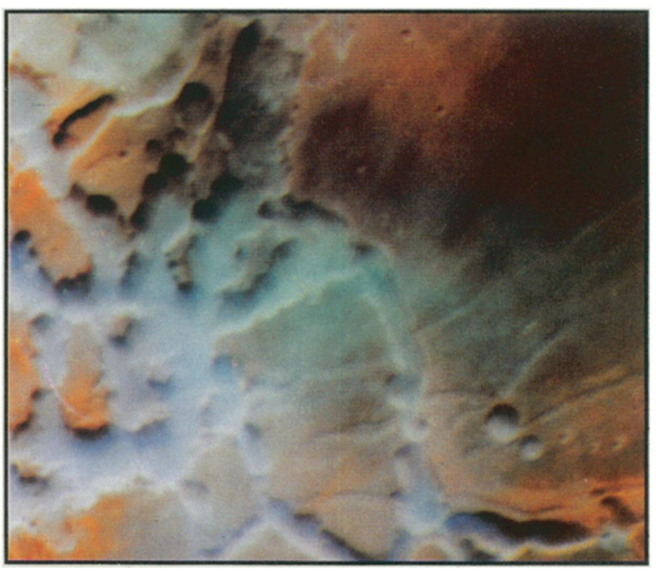
Mars Album 5



Blue sunset in the rosy Martian sky reverses the terrestrial color scheme in this photo by Viking lander 1 (above). The nearly concentric isophots, or lines of constant brightness, are due to the digital photo-reconstruction process and will be removed by computer processing. The repeated blue-to-red color change within each isophot is due to the camera's different sensitivity to different colors and will probably be refined to a smooth blue-to-red shift away from the sun, which is about 4° below the horizon. Diffuse morning clouds seen by orbiter 1 in the canyons of Noctis Labyrinthus (right) show their true but highly computer-exaggerated hues. The clouds, which would probably appear white to the eye, are believed due to water condensed on shaded slopes the previous afternoon and vaporized in the sun's morning heat. Panoramic view from lander 2 (below) spans nearly 200°, although current studies suggest that the actual color may be more brownish.