

ANIK-C SATELLITE LAUNCH

Challenger was launched at 6:33 a.m. Houston time on June 18, 1983 and moved smoothly into an elliptical orbit ranging from 160 miles to 165 miles high. After going through the normal routine of opening and checking the payload bay doors and other systems, the astronauts launched the first of two communications satellites about 4 p.m.

This satellite was the second of Canada's series ANIK-C spacecraft. The first was launched aboard Columbia's STS-5 mission on November 11, 1982 and the third in the series is scheduled for launch in mid-1984. These three new ANIK-C spacecraft are advanced, relatively high power satellites providing 16 transponders each.

Our SCCS cover for this satellite launch is postmarked Houston on June 18 with the Houston MPP hand cancel. The price is \$1.25 each. And for you "double-cancels" buffs, we have a cover with both Houston MPP hand cancels of November 11, 1982 and June 18, 1983, launch dates of the first and second ANIK-C satellites. Price of this cover is \$2.75.

PALAPA-B1 SATELLITE

The second satellite launch of the STS-7 mission was the PALAPA-B1 and it was launched on June 19. Made by McDonald Douglas, the craft was launched for Indonesia and it will hover over Indonesia at the equator at an orbit of 22,300 miles high. It will link Indonesia's scattered islands with television, radio, telephone and telex signals. Its name means "national unity" and is very appropriate as Indonesia is a nation made up of 13,500 islands whose inhabitants speak about 150 languages.

Our SCCS cover is postmarked June 19, 1983 with the Houston MPP hand cancel and the price is \$1.25

DOUBLE-CANCEL SATELLITE LAUNCHES

To commemorate the two satellite launches of STS-7 we have a cover with the Houston MPP hand cancels of both launches. The first is June 18 for the ANIK-C launch and the second is June 19 for the PALAPA-B1 launch. The price of this cover is \$2.75

THREE IMPORTANT PRE-LAUNCH STS-7 EVENTS

May 24, 1983...STS-7 pre-launch press conference. One pre-launch shuttle event that draws a lot of attention from the news media is the pre-launch crew press conference. The one for STS-7 was especially high in interest because the mission would have as a crew member the first woman astronaut. Sally Ride said that she was "glad to get a chance to fly in space but that she had not given a lot of thought to being the first American woman in orbit." The press conference was held at the Johnson Space Center.

June 14, 1983...The crew leaves Ellington AFB, near the Johnson Space Center for the Canaveral and the launch of STS-7.

June 15, 1983...The "Launch Countdown" begins.

All three of these event covers are postmarked on the correct dates with the Houston MPP hand cancel and are priced at \$1.25 each.

----- CUT HERE -----
TO: SPACE CITY COVER SOCIETY, P. O. Box 53545, Houston, Texas 77052

Please send me the STS-7 event covers as listed below:

_____ ANIK-C Launch (Jun 18, 83) @ \$1.25	\$ _____
_____ ANIK-C Double cancel cover with launch of 1st launch of Nov 11, 82 and second of June 18, 83. @ \$2.75	_____
_____ PALAPA-B1 launch (Jun 19, 83) @ \$1.25	_____
_____ STS-7 Dbl cancel cover with both launches (ANIK-C Jun 18 and PALAPA-B1 Jun 19) @ \$2.75	_____
_____ STS-7 Crew Press Conference (May 24) @ \$1.25	_____
_____ Crew Leaves for Canaveral (Jun 14) @ \$1.25	_____
_____ Launch Countdown Begins Jun 15 @ \$1.25	_____
	Postage and handling35
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(Jul 83 #17) Please send one addressed, gummed label with order. Thank you.