

FORECAST OF UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES -- JULY 2010

400 Years Ago - 1610

July 30: Astronomer Galileo Galilei observes Saturn's Rings.

60 Years Ago - 1950

July 24: First launch from Cape Canaveral, V-2 with Wac Corporal as second stage (Bumper/V-2 Rocket).

55 Years Ago - 1955

July 29: International Geophysical Year (IGY) announced by the White House, Washington, D.C. U.S. plans to launch satellite vehicle as part of its contribution to the effort.

July 30: USSR announces plan to launch an earth satellite as its contribution to the IGY, Copenhagen, Denmark.

50 Years Ago - 1960

July 1: Army Ballistic Missile Agency in Huntsville, AL renamed George C. Marshall Space Flight Center. It officially opened with formal transfer ceremonies and becomes part of NASA.

July 29: Apollo Program named, Washington, D.C.

July 29: MA-1, Mercury Capsule launched, Atlas booster exploded shortly after liftoff, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

45 Years Ago - 1965

July 1: Tiros 10 launched aboard Thor Delta, 11:07 a.m., EST, Cape Canaveral, Fla. Last of Tiros series of weather satellites.

July 14: Mariner 4 took first close-up photographs of Mars, project managed by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA. First fly-by of Mars.

July 16: 1st Proton Rocket Launch (USSR)

July 18: Zond 3 Launch (USSR Moon Flyby).

July 30: Saturn 10 with Pegasus 3 micrometeoroid satellite as a payload launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla., 8:00 a.m., EST. Apollo Boiler Plate BP-9 also aboard.

40 Years Ago - 1970

July 17: HL-10 made its last flight, Major Peter C. Hoag at the controls, DFRF, CA.

July 23: Intelsat III F-8 launched by Thor Delta, failed to reach proper orbit, 7:23 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

35 Years Ago - 1975

July 15: Soyuz 19 launched, 1220 UTC, Baikonur, USSR. Crew of Alexei A. Leonov and Valeri N. Kubasov. This was the Soviet contribution to the Apollo-Soyuz Test Program (ASTP).

July 15: ASTP launched at 3:05 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla. aboard a Saturn 1B. Astronauts Thomas P. Stafford, Vance D. Brand and Donald K. Slayton. Linked with Soyuz 19 on July 17. Last Apollo spacecraft flight. First docking of two nation's spacecraft.

30 Years Ago – 1980

July 18: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched into Earth orbit the Rohini RS-1 test satellite, designed primarily to evaluate the efficiency of the launch vehicle.

25 Years Ago – 1985

July 2: Giotto launch Aboard Ariane 1 rocket from French Guiana. (ESA's Comet Halley Mission).

July 29: STS-51F (Space Shuttle *Challenger*), with Spacelab-2 payload in the cargo bay. Launched from KSC at 5:00 p.m., EDT. Crew: Charles G. Fullerton, Roy D. Bridges, Karl G. Henize, Anthony W. England, F. Story Musgrave. Loren W. Acton and John-David E Bartoe. Landed Edwards Air Force Base, CA on August 6, 3:45 p.m., EDT. Mission Duration: 7 days, 22 hours, 45 minutes.

20 Years Ago – 1990

July 25: Combined Release and Radiation Effects satellite (CRRS) launched aboard Atlas 1 rocket from Cape Canaveral, Fla. at 3:21 p.m., EDT to study ionosphere and magnetosphere.

15 Years Ago – 1995

July 13: STS-70 (Space Shuttle *Discovery*). Launched at 9:41 a.m. EDT at KSC, Fla. Crew: Terence T. Henricks, Kevin R. Kregel, Nancy Jane Currie, Donald A. Thomas, and Mary Ellen Weber. Deployment of the 7th Tracking Data and Relay Satellite (TDRS). Landed July 22 at 8:02 a.m. EDT at KSC. Mission Duration: 8 days, 22 hours, 20 minutes, 5 seconds.

July 23: Alan Hale's & Tom Bopp's Discovery of Comet Hale-Bopp.

10 Years Ago – 2000

July 12: ZVEZDA (meaning Star) is the Russian "service module" that was launched to dock with the International Space Station (ISS) by a Proton-K rocket from Baikonur at 04:56 UTC.

July 16: Launch of European Space Agency (ESA) Cluster II satellites (named Samba and Salsa) to probe the magnetosphere by a Soyuz-Fregat rocket from Baikonur at 12:39 UTC. Cluster I was lost aboard Ariane 5 failed maiden flight.

5 Years Ago – 2005

July 9: Suzaku, or Astro-E2 successfully launched with help of Goddard SFC team from the Uchinoura Space Center in Japan at 11:30 p.m. EDT. It's mission was to fill a gap in our understanding of the X-ray universe.