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Technology Review, November 1961

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in to nights news
CAPT. BROOKS EXPERIMENTS ON "MIDAIR" TALK

The Boston Traveler in last Friday's edition had the following interesting editorial, "Talking with Midair, Midocean," of particular interest to Framingham people in that Capt. A. Raymond Brooks of Framingham, recently with the U.S. Department of Commerce aviation section, is the experimenter referred to:

Talking with Midair, Midocean.
Some day within the next few years you will take up your telephone and dial "AIRways 4527." A voice will answer, "This is the Albatross, of Transatlantic Air Lines."

Then yiu [[you]] will ask to speak with your wife or your business partner or whoever else of your acquaintance may be aboard. From the ensuing conversation you will learn how everything is going out there over the ocean. You will wonder that the sound comes through so clearly. Still you have seen so many miracles that you won't marvel greatly at this one. Maybe you will protest the charge for "such a simple service."

Now this isn't Jules Verne stuff at all. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company isn't chasing will-o'-the-wisps when it buys an airplane and sets up an experimental station in New Jersey, with a Massachusetts "Tech" man in charge, to develop this type of communication. It isn't a pipe dream but a business forecast.



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