

Space Technology May Foil Burglars

By EMORY DANIELS

FARMINGTON
The arms and space races may soon be joined by what could be termed the security race.

Our age has given birth to a spiraling security race between technology and the burglary profession. Similar to the missile, anti-missile exchange, the security race sees industry devising an anti-burglar device which the burglar learns to counter.

The ever increasing sophistication of the professional burglar gives a greater challenge to technology, so it should come as no surprise that a new entry in the anti-burglar field is Omni Spectra, Inc., of Farmington, producer of microwave equipment for Apollo and other outer-space adventures. Dick Tracy has been replaced by Buck Rogers.

THE ENTRY is marked by the development of a microwave detection device claimed to be the best yet burglar detector as well as

being a security tool against vandalism.

The fact that a microwave system has been developed to foil burglars and vandals is an indication of how far these two trades have advanced in the crime world.

Each year over \$20 billion is lost due to crime in the nation. This \$20 billion trade volume by criminals has been met with an investment by the private sector alone of more than \$400 million spent on crime - detection and prevention equipment. Almost two-thirds, or \$250 million, is spent for detection hardware such as alarms, sensors, cameras.

The crime detection and prevention services field is expected to grow at a rate of 10 per cent per year with a 20 per cent annual growth for detection hardware.

This growth is due in part to the fact that, thus far, the burglars have been successful at matching wits with the technologists.

THE BURGLAR learned to spot anti-burglar devices on doors and windows and looked elsewhere for entry. In recent years, roof entries have grown in popularity.

Pack 263 Gives Pollution Skit

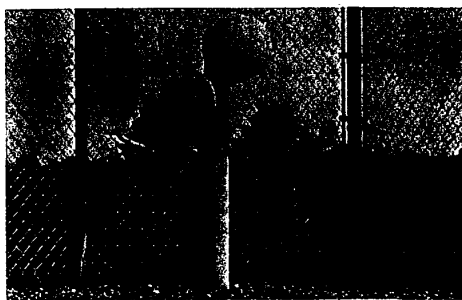
FARMINGTON
Farmington Cub Pack 263 discussed plans for a joint sale at its October meeting in Kenbrook Elementary School.

Jerry Schafer presented plans for the sale and Myrna Rapp's Den 9 gave a skit on pollution dangers. Shirley Robertson, den leader coach, introduced these new den mothers: Carolyn Simmetz, Mary Brickley, Marcy Rose, Sue Quito, Ginny Nitzel and Mrs. Rapp.

Cubmaster Bob Smith announces presentation of the following awards:

Den 2: Greg Brickley, wolf, gold arrow and three silver arrows;
Den 4: Eric Koepin, silver arrow;
Den 9: bobcat award given Douglas Rapp and Joey Smith.

Webelo Den 1: Mike Howley, bear, gold arrow, silver arrow;
Webelo Den 4: Matthew Smith, bear;
Webelo Den 6: Brian Campbell, silver arrow.



AN INDUSTRIAL SITE is a likely target for thieves and vandals, but with this intrusion sensor on guard, they will get no further than scaling the fence. The system, developed by Omni Spectra in Farmington, provides a pair of microwave transceivers and receivers spaced at 300-foot intervals to protect the entire perimeter of any industrial area.

The technologists countered with an electric - eye sensor which triggers an alarm when an intruder walks across the light ray. The "real professional burglar," however, soon learned how to mate the electric eye with a simple household item.

Burglars also learned to spot sensor systems and avoid triggering an alarm by crawling along the floor or against walls.

And while burglars were matching wits with the technologists, the vandals were enjoying success because few of the detection systems were overly successful outside.

NOW OMNI SPECTRA of Farmington is putting on the market a system it hopes is the ultimate in detecting both burglars and vandals.

Labeled an "intrusion sensor," the device uses microwave signals to detect human intruders reliably outdoors as well as indoors.

Vince McHenry, who headed project development, says the system cannot be fooled by birds, flying papers or other "intruders" that do not have the size and general shape of a man.

Many existing alarm

systems, he adds, can be triggered by small animals, air motion, audible noises, snow, rain, fog or dust when installed indoors causing a false alarm. The microwave sensor precludes such unwanted triggering.

For outdoor use, a microwave transceiver and receiver are linked in tandem. The transceiver might be located on a building wall and the receiver on a telephone pole or near the fence.

The microwave completely covers the area between the transceiver and receiver and one triggers an alarm when a man, or larger object such as a car, enters its field.

Because a microwave is energy, any large substance which intrudes blocks the continuance of the wave and reflects the energy back toward its source - the transceiver.

TRANSCIVERS ALONE may be used for most indoor installations. Located strategically, one sensor can cover two hallways at once. The microwave energy can be directed to "flood" a specified area leaving no place to crawl under or sneak through. Maximum coverage is about 300 feet.

The sensor can provide any of three different protection coverage patterns. The narrowest pattern covers hallways, passages or fenced boundaries and is especially useful outdoors where a number of overlapping sensor links can completely protect the perimeter of a plant or construction site.

The full coverage pattern provides wide-area protection for spaces up to about 100- by-100 feet. The split-coverage pattern provides narrow coverage for up to 150 feet in one direction and a full coverage pattern to either the right or the left up to 80 by 80 feet.

The device's sensitivity adjustment is not affected by changes in temperature or humidity and this, plus its weatherproof construction, gives it an operating temperature range from 30-degrees below zero to 150-degrees above.

THE SENSOR is roughly 11 inches in diameter, nine inches long and weighs about five pounds.

Typical uses for commercial and industrial users would include offices, loading docks, stock rooms, storage yards, stores, warehouses,

roof tops and aircraft parked on fields.

The cost for one unit runs from \$500 - \$800 with an annual use cost of about \$1,500. This places it within range of the small party-store or drug-store owner.

The system might be too costly for the average homeowner to protect his residence, but would be within reason for the homeowner who keeps valuables at home other than the usual silverware, appliances and jewelry.

The system was developed in Farmington at Omni Spectra's plant at 24600 Hallwood Ct. over a year ago. It will be manufactured in the firm's Arizona plant and sold to retailers for distribution to users.

Omni Spectra has been a pioneer in the development of miniature and sub-miniature micro-wave components, connectors and solid state devices.

The company's products have been on board every major American aerospace project and provided essential links for voice, television and telemetry communications on all Apollo moon-landing missions.

James Cheal, director of engineering at Omni Spectra, says the system can pay for itself in five years through reduced insurance premiums and can reduce the staff for those firms using security guards.

Bussing Hassle

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contributing \$1,400. The township board and school board will be asked to approve their share in the project.

The signal, if installed, would be operated by the crossing guard and then switch to a flashing signal during hours school children will not be crossing Farmington Rd.

The council introduced for action at its next meeting amendment of the city's business license fees from \$5 a year to a \$30 initial charge and \$15 annual renewal fee.

Administrative expenses have doubled over the past 10 years, Dinan said, while the fee has remained the same. In 1971, the city has received \$2,885 for business licenses and with the \$15 renewal fee would have received \$4,025.

Turns Pro

Latest Michigan State baseball product to make it to the major leagues is Rick Miller, letterman outfielder in 1968 and 1969, now with the Boston Red Sox.

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