

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



Reply to Attn of: SZ

JUL 13 1994

Mr. Brian Vreeland  
LSOC  
Mail Stop 440.8  
Goddard Space Flight Center  
National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

Dear Mr. Vreeland:

Last week was a tense one for us here at Headquarters as we watched the HST project team struggle to understand whether the operations anomalies were a symptom of a major computer failure. We were particularly nervous about the possibility of missing the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to observe Jupiter at the time of the comet impacts. I am extremely pleased that all of the problems were understood, then solved, and that we are now back in normal operations.

It is my understanding that your insight led to the explanation of how the counter caused the zero-gyro mode, thereby explaining the major puzzle and allowing a resumption of normal operations. I wish to express to you my appreciation for finding this solution. People throughout the world are excited and intrigued by the discoveries of HST. What is sometimes not appreciated is that individuals such as yourself, with vital technical knowledge of how this complex facility works, make crucial contributions at critical times to enable the observations to continue. I am happy that in this case it was possible to identify the specific individual involved so that I can thank you on behalf of the astronomers who use the telescope and the public which cares about the results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Weedman".

Daniel W. Weedman  
Director, Astrophysics Division

cc:  
GSFC/440/Dr. J. Campbell