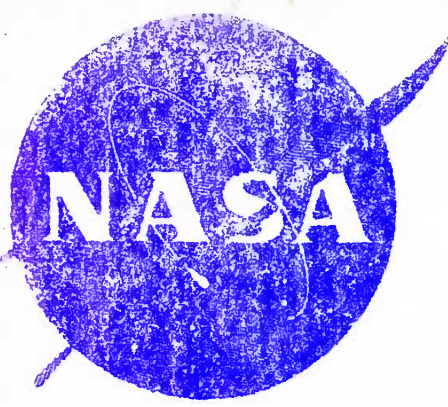


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PHOTO NO. 74-H-223
MARINER 10-17 (MERCURY)
P-14459

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The smaller image to the left is the picture of Mercury as received in "real time" March 26 prior to computer processing at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The right image has been enlarged four times and enhanced to increase the visibility of surface detail. The picture was taken by one of Mariner 10's TV cameras from a distance of about 2,750,000 kilometers (1,705,000 miles). The bright spot, seen in earlier photos, is even more apparent now and appears here with a companion spot to the northwest. The longer bright spot is located about 10 degrees South of the equator and at 25 degrees West longitude. The prominent dark dot at upper left is a calibration marking on the camera's vidicon face plate. In the center of the enlarged picture about 10 degrees from the terminator, there is a crater-like basin with a bright spot in the middle.

