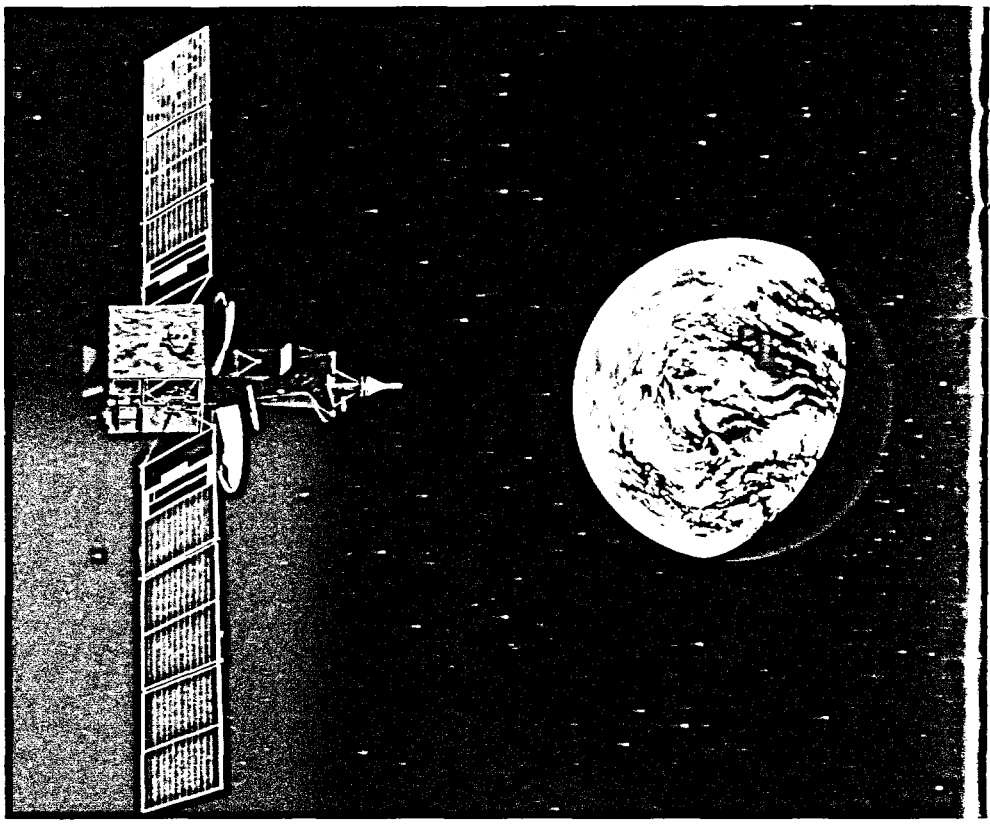
Canada has an outstanding domestic communications satellite system and a world-class space industry. Ours was the third nation — after the Soviet Union and the United States — to enter the space age. Canada's designed-and-built Anik A satellites were the first geostationary domestic communications satellites in the world. Since 1962, when Canada entered the space age, 13 Canadian satellites have been launched into orbit, with two more scheduled for 1984.

Thanks to our sophisticated satellite technology, Canadians in the most far-flung reaches of the country have access to advanced telecommunications and broadcasting services. Satellites are used for improved voice, data, facsimile, radio and television transmission; for new services such as pay-television, teleconferencing, tele-education (students and teachers thousands of kilometres apart communicating with one another *via* satellite) and telehealth (use of satellite communications to extend health services to remote communities).

Canada's technical expertise has benefited many countries through such activities as consulting services; the development of complete satellite systems; testing of satellites and components at the federal government's David Florida Laboratory, one of the few of its kind in the world; and the development of highly innovative technology — the Remote Manipulator System, or Canadarm, used in the US space shuttle program, is a prime example.

Major new projects under way include: the development of mobile communications satellite (MSAT) which would serve cars, airplanes and ships; participation in an international program for a satellite-aided search-and-rescue system (SARSAT); participation in the European Space Agency's L-SAT, or large satellite; and the design of RADARSAT, a highly advanced remote sensing satellite.

A more detailed discussion of this important subsector of Canada's communications industry can be found in *Satellites: The Canadian Experience* another booklet in this series.



INTELSAT *satellites like this one carry 65 per cent of telecommunications traffic.*