

MISSION STATUS BULLETIN

VOYAGER

September 14, 1977



No. 8

CURRENT STATUS

Voyager 1

Voyager 1, launched September 5, completed its first trajectory correction maneuver in two parts on September 11 and 13.

Both maneuvers included calibration sequences of the dual frequency communications links, the high-gain antenna S- and X-bands. During these sequences, the 3.7-meter (12-foot) diameter high-gain antenna dish is pointed towards Earth and the S-band (about 2295 megahertz) and X-band (about 8418 megahertz) radio links are calibrated. Except for this calibration sequence, the X-band will not be in use during about the first 80 days of the mission. Communications during launch, near-Earth and early cruise phase operations are confined to S-band and the low-gain antenna.

The radio calibrations were performed while the spacecraft was transmitting to the Goldstone Deep Space Station near Barstow, California. Only the large 64-meter (210-foot) dish antenna stations of the Deep Space Network can receive the X-band signal. Both the 64-meter and 26-meter (85-foot) dish antenna stations are capable of receiving at the lower-rate S-band.

During the September 13 sequence, the scan platform was pointed at deep space and the ultraviolet spectrometer (UVS) instrument was turned on.

The infrared interferometer spectrometer (IRIS) dust cover was deployed on September 13 and the instrument is operating properly.

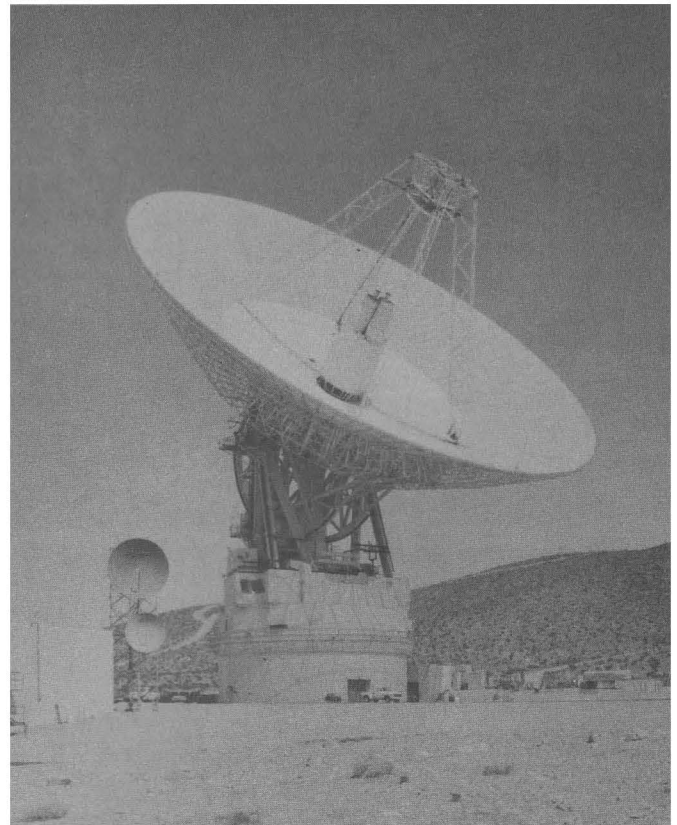
Voyager 1 will begin cruise mode on September 15, having completed all planned near-Earth activities. A recorded Earth-Moon video and optical navigation data sequence is planned for September 16, with playback at a later date.

Voyager 2

Voyager 2, launched August 20, continues in cruise mode with real-time science commands being uplinked (sent to the spacecraft from Earth via S-band) at pre-determined opportunities.

A fields and particles instruments calibration sequence was performed on September 12. On September 16, the infrared interferometer spectrometer (IRIS) instrument will perform deep space calibrations, and a diagnostic sequence will be performed on the photopolarimeter (PPS) analyzer wheel.

Voyager 2's first trajectory correction maneuver is planned for early October, 54 days after launch.



TRACKING. The 64-meter (210-foot) antenna at Goldstone, near Barstow, California, is part of the Deep Space Network tracking system.

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