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Launch Date for 2nd '97 Shuttle Mission to Hubble

From: NASANews@hq.nasa.gov
Date: Fri, 31 Jan 1997 10:19:18 -0500 (EST)
Fwd Date: Fri, 31 Jan 1997 18:44:46 -0500
Subject: Launch Date for 2nd '97 Shuttle Mission to Hubble

Debbie Rahn/Jennifer McCarter
Headquarters, Washington, DC
(Phone: 202/358-1778)
January 31, 1997
Sender: owner-press-release
Precedence: bulk

Ed Campion/Rob Navias
Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX
(Phone: 281/483-5111)

Lisa Malone/Bruce Buckingham
Kennedy Space Center, FL
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RELEASE: 97-21

NASA MANAGERS SET FEB. 11 AS LAUNCH DATE FOR SECOND SHUTTLE SERVICING MISSION TO HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE

Following completion of a flight readiness review meeting, NASA managers set Feb. 11 as the official launch date for NASA's second Shuttle mission of the year.

The mission, designated STS-82, is the second in a series of planned servicing missions to the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope (HST). Following rendezvous with and retrieval of the HST on the third day of the mission, four space walks on four successive days will take place as the astronauts remove and replace various HST components. Work performed on the telescope will significantly upgrade the scientific capabilities of the HST and keep the telescope functioning smoothly until the next scheduled servicing mission in 1999.

The launch window on Feb. 11 opens at 3:56 a.m. EST and extends for 65 minutes. Discovery's mission duration is planned for nine days, 22 hours, 47 minutes. The STS-82 mission will conclude with Discovery returning home to the Kennedy Space Center, FL, on Feb. 21 at about 2:43 a.m. EST.

-end-

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