

## LETS YOU INTERCEPT FREE PROGRAMS FROM EARTH-ORBITING SATELLITES

# Big "Dish" TV Antenna Brings In 200 Stations

Companies are springing up across the U.S. that allow you to "pirate" crystal clear signals from satellites orbiting the earth and play back the television stations they carry no matter how far you live from the nearest TV broadcast station.

"There are 11 satellites above this half of the world carrying more than 200 TV stations. With our latest receiver, you can receive them all," says John Hastings, president of H & R Communications in Pocohontas, Ark., manufacturer of the new Starview satellite receiver. "The federal government has removed all government restrictions on private systems. Because the signals are on public airwaves, you can intercept them at no cost."

Satellites carry stations from France, England, Mexico, Canada, Alaska and the U.S. networks. Other satellite broadcasters include big city stations who sell their programming nationwide to cable systems, and national distributors of stations carrying movies, children programs, live coverage of U.S. Congress, 24-hour

news, continuous stock market coverage, major sporting events, religious broadcasting, and so forth.

A receiver consists of a thin layer of fiberglass-coated aluminum shaped into a shallow concave dish. Signals are gathered by the dish and its antenna, amplified, and then fed to your TV. The dish must be pointed precisely at the satellite being monitored.

Hastings says his company's most recent development is the Power Shifter, a motorized accessory that lets you switch easily from one satellite to the other automatically. "Other companies need a separate receiver for each satellite," says Hastings.

Satellite receivers provide both a variety of stations to choose from and a picture signal that's difficult to match. "Since the signal comes direct, it only has to cut through three miles of dense atmosphere. Your local TV signal comes through those three miles and then travels to your set through the even heavier, close-in atmosphere," points out Hastings.

H & R's Starview receiver sells for



This Starview satellite receiver made an appearance at a recent mid-west farm show. It's mounted on a temporary display trailer.

\$7,000, complete and installed. That price is \$2,000 less than the system sold for just six months ago. The company also sells a receiver in kit form for \$3,000 that can be mounted as a "weekend project" by do-it-yourselfers. The company has 140 dealers across the U.S. and Canada.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Starview Systems, H & R Communications, Rt. 3, Box 1036, Pocohontas, Ark. 72455 (ph 501 647-2001).

In Canada, where upstart companies are getting in and out of the satellite TV-reception business over-

night, consumers are being cautioned to "look before you leap." Best advice for anyone considering the purchase of a system, they say, is to do your homework before buying:

How long has the supplier been in operation? What else does the company sell? Contact people who have bought a similar system and find out how it is working? Is there a guarantee and can it be backed up? Will you be able to get service? If you think you've found a good supplier, don't pay for the system until it's fully operational and you are consistently getting a clear picture.

## MAKES SOUNDS OF THE WOMB

# "Talking" Teddy Bear Lulls Babies To Sleep

Here's a "teddy bear" that's more than a toy or sleeping companion for your baby. It's the "natural" way to pacify newborn infants.

The bear contains an audio unit about the size of a cigarette case which transmits sounds babies hear in the womb before birth. "These familiar sounds have a tranquilizing effect for the newborn baby suddenly exposed to the outside world," says the manufacturer.

The recording of intrauterine sounds was made by a doctor who inserted a microphone into a mother's uterus shortly before birth. It was located near the baby's ear so it would "hear" the same sounds the unborn child hears.

The sound recording is on a silicon chip and encapsulated in the audio unit which is battery powered. The unit fits into a pocket of the cuddly 12-in. plush bear, sold under the trademark of "Rock-a-Bye-Bear". Volume of the recording can be turned up to counteract background noise and turned off after the baby goes to sleep.

Originator of the unusual concept is Dr. William C. EHer, an obstetrician at Holy Cross Hospital, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

"The birth experience and transition from a peaceful, quiet exist-

tence inside the mother's body can be a very traumatic and difficult period for the newborn. Picking up the sounds that the baby hears for the last four months of pregnancy and playing these sounds to the newborn after birth can have a calming effect," he says.

Hospital reports on the new bear are enthusiastic. A spokesman at Holy Cross Hospital in Ft. Lauderdale says, "It works like magic. We have, I think, the quietest nurseries anywhere. Within 30 seconds after the tape begins to play, crying stops. Within 60 seconds, nine out of 10 babies are asleep."

Rock-A-Bye Bear is reportedly "flame retardant, non-allergenic, washable, and baby safe." It weighs 12½ oz. and sells for \$40.

The company advises parents that the Rock-a-Bye Bear is not a substitute for usual care of an infant that is hungry, wet, or tired. The Rock-a-Bye sound is not a form of medicine, medical treatment or medical procedure — it is simply a baby pacifier.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rock-a-Bye Baby, Inc., P.O. Box 24160, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33307 (ph 305 561-5111).



A taped recording inside the toy bear plays back sounds from inside a mother's womb.