

MSG 024 - RED FD03 EARTH OBS

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2 There will be one Earth Obs message per day, with the sites designated for Red and Blue
3 teams. METs are at approximate time of the intersection of your orbit and the target site.
4

5 6 BLUE AND RED 7

8 MET 01/19:48 Turkey, Tigris River. Interesting pass. You will begin in the region of the
9 headwaters of the Tigris river. As you continue along your orbit you will pass over
10 Lake Van, note water color and level. Near the borders of Turkey and Iran is Mount
11 Ararat. CVIS. Near Vertical. Digital Camera 180mm. Atlas page 17.
12

13 MET 01/21:23 Gaza Strip, Israel. May be the last chance to photograph this region for a few
14 days as clouds are moving in. Tel Aviv and Jerusalem should be north (right) of
15 track. Jerusalem is a difficult city to photograph because of little contrast between
16 buildings and the surrounding land. CVIS. Near Vertical. Digital Camera 400mm.
17 Atlas page 17.
18

19 20 RED 21

22 MET 02/00:04 USA - Texas to Georgia. USA cities pass. Because of high pressure
23 Houston should be clear of clouds and smog. At MET 02/00:07 you will also pass
24 over Atlanta and shortly thereafter the Appalachian Mountains. CVIS. Near Vertical.
25 Hasselblad 250mm. Atlas page 2.
26

27 MET 02/01:43 USA - PA. You will pass just to the south of Philadelphia. CVIS. Near
28 Vertical. Hasselblad 250mm. Atlas page 2.
29

30 MET 02/03:19 USA - Maryland, Virginia. After you clear the Appalachians you will pass to
31 the south of Washington D.C and over the Chesapeake Bay. The tip of the
32 Delmarva Peninsula is the site of an impact that occurred about 35 million years ago.
33 Although the crater is buried you can see some of the effects of the impacts. Note
34 that as the Potomac, Rappahannock, and other rivers to the south enter the bay they
35 all make an abrupt left or eastern turn. CVIS. Near Vertical. Hasselblad 250mm.
36 Atlas page 2.
37

38 MET 02/04:52 USA - Atlanta Georgia. Second opportunity to photograph Atlanta. CVIS.
39 Near Vertical. Hasselblad 250mm. Atlas page 2.
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41 MET 02/06:19 USA - California to Colorado River. At the coast you will pass slightly north of
42 San Francisco. Continue your observations over the Sierra Nevadas, looking
43 north towards Mono Lake and south towards Owens valley. The Grand Canyon will
44 be to your north and Phoenix to your south. CVIS. Near Vertical. Digital Camera
45 400mm. Atlas page 2.
46

47 MET 02/06:22 USA - New Mexico. Note water color and level in the Elephant Butte
48 Reservoir, along the Rio Grande to the south of Albuquerque. CVIS. Near Vertical.
49 Digital Camera 400mm. Atlas page 2.
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END OF PAGE 1 OF 3, MSG 024

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1 BLUE AND RED

2

3 MET 02/09:03 Taiwan. You will pass just over the southeastern coast of China, look right
4 (east) of track toward the island of Taiwan. Note any smog emanating from Taiwan
5 towards China. CVIS. Oblique. Hasselblad 110mm. Atlas pages 20, 21.

6

7 MET 02/09:05 Japan. Begin your pass at the southernmost island of Kyushu. Sakura-Jima
8 volcano is a small island located in a bay on the southern part of the island. We have
9 several images of this volcano erupting in the archives, but few images have been
10 taken in the last couple of years. Sakura-Jima erupts often enough that school
11 children are issued "hard hats". Imagery is highly desirable even if the volcano is not
12 erupting. Continue your photography along the coast, looking inland. Oblique.
13 Hasselblad 110mm. Atlas page 9.

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16 BLUE

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18 MET 02/12:03 India. You should have excellent views of the Ganges Plain and Himalayan
19 front ranges. Obliques should reveal smoke from a major event that is making the
20 news. CVIS. Oblique. Hasselblad 110mm. Atlas pages 19, 20.

21

22 MET 02/12:14 Korea. You will just pass to the north of Pyongyang, the North Korean
23 capital. Also note land use. CVIS. Near Vertical. Digital Camera 400mm. Atlas
24 page 9.

25

26 MET 02/12:17 Japan. Imagery of the northern part of Japan is very rare because of cloud
27 cover. The satellite shows this area to be about as clear as it gets. Note land use
28 and settlement patterns. CVIS. Hasselblad 250mm. Atlas page 9.

29

30 MET 02/13:45 China. The Yellow River makes two dramatic turns in this location. Where
31 the Yellow River turns south, at the northeastern tip, the Great Wall of China trends
32 northeast towards the Luliang Range. A popular myth is that the Great Wall was the
33 only "man-made" object seen from the Moon - this is not true. We also do not have
34 any recognizable images in the earth obs database (some would dispute this, but the
35 fact remains IF there are any they are very few and not obvious). The main
36 problem is that there is little contrast between the ground and the wall. This is your
37 opportunity to use the digital camera with the 400 mm lens to see if you can be the
38 first to successfully capture an image of the Great Wall. CVIS. Near Vertical. Digital
39 Camera 400mm. Atlas pages 8,20,21.

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41 MET 02/13:49 Korea, Japan. We do not have many images of Japan and Korea because
42 they are often cloud covered. Nice opportunity for a "cities pass" over Korea and
43 Japan. Seoul will be just north of track. You will see some of the ancient cities of
44 Kyoto and Osaka on Honshu, the largest island of Japan. Mt. Fuji will be towards the
45 northeast. CVIS. Near Vertical. Digital Camera 400mm. Atlas page 9.

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MET 02/15:20 China, Yellow River to Yangtze River Delta. The first major river you will see is the Yellow, followed shortly thereafter by the Yangtze. Look for the cities of Nanjing (southeast of the Yellow R. and inland along the Yangtze). You should pass directly over Shanghai. This city may be difficult to photograph due to an ever present smog usually covering the city. Shanghai is similar to the city of Houston in that it also resides on a delta that is subsiding. Note density and location of sediment plume from the Yangtze. CVIS. Near Vertical. Hasselblad 110mm. Atlas pages 20, 21.

MET 02/16:40 Turkey, Iran. Second chance to photograph the Tigris River. You will also notice the "wormy" pattern of the Zagros Mountains along the coast of Iran. CVIS. Oblique. Digital Camera 180mm. Atlas page 17.