

FORECAST OF UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES -- AUGUST 2010

100 Years Ago – 1930

August 22: Science fiction writer Ray Bradbury born in Waukegan, Illinois. Famous for “The Martian Chronicles” published in 1949.

80 Years Ago - 1930

August 5: Neil A. Armstrong born, Wapakoneta, OH

55 Years Ago - 1955

August 8: X-1A explodes over EAFB, CA, after being jettisoned by B-29 carrier aircraft.

August 16: First Hawk missile launched, White Sands Proving Grounds, NM.

50 Years Ago - 1960

August 10: Discoverer 13 (CORONA spy satellite) launched by Thor-Agena, first successful recovery from orbit, 4:38 p.m.. EDT, Vandenberg AFB.

August 12: Echo 1 launched by Thor Delta. 5:30 a.m., EDT, Vandenberg AFB. Reflected radio message from President Eisenhower.

August 18: Discoverer 14 (CORONA Mission 9009) orbited, launched from Vandenberg AFB. This was the first completely successful CORONA mission, recovering photoreconnaissance film from orbit.

August 19: Sputnik 5 (Korabl Sputnik 2) launched, 0838 UTC, from Baikonur. USSR. Five-ton spacecraft recovered with two dogs - "Strelka" and "Belka." World's first biologic payload recovered from orbit.

45 Years Ago - 1965

August 21: Gemini 5 (GT-5), launched on a Titan II, 10:00 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.. Astronauts Gordon L. Cooper, Jr. and Charles “Pete” P. Conrad, Jr. complete an eight day mission.

August 25: OSO-C failed to orbit aboard a Thor Delta., 11:05 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

40 Years Ago - 1970

August 17: Venera 7 (Venus 7) launched, 0538 UTC, Baikonur, USSR aboard a modified SS-6 (Sapwood) or Molniya. This was the first man-made object to return data after landing on another planet (Venus) – December 15.

August 19: Skynet 1B launched by a Delta, 8:11 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla. Spacecraft lost during apogee motor firing, August 22.

35 Years Ago – 1975

August 5: John Manke landed the X-24B proving a shuttle-like vehicle without power could land safely upon return from orbit.

August 20: Viking 1 Mars Orbiter and Lander launched by Titan 3E, 5:22 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

August 27: Symphonie B (or 2) launched by a Delta, 9:42 p.m., EDT. Cape Canaveral, Fla. French/German communications satellite.

30 Years Ago - 1980

August 7: First flight of solar powered "Gossamer Penguin" piloted by Janice Brown, EAFB, CA.

25 Years Ago – 1985

August 27: STS-51I, (Space Shuttle *Discovery*). Launched from KSC at 6:58 a.m., EDT. Crew: Joe H. Engle, Richard O. Covey, James D. Van Hoften, William F. Fisher and John M. Lounge. Shuttle deployed three communications satellites: ASC, AUSSAT-I, and Syncom IV-4. Retrieved, repaired and relaunched Syncom IV-3 (launched originally by STS-51D in April, 1985). Landed at Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB), CA, Sept. 3, 9:16 a.m., EDT. Mission Duration: 7 days, 2 hours, 18 minutes.

10 Years Ago – 2000

August 9: Second pair of Cluster II mission satellites named Rumba and Tango, launched aboard Soyuz-Fregat from Baikonur.

5 Years Ago – 2005

August 12: MRO (Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter), a remote-sensing planetary probe, was launched by an Atlas 5 rocket from Cape Canaveral AFS at 7:43 am EDT to map the atmospheric, surface and sub-surface features of Mars.