

# PROJECT SKYLAB



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## PROJECT SKYLAB - 2nd ASTRONAUT LAUNCH

July 28, 1973 - 7:11 AM - Twenty minutes after sunrise the eight Saturn 1B rockets were ignited and carried the modified Apollo command ship through a thick blanket of clouds toward a rendezvous and docking with the Skylab Workshop. Three minor problems came up during countdown, none serious and Astronauts Al Bean, Owen Garriott and Jack Lousma were on their way to man's longest mission in space - just 2 seconds behind schedule. Three hours later Lousma reported "It looks like we're driving fast through a snowstorm". Ground instruments indicated a drop in helium and propellant in one of the 4 sets of small jet steering engines on the side of the Apollo. The Astronauts shut down that jet engine system and the "snowstorm stopped".