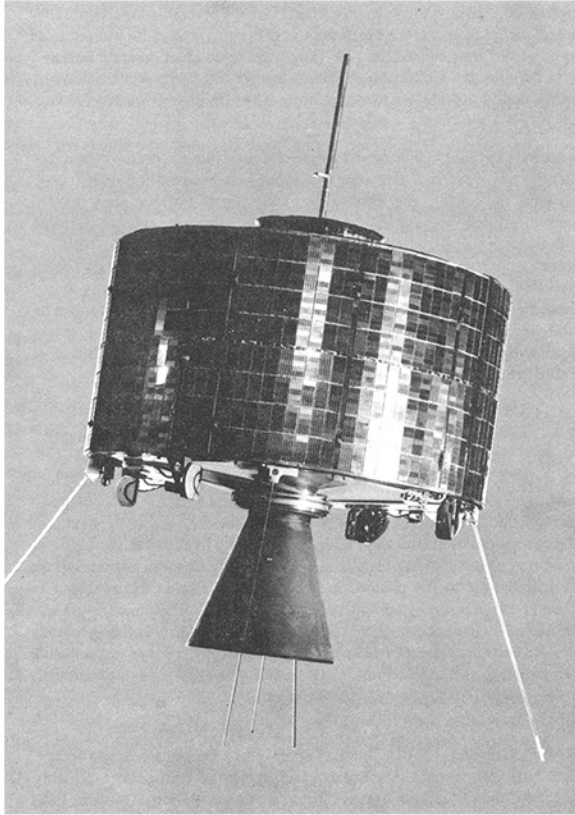


Syncom 2



Syncom 2 was the first geosynchronous satellite. Syncom 2 was an experimental communications satellite placed over the Atlantic Ocean and Brazil at 55 degrees longitude.

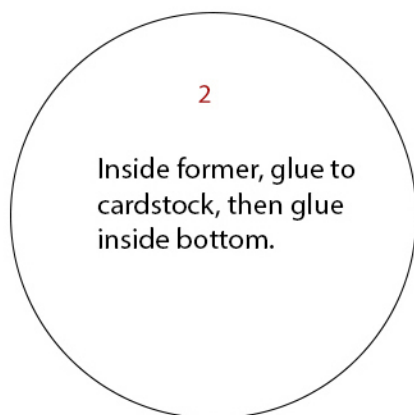
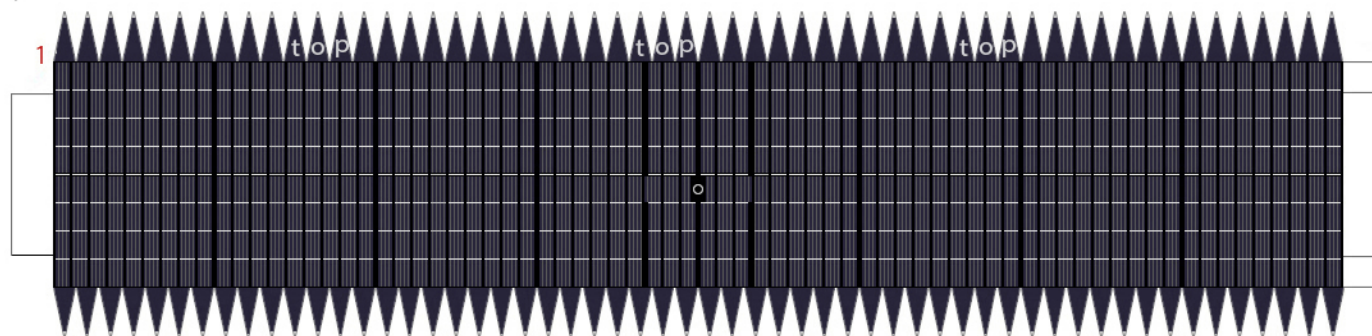
It began regular service on August 16th. It demonstrated the feasibility of geosynchronous satellite communications. Voice, teletype, facsimile, and data transmission tests were successfully conducted between the Lakehurst, New Jersey ground station and the USNS Kingsport while the ship was at sea off the coast of Africa and television transmissions were relayed from Lakehurst to the telstar ground station at Andover, Maine. The Syncoms were the forerunners of the Intelsat series of satellites.

Syncom 2 was launched into a high altitude orbit from Cape Canaveral on July 26, 1963. After two weeks of drifting the nitrogen jets were pulsed in a series of four firings to slow the spacecraft to near-zero drift on August 16, followed by an alignment maneuver. The final orbit was geosynchronous with an inclination of 33 degrees. Operations were turned over to the Department of Defense on 1 January 1965.

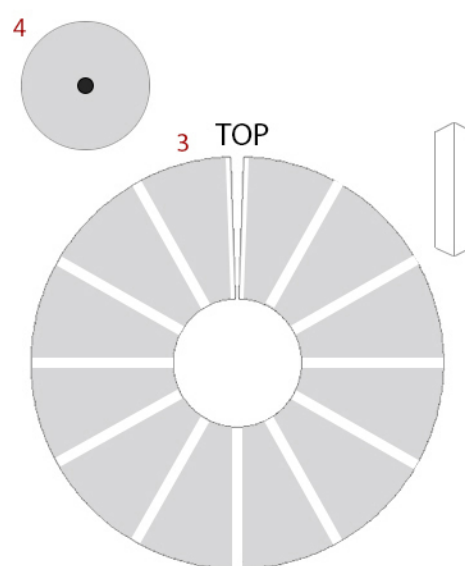
Syncom 2 also relayed a number of test television transmissions from Fort Dix, New Jersey to a ground station in Andover, Maine, beginning on September 29, 1963. Although it was low-quality video with no audio, it was the first successful television transmission through a geosynchronous satellite.

In August 1963, US President John F. Kennedy telephoned Nigerian Prime Minister Abubakar Balewa aboard USNS Kingsport docked in Lagos Harbor. It was the first live two-way call between heads of state by satellite. Syncom 2 was followed up with Syncoms 3 and paved the way for a new Leasat Satellite program. But it was with the launch of Syncom 2 that global communications were revolutionised in one ambitious project.

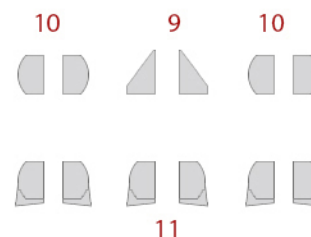
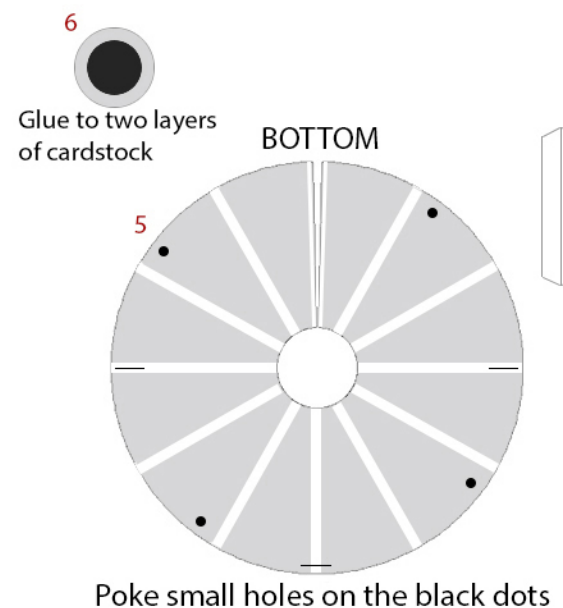
Syncom 2



Use a tooth pic or similar material of same diameter, cut at the same length as the line below, colored light grey or silver.



Use plastic broom straw or similar material, cut at the same length as the line below, colored light grey or silver. Make 4 of these.



Glue each pair of parts back-to-back

