ROYAL AIRCRAFT ESTABLISHMENT

Technical Report 71172

August 1971

ORBITAL OPERATIONS HANDBOOK FOR THE X3 SATELLITE

bу

V. W. Adams

CORRIGENDUM

Page No.	4.2 Orbital Elements							
8	The nominal orbital elements have been changed and are now as							
	follows:-							
	Apogee 1540 km Inclination 82.20							
	Perigee 550 km Eccentricity 0.0665							
	Period 106 ±1 min Longitude of ascending mode 140°							
	Rate of change of ascending mode -805°							
	per day							
	Argument of perigee 337°							
	Mean anomaly 8.027°							
	Mean motion 4892 ⁰ per day							
	The nominal injection cordinates are now as follows:-							
	Latitude -13.73°							
	Longitude 137.95°							
	Launch time 0400Z							
11	Table 1							
	The Baudot code for command number 32 should read 'OFIG' and							
	not 'OAG'							
35	Last line - 'section 5.3' should read 'section 5.2'							
45	Add - 'IRDT Motor Pressure' to list of Rocket third stage data.							
Fig.4	Delete 'DAO2' under syllables 19, 35, and 51 of Rocket 3rd							
	stage mode direct format and insert 'IRDT'.							

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SUMMARY

The purpose of this Handbook is to provide general information to those concerned with X3 orbital operations. For detailed information on the ground stations and the RAE Control Centre (DATA CENTRAL) the reader is referred to the relevant ESRO and RAE support documents.

Departmental Reference: Space 378

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1 INTRODUCTION

The X3 satellite, the first technological spacecraft in the British National Space Programme, is scheduled to be launched on a Black Arrow vehicle in late 1971.

The spacecraft carries experiments to investigate performance of solar cells, characteristics of thermal surfaces, micrometeoroid flux and performance in orbit of a hybrid electronics package: section 4.4 gives details.

In addition newly developed data, telemetry, telecommand and power system will be tested in orbit. The micrometeoroid flux experiment has been contributed by the University of Birmingham, England.

2 RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Project management

The Procurement Executive, Ministry of Defence is responsible for project management of the spacecraft and launch vehicle systems. Arrangements for a Black Arrow launch at Woomera are made with the cooperation of the Weapons Research Establishment (WRE).

2.2 Spacecraft

The MOD(PE) is responsible for the design of the spacecraft and its support systems, integration, pre-launch testing and spacecraft-launcher integration.

The contractor responsible for the spacecraft mechanical construction and handling is the British Aircraft Corporation (BAC). Marconi Space and Defence Systems are responsible for the spacecraft electrical and communications systems, assembly, integration and test. They also supply the Operations Team for the spacecraft.

2.3 Tracking, data acquisition and spacecraft control

The MOD will provide orbital elements for the spacecraft's lifetime and ESRO will provide contingency tracking facilities.

The Satellite Control Centre and Telecommand Station at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, (DATA CENTRAL), the MOD(PE) VHF telemetry station at Lasham, RAE, and the European Space Tracking and Telemetry Network (ESTRACK) will provide primary data acquisition support for the lifetime of the spacecraft.

2.4 Orbital calculations

The RAE Satellite Control Centre and the ESRO Control Centre have responsibility for computing the orbit of the X3 spacecraft and for generating predictions to participating stations.

2.5 Data processing and reduction

The processing and reduction of the X3 telemetered data are the responsibility of the RAE (Space Dept.), (MOD(PE)).

2.6 Data analysis

The individual experimenters and sub-system designers involved in the X3 project will be responsible for the final analysis and interpretation of data.

3 ORGANISATION PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The following sections summarise the major responsibilities of MOD(PE) personnel assigned to support the X3 project.

3.1 Project Manager

Mr. R. Mawson of Space 3(b), MOD(PE) is the Project Manager and represents the Ministry in all activities pertaining to the Black Arrow X3 project.

3.2 Project Officer

Mr. B.W. Jacobs of Space Department, RAE, is the Head of the X3 Project Office.

3.3 Head of Spacecraft Operations

Mr. D.D. Hardy of Space Department, RAE is responsible for coordinating the activities of the various organisations involved with the project operations. He is also the network controller Woomera (NCW) during the launch period.

3.4 Satellite Controller

Mr. V.W. Adams of Space Department, RAE is responsible for specifying all spacecraft control requirements and all Telemetry and Telecommand support needed to fulfil the project.

3.5 Control Centre Operations

Mr. E.A.R. Anstey of Space Department, RAE is responsible for the operations at DATA CENTRAL. Mr. E. Jones of Space Department is responsible for the routine running and organisation of DATA CENTRAL.

3.6 Telemetry Station at RAE Lasham

Mr. M.J. Hammond of Space Department, RAE is responsible for the operation of the Telemetry Data Acquisition Station at Lasham.

3.7 Orbit Operations Team

The Control Centre at DATA CENTRAL and the telemetry station at Lasham will be manned by personnel from Space Department, RAE and Spembly Electronics Ltd.

4 IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Launch vehicle

The X3 satellite will be launched by a three-stage Black Arrow vehicle, shown in Fig.1. Westland Aircraft is the main vehicle contractor and Rolls Royce supply the first and second stage motors. The third stage solid apogee motor designated 'Waxwing' has been developed by The Rocket Propulsion Establishment, Westcott, using a tube and nozzle manufactured by Bristol Aerojet.

4.2 Orbital elements

The X3 satellite will be launched from the WRE range at Woomera, Australia (longitude 136.5° E) into an eccentric near-polar orbit. A plot of the sub-satellite ground trace is shown in Fig.2. The nominal orbit parameters are as follows:-

Apogee 1850 km

Inclination 82.10

Perigee 550 km

Eccentricity 0.085509

Period 109 ±1 min

Longitude of ascending node 140°

Rate of change of ascending node 0.761° per day

Argument of perigee 337°

Mean anomaly 7.5207°

Mean motion 5450° per day.

The nominal injection coordinates are as follows:-

Latitude 13.66°

Longitude 138.02°

Launch time 0430Z

4.3 Spacecraft

X3 is a spin-stabilised spacecraft with an external shape similar to a pumpkin. Its equatorial diameter is approximately 1.2 metre and its height approximately 0.7 metre. The spacecraft weighs about 70 kg and will be spin-stabilised at about 180 rev/min.

The general configuration is shown in Fig.3. For a full description see the Operations Manual for Black Arrow X3 Satellite, volume I, published by MSDS Ltd.

4.3.1 Configuration and structure

The spacecraft structure is built round a central box assembly comprising four panels, internal and external corner angles, and top and bottom corner fittings, all of which are bonded and bolted together. The bottom fittings form the separation plane of the craft, and provide attachment to the third stage electronics bay. The main four panels of the central box are used as mounting platforms for telemetry, command, storage battery, power control and experiment equipment. Eight large segments, designated modules, and eight small segments, designated fillets, comprise the outer structure of the satellite and are attached to the outer edges of the top and bottom fittings.

The modules which are hinged at their upper ends to provide access to the spacecraft interior carry the power generating solar cells, the experimental solar cells and associated aspect sensors. The fillets carry the thermal control surface units with experimental surface finishes. Two of the fillets have nutation dampers fitted to their inside surfaces.

Four telemetry aerials are mounted 90° apart on the base of the spacecraft.

4.3.2 Power supply system

An array of silicon solar cells is the main power source for X3. Power during solar eclipses is provided by a storage battery consisting of twelve nickel-cadmium cells, each with a 6 ampere-hour capacity. Auxilliary equipment includes battery charging circuitry, a dc to dc converter, voltage regulators and a power distribution system.

The solar array comprises 3360 silicon solar cells mounted on the eight satellite modules in patches of 42 cells each. Four alternate modules carry four patches on each of their three facets whereas the remaining four modules carry four patches on their upper and lower facets only.

4.3.3 Telemetry system

The X3 satellite employs a PCM/PM split phase code telemetry system, with data time-multiplexed into an 8 bits per syllable, 64 syllables per minor frame, 64 minor frames per major frame format. The telemetery format is shown in Figs.4-6.

Real time data is transmitted at a rate of 2048 bits/second after being encoded by a high speed encoder. A low speed encoder with 1/32 sampling rate of the high speed encoder enables real time data to be recorded on a magnetic

tape recorder which will record approximately 120 minutes of data. Sixteen seconds after receipt of a command signal, the tape recorder changes from the record mode to the playback mode which lasts approximately four minutes at 32 times the speed of the record mode. The recorded data is erased after the tape passes the playback head, and the recorder automatically reverts to the record mode at the completion of playback if record mode has not been commanded.

(a) Telemetry transmitter

The PCM output from either the high speed encoder or the tape recorder phase modulates a crystal controlled transmitter operating at a frequency of 137.56 MHz. Two transmitters are provided, and either one may be selected on a command signal from the ground. The RF power output from either transmitter is 300 mW. The RF signal bandwidth is about 8 kHz and 25% residual power is left in the carrier for tracking purposes.

4.3.4 Antenna system

The spacecraft antenna is omnidirectional, circularly polarised with a minimum gain of -5 dB. The antenna system is used for both telemetry transmitters and command receivers; a hybrid and filters provide the necessary isolation. The on-board transmission loss is -2 dB.

4.3.5 Command system

The X3 spacecraft utilises a PDM/AM/AM tone digital command system to NASA standards with a capacity of 40 commands. Table 1 gives a command list. The command carrier (148.25 MHz) is 75% modulated by a pulse modulated audio tone (7.0 kHz). The audio tone is pulse duration modulated by the coded digital command.

Two command receivers are simultaneously in use and the receiver with the larger input signal overrides the other. The output from the command receivers is coupled to two command decoders each with a separate address code. The decoder outputs are combined so that whichever one is addressed, the command is executed.

4.3.6 Stabilisation and attitude measurement

The X3 spacecraft is spin stabilised, and in support of the solar cell and thermal control surfaces experiments, sun and earth sensors are used to determine the spin axis orientation.

<u>Table 1</u> Telecommands

	Address word (octal)	Baudot	Decimal	Command
	140 237	PT B LET	06.00 09.15	Decoder A Decoder B
Command number	Execute word (octal)			Command
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 16 37 38 39	360 314 303 017 063 074 252 251 246 245 232 231 226 125 126 131 132 145 146 151 116 123 134 143 152 154 161 162 164 170 207 213 215 216 223 225 131 234 243 254	LETT MM MW T LET WM GG GB GP GY BC BB BP YYP PP PB HV YM PM PM QZ QH QO OAG OX OV BW YB BM	15.00 12.12 12.03 00.15 03.03 03.12 10.10 10.09 10.06 10.05 09.10 09.09 05.06 05.05 05.06 05.09 05.10 06.05 06.06 06.09 04.14 05.03 06.10 06.12 07.01 07.02 07.04 07.08 08.07 08.11 08.13 08.14 09.03 09.05 09.09 09.09	Hybrid electronics experiment OFF Hybrid electronics experiment ON Thermal control surfaces experiment OFF Thermal control surfaces experiment ON Transmitter OFF Transmitter ON Transmitter B Not allocated Not allocated Birmingham EHT ON/OFF Birmingham test pulse Command 'normal mode' Command 'surfaces mode' Command 'rocket third stage mode' See below between commands 36 and 37 Command tape recorder to record Command tape recorder to playback Clock A Clock B HS divider A HS divider B HS (parallel to serial converter OR gate and Bi-phase-C converter) A HS (parallel to serial converter OR gate and Bi-phase-C converter) A LS (parallel to serial converter OR gate and Bi-phase-C converter) A LS (parallel to serial converter OR gate and Bi-phase-C converter) A LS (parallel to serial converter OR gate and Bi-phase-C converter) A LS (parallel to serial converter OR gate and Bi-phase-C converter) A LS (parallel digital multiplexer A output gates LS parallel digital multiplexer A output gates LS parallel digital multiplexer A output gates LS parallel digital multiplexer B output gates

(a) Spin rate

The third stage of the Black Arrow launcher spins up the spacecraft to 20 rad/s and this spin rate decays throughout the lifetime of the satellite.

(b) Nutation control

A nutation damping system is used to reduce the effects of spacecraft oscillation about the spin axis. This system consists of two tubes, one on the inside of each of two opposite fillets, filled with fluid. The motion of a ball inside each tube produces frictional forces tending to cancel the nutation effects.

(c) Attitude measurement

Two attitude sensor units are mounted on the equatorial facets of two diametrically opposite spacecraft modules, to provide redundancy. Each attitude sensor is a combination of two sun sensors and one earth horizon sensor. When stimulated, the pulses from the sensors start and stop counters driven from one of the satellite clocks, and the position of the spin axis can be determined to better than 1°.

4.3.7 Heat balance and temperature control

A thermal design for the X3 satellite was developed in order to meet the temperature limits for the on board equipment. The internal ambient temperature is controlled by the use of bare metal surfaces, black painted surfaces and insulating blankets on the outside, and white paint on the inside, of the spacecraft.

Twelve thermistors are located on the spacecraft structure and thirteen are located on various units, for monitoring temperatures.

4.4 Experiments

The purpose of the experimental equipment on board the X3 spacecraft is to investigate and monitor the following:-

- (a) The performance of thermal control surfaces.
- (b) The performance of thin silicon solar cells and solar cell covers in space.
- (c) The performance of lightweight satellite electronic systems in space, designated the hybrid electronics experiment.

(d) The flux of micrometeroids down to 0.1 micron or 10^{-14} g in size. The experiments are detailed in the following sections.

4.4.1 Thermal control surfaces experiment

The purpose of this experiment is to measure the change due to the space environment, in the solar absorption and infra-red emittance of the experimental thermal control surfaces.

The values of absorption and emittance are calculated from calorimetric measurements employing gold plated sensor plates and thermistors.

Data from 96 channels is monitored when the data handling system is commanded into the surface mode.

The experimental thermal control surface units are mounted on the upper and equatorial facets of four satellite fillets.

4.4.2 Solar cell experiment

This experiment is designed to measure the performance and temperature of thin silicon solar cells. The short circuit current, current near the maximum power point and open circuit voltage are measured on three patches of cells. Short circuit current only is measured on a further three patches of cells which are irradiated with 10^{16} electrons cm⁻² of 1 MeV energy before launch. In this way their performance should not change appreciably during the orbital lifetime so that any observed change may be attributed to the cell cover slips.

The solar cell patches are mounted on the equatorial facets of two diametrically opposite satellite modules, are thermally insulated from the modules and have their temperatures monitored.

The measurements are sampled when the data handling system is commanded to the solar cell mode.

4.4.3 Hybrid electronics experiment

This experiment, designed and made at the RAE, Farnborough, is to prove the performance in space of lightweight hybrid assemblies made up from film resistors, chip capacitors, and unencapsulated devices mounted on alumina substrates with conductor patterns. The experiment subsystem consists of a voltage to digital converter and an analogue multiplexer used to select calibration voltages from a potential divider. The multiplexer output is applied either to the experimental voltage to digital converter or the converter in the satellites data handling system. Comparison between the experimental and satellite systems will be made.

In order to monitor their behaviour, the voltage applied to the potential divider and the outputs from the two converters, are sampled.

4.4.4 Micrometeoroid experiment

This experiment measures the flux of micrometeoroids impinging on the spacecraft. A new detection method, which involves the measurement of charge released when a particle strikes a surface, is employed, and is expected to detect particles down to at least 0.1 micron diameter or 10-14 g mass. Electric currents of the order 10⁻⁵ amp are detected using particle multiplier techniques. The experiment is mounted close to the upper surface of the spacecraft and micrometeoroids enter through a port. Positive ions produced when a particle strikes a target plate are accelerated in an electric field to the first dynode of an electron multiplier which is at -2.5 kV with respect to the target. The multiplier has a current gain of the order 10^5 and is filled with dry argon at a pressure of half an atmosphere prior to launch. After launch, a vacuum tight flap opens under spring pressure when the ambient pressure falls to a predetermined value. The output signal of the multiplier is amplified, and spurious counts due to random noise or photo emission are masked by pulse amplitude and width discrimination. Two checks may be made in orbit on command from the ground. The first test produces a pulse of electrons from a UV source, which impinge on the first dynode, and in the second test a pulse is applied to the input stage of the amplifier.

4.5 Satellite tracking

During the launch and early-orbital stages the X3 spacecraft and launcher will be tracked by the following organisations:-

WRE Range Instrumentation Facilities and the Queensland Telemetry Station at Charters Towers.

Ministry of Defence.

During the normal orbital stage the spacecraft orbital elements will be provided by the MOD.

4.6 Command and data acquisition

Space Department, RAE will have primary responsibility for commanding the X3 spacecraft and acquiring data. The ESTRACK organisation will provide data acquisition support and will be required to send commands during the early part of the spacecraft's lifetime.

4.7 Orbit determination

The MOD will provide the orbit elements for the X3 satellite. Orbit predictions will be provided by DATA CENTRAL and the European Space Operations Centre (ESOC).

4.8 Spacecraft performance monitoring and control

Monitoring and operational control of the X3 spacecraft will be conducted from the RAE Control Centre, Space Department, RAE, Farnborough (DATA CENTRAL) supported by the ESTRACK network of ground stations, and the RAE Telemetry Station at Lasham.

5 OPERATIONS AND CONTROL

5.1 Introduction

16

The operations of the ESTRACK network and the RAE telemetry and command ground support facilities are the responsibility of ESRO and MOD(PE) respectively. All operations will be controlled from DATA CENTRAL either directly or through ESOC, Darmstadt. The organisation, facilities and operational procedures for discharging these responsibilities are specified below.

5.2 Launch and early orbit phases

The X3 spacecraft will be launched from the WRE range at Woomera, and the nominal sequence of events for the first 24 hours after lift-off is summarized opposite in Table 2.

5.2.1 Vehicle tracking and data acquisition

The launch vehicle will be tracked from lift-off to third stage separation and launch vehicle telemetry will be acquired to loss of signal. The launch data and flight telemetry will be reported from WRE to the RAE (DATA CENTRAL) for further reporting to all stations as soon as possible after launch.

5.2.2 Spacecraft tracking

During the early orbit phase the X3 spacecraft orbital elements will be provided by the MOD.

Table 2

Early orbit schedule

Notes:- Times are approximate and based on nominal orbit predictions.

Q/L 1, 2 or Auto refers to quick-look operations, see section 5.6.2 and section 5.6.1(a).

OMS 20 and OMS 28 are ESRO message numbers for quick-look and pass reports, respectively.

The following abbreviations are used in Table 2.

AOS - acquisition of signal

ESOC - European Space Operations Centre

FAL - Falkland Islands FBA - Fairbanks, Alaska

LM - Lasham

LOS - loss of signal

MOD - Ministry of Defence

NCW - Network Controller, Woomera

Q/L - quick-look

RAE - Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough

SPI - Spitsbergen
T - Teleprinter
T/C - Telecommand

V - Voice

Orbit	T + time	Stn.	T/C No.	Q/L	Event	Comms.
	00.01				Approx. lift-off time NCW - RAE/MOD - ESOC	T
	00.10	į			Lift-off time NCW - RAE/MOD - ESOC	Т
	00.10				Injection into orbit	
	00.14	}			Lift-off time RAE - Lasham	v
1	00.15				Injection report NCW - RAE/MOD - ESOC	Т
1	00.15				Close NCW/RAE and RAE/ESOC voice links	v
1	00.15				Injection report NCW - RAE/MOD - ESOC	T
1	00.35	FBA			AOS	
1	00.37	FBA			S/C carrier modulated? FBA - ESOC - RAE - MOD/NCW	Т
1	00.38	FBA			S/C carrier modulated? RAE - Lasham	V
1	00.39	FBA		1	Max Ele 25 ⁰	

Table 2 (Contd)

Orbit	T + time	Stn.	T/C No.	Q/L	Event	Comms.
1	00.42	FBA			LOS	
1	00.48	FBA			OMS 28: FBA - ESOC - RAE (RAE calculate spin)	T
1	00.55		§		OMS 20: FBA - ESOC - RAE	Т
1	01.20	FAL		1	AOS	
1	01.22	FAL		1		
1	01.27	FAL	18		Replay on	
1	01.30	FAL			Orbit elements MOD - RAE - ESOC	T
1	01.31	FAL	17	}	Record mode	
1	01.34	FAL			LOS	
1	01.37	FAL			OMS 28: FAL - ESOC - RAE (RAE calculate spin)	T
1	01.54	FAL			OMS 20: FAL - ESOC - RAE	T
2	02.00				Nominal orbit RAE - NCW/ESOC	T
2	02.25	FBA			AOS.	
2	02.26	FBA		1		
. 2	02.29	FBA	18		Replay on	
2	02.29	FBA	14		'Surfaces' mode on	
2	02.33	FBA	17		Record mode	
2	02.35	FBA			LOS	
2	02.41	FBA			OMS 28: FBA - ESOC - RAE (RAE calculate spin)	T
2	02.55	FBA			OMS 20: FBA - ESOC - RAE	T
3	04.17	FBA			AOS	
3	04.18	FBA		1		
3	04.21	FBA	18		Replay on	
3	04.21	FBA	13		'Normal' mode on	
3	04.25	FBA	17		Record mode	
3	04.33	FBA			LOS	
3	04.34	FBA			OMS 28: FBA - ESCO - RAE (RAE calculate spin)	T
3	04.53	FBA		1	OMS 20: FBA - ESOC - RAE	T
4	06.07	FBA			AOS	
4	06.09	FBA		1		
4	06.14	FBA	18		Replay on	

Table 2 (Contd)

Orbit	T + time	Stn.	T/C No.	Q/L	Event	Comms.
4	06.18	FBA	17		Record mode	
4	06.24	FBA			OMS 28: FBA - ESOC - RAE (RAE calculate spin)	Т
4	06.25	FBA			LOS	
4	06.45	FBA			OMS 20: FBA - ESOC - RAE	т
4	07.00				Voice and time check, RAE/LM, Request Lasham checkout: RAE - LM	v
4					Lasham system checkout starts	
5	07.59	FBA			AOS	
5	08.00	FBA	1	1		
5	08.00				Request Lasham simulation Test: RAE/LM	v
5	08.03	FBA	18		Replay on	
5	08.03	FBA	14		'Surfaces' mode on	
5	08.07	FBA	17		Record mode on	
5	08.11	FBA			LOS	
5	08.15	FBA		ŀ	OMS 28: FBA - ESOC - RAE (RAE calculate spin)	Т
5	08.30				Confirm Lasham readiness: LM-RAE	v
5	08.31	FBA			OMS 20: FBA - ESOC - RAE	т
5	08.32	RAE/ LM			Start set up phase for Orbit 6	· v
6	09.00				Close RAE/NCW/MOD Teleprinter link	т
6	09.25				Confirm Lasham readiness: LM - RAE	V
6	09.29	LM			AOS confirm LM - RAE	v
6	09.30	RAE		Auto		
6	09.31	RAE	18		Replay on	
6	09.35	RAE	17		Record mode on	
6	09.36	LM			Max Ele 49°	
6	09.37	RAE	13		'Normal' mode on	,
6	09.45	LM			LOS confirm: LM - RAE	v
6	09.50	RAE			Start Q/L for Orbit 6	
6	10.30	RAE/ LM			Start set up phase for Orbit 7	V
7	11.20	LM			AOS confirm: LM - RAE	v

Table 2 (Contd)

Orbit	T + time	Stn.	T/C No.	Q/L	Event	Comms.	
7	11.21	RAE	E	Auto			
7	11.22	RAE	18		Replay on		
7	11.26	RAE	17	} }	Record mode on		
7	11.27	LM			Max Ele 31°		
7	11.27	RAE	14		'Surfaces' mode on		
7	11.34	LM			LOS confirm: LM - RAE	v	
7	11.40		ŀ	ļ	Start Q/L for Orbit 7		
8	13.22	SPI			AOS		
8	13.23	SPI		2		ŀ	
8	1	SPI	18		Replay on		
8		SPI	17		Record mode on		
8	13.36	SPI			LOS		
9	15.10	SPI			AOS		
9	15.11	SPI		2			
9		SPI	18		Replay on		
9		SPI	17		Record mode on		
9	15.26	SPI			Los		
10	17.00	SPI			AOS		
10	17.01	SPI		2			
10		SPI	18		Replay on	ļ	
10		SPI	13		'Normal' mode on		
10		SPI	17		Record mode on		
10	17.17	SPI			ros		
	17.30				Request Lasham check out	v	
10	18.00	RAE/ LM			Start set up phase for Orbit 11	v	
11	18.55	LM			AOS confirm LM-RAE	v	
11	18.56	RAE		Auto			
11	19.03	RAE	18		Replay on		
11	19.05	LM			Max Ele 38°		
11	19.07	RAE	17		Record mode on		
11	19.08	RAE	14		'Surfaces' mode on		
11	19.19	LM			LOS confirm LM - RAE	v	
11	19.25	RAE			Start Q/L for Orbit 11		

Table 2 (Contd)

Orbit	T + time	Stn.	T/C No.	Q/L	Event	Comms.
11	19.45	RAE/ LM			Start set up phase for orbit 12	V
12	20.46	LM			AOS confirm LM-RAE	V
12	20.47	RAE		Auto		
12	20.50	RAE	18		Replay on	
12	20.54	RAE	17		Record mode on	
12	20.55	RAE	13		'Normal' mode on	
12	20.57	LM			Max Ele 76°	
12	21.13	LM			LOS confirm LM-RAE	V
12	21.20				Start Q/L for Orbit 12	
12	21.40	RAE/ LM			Start set up phase for Orbit 13	V
13	22.37	LM			AOS confirm LM-RAE	v
13	22.38	RAE		Auto		
13	22.40	RAE	18		Replay on	
13	22.44	RAE	17		Record mode on	
13	22.45	RAE	14		'Surfaces' mode on	
13	22.47	LM			Max Ele 24 ⁰	
13	22.58				LOS confirm LM-RAE	V
13	23.05	R≜E			Start Q/L for Orbit 13	

5.2.3 Spacecraft data acquisition

Telemetry data acquisition during the launch and early orbit phases (3 weeks maximum) is the responsibility of the following stations and 24 hour coverage will be required.

(a) ESTRACK network stations:-

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA (FBANKS)
FALKLAND IS. (FALKIS)
REDU, BELGIUM (REDUBE)
SPITSBERGEN (SPITSB)

(b) RAE telemetry station at Lasham.

These stations will be scheduled by ESOC and DATA CENTRAL for data acquisition and quick-look operations. The telemetry carrier frequency is 137.560 MHz. All operations will be controlled from DATA CENTRAL via a teleprinter link with ESOC, Darmstadt and by direct link with Lasham.

Up to and including the fifth orbit, the spacecraft data will be acquired by the ESTRACK stations. After this phase, the main station will be Lasham with supporting facilities from the ESTRACK stations at FBANKS, FALKIS and SPITSB. The ESTRACK station at REDUBE will be required to acquire the spacecraft data during the first twelve orbits, and will be scheduled there-after only as a back-up (contingency) station.

During the launch and early-orbit phases, the RAE Control Centre (DATA CENTRAL) will control the spacecraft. Real-time telemetry data will be transmitted from Lasham to DATA CENTRAL during the pass, and quick-look operations will be performed at DATA CENTRAL both during and immediately following a pass.

(a) WRE Range (Woomera)

A check-out trailer will be manned during launch by the Spacecraft Operations Team, and the launch status of the spacecraft will be transmitted to DATA CENTRAL for information to all stations at T-6 minutes.

(b) Telemetry and telecommand support requests

The RAE Control Centre at DATA CENTRAL will request telemetry support and telecommand action in the form of 'Telemetry Support Request' messages. Requests will normally be sent weekly so as to arrive at ESOC/OFSO by mid-day Thursday and will include support requests for a period beginning Wednesday 0001Z and ending the following Tuesday 2400Z. A series of coded remarks will be listed,

headings added to the data columns and orbit numbers added at the end of the line. Alternative passes will be indicated by the use of 'equals' signs.

ESOC will inform DATA CENTRAL of the accepted passes by transmitting a message in the same format as the request, under the heading 'Confirm the following requests'. This notification will be sent by midday Sunday prior to the scheduled period.

(c) Short notice requests

Short notice requests for special telemetry and telecommand support will be in the same format as request messages and headed 'Short Notice Requests'. They will be transmitted to ESOC Control (INFO OFSO) 24 hours prior to the operations requested.

When commands are sent by ESTRACK stations, ESOC will supply a pass report as soon as possible in the normal ESRO format.

5.2.4 Command

The launch and early orbit phases will normally last a maximum of three weeks and during this period it is intended to command the replay mode once per orbit. In addition, it is intended that the spacecraft mode will be changed, as scheduled by DATA CENTRAL, by sending commands 13 and 14. The Birmingham Expt. EHT will be switched on (command 11) and the Birmingham expt. calibrations performed (command 12).

The X3 spacecraft is capable of accepting 37 commands, and the data acquisition stations listed in section 5.2.3 will be responsible for commanding X3 as requested by DATA CENTRAL.

WARNING

The Birmingham EHT ON/OFF command (No.11) is to be sent only from the station at RAE, and special care must be taken not to transmit this command. Unscheduled transmission from ESTRACK stations could result in the command being invalidated since ESTRACK commands are normally sent twice as a matter of routine.

(a) Command format

The format of a command frame consists of the following coded works: address, adress, execute, execute, execute, blank pulse period and a synchronisation pulse, where the first five words are each eight-bit words, as

shown in Fig.7. Each command is preceded by a one half second transmission of unmodulated RF carrier and a command is effected by the reception of any one valid address word and any one execute word in the same series of five works.

Command encoding is effected with a PDM signal which has four states:-

- (a) blank,
- (b) synchronisation,
- (c) logic 1,
- (d) logic 0.

Address and execute words have a similar structure, i.e., a blank pulse period, a synchronisation pulse followed by an eight-bit digital code consisting of logic 1'S and 0'S.

(b) Command transmission

All commands transmitted from DATA CENTRAL are normally automatically sent on request by the operator. All commands from ESTRACK stations will be transmitted, when possible, by using punched paper tapes except when instructed by the RAE Control Centre. The punched paper tapes will be verified for the correct command format prior to the start of a pass.

Punched paper tapes will be prepared in accordance with the command format definition given in section 5.3.4(a).

ESTRACK stations must not have punched tapes containing command No.11.

(c) Tape recorder play-back commands

Transmission of the playback command (No.18) will be timed to occur after the satellite data telemetry signal has been acquired and after the satellite has reached an elevation of 10 degrees. To avoid loss of play-back data, the stations should ensure that play-back data is obtained as soon as possible after transmitting the play-back command. The following procedure will be used for DATA CENTRAL:

- (a) At the scheduled time, transmit a complete command 18 (play-back) as defined in section 5.2.4(a).
- (b) Verify tape recorder play-back by ensuring play-back data is received. If signal does not appear within a predetermined time, a contingency procedure, to be defined will be followed. At T + 230 seconds after sending

Command 18 a record command (No.17) will be sent. If this command 17 is unsuccessful, it should be repeated once. The X3 spacecraft has a timer, that should return the tape recorder to record mode approximately four minutes after a play-back command is received.

(d) Satellite clock commands

In order to obtain useful data from the solar cell experiment it may be necessary to command a change of satellite clock frequencies (commands 19 and 20). This is necessitated by the need to overcome possible synchronism of the two opposite solar cell patches with the spin of the satellite. Synchronism occurs every $7\frac{1}{2}$ revolutions per minute from the nominal spin rate.

If required, a clock command (19 or 20) will be transmitted at the end of a play-back from the tape recorder.

(e) Birmingham experiment EHT ON/OFF Command

Command 11 switches the EHT supply to the Birmingham experiment either ON or OFF depending on the original state of this experiment. Since ESTRACK stations ordinarily send two commands as a matter of routine, the command No.11 must only be transmitted from the station at DATA CENTRAL.

5.3 Routine phase

The routine phase will begin when the spacecraft orbit has been determined, updated orbital predictions have been forwarded to all participating stations and the spacecraft has settled into routine operation. This phase should last for a period of 11 months.

5.3.1 Tracking

The MOD will provide tracking support during this stage, with limited contingency support from ESTRACK as requested by the RAE Control Centre.

5.3.2 Data acquisition

The RAE station at Lasham will provide primary data acquisition support, with limited support from ESTRACK as requested by the RAE Control Centre. It is proposed to monitor a total of 560 passes at the rate of about 50 passes per month. Sections 5.2.3(b) and 5.2.3(c) are also applicable to this section.

5.3.3 Command

During the routine phase it is intended to command the replay mode during every orbit monitored by the telemetry stations (i.e. 50 passes per month).

It is also anticipated that all the commands, in addition to the routine commands for replay, Birmingham cal. and mode change, will be transmitted at least once during this phase, as and when scheduled by DATA CENTRAL.

The sections 5.2.4(a) to 5.2.4(e) are also applicable to this section.

5.4 Equipment parameters

The equipment parameters to be used by the data acquisition stations are outlined in the following sections.

5.4.1 Telemetry receiving and recording

Set-up details for the equipment are listed below:

(a) Antenna parameters

Frequency band 137 to 138 MHz
Minimum gain 16 dB
Polarisation circular

(b) Telemetry system

Frequency 137.560 MHz
Mode phase lock
Loop noise bandwidth (double sided)
AGC speed 1 to 3 ms.

(c) Magnetic tape recorder

Tape speed 7.5 ips
Track assignments for ESTRACK Stations, see Table below.

Magnetic tape recorder track assignments

Track	Record amplifier	Signa1
ı	Direct	Voice annotation WWV telecommand
2	Direct	LTSS reference frequency
3	FM	Conditional RT and TT data
4	Direct	PCM data from Group 2 receivers
5	Direct	PCM data from Group 1 receivers
6	Direct	NASA 36 bit timecode on 1 kHz carrier
7	Direct	FM multiplex. Irigs 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 12.5 kHz ref frequency.

^{*} This figure refers to the Scientific Atlanta receivers used at Lasham. Receivers at other stations may have loop bandwidth defined in different terms. In this case bandwidth should be as low as possible consistent with reasonable ease of acquisition and maintenance of phase lock.

Note: - FM multiplex track 7 will contain the following: -

IRIG 1	. no	n-coh	erent	AGC	R×1	Gp	1
3	3 '	,	"	17	R×2	Gp	1
5	; '	1	11	11	R×1	Gp	2
7	, '	1	11	11	R×2	Gp	2
8	3 '	•	11	n	Tracki	ing erro	r
9) '	•	11	11	R×1	Gp	1
10) '	•	11	**	R×2	Gp	1
11	L '	•	11	**	X T	racking	error
12	2 '	т.	11	11	Y	11	11

NB IRIG 6 contains the ground command receiver AGC

5.4.2 Command configuration

The command equipment configuration is summarised below. A list of commands, with Octal, Baudot and binary codes for each command, is shown in Table 1 in section 4.3.5.

(a) Antenna

Frequency band	148 MHz
Minimum gain	9 dB
Polarization	left and right hand

(b) Transmitter

Carrier frequency	148.250 MHz
Modulation	PDM/AM/AM
Percent modulation of RF carrier	75%
Minimum output power	200 watts

(c) Command encoder

Type		Tone	digical
Tone	frequency	7000	Hz.

5.5 Real-time data transmission

5.5.1 Lasham

Lasham will be scheduled by the RAE Control Centre to transmit spacecraft telemetry data in real-time to the Control Centre via the data link.

Voice and data circuits will thus be required for each pass and these circuits should be scheduled for a period of up to one hour, beginning 20 minutes prior to the start of a pass.

5.6 Quick-look operations

Quick-look operations will be performed on all scheduled data acquisition passes during the early orbit phase. After this period, quick-look operations will be scheduled at the ESTRACK stations as requested by the RAE Control Centre.

Decommutation of the real-time data from Lasham will be carried out at the RAE Control Centre (DATA CENTRAL) and a limited number of parameters will be displayed. Immediately after the end of a pass over Lasham quick-look operations and limited data processing will be performed and print-outs produced on the line printer for distribution to experimenters and sub-system designers (see section 8.2).

5.6.1 DATA CENTRAL decommutation and displays

(a) Automatic operations

The real time data from Lasham will be decommutated and the following operations are computer controlled:-

A spacecraft mode check will be made and the appropriate bits (24, 25 of the Sync Work) will be printed out.

One of the following automatic status checks will be scheduled for each pass:-

- (a) A complete check and printout of all the status bits, i.e., all PGs from PG00 to PG37.
- (b) A complete check and printout of those status bits which indicate a change from the launch status.

In addition, one of the following automatic performance checks will be scheduled for each pass:-

- (a) A complete printout of all the performance parameters on the direct telemetry format, i.e., PPs from PP40 to PP83.
- (b) A complete limit check selected performance parameters and printout of those parameters which are outside the stated limits.

(b) Manual operations

The real time data from Lasham will be decommutated and the following channels on the Data Distributor (EMR 2745) selected for each scheduled pass.

(a) Digital

Parameter	Word	Frame
ID count	03	0
PGO	53	0
PG1	53	1
PG2	53	2
PG3	53	3

(b) Analogue

Parameter	Word	Frame
PP42	42	0, 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 56
PP47	58	1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 41, 49, 57
PP 52	10	3, 11, 19, 27, 35, 43, 51, 59
PP 54	42	3, 11, 19, 27, 35, 43, 51, 59
PP55	58	3, 11, 19, 27, 35, 43, 51, 59
PP56	10	4, 12, 20, 28, 36, 44, 52, 60
PP58	42	4, 12, 20, 28, 36, 44, 52, 60
PP61	26	5, 13, 21, 29, 37, 45, 53, 61
PP62	42	5, 13, 12, 29, 37, 51, 53, 61
PP66	42	6, 14, 22, 30, 38, 46, 54, 62
PP71	58	7, 15, 23, 31, 39, 47, 55, 63
PP73	33	A11
PP 79	10	0, 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 56
PP80	40	A11
PP 82	51	A11
PP83	56	A11
BPUL	50	A11
ВЕНТ	18	A11

5.6.2 ESOC decommutation and display

The ESOC stations will decommutate and display the following channels, and during the launch phase (up to the first five orbits) will send a quick-look report to RAE via ESOC as soon as possible after a pass.

Quick-look No.1

(a) Octal

Parameter	Word	Frame
ASO3	37	8
ASO3	38	8
ASO4	45	8
ASO4	46	8
Mode Id	03	0
PGO	53	0
PG1	53	1
PG2	53	2

8 consecutive values required

(b) Analogue

Parameter	Word	Frame
PP42	42	0, 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 56
PP54	42	3, 11, 19, 27, 35, 43, 51, 59
PP56	10	4, 12, 20, 28, 36, 44, 52, 60
PP61	26	5, 13, 21, 29, 37, 45, 53, 61
PP 6 6	46	6, 14, 22, 30, 38, 46, 54, 62
PP73	33	A11
PP79	10	0, 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 56
PP80	40	A11
PP82	51	A11
PP83	56	A11

Quick-look No.2

After the first five orbits, the quick-look selection will be as above with the exception of parameters ASO3 and ASO4, unless scheduled by the RAE.

5.6.3 Quick-look operating procedures

A data acquisition station will decommutate the spacecraft real-time data for quick-look operations as scheduled by the RAE Control Centre.

A quick-look operation at an ESTRACK station will be as defined in the ESRO Mission Operations Plan for X3. The stations will submit a quick-look report to DATA CENTRAL via ESOC. For the first five orbits the quick-look reports will be relayed to DATA CENTRAL not later than fifteen minutes after the pass. Following the first five orbits through to the end of the mission quick-look messages will be relayed to DATA CENTRAL within one hour after the pass.

5.7 Tape mailing instructions

All telemetry magnetic tapes will be forwarded, in accordance with the standard tape shipping instructions, to the following address:-

Procurement Executive, Ministry of Defence,
Royal Aircraft Establishment,
Farnborough,
Hants,
England.

For the attention of Room 224, Space Department

6 COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Introduction

The control centres at DATA CENTRAL and ESOC will provide the necessary communications links, teletype, voice and data transmission to satisfy the operational requirements of the X3 project. A temporary teletype link operating in a conference mode will be provided between the launch range at WRE Woomera, the MOD centre in London and DATA CENTRAL at Farnborough, for a 24 hour period commencing at T -8 nours.

6.2 Teletype communications

ESRO will utilize the existing network for all teletype communications between the ESTRACK stations and the ESOC. An exclusive teletype link will be used for the first month for all teletype communications between ESOC and DATA CENTRAL. Thereafter the public telex network will be used for communications between ESOC and DATA CENTRAL. Teletype communications and procedures will be in accordance with the ESRO Mission Operations Plan for X3 and section 34 of the Estrack Operations Manual.

6.2.1 Addressing traffic

All project-oriented traffic will be addressed to DATA CEN SPACE RAE. All traffic to ESOC will be addressed to ESOC CONTROL.

6.3 Voice communications

Voice communications will be provided between DATA CENTRAL and the LASHAM telemetry station. A temporary voice communication will be provided between the WRE launch range, DATA CENTRAL and the ESOC, for a period between T-6 hours and T +15 minutes.

6.4 Data transmission

The data link between LASHAM and DATA CENTRAL will be used to transmit spacecraft data in real-time.

7 ORBITAL COMPUTATIONS SUPPORT

7.1 Introduction

Data Central, the RAE Space Department Dynamics Division (SP5) and ESOC are responsible for prelaunch and postlaunch orbit determination during the X3 project.

7.2 Prelaunch operations

A predicted world map printout and station observations will be computed from data supplied by DATA CENTRAL. Station predictions will be required for LASHAM and all ESTRACK stations for a 3 day period 10 days prior to launch. If trajectory changes occur prior to launch, the predicted data will be recomputed.

Copies of the predicted observations and world map printout, for a 3-day period, will be distributed to:-

ESRO Control centre Darmstadt, Germany.

Data Central, RAE, Farnborough.

X3 Satellite Controller, RAE.

RSRS, Slough, Berks. (Mr. Luccombe).

BDRSS, WRE, Salisbury, S.A. (Mr. K. Smith).

7.3 Post-launch operations

Orbit elements will be provided by the MOD, and will be used to generate the predicted world map and station observations. DATA CENTRAL will send orbital elements to ESOC every time they are updated and in any case the latest elements must be available at ESOC not later than T -7 days for the scheduling week.

8 DATA PROCESSING

8.1 Responsibility

RAE is responsible for evaluating the quality of the recorded data on the analogue tapes received from the telemetry stations, and is also responsible for processing the data.

8.2 Data evaluation

The station telemetry tapes will be received by DATA CENTRAL for evaluation and initial processing in order to provide digital magnetic tapes for subsequent computer processing in Mathematics Dept., RAE.

The digital magnetic tapes will contain formatted satellite data and identity blocks of the following form:-

- (1) 9999
- (2) YYMM
- (3) DDHH
- (4) ORBIT NO.
- (5) STATION NO.
- (6) ORIGINAL TAPE NO.

The station numbers to be used are as follows:-

FALKIS		0353
FBANKS		0352
REDU		0351
SPITS	•	0354
LASHAM	(LTS1)	0001
LASHAM	(LTS2)	0002

For passes over Lasham the ditital magnetic tape will be processed in DATA CENTRAL as soon as possible after a pass in order to provide the quick-look printout for distribution (section 5.6). This data will consist mainly of housekeeping parameters, as specified by the experimenters and sub-system designers.

9 COMPOSITE COUNTDOWN

The composite countdown is referenced to the nominal lift-off time and lists only those periods that involve or require action by the X3 project ground support elements. Abbreviations are as used in section 5.3.

COMPOSITE COUNTDOWN

			TTY	Respons	Responsibility
Countdown		Message	or voice	from	to
Between F -14 days and F -9 days	X3 F - days	Dress rehearsal sim lift off = Y M D H MIN	TTY	NCW RAE ESOC	RAE/MOD ESOC STATIONS
Between F -14 days and F -9 days	73 F - days	Dress rehersal sim lift off = Y M D H MIN	voice	RAE	LASHAM
	(Note:- The dress rehearsal procedure as the launch courelated to the simulated liwill be fast-timed where potions with ESOC simulated. will take place at F -3 day with NCW will be simulated)	(Note:- The dress rehearsal follows the same procedure as the launch countdown below, with times related to the simulated lift off. The rehearsal will be fast-timed where possible and communications with ESOC simulated. A rehearsal with ESOC will take place at F -3 days when communications with NCW will be simulated)			
F -3 days F -2 days F -1 days		ESTRACK station readiness report ESTRACK station readiness report ESTRACK station readiness report	TIY TIY TIY	ESOC ESOC	RAE RAE RAE
138	х3 т -18 h	Nominal lift off = Y M D H MIN	. KIL	NCW	RAE/MOD ESOC
I -17 h 45 min	X3	Nominal lift off = $Y M D H MIN$	TIT	ESOC	EASTRACK STNS
T -13 h	X3 T -13 h	Request support status MOD	TIY	RAE	MOD
T -12 h 50 min	x3 T -12 h 50 min	MOD support status Green or Red (followed by qualification if Red)	TTY	МОБ	RAE
T -12 h 45 min	X3 T -12 h 50 min	MOD support status Green or Red (followed by qualification if Red)	TTY	RAE	NCW
	(Note:- MOD is mission after otherwise)	(Note:- MOD is assumed to be able to support the mission after this time unless RAE is notified otherwise)			·

			TTY	Responsibility	ibility
Countdown		Message	or voice	from	to
T -8 h		Open Satellite Network		NCW RAE	RAE NCW
T -8 hr	хз т -8h	Comms check, fox message	TI	RAE ESOC	ESOC
	(Note:- This mess	message to be repeated approx every 1/3h)		. د	.,
T -7 h	X3 T -7 h	Nominal lift off = Y M D H MIN	TIY	NCW	RAE/MOD ESOC
I -6 h 50 min	Х3	Nominal lift of? = Y M D H MIN	AII	ESOC	ESTRACK STNS
T -6 h 15 min	Request I -0.6.00 ESTRACK stations	Request I -0.6.00 h station readiness report from ESTRACK stations	TIY	ESOC	ESTRACK STNS
т -6 ћ	ESTRACK station r	station readiness report	TTY	ESTRACK SINS	ESOC
Т-6 ћ	Open Voice links	Open Voice links for a time check, close Voice links	VOICE	NCW	RAE/ESOC
T -5 h 55 min (approx)	X3 nominal lift off is H MIN. Request Lasham checkout	ff is H MIN. Voice and time check. eckout	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM .
T -5 h 50 min to T -4 h 50 min	Lasham conducts system checkout	ystem checkout			
T -4 h	Request simulation test	n test	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM
T -4 h to T -3 h 30 min	Lasham conducts s	Lasham conducts simulation test with RAE			
T -3 h 30 min	X3 T -3 h 30 min	Request status all stations	TIY	RAE	ESOC
T -3 h 25 min	Request T -03.15 h EASTRACK stations	h station readiness report from	IIX	ESOC	ESTRACK

Responsibility	to	LASHAM	ESOC	RAE	NCW		RAE/MOD ESOC	ESTRACK STNS	RAE/MOD	ESOC	ESTRACK STNS	ESOC	LAŞHAM
Respor	from	RAE	ESTRACK SINS	ESOC	RAE		NCW	ESOC	NCW	RAE	ESOC	ESTRACK SINS	RAE
TTY	or voice	VOICE	TIY	TIY	TTY			TTY	TTY	TIT	TIY	TTY	VOICE
	Message	Request status Lasham. Lasham	ESTRACK station readiness report	X3 T -3 hr 15 min ESTRACK status Greed or Red followed by qualification if Red	X3 T -3 hr 15 min EASTRACK status Green or Red (followed by qualification if Red) Lasham status Green or Red (followed by qualification if Red)	(Note:- All stations are assumed to be operational after this time unless RAE is notified otherwise)	X3 T -3 h Nominal lift off - Y M D H MIN	X3 Nominal lift off = Y M D H MIN	x3 T -1 h 30 min Nominal lift off = Y M D H MIN	T -1 h 30 min		ESTRACK station readiness report	X3 nominal lift off is H MIN. Request status Lasham. Lasham confirms Red or Green
	Countdown	T -3 h 15 min	T -3 h 15 min	T -3 h 15 min	T -3 h		T -3 h	T -2 h 55 min	ري بر در ا	-1 h 25	T -1 h 20 min	T -1 h 15 min	T -1 h 15 min

			TTY	Responsibility	oility
Countdown		Message	or voice	from	to
T -1 h 15 mín	X3 T -1 h 15 min	Estrack status Green or Red followed by qualification if Red	TTY	ESOC	RAE
T -1 h 10 min	X3 T -1 h 15 min	Estrack status Green or Red (followed by qualification if Red). Lasham status Green or Red (followed by qualification if Red.	TIX	RAE	NCW
T -1 h	Open Voice links for	for a time check, close Voice links	VOICE	NCW	RAE/ESOC
T -55 min	Voice and time check	eck	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM
T -40 min	Request T -00.30 1 ESTRACK STNS	T -00.30 h station readiness report from SINS	YTT	ESOC	ESTRACK STNS
T -30 min		ESTRACK station readiness report	TIY	ESTRACK SINS	ESOC
T -30 min	X3 T -30 min	Firing sequence started nominal lift off = Y M D H MIN	YTT	NCW RAE ESOC	RAE/MOD ESOC STATIONS
T -29 min	X3 T -30 min	ESTRACK status Green or Red	TTY	ESOC	RAE
T -25 min	X3 nominal lift o	off is H MIN	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM
Between T -30 min and T -15 min	Open Voice links	Open Voice links for a time check and launch status	VOICE	NCW	RAE/ESOC
T -6 min	X3 T -6 min	Spacecraft status all nominal	TTY	NCW	RAE/MOD
T -5 min (approx)	X3 T -6 min	Spacecraft status all nominal	TTY	RAE	ESOC
T -4 min (approx)	X3 T -6 min	Spacecraft status all nominal	ITY	ESOC	STATIONS
T -0 min (approx)	Confirmation of 1:	lift off followed by rocket status	VOICE	NCW	RAE/ESOC
T +30 s (approx)	Confirmation of l	lift off followed by rocket status	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM
			-		1

			TTY	Responsibility	bility
Countdown		Message	voice	from	to
T +1 min (approx)	X3 T +1 min	Lift off was approx H MIN	TTT	NCW	RAE/MOD
T +2 min (approx)	X3 T +1 min	Lift off was approx H MIN	TTY	RAE	ESOC
T +3 min (approx)	X3 T +1 min	Lift off was approx H MIN	TIY	ESOC	STATIONS
T +10 min (approx)	X3 T +10 min	Lift off was H MIN S	TIY	NCW	RAE/MOD
T +11 min (approx)	X3 T +10 min	Lift off was H MIN S	TIY	RAE	ESOC
T +12 min (approx)	X3 T +10 min	Lift off was H MIN S	TTY	ESOC	STATIONS
T +14 min (approx)	X3 lift off was H	H MIN S	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM
T +15 min (approx)	End of launch sum	End of launch summary, close Voice links	VOICE	NCM	RAE/ESOC
Between T +15 min and T +30 min	X3 T + 30 min	Injection report	TŢY	\ RAE \ ESOC	RAE ESOC STATIONS
T +35 min (approx)	X3 AOS	H MIN modulation on or no modulation	TTY	FBANKS ESOC RAE RAE	ESOC RAE NCW MOD
T +36 min (approx)	X3 A0S	FBANKS H MIN Mod on or no mod. close link	VOICE	RAE	LASHAM
T +45 min (approx)	OMS 28	FBANKS X3 ORBIT No.1 YY MM DD followed by QL	TIY	FBANKS ESOC	ESOC
T +50 min (approx)	OMS 20	M D H MIN FBANKS followed by pass report	TTY	FBANKS ESOC RAE	ESOC RAE NCW
T +1 h 30 min (approx)	X3 orbit elements (Note:- Prepare u	X3 orbit elements (Note:- Prepare update of orbital predictions)	TTY	MOD RAE	RAE ESOC
T +1 h 35 min (approx)	OMS 28	FALKIS X3 ORBIT No.1 Y M D followed by QL	TTY	$\left\{ egin{array}{l} { t FALKIS} \\ { t ESOC} \end{array} ight.$	ESOC RAE

		TTY	Responsibility	ibility
Countdown	Message	or voice	from	to
T +8 h 50 min (approx)	OMS 20 M D H MIN FBANKS followed by pass report	TIT	FBANKS ESOC	ESOC RAE
T +9 h (approx)	End of launch phase	TIY	RAE ESOC RAE	ESOC STATIONS NCW

Appendix A

X3 POTENTIAL FREQUENCY CONFLICTS

The purpose of this Appendix is to identify the spacecraft which are potential sources of radio frequency interference to the X3 project.

Details will be issued later.

Appendix B

X3 TELEMETRY CHANNELS

List of parameters

Attitude sensor data

ASO1	Sync. pulse	e t	O S1	ın sensor SS1		(spin position)
ASO3	Sun sensor	SS1 t	o st	ın sensor SS1		(spin period)
ASO5	Sun sensor	SS1 t	o s	ın sensor SS2		(spin axis-sun angle)
ASO7	Sun sensor	SS1 t	o h	rizon sensor	1.H1	(Earth position)
ASO9	Sun sensor	SS1 t	O 51	ın sensor SS3		(structure distortion)
AS11	Sun sensor	SS1 t	o s	ın sensor SS4		(structure distortion)
AS13	Sun sensor	SS1 t	o h	orizon sensor	1.H2	(Earth position)
AS15	Sun sensor	SS1 t	o h	orizon sensor	1.H1	(Earth position)
ASO2	Sync.pulse	1	:o s	ın sensor SS3		(spin position)
	•			ın sensor SS3 ın sensor SS3		(spin position) (spin period)
ASO4	Sun sensor	SS3 t	o s			
ASO4 ASO6	Sun sensor Sun sensor	SS3 t	o s	ın sensor SS3		(spin period)
ASO4 ASO6 ASO8	Sun sensor Sun sensor Sun sensor	SS3 t SS3 t	o so	in sensor SS3 in sensor SS2	2.H3	<pre>(spin period) (structure distortion)</pre>
ASO4 ASO6 ASO8 AS10	Sun sensor Sun sensor Sun sensor Sun sensor	SS3 t SS3 t SS3 t	o so so to ho	un sensor SS3 un sensor SS2 orizon sensor	2.Н3	(spin period) (structure distortion) (Earth position)
ASO4 ASO6 ASO8 AS10 AS12	Sun sensor Sun sensor Sun sensor Sun sensor Sun sensor	SS3 t SS3 t SS3 t SS3 t	to si to he to si to si	in sensor SS3 in sensor SS2 orizon sensor in sensor SS1	2.Н3	<pre>(spin period) (structure distortion) (Earth position) (structure distortion)</pre>

Birmingham micrometeoroid experiment data

BEHT EHT monitor

PBUL EHT test pulse monitor
(See also GO/NO-GO data, i.e. PG25 to PG37 on page 49).

Hybrid electronics experiment data

DDO1 11111111

DD02 Digital array experiment (11101100)

MSB

DD03 Digital array experiment (10100001)

LSB

RAOl to RA78 Hybrid electronic experiment (HEE) analogue outputs.

MSB = major increments

LSB = minor increments

RDO1 to RD78 HEE digital outputs.

NOTE: RDO1 corresponds to RAO1 et seq.

Rocket third stage data

```
DA01 Donner accelerometer coarse
DA02 Donner accelerometer fine
GY01 Gyro output 1
GY02 Gyro output 2
HSKP Housekeeping
SMON Separation monitor
```

Solar cell experiment data

Sun slit

SS01

ST06

```
SCO1
       Module 3 unit 6101 short circuit current
SCO2
       Module 3 unit 6102 short circuit current
SCO3
       Module 7 unit 6103 short circuit current
       Module 7 unit 6102 short circuit current
SCO4
SC<sub>0</sub>5
       Module 7 unit 6103 short circuit current
SC06
       Module 3 unit 6201 short circuit current
SCO7
       Module 3 unit 6101 maximum power point current
SCO8
       Module 3 unit 6102 maximum power point current
SC09
       Module 7 unit 6103 maximum power point current
SC10
       Module 3 unit 6101 open circuit voltage
SC11
       Module 3 unit 6102 open circuit voltage
SC12
       Module 7 unit 6103 open circuit voltage
STO1
       Module 3 unit 6101 temperature
STO2
       Module 3 unit 6102 temperature
STO3
       Module 7 unit 6103 temperature
STO4
       Module 7 unit 6102 temperature
STO5
       Module 7 unit 6103 temperature
```

Module 3 unit 6201 temperature

Thermal control surfaces data

	Unit No.	Thermistor		Unit No.	Thermistor		Unit No.	Thermistor
TSO1	5100	1	TS33	5700	14	TS65	5600	9
TSO2	5500	4	TS34	5400	3	TS66	5800	9
TSO3	5500	12	TS35	5600	14	TS67	5700	1 .
TSO4	5200	1	TS36	5800	14	TS68	5700	9
TSO5	5600	4	TS37	5100	4	TS69	5700	17
TSO6	5800	4	TS38	5500	7	TS70	5800	1
TSO7	5300	1	TS39	5500	15	TS71	5600	17
TSO8	5700	4	TS40	5200	4	TS72	5800	17
TSO9	5700	12	TS41	5600	7	TS73	5500	2
TS10	5400	1	TS42	5800	7	TS74	5500	10
TS11	5600	12	TS43		4	TS75	5500	18
TS12	5800	12	TS44	5700	7	TS76	5506	2
TS13	5100	2	TS45		15	TS77	5600	10
TS14	5500	5	TS46	5400	4	TS78	5800	10
TS15	5500	13	TS47		15	TS79	5700	2
TS16	5200	2	TS48	5800	15	TS80	5700	10
TS17	5600	5	TS49	5100	5	TS81	5700	18
TS18	5800	5	TS 50	5500	8	TS82	5800	2
TS19	5300	2	TS51	5500	16	TS83	5600	18
TS20	5700	5	TS52	5200	5	TS84	58 00	18
TS21	5700	13	TS53	5600	8	TS85	5500	. 3
TS22	5400	2	TS54		8	TS86		1.1
TS23	5600	13	TS55	5300	5	TS87	5500	19
TS24	5800	13	TS56	5700	8	TS88	5600	3
TS25	5100	3	TS57		16	TS89		11
TS 26	5500	6	TS58		5	TS90	_	11
TS 27	5500	14	TS 59		16	TS91		3
TS 28	5200	3	TS60	5800	16	TS92	5700	11
TS29	5600	6	TS61		1	TS93		19
TS30	5800	6	TS62		9	TS94	5800	3
TS31	5300	3	TS63		17			
TS32	5700	6	TS64	5600	1			

TS95 Calibration resistor 1 TS96 Calibration resistor 2

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Performance parameters designation recorded format

PPO1	Solar cell array temperature (module 2 centre)
PPO2	Output voltage of negative 12 volt tape recorder supply
PPO3	Output current of positive 5.4 volt regulator
PPO4	Output voltage of negative 12 volt regulator
PPO5	Solar cell array temperature (module 2 top)
PPO6	Heat balance temperature monitor (fillet 3/4 top)
PPO7	Output voltage of positive 12 volt regulator
PPO8	Output voltage of positive 5.4 volt regulator
PPO9	Heat balance temperature monitor (module 1)
PP10	Solar cell array temperature (module 2 bottom)
PP11	Data handling calibration (positive 2.5 volts) (01000000)
PP12	Output current of positive 12 volt regulator
PP13	Power storage control temperature
PP14	Heat balance temperature monitor (fillet 3/4 centre)
PP15	Output current of negative 12 volt regulator
PP16	VHF automatic gain control 1
PP17	Tape recorder temperature
PP18	Heat balance temperature monitor (module 5)
PP19	Battery voltage
PP 20	Data handling calibration (negative 4.7 volts (11110101)
PP 21	Heat balance temperature monitor (face 8 foot casting)
PP 22	Output voltage of negative 5.4 volt regulators
PP23	Output voltage of negative 5.4 volt regulator
PP24	Unregulated busbar voltage
PP 25	Power regulators and distribution temperature
PP 26	Power switching and monitoring temperature
PP27	VHF automatic gain control 2
PP 28	Output current of positive 12 volt tape recorders supply
PP 29	Heat balance temperature (fillet 3/4 bottom)
PP30	Battery temperature
PP31	Battery charge/discharge current
PP32	Total solar array current
PP33	Data handling calibration (O volt)
PP34	Input voltage to battery converter
PP35	Input voltage to battery main charge regulator
PP36	Output voltage of positive 12 volt tape recorder supply
PP37	1000000
PP38	Output current of negative 12 volt tape recorder supply
	-

PP83

Tape recorder, tape moving

Performance parameters designation direct format

```
Heat balance temperature monitor (face 7 top)
PP40
        Heat balance temperature monitor (face 7 upper centre)
PP41
PP42
        Output voltage of positive 12 volt regulator
PP43
        Input voltage to battery converter
PP44
        Heat balance temperature monitor (face 7 lower centre)
PP45
        Heat balance temperature monitor (top cover skin)
PP46
        VHF voltage standing wave ratio
PP47
        VHF automatic gain control 1
PP48
        Heat balance temperature monitor (face 7 bottom)
        Heat balance temperature monitor (lower cover skin)
PP49
PP 50
        Output current of positive 12 volt tape recorder supply
PP 51
        Output current of negative 12 volt tape recorder supply
PP 52
        Programmer package temperature
        Solar cell array temperature (module 2 top)
PP 53
        Output voltage of positive 5.4 volt regulator
PP54
        Output voltage of positive 12 volt tape recorder supply
PP 55
PP56
        Battery temperature
        Solar cell array temperature (module 2 centre)
PP57
        Output voltage of negative 12 volt tape recorder supply
PP58
        Input voltage to battery main charge regulator
PP 59
PP60
        Power regulators and distribution temperature
PP61
        Tape recorder temperature
PP62
        VHF automatic gain control 2
PP63
        Power storage control temperature
        Solar cell array temperature (module 2 bottom)
PP64
        Direct encoder package temperature
PP 65
        Output voltage of negative 5.4 volt regulator
PP66
        VHF transmitter power output
PP67
        Record encoder package temperature
PP68
        VHF transmitter temperature difference monitor
PP69
        Hybrid electronic experiment temperature monitor
PP70
PP71
        Data handling calibration (positive 2.5 volt) (01000000)
        Data handling calibration (0 volt)
PP72
PP72
        Battery voltage
PP74
        Tape recorder pressure monitor
        Hybrid electronic experiment (negative full scale deflection) -4.3925 V
PP75
        Hybrid electronic experiment (positive full scale deflection) +4.3925 V
PP76
        VHF package temperature
PP77
        Data handling calibration (negative 4.7 volt) (11110101)
PP78
PP79
        Output voltage of negative 12 volt regulator
PP80
        Unregulated busbar voltage
PP81
        Battery charge/discharge current
        Total solar array current
PP82
```

Performance parameters designation CO/NO-GO bits

```
NOTE: PG suffix code:
       MSB is the PG syllable identifier and LSB is the PG bit identifier.
PG00
        Hybrid electronics experiment ON/OFF (logic 1 = ON)
PGO1
        Thermal surfaces experiment ON/OFF (logic 1 = ON)
PGO<sub>2</sub>
        Transmitter select A or B (logic 1 = A)
PGO3
        Logic 0
PGO4
        Tape recorder record or playback (logic 1 = record)
PGO<sub>5</sub>
        Data tray clock select A or B (logic 1 = A)
PG06
        High speed divider select A or B (logic 1 = B)
PGO7
        Low speed divider select A or B (logic 1 = A)
        High speed parallel to serial converter select A or B (logic 1 = B)
PG10
PG11
        Low speed parallel to serial converter select A or B (logic 1 = B)
PG12
        Analogue to digital converter select A or B (logic 1 = A on high speed
        and B on low speed. Logic 0 = B on high speed and A on low speed)
PG13
        High speed digital multiplexer select A or B (logic 1 = A)
PG14
        Low speed digital multiplexer select A or B (logic 1 = A)
PG15
        Analogue to digital converter output gates select A or B (logic 1 = A)
PG16
        Data switching gates select A or B (logic 1 = A)
PG17
        Third stage interlock (logic 0 = third stage present)
PG20
        Birmingham experiment logic test pulse monitor (logic 1 = pulse
        detected)
        Birmingham experiment flap monitor (logic 1 = flap open)
PG21
PG22
        Logic 0
PG23
        Logic 1
PG24
        Logic 0
PG25
        Birmingham experiment most significant count bit digit 0
PG26
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 1
PG27
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 2
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 3
PG30
PG31
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 4
PG 32
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 5
PG33
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 6
PG34
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 7
PG35
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 8
PG36
        Birmingham experiment count bit digit 9
        Birmingham experiment least significant count bit digit 10
PG37
PG40 through to PG47
                       Logic 0
PG50 through to PG57
                       Logic 0
PG60 through to PG67
                       Logic 0
PG70 through to PG77
                       Logic 0
```

Appendix C

STATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The following Table summarises the station responsibilities described in the X3 Operations Handbook and enables individual stations to obtain a quick reference to the relevant sections.

Scheduling	5.2.3.2	5.2.3.2			·				
Orbital predictions	7.2	7.2 7.3							
Real-time data transmission	5.5.1				5.5.1				
Communica- tions	6.2 6.3	6.2 6.3 9	6.2 9	6.2 9	6.3 6.4 9	6.2 9	6.2	6.2 9	6.2 6.3 9
Tape mailing		5.7	5.7	5.7			5.7	5.7	
Recording	5.4.1.4		5.4.1.4	5.4.1.4	5.4.1.4		5.4.1.4	5.4.1.4	
Command Quick-look Recording operations	5.6 5.6.1 8.2		5.6.2	5.6.2			5.6	5.6.2	
Command	5.2.4 5.3.3 5.4.2		5.2.4 5.3.3 5.4.2	5.2.4 5.3.3 5.4.2			5.2.4 5.3.3 5.4.2	5.2.4 5.3.3 5.4.2	
Data acquisition			5.2.3	5.2.3	5.2.3		5.2.3	5.2.3	5.2.3.1
Station Tracking						5.2.2	5.3.1		5.2.1
Station	Data central	ESOC	FALKIS	FBANKS	LASHAM	МОД	REDU	SPITSB	WOOMERA

REFERENCES

No.	Author(s)	Title, etc.
1	H.J.H. Sketch	The Black Arrow X3 Spacecraft.
		RAE Technical Report 69203 (1969), presented at the
		eighth International Symposium on Space Technology
		and Science, Tokyo, August 1969
2	The Staff of RAE	The Black Arrow Satellite launching vehicle.
	Space Department	RAE Technical Report 69088 (1969)
3	X3 Operations	Operations Manual for Black Arrow X3 Satellite,
	Team	Vol.1, Functional descriptions, published by MSDS
		Limited formerly GEC-AEI (Electronics) Limited
4	V.W. Adams	Orbital operations plan for the X3 satellite.
	-	RAE Technical Report to be published, 1971

Payload

Fig.1 Basic construction of Black Arrow

T.R. 71172

004 90327g

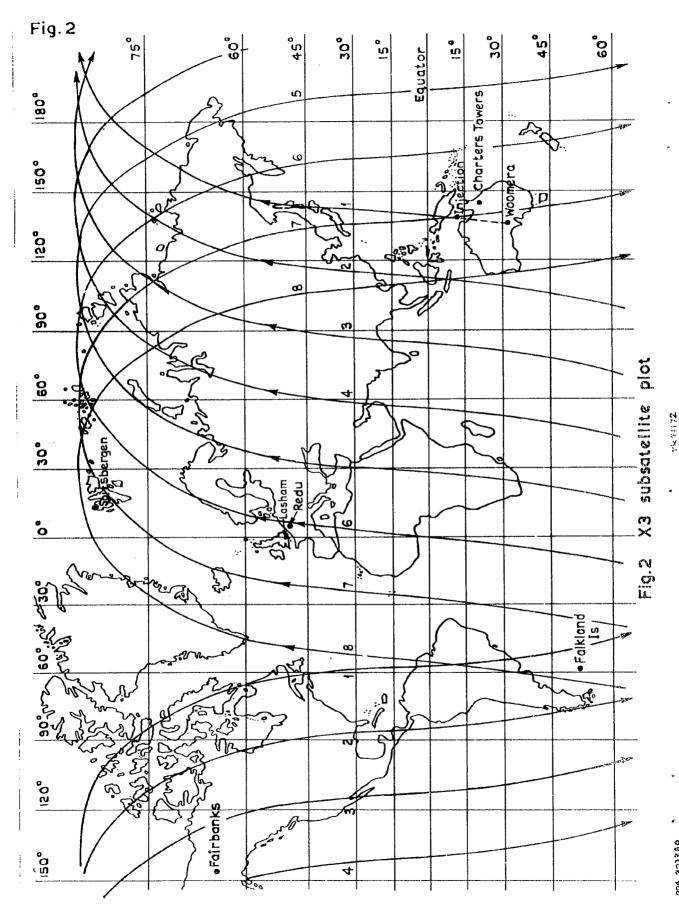
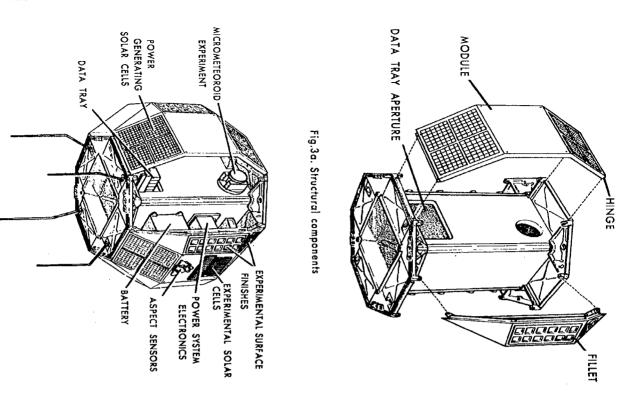


Fig.3b. Partly assembled structure



In the normal mode direct format the AS parameters appear in only the first minor frame of each set of eight minor frames. Sylables 37 and 38, 45 and 46 in all other minor frames are not allocated and the digital outputs for each of the syllables are all zeros (eight bits). NOTE:

D

\$	252 252 253 253 253 253 253 253 253 253	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	3012 3012 3012 3012 3012 3012 3012 3012	252 252 253 253 253 253 253 253 253 253	25 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	80.2 1360 1372 1372 1572 1572 1572	2 4 2 4 2 4 2 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
23		88888888888888888888888888888888888888		8888888		55555555	600000000000000000000000000000000000000	99999999
30	1005 1005 1005 1005 1005	E005 2005 2005 2005 2005 2005 2005 2005	1002 1002 1002 1002	0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000	2002 2002 2002 2003 2005 2005 2005	20022222	200222222	222222222
8	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	######################################	E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E	200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200	2022 E 202 2022 E 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	REST SEED	BEST CARE
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93	266666	222222		PP455 PP45 PP4			225262	1544 1544 1544 1544 1544 1544 1544 1544
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3	8888888	8 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	3 2 3 2 3 2 3 3 3 3	500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500	3555555	3 5 3 5 5 5 5	385 85 85 85 85	5009 11881 1583 1593 1593 1593
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3	15 5 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X 8 X	803 TE 80	50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5	200 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	2 K	2	5 15 5 15 5 15 5 15 5 15 5 15 5 15 5 1
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2	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000			2222222				4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
1		222222		222222			222222	444444
2	2222222	PP 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	222222	8673 8673 8673 8673 8673 8673 8673 8673		222222	8888888	22222
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ı	25.55.55.55.55.55.55.55.55.55.55.55.55.5	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2	22222222 22222222 222222222	25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 2		20000-2- 22222222 22222222	2552525 2552525 2552525 2552525 2552525 25	25252525 25252525 25252525 25252525 25252525 25252525 25252525 252525 252525 252525 252525 252525 252525 252525 25252 25252 2525 252 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 2525 252
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Fig.4. X3 telemetry format direct mode

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Fig.5. X3 telemetr, format recorded modes

			sy	Sync code	cod	α,			I/R ident	Mode	Mode ident		F.	ame	Frame ident	يبا	
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- NOTES: 1 SYNC CODE is shown as an octal representation of the bits with the MSB made from two bits.
- 2 I/R IDENT indicates '1' when the tape recorder has been commanded to playback.
- 3 Under certain circumstances the mode identification pulses, in normal mode, may appear as '0' '0'. In such a case the satellite will be commanded into NORMAL MODE with a mode identification '0' '1'.
- 4 MSB most significant bit.
- 5 LSB least significant bit.

Fig. 6 Telemetry format for first 32 bits of each minor frame

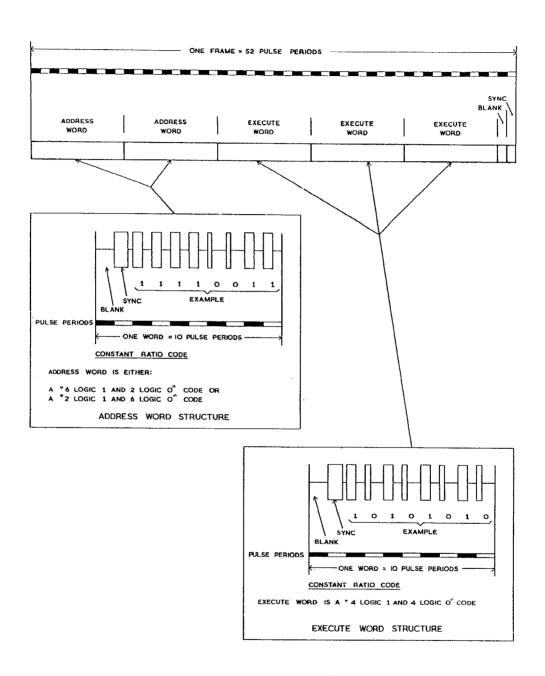


Fig.7. X3 command format