

MSG 186 - RED FD13 EARTH OBS TEXT

1 METs are times of closest approach to target.

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RED AND BLUE

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6 MET 11/19:47 CENTRAL AFRICAN RIVERS. Major cloudfree zone is opening
7 over the northern Congo (after catastrophic rains).
8 Documentation of river patterns in sunglint, with
9 possible evidence of the floods--all right of track.
10 Near Vertical. Oblique. Digital Camera 400mm. Atlas
11 page 16.

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RED

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15 MET 11/21:09 SAHARAN DUST EVENT. Major dust pall is hundreds of
16 miles wide, streaming west into the Atlantic. Look left
17 and right. Obliques and slight overexposure help to
18 capture the more subtle aerosol loadings (underexposure
19 captures the denser, core areas of the dust mass). Wide
20 views of the full extent of the phenomenon are
21 requested. Identification of any source regions in the
22 Sahara would be interesting geologically (probably left
23 of track). Oblique. Hasselblad 110mm. Atlas page 14.

24

25 MET 11/23:02 SOUTH AFRICA-LESOTHO. Pass over the mountains of
26 Lesotho (known as the Switzerland of Africa). Possible
27 altitudinal zonation of aerosols in the atmosphere
28 (mountains versus plateau versus the coastal plain).
29 All left of track, as far as the coast. Oblique.
30 Digital Camera 180mm 400mm. Atlas page 37.

31

32 MET 12/00:06 COASTAL GEORGIA. Savannah just left of track,
33 Jacksonville just right. Oblique. Digital Camera 400mm.
34 Atlas page 2.

35

36 MET 12/01:35 EL PASO. Clear patch over New Mexico and west Texas
37 between major storms. Remote Big Bend region of the Rio
38 Grande right of track. Near Vertical. Digital Camera
39 400mm. Atlas page 2.

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41 MET 12/01:48 AMAZON BASIN. Pass over the Rio Branco, a major
42 north-side tributary. River patterns in this remote
43 basin are poorly mapped, and cloud holes may allow
44 photography near nadir, left and right of track. Near
45 Vertical. Digital Camera 180mm. Atlas pages 12, 33.

46

47 MET 12/03:26 BOLIVIAN RIVER PATTERNS. Lowland Bolivia is very remote
48 and maps are very inadequate for geological analysis. A
49 mapping pass of images either side of track for ~ 2
50 minutes is requested. Near Vertical. Digital Camera
51 400mm. Atlas page 33.

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RED AND BLUE
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4 MET 12/06:09 HAWAII. Partly cloudy forecast, but your track
5 parallels the axis of the chain (look right). Oblique.
6 Digital Camera 180mm 400mm. Atlas page 24.
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9 BLUE
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11 MET 12/08:58 NORTH CHINA PLAIN. Largest cluster of humanity on the
12 planet. Look left ~ 2 degrees for Beijing. Look right
13 for the vast Yellow River delta and under track for the
14 small present-day delta that is changing rapidly. Near
15 Vertical. Oblique. Digital Camera 180mm 400mm. Atlas
16 page 9.
17
18 MET 12/09:01 SEOUL-HIROSHIMA PASS. Seoul just left of track; then
19 Hiroshima at nadir. Near Vertical. Digital Camera
20 400mm. Atlas page 21.
21
22 MET 12/10:34 LOWER YANGTZE. Your track parallels the lower course of
23 the river between the city of Nanjing and China's
24 largest city and port, Shanghai. All left of track.
25 Document any sediment plume issuing into the sea. Near
26 Vertical. Oblique. Digital Camera 400mm. Atlas page 21.
27
28 MET 12/10:42 GUAM, TINIAN, SAIPAN. Between scattered cloud look for
29 Guam just right of track and the other islands left of
30 track 1-2 degrees. Oblique. Digital Camera 400mm. Atlas
31 page 22.
32
33 MET 12/13:34 INDIAN AEROSOLS. Fog and smoke widely reported recently
34 in the Ganges plain. New Delhi at nadir at 12/13:36,
35 then Calcutta at nadir 12/13:39. Near Vertical.
36 Oblique. Digital Camera 180mm 400mm. Atlas page 19.
37
38 MET 12/13:40 SE ASIA. Irrawaddy River delta detail in sunlint, just
39 right of track. Capital city Rangoon at nadir on the
40 east side of the delta. Then a chance for Bangkok at
41 12/13:42:30. Then Phnom Penh ~ 1 degree left of track.
42 Then Ho Chi Minh City (2 deg left of track) and the
43 vast Mekong delta. Near Vertical. Oblique. Digital
44 Camera 180mm 400mm. Atlas pages 19, 20.
45
46 MET 12/14:04 NORTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND. Partly cloudy, but better
47 than it has been for many weeks. Look right for
48 Auckland and a panorama down the long North Island
49 peninsula. Oblique. Digital Camera 180mm 400mm. Atlas
50 page 41.
51

END OF PAGE 2 OF 3, MSG 186

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1 MET 12/15:32 SE AUSTRALIA. Images of river patterns in Australia's
2 "Riverina" region are requested left and right of track
3 for ~2 mins. Patterns are unusually complex and still
4 poorly understood. Then, nearer the coast over the
5 Great Dividing Range, look right to document the large
6 smoke pall that has developed from the major fires in
7 SW Australia. Oblique. Hasselblad 110mm. Atlas page 28.
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