Catalog of Earth Photographs
From the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project

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INTRODUCTION

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In July 1975, the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project (ASTP) conducted 28 experiments during Earth orbit. The Earth Observations and Photography Experiment (MA-136) was one of five experiments unilaterally conducted by the Apollo crewmembers. The scientific objectives of the experiment included the collection of data in support of ongoing research in the fields of geology (including desert studies), oceanography, hydrology, meteorology, and environmental science.

A detailed account of the experiment objectives, the training of astronauts, the preparation of aids for their use, and the preliminary scientific results was published as Astronaut Observations From the Apollo-Soyuz Mission, by Farouk El-Baz; Smithsonian Studies in Air and Space, Number 1, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C., 1977. This publication included as appendices the verbal comments made by the astronauts during the mission and during the post-mission debriefings, a manual of astronaut training flights, and the Earth observations book used by the astronauts during the mission.

Results of the scientific data analysis are published as Apollo-Soyuz Test Project—Summary Science Report, Volume II: Earth Observations and Photography, edited by Farouk El-Baz and D. M. Warner, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, D.C., 1979. These results are given in 43 separate chapters most of which include illustrations in full color.

The present publication is a guide to usable Earth photographs obtained by the Apollo astronauts. It is organized in three sections, which may be used separately or in conjunction with each other. The Map Index shows the boundaries of each photograph, and can be used for a quick survey of the coverage for a given part of the Earth. The photograph numbers on these maps can be used to obtain relevant information from the Tabular Index, where photographs are arranged by serial number. The Photographic Index at the end provides “same size” black-and-white prints made from the original color negatives. These prints will help the reader select photographs for further analysis.

It is hoped that this catalog will serve as a vehicle to increase the interest in conducting additional investigations using the ASTP photographs of the Earth.

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