

frequency of the whistle doesn't change, its *apparent* frequency or pitch is higher as it approaches and lowers as it passes and pulls away.)

Since May 1975, when the demonstration project began, the locations of some 60 "crashes" simulated by transmitters at locations as far away as Winnipeg have been fixed by CRC computer processing of signals from OSCAR-6 with increasing degrees of accuracy.

Possible program

An operational system might involve three satellites with a lifetime of seven to ten years, costing about \$30 million including launch and space craft. (Over ten years, the \$3-million annual cost would be only a small fraction of what Canada spends today on aerial search and rescue.)

As soon as the nearest satellite to a crash location appeared over the horizon visible from that site, it would alert ground stations that it had received an alarm. About 15 minutes later, at the conclusion of its pass, an immediate initial "fix" to within about 70 miles accuracy could be obtained. An optimized position, fixing the crash site to within one to five miles, would be delivered in anywhere from two to

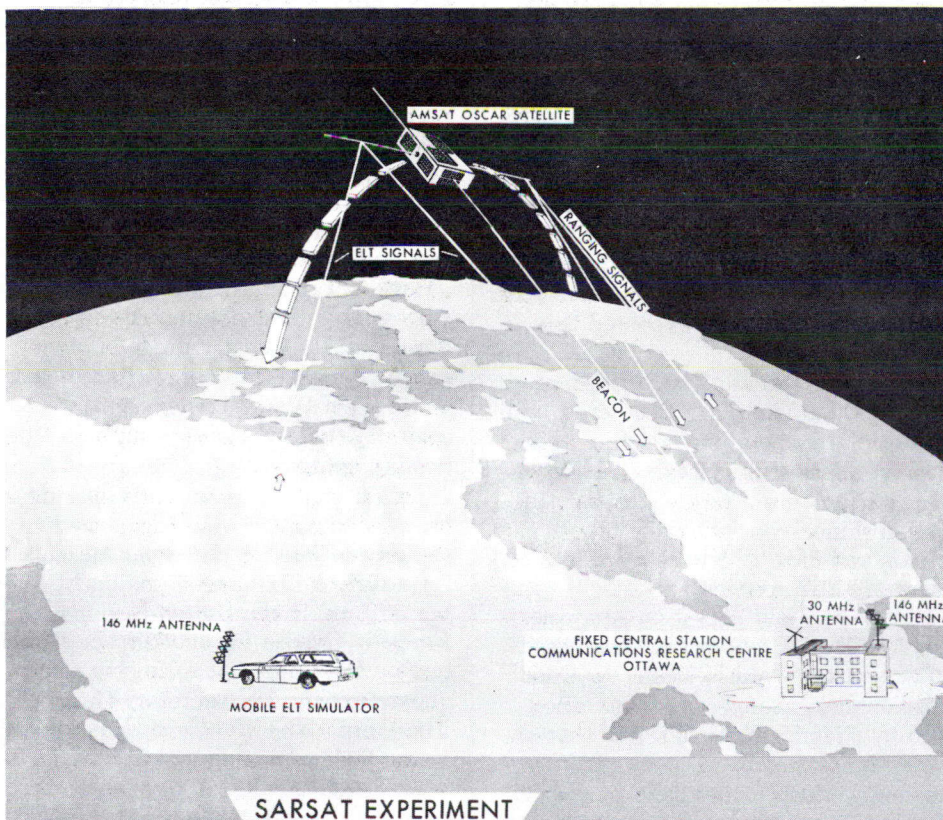


The Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) is held by a field researcher.

15 minutes later, depending on the capacity of the computer employed.

The satellites would fly at an orbital altitude of about 700 miles – low enough to get fairly good signals from the low-powered ELTs, yet high enough to cover about 2,000 miles with each pass.

Such a system could cover the entire earth. CRC scientists say Canadian industry would be in a good position to build the necessary ground stations for both domestic use and export.



International poetry prize

Quebec poet Paul-Marie Lapointe has become the first Canadian to receive the annual prize of International Poetry Forum, a United States organization sponsored by the Carnegie Library and based in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

One of the aims of International Poetry Forum is to introduce to people of the U.S. the works of poets from other countries. Each year it chooses a poet whose language is other than English, translates extracts of his or her works, and publishes them in the United States.

A collection of poems by Paul-Marie Lapointe, translated by D.G. Jones, will be published this autumn in the United States under the title *The Terror of the Snows*.

Paul-Marie Lapointe

Paul-Marie Lapointe, currently director of the French-language news service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, was born in 1929 in Saint-Félicien in the Lac Saint-Jean region of Quebec. After working as a reporter with the press, he was for a short time a television writer. In 1964, he became editor-in-chief of *Le Magazine Maclean*.

His first collection of poems, *Le vierge incendié*, appeared in 1948. Poems which he wrote between 1948 and 1965 were published in *Le réel absolu*, which won a Governor General's Award in 1971. His two latest collections are titled *Tableaux de l'amoureuse* (1975) and *Bouche rouge*.

Airline strike

At press time, June 28, Canadian airline pilots had been on strike for ten days over the possibility that the Government would extend the use of French in Quebec air space. Air-traffic controllers, who had also been on strike, had reluctantly obeyed a federal injunction to return to work. The pilots contended that, because the controllers were preoccupied with their dispute with the Government, the control system was unsafe. They maintained that the situation and the use of French at five Quebec airports endangered the lives of their passengers, for whom