



1
00:00:05,990 --> 00:00:03,350
good morning everybody and welcome to

2
00:00:07,430 --> 00:00:06,000
today's post-launch news conference it's

3
00:00:09,589 --> 00:00:07,440
always a great day in florida when we

4
00:00:11,669 --> 00:00:09,599
have one of these and today we have a

5
00:00:13,430 --> 00:00:11,679
bunch of happy people here after the

6
00:00:15,430 --> 00:00:13,440
successful launch of the united launch

7
00:00:16,950 --> 00:00:15,440
alliance atlas v rocket

8
00:00:19,670 --> 00:00:16,960
carrying nasa's

9
00:00:21,269 --> 00:00:19,680
radiation belt storm probes into space

10
00:00:22,870 --> 00:00:21,279
and we're going to

11
00:00:24,790 --> 00:00:22,880
begin with some opening comments and

12
00:00:27,109 --> 00:00:24,800
then we'll be happy to take questions

13
00:00:29,910 --> 00:00:27,119

like to introduce to my left

14

00:00:31,830 --> 00:00:29,920

rick fitzgerald rbsp project manager

15

00:00:34,470 --> 00:00:31,840

from johns hopkins applied physics

16

00:00:35,750 --> 00:00:34,480

laboratory

17

00:00:37,910 --> 00:00:35,760

mike luther

18

00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:37,920

deputy associate administrator for the

19

00:00:42,150 --> 00:00:39,440

science mission directorate at nasa

20

00:00:45,110 --> 00:00:42,160

headquarters in washington

21

00:00:47,190 --> 00:00:45,120

and nikki fox rbsp deputy project

22

00:00:48,950 --> 00:00:47,200

scientist for johns hopkins applied

23

00:00:50,630 --> 00:00:48,960

physics laboratory

24

00:00:52,790 --> 00:00:50,640

thank you all for coming and rick we'll

25

00:00:54,229 --> 00:00:52,800

begin with you

26

00:00:56,069 --> 00:00:54,239

okay well uh

27

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:56,079

first of all i'm very happy to report

28

00:00:59,510 --> 00:00:58,000

that we have two healthy spacecraft on

29

00:01:02,069 --> 00:00:59,520

orbit and uh

30

00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:02,079

many thanks to uh ula and launch

31

00:01:06,310 --> 00:01:04,479

services uh program for getting us on

32

00:01:08,310 --> 00:01:06,320

orbit giving us a great ride

33

00:01:10,310 --> 00:01:08,320

and injecting us in exactly the orbit

34

00:01:13,109 --> 00:01:10,320

that we wanted to be in so thank you

35

00:01:15,190 --> 00:01:13,119

very much to them and congratulations to

36

00:01:17,270 --> 00:01:15,200

the whole rbsp team

37

00:01:19,670 --> 00:01:17,280

uh for a job well done and uh we're

38

00:01:21,510 --> 00:01:19,680

continuing with our checkout and

39

00:01:23,590 --> 00:01:21,520

our 59 and a half days now of

40

00:01:25,510 --> 00:01:23,600

commissioning activities in front of us

41

00:01:26,710 --> 00:01:25,520

but we're very happy with the progress

42

00:01:27,670 --> 00:01:26,720

to date

43

00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:27,680

and

44

00:01:32,789 --> 00:01:30,240

jpl had their seven minutes of terror

45

00:01:34,789 --> 00:01:32,799

recently and i had my hour and 55

46

00:01:37,590 --> 00:01:34,799

minutes of terror tonight

47

00:01:39,429 --> 00:01:37,600

i had dark hair when we launched so

48

00:01:42,149 --> 00:01:39,439

glad to say that we're on orbit now and

49

00:01:43,429 --> 00:01:42,159

everybody's happy thank you

50

00:01:45,830 --> 00:01:43,439

mike

51
00:01:48,550 --> 00:01:45,840
uh yeah what a beautiful launch uh it

52
00:01:50,789 --> 00:01:48,560
was uh by the way and for uh some of us

53
00:01:53,350 --> 00:01:50,799
lucky enough to be outside

54
00:01:54,469 --> 00:01:53,360
uh i'll just note that you could follow

55
00:02:04,950 --> 00:01:54,479
the

56
00:02:06,550 --> 00:02:04,960
outside

57
00:02:08,949 --> 00:02:06,560
what you couldn't see

58
00:02:10,150 --> 00:02:08,959
was a series of rather intricate

59
00:02:11,670 --> 00:02:10,160
maneuvers

60
00:02:13,110 --> 00:02:11,680
that the

61
00:02:15,670 --> 00:02:13,120
the centaur

62
00:02:17,830 --> 00:02:15,680
second stage performed in order to get

63
00:02:20,470 --> 00:02:17,840

the twin spacecraft in their appropriate

64

00:02:21,350 --> 00:02:20,480

orbits which they accomplished quite

65

00:02:22,630 --> 00:02:21,360

well

66

00:02:25,190 --> 00:02:22,640

um

67

00:02:27,030 --> 00:02:25,200

so it was just a beautiful launch uh on

68

00:02:29,350 --> 00:02:27,040

behalf of nasa and the science mission

69

00:02:31,830 --> 00:02:29,360

directorate i'd like to

70

00:02:34,790 --> 00:02:31,840

say thank you and and congratulations to

71

00:02:37,030 --> 00:02:34,800

our partners ula

72

00:02:38,869 --> 00:02:37,040

united launch alliance and applied

73

00:02:41,589 --> 00:02:38,879

physics lab

74

00:02:45,110 --> 00:02:41,599

and now that the spacecraft are safely

75

00:02:46,949 --> 00:02:45,120

uh in orbit uh the real fun begins and

76

00:02:48,869 --> 00:02:46,959

we get to

77

00:02:50,949 --> 00:02:48,879

after the commissioning period that rick

78

00:02:51,750 --> 00:02:50,959

mentioned we get to

79

00:02:53,990 --> 00:02:51,760

then

80

00:02:56,150 --> 00:02:54,000

begin to perform the most detailed study

81

00:02:58,869 --> 00:02:56,160

of the earth radiation belts that has

82

00:03:01,350 --> 00:02:58,879

ever been undertaken

83

00:03:02,149 --> 00:03:01,360

so we're just as pleased as we can be

84

00:03:02,949 --> 00:03:02,159

and

85

00:03:05,030 --> 00:03:02,959

really

86

00:03:07,030 --> 00:03:05,040

i want to say thanks to

87

00:03:11,030 --> 00:03:07,040

the entire team

88

00:03:15,190 --> 00:03:11,040

from all our partners thanks nikki

89

00:03:17,830 --> 00:03:15,200

okay so um today uh 11 years hard work

90

00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:17,840

was realized by the science team as we

91

00:03:22,149 --> 00:03:20,000

stood a number of us stood together

92

00:03:24,630 --> 00:03:22,159

watching the rocket lift up the pad and

93

00:03:26,070 --> 00:03:24,640

as mike said it was the most spectacular

94

00:03:27,670 --> 00:03:26,080

sight um

95

00:03:30,229 --> 00:03:27,680

i thought i was going to be blown away

96

00:03:32,949 --> 00:03:30,239

by what i would see and it didn't even

97

00:03:35,509 --> 00:03:32,959

it just was way way better than than i i

98

00:03:38,149 --> 00:03:35,519

could imagine uh sonic boom just wiped

99

00:03:40,710 --> 00:03:38,159

out any cloud in the sky and um it was

100

00:03:43,190 --> 00:03:40,720

like it was welcoming the spacecraft up

101
00:03:45,509 --> 00:03:43,200
uh they're now um at home in the van

102
00:03:47,910 --> 00:03:45,519
allen belts where they belong

103
00:03:50,470 --> 00:03:47,920
and i think we we've all actually now

104
00:03:52,789 --> 00:03:50,480
finally breathed out um now that the

105
00:03:54,949 --> 00:03:52,799
four solar panels are out on on both of

106
00:03:58,229 --> 00:03:54,959
them so as mike said for the science

107
00:04:00,149 --> 00:03:58,239
team uh the real work now begins um

108
00:04:02,229 --> 00:04:00,159
one big milestone was getting up there

109
00:04:04,710 --> 00:04:02,239
the next big milestones are all of our

110
00:04:07,750 --> 00:04:04,720
scientific discoveries um and we were

111
00:04:09,589 --> 00:04:07,760
delighted today that uh sarah van allen

112
00:04:11,990 --> 00:04:09,599
the the daughter of james van allen

113
00:04:14,710 --> 00:04:12,000

joined us um at the applied physics lab

114

00:04:16,469 --> 00:04:14,720

in the uh mission operations center um

115

00:04:19,189 --> 00:04:16,479

where she was she was right there as we

116

00:04:20,870 --> 00:04:19,199

used our 18-meter dish to uh to bring

117

00:04:22,150 --> 00:04:20,880

down that telemetry and tell us that

118

00:04:23,909 --> 00:04:22,160

everything was great so we were

119

00:04:26,629 --> 00:04:23,919

delighted that she was able to join us

120

00:04:28,469 --> 00:04:26,639

and continue um with her father's proud

121

00:04:30,550 --> 00:04:28,479

tradition of studying the radiation

122

00:04:32,310 --> 00:04:30,560

belts

123

00:04:33,830 --> 00:04:32,320

all right thank you we'll now take

124

00:04:35,350 --> 00:04:33,840

questions please state your name and

125

00:04:37,749 --> 00:04:35,360

your affiliation and to whom you're

126

00:04:40,469 --> 00:04:37,759

addressing your question marcia marsha

127

00:04:42,230 --> 00:04:40,479

done associated press for dr fox so

128

00:04:44,390 --> 00:04:42,240

based on your comments they have already

129

00:04:46,150 --> 00:04:44,400

penetrated the van allen belts by now

130

00:04:48,390 --> 00:04:46,160

they would have already they're up in

131

00:04:51,590 --> 00:04:48,400

the inner belt i believe yeah correct

132

00:04:53,510 --> 00:04:51,600

yep um and for mr fitzgerald i can't

133

00:04:55,590 --> 00:04:53,520

help but notice your fine dress this

134

00:04:58,070 --> 00:04:55,600

this morning is this for good luck or is

135

00:05:00,710 --> 00:04:58,080

this your this is my this is my good

136

00:05:02,150 --> 00:05:00,720

luck tux uh i wore this 10 years ago for

137

00:05:03,590 --> 00:05:02,160

the grace mission launch where i was the

138

00:05:05,830 --> 00:05:03,600

mission manager

139

00:05:08,310 --> 00:05:05,840

and uh that mission is 10 years and

140

00:05:14,310 --> 00:05:08,320

still on orbit uh so i'm hoping for the

141

00:05:19,990 --> 00:05:15,350

james

142

00:05:21,909 --> 00:05:20,000

much frustration was there

143

00:05:23,029 --> 00:05:21,919

enduring the past we've done seven

144

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:23,039

minutes

145

00:05:26,950 --> 00:05:24,880

i don't know how many hours but seven

146

00:05:29,350 --> 00:05:26,960

days to get up in the air after a couple

147

00:05:31,909 --> 00:05:29,360

scrubs probably was a little frustrating

148

00:05:34,870 --> 00:05:31,919

um it was it was i can't say it was my

149

00:05:37,670 --> 00:05:34,880

most happy moments of my life but um we

150

00:05:39,830 --> 00:05:37,680

waited 11 years and i you know

151
00:05:41,749 --> 00:05:39,840
driving off the base with all that

152
00:05:44,070 --> 00:05:41,759
spectacular lightning the other day i

153
00:05:44,870 --> 00:05:44,080
was like okay they're not ready to go so

154
00:05:47,350 --> 00:05:44,880
um

155
00:05:49,670 --> 00:05:47,360
a few more days was worth it to to wait

156
00:05:50,950 --> 00:05:49,680
for this beautiful launch but uh it was

157
00:05:53,029 --> 00:05:50,960
frustrating but that's the space

158
00:05:55,350 --> 00:05:53,039
business we designed spacecraft to uh to

159
00:05:56,629 --> 00:05:55,360
be able to withstand space weather um we

160
00:05:57,909 --> 00:05:56,639
didn't really think about tropical

161
00:06:00,950 --> 00:05:57,919
storms we were more worried about those

162
00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:00,960
big geomagnetic storms so um it was

163
00:06:06,230 --> 00:06:02,639

frustrating but i am so happy that

164

00:06:09,830 --> 00:06:08,230

and so 60 days of commissioning does

165

00:06:12,710 --> 00:06:09,840

that mean it takes it will take that

166

00:06:14,309 --> 00:06:12,720

long for each instrument to have fully

167

00:06:16,309 --> 00:06:14,319

deployed or is there

168

00:06:18,150 --> 00:06:16,319

does that happen sooner

169

00:06:19,189 --> 00:06:18,160

different instruments come at different

170

00:06:21,350 --> 00:06:19,199

times

171

00:06:24,469 --> 00:06:21,360

very shortly actually later today the

172

00:06:27,510 --> 00:06:24,479

magnetometer booms um which are these on

173

00:06:29,430 --> 00:06:27,520

the from the solar panels um will deploy

174

00:06:33,189 --> 00:06:29,440

and those instruments will start taking

175

00:06:34,870 --> 00:06:33,199

data uh the these whoops these are long

176

00:06:36,950 --> 00:06:34,880

these actually are the 50 meter so

177

00:06:38,790 --> 00:06:36,960

they're 100 meter tip to tip booms and

178

00:06:40,469 --> 00:06:38,800

they deploy those very slowly because

179

00:06:42,469 --> 00:06:40,479

obviously it changes the spin rate of

180

00:06:44,150 --> 00:06:42,479

the spacecraft so it takes more than two

181

00:06:46,550 --> 00:06:44,160

weeks to get all those out and we're

182

00:06:48,150 --> 00:06:46,560

still doing puffs of thrust while we're

183

00:06:50,070 --> 00:06:48,160

doing that so we don't bring up all of

184

00:06:52,309 --> 00:06:50,080

the particle instruments until all of

185

00:06:53,990 --> 00:06:52,319

that plasma cloud is completely clear so

186

00:06:55,510 --> 00:06:54,000

that's why it takes so long we've we've

187

00:06:56,950 --> 00:06:55,520

waited a long time we want to take care

188

00:06:59,909 --> 00:06:56,960

of our instruments when they're up there

189

00:07:00,950 --> 00:06:59,919

so some will be on before others

190

00:07:03,510 --> 00:07:00,960

marcia

191

00:07:05,749 --> 00:07:03,520

yes for dr fox again um sarah van allen

192

00:07:07,749 --> 00:07:05,759

is she a scientist and she was in laurel

193

00:07:10,309 --> 00:07:07,759

maryland correct she was not here today

194

00:07:12,950 --> 00:07:10,319

she was she was here for the attempts um

195

00:07:14,469 --> 00:07:12,960

in florida uh last week um and this

196

00:07:15,990 --> 00:07:14,479

morning we were delighted that she was

197

00:07:16,950 --> 00:07:16,000

able to join us

198

00:07:21,430 --> 00:07:16,960

at the

199

00:07:22,950 --> 00:07:21,440

i am not sure

200

00:07:24,629 --> 00:07:22,960

sorry

201
00:07:27,990 --> 00:07:24,639
i'm here at kennedy space center we were

202
00:07:30,550 --> 00:07:28,000
proud to host a nasa social for the rbsp

203
00:07:32,469 --> 00:07:30,560
launch and we have some dedicated

204
00:07:34,309 --> 00:07:32,479
parties who came here last week for the

205
00:07:36,390 --> 00:07:34,319
first launch attempt and they've stuck

206
00:07:37,589 --> 00:07:36,400
it out and we're happy to invite them

207
00:07:39,589 --> 00:07:37,599
today to participate in the news

208
00:07:41,350 --> 00:07:39,599
conference and we have a question thank

209
00:07:43,589 --> 00:07:41,360
you good morning pedro vazquez delicious

210
00:07:44,469 --> 00:07:43,599
blur on twitter my question is for dr

211
00:07:47,270 --> 00:07:44,479
fox

212
00:07:49,510 --> 00:07:47,280
uh now that the now the spacecraft are

213
00:07:51,589 --> 00:07:49,520

where they're going to be for the

214

00:07:54,230 --> 00:07:51,599

foreseeable future have you have you

215

00:07:56,629 --> 00:07:54,240

decided on a name uh or will they always

216

00:07:58,550 --> 00:07:56,639

be known as spacecraft a and b

217

00:08:00,469 --> 00:07:58,560

um that is that is still under

218

00:08:03,830 --> 00:08:00,479

discussion um right now they're still

219

00:08:05,189 --> 00:08:03,840

spacecraft a and b um

220

00:08:06,550 --> 00:08:05,199

as you know i've always called them van

221

00:08:08,869 --> 00:08:06,560

and allen because they're close to my

222

00:08:10,790 --> 00:08:08,879

heart but but uh they they will they'll

223

00:08:15,270 --> 00:08:10,800

they will remain spacecraft a and b

224

00:08:19,670 --> 00:08:18,390

do we have any other questions

225

00:08:22,390 --> 00:08:19,680

all right

226

00:08:24,150 --> 00:08:22,400

seeing none we will call it a day thank

227

00:08:26,950 --> 00:08:24,160

you all very much for coming have a good

228

00:08:31,430 --> 00:08:26,960

day to keep track of the rbsp mission