



1  
00:00:01,060 --> 00:00:03,063  
Researchers at NASA's Dryden  
Flight Research Center

2  
00:00:03,063 --> 00:00:05,043  
have recently completed  
the second and

3  
00:00:05,043 --> 00:00:07,083  
final phase of  
flight-tests on the

4  
00:00:07,083 --> 00:00:12,007  
Stratospheric Observatory  
for Infrared Astronomy.

5  
00:00:12,007 --> 00:00:13,083  
The performance and  
structural integrity of

6  
00:00:13,083 --> 00:00:16,053  
this airborne observatory,  
also known as SOFIA,

7  
00:00:16,053 --> 00:00:19,037  
was validated through a  
series flight tests that

8  
00:00:19,037 --> 00:00:21,057  
confirmed the aircraft  
could operate safely at

9  
00:00:21,057 --> 00:00:24,090  
various flight conditions with  
the telescope's door open.

10  
00:00:24,090 --> 00:00:29,017  
>>Test Director: Cleared for  
PUPO, 1.5 to .5

11

00:00:29,017 --> 00:00:34,023

>> Pilot: Three...Two...One...

12

00:00:42,017 --> 00:00:45,030

Complete.

13

00:00:45,030 --> 00:00:48,020

SOFIA technicians at the Dryden  
Aircraft Operations Facility

14

00:00:48,020 --> 00:00:49,067

in Palmdale, California,

15

00:00:49,067 --> 00:00:51,087

will now finish

installation and checkout

16

00:00:51,087 --> 00:00:56,017

of the remaining systems that  
support telescope operations.

17

00:00:56,017 --> 00:01:00,050

The modified Boeing 747 is  
now approved to begin

18

00:01:00,050 --> 00:01:03,080

flying astronomy missions  
at altitudes as high as