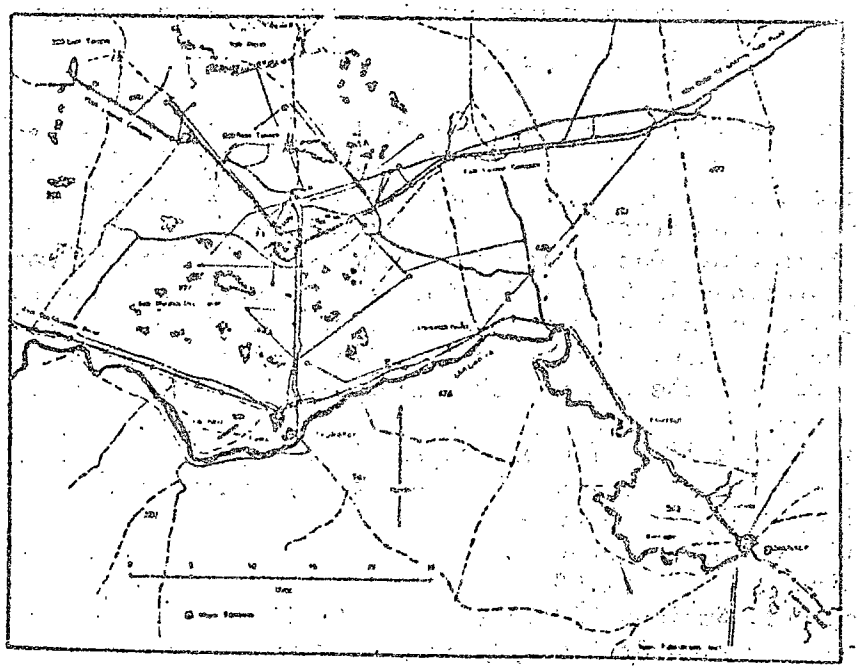
THE DISH

DECEMBER 1975



A new map of Baikonur Cosmodrome, as it appears based on the most current data, showing an outstanding expansion of the railroad and highway systems to cover a large increase in the number of major facilities, from the approximately 14 recorded in 1966 to at least 30 in the present system.

This complex is approximately 50 by 75 miles and is a military base and only a small part is used by the Soviet Union for space launches.

As has been announced earlier no postal facility is available by the name of Baikonur. Most covers carry a postmark of Moscow for space events.

The astronauts in making a visit were landed at the airfield near Tyuratam and traveled north to the assembly complex and the Soyuz launch pad facility.

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and wind velocity will be measured by sensors mounted on the top of a meteorology boom. The radio science using signals, will study the atmosphere, measure the surface properties, and determine certain celestial mechanics of Mars. A group of magnets located on the sampling arm is used to pick up any magnetic particles that may be present on the surface. Any tremor on Mars' surface will be tetected by a small, sensitive three-axis seismometer mounted on the Lander frame. The physical characteristics of the planet's surface will be investigated by taking advantage of the instruments performing other measurements, such as motor currents on the surface sampler arms, pictures taken by the camera of the Lander's footpads, and temperature gauge on the Lander.

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VIGNETTES ON RUSSIAN COVERS by Seymour Rodman

At a recent dinner I spoke to a well versed collector of Russian space covers. He pointed out that in his country the collection of tracking stations, be it from ships or land based stations, was literally unknown. The Russian collector is familiar with s ace cancels, special events and Antartica. It is possible with detente, that wedwill make some progress in this area. One collector at the table who had forwarded a cover to one of the tracking stations in Russia for the ASTP, had it returned to him unopened with a city cancellation on the reverse side of the envelope. Our friend advised him that he literally had a tracking cover because this was the city in which the tracking station was located. It's the closest that I've ever seen to a Russian tracking cover.

I have noticed for the first time a list of American and European tracking covers of Russian flights on a recent dealers price list. Here are a few examples:

Soyuz 10 Jordell Tank Tracking, 4/24/71	$3.00
Luna 18 on Moon Jordell Bank Tracking	$3.00
Soyuz 11 Launch Berlin Tracking	$2.50
Soyuz 6 Launch Norad Tracking Col. Springs 10/11/69	$2.50
USSR Cosmos 313 Recovery Norad Tracking Station 12/15/69	$2.00

Though the above are interesting items, I would like to see a real Russian Tracking Station cover.

A special pictoral die was made for Launch day of the Soyuz in the Soviet Union for collectors, on July 15, 1975. The copy shown to us was the 20 kopek issued on May 23, 1975 Moscow. The pictoral die was in error and was canceled June 15, 1975 instead of July 15, 1975, it was eventually correctored. However it caused a run on the Moscow Postal Facility. Those having one date wanted the other they didn't have. I am happy to report collectors are the same all over the world.

As a manned space collector of U.S. & Russian flights, I feel what is really necessary to interest the American collector in Russian material is a catalog on Russian material in English.

I have found the Fuchs 1973 catalog, McMahan and of course, the Bob Ekas lists as about the best for checking tracking stations.

For those who do not belong to the Space Topics Study Group, may I suggest you contact: Velma Bailey, 440 Chestnut St., Ashland, Oregon 97520.

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A new cover service is provided for events from Edwards Research Center by two collectors. I have received my first covers and they are tops. Covers will be canceled on the day of each flight of the B-1 bomber, will probably expand to include other aircraft. We also take covers to Palmdale, CA (where the Space Shuttle Orbiter is being built), for significant construction events concerning the Shuttle. Your covers are held until you have 3 finished covers, then mailed to you in a SASE. The cost of the service is 15¢ per cover, send any number of covers (we recommend a minimun of 15 if ordering one per event) along with large SASE for each three covers. Send a self-addressed post card so that we can let you know when supply is low. Let us know if not satisfied or suggestions as to improved service. Would suggest covers have the new 13¢ rate applied, this also goes for the large SASE for returns.

BANDE COVERS P.O. Box 2288 Lancaster, CA 93534

FOR THE AUTOGRAPH COLLECTOR by John J. Macco

Sorry for not having a column in last issue. I just started a new job and didn't have time to get an article in, but I'm back and have a lot of information for you.

SYMPHONIE A B launched December 18, 1974-Delta 106•114 launch vehicle

Kennedy Space Center, Fla., 32899

Lee Scherer-Director; John Neilon-Director Unmanned Launch operations; Hugh Weston-Manager Delta launch operations; David Bragdon-Spacecraft Project Engin.

Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Robert Goss-NASA Manager for Symphome Missions; Charles Gunn-Technical Director

INTELSAT 4 launched November 21, 1974; February 20, 1075; May 22, 1975; Sept 25, 1975 Atlas Centaur launch vehicle

NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546

F.R. Schmidt-Manager Atlas Centaur; Dr. Richard Marsten-Director of Communications Programs

Lewis Research Center, Cleveland, OH 44101

Henry O. Slone-Atlas Centaur Project Manager; Vernon J. Weyers-Intelsat Mission Project Engineer; Frank Manning-Launch Vehicle Project Engineer

Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899

Ralph Lotspeich-Intelsat Spacecraft coordinator

HELIOS A launched December 10, 1974-Titan Centaur 2 launch vehicle

NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546

Fred Kochendorfer-NASA Program Manager; Dr Albert Opp-NASA Program Scientist; Roger Mattson-Manager Titan III

Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Gilbert Ovsley-Project Manager International Project Office; Charles White-Assistant Project Manager;William Witt-Assistant Project Manager; Dr James Trainer Project Scientist

Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899

Creighton Terhune-Test Engineering Chief;Jack Baltar-Test Operations Chief

ERTS-B launched January 22, 1975-Delta 107 launch vehicle

NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546

William Stoney-Director Earth Observation Program; James Morrison-Chief Earth Resources Survey Program; Harry Mannheimer-ERTS Program Manager; Charles Centers ERTS Program Engineer

Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Jack Sargent-Project Manager; Dr Stanley Freden-Project Scientist; Richard Devlin-Spacecraft Manager; Luis Gonzales-Mission Operations Director; James Michael-Mission Data Opdfations

Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899

Gene Langenfield-ERTS-B Spacecraft Coordinator

SMS-B launched February 6, 1975-Delta 108 launch vehicle

NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546

William Stoney-Director Earth Observations Program; Dr Morris Tepper-Director of Meteorology; Michael Garbacz-Manager Operational Meteorological Satellite Program

Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt, MD 20770

Don Fordyce-SMS Project Manager; W.E. Shenk-Project Scientist; Geoffry Albert-Spacecraft Manager

Mariner 10-Third Mercury Encounter-March 16, 1975 All are principal investigators or team leaders

Television Experiment-Bruce Murrary, Jet Propulsion Lab., Pasadena, CA 91103

Plasma Science Experiment-Herbert Bridge, Mass Institute of Technology, Cambridge Mass 02139

Ultranolet Spectroscopy-Ailyle Broadfoot, Kitt Peak National Observatory, 950 N. Cherry Ave., Tuscon, AZ 85726

Infrared Radiometry-Stillman C. Chase Jr., Santa Barbara Research Center, 75 Coromar Dr., Goleta, CA 93017

Charged Particle Experiment-John Simpson, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill 60607

Magnetic Field Experiment-Norman Ness, Goddard Space Flight Ct., Greenbelt, MD

GEOS-C launched April 10, 1975-Delta 110 launch vehicle
NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546
Dick Diller-Program Manager; James Murphy-Project Scientist
Wallops Flight Center, Wallops Island, VA 23337
Larry Rossi-Project Manager; H. Ray Stanley-Project Scientist; Frank Boykin-Spacecraft Systems Manager
Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899
Carl Latham-Spacecraft Coordinator
Experiment Managers-Wallops Flight Center, Wallops Island, VA 23337 or Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770
C.L. Purdy(WFC)-Radar Altimeter Experiment Systems Manager; E.B. Jackson (WFC) C-Band Experiment System Manager; B.J. Trudell(GSC)-Satellite to Satellite Experiment System Manager; C.C. Stephanides(GSC)-Laser Experiment System Manager; I.M. Saleberg(GSC)-S-Band Experiment System Manager

SAS-C launched May 7, 1975-Scout launch vehicle
NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546
John Holtz-Program Manager; Leon Dondey-Associate Program Manager; Dr Nancy Roman-Program Scientist
Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Marjone Townsend-Project Manager; Dr Carl Fichtel-Project Scientist; John Bosworth-Spacecraft Manager; Anthony Caporale-Experiment Manager

TELESAT-C launched May 7, 1975-Delta launch vehicle
Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899
William Fletcher, Jr-Spacecraft Coordinator

OSO-I launched June 21, 1975-Delta launch vehicle
NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546
Michael McDonald-Program Manager Astronomy & Solar Observatories; Dr Adrienne Timothy-Chief of Solar Physics & Program Scientist
Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Robert Pickard-Project Manager; Dr Steve Maran-Project Scientist; Donald Burrowbridge-Spacecraft Manager; John Donley-Experiment Manager; Dr Roger Thomas-Assistant Project Scientist; William Worrall-Mission Operations Manager
Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899
William Fletcher-Spacecraft Coordinator

COS-B launched August 9, 1975-Delta launch vehicle
NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546
I.T. Gilliam IV-Manager International Programs
Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Robert Goss-NASA Support Manager; Raymond Mazur-Mission Support Manager; Ambrose Yudd-Network Support Manager
Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899
Carl Latham-Spacecraft Coodinator

ATMOSPHERE EXPLORER-D (AE-D) launched October 6, 1975-Delta launch vehicle
NASA Headquarters, Wahington, DC 20546
Frank Gaetano-Program Manager; Dr E.R. Schmerling-Program Scientist
Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770
David W. Grimes-Project Manager; Nelson Spencer-Project Scientist; Richard Donnelly-Experiment Manager; David Hayku, Jr-Mission Operations Manager;Ed Lowe-Network Support Manager; Roger Tetrick-Mission Support Manager; Seaton Norman-Communications Engineer
Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899
Carl Lathaun-Spacecraft Coordinator

(Editor:Since the ASTP and Viking list is quite long, it will be the next issue)

Again if anybody has any questions about autograph collecting or any experience to share, feel free to write with your questions. If you need any addresses and I have them, I'll be glad to share them with you. If I do not have it, I'll try to fi find it. Do not forget that SASE as it enables me to make a speeder reply.

Until next issue So Long For Now John J. Macco

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Space Covers Reported & Received

Listed are covers reported or received since the last issue. If you have covers not reported, please send details of cover and will list next issue.

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, MN

7-28-75 BLACK BRANT-CALIBRATE DSD-1
10-21-75 PERSHING ARTILLERY MISSILE (RND 158)/FRG AIR FORCE UNIT
10-21-75 PERSHING ARTILLERY MISSILE (RND 159)/FRG AIR FORCE UNIT
10-30-75 SAM-D/LAUNCH

WALLOPS ISLAND, VA (Wallops Flight Center)

8-7-75 NIKE-CAJUN GRENADES/T2-7962/12 10 pm
9-9-75 NIKE-HAWK/T2-7133/3 32 PM
9-18-75 Q3-7748/STRYPI/3 30 AM
9-24-75 NIKE-TOMAHAWK/G2-8061/5 27 AM

CHATANIKA, AK (Poker Flat Rocket Site)
None Reported

VANDENBERG AFB, CA (Western Test Range)

7-26-75 MINUTEMAN-3/INSTANT ICBM
8-7-75 SAC USAF TITAN II SUPER ICBM
8-8-75 COS-B/pmk Vandenberg AFB;Lompoc;Fairbanks,AK(S-12 ULA);Greenbelt,MD(C-1 GSC);Sucursal,Chile(S-102 AGO);Kenmare,RSA(S-107 BUR)
8-14-75 SAC/MINUTEMAN II/INSTANT ICBM
8-22-75 MINUTEMAN/INSTANT ICBM
8-29-75 MINUTEMAN 3/"INSTANT ICBM"/SAC
9-5-75 MINUTEMAN/MISSILE LAUNCH
9-10-75 MINUTEMAN 1/INSTANT ICBM
9-16-75 MINUTEMAN 2/INSTANT ICBM
9-23-75 MINUTEMAN/US AIR FORCE/INSTANT ICBM
9-30-75 MINUTEMAN/INSTANT ICBM
10-6-75 AE-D/pmk Vandenberg AFB;Kennedy Space Center(MIL S-10);Ascension (ASN S-100) Kenmare(BUR S-207);Ascot,Berks(WNK S-104);Agana(GWM S-15);USPS 923(GDS S-11) Waimea(HAW S-13);Kennedy Space Center(A-2);USPS 327(USNS Redstone)
10-9-75 SATELLITE/IN EARTH ORBIT
10-11-75 NAVY VANIGATIONAL SATELLITE

PALESTINE, TX (Balloon Site)

7-18-75 MEASUREMENT OF OZONE/CONCENTRATION AT 20-45 KM/4:32 PM
9-6-75 ULTRA-HIGN SENSITIVITY FAR INFRARED/TELESCOPE FOR MAPPING GALATIC SOURCES
9-8-75 CONTINUATION OF OBSE-/RVATIONS OF ULTRA-VIOLET OBJECTS/7:25 PM SEPT 7, 1975
9-9-75 A SPECTRORADIO-/METER & SOLAR CELLS ARE POINTED TOWARD THE SUN/7:33 AM
9-16-75 CONTINUATION OF OBSERVATIONS OF ULTA-VIOLET OBJECTS/7:21 PM
9-21-75 TO MEASURE THE NEUTRAL MOLECULES & POSITIVE IONS/7:40 AM
9-22-75 THE 40cm UCL TELESCOPE/SYS EM WILL BE USED FOR INFRARED MEASUREMENTS
9-25-75 THE DETECTION OF COSMIC POSITRONS & /ANTIPROTONS
9-26-75 AN INFRARED INTERFEROMETER/DETECTING and MEASURING
9-28-75 AN EXPERIMENT TO LOOK FOR/HEAVY COSMIC RAYS
9-30-75 A COSMIC/RAY TELESCOPE
10-5-75 TO MEASURE THE/ENERGY SPECTRUM OF GAMMA RAY BURSTS

10-7-75 OBTAIN INFORMATION ON/ENERGY SPECTRA OF COSMIC RAYS
10-9-75 STUDY OF ECTRAGALACTIC SOURCES
10-10-75 BALLOON INFRARED ASTROMICAL PLATFORM
10-18-75 TO OBSERVE/HIGH-RESOLUTION ULTRA-VIOLET OBJECT/7:34 PM
10-19-75 TO MEASURE ATOMIC/OXYGEN & THE OZONE/1:43 PM
10-27-75 TO MEASURE/SPECTRUM & RESOLUTION OF GAMMA RAY/BURST/6:41 AM
10-28-75 FAR-INFRARED TELESCOPET FOR/OBSERVATIONS OF H-2 REGIONS/5:48 AM
10-30-75 INFRARED MEASUREMENTS/OF THE H-2 REGION/5:12 PM
11-4-75 GAMMA BURST EXPERI-/MENT TO BE FLOWN USING SODIUM IODIDE/DETECTOR/2:15 PM
11-6-75 TO MEASURE NEUTRON/& X-RAY FLUXES 2 X-RAY ENERGY SPECTRA/7:51 AM

EDWARDS, CA (Edwards Research Center)

Listed are covers for events not listed before.
1-13-75 B747 FF SPACE SHUTTLE ARICRAFT/B1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #2
1-24-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT #42
2-7-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT #88
2-11-75 B-1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #3
2-14-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT #89
2-19-75 B-1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #4
2-27-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT #90
3-13-75 B-1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #5
3-14-75 F-111 FLT #13P
3-14-75 B-747 SPACE SHUTTLE AIRCRAFT #2
4-19-75 B-1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #6
4-21-75 B-1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #7
4-24-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT #43
4-30-75 B-1 STRATEGIC BOMBER FLT #8
5-31-75 BOEING 747/SPACE SHUTTLE/CREW-FITZ FULTON,TOM MCMURTRY,VIC HORTON
6-6-75 X-24B/B-24-36/LT COL MIKE LOVE/ALTITUDE 72,140 FT
6-12-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT #44?DON MALLICK,RAY YOUNG
6-12-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT # /FITZ FULTON,VIC HORTON
6-13-75 B-1 FLT IQ/ED MCDOWELL,CHARLES BUCK
6-17-75 B-747 SPACE SHUTTLE (Tulsa to Edwards)/CREW FITZ FULTON,VIC HORTON
6-20-75 F-111 FLT 62/STAN BOYD,FITZ FULTON
6-24-75 X-24B/B-A-37/JOHN MANKE/AIR ABORT/SURFACE WINDS
6-25-75 X-24B/B-25-38/JOHN MANKE/ALTITUDE 58,000 FT
6-26-75 YF-12 FLT #47/FITZ FULTON,VIC HORTON
6-27-75 F-111 #63/STAN BOYD,FITZ FULTON
6-27-75 F-111 #64/STAN BOYD,FITZ FULTON
7-3-75 YF-12 FLT #48/DON MALLICK,RAY YOUNG
7-15-75 X-24B TEST/B-26-39/LT COL MIKE LOVE/ALTITUDE 69,480 FT
7-18-75 F-111 #68/MAJOR STAN BOYD
7-18-75 B-747 SPACE SHUTTLE/FIRST EDWARDS LANDING
7-22-75 F-111 #69/MAJOR STAN BOYD
7-24-75 YF-12 FLT/DON MALLICK
7-30-75 F-111 #71/MAJOR STAN BOYD
7-31-75 B-1 FLT 1-12/ABORT DUE TO ENGINE #2/FAILURE
8-5-75 X-24B TEST/B-27-40/JOHN MANKE/ALTITUDE 57,050 FT
8-13-75 F-111 #74/MAJOR BOYD,VIC HORTON
8-13-75 F-111 #73/MAJOR BOYD,CAPT RON GRABE
8-8-75 B-1 FLT 1-13 #2 ENGINE BAY DOOR LOST IN FLIGHT
8-14-75 F-15 RPRV FLT D-C 24/CAPTIVE/EINAR ENCUOLDSON,BILL DANA
8-14-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT 50/DON MALLICK, RAY YOUNG
8-15-75 F-15 RPRV FLT D-A-25/AIR ABORT/EINAR ENEWLDSON,BILL DANA
8-15-75 F-15 RPRV FLT D-17-26/GOOD MISSION/EINAR ENEWLDSON,BILL DANA
8-20-75 X-24B TEST/B-28-41/LT COL MIKE LOVE/ALTITUDE 71,076 FT
8-21-75 YF-12 SUPERSONIC FLT 94/FITZ FULTON, VIC HORTON
8-26-75 DOUGLAS YC-15 S.T.O.L./FLIGHT ONE/K.K. LEWIS,MAJ JOHN HARRIS
9-9-75 X-24 TEST

9-23-75 X-24B TEST/B-30-43/BILL DANA/LAST POWERED FLIGHT
10-9-75 X-24B TEST/SCRUBBED/B-31-44
10-15-75 NASA 747/TRANSPORT/FLIGHT #35/PILOT FITZ FULTON
10-21-75 X-24B TEST(PM in date is upside down)
10-30-75 YF-12 TEST
11-3-75 X-24B TEST

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL (Eastern Test Range)

6-13-75 VIKING MOVED TO STERLIZATION CHAMBER
7-1-75 VIKING A LANDER/AND ORBITER MATED
8-5-75 TC-4 FUEL/LAODING STARTS/VIKING A
8-5-75 VIK-A ORDNANCE/INSTALLED
8-6-75 VA ORBITER CD/ORDT
8-7-75 VIKING MARS SYMPOSIUM/STARTS
8-8-75 LAST DAY VIKING/MA S SYMPOSIUM
8-11-75 VIKING POSTPONED/pmk HAMPTON,VA(LRC);MARS,PA
8-20-75 VIKING A LAUNCHED/pmk KSC;Pasadena,CA(D-1 JPL);Barstow,CA(D-2,D-3,D-4,D-5) (E-100 no postmark);Eglin AFB,FL(A-1);KSC(A-2);KSC(A-3);KSC(MIL S-10); Agana,GU(S-15 GWM);Tharwa,Australia(S-109 ORR);Mars, PA
8-26-75 SYMPHONIE-B/pmk KSC;Patrick AFB;Greenbelt,MD(C-1 GSC);Kourou,Guyane Francais (S-117);Wessling Oberbay,W Germany
8-28-75 TC-3 FUEL LOADING/pmk KSC;Cape Canaveral, FL
9-9-75 VIKING-B/pmk KSC;Moffett Field,CA(ARC);Pasadena,CA(D-1 JPL);Barstow, CA(D-5) Greenbelt, MD(C-1 GSC);KSC(Langley,S-10 MIL)Agana,GU(S-15 GWN);Grand Turk (E-101);Tharwa,Australia(S-109 ORR)USNS Vanguard(several pmk);Kenmare(S-107 BUR);Ascension(S-100 ACN);Canberra City,Aust.(C-102);Titusville,Fl Astronaut Trail Sta;Cape Canaveral;Redstone-Cape Canaveral,FL;Patrick AFB, FL; WSMR,NM
9-25-75 INTELSAT IV-A/pmk Kennedy Space Center(KSC,MIL S-10);Titusville Astronaut Trail Sta;Patrick AFB, FL;St Davis Is Bermuda(BDA S-101);Kenmare(BUR S-107); Greenbelt,MD(GSC C-1);Agana,Guam(C-11)
10-16-75 GOES-A/pmkKennedy Space Center(KSC,MIL S-10,A-2);Agana,Guam(GWM S-15); Kenmare(BUR S-107);St George Bermuda(BDA S-101);Fairbanks(ULA S-15);Greenbelt(GSC C-1);Atlantic,VA(NOAA Wallops Is);Ascension(ACN S-100)

SPECIAL EVENTS/POSTMARKS/CACHETS

7-20-75 APOLLO 11 6TH ANNIVERSARY/pmk Cape Canaveral
7-30-75 15TH ANNIVERSARY 1ST SUBMERGED POLARIS LAUNCH/pmk Patrick AFB, FL
8-21-75 10TH ANNIVERSARY/GT-5/LOCAL FMF POST/pmk Cape Canaveral, FL
9-4-75 FLIGHT 14/FIRST COMPUTER FLIGHT/IPCS/GARY E. KRIER/pmk Lancaster,CA
9-6-75 GERMAN RUSSIAN SPACE EXHIBITION/pmk Munich Special Pictorial Cancel
9-13-75 BALLOON FESTIVAL 75/Picture cancel/Maryville, OH
9-16-75 ASTP U.S. CREW/RETURNS TO KSC/pmk Kennedy Space Center
9-18-75 1925 LOS ANGELES/MAIL FLIGHT TO/BERMUDA AND PUERTO RICO/pmk Brookfield,IL
9-20-75 AIRSHIP LOS ANGELES/TO PUERTO RICO 1925/pmk Mayaguez, PR
9-24-75 POSIEDON LAUNCH/USS NATHAN HALE/SSBN-623/7:00PM(Whitney)/pmk Patrick AFB,FL
9-29-75 Cover sent to Grumman Corp for Space Shuttle Tests(what Test)/pmk Bethpage
10-10-75 LAUNCH FROM/USS ANDREW JACKSON/SSBN-609/POSEIDON C-3/pmk Patrick AFB, FL
10-14-75 ASTP ASTRONAUTS VISIT CHICAGO/pmk Chicago, IL
10-17-75 MIDWEST POSTAGE STAMP & COIN SHOW/ATA/Picture cancel/pmk Chicago, IL
10-25-75 MOTOR CITY STAMP & COVER CLUB STA/Picture cancel/pmk Detroit, MI
11-8-75 SUNPEX STATION/Picture canacel/pmk Sunnyvale, CA

KOUROU, FRENCH GUYANE (CNES)

9-27-75 DIAMANT BP4 No 3 SATELLITE D2B/pmk Kourou;Santiago(AGO S-102);Greenbelt,MD GSC C-1)

HOLLOMAN AFB, NM

7-22-75 VERTICAL LAUNCH STD MISSILE
7-23-75 B-1 CREW ESCAPE CAPSULE
7-30-75 A-7D ENGINE TEST
8-26-75 A-7D ENGINE TEST
8-15-75 VERTICAL LAUNCH OF STD MISSILE
9-9-75 VERTICAL LAUNCH OF A MISSILE
9-11-75 F-15 SEAT EJECTION TEST
9-18-75 F-15 SEAT EJECTION TEST
9-24-75 STRATCOM BALLOON SCIENCE PAYLOAD
9-26-75 STRATCOM BALLOON SCIENCE PAYLOAD
10-15-75 F-15 SEAT EJECTION TEST
10-20-75 F-15 SEAT EJECTION TEST
10-22-75 ROTOR SYSTEM RESEARCH AIRCRAFT TEST

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APOLLO-SOYUZ TEST PROJECT

These are covers coming in late and not reported in the September issue. All date are July unless listed otherwise.

NO	STATION	CANCEL	DATE
C-105	Paddington	Paddington	16
C-120	Cairns	Cairns	16
C-123	Brisbane	Cabooltore	16
C-124	Port Moresby	Boroko	15
C-127	Madang	Madang	16
C-172	Pleumeur-Bodou	Pleumeur-Bodou	17
C-176	Leak	Leak	25
C-190	Ivory Coast	RNS	
C-194	Madagascar	Tannarive	9/2
C-206	New Zealand	Warkworth	16
	OTC GOROKA	GOROKA	16
	OTC Mt Hayen	Mt. Hayen	18
	Rabaul	Rabaul NG	16
	Grade 2	Rabaul NG	16
	OTC Arawa	Arawa	14
E-103	Ascension	Ascension	15
S-100	Ascension	Ascension	15
T-112	Simon Stevin	Hoeven	24
T-119	Chorzow	Chorzow	17
T-123	Max-Planek	Bad Monstereifel	17
T-134	Jodrell Bank	Macclesfield	24
T-150	Nice	Nice	17
T-151	Mevdon	Mevdon	15
T-154	St Michel	St Michel	8/5
T-155	Juvisy	Juvisy	15
T-157	Leiden	Broederstroom	17
T-158	Capetown	Capetown	15
T-159	Radcliffe	Capetown	15
T-168	Mills Cross	Bungendore	16
T	WeinbergstraBe	Schwerin	16
T	Eilenburg	Eilenburg	15
T	Treptow	poor	15
W-6	KSC	KSC	15
W-111	Brisbane	Brisbane	16
X-103	Buenos Aires	RNS	
X-121	Gottingen	Gottingen	17
X-122	Kiel	Kiel	17
X-136	Australia(back Viking(D-101)		
	Australian Facilities by U.C.C.C.		
	Quoin Ridge	Hobart	23
	McLaren Vale	Adelaide	25
	U Melbourne	Melbourne	16
	Tropo Scatter	Nhulunbuy	16
	Overseas News	Sydney	16
	LaPerouse	Sydney	16
	Nat Uni Canb.	Canberra	16
	Apollo Bay	Apollo Bay	16-25
	NASA City Sou.	Syndey	15
	RAAF	Edinborgh	15
	U Sydney	Sydney	15
	RNZAF Shelly	Glenelg NZ	21
	Whenvapai	Whenoapai	16
	RNZAF Base Sq	Miramar	16
	BOM	Perth	15
	5AN	Adelaide	16
	5CL	Adelaide	16
	7ZL	Hobart	16
	7ZR	Hobart	16
C-133	Surrey Hill	Surrey Hills	16
Z-17	Chatillon	Chatillon	15
Z-28	Firenze	poor	
Z-52	Crimea	in Russian	10/9?
	Koln West Germany/R/S cachet		15
	USS Blue Ridge LCC-19		17

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Most of you know of the service from Edwards Flight Research Center, but for you not having these details, send your stamped addressed cover with a service fee of 10¢ per cover. Make sure covers have correct postage applied. For the last flight in December a special cover is being printed and the service fee is 25¢ and a limit of 10 covers for this flight. Light weight filler enclosed or cover will not be printed and correct postage. Flight Research Center Exchange, PO Box 273, Edwards, CA 93523.

RECOVERY COVERS OF PRS-USS NEW ORLEANS-FOR ASTP

By Reuben A. Ramkissoon, M.D.

Because of moving to the mid-west during the ASTP mission, I could not consider sailing on the PRS-USS New Orleans as I had done before.

However, because of the contacts that I had made with civilian personnel partipating in the recovery voyage. I was able to have a number of covers, postal (USPS) cards and printed postcards of the PRS carried aboard the recovery voyage, and postmarked for the occasion.

Correspondence with the appropriate ship officer got me a pre-mission list of ASTP souvenir items. There was only one item listed that could be normally made into a philatelic souvenir. It was the printed picturial ship postcard, listed for $1.00!

Apparently, the cards were not received by the USS New Orleans in time for the mission. No printed cacheted covers (unlike all of the previous New Orleans space recovery missions-Apollo 14, Skylab III and IV) were made for the occasion.

The Navy did not provide ship cancellations on the day of recovery, July 24, 1975. In fact, ever item carried on the ship, mailed through the ship post office from crew and ship peronnel were given the USPS San Francisco, CA pictorial splashdown cancellation.

However, postmarks of the USS New Orleans exist for pre-recovery dates, as I have an example from the ship on official envelope with a July 23, 1975 postmark.

On arrival at Honolulu, ship postmarks were available with the July 25, 1975 date. ASTP commemorative stamps were not available during the recovery mission and any covers bearing these stamps with the USPS splashdown cancellation of July 24, 1975 were sent to the USPS San Francisco address.

On arrival in Honolulu, ASTP stamps were applied to covers and received the July 25, 1975 cancellation. Only a few covers so postmarked were actually carried during the voyage. I was fortunate to have friends do that for me. One of them bought ASTP stamps at Honolulu and took them back to the ship to receive the July 25, 1975 cancellation.

At least one well-known cover dealer who made the trip to Honolulu got a quantity of covers postmarked on July 25, 1975 for the ship's arrival. Going advertised price for these is $20.00. Buyers should be sure they understand the status of such covers, and the difference in their value versus those with the ubiquitous USPS slogan pictorial cancellation from San Francisco, on July 24, 1975.

This writer has been forturate in having covers for the Skylab mission and the ASTP mission that are truly carried items, having made the entire recovery voyage of two weeks or so,and not simply covers mailed from the ship upon its arrival at home port of San Diego or Honolulu. This is an important distinction as covers in the former catergory should be at quite a premiun and in the latter case they are commanding prices in the $20.00 range!

Cataloging of covers for the receovery should be of interest to collectors, and I here list those I know to be genuinely carried for the entire recovery mission:

Item	Postmark
Official Ship Envelope (non-philatelic)	July 23, 1975 USS New Orleans

Item	Postmark
Recovery helo cover Photo helo cover Swim helo cover ELS helo cover Maintenance crew helo UDT 11/12 team cover ASTP Recovery cover (variety of cachets) New Orleans postcard (Pictorial) ASTP recovery	USPS, San Francisco pictorial slogan postmark July 24, 1975

Item	Postmark
Beck cacheted covers USPS 8¢ postal card Autographed covers of Helos, UDT Captain Mobile Laboratory	USPS, San Francisco pictorial slogan postmark July 24, 1975

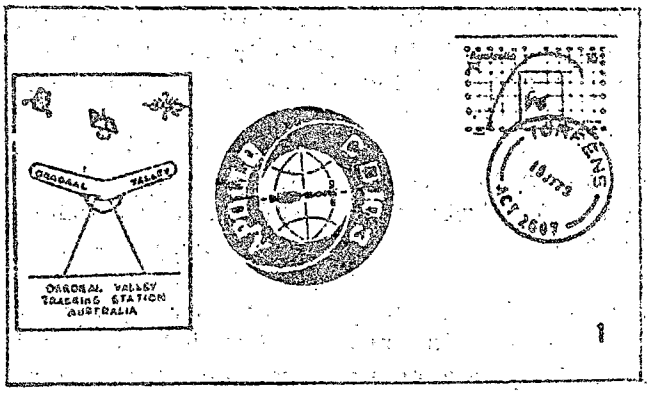
Item	Postmark
Beck cacheted covers USPS 8¢ postal card USS New Orleans ASTP postal card	USS New Orleans July 25, 1975 AM

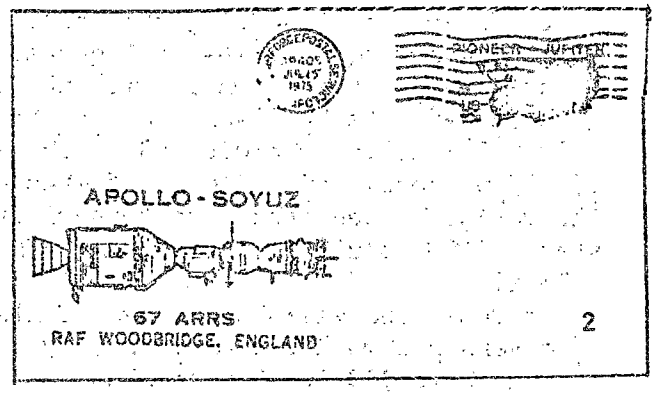
I would be grateful for any additional information that readers can provide. Note new address at 120 N. Oak St., Hinsdale, Ill., 60521.

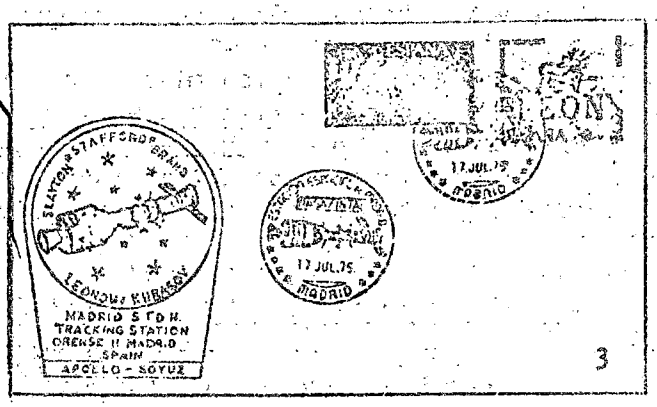
Cachets

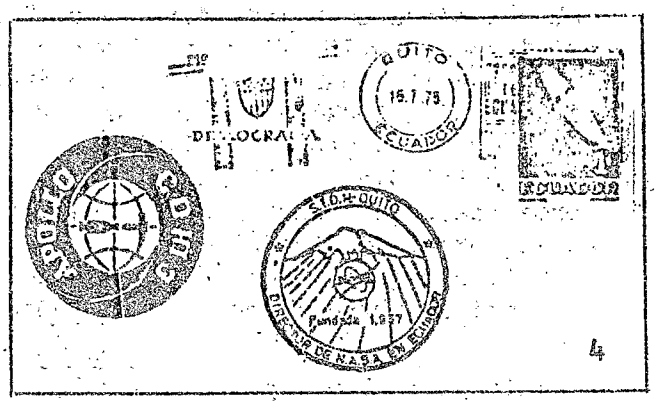
On the following pages are covers with cachets from mostly foreign countries for the Apollo Soyuz Test Project, special space cancelles, covers for the Viking Program and other space launches. If not stated the cachet and postmark are in black. Where possible is listed the name of the person or service, otherwise the cover is your own sent for the event.

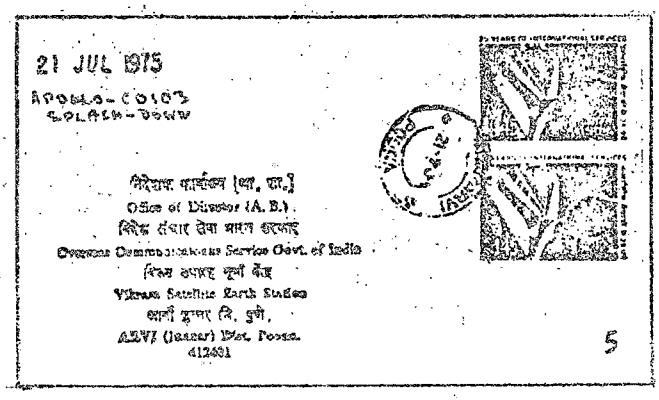
(1) from the ORR S-109 station in Australia; (2) from R-101 and by the date it seams the part the played in recovery was for the launch of Apollo; (3) from MAD S-105 and serviced by Grandela of the Madrid station with special cancel he made arrangements for; (4) from QUI S-103 with the ASTP cachet and the station cachet, with postmark and cachet in a purple red color; (5) from India C-197 station for the splashdown of Soyuz giving the station address in purple in Hindu and English, Apollo is green and Soyuz and Airmail in red; (6) from the T-122 observatory serviced by Karl von der Wiede, but your own covers I believe received the same service, bottom line in blue.

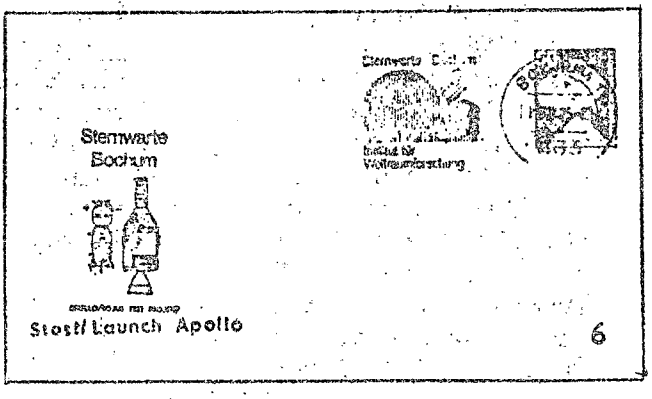


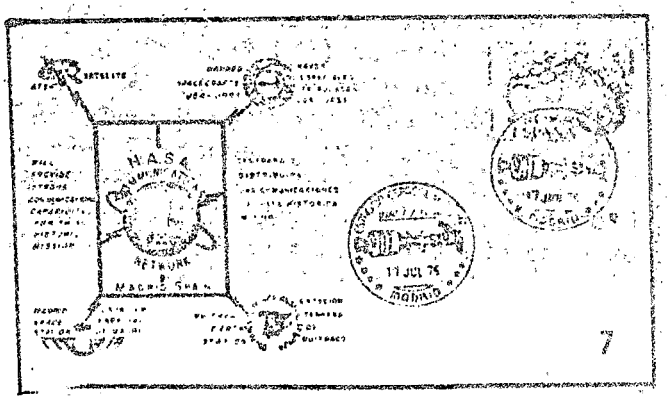


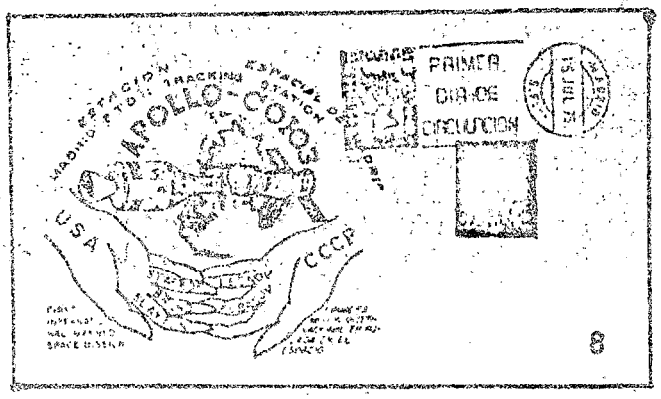


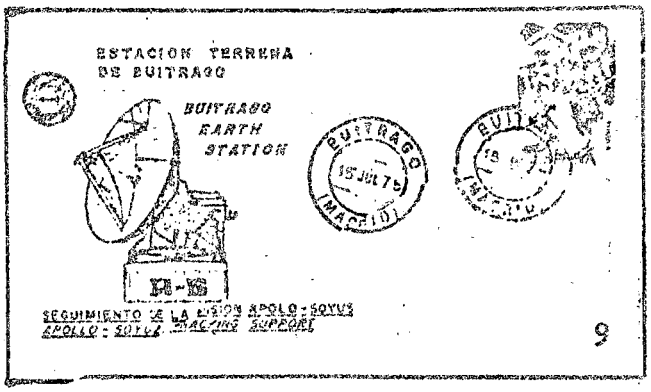


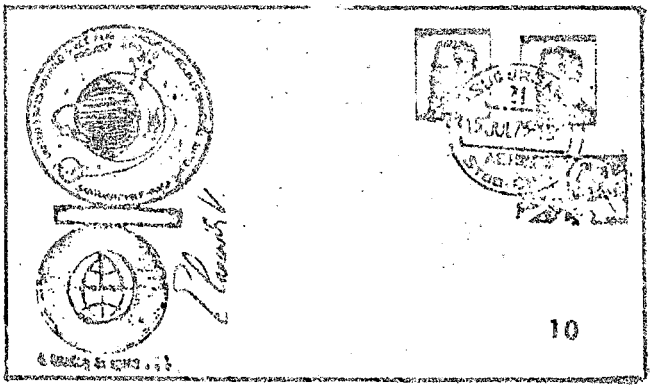


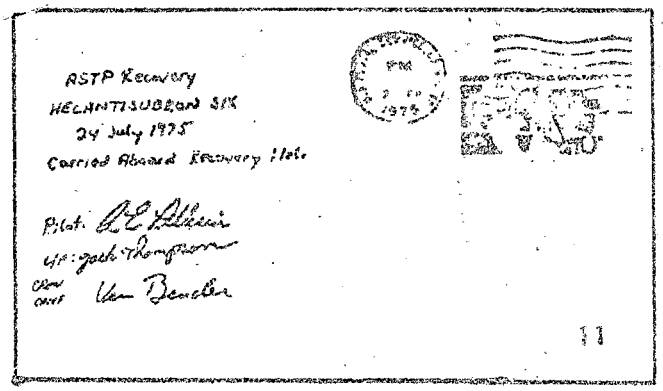


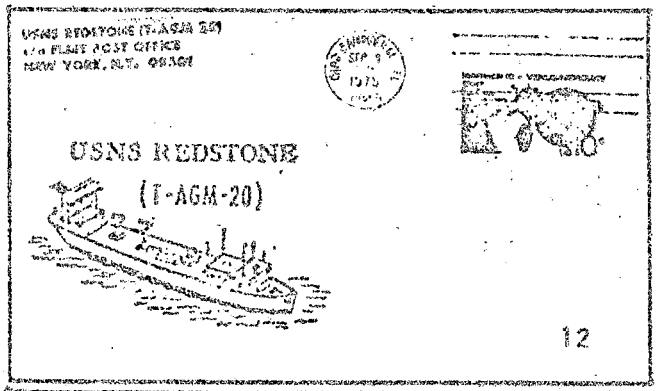


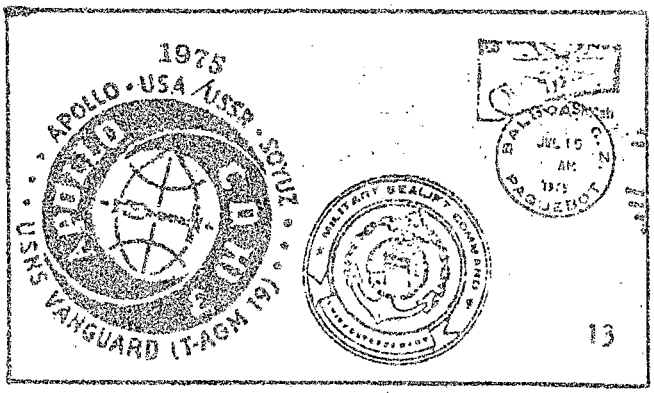


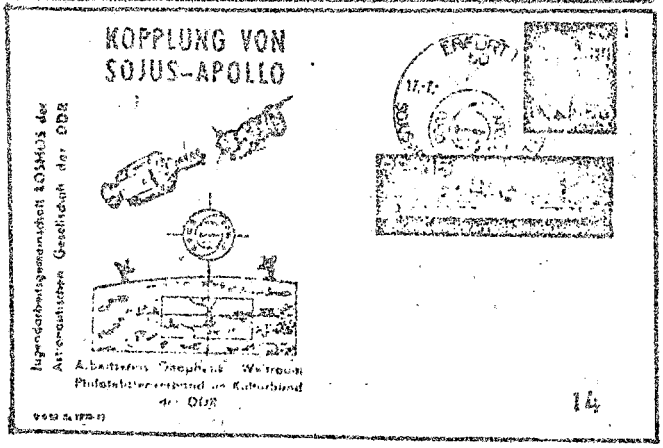






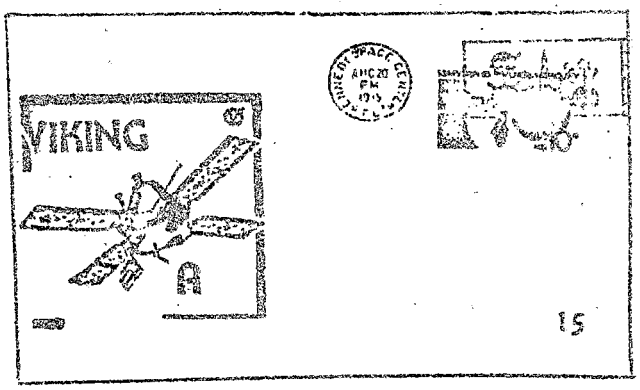


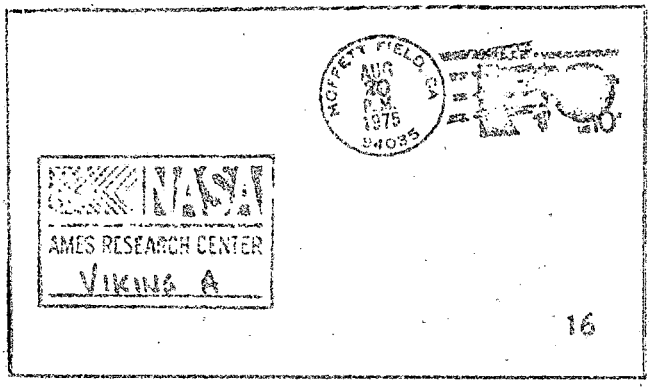


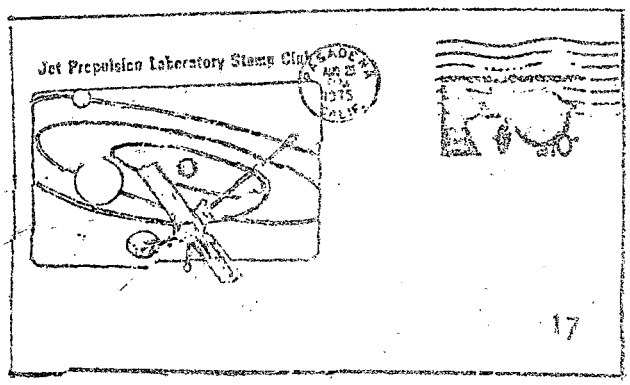


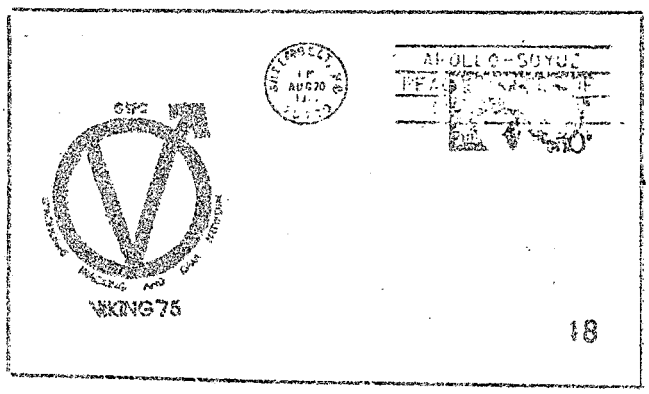
(7) is a printed cover in red from the C101 communications station in Madrid with special cancel, by Grandela;(8) this cover is printed in red and blue, canceled on July 15th the date of ASTP and also a new Franco stamp;(9) is a blue cachet for the C-167 Buitrago station picking communications up from the ATS-6. Only 10 covers from this postal facility, covers 8 and 9 by Grandela; (10) from AGO S102, autographed with station and ASTP cachet;(11) this is one of the covers sent helicopter rescue crew, address figured out from late information received. It has "Carried Aboard Recovery Helo" and autographed by Pilot, L/P and Crew Chief; (12) sent for ASTP and received back postmarked Cape Canaveral Sept 9; (13) from the USNS Vanguard postmarked Balboa, CZ. Covers have different cachets and some covers not canceled; (14) this a European size covers from East Germany and where the Link-Up was to take place at Erfurt.

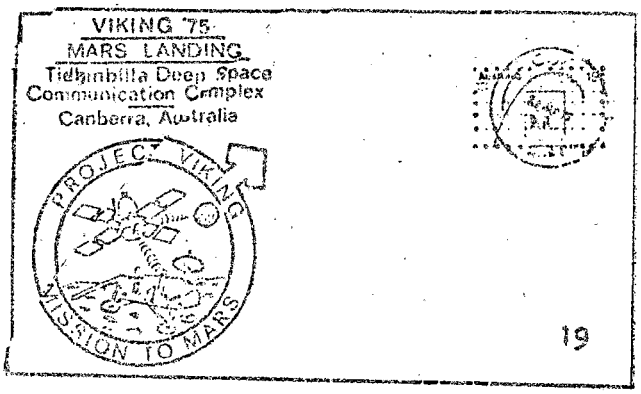
These are Viking covers (15) from Kennedy Space Center with cachet in blue;(16) from Ames Recearch Center with cachet in blue and postmark in red; (17) from JPL D-1 with cachet in blue; (18) from GSC C-1 with cachet in blue and give a hand to Pedro Sarmiento for a great job, cancel is special slogan;(19-20) both from the Deep Space Station in Australia. Note the first cover had the Project Viking cachet where the second cover didnot; (21) this cover was serviced by a fellow space collector in Florida on the Launch of Viking A and Viking B on the same cover; (22) this is a First Day Cover by Fleetwood from Russia but didnot come out as good as wanted.

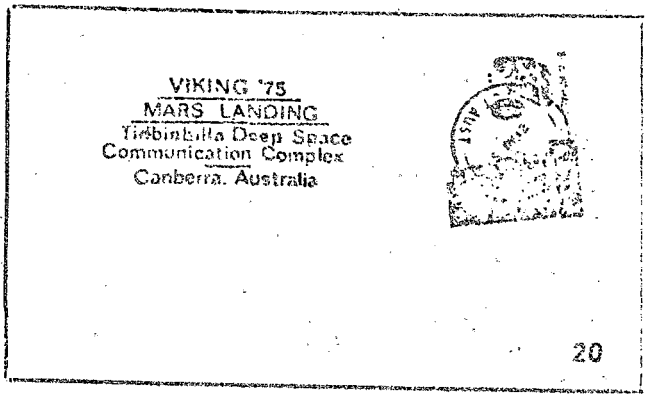


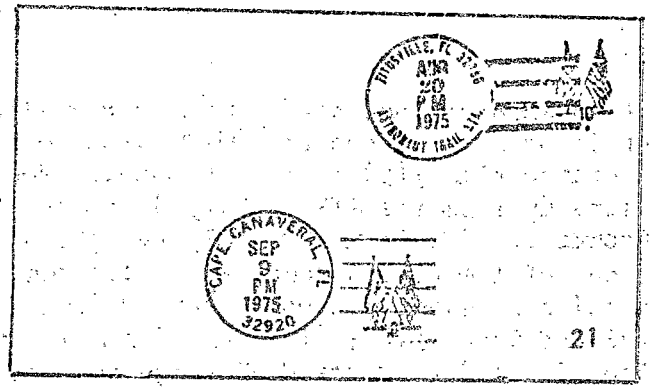


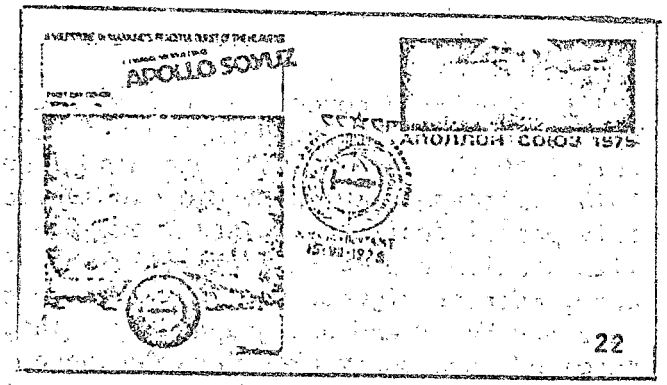




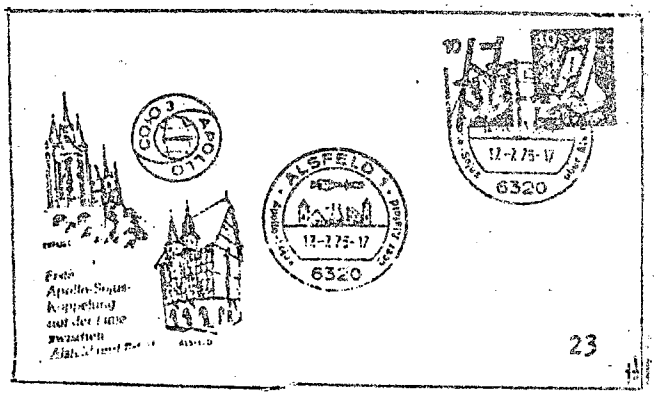


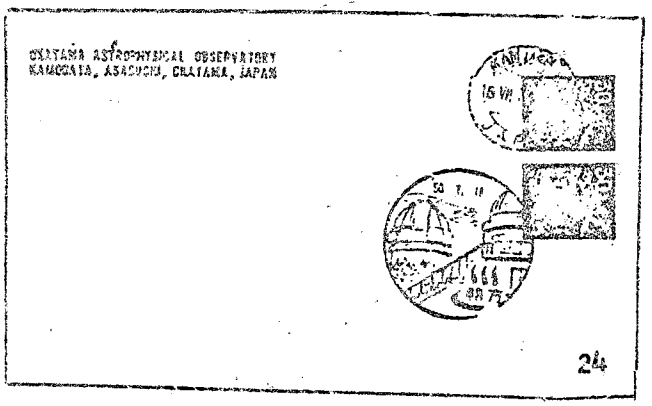


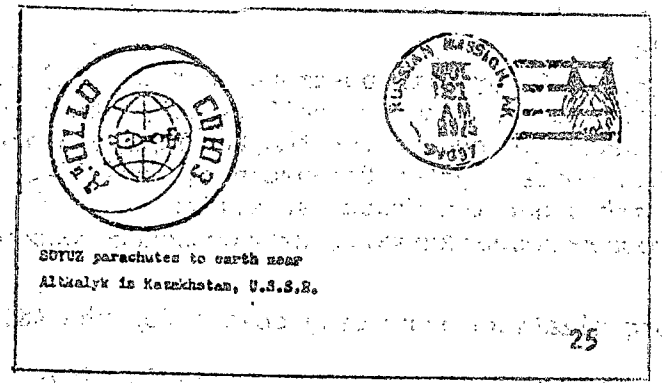




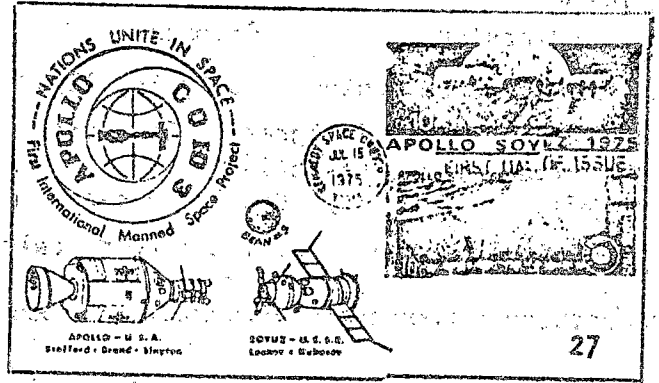
We are back to some ASTP covers again (23) is gray blue printed cover with special cancel at Alsfeld West Germany; (24) from T-160 observatory in Japan with a brown-red Japanese cancel;(25) this cover was made up by Kenneth Bieda from Russian Mission AK on the date of Soyuz back to earth; (26) is what I believe is a FDC of an observatory received from a new address, which will be listed on another page; (27) is a printed cachet in blue and one of the most beautiful FDC by Fred Bean; (28) is a FMF Local Post in blue for the First Day of SPACEPEX with special cancel and cover is by Frasketi; (29 - 30) have special ASTP canceles from KENMALPEX in Cincinnati, Ohio and from NEBPEX in New Britain CT. For the special word or picture canceles watch the philatelic publications and from time to time they list them.

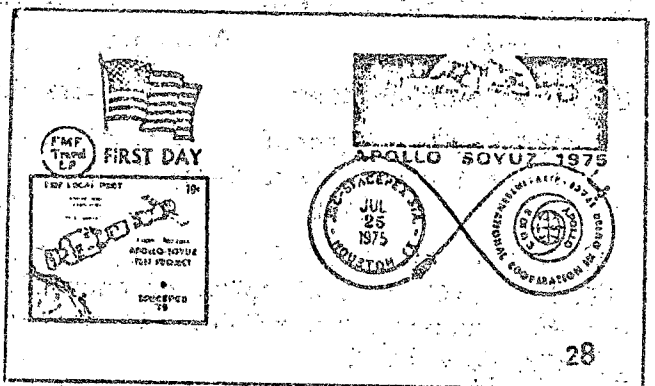


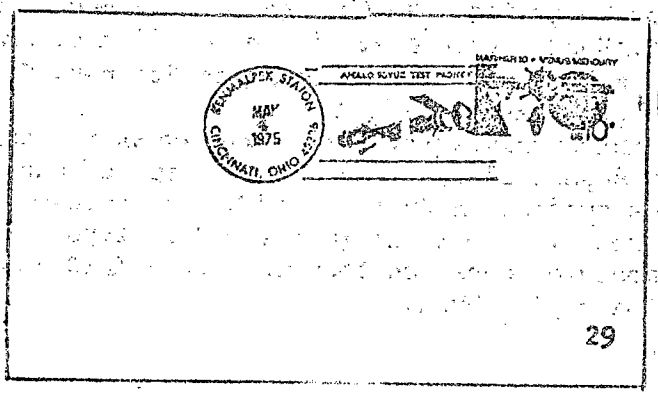


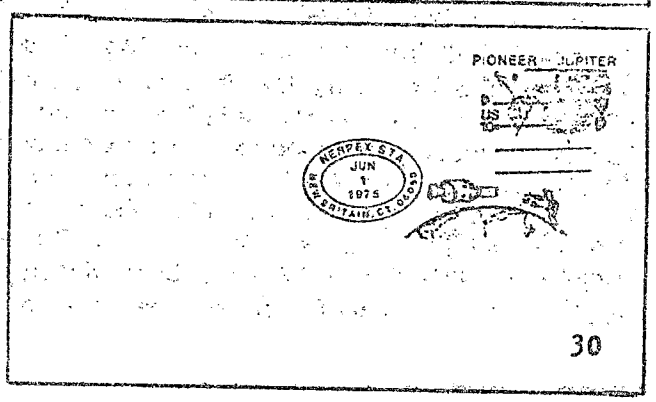


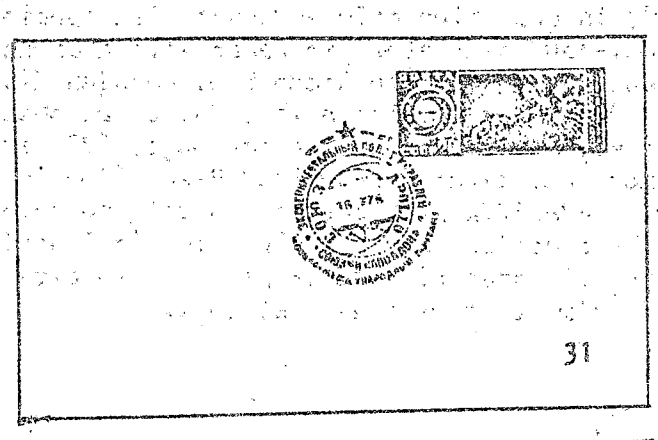


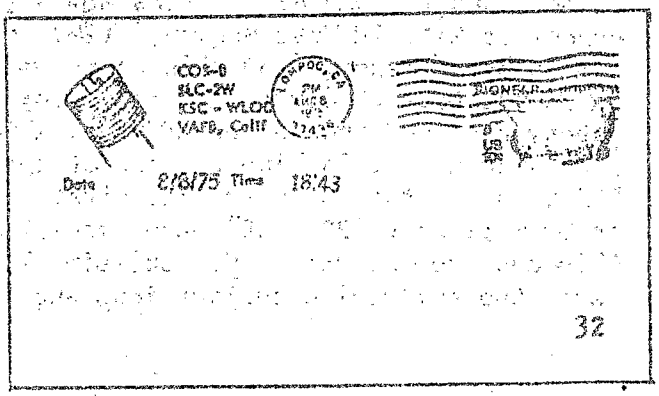


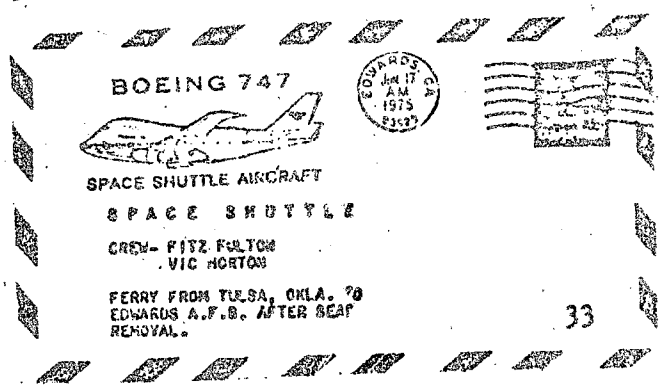


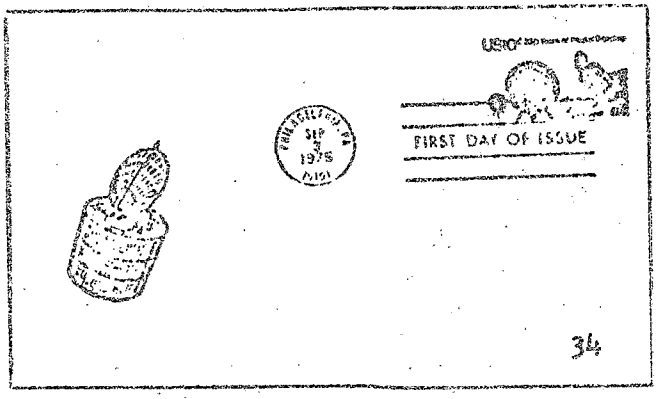












(31) a cover from Russia for the launch of the Soyuz with postmark in red; (32) for the launch of the COS-B, service by the NASA-Western Launch Facility; (33) this is an airmail envelope with the top half of cachet in purple for the Boeing 747 Space Shuttle Aircraft; (34) this is for the U.S. Postal System Bicentennial Satellite stamp, Scott number 1576, shown are two dishes and the Westar satellite.

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APOLLO-SOYUZ FIRST DAY COVERS

This is a report of various people and organizations servicing covers for the ASTP.

USSR Apollo Soyuz Stamp Postmarked MOCKBA July 15, 1975
Fleetwood Artcraft Artmaster Colorano

USA Apollo Soyuz Stamps Postmarked Kennedy Space Center July 15, 1975
Fleetwood Artcraft Artmaster USCPS Bean Philgraf Colorano
Titusville Moon Port Stamp Club FMF Local Post (Frasketi)
Globe Centennial Pontiac Press

Covers were serviced with a single stamp and also with the pair. The larger dealers serviced with several types of cachets.

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CHAFFEE FUND (IASP)

A check for $10.00 was sent to the IASP to go into the Chaffee fund. I would like to say THANK YOU for contributing; Hugh F. Kuehl, Calder A. Gibson, William E. Fraleigh, Otto Bergman, Norma Carmack, Paul Lash, David E. Williams, Tom Steiner, Elizabeth Welch, Thomas W. Matylewicz, Rudolf Rothgiesser and Bob Ekas.

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VIKING A executed a midcourse maneuver on August 27 to place its anticipated Martian arrival point 3,450 mi., from the planet's surface on June 19, 1976. The spacecraft was turned 227 degrees in roll and 79 degrees in yaw to align its 300 lb thrust rocket engine for a 12 sec. burn during maneuver under control of JPL. VIKING A was 1,741,000 mi. from Earth at the time of the engine burn.

TRADING & SELLING CORNER

FOR SALE: Apollo-Soyuz PNC-Special "Globe" No 4 cachet-only 100 made so as to insure future appreciation. 1½" Bronze ASTP Medal-$8.50, 1½" Silver ASTP Medal-$20.00 Henry H. Bessler, 40 Hilltop Drive, Burlington, MA 01803

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List #14 of Polar, Space, Apollo/Soyuz, Recovery Ships, Postcards, Recovery Ship Photoes and etc. Send 25¢ in coin or stamps; Art Silhanek, 526 Willow Ave., Piscataway, NJ 08854

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WANTED: Apollo 17 tracking station covers from Cook Island, Merrit Island, Ascension Island and Santiago, Chile. Ray Coriale, 14 Waverly St., Glen Hend, L.I. NY 11545

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Cover service from Edwards Flight Center for all Test Flights. Cacheted with flight information and cancelled on the correct date. Send a SASE for details; Robert J. Boudwin, 1119 Harker Ave., Woodbury, NJ 08096

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Special covers for events Bell Laboratories were involved in, send a SASE for information; Bell Laboratories, Crawfords Corner Road, Holmdel, NJ 07733, c/o Mr Donthit.

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Balloon flight covers, send SASE to; David E. Hunter, P.O. Box 2545, Columbus, OH 43216

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Large stock of covers for past space events available for a SASE with information on FMF Local Post; Joseph J. Frasketi, Jr., P.O. Box 2114, Ft Myers, FL 33902

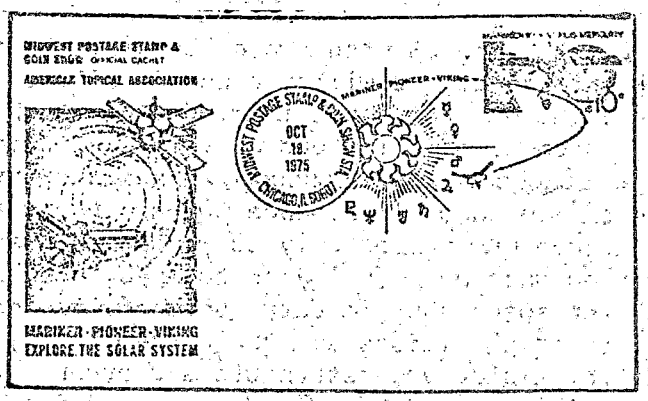
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ASTP Prime Recovery Ship Covers-USS New Orleans-and other space covers with autographed covers. Sean Marsar, 6 Helena Ave., Bethpage, NY 11714

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WANTED: Kennedy Space Center official cacheted covers up to Apollo 14. Please send price quotations; William M. Engeln, 5545 So. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, IL 60637.

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The American Topical Association has prepared the official show cachet for the 22nd Midwest Postage Stamp & Coin Show. It is franked with one of two 1975 space stamps. The cachet design pictures Mariner Pioneer and Viking spacecraft superimposed on a diagram of the solar system from the works of Nicolaus Copernicus. The stamps affixed, the pictorial cancellation and the cachet form a coherent philatelic item of interest to philatelists. Sets of three (3) Mariner-Venus/Mercury, Pioneer-Jupiter, and Viking space covers, pictorially cancelled cost $2.00 (3 sets-9 covers for $5.00) from American Topical Association, 5014 - M West Center Street, Milwaukee, Wis., 53210. Price includes postpaid mailing

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USSR space covers with special cancellations; 5 different-$9.00, 10 different-$15.00 20 different-$35.00. Other USSR and European covers for IRC's or will take USA space stamps. Hans Barnickel, P.O. Box 1066, D-86 Bamberg 1, West Germany.

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WANTED: SKYLAB FDC's with the following cachets:Solar Covers(4), C.G. Junior, Bobby G, W.T. Jackson (card), Mahdeen, Kevin Steen, Cape Kennedy Medals, & Artcraft #10 envelope. Please send price and desription to Ron E. Allen,PO Box 2188,Tampa,FL 33601

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ASTP First Day Covers, top quality covers, send a SASE to; Frederick G. Bean, 1012 Duke St., Apt #2, Columbia, MO 65201.

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DIRECTORY-Space Addresses-Tracking-Installations, available in Regular at 60¢ (printed on both sides and mailed folded), Deluxe at $1.40 (printed on one side in a

binder and mailed flat), postpaid.
MAINER 9 in orbit around the planet MARS, hand cancelled November 13, 1971, postmarked MARS, PA, 25¢ plus a SSAE.
List of mint foreign stamps and list of rubber stamps available for SSAE.
Bob Ekas P.O. Box 295 Chicora, PA 16025

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STAR-TREK CONVENTION COVERS: FOR SALE is 7 autographed Convention covers with Chicago Hand Cancel of Aug. 22-AM-1975-1st Day of Convention for $3 & $6. Autographs of Trek cast stars & different science fiction authors. For list: Tim Cash, 1038 S. Edison Ave, South Bend, IN 46619.

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WANTED Viking A&B Tracking Station covers and earlier Viking Test covers. Send list what you have and price, Tom Stuart, 5041 Jakeman, Virginia Beach, VA 23455

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SOVIET APOLLO-SOYUZ TEST PROJECT BRIEFING by Tim Cash
(Courtesy NASA News Center Document PC-22)

The Soviet pre-launch press briefing at the Moscow press headquarters and via audio lines at the Cocoa Beach NASA News Center answered some questions that have been floating around for awhile.

A question asked by the UPI was as follows:"If the prime crew docking is successful, will the spare Soyuz be used for a docking with Salyut-4? Answer:"No further docking with Salyut-4 is planned. The Salyut-4 station is fitted with a docking assembly that can only be used with Soyuz spacecraft operating under the Soviet national space program while the back-up Soyuz craft has an androgynous docking assembly". Question:"Will future Soyuz and Salyut use the docking assembly developed previously or the new androgynous docking system?" Answer:"The Soyuz spacecraft that have been prepared for upcoming flights will use the docking assembly developed previously under the Soviet national space program; but in the future we will undoubtedly use this new docking assembly". Question: "Will the back-up Soyuz craft be used as a future stand-by rescue craft or be re-used under the Soviet national space program?". Answer:"It will probably be used in our national space program".

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FROM THE CLIPPINGS

Aetna Life & Casualty Co. announced it was teaming up with two other firms in a far-out business venture: together with IBM and Comsat, it will put up $55 million for a one-third interest in CML Satellite Corp. The new trio have in mind plans to build a satellite system largely for the transmission of data instead of voice communications.

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Dwindling band of U.S. astronauts grows smaller and older. Once 60-odd strong and full of men in their early 30s, U.S. spacemen now number only 30 with an average age of 41. NASA has shoved back its next hiring date by a full year to 1978, when space agency will take on about 10 applicants for space shuttle duty. Only pilots need apply; NASA won't hire any more geologists or physicists and train them to fly. Chances of a female astronaut are slim.(Editor: Listed are astronauts and others connected with the space program having left or will leave.) Afred M Worden to join High Flight Foundation; Edgar M Cortright director NASA Langley Research Center to retire; L. Gordan Cooper named an executive of a subsidiary of Walt Disney Productions, WED Enterprises, vice president of research and development. Eugene S. Love,director of space at Langley has retired and replace by Robert E. Smylie. Dr Rocco A. Petrone has resigned to become President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Center for Resource Recovery. William R. Pogue has retired from the Air Force and the space agency. Gerald P. Carr has retired from the Marine Corps, but will remain with the space agency. Edward Gibson has resigned to take up a research job. James B. Irwin resigned sometime ago to form High Flight Foundation and Bill Pogue will join him. Maj Gen Thomas P. Stafford has left the corp to become Commander of the USAF Test Center at Edwards AFB. Charles M. Duke, Jr to retire from the Air Force and NASA astronaut corp. James A. McDivitt has been elected of Pullman-Stanard, Division of Pullman, Inc., formely a vice president and director. Former astronaut Borman is a vice president of Eastern Airlines, while Mike Collins is director of Smithsonian Institute. Harrison Sch itt will run for the Senate from the state of New Mexico.

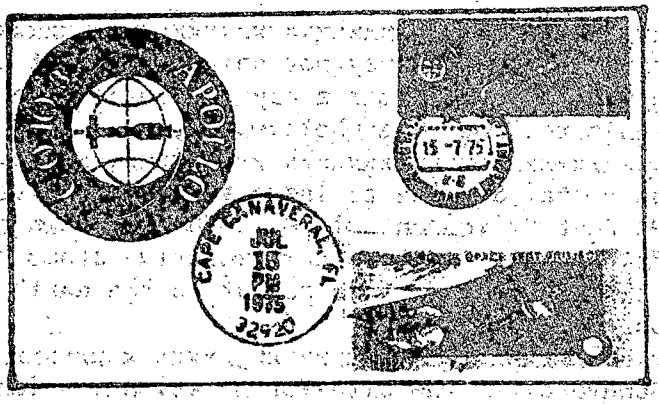
ASTP COVERS-MOSCOW TO CAPE CANAVERAL

In the last issue was mentioned a dealer coming up with covers cancelled for the Soyuz launch in Moscow and the Apollo launch in Cape Canaveral, on the same cover. My disagreement on this was the proce the dealer is wanting. I know of only one other publication mentioning the high price some want for covers and trying to shame those individuals and organizations this is a hobby and don't kill it.

If the Cape Canaveral cancel had not come off a loss of $5000 at the most could have occured, with some of this recovered, I'm sure. As it stands at this time a profit of $35,000 plus will be made. My grip is in people charging excessive prices, these covers will never be able to be re-sold at these prices since 6000 were made. The only way prices can be decreased is by not buying, but if one wants an item badly enough, price does not seam to matter and these dealers know it.

The dealer having these covers is Eberhard Coelle of West Germany and this is how the operation of receiving the two canceles worked.

Several months before Apollo-Soyuz an order was placed for 6000 covers to be hand-canceled on July 15 with a 20 Kop stamp. The 6000 covers were sent by Airfreight from Moscow to Frankfort. At 10:10 AM Central European Time the covers arrived, going through Customs and further transportation problems. A taxi was taken from the Cargo Section to the Departing Flight Section where flight LH-404 was leaving for New York. This flight departed Frankfort at 1:30 PM and arrived in New York at 4:55 PM EST. Within 5 minutes custom clearance was given and the meeting of two couriers from Cape Canaveral and Houston were met. The Cape Canaveral courier had purchased several thousand Apollo-Soyuz stamps, prior arrangements had been made for the couriers and stamps. At this time it was decided to have 3000 covers canceled at Cape Canaveral and 3000 at Houston for Link-Up on July 17th. The Cape Canaveral courier arrived in Orlando on Eastern Airlines flight EA-159 at 9:10 PM. On the wait-over in New York and on the flight to Florida covers were stamped. After traveling from Orlando Airport to Cape Canaveral, the postmaster was contacted the covers given a hand-cancel of July 15th and mission completed.



Noticed in philatelic publications is a United States dealer advertising a cover with the cancels mentioned above. This could be the USA out let for these covers.

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Revell Inc. has put a model of the Apollo-Soyuz out. It is at 1/96" scale and is priced under $2.00. Your editor purchased one at a K-Mart store at $1.78.

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These are the official stations taking part in the tracking of the Apollo Soyuz. Some of the USA stations are unfamiliar as you will note and help will be appreciated.

USSR TRACKING STATIONS	UNITED STATES TRACKING STATIONS	
Simferopol	Guam	Eden, Australia
Tiflis	Kwajalein	Bermuda
Novokazalinsk	Canton Island	Kennedy Space Center
Tomsk	Hawaii	Quito Ecuador
Ulan-Vde	Tahiti	Santiago Chile
Vladivostok	Los Angeles	Ascension Island
Petropavlovsk	Atlanta	Madrid, Spain
Ship 1		
Ship 2		

FROM THE CLIPPINGS

The University of Chile will build and operate a ground station to receive data from LANDSAT. The understanding between NASA and the University provides that the use of the NASA STDN Station at Santiago to acquire LANDSAT data will not interfere with NASA operations, and that the University will bear any expense required for additional equipment or operations.

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Mariner 10, the spacecraft that refused to quit, has finally been put out to pasture after more than 16 months of sailing among the stars. Its fuel supply exhausted after traveling nearly a billion miles in space. Mariner 10 now will spend infinity in honorable retirement, prepetually orbiting the Sun in giant loops.

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NASA's flying laboratory, GALILEO II, was flown from Ames Research Center to Alaska early in April to participate in a month-long field investigation of the Arctic seas. Researchers hope to find suitable methods of measuring critical changes in that environments.

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Officials from the United States and Indonesia have signed an agreement for the launch in 1976 of the latter nation's first communications satellite. Launched by a NASA Delta rocket, the satellite will be placed in synchronous orbit on the equator over Indonesia. It will reach 40 ground stations amoung 13,500 islands.

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A United States Navy communications facility near Asmara, Ethiopia, was attacked, eight persons including two American servicemen, are missing. The facility detached from the main American communications complex, known as Kagnew. The site is 10 miles southwest of Asmara, the capital of Eritrea Province.

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American and Soviet exploration of the planet Venus is proceeding on complementary lines, without eliminating a competitive spirit between the two nations, says an American scientist. Two Soviet spacecraft will help with inforamtion for the American probe of Venus in 1978.

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Experts believe Peking's new earth satellite can survey not only the Soviet Union but even the United States. By orbiting the earth 16 times a day and covering a new belt of the globe on each round, it is able to "see" the whole world,

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Rep. Gary A. Myers, PA, has asked the Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp to be sold first from the Mars, PA Post Office on July 4, 1976-touchdown day on the planet Mars for Viking spacecraft. Not only would a commemorative stamp be appropriate, but in addition a request that NASA send an astronaut to the earth Mars' to particioate in this historic occasion.

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President Ford has designated Cape Canaveral as the site for a National Science and Technology Bicentennial Exposition. NASA will function as both host and sponsor of the event. The theme will be "The Third Century of Human Progress Under Free Government." We know where we have been the last 200 years. Now it is the time and place to explore where we are going in the next century," said Dr. Fletcher.

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NASA's Large Space Telescope (LST), a multi-purpose optical telescope scheduled for launch into Earth orbit in the early 1980s, will enable scientists to gaze deep into space-seven times farther than ever before and possibly to the outer edges of the universe. Because it will be in orbit above Earth's hazy and turbulent atmosphere, the LST will see the heavens clearly. Scientists expect the LST to add significantly to man's ability to observe the universe.

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South Australia's Woomera Rocket Range, which has seen many special cancellations for rocket launchings, will probably cease full operations after 1976. This largely depends on the British launching program, but the facilities would be kept up in case of a revival on the rocket program. (Editor: Past cover report next issue)

SOVIET SPACE TRACKING SHIP YURI GAGARIN

The tracking ship Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and designated the flagship of Russian's 10-vessel tracking fleet. The ship was built for the expanding civilian and military space program, for which ground tracking stations are limited in Soviet territory. According to Soviet sources, there will still be "dead" spaces in orbital flights from the point of view of data and communications. The turbine-powered Yuri Gagarin was designed for work with earth orbital missions, lunar exploration and deep space probes, but it does not have the capability to track planetary spacecraft. It can work with spacecraft up to 50 million miles away. The ship is 755 ft. long has a 102-ft beam and displaces 43,500 metric tons normally and 53,500 fully loaded. Cruising speed is 17.7 kt. It can move sideways if necessary and has special stabilizers. Main communication antenna is the dish located directly above the bridge. This is for use with Molniya 1 communications satellite. Date collected from scientific spacecraft are received through other antennas and processed in a communications laboratory where they are compressed for "dumping" into the Molniya. The dish directly behind the forward antenna is used for gathering performance data from spacecraft. These are processed to determine trajectory and orbital information and to check performance of onboard systems. Larger dish antennas located behind the bridge are approximately 85-ft. in diameter and can receive signals from several spacecraft simultaneously. In addition to the four dish antennas, there are more than 100 other antennas for use on various wavelength bands. The large dish antennas are suspended and stabilized so that they do not more with the pitch and yaw of the ship. There is a special antenna complex control laboratory that determines the ship's location, course and hull distortion and computes compensatory date for antenna control. Soviets claim the system can work during a storm when the ship's hull is distorted by more than a foot. The ship contains more than 100 laboratories on its 11 decks, and includes a computer center, radar control facility for active tracking, and specialized communication centers. It also contains a chronometer facility for determining exact time. This is linked by radio with land-based time centers, providing a multiple check for tracking purposes. In addition to space tracking facilities the ship has several swimming pools, a gymnasium, a 260-seat hall and a clinic for its 300 crew-members and scientists.

GAGARIN Class (1)
Kosmonaut Yuriy Gagarin
Displacement tons 45,000
Measurement tons 32,291 gross 5,247 net
Dimensions feet 757 9 773 3 x101 7x30

KOMAROV Class (1)
Kosmonaut Vladimir Komarov
Displacement tons 17,500 full load
Measurement tons 8,000 approximately
Dimensions feet 510 8x75 5x29 5

SIBIR Class (4)
Chukotka Sakhalin Sibir Suchan
Displacement tons 4,000 standard 5000 full
Measurement tons 3,767 gross
Dimensions feet 354x49 2x20

DESNA Class (2)
Chazhma Chumikan
Displacement tons 5,300 light 14,065 full
Dimensions feet 457 7x59 0x25 9

KOROLEV type (1)
Akademik Sergei Korolev
Displacement tons 21,250
Measurement tons 17,114 gross 2,185 net
Dimensions feet 597 1x82 0x30 0

BASKUNCHAK (ex VOSTOK) Class (8)
Apsheron Dauriya Donbass Taman
Baskunchak Dikson Sevan Yamal
Measurement tons 2,215 net 4,896 gross
Dimensions feet 400 3x55 1x14 0

MORZHOVETS (ex VOSTOK) Class (7)
Borovichi Bezhitsa Dolinsk Morzhovets
Nevel Kegostrov

RISTNA (ex POVOLETS) Class (1)
Ristna
Measurement tons 1,819 net 4,200 dead weight 3,724 gross
Dimensions feet 347 8x47 9x14 0

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Most of the launches from Wallops Flight Center are one and two-stage rockets carrying instruments for atmospheric tests. Since the center opened in 1945, nearly 14,000 rockets have been launched; 640 these were sent into space.

LAUNCH SCHEDULE

The dates given are not firm, schedules do change. Listed is for the remainer of 1975 and those known for 1976. Listed are the stations taking part and these could also change.

FLIGHT	DATE	VEHICLE	RANGE	STATIONS
DOD	Dec 9		ETR	BDA HAW ETR GSC
INTELSAT IV-A	Dec 11	Atlas-Cent	ETR	ACN BDA MIL ORR ARIA ETR GSC
RCA-A	Dec 12	Delta	ETR	ACN BDA GWM HAW ETR ARIA GSC
CAS-C/CTS	Jan 13	Delta	ETR	ACN AGO BDA GDS GWM HAW MAD MIL ORR QUI ROS VAN ARIA ETR GSC
HELIOS-B	Jan 17	TIII-Cent	ETR	ACN BDA GWM HAW MIL ORR VAN ARIA ETR GSC
ITOS-E2	Feb	Delta	WTR	AGO HAW MAD ORR QUI ROS ULA WNK SAM ARIA GSC
COMSTAR-A	Feb	Atlas-Cent	ETR	ACN BDA MIL ORR ARIA ETR GSC
ISS	Feb			AGO ORR QUI WNK KAG GSC
CORSA	Feb		ETR	ACN AGO HAW ORR QUI KAG
INTELSAT IVA-C	Feb 5	Atlas-Cent	ETR	ACN BDA MIL ARIA ETR GSC
NATO-C	Feb 12	Delta	ETR	ACN BDA GWM HAW MIL ARIA ETR GSC
LAGEOS	Mar 18	Delta	WTR	ACN AGO MAD ORR QUI ULA WNK ARIA SAM GSC
MARISAT-A	Mar	Delta	ETR	ACN BDA GWM HAW MIL ARIA ETR GSC
RCA-B	Mar 24	Delta	ETR	ACN BDA GWM HAW MIL ARIA ETR GSC
MARISAT-B	Delta	ETR		ACN BDA GWM HAW MIL ARIA ETR GSC
WESTAR-C	Delta	ETR		
MARISAT-C	Delta	ETR		
COMSTAR-B	Atlas-Cen	ETR		
ESA-GEOS	Delta	ETR		
INDONESIA-A	Delta	ETR		
RCA-C	Delta	ETR		
SIRIA-A	Delta	ETR		
GOES-B	Delta	ETR		
ITOS-H	Delta	ETR		
COMSTAR-C	Delta	ETR		

Inquires have been received as to the abbreviations of the stations and where they are located. Below is this information with Ekas address number.

ACN(S-100)	Ascension	MIL(S-10)	Merritt Is.
ANT(E-102)	Antigua o	MAD(S-105,D-105,106,107)	Madrid *
AGO(S-102)	Chile	MSC(C-2)	Houston
ASC(E-103)	Ascension o	ORR(S-109)	Orroral Valley
BDA(S-101	Bermuda	QUI(S-103)	Quito
GBI(E-100)	Bahama o	PRE(E-104)	Pretoria
GDS(S-11,D-2,3,4,5,	Goldstone *	ROS(S-14)	Rosman
GSC(C-1)	Goddard Space Cent.	SAM	Vandenberg(WTR)
GTK(E-101)	Grand Turk o	SEY(E-105)	Seychelles o
GWM(S-15)	Guam	TID(D-101)	Tidbinbilla *
HAW(S-13)	Hawaii	ULA(S-12)	Fairbanks
HSK(D-102)	Honeysuckle *	VAN	USNS Vanguard
JPL(D-1)	Jet Prop Lab. Pasadena *	WLP	Wallops Island
		WHS	White Sands M.R.
KSC	Kennedy Space Cent.	WNK(S-104)	Winkfield

o Eastern Test Range Station * Deep Space Station

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Many people have been displeased with the cover service from White Sands Missile Range. Your Editor has had covers with this new service for a very short time and I am very well pleased. Send your stamped addressed covers with 10¢ service fee for machine cancel or 15¢ for hand cancel, state number of covers per event.

Mr Michael Lovelady 10249 Bon Aire Dr. El Paso, TX 79924

Tracking Station Report

New station addresses have not been numbered, but letter is before the address to indicate the type of station. Those addresses with an asterisk (*) indicate covers received for events.

For the ASTP covers were received from the Canton Island station and listed is the address used. Several years ago it was reported this station had closed.

Pacific Missile Range
Tracking Facility
USPO 06/50000, Box 53
Canton Island, Phoenix Group

Covers coming back from C-194 stated "NASA Station is closed since 11 July 75". In other words S-108 in Madagascar as stated last issue.

Address Corrections

C-11 Pulamtat Satellite Earth
* P.O. Box 3176 /Station
Agana, Guam 96910

C-191 TELESENEGAL
* Station Terrienne
Gandoul, Republique Du
/Senegal

Australian Balloon Launch Facility
Mildura, Vic 3500 Australia

C-110 International Radio Station
C-111 Transmitting Station
Box 21
Gnangara, Balga, WA Australia 6061

Corrected Australia Codes

D-100 2604
D-101 Ballima 2604
C-112 7000
C-116 6701
C-117 6450
C-118 4875
C-121 6000
C-123 4000
C-128 6530
C-129 6725
C-250 Exmouth
T-168 Bungendore
T-164 6076
T-170 Coonabarabran
X-134 P.O. Box 500

A note from the USNS Redstone "This ship is not a part of any space program. We are on Military orders".

A-4 Wheeler AFB, Hawaii stated they were swamped with covers for Skylab and does not have the personnel to handle them and will no longer process them.

A BIG THAN YOU should go to the Australian U.C.C.C. for the help with covers for the ASTP. Because of a postal strike covers were lost and covers received without enough postage and the U.C.C.C. added postage and serviced covers. Over 500 were handled in this manner. The U.C.C.C. has a large list of covers for past events and arrangements can be made for covers for future events from Australia by sending $1.00 for list to U.C.C.C., Glenelg 5045, S.A. Australia

Captain Anderson of the USNS Vanguard received many letters dissatified with the way covers were canceled. We must give Captain Anderson a lot of credit for the job of cacheting covers. The postmarks you and I received were **not of his** doings. Every 25 covers were bundled and returned through FPO or APO to headquarters in Brooklyn, NY. Those receiving Canal Zone cancel, bundle was probable un-done at that point.

The South African Station (BUR S-107) is now closed, the last day of operation was October 31, 1975 after a seventeen years of outstanding support. CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

The following are new addresses with those Z numbered taken from the Satellite Tracking Stations of Optical and Radio Tracking Stations listed in the March and June issue and continued in this issue.

T Valongo Observatory
Rio De Janeiro, Brasil

T Eugebides Planetarium
* Athens, Greece

T Astronmical Observatory of Paraiba
Caixa Postal 151
Joao Pessoa, Brasil

X International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine
35 Rue Ardinal Mercier
Bruxelles 1, Belgium

X Defence Research Telecommunications Establishment, Defence Reasearch Board, Dept of National Defence
Ottawa, Ont., Canada

T Ege University Observatory
* Izmir, Turkey

T Urania Observatory
Zurich, Switzerland

X AF Cambridge Research Laboratories
Hanscom Field
Bedford, Mass 01730

T International Latitude Observatory
* Mizosawa-shi, Iwate-Ken
Japan

These are the Z stations and since this list numbers 53 stations, listed are only those returning covers at this time, other addresses will appear in late issues.

Z-2 II Lehrkanzel Geodasie
Technische Hochschule
Rechbauerstrasse 12
A-8010 Graz, Austria

Z-3 Brazilian Space Research Institute
C.P. 515
Sao Jose dos Campos, S.P. 12200
Brazil

Z-7 Astronomical Institute
Ondrejov 249, Czechoslovakia

Z-9 Geodetic Institute
Nr. Eårimagsgade 1
Copenhagen, Denmark

Z-10 Geodatisches Institute der Tech. /nischen Hochschule
Arcisstrasse 21
8000 Munich 22, West Germany

Z-12 Institute fur Physikalische /Weltraumforschung
Heidenhofstr. 8
78 Freiburg im Breisgau
West Germany

Z-13 Breisac
Deutsche Forschungsanstalt fur Luft-und Raumfahrt
33 Braunschweig, Fiughafen
West Germany

Z-14 Geodetic Institute
Pasilankatu 43A
oo240 Helsinki, Finland

Z-15 Radio Laboratory
Technical University of Helsinki
Otaniemi, Finland

Z-17 ONERA
29 Avenue de la Division Leclerc
92320 Chatillon-sous-Bagneux
France

Z-20 Surveying Department
National Technical University
Athens 147, Greece

Z-22 MTA Csillagvizsgalo Intezete
Konkoly-Thege Ut. 13/17
Budapest 12, Hungary

Z-26 Asiago Observatory
Asiago (Vicenza) Italy

Z-28 Instituto di Recerce sulle Onde Elettromagnetiche
Via Panciatichi 56
50127 Firenze, Italy

Z-35 Hydrographic Department
Taukiji-5 Chuo-Ku
Toyko 104, Japan

Z-36 Laboratorium voor Ruimte-Onderzoek
Beneluxlaan 21
Utrecht, Netherlands

Z-41 Obsercatorio Astronomico
Universidade do Porto
Monte da Virgem
Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal

Z-43 C.S.I.R.
P.O. Box 395
Pretoria, Transvaal
South Africa

Z-46 Chalmer's Institute of Technology
Uppsala, Sweden

REMEMBER TO SEND SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENT FOR 1976, THANK YOU

Z-47 Astromisches Institu
Universitat Bern
Sidlerstrasse 5
3000-Bern, Switzerland

Z-48 Ecole Poltechnique Federale
Sternartstrasse 7
Zurich, Switzerland

Z-52 Astronomical Council
U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences
Crimea, U.S.S.R.

Last March and June issues appeared the name of the city of the Satellite Tracking Stations the world over. As this list continues from A-Z help is needed with the addresses.
Listed are OPTICAL and RADIO TRACKING STATIONS. (1) Visual Tracking Stations (2) Photographic Tracking Stations (3) Lasor Tracking Stations (4) Lunar Laser (5) Doppler Tracking Stations (6) Radar Tracking Stations (7) Interometers (8) Tracking Antennas

MTA Csillagvizsgalo Intezete
Konkoly-Thege Ut. 13/17
Budapest 12, Hungary 1

Baja, Hungary 1 2
Miskolc, Hungary 1

Academy of Sciences
Committee of Satellite Tracking at
Polytechnical University of Budapest
Budapest, Hungary 5

Director U.P. State Observatory (0-106)
Manora Peak
Naini Tal (U.P.) India 1 2

Radio Science Division, Code 4177
National Physical Laboratory
Hilside Road
New Delhi - 12 India 5

Institute of Geophysics
University of Teheran
Amirabad, Teheran 14, Iran 1 5

Asiago Observatory
Asiago (Vicenza) Italy 1

Comitato Ricerche Spaziali
Consiglio Nazionale dello Ricerche
Piazzale della Scienze, 7
Roma, Italy 1

Bologna, Italy 1
Genoa, Italy 1
Messina, Italy 1
Milano, Italy 1
Asiago, Italy 2
Catania, Italy 2
Monte Porzio, Italy 2
Opicina, Italy 2
Orio, Italy 2
San Vito, Italy 2
Sardinia, Italy 2

Instituto di Recerca sulle
Onde Elettromagnetiche
Via Panciatichi 56
50127 Firenze, Italy 5

C-226 Iceland 2

Dublin, Ireland 1

National Committee for Space Research
Radio Observatory
P.O. Box 4655
Haifa, Israel 5

0-107 Japan 1

Geodetic Survey Instituto
3 Higashiyama, Meguro-ku
Toyko 153, Japan 1

Asahikawa, Japan 1
Higashi-Matsuyama, Japan 1
Kagoshima, Japan 1 2
Kanaya, Japan 1 2
Kashiwara, Japan 1
Konko, Japan 1
Miyazaki, Japan 1
Musashino, Japan 1
Sapporo, Japan 1 2
Takada, Japan 1
Takeda, Japan 1
Yatsushiro, Japan 1
Yokkaichi, Japan 1
Dodaira, Japan 2 3
Kanozan 2
Kurashiki, Japan 2
Simosato, Japan 2
Sirahama, Japan 2
Taniyama, Japan 2
Tokyo-Tsukiji, Japan 2
T-160 Japan 4 5

Radio Research Laboratories
Kokubunji, Toyko, Japan 5

STAR-TREK/SCIENCE FICTION SPECTACULAR by Tim Cash

On the weekend of August 22-24 in Chicago was held a large Star-Trek/Science Fiction convention which I hear about in the Chicago Tribune a week before. I rented a room at the Conrad-Hilton where it was held and was there for the entire show.

A first days schedule was the following:Attending a lecture by Science Fiction authors Harlan Ellison and Robert Bloch about the topic:Television and Science Fiction. Mr Ellison is a very dynamic writer and individual and expressed many flavored points of opinion concerning the present limbo state of television science fiction and the problems of getting through a writers original script without the network executives and sensors tearing the heart out of it.

Mr. Bloch has also faced these problems and when asked from a member of the audience how he would solve the problem of passing scripts, he said he would write a script with the sensors in mind and get his idea across to the TV audience at the same time. This would be very easy, according to Harlan Ellison; just write a violence, car chase, or "Keep David Jansen AKA the fugitive on the road script".

I then went to the International Ball Room where the mock-up of the USS Enterprise bridge was and where the ST cast was giving their combination lecture/show/question answer period. The stars attending were: James Doohan "Scotty", Nichelle Nichols "Lt Uhuru", Walter Koenig "Ensign Chekov", George Takei "Lt Sulu", Mark Lenard "Sarek, The father of Mr Spock and a Romulan Commander". I received a very interesting insight into the philosophy of peace and brotherhood that the great majority of ST fans have taken on as a result of seeing the series. This can be summarized in the closing statement of Nichelle Nichols which was "When we (i.e. Human Race) finally get ready to go out to the stars and meet other intelligent beings, we must take this philosophy of non-violence, of peace and love with us". Ms Nichols is an extremely beautiful and talented lady and she was easily the most popular of the lecturers that day.

The next day consisted of going to more science fiction lectures and a NASA lecture entitled: The future of manned space flight given by Dr Jesco Von Puttlamer from the Office of Manned Space Flight at NASA HQ. Dr Puttlamer worked under Dr Von Braun for the time that he was serving as Director of future flight studies at NASA HQ. He gave a very interesting slide show and lecture on space flight and included was a NASA chart listing all the logical goals or milestones in space flight that we (as a planet) should make in the next 500 years. The proposal began with ASTP, Space Shuttle and the earth orbit space station (preferrably with separate nation add-on modules concept) which NASA will try to get in the presedential campaign statements of next year so that whoever wins the next presidential race will have the NASA goal in their program of plans.

The largest surprise of that lecture was when the chart of far future space flight speculation was shown and an Interstellar space flight was the ultimate goal listed. I asked if this chart came from the "Peacefull uses of outer Space" conference last summer and Dr Puttkamer said no, it was not. This was formulated from a NASA only study of probable future goals after Apollo-Soyuz. An interesting talk took place in the hall with a Q&A session with Dr Puttkamer after his lecture was over. I asked if the Soviets are developing a space shuttle of their own; and Dr Puttkamer replied that from all current available evidence, he would have to conclude that they were not.

Another very interesting lecture was given that night by Dr J. Allen Hynek-the prominent astronomer who is conducting a scientific (Repeat a Scientific) research into the UFO phenomenon. I personally do not consider there is sufficient evidence as yet to explain the UFO sightings as an extra-terrestrial visitation as many claim, but I do believe if it is ever done, that Dr Hynek will be in the foreground of the action. He showed many unexplained slides of UFO sightings and these were subject to stringent photographic analysis for possible forgeries and faleries. I was satisfied as to their authenticity.

There were many Science Fiction movies shown both nights and among some of my old favorites were: Forbidden Planet; King Kong; and Fantastic Planet which was the excellent animated SF Czech film of a few years back which won the Cannes International Film Festical award for best SF movie of the year. I also saw When Worlds Collide for the first time and could understand the enthusiasm of Dr Von Braun as a child when he first read the book and in latter years saw the movie. All of the "Ape" movies were also shown as well as many of the old ST re-runs. I left the convention a richer per-

son culuraly and a poorer person economically for the 3 day $20.00 admission fee and all of the SF material and collectors items that I purchased.

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FROM THE CLIPPINGS

The European Space Philatelic Association announced the appointment of Gene E. Schlimer as its US representative. ESPA is dedicated to space philately and regularly issues covers commemorating notable European space events. Further information on the organization may be obtained from Gene E. Schlimmer, Box 1062, Lompoc, CA 93436. A #10 SASE will be appreciated.

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The observatory of the University of Hawaii's Institute for Astronamy located at the top of Mauna Kea, at 13,796 feet the highest mountain in the Hawaiian Islands. It has one communication link with the rest of the world. A problem developes a little over two years ago during a snow storm when the protective cover for the observatory's microwave antenna was blown away, allowing the unprotected equipement to become coated with snow and ice. The high winds were so severe that the missing cover was never found and e new one had to be put on. The site has so many advantages for astronomers that the French and Canadian governments, in a joint project with the University of Hawaii are constructing a $21-million, 144-inch telescope that is scheduled to be in operation in 1978.

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Two federal agencies are thinking of cobining energy research with space exploration by fueling the planned Space Shuttle rocket with hydrogen derived from coal. If so, NASA would not have to get its hydrogen fuel from natural gas, a fuel in short supplu. A coal-gasification plant could be built in New Orleans, near the hydrogen-liquefying facility to be used by NASA, by mid-1978. It could conduct research and development for two or three years and then it could be turned over to NASA to continued producting hydrogen for space shuttle flights.

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Dr Wernher von Braun announced the formation of the National Space Institute, a non-profit, educational and scientific organization "dedicated to communicating the benefits of our national space program to the American public". The institute, earlier identified as the National Space Association and conceived with the National Space Club, will operate with an initial budget of about $300,000 annually. The original financing has been obtained from the aerospace industry--Rockwell International, Fairchild Industries, TRW Systems, McDonnell Douglas, LTV Aerospace, Grumman Aerospace, Lockheed Aircraft Corp, Hugh Aircraft, Boeing Company, and Martin Marietta, Von Braun explained that the NSI will develope educational programs designed to reach the broad spectrum of American society, while providing a form for the discussion and direction of space policy.

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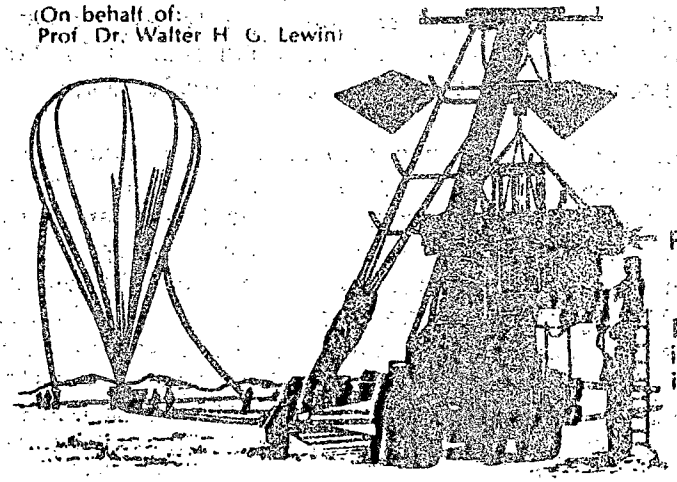
The constellation Orion is releasing catastrophic amounts of enery. It has generated X-ray emissions five times greater than any observed, before in the heavens. Observatories in many parts of the worl have been alerted and are trying to locate the source or observe it at radio wavelengths. The original observation was made by the British satellite Ariel 5. When first detected, the X-ray emissions were weak, but their intensity increased rapidly. They were recorded by SAS-3, the Small Astronomy Satellite. In a preliminary scan of the region with its 300-foot wide dish antenna at Green Bank, W. Va., the National Radio Astronomy Observatory has not seen any remarkably intense emissions. The Observatory with the largest dish in the world, at Arecibo in Puerto Rico, has been notified, as have those with the most powerful optical telescopes, such as on Mount Palomar in California and Kitt Peak in Arizona. The British have been scanning the region with their multiple-antenna array.

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The Apollo astronauts made what may prove to be an important astronomical discovery, confirmation of an extreme ultraviolet source outside of our solar system. It is the first time such detection has been made. The ultraviolet radiation came from within the constellation Coma Berenices. Nobody expected sources to be there and there were a number of people who said even if they were there, you'd never be able to see them

World's Largest Single Cell Balloon Successfully Launched 7.50 a.m. at Alice Springs

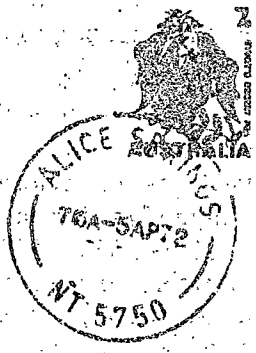
By: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
(On behalf of:
Prof. Dr. Walter H. G. Lewin)



Payload

Purpose of world's largest 46,000,000 c.ft instrument carrying Astronomy Balloon is:

To gather detailed data on mysterious X-ray sources radiating in outer space.



3

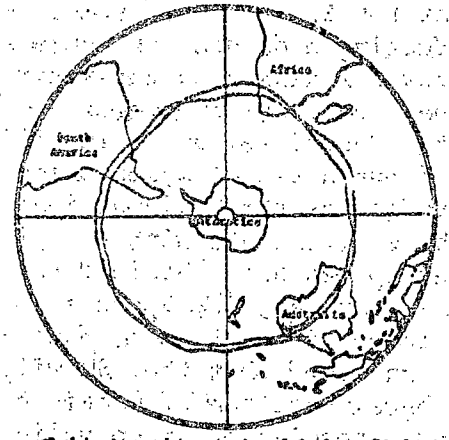
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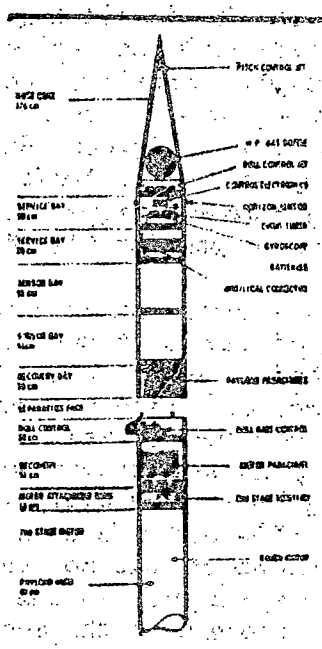
Twice round the world by Boomerang balloon

High-altitude balloons fill a unique niche in space and stratospheric research.

Now a milestone has been reached. Scientists recovered for the first time a balloon scientific payload after a long duration, twice-around-the-world flight. The project is called "Boomerang" and is funded by NASA and managed by the National Scientific Balloon Facility of the National Center for Atmospheric Research.



Orbital paths of the 36-day flight.



SL 1004

LAUNCHED 14.3.73

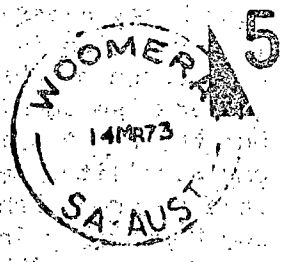
Experimenter — ARU Culham.

Experiment — Determination of temperature gradient in the transition region from solar chromosphere to the corona by measuring the limb to disc intensity ratio of spectural lines from A range of ions in the X-UV spectrum using three grazing incidence spectrographs.

Determination of absolute intensity of solar disc spectrum in the X-UV region to give structural model.

Time of Flight — 13 m 35 secs.

Apogee — 225 Km.

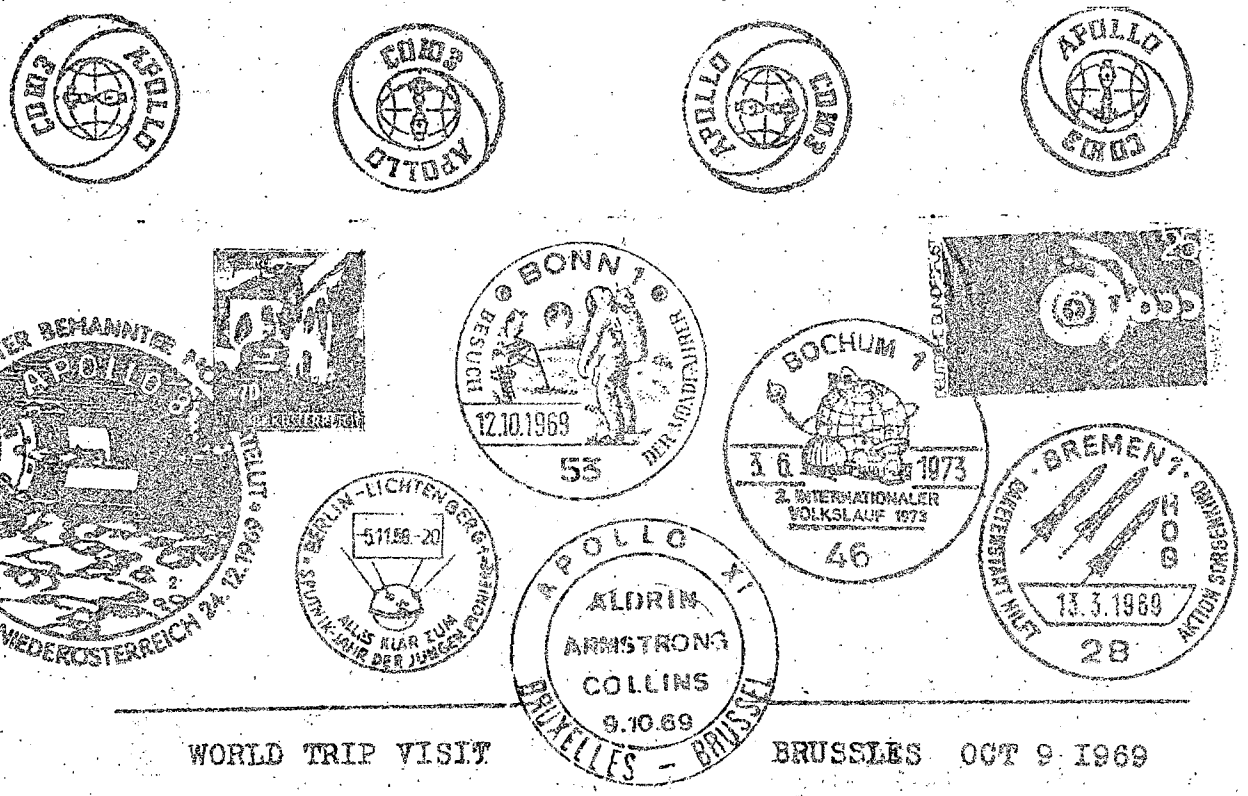


5

These are the types of cachets applied to covers by the U.C.C.C. of Australia, for special space events. Covers are printed and in different colors. Send IRC's or $1.00 for information; U.C.C.C., Glenelg 5045, SA Australia.
Editor: In the next issue I hope to have a list of launches and special event covers from the Woomer Research Launch Range. If possible some of these will be shown. Most covers are in two or three colors.

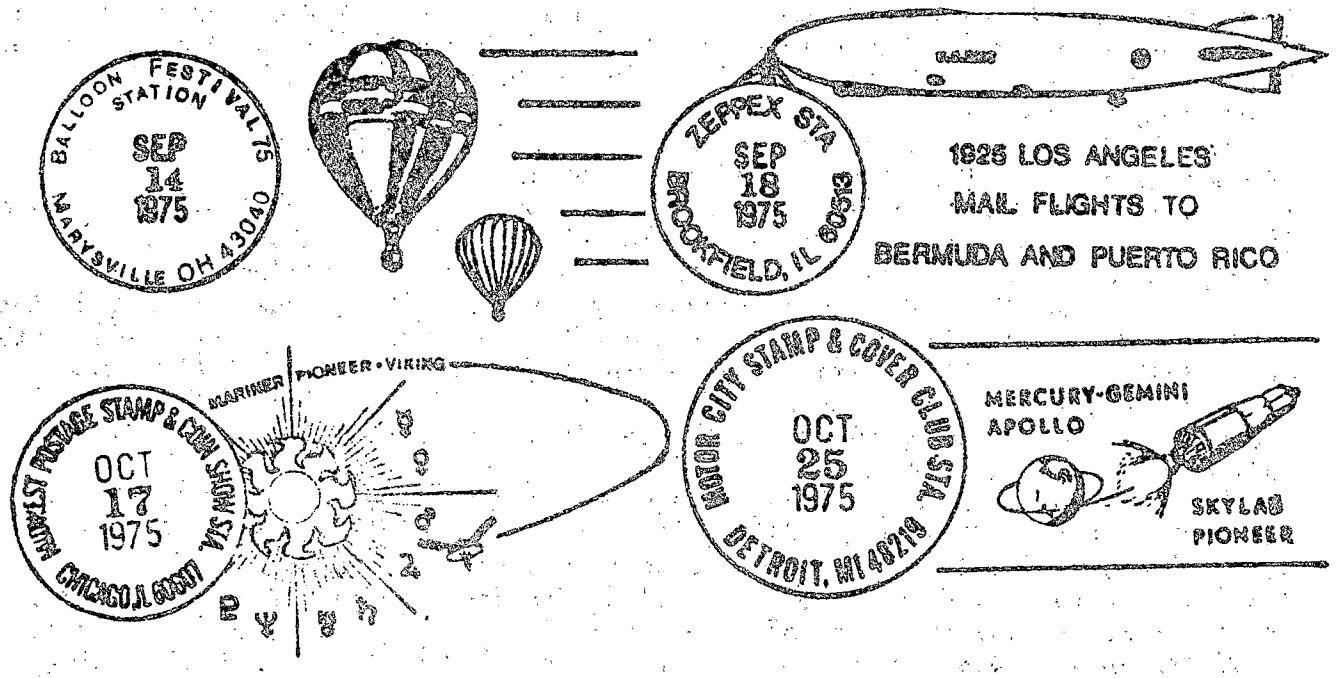
Below is the ASTP emblem in four different positions. Am wondering who knows the correct position, it has been shown in all four on covers and government publications. My guess is the one on the left is correct.

Several issues ago was a page of picture and slogan postmarks. At that time those below were not shown since space was not available. Since one goes back as far as 1959, I'm sure the price would be high on this, but is probably available from one of our European space friends.



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These are more recent slogan and picture postmarks. If one watches Linn's and Western Stamp Collector addresses can be obtained for future postmarks.



LE CENTRE SPATIAL QUYANAIS-THE GUIANA SPACE CENTER

On 14 April 1964, the French Council of Ministers decided a civilian rocket launching center should be created at Kourou, in French Guiana. The National Space Study Center (CNES) had chosen Guiana because of its geopraphic characteristics. Its location, between 2 and 5 degrees North of the Equator enables any orbit, polar as well as equatorial.

The Guiana Space Center is available to all interested countries. The first foreign launch was for the ELDO to carry out operational lauching of the EUROPA II. The mission of the GSC is to provide users with the facilities necessary for launchings and payloads. To supply them with data, to coordinate the preparation and carrying out of all launching operations, to ensure the safety of persons and property during operation.

The GSC is a coastal strip of 30 kilometers long and 10 kilometers wide. It has telemetry and tracking facilities located at various points on the site, a technical center, a port, industrial zone and a town.

The first launchings of a sounding rocket took place on April 9, 1968. The "Diamant" unit began its activity in March 1970. The sounding rocket launch unit is located seven kilometers from the Technical Center. It has facilities for preparing four rockets simultaneously in the assembly halls.

The DIAMANT launching unit is located four kilometers to the North of the sounding-rocket launching unit. The assembly hall is built next to the launching pad and a single control bench is used during assembly operations. The tower is connected to the assembly hall by an air-lock and before launch they are removed from the launch pad.

The EUROPA launching unit is located twelve kilometers from the Technical Center. This includes four areas; the launching area with the launching pad, the assembly tower and control equipment, the launching center, the assembly area located 1,200 meters from the launching pad and includes offices, storehouse and cafeteria, and the propellant storage installation located one kilometer from the pad.

The GSC tracking facilities includes radar, infrored tracking cinetheodolites, computers, data transmission systems and visual display equipment. The 35 or 16 mm. black and white or color films, taken during launching can be developed at the GSC immediately after launching.

Three telemetry stations in Guiana and two down-range stations constitute the telemetry equipment facilities that can be used for a launch. The main telemetry station is located on the "Montagne des Peres" twenty kilometers from the launching units. The down-range stations are located at Fortaleza, Brazil and Brazzaville, Congo. The sites are connected by an undergound cable systems, by micro-wave links or radio.

Flight safety is such that there is no inhabited area lying within an angle of 120 degrees and a radius of 3,000 kms. If the trajectory shows any danger for the facilities or inhabited areas, the flight safety officer has available a command transmitter by means of which the rocket trajectory can be changed by stopping propulsion or by destroying the rocket.

The launching program is drawn up annually. For each experiment is appointed a Project Manager and Director of Operations. During launching, all of the facilities are placed under the authority of the Director of Operations. During the count-down the Project Manager decides whether to continue or interrupt count-down. Only the Safety Officer has the power to veto the Project Leader's decision.

The Guiana Space Center can be reached by air or by sea. A road links the Center with Kourou and Cayenne which are 50 kms apart. The Guiana and Guiana Space Center are connected to the international telephone and telex systems. A 7,000 kVA electric power station supplies the Center and town. Drinking water is supplied by a pumping station and filtering water plant taken from the Kourou river twenty kilometers upstream and stored in a 5,000 cu.m. tank.

The address of the facility is on page one of the Directory-Space Addresses. It is again listed on page 23 as FS-117 with other stations taking part from time to time. When sending covers IRC's can be sent or stamps of France applied. Please give details what is wanted and if a supply of covers sent, state the number to be serviced per event. Covers for events are serviced by the Philatelic Club of Kourou and servicing covers is not a part of the job of the launch facility. When sending covers do not request outlandish service, no matter where covers are sent this rule should be followed.

THE EDWARDS CAPER

In the September issue was an article titled "THE ELMHURST CAPER". Since much more is involved besides Elmhurst and the roots seam to be at Edwards, California; until this is cleared, it will be known as "THE EDWARDS CAPER".

On September 25 an envelope was received with a postmark of Sept 22 from U.S. Postal Service, but zip was not readable. In the upper left corner was the return address of the Elmhurst dealer, but no letter explaining the letters enclosed. At this time I am giving parts of these letters and omitting most names since no charges have been placed against anyone at this time.

Feb. 4, 1974-Boy Scout Cachet service....We do not and will not service covers to customers for any ABORT flight. Because of my own private collection and for future investment I process my own covers on the abort flights at no more than 50 covers per abort. I have not sold any of these covers....(Signed) Dennis Lally

Aug 27, 1974-Edwards Boy Scout Cachet Service....In the past, we had good service because the Cachet Fund had one person who worked with the program for many years. In the past nine months, I have had three persons work with the fund. The first two failed, but the third one, Mr Jordan, work is very good. The 15 cents fee was not enough to keep someone reliable enough in the past, so I increased it to 25 cents. The job takes about 25 hours per week for Mr Jordan to do....This little profit supports four Boy Scout Troops, two Explorer Posts, and four Cub Packs. Is there any other explanation!....(Signed) Robert C. Parker...P.O. On Sept 4, 1974 The Boy Scout Cachet Service was informed that the postmaster could not back-date anymore cachets period....In the past the postmaster has honored these back-dated flights in which he knew was illegal, but certain individuals complained about receiving back-dated envelopes.

Sept 15, 1974-Dear Ray, I think you have a misunderstanding of my wife's servicing of covers. 1) We do no cachet, only have the covers cancelled and return them to the dealers/collectors in groups of about 5 events under separate postage so they do not get mishandled. 2) We have never had a cover cancelled on a wrong date and we have gotton all events asked for. 3) We charge 10¢/cover with 10 covers min, a reduction for over 1000. 4) We do not need the covers addressed, we will stamp/@ 2¢/cover and return when there is a group.....

Date ////(From A.F. Capt.)....I don't know if(woman) works anywhere. I don't think she works at the Post Office but that could be an interesting development. I'ii ask ....at the Annex and let you know. No wait-the PM told me....calls to tell him how many covers to cancel-so she can't work there. I'll bet....doesn't even see those covers from (dealer). They probably come into PO and go in the cabinet. She probably doesn't touch those beauties until she mails them back. What a deal! I couldn't see who all had their covers in that cabinet....of neat stocked boxes of 500....Compass Cope cover with Sunday cancel from (dealer) was dated October 6th, 1974.

Oct 31-Dear Ray, First-I have to send these covers by package, because the Post Office cancells them for us sometime 3 or 4 days late and it would be illegal to then mail them....(Signed) AF Colonel

Date ???....(woman servicer) is the wife of an AF colonel....Before I forget-I bought some (dealer) Compass Cope covers from a Cleveland dealer. When I checked the dates one had an Edwards machine cancel with a Sunday date. So I went to the main P.O. to see the Head Nigger up there. I put the covers on his desk and said whats the deal on the Sunday cancel. Well first he gives me the dumb treatment. You know how it goes-He couldn't believe his eyes-a Sunday cancel-how could that be. Then I told him I didn't care if the cancel was predated or back dated, I just wanted to know if it was an authentic Edwards cancel. Well then he got real friendly. Yes it was an authentic cancel-Yes he does all of (dealer) covers. Then he showed me a big steel cabinet with shevels full of boxes of envelopes (500 per box). He says he cancels the covers whe....calls....and tells him how many. You get the picture ....covers are kept in the post office in a Government cabinet and ....just makes a phone call.

Date???A.F. Capt. no loner at Edwards....So what it comes down to is that I will try to get as many hand canceled covers for you as I can, but I can't promise 50, in fact 50 is almost impossible unless I can think of something....I'll try my best and thats all I can do. Fair enough? A few words about the Boy Scouts. I talked on the

phone with the BS treasure, Sgt Bob Parker. I told him that I figured with a little help, some publicity and droping their service fee, they could do 3 or 4 times the volumn of covers they are now doing. I offered to help and Parker sounded enthusiastic. He offered to set up a meeting between himself, Hall Jorden and me to discuss the whole subject. He took my home and office phone numbers, but he never called me back!....Dennis Lally ran off with the Boy Scouts supply of back covers. His address is unknown. Parker would like to kick his....if ever finds him. Robinson I don't know about but will ask around.

June 18, 1975-Havertown, Pa. To: Director, Postal Inspector Office, U.S. Postal Service, Washington, D.C.-Dear sir, I am writing you as someone very concerned about growing suspicions and some public charges....of possible illegal, or at least unethical, practices by postal employes at the USPA Edwards, Calif., I am a collector ....who wishes to alert you to potential problems in the near future out at Edwards in the hope that your office can nip these potential problems in the bud....What brings this letter is growing concern by some of possible illegal or improper activities by your employes at Edwards, Calif. There has been a great deal of speculation recently in space....publications about back-dating covers there, about possible fraudulent cancels...."special privileges"....I was told by others that back-dating covers at Edwards....was more a "usual" thing than an "unusual".... there have been charges of fraudulent "Edwards AFB STA" hand cancel on envelopes. I sent a Xerox copy of several such covers I have to the postmaster at Edwards and asked if such cancels are or were in use. To this date, no answer....(Signed)

July 22, 1975-Havertown, Pa. To: Mr. M.J. Mercante, Postal Inspector, PO Box 5157, San Bernardino, Ca.-Dear Mr Mercante: Thank you very much for your reply of july 17, 1975 concerning my complaint to the Post Office Department dated June 18, 1975. In reply to your request, I will furnish what information I have which led to my original complaint....several persons...I feel, can be of help....in your work on this complaint...Mr Sean Marsar..Mr Ray DuBeau..Mr William R. Hanson..Robert C. Parker.. ..Mr DuBeau, he has told me, has written the Postal Inspector office at Los Angeles about Edwards affairs and never received a reply....What I feel is happening at Edwards is that several servicer organizations maneuvering for position with the Post Master or authorities there for "priveleged position." We went through much the same type thing during the 1960s at Cape Canaveral and Kennedy Space Center, Fla.... To be fair, of course much of the blame is due collectors and servicers and dealers. But, unless these people find the rotten apples in the POs, they can't do much. They always seem to manage to find these rotten apples. (Signed)

August 4, 1975-Havertown, Pa. Sean: Thanks very much for sending me the copies of the ....letters to his contact at Edwards Post Office(Editor: I believe these are the same letters appearing in the Sept Dish)....the way I see all this is that.... can argue very effectively that he was doing nothing more than trying to get certain back-dated cancels on covers...which,....were spoiled or ruined previously....it is "surmised,"....back-dating was a common practice at Edwards for "friends" of the Postmaster or others....If....did wrongly by involving someone at the Post Office, all I can say is he's a very bad boy. And we ought to look into others who service who work on bases or who have blood relatives working on NASA bases....You know, whatever....WE MUST KEEP THIS HOBBY CLEAN....(Signed)

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RISER AFFAIR

Many questions remain unanswered; how many fraudulent covers were made, what type of covers were made-Port Canaveral-Wallops Island-Recovery ships; who were the fake covers sold to; what happened to the fake cancels and art work; was anyone else involved; which autographs were faked. Mr Riser purchased 700 Mint U.S. Government envelopes from one Postal Stationary Dealer that we know of. What did he do with them? His reply to this, they were ruined applying cancels and cachets, except the 51 claiming was faked. Fourteen of the 51 are in the hands of the U.S. Postal Inspectors, but where are the others. I'm sure the ruined covers many collectors would be interested in a poor cancel for the May 5, 1961 USS Lake Champlain at a low price, say $100-$150, considering they go for $500-$900, by this I mean before it was proven to be fakes. Most of the answers given by Mr Riser do not hold water, but the U.S. Government people bought it.

THE DISH

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Dear Space Collector:

As you will note above this is published by RODEK Enterprises. Do not get alarmed at this as this is more or less book keeping matter. Before this took place accounts were kept for The Dish, stamp business, rubber stamps and covers. Putting this all together was formed RODEK Enterprises and one set of books and account.

Since this is run on a non-profit bases, money has accumulated over the past few months. With this issue some is coming back to you, as you will note this is a four ounce issue. This is a way of saying THANK YOU and in another way my Christmas greeting to you.

This being the end of 1975, most subscriptions run out with this issue. The next issue will be in March and hope all receiving this have renewed by then. If a red check is by your address, this is to note your subscription is due for 1976. The good news have waited until last and this is the cost of subscriptions for 1976. As things keep going up in price, The Dish will hold at the present subscription rates. These rates are listed above and the only way this can be done is through the many people purchasing stamps, covers and rubber stamps. Another reason for holding the price line is because of purchases made before the printed materials took a hike in prices, in other words, advance buying. With the increase in postage rates, a year from now things may be different, but lets hope it is for the better.

In this issue is an article by Seymour Rodman and articles of not more than one page are desired. Also, wanted is clippings on space matters and anything you may think would be of interest. Thanks Seymour.

In the last issue, I said the the U.S.A. and Madagascar could agree on the rental fee. This should have been could not agree. This all took place a few days before the ASTP and I believe the government of Madagascar thought the United States would pay the higher rental price or the ASTP would not take place. On August 5th the Madagascar government overprinted two stamps, 150fr and 250fr with "Apollo-Soyuz JONCTION 17 Juillet 1975". Why these denominations since they will not carry ordinary mail, but are of high denominations.

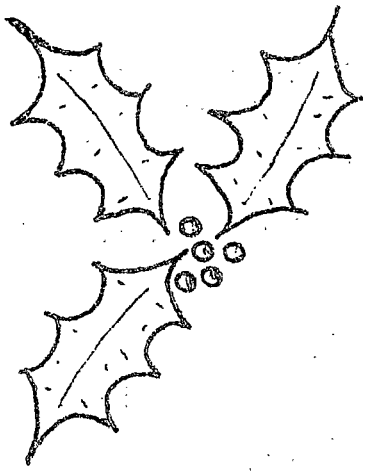
Word received from Morris Beck for discontinuing cover service, we are sorry to have this come to an end.

A few days ago a very nasty postcard was received. In comparing handwriting and what was said, it had to do with The Edwards Caper (formerly The Elmhurst Caper). I believe we are on the right track in trying to clear this up. I would like to say THANK YOU, all those having works of encouragement for type of articles and The Dish in general.

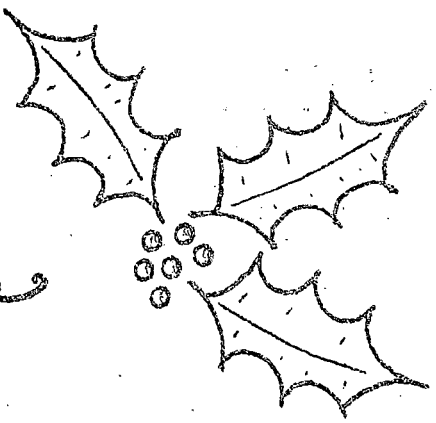
GOOD COLLECTING

Sincerely,

Bob



Season's Greetings

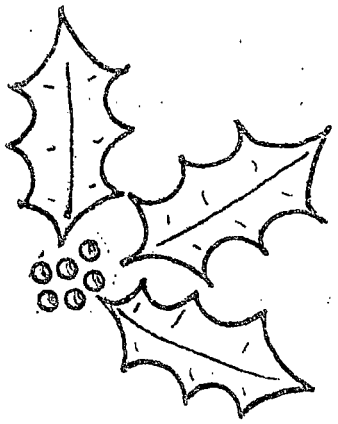


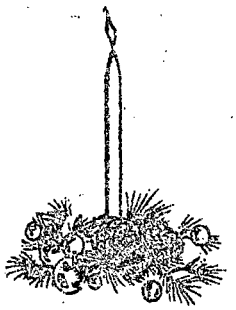
AT THIS TIME IS EXTENDED TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR. WE MUST BE THANKFUL WE LIVE IN A LAND WHERE WE CAN EXPRESS OURSELVES AND LIVE IN PEACE.

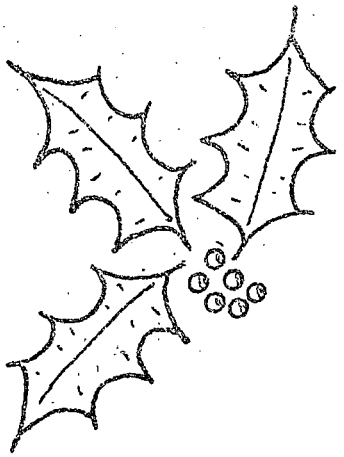
WITH THIS EXTRA LARGE ISSUE IS MY WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU FOR A GOOD YEAR. I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO SERVICE YOU IN THE YEARS TO COME AND TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH MANY MORE SPACE COLLECTORS.

I HOPE ALL OF YOU A SINCERE, PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR IN 1976.

BOB EKAS







THE DISH is a publication devoted mostly to Tracking Stations for past and future space flights. In each issue are articles by several writers, comments on space events, launch schedules with stations taking part. Free trading and selling page, list of space flights and where canceled, with several pages of cachets and canceles illustrated.

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