparent position of the red circles in the sky.

Procedure:

Center a bright star or planet in the low power eyepiece on the 24-inch. Use the other finders, if necessary, to acquire the object. Push comes to shove, use the Moon!
Using the adjustment knobs, put the bright star/object in the center of the innermost circle of the red reticle. Once in, it will remain centered unless bumped. **There should be very little change in the setting as the entire telescope is moved once adjusted.**

**Cautions**

**Be sure that the dimmer/switch is turned off after each observing session!**

If the 24-inch is open in daylight (for a daytime exhibition of the ‘scope, or for maintenance of the instrument) be certain the direct light of the Sun does not enter into the projection lens. It will burn a hole through the reticle!

Again, **Do NOT remove the TelRad® from the instrument!** Too many times other units have been dropped. At $50 apiece (2005 price) this is getting expensive!!