

# Universal Telephone Service Seen Possible Via Satellite Network

## C&P Executive Tells Of Plan At Bar Meeting

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WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Va. (AP)—A telephone company executive said last night the "rovers in the sky" of a multi-satellite system could make a universal telephone service a reality in a matter of a few years.

Howard C. Anderson, vice president and general counsel of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. of Virginia envisioned as many as 50 active satellites in polar orbit 7,000 miles from the earth.

They would handle communication signals—telephone conversations, television signal relays—on a worldwide basis just as microwave relay stations handle these signals for comparatively short distances close to the earth's surface at present.

Anderson spoke of a meeting of the Virginia State Bar Assn. as a stand-in for Allen Dulles, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency. Dulles canceled his speaking engagement because of the pressures of the international situation.

The Virginia lawyers name their officers today and tonight will hear Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., speak at the closing banquet.

"We expect the first experimental satellite in our program to be launched in April 1962 and we plan to have two in orbit by the fall of 1962," Anderson said.

Each of the satellites in the system will be equipped with receivers and amplifiers and will automatically transmit the signals received.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will furnish as many as four rockets under a contract signed July 27 between that agency and the Bell System.

Anderson said there are many problems but the Bell System is confident the undertaking can be done.

He added, "We feel that this is one field in which we are definitely ahead of the Russians and can stay ahead."

Taking note of what he described as suggestions in various quarters "that there is danger that the Bell system will dominate the satellite communications project and get some unfair advantage," Anderson said:

"This question of dominance has certainly been answered. We have repeatedly stated that we have no intention or desire whatever to dominate space communications.

Further, the Federal Communications Commission has determined that stringent regulatory controls should apply to prevent unfair competitive advantage to any single carrier or any favoritism on contracts to supply communications equipment."

Anderson said that a line-of-sight tower in the mid-Atlantic to establish direct communications between New York and London would have to be 475 miles high.

"Unfortunately, the steel alone for such a tower would cost 70,000 times our entire gross national product for this year. This is not a wild guess—I had someone figure it out to give you an idea of the magnitude of such a project."

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