



1  
00:00:22,150 --> 00:00:20,230  
satellite from now on McNair pilot Mike

2  
00:00:23,580 --> 00:00:22,160  
Smith followed by Christa McAuliffe

3  
00:00:26,560 --> 00:00:23,590  
featuring faith

4  
00:00:32,170 --> 00:00:26,570  
Ellison Onizuka and payload specialist

5  
00:00:35,079 --> 00:00:32,180  
Greg Jarvis big smiles today confidently

6  
00:00:38,369 --> 00:00:35,089  
getting into the van we're going to go

7  
00:00:41,819 --> 00:00:38,379  
to that pad and attempt a second try

8  
00:00:44,110 --> 00:00:41,829  
second loss second try at launch today

9  
00:00:50,310 --> 00:00:44,120  
it will take a few minutes for the

10  
00:00:57,279 --> 00:00:54,490  
the orbiter and the first crew member

11  
00:01:01,180 --> 00:00:57,289  
commander dick Scobee now in the white

12  
00:01:09,070 --> 00:01:01,190  
room taking off his jacket along with

13  
00:01:13,960 --> 00:01:09,080

Mike Smith who is the the pilot dick

14

00:01:18,160 --> 00:01:13,970

Scobee became a military pilot and later

15

00:01:21,070 --> 00:01:18,170

a test pilot the hard way the he

16

00:01:23,649 --> 00:01:21,080

enlisted in the Air Force in 1957 and

17

00:01:27,070 --> 00:01:23,659

was trained as a reciprocating engine

18

00:01:32,529 --> 00:01:27,080

mechanic however he went to night school

19

00:01:35,290 --> 00:01:32,539

during the time he was down at Kelly Air

20

00:01:37,570 --> 00:01:35,300

Force Base and earned two years of

21

00:01:40,419 --> 00:01:37,580

college credit which helped lead to his

22

00:01:43,029 --> 00:01:40,429

selection as for the Airman's education

23

00:01:45,340 --> 00:01:43,039

and commissioning program he graduated

24

00:01:47,949 --> 00:01:45,350

from the University of Arizona with a

25

00:01:51,180 --> 00:01:47,959

degree in aerospace engineering received

26

00:01:54,700 --> 00:01:51,190

his commission in 1965 and his wings in

27

00:01:57,910 --> 00:01:54,710

1966 eyes completed a number of

28

00:02:02,649 --> 00:01:57,920

assignments for the Air Force including

29

00:02:06,069 --> 00:02:02,659

becoming an Air Force test pilot he was

30

00:02:08,169 --> 00:02:06,079

the pilot of the 41 C mission which

31

00:02:10,630 --> 00:02:08,179

deployed the long-duration exposure

32

00:02:12,970 --> 00:02:10,640

facility which is still in orbit and

33

00:02:15,970 --> 00:02:12,980

captured and repaired the solar maximum

34

00:02:18,569 --> 00:02:15,980

mission satellite and placed it in orbit

35

00:02:22,180 --> 00:02:18,579

where it is functioning better than ever

36

00:02:24,759 --> 00:02:22,190

Mike Smith putting on his egress harness

37

00:02:27,370 --> 00:02:24,769

to they're going to be going very fast

38

00:02:30,759 --> 00:02:27,380

two days to get out of the cold and into

39

00:02:32,650 --> 00:02:30,769

the cabin he was one of the Mike Smith

40

00:02:34,870 --> 00:02:32,660

is one of the few rookies on board this

41

00:02:37,360 --> 00:02:34,880

flight he's a graduate of the US Naval

42

00:02:41,410 --> 00:02:37,370

Academy in Annapolis and received his

43

00:02:45,009 --> 00:02:41,420

naval aviator wings in 1969 he had a

44

00:02:46,780 --> 00:02:45,019

two-year tour of duty in Vietnam and as

45

00:02:49,420 --> 00:02:46,790

a graduate of the Navy test pilot school

46

00:02:51,750 --> 00:02:49,430

where he also served as an instructor

47

00:02:54,729 --> 00:02:51,760

for 18 months

48

00:02:57,300 --> 00:02:54,739

altogether he's flown about 28 different

49

00:03:02,000 --> 00:02:57,310

types of civilian and military aircraft

50

00:03:05,250 --> 00:03:02,010

logging over 43 hundred hours

51  
00:03:08,040 --> 00:03:05,260  
he's taken on a number of tasks while

52  
00:03:10,110 --> 00:03:08,050  
he's been in the astronaut corps he

53  
00:03:12,450 --> 00:03:10,120  
served as commander in the shuttle

54  
00:03:14,640 --> 00:03:12,460  
avionics integration laboratory in

55  
00:03:16,470 --> 00:03:14,650  
Houston which tests all of the

56  
00:03:19,110 --> 00:03:16,480  
instrumentation and computers and

57  
00:03:21,560 --> 00:03:19,120  
software for the shuttle he also was

58  
00:03:24,090 --> 00:03:21,570  
deputy chief of aircraft operations and

59  
00:03:27,330 --> 00:03:24,100  
technical assistant to the director of

60  
00:03:29,100 --> 00:03:27,340  
flight operations George Abby he also

61  
00:03:35,970 --> 00:03:29,110  
served in the astronaut office

62  
00:03:39,270 --> 00:03:35,980  
development and test group after the

63  
00:03:42,150 --> 00:03:39,280

scrub yesterday the crew went back to

64

00:03:44,010 --> 00:03:42,160

the crew quarters where they relaxed for

65

00:03:47,940 --> 00:03:44,020

a while and were able to have dinner

66

00:03:51,900 --> 00:03:47,950

with their spouses in the crew quarters

67

00:03:54,840 --> 00:03:51,910

dining room but they had to be in bed by

68

00:04:00,510 --> 00:03:54,850

about 7 o'clock so they could be up and

69

00:04:02,430 --> 00:04:00,520

on their way this morning Mike Smith

70

00:04:04,920 --> 00:04:02,440

shaking hands with the closeout crew

71

00:04:10,140 --> 00:04:04,930

which has assisted him in in getting

72

00:04:11,850 --> 00:04:10,150

ready they take a look at his feet and

73

00:04:14,910 --> 00:04:11,860

then wipe those out to make sure he's

74

00:04:28,980 --> 00:04:14,920

not carrying any debris into the cabin

75

00:04:34,770 --> 00:04:31,500

this is shuttle launch control at one

76  
00:04:39,150 --> 00:04:34,780  
hour 58 minutes 57 seconds in counting

77  
00:04:41,880 --> 00:04:39,160  
and dr. Judy Resnik who was mission

78  
00:04:44,220 --> 00:04:41,890  
specialist for the st 41 D mission on

79  
00:04:46,350 --> 00:04:44,230  
her first flight is in the white room

80  
00:04:48,750 --> 00:04:46,360  
now preparing to put on her egress

81  
00:04:52,920 --> 00:04:48,760  
harness and get ready for her entrance

82  
00:04:56,430 --> 00:04:52,930  
into the orbiter on her first flight

83  
00:05:00,240 --> 00:04:56,440  
three satellites were deployed and she

84  
00:05:02,550 --> 00:05:00,250  
was responsible for operating the remote

85  
00:05:04,980 --> 00:05:02,560  
manipulator arm on that particular

86  
00:05:07,410 --> 00:05:04,990  
flight she's also responsible for

87  
00:05:09,870 --> 00:05:07,420  
operating the arm for placing the

88  
00:05:12,480 --> 00:05:09,880

Spartan Halley's spacecraft in orbit and

89

00:05:16,110 --> 00:05:12,490

then recovering it later in flight that

90

00:05:18,390 --> 00:05:16,120

will be put in orbit over the side of on

91

00:05:20,940 --> 00:05:18,400

the second day the orbiter will move

92

00:05:24,240 --> 00:05:20,950

about five miles away and allow it to

93

00:05:27,150 --> 00:05:24,250

function and look at Halley's Comet for

94

00:05:29,970 --> 00:05:27,160

40 hours and then go back and pick it up

95

00:05:32,610 --> 00:05:29,980

and bring it back to earth her

96

00:05:35,670 --> 00:05:32,620

undergraduate degree was from Carnegie

97

00:05:38,130 --> 00:05:35,680

Mellon University and she earned her PhD

98

00:05:42,680 --> 00:05:38,140

in electrical engineering from the

99

00:05:49,830 --> 00:05:46,830

prior to joining NASA in 1978 as a

100

00:05:51,810 --> 00:05:49,840

mission specialist Judy Resnik worked as

101  
00:05:54,240 --> 00:05:51,820  
a senior systems engineer in product

102  
00:05:57,680 --> 00:05:54,250  
development for the Xerox Corporation in

103  
00:06:00,870 --> 00:05:57,690  
California she's a native of Akron Ohio

104  
00:06:03,770 --> 00:06:00,880  
and also a classical pianist and enjoys

105  
00:06:07,290 --> 00:06:03,780  
flying and bicycling in their spare time

106  
00:06:09,150 --> 00:06:07,300  
Ellison Onizuka also in the white room

107  
00:06:14,450 --> 00:06:09,160  
actually everybody is going to be in

108  
00:06:19,020 --> 00:06:14,460  
there shortly as they get ready the

109  
00:06:22,800 --> 00:06:19,030  
teacher observer of Christa McAuliffe

110  
00:06:27,510 --> 00:06:22,810  
has been handed an apple by the closeout

111  
00:06:30,300 --> 00:06:27,520  
crew Ellison Onizuka Nell getting his

112  
00:06:33,840 --> 00:06:30,310  
egress harness on

113  
00:06:37,020 --> 00:06:33,850

the native of Hawaii is a graduate of

114

00:06:39,060 --> 00:06:37,030

our Konawaena high school and earn both

115

00:06:41,129 --> 00:06:39,070

a bachelor and Master of Science degree

116

00:06:44,670 --> 00:06:41,139

in aerospace engineering from the

117

00:06:46,619 --> 00:06:44,680

versity of colorado after receiving his

118

00:06:49,529 --> 00:06:46,629

commission in the Air Force he served as

119

00:06:52,679 --> 00:06:49,539

a flight test engineer and participated

120

00:06:55,110 --> 00:06:52,689

in the flight programs and system safety

121

00:06:58,260 --> 00:06:55,120

engineering for a wide variety of

122

00:07:00,689 --> 00:06:58,270

aircraft he graduated from the Air Force

123

00:07:04,050 --> 00:07:00,699

test pilot school and then served on the

124

00:07:06,239 --> 00:07:04,060

staff on azúcar is one of the astronauts

125

00:07:09,390 --> 00:07:06,249

known as the Cape Crusaders who were

126  
00:07:11,939 --> 00:07:09,400  
assigned to KSC for a period of time of

127  
00:07:14,100 --> 00:07:11,949  
several launches and work with the

128  
00:07:18,300 --> 00:07:14,110  
orbiter test and check-out teams and the

129  
00:07:22,230 --> 00:07:18,310  
launch support crews the astronaut

130  
00:07:25,230 --> 00:07:22,240  
support person on board are Sonny Billy

131  
00:07:49,720 --> 00:07:25,240  
Bob Carter is also one of the Cape

132  
00:07:49,730 --> 00:07:53,440  
right up here

133  
00:07:53,450 --> 00:08:17,720  
go ahead up here

134  
00:08:55,949 --> 00:08:22,830  
Buhler curricula to a social position

135  
00:08:55,959 --> 00:09:41,060  
okay terrific

136  
00:09:47,870 --> 00:09:45,860  
I'll be Sufi LCCC okay apparently one of

137  
00:09:48,439 --> 00:09:47,880  
the crew left their gloves in the

138  
00:09:52,220 --> 00:09:48,449

astro-man

139

00:09:56,590 --> 00:09:52,230

now between the orbiter the firing room

140

00:10:00,639 --> 00:09:56,600

here at Kennedy Space Center in Houston

141

00:10:11,269 --> 00:10:00,649

the booster engine gimbal now underway

142

00:10:15,019 --> 00:10:11,279

t-minus 15 seconds t-minus 10 9 8 7 6 we

143

00:10:20,150 --> 00:10:15,029

have main engine start four three two

144

00:10:22,249 --> 00:10:20,160

one and liftoff liftoff of the 25th

145

00:10:31,180 --> 00:10:22,259

space shuttle mission and it has cleared

146

00:10:44,280 --> 00:10:35,180

good roll program confirmed challenger

147

00:10:50,950 --> 00:10:47,320

engines beginning throttling down now at

148

00:10:56,400 --> 00:10:50,960

94% normal titles for most of the flight

149

00:11:03,190 --> 00:10:56,410

104 percent will travel down to 65%

150

00:11:05,110 --> 00:11:03,200

shortly engines at 65% three engines

151  
00:11:11,560 --> 00:11:05,120  
running normally karika fuel cells

152  
00:11:13,720 --> 00:11:11,570  
triggered ap use velocity 2257 feet per

153  
00:11:20,220 --> 00:11:13,730  
second altitude 4.3 nautical miles

154  
00:11:31,170 --> 00:11:22,480  
engines throttling up 3 engines and out

155  
00:11:36,190 --> 00:11:34,330  
1 minute 15 seconds velocity 2,900 feet

156  
00:12:07,540 --> 00:11:36,200  
per second altitude nautical miles

157  
00:12:13,130 --> 00:12:09,470  
my controllers here looking very

158  
00:12:19,180 --> 00:12:13,140  
carefully at the situation obviously a

159  
00:12:19,190 --> 00:12:59,560  
we have no down Lee

160  
00:13:03,129 --> 00:13:01,480  
we have a report from the flight

161  
00:13:05,530 --> 00:13:03,139  
dynamics officer that the vehicle has

162  
00:13:08,199 --> 00:13:05,540  
exploded flight director confirms that

163  
00:13:10,210 --> 00:13:08,209

we are looking at checking with the

164

00:13:20,680 --> 00:13:10,220

recovery forces to see what can be done

165

00:13:29,720 --> 00:13:20,690

at this point contingency procedures are

166

00:13:36,289 --> 00:13:32,599

we will report more as we have

167

00:13:38,689 --> 00:13:36,299

information available again or repeat we

168

00:13:41,239 --> 00:13:38,699

have a report relayed through the flight

169

00:13:45,679 --> 00:13:41,249

dynamics officer that the vehicle has

170

00:13:48,409 --> 00:13:45,689

exploded we are now looking at all the

171

00:13:51,079 --> 00:13:48,419

contingency operations and waiting the

172

00:15:55,170 --> 00:13:51,089

report from any recovery of horses in

173

00:16:00,939 --> 00:15:57,189

flight of the space shuttle Challenger

174

00:16:03,550 --> 00:16:00,949

on mission 51 L the 25th flight of the

175

00:16:06,939 --> 00:16:03,560

space shuttle program began at 11:38

176  
00:16:11,470 --> 00:16:06,949  
a.m. Eastern Standard Time on January 28

177  
00:16:13,569 --> 00:16:11,480  
1986 it ended 73 seconds later in a

178  
00:16:15,549 --> 00:16:13,579  
structural breakup of the external tank

179  
00:16:18,939 --> 00:16:15,559  
and orbiter in which the seven crew

180  
00:16:21,340 --> 00:16:18,949  
members perished the solid rocket

181  
00:16:23,249 --> 00:16:21,350  
boosters continued in flight and were

182  
00:16:38,410 --> 00:16:23,259  
destroyed by the Range Safety Officer

183  
00:16:43,630 --> 00:16:41,380  
the delivery and assembly of 51I launch

184  
00:16:45,270 --> 00:16:43,640  
vehicle components began months prior to

185  
00:16:48,070 --> 00:16:45,280  
launch

186  
00:16:50,110 --> 00:16:48,080  
the solid rocket booster segments were

187  
00:16:59,230 --> 00:16:50,120  
transported by rail to the Kennedy Space

188  
00:17:01,020 --> 00:16:59,240

Center the SRBs were inspected and

189

00:17:10,300 --> 00:17:01,030

partially assembled at the rotation

190

00:17:12,100 --> 00:17:10,310

processing and storage facility the

191

00:17:14,590 --> 00:17:12,110

segments were then moved to the Vehicle

192

00:17:26,590 --> 00:17:14,600

Assembly Building or VAB where they were

193

00:17:32,529 --> 00:17:29,259

the external tank arrived at KSC by

194

00:17:34,480 --> 00:17:32,539

barge and was moved into the VAB where

195

00:17:45,519 --> 00:17:34,490

it was checked out and made it to the

196

00:17:47,769 --> 00:17:45,529

stacked solid rocket boosters after

197

00:17:52,210 --> 00:17:47,779

orbiter check out challenger was rolled

198

00:18:00,930 --> 00:17:52,220

into the VAB and mated with the

199

00:18:06,810 --> 00:18:04,440

the STS 51I vehicle was transported from

200

00:18:10,799 --> 00:18:06,820

the VAB to the launch pad on December

201  
00:18:13,080 --> 00:18:10,809  
22nd 1985 at a crawler speed of

202  
00:18:19,169 --> 00:18:13,090  
approximately one mile per hour the

203  
00:18:21,690 --> 00:18:19,179  
journey takes about six hours the launch

204  
00:18:24,149 --> 00:18:21,700  
was rescheduled several times resulting

205  
00:18:27,960 --> 00:18:24,159  
in the final countdown on January 28

206  
00:18:29,549 --> 00:18:27,970  
1986 the weather was forecast to be

207  
00:18:33,960 --> 00:18:29,559  
clear and cold with temperatures

208  
00:18:35,969 --> 00:18:33,970  
dropping into the low 20s overnight the

209  
00:18:41,070 --> 00:18:35,979  
fueling of the external tank began at

210  
00:18:43,529 --> 00:18:41,080  
1:25 a.m. I said accumulated on the

211  
00:18:45,570 --> 00:18:43,539  
launch pad during the night several

212  
00:18:48,330 --> 00:18:45,580  
water systems were opened slightly and

213  
00:18:51,629 --> 00:18:48,340

allowed to flow into drains the drains

214

00:18:53,879 --> 00:18:51,639

froze and caused overflows high wind

215

00:18:59,999 --> 00:18:53,889

gusts spread the water over large areas

216

00:19:03,089 --> 00:19:00,009

and ice formed the air temperature at

217

00:19:05,489 --> 00:19:03,099

launch was 36 degrees Fahrenheit this

218

00:19:15,690 --> 00:19:05,499

was 15 degrees colder than any previous

219

00:19:17,279 --> 00:19:15,700

launch at t-minus 7 minutes and 30

220

00:19:20,759 --> 00:19:17,289

seconds the ground launch sequencer

221

00:19:23,009 --> 00:19:20,769

began retracting the crew access arm the

222

00:19:25,710 --> 00:19:23,019

arm can be put back in place within 15

223

00:19:29,479 --> 00:19:25,720

to 20 seconds if an emergency arises and

224

00:19:33,089 --> 00:19:29,489

the crew must evacuate the pad at

225

00:19:34,919 --> 00:19:33,099

t-minus 3 minutes and 15 seconds gimble

226

00:19:37,710 --> 00:19:34,929

checks of the orbiter main engines were

227

00:19:40,019 --> 00:19:37,720

performed all three engines move in a

228

00:19:43,200 --> 00:19:40,029

pre-programmed pattern to verify a sent

229

00:19:44,609 --> 00:19:43,210

flight control the gimbal sequence ends

230

00:19:52,049 --> 00:19:44,619

with the engines in their start

231

00:19:54,419 --> 00:19:52,059

positions at t-minus 2 minutes and 55

232

00:19:56,789 --> 00:19:54,429

seconds external tank liquid oxygen

233

00:19:59,669 --> 00:19:56,799

pressurization began and main engine

234

00:20:01,799 --> 00:19:59,679

purging was completed at t-minus 2

235

00:20:05,219 --> 00:20:01,809

minutes and 50 seconds retraction of the

236

00:20:07,169 --> 00:20:05,229

gaseous oxygen vent hood began the

237

00:20:14,280 --> 00:20:07,179

ground launch sequencer verified its

238

00:20:24,190 --> 00:20:17,080

sound suppression water was started at t

239

00:20:26,410 --> 00:20:24,200

minus 16 seconds at t minus 8 seconds

240

00:20:32,920 --> 00:20:26,420

hydrogen igniters were turned on to burn

241

00:20:35,260 --> 00:20:32,930

off any free hydrogen six point six

242

00:20:37,090 --> 00:20:35,270

seconds before launch challengers liquid

243

00:20:47,100 --> 00:20:37,100

fueled main engines were ignited in

244

00:20:52,030 --> 00:20:49,690

thrust from the main engines bends the

245

00:20:54,010 --> 00:20:52,040

shuttle stack when it returned to

246

00:20:57,790 --> 00:20:54,020

vertical the solid rocket boosters

247

00:21:01,480 --> 00:20:57,800

ignited at t zero the hold-down bolts

248

00:21:03,430 --> 00:21:01,490

were explosively released after the

249

00:21:05,530 --> 00:21:03,440

initial pre release twang motion

250

00:21:07,600 --> 00:21:05,540

structural forces on the assembly are

251  
00:21:09,550 --> 00:21:07,610  
dissipated through vibration at a rate

252  
00:21:17,260 --> 00:21:09,560  
of three cycles per second during the

253  
00:21:19,390 --> 00:21:17,270  
first few seconds of flight roll

254  
00:21:24,280 --> 00:21:19,400  
maneuver was initiated at seven point

255  
00:21:26,230 --> 00:21:24,290  
seven to four seconds the maneuver was

256  
00:21:30,070 --> 00:21:26,240  
completed at twenty-one point one to

257  
00:21:34,200 --> 00:21:30,080  
four seconds most of the plane hundred

258  
00:21:36,820 --> 00:21:34,210  
and four percent will throttle down to

259  
00:21:39,820 --> 00:21:36,830  
the main engines were throttled back to

260  
00:21:43,000 --> 00:21:39,830  
65 percent at 35 point three seven nine

261  
00:21:45,070 --> 00:21:43,010  
seconds for about 16 seconds in order to

262  
00:21:50,800 --> 00:21:45,080  
alleviate loads during maximum dynamic

263  
00:21:52,540 --> 00:21:50,810

pressure velocity 2257 feet per second

264

00:21:54,430 --> 00:21:52,550

altitude four point three nautical miles

265

00:21:57,190 --> 00:21:54,440

downrange distance the engines were then

266

00:22:03,580 --> 00:21:57,200

throttled up to 104 percent at fifty one

267

00:22:05,560 --> 00:22:03,590

point nine one nine seconds during the

268

00:22:10,880 --> 00:22:05,570

flight telemetry data gave no indication

269

00:22:15,660 --> 00:22:13,800

minute 15 seconds velocity 2,900 feet

270

00:22:35,810 --> 00:22:15,670

per second altitude nautical miles

271

00:22:40,769 --> 00:22:38,760

the solid rocket boosters continued in

272

00:22:49,669 --> 00:22:40,779

flight and were destroyed by the Range

273

00:22:55,110 --> 00:22:52,529

data from nearly 200 cameras were

274

00:22:57,210 --> 00:22:55,120

analyzed during the investigation the

275

00:22:59,549 --> 00:22:57,220

following sequence of events is based on

276

00:23:04,830 --> 00:22:59,559

the evaluation of film video and

277

00:23:07,110 --> 00:23:04,840

telemetry data this graphic indicates

278

00:23:09,480 --> 00:23:07,120

viewing angles for three cameras in the

279

00:23:12,360 --> 00:23:09,490

vicinity of the launch site the first

280

00:23:16,200 --> 00:23:12,370

view shown is from camera East 63 at the

281

00:23:18,029 --> 00:23:16,210

lower right of the chart at point six

282

00:23:20,220 --> 00:23:18,039

seven eight seconds into the flight a

283

00:23:22,169 --> 00:23:20,230

strong puff of grey smoke can be seen

284

00:23:24,210 --> 00:23:22,179

spurting from the vicinity of the aft

285

00:23:27,600 --> 00:23:24,220

field joint on the right solid rocket

286

00:23:29,220 --> 00:23:27,610

booster the vaporized material streaming

287

00:23:32,600 --> 00:23:29,230

from the joint indicates there was not

288

00:23:36,510 --> 00:23:32,610

complete sealing action within the joint

289

00:23:38,760 --> 00:23:36,520

this second view is from camera e60 the

290

00:23:40,980 --> 00:23:38,770

smoke can be seen between the right SRB

291

00:23:43,799 --> 00:23:40,990

and the external tank and initially

292

00:23:46,110 --> 00:23:43,809

moves in the upward direction the angle

293

00:23:56,190 --> 00:23:46,120

between this view and a 63 is

294

00:23:59,340 --> 00:23:56,200

approximately 100 degrees with a 60 and

295

00:24:02,100 --> 00:23:59,350

e63 side-by-side it is clear that when

296

00:24:06,000 --> 00:24:02,110

smoke is first visible to camera e60 it

297

00:24:08,909 --> 00:24:06,010

is not yet visible to e63 point two

298

00:24:11,730 --> 00:24:08,919

seconds later it becomes visible to e63

299

00:24:14,880 --> 00:24:11,740

and is seen in multiple lobes or puffs

300

00:24:19,169 --> 00:24:14,890

reaching maximum visibility at about 1.9

301  
00:24:22,350 --> 00:24:19,179  
seconds a third higher resolution camera

302  
00:24:25,889 --> 00:24:22,360  
D 67 was located east of the launch pad

303  
00:24:27,990 --> 00:24:25,899  
D 67 recorded this view of the smoke at

304  
00:24:30,779 --> 00:24:28,000  
approximately the same time of maximum

305  
00:24:33,539 --> 00:24:30,789  
development smoke appears to the right

306  
00:24:37,190 --> 00:24:33,549  
side of the SRB only while normal water

307  
00:24:40,080 --> 00:24:37,200  
condensation vapors appear to the left

308  
00:24:41,850 --> 00:24:40,090  
this plan shows that none of the cameras

309  
00:24:45,110 --> 00:24:41,860  
directly view the surface of the right

310  
00:24:47,460 --> 00:24:45,120  
SRB in the shaded region of the graphic

311  
00:24:49,380 --> 00:24:47,470  
analysis of film from several pad

312  
00:24:52,890 --> 00:24:49,390  
cameras indicated that the smoke

313  
00:24:59,660 --> 00:24:52,900

from between 270 and 310 degrees on the

314

00:25:04,560 --> 00:25:02,460

indicated on these preflight photos the

315

00:25:07,799 --> 00:25:04,570

smoke emerged from just above the strut

316

00:25:10,320 --> 00:25:07,809

between the SRB and ET at a point along

317

00:25:19,020 --> 00:25:10,330

the longitudinal axis near the aft field

318

00:25:21,140 --> 00:25:19,030

joint the multiple smoke puffs occurred

319

00:25:23,070 --> 00:25:21,150

at a rate of about 4 times per second

320

00:25:25,230 --> 00:25:23,080

approximating the frequency of the

321

00:25:29,610 --> 00:25:25,240

structural load dynamics and resultant

322

00:25:31,799 --> 00:25:29,620

joint flexing this greatly exaggerated

323

00:25:35,610 --> 00:25:31,809

computer animation depicts the flexing

324

00:25:37,770 --> 00:25:35,620

of the SRB joint this flexing increased

325

00:25:41,930 --> 00:25:37,780

the gap between the tang and clevis at

326  
00:25:44,580 --> 00:25:41,940  
the location of two rubber o-ring seals

327  
00:25:47,789 --> 00:25:44,590  
last evidence of smoke above the aft

328  
00:25:50,610 --> 00:25:47,799  
attached ring appears at 2.7 3 3 seconds

329  
00:25:53,669 --> 00:25:50,620  
the last indication of smoke dispersing

330  
00:25:56,090 --> 00:25:53,679  
below the F don't appear zat 3.37 5

331  
00:25:58,590 --> 00:25:56,100  
seconds

332  
00:26:00,659 --> 00:25:58,600  
film records of the Assembly of the

333  
00:26:02,610 --> 00:26:00,669  
solid rocket booster were reviewed to

334  
00:26:07,289 --> 00:26:02,620  
determine any evidence of cause for the

335  
00:26:09,000 --> 00:26:07,299  
smoke photographs taken just prior to

336  
00:26:10,830 --> 00:26:09,010  
mating of the booster segments at the

337  
00:26:13,190 --> 00:26:10,840  
aft field joint show the o-rings

338  
00:26:15,900 --> 00:26:13,200

installed in the grease clevis grooves a

339

00:26:17,430 --> 00:26:15,910

subtle variation was detected but

340

00:26:19,169 --> 00:26:17,440

through computer enhancement was

341

00:26:22,200 --> 00:26:19,179

determined to be a shadow caused by

342

00:26:24,630 --> 00:26:22,210

irregularities in the grease no evidence

343

00:26:28,080 --> 00:26:24,640

of oring defects was observed in any of

344

00:26:30,060 --> 00:26:28,090

the stacking photography the facility

345

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:30,070

gaseous hydrogen vent arm was not

346

00:26:34,860 --> 00:26:33,010

captured after retraction at launch film

347

00:26:37,230 --> 00:26:34,870

analysis however showed that it did not

348

00:26:42,960 --> 00:26:37,240

rebound and contact the vehicle or

349

00:26:44,370 --> 00:26:42,970

contribute to the accident post launch

350

00:26:46,620 --> 00:26:44,380

inspection of the hold-down posts

351  
00:26:51,020 --> 00:26:46,630  
revealed that the kick spring assemblies

352  
00:26:54,780 --> 00:26:53,490  
detailed analysis determined that the

353  
00:26:58,200 --> 00:26:54,790  
assemblies could not have become

354  
00:27:00,030 --> 00:26:58,210  
detached prior to  $t + 850$  milliseconds

355  
00:27:03,120 --> 00:27:00,040  
and were not a contributing factor to

356  
00:27:05,580 --> 00:27:03,130  
the smoke observed at liftoff

357  
00:27:07,529 --> 00:27:05,590  
the next significant event was the

358  
00:27:15,960 --> 00:27:07,539  
development of the SRB burned through

359  
00:27:18,000 --> 00:27:15,970  
plume camera E 2 O 7 located about 6

360  
00:27:25,919 --> 00:27:18,010  
miles north of the launch pad shows the

361  
00:27:27,870 --> 00:27:25,929  
growth of this plume the first evidence

362  
00:27:29,640 --> 00:27:27,880  
of flame appeared on the right solid

363  
00:27:32,340 --> 00:27:29,650

rocket booster at fifty eight point

364

00:27:34,080 --> 00:27:32,350

seven eight eight seconds this occurred

365

00:27:36,870 --> 00:27:34,090

as the main engines had been throttled

366

00:27:41,430 --> 00:27:36,880

up to 104 percent thrust and the SRBs

367

00:27:43,200 --> 00:27:41,440

were increasing thrust camera e 203 was

368

00:27:46,409 --> 00:27:43,210

located west of the launch site and

369

00:27:52,409 --> 00:27:46,419

gives an aft view the exposure was set

370

00:27:54,330 --> 00:27:52,419

for the booster nozzle plumes this

371

00:27:58,770 --> 00:27:54,340

graphic illustrates the location of the

372

00:28:01,430 --> 00:27:58,780

flare the flare was located near the aft

373

00:28:03,600 --> 00:28:01,440

field joint approximately 300 degrees

374

00:28:05,340 --> 00:28:03,610

circumferentially which is consistent

375

00:28:12,750 --> 00:28:05,350

with the location of the smoke emissions

376

00:28:14,640 --> 00:28:12,760

at liftoff within half a second the

377

00:28:17,279 --> 00:28:14,650

flame had grown into a continuous and

378

00:28:19,560 --> 00:28:17,289

well-defined plume at about the same

379

00:28:21,120 --> 00:28:19,570

time telemetry showed a divergence and

380

00:28:24,390 --> 00:28:21,130

chamber pressures between the right and

381

00:28:26,340 --> 00:28:24,400

left SRBs pressure in the right SRB

382

00:28:30,180 --> 00:28:26,350

chamber was lower as a result of the

383

00:28:32,070 --> 00:28:30,190

growing leak the plume is seen here in

384

00:28:33,840 --> 00:28:32,080

pinching directly onto the surface of

385

00:28:35,970 --> 00:28:33,850

the external tank and the lower aft

386

00:28:39,840 --> 00:28:35,980

strut at sixty point two four eight

387

00:28:42,149 --> 00:28:39,850

seconds at about sixty two seconds the

388

00:28:48,200 --> 00:28:42,159

control system elements began to respond

389

00:28:53,909 --> 00:28:52,020

recorded on e 207 and E 204 the first

390

00:28:56,039 --> 00:28:53,919

visual indication that the anomalous

391

00:28:58,560 --> 00:28:56,049

plume penetrated the external tank was

392

00:29:00,360 --> 00:28:58,570

seen at sixty four point six six seconds

393

00:29:03,390 --> 00:29:00,370

as an abrupt change in the shape and

394

00:29:05,310 --> 00:29:03,400

color of the plume this is an indication

395

00:29:09,610 --> 00:29:05,320

of hydrogen leaking from the external

396

00:29:14,560 --> 00:29:12,520

at sixty four point seven oh five

397

00:29:16,420 --> 00:29:14,570

seconds a bright sustained glow

398

00:29:21,790 --> 00:29:16,430

developed between the orbiter and the

399

00:29:23,620 --> 00:29:21,800

external tank slight changes in the

400

00:29:25,930 --> 00:29:23,630

hydrogen tank pressure telemetry data

401  
00:29:28,210 --> 00:29:25,940  
confirmed the leak two point two seconds

402  
00:29:29,950 --> 00:29:28,220  
later at sixty six point eight seconds

403  
00:29:32,200 --> 00:29:29,960  
when the LH two tank pressurization

404  
00:29:34,870 --> 00:29:32,210  
system could no longer maintain its

405  
00:29:37,210 --> 00:29:34,880  
normal repressurization rate at seventy

406  
00:29:39,030 --> 00:29:37,220  
two point six seconds the LH to tank

407  
00:29:40,960 --> 00:29:39,040  
pressure could no longer be maintained

408  
00:29:42,940 --> 00:29:40,970  
indicating that the leak path had

409  
00:29:47,320 --> 00:29:42,950  
significantly increased and was growing

410  
00:29:49,150 --> 00:29:47,330  
rapidly at seventy two point two seconds

411  
00:29:51,640 --> 00:29:49,160  
the guidance system showed that right

412  
00:29:54,520 --> 00:29:51,650  
SRB motion diverged from the orbiter and

413  
00:29:59,580 --> 00:29:54,530

left SRB indicating that the lower ET

414

00:30:04,299 --> 00:30:02,500

during this timeframe exaggerated

415

00:30:06,250 --> 00:30:04,309

steering commands and control system

416

00:30:11,200 --> 00:30:06,260

responses registered in telemetry data

417

00:30:13,270 --> 00:30:11,210

and approximately 73 seconds both liquid

418

00:30:15,220 --> 00:30:13,280

hydrogen and liquid oxygen pressure to

419

00:30:18,280 --> 00:30:15,230

the main engines showed a significant

420

00:30:20,169 --> 00:30:18,290

drop this was followed at seventy three

421

00:30:22,090 --> 00:30:20,179

point one to four seconds by the

422

00:30:24,030 --> 00:30:22,100

appearance of a circumferential white

423

00:30:28,290 --> 00:30:24,040

pattern around the ET aft region

424

00:30:31,450 --> 00:30:28,300

suggesting LH to tank structural failure

425

00:30:33,820 --> 00:30:31,460

13 milliseconds later at seventy three

426  
00:30:36,130 --> 00:30:33,830  
point one three seven seconds vapor was

427  
00:30:38,890 --> 00:30:36,140  
observed at the inner tank indicative of

428  
00:30:40,570 --> 00:30:38,900  
the liquid oxygen tank failing this can

429  
00:30:43,240 --> 00:30:40,580  
be attributed to have normal loads

430  
00:30:45,340 --> 00:30:43,250  
induced by either the right SRB rotation

431  
00:30:47,650 --> 00:30:45,350  
at the forward attach point or the

432  
00:30:52,830 --> 00:30:47,660  
propulsive forces created by the yell h2

433  
00:30:57,850 --> 00:30:55,960  
within milliseconds liquid oxygen was

434  
00:31:03,040 --> 00:30:57,860  
observed streaming along the external

435  
00:31:05,890 --> 00:31:03,050  
tank at seventy three point one nine one

436  
00:31:07,960 --> 00:31:05,900  
seconds a flash was observed between the

437  
00:31:10,120 --> 00:31:07,970  
ET and orbiter that was immediately

438  
00:31:12,340 --> 00:31:10,130

followed by the start of total vehicle

439

00:31:16,450 --> 00:31:12,350

breakup at seventy three point two one

440

00:31:19,000 --> 00:31:16,460

three seconds during the next 100

441

00:31:22,960 --> 00:31:19,010

milliseconds additional flashes occur in

442

00:31:23,379 --> 00:31:22,970

the SRB forward attach area as the ET

443

00:31:25,899 --> 00:31:23,389

broke

444

00:31:28,239 --> 00:31:25,909

the released fluids vaporized rapidly

445

00:31:31,119 --> 00:31:28,249

producing an expanding cloud of gases

446

00:31:33,459 --> 00:31:31,129

vapors and cryogenic fluid with embedded

447

00:31:36,940 --> 00:31:33,469

debris and localized combustion of mixed

448

00:31:38,949 --> 00:31:36,950

gases no shockwave or other evidence of

449

00:31:41,680 --> 00:31:38,959

a violent explosion was detected in the

450

00:31:44,619 --> 00:31:41,690

imagery illumination from a combination

451  
00:31:46,869 --> 00:31:44,629  
of SRB plume radiance reflected sunlight

452  
00:31:49,589 --> 00:31:46,879  
and peripheral burning of gases gives

453  
00:31:52,690 --> 00:31:49,599  
the cloud the appearance of a fireball

454  
00:31:54,489 --> 00:31:52,700  
by seventy three point six seconds the

455  
00:31:56,680 --> 00:31:54,499  
main engines were in automatic shutdown

456  
00:31:59,440 --> 00:31:56,690  
mode as a result of reduced propellant

457  
00:32:01,419 --> 00:31:59,450  
pressures the last telemetry from

458  
00:32:06,119 --> 00:32:01,429  
challenger was received seventy three

459  
00:32:10,629 --> 00:32:08,709  
the actual vehicle breakup was

460  
00:32:12,940 --> 00:32:10,639  
essentially obscured from view by the

461  
00:32:15,789 --> 00:32:12,950  
vapor cloud which abruptly enveloped the

462  
00:32:19,209 --> 00:32:15,799  
vehicle hundreds of fragments were noted

463  
00:32:21,219 --> 00:32:19,219

exiting the et cloud those identified

464

00:32:26,699 --> 00:32:21,229

included the shuttle main engines the

465

00:32:31,239 --> 00:32:29,049

approximately one second after initial

466

00:32:33,879 --> 00:32:31,249

breakup film showed the front segment of

467

00:32:36,369 --> 00:32:33,889

the orbiter emerging from the cloud the

468

00:32:38,440 --> 00:32:36,379

nose crew cabin and a portion of the

469

00:32:42,940 --> 00:32:38,450

cargo bay make up the orbiter in this

470

00:32:44,799 --> 00:32:42,950

view nitrogen tetroxide oxidizer from

471

00:32:46,599 --> 00:32:44,809

the forward reaction control system

472

00:32:51,219 --> 00:32:46,609

provided a distinctive orange brown

473

00:32:53,379 --> 00:32:51,229

color to the cloud by seventy four point

474

00:32:55,599 --> 00:32:53,389

five seven eight seconds a yellow cloud

475

00:32:58,180 --> 00:32:55,609

or flash was visible near the orbiter

476

00:32:59,739 --> 00:32:58,190

nose segment this is believed to be

477

00:33:06,489 --> 00:32:59,749

caused by burning monomethylhydrazine

478

00:33:08,289 --> 00:33:06,499

from the forward RCS the flash reaction

479

00:33:10,479 --> 00:33:08,299

from the RCS propellant sub aided

480

00:33:13,149 --> 00:33:10,489

revealing separation of the nose section

481

00:33:15,009 --> 00:33:13,159

from the crew cabin less than a quarter

482

00:33:18,089 --> 00:33:15,019

of a second later the crew cabin was

483

00:33:20,199 --> 00:33:18,099

noted to be severed from the cargo bay

484

00:33:21,819 --> 00:33:20,209

igniting a propellant discharge

485

00:33:32,320 --> 00:33:21,829

continued to be observed from the

486

00:33:36,970 --> 00:33:34,600

a camera south of the launch pad

487

00:33:44,259 --> 00:33:36,980

recorded a wider array of debris exiting

488

00:33:46,210 --> 00:33:44,269

the vapor cloud the initial emergence of

489

00:33:48,100 --> 00:33:46,220

the crew cabin from this perspective was

490

00:33:55,930 --> 00:33:48,110

at seventy five point two three seven

491

00:33:57,759 --> 00:33:55,940

seconds the initial path of the crew

492

00:33:59,889 --> 00:33:57,769

cabin from the vapor cloud carried it

493

00:34:02,440 --> 00:33:59,899

across the path of an adjacent contrail

494

00:34:09,820 --> 00:34:02,450

clearly revealing its truncated form and

495

00:34:11,290 --> 00:34:09,830

attitude the left wing became visible at

496

00:34:15,159 --> 00:34:11,300

seventy eight point five three one

497

00:34:19,389 --> 00:34:15,169

seconds the main engines and crew cabin

498

00:34:21,399 --> 00:34:19,399

are also identifiable after ten seconds

499

00:34:23,589 --> 00:34:21,409

the crew cabin was seen again with the

500

00:34:27,369 --> 00:34:23,599

front end and top of the cabin visible

501  
00:34:29,710 --> 00:34:27,379  
as the subject moved further away and

502  
00:34:31,480 --> 00:34:29,720  
dropped lower on the horizon the quality

503  
00:34:37,690 --> 00:34:31,490  
of the image for visual analysis

504  
00:34:40,060 --> 00:34:37,700  
deteriorated rapidly long-range tracking

505  
00:34:43,389 --> 00:34:40,070  
cameras followed the SRBs through Range

506  
00:34:45,730 --> 00:34:43,399  
Safety destruct at approximately seventy

507  
00:34:49,329 --> 00:34:45,740  
five point eight seconds the right SRB

508  
00:34:51,669 --> 00:34:49,339  
was seen exiting the cloud camera E to O

509  
00:34:53,470 --> 00:34:51,679  
seven shows the right SRB after the

510  
00:34:58,890 --> 00:34:53,480  
breakup and the joints are clearly

511  
00:35:07,320 --> 00:35:01,630  
this confirmed the location of the plume

512  
00:35:11,890 --> 00:35:10,060  
the separated nose cap and deployed

513  
00:35:13,839 --> 00:35:11,900

drogue parachute are identified at

514

00:35:23,370 --> 00:35:13,849

approximately seventy six point four

515

00:35:27,750 --> 00:35:25,680

the shockwave from the detonation of the

516

00:35:34,350 --> 00:35:27,760

linear shaped charge on the right SRB

517

00:35:42,210 --> 00:35:34,360

can be seen clearly simultaneously the

518

00:35:44,760 --> 00:35:42,220

left SRB was destroyed at approximately

519

00:35:46,590 --> 00:35:44,770

37 seconds challenger had encountered

520

00:35:48,780 --> 00:35:46,600

the first of several expected high

521

00:35:53,460 --> 00:35:48,790

altitude wind shear conditions which

522

00:35:55,110 --> 00:35:53,470

lasted until about 64 seconds these wind

523

00:35:58,530 --> 00:35:55,120

shears are best illustrated by the

524

00:36:00,540 --> 00:35:58,540

effect on the booster exhaust trails the

525

00:36:02,250 --> 00:36:00,550

effect of wind shear was immediately

526  
00:36:06,120 --> 00:36:02,260  
sensed and countered by the guidance

527  
00:36:08,280 --> 00:36:06,130  
navigation and control system wind

528  
00:36:10,140 --> 00:36:08,290  
reconstructions were aided by comparing

529  
00:36:13,050 --> 00:36:10,150  
predicted exhaust trail shapes with

530  
00:36:15,150 --> 00:36:13,060  
acquired photography the reconstructed

531  
00:36:17,550 --> 00:36:15,160  
winds were used in trajectory and flight

532  
00:36:22,370 --> 00:36:17,560  
loads analyses which verified that the

533  
00:36:29,760 --> 00:36:25,470  
several flashes and yes any plumes were

534  
00:36:32,610 --> 00:36:29,770  
observed during the flight as similar

535  
00:36:34,380 --> 00:36:32,620  
life is a mysterious light these are

536  
00:36:37,980 --> 00:36:34,390  
considered NASA to have not tribute into

537  
00:36:40,050 --> 00:36:37,990  
the acts of the accident the visible

538  
00:36:42,300 --> 00:36:40,060

condensation that appears in this frame

539

00:36:44,130 --> 00:36:42,310

is created by shockwaves which develop

540

00:36:53,280 --> 00:36:44,140

as the vehicle passes through the speed

541

00:36:57,600 --> 00:36:55,620

a large-scale search effort was

542

00:37:02,130 --> 00:36:57,610

initiated to recover the space shuttle

543

00:37:06,090 --> 00:37:02,140

debris 22 ships six underwater search

544

00:37:11,070 --> 00:37:06,100

vessels and 33 aircraft participated in

545

00:37:12,930 --> 00:37:11,080

the operation the pieces recovered

546

00:37:20,370 --> 00:37:12,940

initially were those found floating on

547

00:37:24,650 --> 00:37:20,380

the surface the submarine fleet was used

548

00:37:37,470 --> 00:37:27,360

objects identified as being important to

549

00:37:39,420 --> 00:37:37,480

the investigation were retrieved 50% of

550

00:37:45,600 --> 00:37:39,430

the entire vehicle was recovered in the

551  
00:37:47,910 --> 00:37:45,610  
effort the ocean search area was located

552  
00:37:51,420 --> 00:37:47,920  
at the edge of the Gulf Stream at depths

553  
00:37:53,340 --> 00:37:51,430  
up to 1,200 feet approximately 93

554  
00:37:58,170 --> 00:37:53,350  
thousand square miles of ocean were

555  
00:38:00,180 --> 00:37:58,180  
searched the recovered hardware was

556  
00:38:02,340 --> 00:38:00,190  
brought to the recovery facility where

557  
00:38:06,620 --> 00:38:02,350  
root construction to verify the

558  
00:38:12,420 --> 00:38:06,630  
investigation team's findings as well as

559  
00:38:14,880 --> 00:38:12,430  
an order été and the survey's inside the

560  
00:38:16,830 --> 00:38:14,890  
recovery facility parts were rows of

561  
00:38:24,330 --> 00:38:16,840  
floral recorder to the duration of the

562  
00:38:27,450 --> 00:38:24,340  
vehicle 45 percent of the orbiter itself

563  
00:38:29,190 --> 00:38:27,460

was recovered the debris confirmed that

564

00:38:30,600 --> 00:38:29,200

the orbiter and its payloads did not

565

00:38:32,820 --> 00:38:30,610

contribute to the cause of the accident

566

00:38:34,980 --> 00:38:32,830

and that the orbiter breakup was a

567

00:38:40,110 --> 00:38:34,990

result of aerodynamic effects rather

568

00:38:42,060 --> 00:38:40,120

than explosive effects shown here are

569

00:38:51,150 --> 00:38:42,070

parts of the orbiter forward fuselage

570

00:38:55,240 --> 00:38:53,320

extensive heating and erosion was

571

00:38:59,290 --> 00:38:55,250

detected on the right aft section of the

572

00:39:00,880 --> 00:38:59,300

orbiter the paint was scorched and

573

00:39:07,540 --> 00:39:00,890

blackened on the right side of the aft

574

00:39:10,870 --> 00:39:07,550

fuselage thermal distress was apparent

575

00:39:17,200 --> 00:39:10,880

on the right rudder speed brake while

576

00:39:25,730 --> 00:39:17,210

the left showed little effect thermal

577

00:39:35,660 --> 00:39:28,160

the aft left side of the orbiter showed

578

00:39:37,609 --> 00:39:35,670

no apparent sign of heat damage the

579

00:39:39,859 --> 00:39:37,619

remaining recovered parts of the orbiter

580

00:39:45,440 --> 00:39:39,869

showed no evidence of fire or explosion

581

00:39:47,329 --> 00:39:45,450

from within the vehicle all three main

582

00:39:49,190 --> 00:39:47,339

engines were recovered and helped to

583

00:39:57,440 --> 00:39:49,200

verify that they did not contribute to

584

00:40:04,609 --> 00:39:57,450

the cause of the accident the external

585

00:40:07,070 --> 00:40:04,619

tank was similarly reconstructed 25% of

586

00:40:09,620 --> 00:40:07,080

the liquid hydrogen tank 80% of the

587

00:40:17,120 --> 00:40:09,630

inner tank and 5% of the liquid oxygen

588

00:40:25,700 --> 00:40:17,130

tank was recovered most of the external

589

00:40:33,440 --> 00:40:28,010

the nose cap sustained very little

590

00:40:34,819 --> 00:40:33,450

damage in general the recovered pieces

591

00:40:37,400 --> 00:40:34,829

were quite large

592

00:40:39,530 --> 00:40:37,410

the spray-on foam insulation exhibited

593

00:40:41,750 --> 00:40:39,540

varying degrees of thermal effects from

594

00:40:49,040 --> 00:40:41,760

extreme charring to practically no

595

00:40:51,290 --> 00:40:49,050

effect the external tank range safety

596

00:40:52,819 --> 00:40:51,300

destruct explosive charges housed in

597

00:40:55,670 --> 00:40:52,829

this cable tray were recovered

598

00:40:59,349 --> 00:40:55,680

undetected eliminating them as a

599

00:41:02,180 --> 00:40:59,359

possible factor an external tank breakup

600

00:41:04,220 --> 00:41:02,190

the inter tank region showed signs of

601  
00:41:06,410 --> 00:41:04,230  
buckling in the fore and aft direction

602  
00:41:08,299 --> 00:41:06,420  
this would be consistent with the

603  
00:41:10,099 --> 00:41:08,309  
impulsive thrust that resulted from the

604  
00:41:15,380 --> 00:41:10,109  
sudden loss of liquid hydrogen from the

605  
00:41:16,790 --> 00:41:15,390  
aft section of the tank this sharing

606  
00:41:19,309 --> 00:41:16,800  
failure of the forward attachment

607  
00:41:21,140 --> 00:41:19,319  
fitting with the right SRB was caused by

608  
00:41:30,250 --> 00:41:21,150  
the boosters rotation after the aft

609  
00:41:33,849 --> 00:41:32,140  
the stiffener stringers on the

610  
00:41:36,040 --> 00:41:33,859  
right-hand side of the inner tank show

611  
00:41:44,700 --> 00:41:36,050  
evidence of contact which match marks on

612  
00:41:48,880 --> 00:41:47,230  
section of the ring frame and a section

613  
00:41:50,800 --> 00:41:48,890

of the a film from the lower strut

614

00:41:53,440 --> 00:41:50,810

attachment area was recovered in one

615

00:41:58,599 --> 00:41:53,450

piece the lower strut attachment fitting

616

00:42:00,940 --> 00:41:58,609

had been pulled away the effects of the

617

00:42:03,099 --> 00:42:00,950

anomalous SRB plume can be seen on the

618

00:42:05,170 --> 00:42:03,109

external tank excluding an area which

619

00:42:10,960 --> 00:42:05,180

was shielded by the strut and attachment

620

00:42:13,060 --> 00:42:10,970

fitting approximately 50% of solid

621

00:42:15,700 --> 00:42:13,070

rocket booster Hardware was recovered an

622

00:42:17,920 --> 00:42:15,710

ordnance storage facility was used to

623

00:42:23,590 --> 00:42:17,930

house the motor case pieces as some

624

00:42:25,720 --> 00:42:23,600

contained unburned propellant marks seen

625

00:42:28,180 --> 00:42:25,730

on the right SRB frustum matched the

626  
00:42:36,670 --> 00:42:28,190  
contact area shown previously on the et

627  
00:42:38,170 --> 00:42:36,680  
inter tank stringers the size and

628  
00:42:40,450 --> 00:42:38,180  
location of the burn through as

629  
00:42:45,210 --> 00:42:40,460  
indicated by the recovered SRB debris

630  
00:42:50,380 --> 00:42:47,859  
the aft center section of the joint

631  
00:42:52,960 --> 00:42:50,390  
shows a large hole centered at the 307

632  
00:42:54,940 --> 00:42:52,970  
degrees circumferential position the

633  
00:43:04,660 --> 00:42:54,950  
irregular hole is roughly rectangular

634  
00:43:06,730 --> 00:43:04,670  
and is about 27 by 15 inches the

635  
00:43:09,099 --> 00:43:06,740  
Steelcase material showed evidence of

636  
00:43:14,349 --> 00:43:09,109  
hot gas erosion caused by combustion

637  
00:43:16,420 --> 00:43:14,359  
products flowing through the opening the

638  
00:43:22,240 --> 00:43:16,430

aft section of the right SRB showed a

639

00:43:24,130 --> 00:43:22,250

hole approximately 33 by 21 inches the

640

00:43:29,590 --> 00:43:24,140

burned surface extended into the aft

641

00:43:31,750 --> 00:43:29,600

attached strut region the exterior

642

00:43:34,210 --> 00:43:31,760

surface of the aft case featured a large

643

00:43:36,340 --> 00:43:34,220

heat affected area the shape and

644

00:43:40,980 --> 00:43:36,350

location of this heat spot indicates an

645

00:43:44,170 --> 00:43:43,450

there was a small burn through in the

646

00:43:45,730 --> 00:43:44,180

case wall

647

00:43:48,370 --> 00:43:45,740

which appeared to have penetrated from

648

00:43:49,990 --> 00:43:48,380

the outside in this was due to the

649

00:43:55,630 --> 00:43:50,000

impingement of hot gases from the

650

00:43:57,490 --> 00:43:55,640

anomalous plume the hole and the solid

651  
00:43:59,109 --> 00:43:57,500  
rocket booster segments was the result

652  
00:44:01,540 --> 00:43:59,119  
of the joint leakage on the right hand

653  
00:44:09,520 --> 00:44:01,550  
SRB which was determined to be the cause

654  
00:44:11,109 --> 00:44:09,530  
of the accident the presidential

655  
00:44:13,030 --> 00:44:11,119  
commission concluded that the cause of

656  
00:44:15,040 --> 00:44:13,040  
the Challenger accident was the failure

657  
00:44:16,870 --> 00:44:15,050  
of the pressure seal in the aft filled

658  
00:44:19,530 --> 00:44:16,880  
joint of the right solid rocket motor

659  
00:44:21,700 --> 00:44:19,540  
the failure was due to a faulty design

660  
00:44:25,540 --> 00:44:21,710  
rendering the seal unacceptably

661  
00:44:27,040 --> 00:44:25,550  
sensitive to a number of factors those

662  
00:44:29,710 --> 00:44:27,050  
factors include the effects of

663  
00:44:32,020 --> 00:44:29,720

temperature physical dimensions the

664

00:44:34,599 --> 00:44:32,030

character of materials the effects of

665

00:44:40,000 --> 00:44:34,609

reuse and processing and the reaction of

666

00:44:42,010 --> 00:44:40,010

the joint to dynamic loading more

667

00:44:43,660 --> 00:44:42,020

detailed analyses are contained in

668

00:44:45,400 --> 00:44:43,670

volume 3 of the report of the