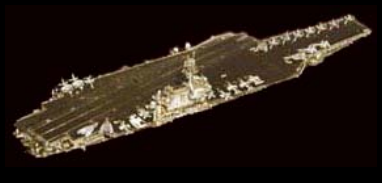
THE WRIGHT STUFF



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THE WRIGHT STUFF

Volume 23 - Number 6

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Publisher . . . . . J.R. Fisher
Editor . . . . . John Troan

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IMAGES - Featured Front Page
Continental U.S. (top) and worldwide (bottom) "City Lights 2012" composites from NASA/NOAA Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership satellite in April & October 2012. From NASA.gov.

A View From the Catbird Seat

By J.R. Fisher

We are fast approaching the end of the calendar year and the holidays are upon us. If you get this before the 16th of December, remember that our anniversary/holiday dinner is at 6 p.m. at the Kanki in Durham. Call for directions or Google.

With everything else that is happening, it is time to consider our annual event at UNC-TV: Festival! This year's dates are February 23rd through March 24th. Typically, we try to do two Saturday evenings. Usually the first and last. I have not spoken with Gloria Howell yet as to what is available, but I will try to see if we can get the first Saturday in March so that we can go from our meeting straight to the studios. So start looking at your calendars and if you know which Saturdays work for you, let me know on the 16th or at least by our meeting in January on the 5th.

I would like to take this time to wish each of you the very best holiday yet. May you know joy and happiness, and if you are traveling, please be especially careful. You each have the *Wright Stuff* to make the world around you a better place. Make it so.

Esse Quam Videri

Science Report

By Elaine Pischke

Happy Holidays to all!

NASA announced that the Mercury Messenger probe has uncovered evidence that Mercury's polar regions contain pure water ice. This ice exists despite Mercury's proximity to the sun. The ice is concentrated in craters that are never exposed to sunlight due to Mercury's almost non-existent rotational tilt. Messenger was launched in 2003 and made three fly-bys of Mercury before entering orbit in March 2011. Messenger has relayed about 100,000 images and contributed much to our knowledge of the solar system' innermost planet.

Going the other way, NASA is also working on another Mars rover, a twin to the Curiosity rover, to be launched in 2020. The plan for this one includes the capacity to gather samples for eventual return to Earth.

National Geographic has published their Top Ten Discoveries of 2012 list. Here it is http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2012/12/pictures/121203-top-ten-new-discoveries-2012/#/new-hot-yoga-goldilocks-exoplanet-found_39499_600x450. jpg if you care to check it out. For example, #9 reports the discovery of sugar in the space surrounding a new star. Besides just sounding weird and interesting, this is important because the simple form of sugar found plays a key role in the chemical reaction that forms ribonucleic acid (RNA), a crucial biomolecule present in all living cells. While this discovery in no ways proves life exists on other planets, it is one more indication that life is certainly possible. Number 5 reports the possible discovery of a solar system in the southern constellation Hydrus with nine planets, which would beat out us for the official title of 'most known planets in a system.' But wait! Number 8 says we may have another planet in our solar system hiding far out there somewhere. The only indication that such a planet exists is that something seems to be affecting the orbits of objects in the Kuiper belt, and another planet would explain it. If so, that would put us back to nine. For the time being, the jury is still out on that one.

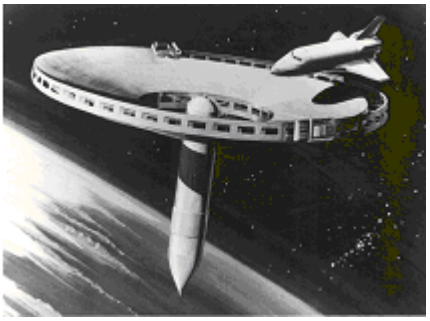
Security Report
By Spring Brooks

Strange Forgotten Space Station Concepts That Never Flew

Astronauts living and working in space rely on the International Space Station as their port of call. The iconic ISS is a modern engineering triumph, zipping around the Earth every 90 minutes at a height of 200 miles above the surface. Its construction required careful coordination between nearly a dozen countries working through five space agencies. Perhaps because of this, the ISS has a highly industrial look, with function certainly triumphing over form.

Yet the history of space station design is littered with concepts -- some elegant, some strange, and some remarkably cute -- that were passed over for one reason or another. Here, we look at some space station ideas that didn't quite make it off the drawing board.

Spider Space Station



After NASA announced the Space Shuttle program in the 1970s, it needed a place for the new, reusable launch vehicle to go. This 1977 design, known as Space Station "Spider," was designed with the shuttle in mind.

The concept looks sort of like a ballpoint pen floating below a saucer with its bottom missing. It uses a spent shuttle fuel tank pushed into low-Earth orbit as the main body, with a circular solar array for power. It was thought that the station could house astronauts as a stop-over to other destinations.

The Brick Moon

The earliest concept for a space station is from an article called "The Brick Moon" by Edward Everett Hale. Published in 1868 in *the Atlantic Monthly*, Hale's article described the construc-tion of a 200-foot-diameter sphere made of bricks that is accidentally launched into space with people aboard. Hale envisioned the brick moon as a possible navigational aide. It could have served as a fixed reference point above the prime meridian to help travelers calculate longitude, analogous to the North Star's use in determining latitude.

While certainly impervious to being blown down by big bad space wolves, the brick moon was mostly fantasy. But Hale's funny concept did foresee one major aspect of space station design: the astronomical price. In the story, the narrator calculates that the brick moon would require 12 million bricks and cost $250,000 (a tidy sum in those days).

Early Concepts

The Slovene rocket engineer Herman Potoènik proposed a set of three space stations in his 1928 *The Problem of Space Travel* -- the first book to provide detailed technical descriptions of space stations and spaceflight. This three-unit space station, as seen from the window of a spaceship, includes a habitat, machine room, and observatory, all tied together with umbilical cords. It would have been placed 26,000 miles above the Earth, in a geosynchronous orbit above Berlin. The round shape of this design is supposed to have inspired the later rocket pioneer Werner Von Braun's penchant for ring-shaped space stations.

War in Space

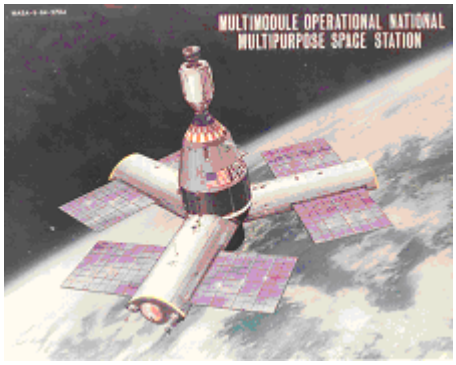
Space has always been a place to show off military might. This concept, from a 1960 design by the U.S. Air Force, was intended to test the usefulness of reconnaissance in space.Crews would be launched to this station in a Gemini B spacecraft, spend a month in orbit spying on enemy territories, and then return to Earth. Early designs called for the station to launch on Dec. 15, 1969, though this was pushed back to the fall of 1971. he program was ultimately canceled when it was shown that unmanned reconnaissance satellites could achieve the same objectives for far less money.

Nuclear Power in Space

The atomic age comes to space in this design from the 1960s or '70s. Powered by a nuclear reactor as part of NASA's Systems Nuclear Auxiliary Power (SNAP) program, this space station allowed for the servicing and launch of a spaceship in space. To prevent any contaminating radiation from reaching the crew, the reactor was kept at the end of a long boom. More than four stories tall, the concept

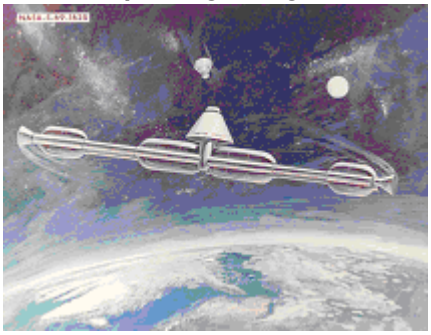
is larger than anything that could have been launched from the surface of the Earth. So engineers envisioned this station being assembled high above the atmosphere. Two of its decks would be used as a laboratory in space while the others two would be used to living and operations.

Apollo Station



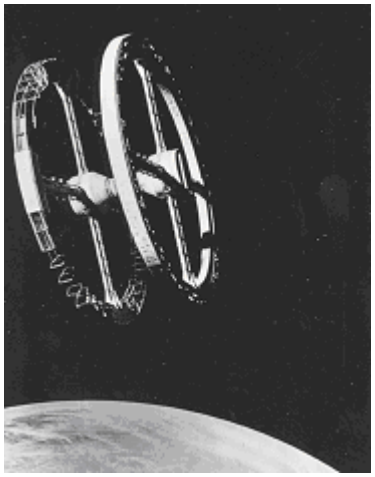
Sometimes simpler is better. Conceived during the Apollo era, the Large Orbiting Research Laboratory is based around three small compartments Much in the same way that the later Space Shuttle would ferry astronauts and supplies between the ISS and the ground, this design uses the Saturn V rocket — which launched the Apollo missions — to bring a small crew to the station.

Spinning Design



Because of the deleterious effects of long-term microgravity on astronauts, NASA has long looked into rotating space station designs. Even a modest spin would provide a small amount of gravity, which could counteract the weakening of muscles and other effects of extended spaceflight. This 1969 concept rotates on a central axis and would have been assembled in space from spent Apollo vehicle rocket stages. Most of these concepts were eventually abandoned at NASA in favor the zero-G station designs seen today.

Space Odyssey



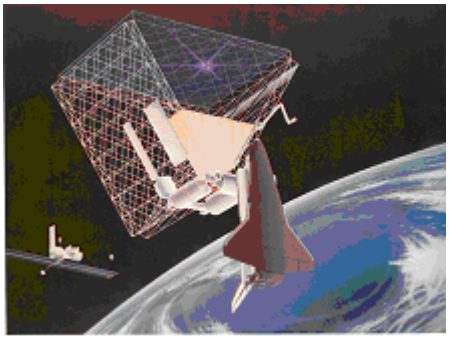
Arguably the most iconic space station design is the double-wheeled wonder from Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey." Though more than a decade has passed since the fictional events in the movie, we have yet to see such a machine in space. The concept was based on ideas from the rocket pioneer Werner Von Braun, who was a big fan of circular space stations. Towering at more than 900 feet in diameter, the station served as a layover point between Earth and the moon. Kubrick's station was a perfect combination of form and function, beautifully designed inside and out. Though government space agencies clearly used the platform, private companies were a major component of its operation. Pan Am ships brought scientists, passengers, and bureaucrats to the station, where they could stay in a space-based Hilton hotel.

Inflatable Station

Goodyear helped design this space station concept in 1961. After launch, it would have inflated like a giant rubber wheel, providing pressurized compartments for living and working in space. Inflatable space stations, which can be compressed and folded before launch, are useful because size and

weight are often the limiting factor in bringing anything to space. A 27-foot-diameter inflatable module called Transhab was proposed to fly on the International Space Station in the 1990s. Transhab's foot-thick shell would have been made in part from woven Kevlar and could have protected astronauts against micrometeorites and the vacuum of space. The module was never flown but a private company, Bigelow Aerospace, has taken up the design, launching two stations into orbit, Genesis I and II. The company currently has plans to launch a larger inflatable station, called BA 330, sometime in 2014 or 2015.

Power Roof



Looking like something a kid might put together with an Erector set, NASA put together this "roof" space station concept in 1984. The roof was covered in solar panels capable of generating about 120 kilowatts of power, while the triangular body housed five modules for living and research.

Space Station Freedom

Before the ISS, the U.S. considered a smaller international space station to be built in partnership with Japan, Canada, and nine European nations. First announced in President Ronald Reagan's 1984 State of the Union, Space Station

Freedom was meant to be an answer to the Soviet Mir space station.

Budget problems caused continuous delays for Freedom. The project was redesigned seven times between 1984 and 1993, each time shrinking in size and stature. In this last year, with Congress threatening to cancel the expensive project, President Bill Clinton announced that the Russian space agency would be brought in on the mission, creating the International Space Station.

This design, from 1993, fancifully sandwiches Freedom between the Earth, moon and Mars, suggesting the station as a stepping-stone between our planet and worlds beyond.

Computer Operations Report

By John Troan

(With apologies to Clement Clarke Moore.....)

'Tis the day before Christmas and all through the house

Not a creature is stirring 'cause, let's face it, cats don't stir much.

The nephews' presents are perched by the chimney with care,

Waiting to be wrapped in paper that will be shredded only a few hours later.

Out on the phone line there arose such a clatter,

As I make one last round of work calls to close out the year.

Next year's projects are lined up and on hold,

So that I can enjoy a much-needed (and too-short) vacation.

As I get the year's final Wright Stuff *sent on its way,*

I wish, "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!"

NASA-NOAA Satellite Reveals New Views of Earth at Night

NASA/JPL

[This is the NASA-JPL press release that goes with this month's cover images.]

Scientists unveiled today an unprecedented new look at our planet at night. A global composite image, constructed using cloud-free night images from a new NASA and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellite, shows the glow of natural and human-built phenomena across the planet in greater detail than ever before.

Many satellites are equipped to look at Earth during the day, when they can observe our planet fully illuminated by the sun. With a new sensor onboard the NASA-NOAA Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (NPP) satellite launched last year, scientists now can observe Earth's atmosphere and surface during nighttime hours.

The new sensor, the day-night band of the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS), is sensitive enough to detect the nocturnal glow produced by Earth's atmosphere and the light from a single ship in the sea. Satellites in the U.S. Defense Meteorological Satellite Program have been making observations with low-light sensors for 40 years. But the VIIRS day-night band can better detect and resolve Earth's night lights.

The new, higher resolution composite image of Earth at night was
released at a news conference at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco. This and other VIIRS day-night band images are providing researchers with valuable data for a wide variety of previously unseen or poorly seen events.

"For all the reasons that we need to see Earth during the day, we also need to see Earth at night," said Steve Miller, a researcher at NOAA's Colorado State University Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere. "Unlike humans, the Earth never sleeps."

The day-night band observed Hurricane Sandy, illuminated by moonlight, making landfall over New Jersey on the evening of Oct. 29. Night images showed the widespread power outages that left millions in darkness in the wake of the storm. With its night view, VIIRS is able to detect a more complete view of storms and other weather conditions, such as fog, that are difficult to discern with infrared, or thermal, sensors. Night is also when many types of clouds begin to form.

"The use of the day-night band by the National Weather Service is growing," said Mitch Goldberg, program scientist for NOAA's Joint Polar Satellite System. For example, the NOAA Weather Service's forecast office in Monterey, Calif., is now using VIIRS day-night band images to improve monitoring and forecasting of fog and low clouds for high air traffic coastal airports like San Francisco. According to Goldberg, VIIRS images were used on Nov. 26, the Monday after Thanksgiving, to map the dense fog in the San Francisco Bay area that resulted in flight delays and cancellations.

Unlike a camera that captures a picture in one exposure, the day-night band produces an image by repeatedly scanning a scene and resolving it as millions of individual pixels. Then, the day-night band reviews the amount of light in each pixel. If it is very bright, a low-gain mode prevents the pixel from oversaturating. If the pixel is very dark, the signal is amplified.

"It's like having three simultaneous low-light cameras operating at once and we pick the best of various cameras, depending on where we're looking in the scene," Miller said. The instrument can capture images on nights with or without moonlight, producing crisp views of Earth's atmosphere, land and ocean surfaces.

"The night is nowhere as dark as we might think," Miller said. And with the VIIRS day-night band helping scientists to tease out information from human and natural sources of nighttime light, "we don't have to be in the dark anymore, either."

"The remarkable day-night band images from Suomi NPP have impressed the scientific community and exceeded our pre-launch expectations," said James Gleason, Suomi NPP project scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

For images and additional information, visit http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/NPP/news/earth-at-night.html .

Voyager 1 Encounters New Region in Deep Space

NASA/JPL

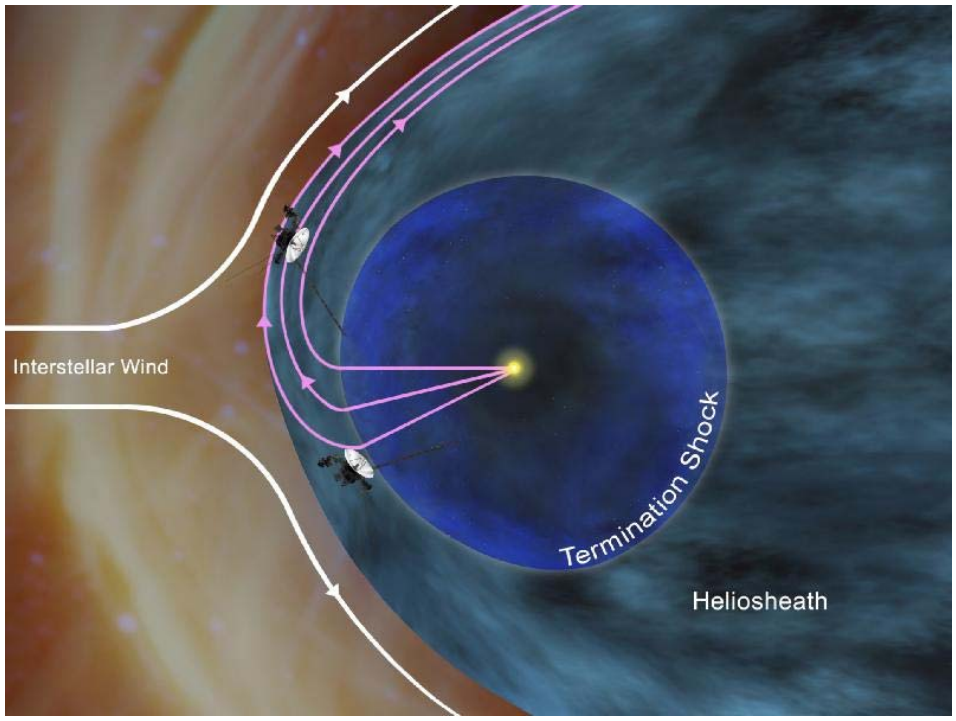
[This release is available with additional images at http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?release=2012-381&cid=release_2012-381.]

NASA's *Voyager 1* spacecraft has entered a new region at the far reaches of our solar system that scientists feel is the final area the spacecraft has to cross before reaching interstellar space.

Scientists refer to this new region as a magnetic highway for charged particles because our sun's magnetic field lines are connected to interstellar magnetic field lines. This connection allows lower-energy charged particles that originate from inside our heliosphere -- or the bubble of charged particles the sun blows around itself -- to zoom out and allows higher-energy particles from outside to stream in. Before entering this region, the charged particles bounced around in all directions, as if trapped on local roads inside the heliosphere.

The Voyager team infers this region is still inside our solar bubble because the direction of the magnetic field lines has not changed. The direction of these magnetic field lines is predicted to change when *Voyager* breaks through to interstellar space. The new results were described at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco on Monday.

"Although *Voyager 1* still is inside the sun's environment, we now can taste what it's like on the outside because the particles are zipping in and out on this magnetic highway," said Edward Stone, Voyager project scientist based at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena. "We believe this is the last leg of our journey to interstellar space. Our best guess is it's likely just a few months to a couple years away. The new region isn't what we expected, but we've come to expect the unexpected from *Voyager*."

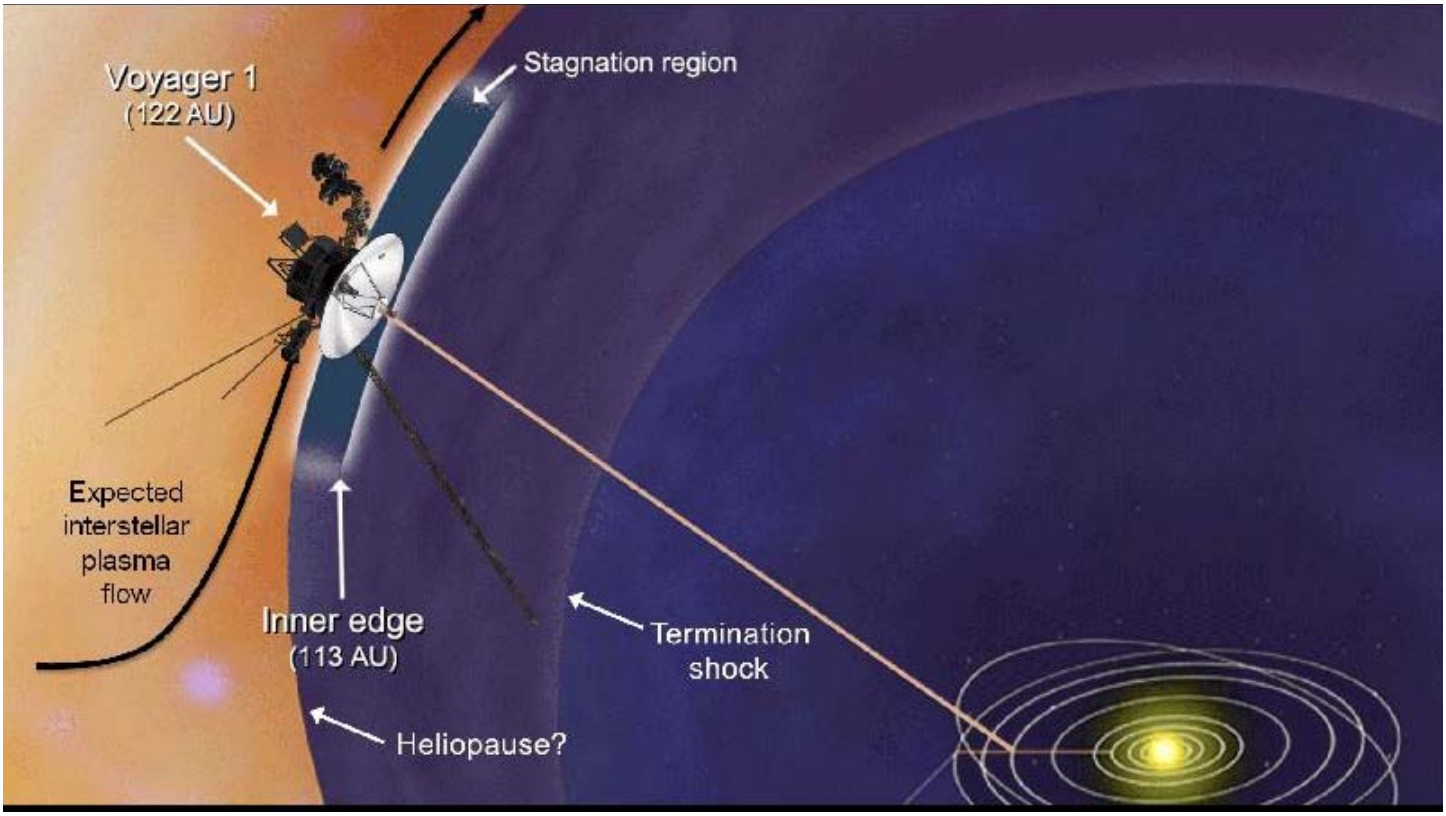


This artist's concept shows how NASA's *Voyager 1* spacecraft is bathed in solar wind from the southern hemisphere flowing northward. This phenomenon creates a layer just inside the outer boundary of the heliosphere, the giant bubble of solar ions surrounding the sun. If the outside pressure were symmetrical, the streams from the sun's northern hemisphere above the plane of the planets would all turn northward and the streams from the southern hemisphere would all turn southward. However, the interstellar magnetic field presses more strongly on the boundary in the southern hemisphere, forcing some of the solar wind from the south that otherwise would have gone southward to be deflected northward to where *Voyager 1* is. On July 21, 2012, the magnetometer instrument indicated that *Voyager 1* had entered a region where the wind is from the southern hemisphere. Scientists interpret this to mean that the spacecraft is in the final region before reaching interstellar space because the southern wind streams have to flow out and around all of the northern wind to reach *Voyager 1*'s location. Image from NASA/JPL-CalTech.

Since December 2004, when *Voyager 1* crossed a point in space called the termination shock, the spacecraft has been exploring the heliosphere's outer layer, called the heliosheath. In this region, the stream of charged particles from the sun, known as the solar wind, abruptly slowed down from supersonic speeds and became turbulent. *Voyager 1's* environment was consistent for about five and a half years. The spacecraft then detected that the outward speed of the solar wind slowed to zero.

The intensity of the magnetic field also began to increase at that time.

Voyager data from two onboard instruments that measure charged particles showed the spacecraft first entered this magnetic highway region on July 28, 2012. The region ebbed away and flowed toward *Voyager 1* several times. The spacecraft entered the region again Aug. 25 and the environment has been stable since.



This artist's concept shows plasma flows around NASA's *Voyager 1* spacecraft as it approaches interstellar space. *Voyager 1*'s low-energy charged particle instrument detects the speed of the wind of plasma, or hot ionized gas, streaming off the sun. It detected the slowing of this wind, also known as the solar wind, to zero outward velocity in a region called the stagnation region. Scientists had expected that the solar wind would turn the corner as it felt the pressure of the interstellar magnetic field and the interstellar wind flow. But that has not happened so far, so it is not clear what should be expected once the spacecraft reaches interstellar space. *Voyager 1* crossed a shockwave known as the termination shock in 2004. At the termination shock, the solar wind slows down abruptly from supersonic speeds. The heliopause is the boundary between the bubble of charged particles around our sun - known as the heliosphere - and interstellar space. Its location is still a mystery. Image from NASA/JPL-Caltech/JHUAPL.

"If we were judging by the charged particle data alone, I would have thought we were outside the heliosphere," said Stamatios Krimigis, principal investigator of the low-energy charged particle instrument, based at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, Md. "But we need to look at what all the instruments are telling us and only time will tell whether our interpretations about this frontier are correct."

Spacecraft data revealed the magnetic field became stronger each time *Voyager* entered the highway region; however, the direction of the magnetic field lines did not change.

"We are in a magnetic region unlike any we've been in before -- about 10 times more intense than before the termination shock -- but the magnetic field data show no indication we're in interstellar space," said Leonard Burlaga, a Voyager magnetometer team member based at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. "The magnetic field data turned out to be the key to pinpointing when we crossed the termination shock. And we expect these data will tell us when we first reach interstellar space."

Voyager 1 and *2* were launched 16 days apart in 1977. At least one of the spacecraft has visited Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. *Voyager 1* is the most distant human-made object, about 11 billion miles (18 billion kilometers) away from the sun. The signal from *Voyager 1* takes approximately 17 hours to travel to Earth. *Voyager 2*, the longest continuously operated spacecraft, is about 9 billion miles (15 billion kilometers) away from our sun. While *Voyager 2* has seen changes similar to those seen by *Voyager 1*, the changes are much more gradual. Scientists do not think *Voyager 2* has reached the magnetic highway.

The *Voyager* spacecraft were built and continue to be operated by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, in Pasadena, Calif. Caltech manages JPL for NASA. The Voyager missions are a part of NASA's Heliophysics System Observatory, sponsored by the Heliophysics Division of the Science Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in Washington.

For more information about the Voyager spacecraft, visit: http://www.nasa.gov/voyager and http://voyager.jpl.nasa.gov.

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE AND CARDASSIAN SHIP (OPTICAL)

The station has only one visitor, Banar's ship, a reminder of the trouble brewing inside.

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - SISKO'S OFFICE

Banar is pacing Sisko's office impatiently. Sisko is waiting on a signal and is not too comfortable with the situation, but tries to make the best of it.

SISKO
I'm sure the Bajoran Government will arrive at a mutually agreeable compromise.

Banar is not impressed, he continues his pacing and his abrasive manner.

BANAR
(moving)
I hope so, it would be unfortunate if the Bajorans were to choose to disregard the peace treaty.
(beat)
You and I have come a long way, Sisko. I do hope we can resolve this peacefully and quickly, there are other matters which I could be attending to...

He leaves the statement unfinished, both men realize the unspoken meaning, Cardassia's problems at home.

ON SISKO

Sisko senses an opportunity and begins to plant the seeds for a possible solution.

SISKO
Banar? Do you realize how important those computer records are to the Bajoran people?
(beat)
With those records, it will be possible for them to resolve a lot of issues remaining from the Cardassian occupation.
(beat)
They are on their way to a full recovery, to putting the suffering and pain behind them and getting on with the healing.

Sisko allows his words to take root, then forges ahead.

SISKO
(continuing)
Now they can bury the past along with their dead. It's an important step, Banar. Imagine how you would feel if your friends were lost in battle and you didn't know their fates, would you be satisfied?

ON BANAR

Banar stops his pacing and faces Sisko. It is obvious Sisko has touched a nerve.

BANAR
I would not.
(beat)
And I am not. We also lost many while on Bajor. Many of our missing remain unaccounted for.
(beat)
Cardassia paid a heavy price for the occupation of Bajor. A lot higher than most people realize. Most Cardassians don't realize it either, but our healing process has not progressed as far as Bajor's. The recent war simply added to the problem.

ON SISKO

Sisko senses the genuine loss and emptiness from Banar. He feels a possible connection and continues.

SISKO
(quietly)
Starfleet suffers the same way. There were many who did not return after the conflict between our two governments and their fates remain unknown. This has slowed the healing process for us as well.
(beat)
I know how you and your people feel because we feel the same pain.

REACTION SHOT - ON BANAR

Banar realizes that Sisko really does know how he feels and is surprised by the revelation. He studies Sisko in a different light.

BANAR
I believe that you do, Captain. It's a shame that we can't do anything to remedy the situation.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND BANAR

SISKO
What if we can? If I could get the Bajorans and Starfleet to supply your people with a list of the known Cardassian dead, would you agree to let them keep the computers so they can do the same?

Banar ponders the point for a moment, then nods slowly in agreement.

BANAR
I believe that would be a fair agreement. Allow me to contact my government. I should have a positive response within a few hours.
(beat)
Captain, you may have missed your calling. I believe you should be in the diplomatic corps instead of Starfleet.

Banar finishes his statement with a slight smile and then exits Sisko's office quietly. His swagger and arrogance have been dissolved by the emotions from the conversation.

INT. BAJOR - CAVERN - ON ODO

Odo is very weary from his investigation, but he plods along. The cavern is all but deserted now, only a few military guards remain at the entry in the B.G.

ODO
(to self)
Why can't you find a trail? She evedently didn't install any security blocks. It should be easy to find the last file --

Odo stops mid-sentence and studies a readout closely, realization shows on his face.

ODO
So that's what she found!

As he continues to read, his face changes from the elation of discovery to the horror of Kira's intent.

ODO
(continuing)
Oh no! Kira, you wouldn't!

Odo stands abruptly and rushes off, exiting the cavern.

INT. BAJOR - PROVINCE CAPITOL BUILDING - GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - RECEPTION

The receptionist is attending to her work, politely ignoring the presence of Kira who is waiting, nervously.

KIRA
When will I be able to see him? It's almost an hour past my appointment time.

Without looking up, the receptionist responds, emotionless.

RECEPTIONIST
The Governor is running a bit late, that's all.

Kira isn't satisfied with the response, but knows that she can do little to change the situation. She is about to suggest what the receptionist can do, when the Governor's office doors snap open. The Governor steps out to greet Kira personally, smiling broadly.

AALEN
(moving, smiling)
Major, how nice it is to see you again. How long has it been, four years?

Kira rises to greet the man and returns the greeting, but she is restrained and "not herself".

KIRA
Actually, it's closer to six.

TWO SHOT - KIRA AND AALEN

AALEN
(smiling)
So what brings you here? Come to talk over old times and exchange a few war stories with your old C.O.?

Kira is very serious and speaks quietly but firmly.

KIRA
It has something to do with the Gallitep Concentration Camp.

Now Governor Aalen has also become serious, and he turns to address his receptionist.

AALEN
(to receptionist)
That will be all for today. I'll secure the office when I leave.

Without waiting for the receptionist to respond, the governor motions Kira into his office.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - WIDE ANGLE

As the two enter, Kira studies the surroundings as if she's searching for something. Governor Aalen studies her, confused by her manner, but still very friendly.

AALEN
Can I get you something? A drink?

Kira acts distracted.

KIRA
Actually, no. Thank you anyway.
(beat)
What I wanted to discuss was a discovery we made at Gallitep.

Aalen indicates a seat opposite his desk and as Kira sits, so does he.

TWO SHOT - KIRA AND AALEN

AALEN
So what is this discovery?

KIRA
A hidden cavern. It was found by accident, but it was full of interesting Cardassian artifacts.

Aalen becomes interested in what Kira is saying so much so that he ignores her accusatory tone.

AALEN
What sort of artifacts?

KIRA

Weapons, supplies, munitions and... the complete records for the camp.

Kira now reaches into her tunic and produces a weapon. Aalen reacts visibly, uncertain at first of her real intentions. Then he relaxes and smiles slightly.

AALEN

Is that an example of what you found?

Kira now activates the weapon and points it at Aalen He reacts with shock and horror.

AALEN

What are you doing?

ON KIRA

Her jaw is set and she is intent on killing Aalen. She stands and moves around the desk, closer to him. He turns to face her, rising from his seat.

KIRA

(moving)

The computer records listed all of informants the Cardassians had...

(beat)

Their best informant was you!

She is now standing directly in front of him. Her tone is accusatory and her anger is barely masked.

KIRA

(continuing)

As our commanding officer, you were responsible for securing all of the intelligence for our sector. You knew everything about our operations and the Cardassians. No one knew as much as you! You were the perfect choice to betray our cause and our people!

ON AALEN

He is very nervous and shaken, but tries to explain.

AALEN

No! Wait! It's true, I did inform, but under orders. I, I was a double agent, working for us! The reason we were so successful in obtaining Cardassian plans was due to my work.

(beat)

I reported to the camp commander... He let me stay in his office so I wouldn't be seen. While in there I picked up all sorts of information! In turn, I gave him information... but it was only partially true, out of date or worthless.

(beat)

From time to time, we even gave them the name of a real Bajoran informer, insisting they were members of the resistance. We let the Cardassians execute their own agents!

ON KIRA

She's not convinced and continues with her accusations.

KIRA

You were present when they made plans to make an example of my home town! They destroyed it and took all of the inhabitants as slave labor! If you were a double agent, then why didn't you tell someone! You could have prevented the whole thing! My mother didn't have to die in that horrible place!

Kira is now becoming emotional and teary-eyed. She pauses to regain her composure.

ON AALEN

He uses her pause in accusations to explain, still frightened and nervous.

AALEN

I was present, true. But I'm not to blame. I was powerless to do anything about it. I was being tested by the Cardassians. They suspected me! They were about to launch a major offensive, they had to be sure. If the resistance had acted on that information, I would have been useless to Bajor, and probably dead within the week.

KIRA (V.O.)

(o.c., emotional)

You still should have told someone!

AALEN

I did. General Norlan knew and ordered my silence.

(beat)

It took a long time for me to gain their trust, I had to remain quiet.

Now even Aalen becomes animated and more forceful.

AALEN

I am truly sorry the people of your village had to suffer and die. But soon afterwards, I gained access to the camp records. Then I learned of their plans to bring in massive troop reinforcements at the old capitol. We arranged an ambush. It was the first in a series of major setbacks for the Cardassians.

TWO SHOT - KIRA AND AALEN

Kira is beginning to relax, Aalen gets quiet and then continues with his explanation.

AALEN
I was able to tap into their database at will. Many times, our forces knew what the Cardassian plans were before they did.
(beat)
We won, Kira. But there was a terrible price, your mother and your village. Hundreds of thousands of our people died, but we are free.

Kira is even more relaxed, but she still holds the Cardassian weapon at the ready. She is about to give up her mission of revenge when she hears a noise in the Governor's reception area. She reacts by rushing to his side and taking him hostage.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - WIDE ANGLE

Kira is surprised to see Odo accompanied by two Bajorans, General Norlan and the officer from Gallitep.

ODO
(moving)
Kira! Listen to me! He was acting on orders!

NORLAN
Major! Put the weapon down! He was following my directives. It was necessary to gain access to Cardassian intelligence.

ODO
I discovered the information after you left. I also found Aaren's service record, ammended to show his work as a double agent.

ON KIRA

Kira is finally relaxing. She releases her grip on Aalen and stares at the others. She is still confused.

KIRA
But why didn't Aalen make this known to everyone?

ON AALEN

AALEN
I didn't want to be called a hero when it cost so many lives of my fellow citizens. It's too painful.

WIDE ANGLE

Kira moves to Odo and turns over the weapon. The junior Bajoran officer moves to put Kira into custody, but Aalen intercedes.

AALEN
(moving)
No need for that. Her actions were understandable, given the circumstances. It's my fault. It's time to get it all out into the open, right Major?

Kira moves to Aalen and the two embrace as old comrades.

KIRA
(moving)
Agreed. Perhaps the Gallitep dedication would be an appropriate opportunity.

Odo approaches Kira and hands her a comm badge.

ODO
A little girl from the Gallitep village gave me this, know who it belongs to?

EXT. BAJOR - AFTERNOON - GALLITEP CAMP - WIDE ANGLE

The ceremony is in progress. On the ceremonial platform, Governor Aalen is speaking. Nearby, Sisko and Kira are listening intently. Kira is still uneasy with being near Gallitep, but she is managing.

AALEN
-- and now, one of the original liberators of the camp, Major Kira Nerys. First Officer of Deep Space Nine. Kira?

ON KIRA

She moves into position, nodding and smiling at Aaren on the way. Once into position, she begins speaking immediately to cover her nervousness.

KIRA
Gallitep represents the best and the worse in Bajor's history. We all know the worse. Whole families and villages disappeared within its walls. I lost my own mother here...

She becomes a bit emotional, but continues.

KIRA
(continuing)
The best of Bajor is represented by the people of Gallitep village. They have dedicated themselves to preserving the history of the Camp.
(beat)
We must allow the healing process to continue, but in order that future generations won't forget what happened here, the camp will remain as is. A permanent memorial for all Bajorans who lost someone during our great conflict for freedom.

Kira's eyes are now filled with tears as she turns to face Sisko. Sisko smiles in understanding, even Kira has begun the healing process.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END

Puzzle - ST:DS9 Characters
From U.S.S. Kitty Hawk Puzzle Book

J	A	G	R	O	B	C	Q	U	A	R	K	O	O	B
A	U	U	O	N	D	O	D	O	D	N	Y	T	S	E
K	I	L	B	D	C	L	O	C	U	T	U	S	U	N
E	I	D	I	M	A	J	U	T	C	R	A	U	Q	J
S	K	U	J	A	D	Z	I	A	D	A	X	R	A	A
I	A	K	A	O	N	L	M	P	N	O	Y	E	K	M
S	R	A	X	J	A	B	I	S	H	K	L	N	A	I
K	D	T	G	U	L	J	A	S	A	D	L	A	P	N
O	X	C	L	I	R	O	T	S	A	D	O	R	O	S
N	O	K	I	E	K	J	A	X	H	C	M	I	I	I
A	N	L	K	O	N	U	L	A	T	I	A	K	A	S
R	O	D	A	X	S	Y	R	E	N	A	R	I	K	K
H	L	R	E	F	I	N	N	E	J	A	K	G	O	O
K	M	I	L	E	S	O	B	R	I	E	N	C	O	N
I	R	A	N	E	R	Y	D	R	A	C	I	P	D	N

Words can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards, and/or forwards, and always in a straight line. Spaces and puncutation aren't included.

BENJAMIN SISKO
BORG
DRAK
GUL DUKAT
GUL JASAD
HRANOK
JADZIA DAX
JAKE SISKO
JENNIFER
JULIAN BASHIR
KAI OPAKA
KAI TALUNO
KEIKO
KIRA NERYS
LOCUTUS
MAJUT
MILES O'BRIEN
MOLLY
NOG
ODO
PICARD
QUARK
STORIL

Answers to Last Month's Puzzle --

1. J
2. Q
3. A
4. L
5. C
6. M
7. T
8. B
9. F
10. P
11. D
12. K
13. O
14. S
15. E
16. H
17. R
18. I
19. N
20. G

Upcoming Events

Dec	**16**	**6 p.m. *Kitty Hawk* Anniversary Dinner Durham Kanki**
Jan	**5**	**4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Triangle Factory Outlet**
Feb	**2**	**4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Triangle Factory Outlet**
Mar	**2**	**4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Triangle Factory Outlet**
		***Possible* target date for UNC-TV Shift (yet to be confirmed by *K.H.* crew and UNC-TV)**

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR STARFLEET STATUS

THE WRIGHT STUFF
U.S.S. KITTY HAWK
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RALEIGH NC 27612