

Re: messenger arrives while mercury at maximum elongation

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- *From:* laura halliday <marsgal42@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 26 Jan 2008 21:49:46 -0800 (PST)
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On Jan 26, 10:58 am, mack <jm...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Sighting Mercury earlier this week, while it was at maximum elongation from the sun, it occurred to me that the arrival of Messenger at the same time, would not have been coincidence, but so that the antennas on earth receiving data from the spacecraft would receive the minimum sun noise.

Anyone know if this is true, or it was coincidence?
(snip...)

It seems an entirely reasonable thing to do. People at NASA are paid to think these things through, to an extent that is sometimes scary.

...laura

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