

Re: Gemini pictures on TV

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2008-08/msg00101.html>

- *From:* Pat Flannery <flanner@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 05 Aug 2008 01:19:51 -0500
-

Alan Erskine wrote:

Was that actually _on_ the Agena? I figure they had to be able to read the propellant totals etc; but never thought the display was on the actual Agena itself.

It was indeed on the Agena.

Info on it here: <http://www.astronautix.com/craft/gemhicle.htm>

"The Gemini-ATV Status Panel (ASP), was mounted on the forward end of the Target Docking Adapter of the Agena Target Vehicle where it was visible to the astronauts in the Gemini spacecraft during and after the docking maneuver. The panel displayed information on the status and safety of the Agena propulsion, guidance, electrical power, and docking systems. Originally, only eight Agena parameters were to be displayed in the Gemini spacecraft; however, the number of parameters increased to the point that the spacecraft no longer had the space or weight capability to accommodate them. Accordingly, the panel was placed on the Target Docking Adapter. The ASP system consisted of a display panel with nine display lights and three analog dials and the necessary circuitry which was distributed throughout the Gemini-ATV. When not in use, this system was normally de-energized in order to save power; however, the PPS and SPS Time Remaining Clocks were energized whenever the PPS or SPS engines fire. Three of the twelve parameters displayed on the ASP panel, indicated PPS status and three indicated SPS status. The Primary Propulsion System displays were as follows:

- * PPS Burn Time Remaining Clock
- * "MAIN" Red Light
- * "MAIN" Green Light

The Secondary Propulsion System displays were as follows:

- * SPS Burn Time Remaining Clock
- * "SEC HI" Green Light
- * "SEC LO" Green Light

Requirements received from the astronauts stated that a dimming circuit must be added to the ASP system, because the panel lights were found to be too bright when the spacecraft docked with the GATV on the night side of the earth. Consequently, a dimming circuit was added to reduce or increase the brightness to the desired level. The dimming circuit functions on all lights except MAIN Red which was always bright when

Re: Gemini pictures on TV

"ON". In order to improve reliability, two lamps were incorporated in each indicator light."

Pat

.