

SL-III MC-1217/1
Time: 17:17 CDT; 30/22:17 GMT
8/26/73

SCI
CONF

MCC - - pointed it.
SPT Roger.
MCC Moving on to M131, on the OGI, both Jack and Owen are showing slightly increased proficiency in perceiving the OGI. And we're wondering whether you're seeing the oscillation of the line targets, either if you happen to open your eyes and see it at rest, or during the acceleration or deceleration?

SPT What?
MCC We're wondering - -
SPT We've - I've made all those comments. I think each of us have on the channel A debriefing at the end of the run, but I personally, do notice some vertical oscillation, and I think we have commented from time to time about some amount of left/right.

MCC Okay, and we saw, on A1, when the OGI was run, mission day 26 that he ran on 12 times at level 8. We're wondering if there was a purpose to that?

SPT I don't know who the observer was, I didn't quite hear you say which man, but I expect that it was an accident.

MCC Okay, and you've reported sometimes that the line target's out of focus. Could you say a little more about that?

SPT Yes, it's always out of focus, and there's no way to focus it. In our - it just - there's something - it will not make a distinct line. It's a fuzzy vertical line, and then to me it actually looks like it has a second or third sort of fainter image to the left. And there's just no way to get the target properly in focus.

MCC Have you noticed any other changes in visual acuity?

SPT (Garble) in fact, I do not interpret this as a change in visual ac - visual acuity, I don't think you really intended to imply that. We all see the same thing. And as far as acuity is concerned, either in close or at distant vision, I've seen no change at all.

MCC Okay, one thing we're thinking about, the venous congestion in the head could produce a slightly larger eyeball, which would, of course, change the focal length of the eye.

SPT Good point, I don't know whether that affects near or far vision or what, but, of course, we don't have very, very - a very objective way of measuring it without an eye testing machine up here, but at least, to my knowledge, we haven't noticed anything.

MCC Okay, and moving on, on the spatial localization. Your inflight variability is much less than we

M131

OSCILLATIONS

LINE
FOCUS

SL-III MC-1217/2
Time: 17:17 CDT; 30/22:17 GMT
8/26/73

M131

saw on the ground which is rather surprising, and we're wondering if your restraint system has been improved?

SPT Gee, I would have guessed exactly the opposite. It seems to me that we have almost no reference for pitch on that spatial localization and I'm surprised that the variability is as good as you just mentioned. I - I (garble) probably two or three times worse. And the restraint system, is just the one we use on the ground. We just have to cinch that one belt strap down tightly. And that's all we've been using.

MCC Okay, it's going real well. And another surprising thing is that your internal reference - you're shifting in the same direction as SL-II did, but your internal reference has shifted more than your external frame of reference, the internal being about 5 to 25, and the external 5 to 15.

SPT Now that - that's sort of consistent with what I'd thought we were doing. Now, internal reference seems to change as we progress. We can see the readings as you log them, pitching down as each measurement progresses.

MCC Okay, and I'm moving on now to the bone and muscle, because we've got about 3-1/2 minutes left. Now, that's going real well. Al and Jack's weight's stable and Owen, you're down just about 1.7 pounds in the last 21 days. And we're real glad that you're eating up - which is approaching the ground level, as opposed to SL-II. Why, they ate about an average of 300 calories less than their pre-flight level.

Food
&
WT

SPT Right, I'm stuffing in more everyday.

MCC Okay, that's good and we wish you had a lot - we had more to offer you. As - in retrospect, we did not ship up enough overage in the workshop, and in SL-IV, for a standard mission, we are having to put 40 pounds of food on board.

SPT That sounds good. I was just trying to find some overage tonight, and I certainly agree with that. One other question I might have, I suppose that there's - you've been alerted to the fact that there may be some error in our cue cards, and we're still waiting an update and discussion of the proper supplement, in particular, salt, on our cue cards.

★
CUE
CARD
ERROR
Need AFS

MCC Okay, I was discussing that earlier today. It ought to be up by tonight or tomorrow on that. We think, regarding the weight loss, probably, whatever water you've lost is lost already and that you do have adequate protein, and probably all that good exercise you're doing is keeping the muscle up.

SL-III MC-1217/3

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SPT Okay, sounds encouraging. We feel fine, I really don't feel like I've lost any weight. I feel the same way I did at 6 or 7 pounds heavier, so it's apparently, some sort of a zero g phenomenon that you really - your body thinks that it needs a little bit less weight.

MCC Roger. And regarding your question on insensible loss, we really have to back in to that kind of analysis. We've got to look at what the intake was and what the output is and the difference between those two is insensible loss.

SPT That sounds to me like a dandy way of covering up all of your other mistakes,

MCC Well, we hope that isn't what it is. Historically, we did have some sweat patches and did take samples in the past for analysis too. We might do some of that on the ground. And can you tell us, if during your exercise, M171, your optional exercise period, did you work up enough of a sweat so that it beads up and maybe gets slinged off?

SPT Well, on 171, both Jack and I work up a good sweat, although, I don't think the exercise is long enough. We're only at the high levels for about 5 minutes to lose more than a quarter of a pound. Now, we normally continue then, on, for our normal exercise for about another 20 minutes, and both Jack and myself sweat heavily during that time. So, I'm convinced that there - of course the measurement showed that I lose on the order of a pound and a half, and I think that's a daily, sort of an event, and it's certainly much larger than losses to be expected due to respiration and that sort of thing.

MCC Okay, Owen, thanks a lot, here. We'll be going LOS in about 30 seconds. We'll see you stateside in Texas in 30 minutes, and Bob Parker will be talking to you about corollary and giving you a science progress summary at that time.

SPT Okay, and I might just add one thing. Al, of course, is delivering, essentially, the same amount of work, but he is not - doesn't happen to sweat heavily during that process, so he probably is not losing any - very large amount due to sweating during his exercise period.

MCC Okay, thanks, Owen.

CDR Naval officers don't sweat.

MCC You're right.

SPT Only in their navels.

PAO Skylab - -

PAO Skylab Control at 22 hours 24 - 25 minutes Greenwich mean time. We've lost signal at the Honeysuckle

ZING!!

SWEAT

CDR
SWEATS
LOS