Getting Started with 'A Sign in Space'

Please review the User's Guide for installation instructions and usage.

For processing the A Sign in Space bitstream the best place to start is with the data17.bin
file. The suggested (but not required) folder structure for data and other files is something like:
This is what is initially installed when the application is installed under the installation directory.

Data
    BMP files
        last.bmp   This is set in app Settings dialog, it will contain a
                          .BMP file representation of the the last output image
                          file operation. This was done to make viewing the last
                          image file (binary) operation easier without the need
                          to explicitly export the output result to a BMP file.
        *.bmp   bitmap image files saved

    Convolution
        kernel.txt   Convolution kernel text file(s)
                          ....
    ReOrder
        reorder.txt   reorder kernel text file(s)
                          ....
    OriginalSource
        Data17.bin   The original message source, (you may wish to mark the file
                          readonly)

    *.raw   Raw image files, these are binary 2D image files with a 32 byte header
                    which can be loaded into Photoshop or Gimp easily. Photoshop
                    expected a raw file to have the extension .raw.
                    You can the properties of an image file under the
                    Image tools -> Image file properties menu selection.

    *.txt   text files, such as csv or report file

Extracting the various parts of the Bitstream file Data17.bin

Extract the entire bitstream to a text file
Bit tools -> Extract full bitstream to text

Convert packed bitstream file to text file   ✕

C:\MySETIapp\Data\OriginalSource\data17.bin   Packed bitstream input file

80   # bits in prologue   Browse

0   #bits in header for a block

65536   #bits in block   256   X size

1   Number of blocks

C:\MySETIapp\Data\data17.txt   Text Output

     Browse

(doesn't save settings)   Convert

(save settings, don't convert)   OK   Cancel   (don't save settings)

Extract the header as an image
Bit Tools -> BitStream to Binary Image

Convert packed bitstream file to Image file   ✕

C:\MySETIapp\Data\OriginalSource\data17.bin   Packed bitstream input file

0   # bits in prologue (skipped)   ☐ MSB to LSB   Browse

0   #bits in header for a block (skipped)

80   #bits in block   8   X size   1   image bit depth

1   Number of blocks

ANY FOOTER BITS ARE SKIPPED   ☐ Scale binary 0,1 to 0,255 in output image

C:\MySETIapp\Data\header.raw   Image Output file

     Browse

(doesn't save settings)   Convert

(save settings, don't convert)   OK   Cancel   (don't save settings)

Extract the message body as an image

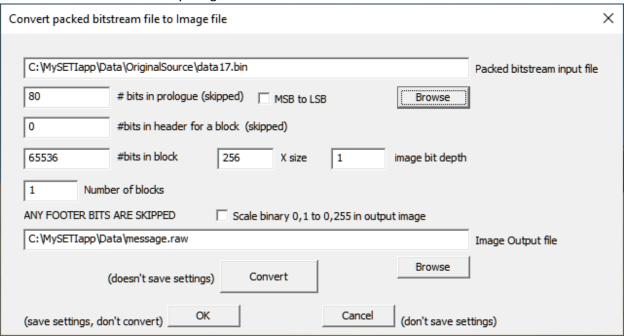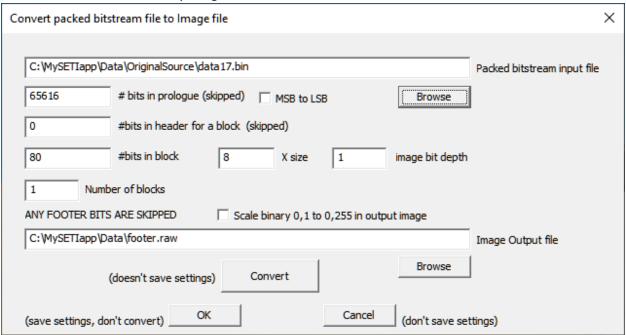This is what has been referred to online as the 'starmap'.

Bit Tools -> BitStream to Binary Image

Convert packed bitstream file to Image file   ✕

C:\MySETIapp\Data\OriginalSource\data17.bin   Packed bitstream input file

80   # bits in prologue (skipped)   ☐ MSB to LSB   Browse

0   #bits in header for a block (skipped)

65536   #bits in block   256   X size   1   image bit depth

1   Number of blocks

ANY FOOTER BITS ARE SKIPPED   ☐ Scale binary 0,1 to 0,255 in output image

C:\MySETIapp\Data\message.raw   Image Output file

       Browse

(doesn't save settings)   Convert

(save settings, don't convert)   OK   Cancel   (don't save settings)

Extract the footer as an image

Bit Tools -> BitStream to Binary Image

Convert packed bitstream file to Image file   ✕

C:\MySETIapp\Data\OriginalSource\data17.bin   Packed bitstream input file

65616   # bits in prologue (skipped)   ☐ MSB to LSB   Browse

0   #bits in header for a block (skipped)

80   #bits in block   8   X size   1   image bit depth

1   Number of blocks

ANY FOOTER BITS ARE SKIPPED   ☐ Scale binary 0,1 to 0,255 in output image

C:\MySETIapp\Data\footer.raw   Image Output file

       Browse

(doesn't save settings)   Convert

(save settings, don't convert)   OK   Cancel   (don't save settings)

Thes are just the start. A number of files are included in the installation that have already been converted or extracted from the bitstream.

Happy deciphering.