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A revolution in satellite communications

Suddenly the words 'remote' and 'isolated' have lost their meanings in Canada. No longer need any Canadian community, no matter how small, no matter how distant, be out of communication with the rest of Canada. No Arctic settlement need be left out in the cold; no exploration camp, no construction site need lack instant contact with company headquarters anywhere in the outside world.

This revolution in the communications world was caused by the introduction of the Telesat AniKom earth stations ranging in size from the original 98 feet to the newest lightweight 12-footers.

The 12-foot AniKom terminal can be packed into four parcels and stowed into a *Twin Otter* aircraft. All that is needed to take delivery of this AniKom station anywhere in Canada is room for the *Otter* to land - a strip less than 2,000 feet long.

AniKom satellite telecommunications Basically, the AniKom earth station is part of the *Anik* satellites' communication network. Its main feature, the 12-foot diameter circular antenna, receives telecommunications signals sent out by other earth stations elsewhere in Canada and 'bounced' off one of the *Anik* satellites stationed some 22,300 miles in space. In turn, AniKom can transmit some of its own signals off *Anik* to the listening "ears" of the antennas of other earth stations.

There is, however, a difference between the small terminal and the approximately 50 permanent AniKom earth stations in Canada. These have antennas (TV-receive-only) that are about twice their size and their installation demands a much more solid foundation. In contrast, transportable AniKom stations can be lifted by air - or carried by road or rail - and be assembled and installed by a couple of technicians in a few hours.

Yet the swiftly-erected small AniKom terminal provides a full choice of satellite telecommunications - including telephone, teletype, radio, data and facsimile services, radio and television reception. In fact, the 12-foot AniKom



New 12-foot AniKom earth station at Northern Electric, Lucerne, Quebec.

terminal brings civilization to the doorstep of the remotest Canadian site.

For within two to four hours after the small AniKom terminal antenna is assembled, one can phone anywhere; transmit teletype of data at speeds from 50 to 40,000 bits per second; or watch a hockey game being played a thousand miles away, on colour television.

Unique qualities

Easy to transport, easy to erect, easy to install (needing only the standard 110 V 60 Hz power supply) small AniKom earth stations are also highly flexible. While they offer full-range capability, service may at first be confined to telephone communications with the option to expand later, as required, into further systems.

The potential and reliability of AniKom stations have been demonstrated by successful tests carried out at the Ministry of Transport weather station at Isachsen in the High Arctic; at the United States Air Force base at Thule, Greenland; and even at sea, aboard an oil rig off the Nova Scotia coast.

Even surer proof of AniKom station performance was provided during a