

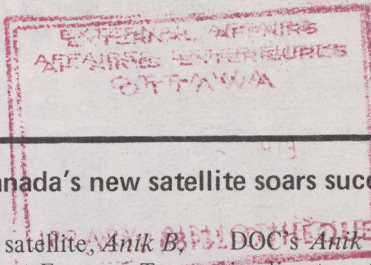
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- Hopes ride high as Canada's new satellite soars successfully into space, 1
- Contribution to NATO early warning system, 3
- Canada/Sao Tomé and Príncipe establish diplomatic relations, 3
- A look at national security, 3
- Agroforestry may halt the march of the deserts, 4
- Sexual offences of special interest to Law Reform Commission, 5
- Canadian honoured by UNESCO, 6
- News of the arts — film, music, arts briefs, 7
- News briefs, 8

Hopes ride high as Canada's new satellite soars successfully into space

Canada's most advanced satellite, *Anik B*, was launched from the Eastern Test Range at Cape Canaveral, Florida on December 15 on schedule at 7.21 p.m.

The half-ton satellite, the first in the world to offer commercial services in both the 6/4 GHz and 14/12 GHz frequency bands, joins the three *Anik A* series satellites already in space.

Telesat Canada is the operator of the Canadian domestic satellite communications system which, in 1972, with the launch of the first *Anik A* satellite, became the first commercial domestic communications satellite operator using satellites in geosynchronous orbit. The Telesat system provides all-Canada satellite transmission of a full range of telecommunications services for common carriers and broadcasters. One hundred earth stations are in the system.

Next month, following an intensive series of in-orbit systems tests, *Anik B* will enter commercial service.

Its 12 6/4 GHz channels will replace those of the first two *Anik A* series satellites which were launched in 1972 and 1973 and are at or near the end of their six-year service lives. At that time, the two older *Anik A* satellites will be placed in inactive reserve, while *Anik B* and the three-year-old *Anik A-3* satellite will become the primary and active reserve satellites of the Telesat system.

With the new *Anik* ride the hopes of many Canadian medical personnel, educators, broadcasters, native peoples' organizations and others working with the federal Department of Communications (DOC). They will be participating in a \$36-million program to use a unique feature of the new spacecraft to bring a variety of promising new social uses of satellite communications out of their current experimental stage and closer to reality. Projects are to begin in March.

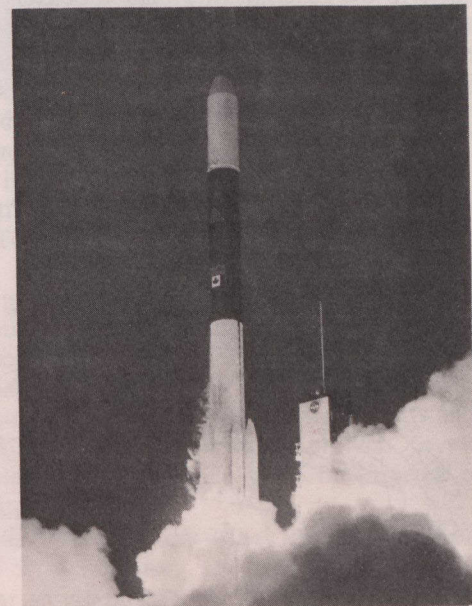
Satellite-to-home TV

One of the most promising new satellite applications likely to be furthered by

DOC's *Anik B* communications program is direct, satellite-to-home broadcasting. The department plans to conduct trials and demonstrations of a variety of small satellite ground stations, known as "TVRO" (television receive-only) terminals, produced in Canadian industry.

This can be done because *Anik B* is a dual-band satellite — with 12 channels in the conventional 4 and 6 Gigahertz microwave bands, for service in Telesat's existing commercial satellite communications system — and six in the new 14 and 12 GHz frequency bands, first used by Canada's advanced technology *Hermes* satellite.

The department is leasing this high-frequency capacity of *Anik B* for a two year series of pilot projects in the fields of health care, education, community communications, television program distribution, provision of government services, remote sensing, data communications, propagation measurements, and geophysical science. The economic and social benefits to Canada of new communications services provided by commercial satellites operating at 14/12 GHz,



Blast off!

Twenty-seven years ago last Monday... Canada's Old Age Security Act and Old Age Assistance Act became operative.