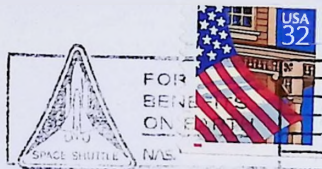


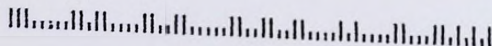
SPACE SHUTTLE
STS-81/ATLANTIS



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SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-81/ATLANTIS)

During the fifth Shuttle-Mir docking mission, NASA astronaut John Blaha will be returned to Earth aboard the Shuttle orbiter Atlantis, while STS-81 Mission Specialist Jerry Linenger will take his place aboard the Russian space station as a member of the Mir-22 crew. Blaha has been on Mir since Sept. 19, 1996, and Linenger will live and work on Mir for a planned stay of about 4 1/2 months. Atlantis' primary payload will be a SPACEHAB double module that will serve as a transport module for nearly 2,000 pounds of food, water and other supplies for the Mir crew, as well as a pressurized microgravity and life science research facility.

THE STS-81 CREW – Mission Commander Michael A. Baker will be on his fourth space flight. He has more than 4,800 hours of flight time in over 50 types of aircraft. Pilot Brent W. Jett, Jr. is a former naval aviator with 450 carrier landings and STS-81 will be his second space trip. The mission specialists are: John M. Grunsfeld, an astronaut since 1992, in which STS-81 will also be his second space voyage; Marsha S. Ivins has flown on three Shuttle missions and has served as the lead of the Astronaut Support Personnel team at KSC; Peter J. K. "Jeff" Wisoff conducted a spacewalk during his first flight, STS-57, in 1993, and Jerry M. Linenger has been training at the Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City, Russia, in preparation for his stay on Mir. He is on his second Shuttle flight and has been an astronaut since 1992.

THE STS-81 CREW INSIGNIA – The crew patch for STS-81 is shaped to represent the Roman numeral V, the fifth Shuttle-Mir docking mission. The Shuttle Atlantis can be seen launching toward a rendezvous with the Russian Space Station Mir which is silhouetted in the background. Both the U.S. and Russian flags are depicted along with the seven names of all the crew members (including Blaha that will return to Earth as a member of the STS-81 crew when Atlantis touches down at KSC to conclude the 10-day mission).