

**EXPERTS
FEAR**

Our missing satellite was captured by a UFO

ONE of our satellites has vanished in space, and scientists fear it was snatched out of its orbit by UFOs!

The 1-ton Satcom 3 communications satellite disappeared suddenly from radar screens — its fate remains a bizarre mystery.

"A few seconds earlier it was working beautifully and sending back all kinds of data. Then it simply vanished," said Robert Barry, head of the Twentieth Century UFO Bureau in Yoe, Pa.

"Someone out there is showing a lot of interest in our activities down here. We already know that UFOs have been scrutinizing our satellites, and this isn't the first time a satellite has vanished mysteriously," Barry told the Examiner.

The \$20-million satellite may now be in the hands of curious aliens, examining it for information.

"I suppose they'd want the same thing from it as we would want from one of their spaceships," said Barry.

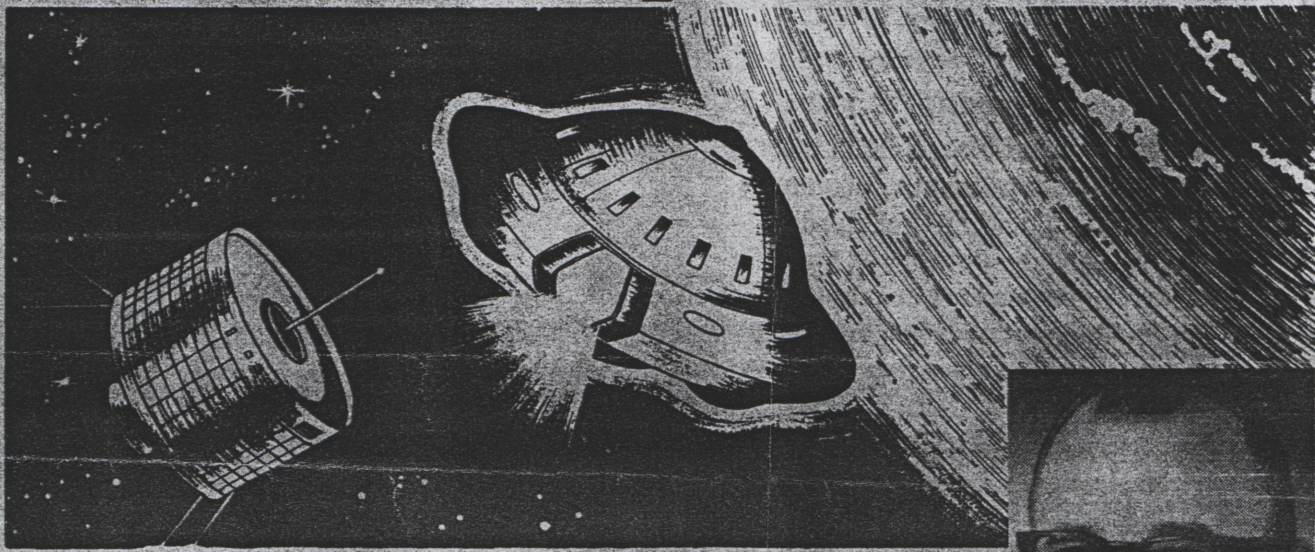
"But imagine if they had plucked a manned spacecraft from orbit! The implications would be tremendous," he added.

Satcom 3 is just another entry on a growing list of incidents between Earth spacecraft and UFOs.

"The Soviets have lost satellites of their own. Their Molniya satellite disappeared the same way, and we know that our Gemini missions and the Soviets' Salyut space lab were buzzed by UFOs," said Barry.

RCA, which owned the Satcom satellite, is puzzled as to its whereabouts.

"We've lost our satellite and we have no idea what happened to it," said RCA



● UFOlogist Robert Barry

Are aliens just watching us or getting set for invasion?

spokesman John Williamson.

"If the satellite had exploded, there would be at least one piece that would have shown up on radar. The North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) can track an object no bigger than a basketball 23,000 miles up, so they would have certainly located some-

thing," said Williamson.

"If it had been pushed into a different orbit by a malfunction of its engine, NORAD would have located it when it reached its nearest point to Earth. But that hasn't happened either," said Williamson.

Barry thinks aliens may have been watching the Sat-

com 3 ever since its launch from Cape Canaveral.

"Cape Canaveral seems to be one of the favorite check-points for UFO activity. UFOs are usually reported in

heavy concentrations around the Cape three days before a launch," he said.

The satellite should have stayed in its orbit for years, according to Jim Kukowski, a spokesman for NASA, which handled the satellite's launching.

"It was a communications source for television programs and telephone calls. Another Satcom satellite will be launched in June to replace it. But we just

don't know what happened to the first one," he said.

—by NAOMI WADE

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