

Washington, DC 20546



FOR RELEASE:
PHOTO NO.

Feb. 10, 1982
82-0-52

No copyright protection is asserted for this photograph.

If a recognizable person appears in this photograph, use for advertising purposes may infringe a right of privacy or publicity.

If they are to be used in sales or needs the endorsement by NASA or any NASA employee or a commercial product, program, service, or used in any other manner that might mislead, accordingly, it is required that if this photograph is used in advertising and other commercial promotion, letter, and copy be submitted to NASA prior to release.

data before, during and after a dust storm is seen in these seven pictures taken by NASA's Viking 1 Lander at the Thosmas A. Mitch Memorial Station from 1980 through 1981. The Lander's camera captured a dust storm in progress (sixth frame) on June 14, 1981. Prior to and after that frame, the sky and surface are brighter. The photos, processed in JPL's Image Processing Laboratory, were taken over two-thirds of a Mars Year, (equal to one-and-a-half Earth years). The change in apparent brightness of the large boulder named "Big Joe" is due to seasonal changes in the sun angle. After one Mars year, brightness differences caused by the sun can be separated from changes caused by storms occur, and the kinds of changes they produce on the Martian surface. Images taken over a long period of time will allow scientists to observe the year-to-year changes around the Lander -- changes that can reveal the geological processes acting to shape the surface of Mars. The Viking 1 Lander is programmed to return imaging, meteorological and radio science data until 1984. The VIKING Mission is managed for NASA by JPL.