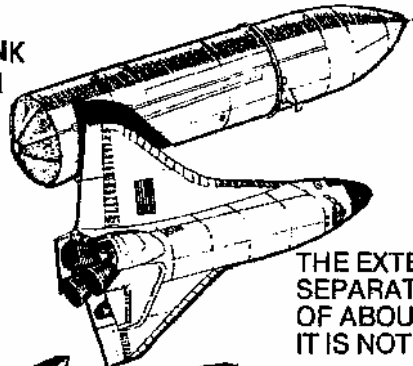


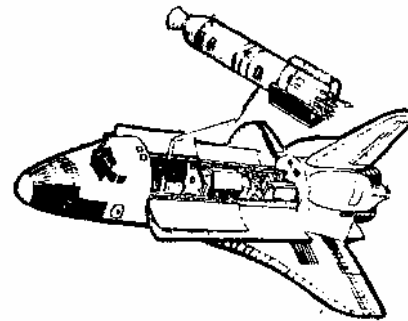
A TYPICAL SHUTTLE MISSION

③
EXTERNAL TANK
SEPARATION



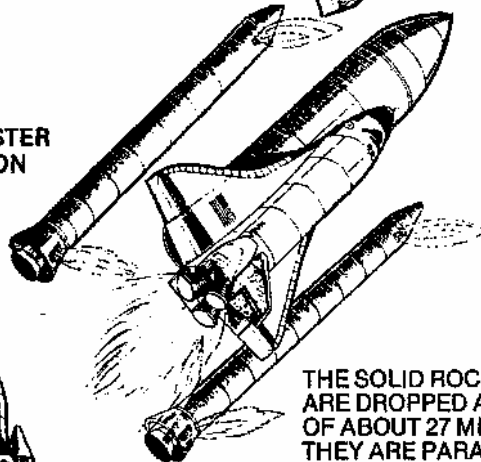
THE EXTERNAL TANK IS SEPARATED AT AN ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 75 MILES. IT IS NOT RECOVERED.

④
IN ORBIT



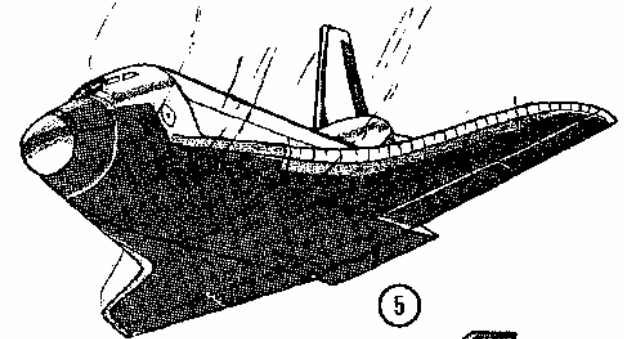
SHUTTLE MISSIONS NORMALLY LAST FROM 4 TO 10 DAYS.

②
D BOOSTER
SEPARATION



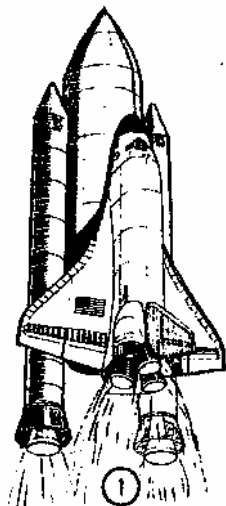
THE SOLID ROCKET BOOSTERS ARE DROPPED AT AN ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 27 MILES. THEY ARE PARACHUTED INTO THE OCEAN AND RECOVERED.

THE ENTIRE ORBITER IS COVERED WITH A HEAT SHIELD.

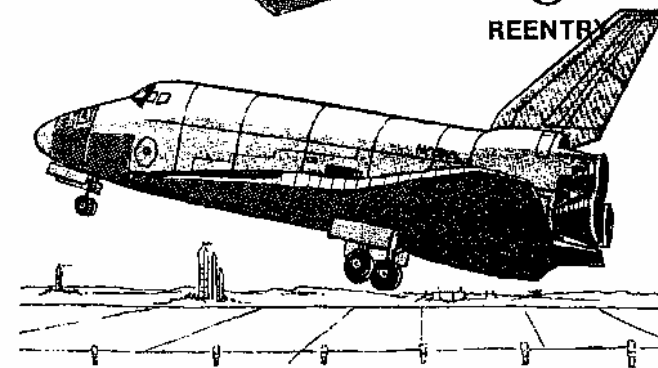
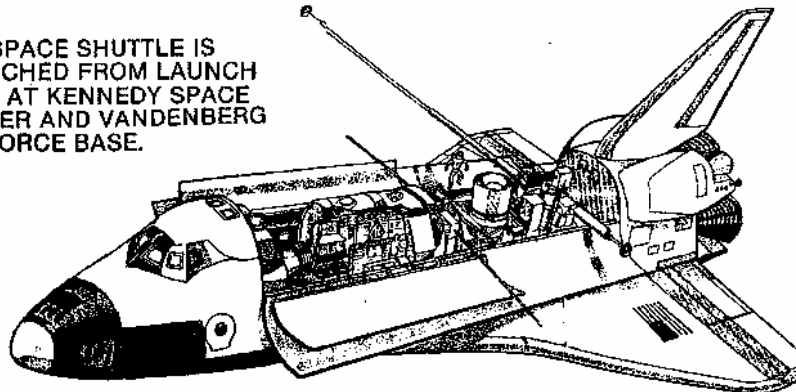


⑤
REENTRY

THE SPACE SHUTTLE IS LAUNCHED FROM LAUNCH PADS AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER AND VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE.



①
LAUNCH



⑥
LANDING

AFTER REENTRY THE ORBITER IS FLOWN LIKE A GLIDER AND LANDED ON A RUNWAY LIKE AN AIRLINER.