

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1
Principal Findings	2
Remote Sensing Technology and the Media	8
Mediasat Described	8
The Media and the Uncertain Value of Satellite Imagery	11
Alternatives for the Media	17
National Security and Foreign Policy	30
National Security Concerns	30
The Effect of Foreign Remote Sensing Systems on U.S. Policies	34
National Security and the First Amendment	35
Mediasat Restrictions and the First Amendment	35
The 1984 Landsat Act	36
Appendix A. The Technology of Newsgathering From Space	39
Appendix B. Media Access to and Use of Remote Sensing Data: A Legal Overview	45

Boxes

<i>Box</i>	<i>Page</i>
A. A Remote Sensing Satellite System	8
B. Why Remote Sensing Can Be Useful for Newsgathering	11
C. Spatial Resolution and Spectral Resolution	12
D. The Challenge of Timely Global Coverage	13
E. Remotely Sensed Data and News Presentation	16
F. The Status of Land Remote Sensing in the United States	19
G. Remote Sensing and the Public Interest	27
H. Mediasat and Personal Privacy	36

Figures

<i>Figure No.</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Landsat-5 Spacecraft	3
2. Artist's Conception of the French SPOT Remote Sensing Satellite	4
3. A Remote Sensing System	9
4. Data Processing and Interpretation	9
5. Polar Orbit Provides Global Coverage	10
6. The Orbital Path of Remote Sensing Satellite Is Sun Synchronous	14
7. The Earth Revolves 2,752 km to the East Between Passes	14
8. Adjacent Swaths Are Imaged 7 Days Apart	15

Tables

<i>Table No.</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Some Recent Uses of Remotely Sensed Images by the Press	15
2. Remote Sensing Data Needs of Foreign and Domestic Users	26
3. Summary of Applications of Landsat Data in the Various Earth Resources Disciplines	27

