



STS-26 DISCOVERY'S FLIGHT...  
 ...THE RE-BIRTH OF AMERICA'S SPACE PROGRAM  
 LAUNCH DATE SET FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 1988

*Bulletin Special!*

It is only a short time until launch of Discovery and this mission is being called "STS-26...A NEW BEGINNING." Space Shuttle Discovery is on the launch pad and all things are go. The new booster rockets are working in a superior fashion, after a complete revision in design as a result of the Challenger tragedy. And the new shuttle engines are performing in excess of the tolerance needed for an actual flight.

Not only will the crew of Discovery launch a Tracking and Data Relay Satellite from the cargo bay during the mission but their work also includes 12 in-flight experiments. But the two overriding goals are to revive the shuttle program and prove the extensively modified Discovery is fit to fly.

The crew's formal pre-flight press conference was held at the Johnson Space Center on August 22, 1988. The main theme voiced by the five crew members was, "The nation and NASA must be willing to accept the risks of space flight, which NASA now says are greater than estimated by the agency before the Challenger accident. This must be done if the U. S. is to maintain its technological progress."

Frederick Hauck, who will command the five-man crew said, "I'm very concerned about folks who feel we ought not to take risks. We might as well find out who is going to lead the world and then follow them. And we must remember that technology is the seed corn of the future."

STS-26 MISSION

The five crew members have trained 50 to 60 hours a week for one and a half years for this mission that is to last four days. It will launch from the Kennedy Space Center and land at Edwards Air Force Base in California. The entire flight will be controlled by Shuttle Mission Control at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

SCCS MISSION COVERS...As in the past missions for Space Shuttle we will produce covers from all three mission sites. The launch cover will be cancelled at the Kennedy Space Center and the landing cover at Edwards, California. These two will be offered as a set.

For Houston, we will have two different sets. One with a launch and landing cover (one for each of the two events) with a Houston machine cancel on the correct dates. The other set of two will have the Houston Mailer's Permit Postmark hand cancel.

TDRS LAUNCH COVER...During the flight the crew will launch the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite from Discovery's cargo bay, upon instruction from Mission Control in Houston. We will have a cover on that date cancelled with the Houston MPP hand cancel.

DOUBLE CANCELLED COVER...On January 28, 1986, when Challenger exploded, the U. S. manned space program came to a halt. And that halt has lasted nearly three years. But with a successful launch of STS-26 that picture will change. From the ending (January 26, 1986) to the new beginning (launch of STS-26) these two historic events will be commemorated by an SCCS double cancelled cover.

We will use a few of our remaining 51-L covers (January 28, 1986), apply a 25¢ stamp to them and have those cancelled on launch date of STS-26. Even though the single cover of January 28, 1986 is already selling for around \$5.00 we are going to make a special price to all that order this double cancelled cover from this order form only. And the price will be only \$3.75 Both cancels will be the desirable Houston MPP hand cancel.

OTHER STS-26 COVERS

AUGUST 22, 1988 PRESS CONFERENCE...As mentioned in the beginning of this bulletin, this was held at JSC. Our cover for this pre-flight press conference is MPP hand cancelled Houston and priced at only \$1.50 each.

CREW LEAVES FOR LAUNCH SITE AND LAUNCH... This cover will be MPP hand cancelled Houston on the date the five leave JSC for Canaveral and the STS-26 launch. Price of \$1.50

CREW ARRIVES HOME AFTER LANDING OF THE MISSION...This cover will be MPP hand cancelled Houston on the date the five crew members arrive back in Houston after the completion of the STS-26 mission. The price is \$1.50

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OUR NEW FORMAT FOR THE SPACE LOG

This "New Beginning" for the U. S. manned space program will also be a new beginning for our very popular SPACE LOG. For 16 years we have produced each issue of the SPACE LOG on 8½ x 11" page format and it has been sent free to all that provided the stamped, self-addressed envelopes, in which each issue could be mailed.

Upon completion of the STS-26 mission, our new format of 5½ x 8½ booklet style will go out to all that order any mission covers from the enclosed STS-26 order form. That issue will be at least eight pages and will bring everyone up to date on all that has happened since the Challenger explosion up to the conclusion of the STS-26 mission. It promises to be a "wealth of information" and we look forward to sending a free copy to each of you.

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DID YOU MISS ANY OF THE FIRST 25 SHUTTLE MISSION LAUNCH/LANDING COVERS????

If you did, we would recommend that this will be a good time to "fill in those gaps." If you are not sure if you missed any or not, we will be glad to check your folder and let you know if we show you did not order any particular mission covers. Our supply of a lot of these gets more scarce with each passing space event. If you would like us to check and let you know with a list of "missing" launch and landing covers, just check the proper blank on the enclosed order form and enclose a 25¢ stamp and we will use it in mailing the list to you. Many thanks.

TO: SPACE CITY COVER SOCIETY, P O Box 53545, Houston, Texas 77052

Please send me the following Discovery STS-26 mission covers:

_____	Set(s) KSC launch date & Edwards landing date (set 2) @ \$3.00 . . .	\$ _____
_____	Set(s) Houston (set 2) launch & landing machine cancel @ \$3.00 . . .	_____
_____	Set(s) Houston (set 2) launch & landing MPP hand cancel @ \$3.00 . . .	_____
_____	TDRS satellite launch from Discovery @ \$1.50 . . . . .	_____
_____	Double cancel cover (1st cancel Jan 28, 1986 Challenger explodes) (2nd cancel Discovery launch) MPP hand cancels @ \$3.75 . . . . .	_____
_____	Crew Pre-flight Press Conf Aug 22, 1988 @ \$1.50 . . . . .	_____
_____	Crew leaves JSC for Canaveral launch STS-26 @ \$1.50 . . . . .	_____
_____	Crew arrives at JSC from mission @ \$1.50 . . . . .	_____
	Postage and handling . . . . .	.50
	Total remittance . . . . .	\$ _____

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

(STS-26B) Please include two addressed, gummed labels with order. Thank you.

TO: SPACE CITY COVER SOCIETY, P O Box 53545, Houston TX 77052

I am not sure if I missed any of the launch and landing covers of any of the first 25 space shuttle missions. Please send me a list. Enclosed is 25¢ in mint stamps.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_