Attack - Go to the Extremes

(100) Two strings are tied to hooks in the ceiling about 15 feet apart, with each string hung down from its hook to a point about a foot above the floor. The strings are far enough apart so that a person holding the bottom end of one and walking as far as possible towards the other would be unable to take hold of both at the same time. The room is empty except for a pair of pliers lying on the floor. Is it possible for an individual to tie the strings together while they both remain intact and hanging from the ceiling?

(101) Two flagpoles are standing, each 100 feet tall. A 150 foot rope is strung from the top of one of the flagpoles to the top of the other and hangs freely between them. The lowest point of the rope is 25 feet above the ground. How far apart are the flagpoles?