

Thornton

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CREWMEMBERS NAMED FOR STS-13, SPACELAB 2 AND 3

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration announced today the names of astronaut crews for STS-13 and Spacelab 3, as well as mission specialists for Spacelab 2.

Commanding STS-13 will be Robert L. Crippen, who was pilot on STS-1 and is scheduled for command of STS-7. His crew includes Francis R. Scobee, pilot; and mission specialists Dr. George D. Nelson, Terry J. Hart and Dr. James D. van Hoften.

STS-13, the sixth flight of the orbiter Challenger, is scheduled as a five-day mission in April 1984. Its major objectives are repair of the malfunctioning Solar Maximum Mission satellite and deployment of the Long Duration Exposure Facility.

Commander of the Shuttle crew for STS-18 (Spacelab 3, which is scheduled for launch prior to Spacelab 2) is Robert F. Overmyer. Overmyer was the pilot of STS-5. With him will be Frederick D. Gregory, pilot; and mission specialists Dr. Don L. Lind, Dr. Norman E. Thagard and Dr. William E. Thornton. Both Thagard and Thornton are scheduled for Shuttle flights prior to Spacelab 3, Thagard on STS-7 and Thornton on STS-8. Payload specialists will be announced later.

Spacelab 3 will be the first operational Spacelab mission, carrying experiments in materials processing, space technology and life sciences.

Mission specialists on STS-24 (Spacelab 2) will be Dr. Anthony W. England and Dr. Karl G. Henize. Other crewmembers and

payload specialists will be named later.

Originally scheduled to precede SL-3 into orbit, SL-2 is a developmental flight carrying 13 major experiments in fields such as plasma physics, infrared astronomy and solar physics. The transposition of the two Spacelab flights is caused by a delay in completion of the Instrument Pointing System, necessary for SL-2 experiments.

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