UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.) *

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS
(Name of Issuer)
COMMON STOCK
(Title of Class of Securities)
278762109
(CUSIP Number)
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:
/ / Rule 13d-1(b)
/ / Rule 13d-1(c)
/ / Rule 13d-1(d)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

(10) Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) / / Not applicable

(11) Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9) 7.88% (as of 12/31/98)

(12) Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions) IA

ITEM 1.	
(a)	Name of Issuer ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS
(b)	
ITEM 2.	
(a)	Name of Person Filing MONTGOMERY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC
(b)	Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence 101 CALIFORNIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111
(c)	
(d)	Title of Class of Securities Common Stock
(e)	
ITEM 3.	IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 240.13d-1(b) OR 240.13d-2(b) OR (c), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:
(a)	// Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 780).
(b)	/ / Bank as defined in section $3(a)(6)$ of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
(c)	// Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
(d)	/ / Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
(e)	/X/ An investment adviser in accordance with section $240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E)$.

(f) / An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with

(g) / / A parent holding company or control person in accordance with

(h) / / A savings association as defined in section 3(b) of the Federal

(j) / Group, in accordance with section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

(i) / / A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment

company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F).

section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G).

(15 U.S.C. 80a-3).

Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

(b) Percent of class:

7.88% (as of 12/31/98)

- (c) Number of shares as to which the person has:
 - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote 874,000 (as of 12/31/98)

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote $\ensuremath{^{-0}\text{-}}$

- (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 1,202,100 (as of 12/31/98)
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- (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following. /

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON

Not applicable

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY

Not applicable

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

Not applicable

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

Not applicable

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

(a) The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to section 240.13d-1 (b):

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

(b) The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to section 240.13d-1(c):

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

2/10/99

Date

/s/ Dana Schmidt

Signature

DANA SCHMIDT, CORP. VP & PRINCIPAL

Name/Title

THIS FORM 13G IS NOT FILED WITH RESPECT TO HOLDINGS OF AFFILIATED MANAGERS, INCLUDING MARTINGALE ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P. AND OTHER AFFILIATES OF COMMERZBANK AG, AS TO WHICH HOLDINGS INVESTMENT DISCRETION IS DISCLAIMED.