

SPACEPORT



NEWS

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Kennedy Space Center, Florida

January 28, 1971

1971 Spaceport News Summary

Followup From the 1970 Spaceport News Summary

Of note, the 1963, 1964 and 1965 Spaceport News were issued weekly. Starting with the July 7, 1966, issue, the Spaceport News went to an every two week format. The Spaceport News kept the two week format until the last issue on February 24, 2014. Spaceport Magazine superseded the Spaceport News in April 2014. Spaceport Magazine was a monthly issue, until the last and final issue, Jan./Feb. 2020. The Spaceport News issues from 1963 through 1995 are not currently available online.

The first issue of Spaceport News was December 13, 1962. The two 1962 issues and the issues from 1996 forward are at [this website](#), including Spaceport Magazine.

In this Summary, black font is original Spaceport News text, blue font is something I or someone else provided and purple font is a hot link.

All links were working at the time I completed this Spaceport News Summary.

Following up from the 1970 Spaceport News Summary, Al Sofge previously provided some clarification about models being in Jim Hazelton's office. Mike Leinbach provided some more information about Jim Hazelton, as follows:

"Al is exactly right about the airplanes hanging in Jim Hazelton's office. He was an avid fan of flying and driving fast. He also had classic car models on his bookcases. The last time I saw Haze was in our small conference room on the 4th floor of the LCC. We were discussing the manifest and he had a low potassium crisis. I hugged him until the medics arrived and took him to Jess Parrish. He had difficulty stabilizing over the next couple of months and never returned to work.

He so loved the space program that he asked that his ashes be spread in the ocean, between Pads A and B. One day his wife Janice, Mark Borsi (NASA Security Ops Chief) and I fulfilled Haze's wish.

It was a beautiful morning and perfect end to a life fully dedicated to America's space programs. Haze was an exceptional man.

Mike"

Thanks a bunch Mike!!!!

Another followup from the 1970 Spaceport News Summary, there was a question in the Summary, posed about the whereabouts of the Apollo 13 arm rest, from the May 7, 1970, Spaceport News article, stating "...The crew presented KSC with a souvenir from Aquarius, the lunar module. "Just before we left Aquarius we removed an article as a memento," said Lovell; presenting a mounted LM arm rest to Ross. Inscribed on the arm rest plaque is this message: "A part of Aquarius, LM-7, returned to KSC personnel in appreciation for a job well done from the Apollo 13 crew." Ross accepted the arm rest on behalf of the center and told the crew it would be put in a place of honor..."

Well, I did a little digging and found the following photo, of what I believe to be the subject arm rest, located at the Cradle of Aviation Museum in East Garden City, NY.



The plaque reads:

A PART OF ACQUARIUS, LM-7
RETURNED TO KSC PERSONNEL
IN APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE
FROM THE APOLLO 13 CREW
JAMES A. LOVELL, JOHN L. SWIGERT, FRED W. HAISE

I also found [this YouTube video](#), dated March 2020, with Fred Haise talking about the armrest, while at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. **How the arm rest got to the Museum is another question.**

Not directly related to the Spaceport News Summary, Steve Minute and Tim Wilson sent me some neat photos, circa 1965, via Mike Smiles. Mike's email stated "My wife came across these photos from 1965 from her father who was in the Air Force at the time." A couple of the photos are on the next page.

The one photo shows the three Apollo MLs, and the other photo shows the VAB and LCC under construction. In the three MLs photo, if you are in to vintage vehicles and with some assistance from Alan Alemany, there is a 1965 light blue Mustang on the right, a 1957 GMC truck on the left and what looks like a dark MG sports car in between.

Thank you Steve Minute, Tim Wilson, Mike Smiles and Alan Alemany!!!!





From The January 14, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Apollo Countdown Test Is Underway**". A portion of the article reads "The Apollo 14 Countdown Demonstration Test, designed to check all space vehicle systems and bring the astronauts into the loop, is now underway at KSC... On January 19, the prime crew – Commander Alan Shepard, Command Module Pilot Stuart Roosa and Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell – will come aboard much as on launch day and participate in the CDDT's "dry" portion, checking spacecraft systems and communications links...".

On page 3, "**Barbara Fox Has Panoramic View of Launch Activities**". In part, the article reads "If the best possible view of Apollo launches and involvement in the preparation and launch of Apollo space vehicles are fascinating attributes to a position, Barbara Fox's must be one of the most glamorous jobs at KSC. The New Jersey native is secretary to Chief Test Supervisor, Donald E. Phillips in the Complex 39 Launch Control Center. Her fourth floor office, one of the few with windows in the entire building, offers a view encompassing the crawlerway, both of the launch pads and a broad expanse of Atlantic Ocean shore...".

Busy all of the time, with responsibility for answering a call director with nine lines, scheduling all operational meetings in Firing Room 4 and a fourth floor conference room, typing and other secretarial duties, Barbara's working day is full. "She is a backup supervisor," said Phillips in discussing Barbara's role in the operation. "During

countdown she knows how to quickly reach each of us and what we are doing at every moment, and she uses excellent judgement in putting through essential calls and referring others to some lesser occupied recipient."...

After joining KSC in 1965, Barbara was assigned as a secretary in the Complex 39 Site Activation Group, transferring to her present position in 1968 when the group was dissolved as the complex became operational..."



BARBARA FOX

[On page 6.](#)



"DR. GEORGE E. MUELLER, Senior Vice President, General Dynamics Corp., right, Frank W. Davis, second from left, President, Convair Aerospace Division of General Dynamics, discuss upcoming mission with Astronaut John Young, second from right, during a tour of KSC and Cape Kennedy. Earlier, Dr. Mueller, Davis and Jim Robertson, left, local General Dynamics-Convair representative, met with Dr. Kurt H. Debus, KSC Director."

From The January 28, 1971, Spaceport News

The headline is **“Apollo 14 Final Countdown Coming Up, Leading to Launch at 3:23 P.M. Sunday, KSC Team Responsible For Liftoff”**. Part of the article reads “The KSC launch team under the overall direction of Center Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus, begins the final countdown for Apollo 14 at 1 a.m. Saturday, leading to launch at 3:23 p.m. Sunday. Launch Director for Apollo 14 is Walter J. Kapryan, while Dr. Robert H. Gray serves as Deputy and Paul J. Donnelly as Associate Director and Launch Operations Manager...

Some 215,330 gallons of RP-1 fuel have already been loaded aboard the Saturn V first stage, and some 348,343 gallons of liquid oxygen will be pumped into this stage before the astronauts enter the spacecraft at T-2 hours, 40 minutes. Also, 88,215 gallons of liquid oxygen and 272,340 gallons of liquid hydrogen will be placed in the second stage and 20,228 gallons of liquid oxygen and 64,145 gallons of liquid hydrogen in the third stage, for an overall launch vehicle total of 1,008,611 gallons.

The mobile service structure will be moved back to its park site from Pad A, beginning shortly before a 9-hour, 23 minute built in hold at 8 p.m. on Saturday...”.

On page 6, **“KSC Government-Industry Team Puts It All Together”**. In part, the article states “When Apollo 14 lifts off for the Moon from Launch Complex 39 January 31, the 15,000 members of NASA's Government-industry launch team will have completed months of painstaking preparation. Most of them have been involved with the 363-foot tall Apollo/Saturn V space vehicle during its inspection, assembly and testing at the Center...”. The article goes on to list positions and names in the test conductor rows, in the front of Firing Room 2 and also states “...Close to 400 additional operating personnel are assigned to Firing Room 2 for the countdown...”.

Associated photos with the article are below.



“KEY KSC personnel go over Apollo 14 countdown procedures in Firing Room 2 in the Launch Control Center. From right are Eugene Sestile, Launch Vehicle Test Conductor;

Paul Donnelly, Launch Operations Manager; James Pugh, back-up Launch Vehicle Test Conductor; Chuck Henschel, Apollo 14 Test Supervisor; and Don Phillips, Chief Test Supervisor.”



“TWO SPACECRAFT test conductors keep track of countdown activities at their consoles in ACE Control Rooms in the MSO Building. At left is Fritz Widick, Chief Lunar Module Test Conductor and at right is Bob Reed, a test conductor working under Skip Chauvin, Chief Test Conductor for the Command Service Module.”

From The February 11, 1970, Spaceport News

From page 1, “**Apollo 14 Mission Is Successful From KSC Launch Through Splashdown**”. A portion of the article reads “Following a flawless launch from Complex 39’s Pad A, the Apollo 14 astronauts continued on to the Fra Mauro region of the Moon to accomplish a highly successful scientific and technical mission. Splashdown occurred in the Pacific Ocean some 900 miles south of Samoa shortly after 4 p.m. Tuesday.

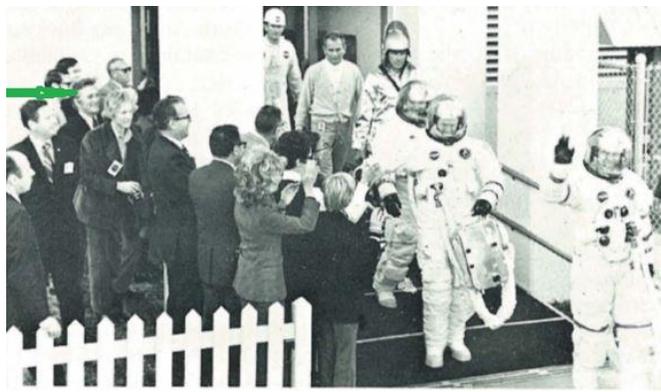
The Apollo 14 crew — Commander Alan Shepard, Command Module Pilot Stuart Roosa and Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell — was placed in quarantine and flown back to the Manned Spacecraft Center... During a post-launch conference, Launch Director Walter J. Kapryan said the liftoff “went in a very nominal fashion. We had no major problems of any nature to report.” Mother Nature wasn’t too cooperative on launch day, however, and her clouds and showers caused a 40-minute delay from the planned time of 3:23 p.m. on January 31...”.

On page 2.



“MRS. KURT H. DEBUS, wife of the KSC Center Director, center left, and Mrs. George Low, wife of the Acting NASA Administrator, center right, observe activities at the Viewing Site prior to the launch of Apollo 14. At lower left is Actor Cary Grant.”

On page 5.



On the left, “ENJOYING THE pre-launch breakfast are, left to right around the table, Edgar Mitchell, Tom Stafford, Stuart Roosa, Alan Shepard, Donald K. Slayton, Joe Engle and Ron Evans”. On the right, “MEMBERS OF the astronauts' families and actor Kirk Douglas bid them farewell as they depart the MSO Building for Pad A.” Kirk Douglas is highlighted with the green arrow. Of note, there is a fireman right behind the astronauts; in case of a fire with the portable oxygen breathing units the astronauts are carrying. Thank you Pete Chitko!

On page 3.



“FIRING ROOM 2 AT T-28 SECONDS”



“...AND AFTER LIFTOFF”

Notice the status board with the green arrows, and different milestones lit up on the board at the noted times. One of these status boards is recreated at the Apollo/Saturn V Center; the below photo being cropped from the subject website, showing the status board on the left. Also note the people in the Firing Room standing up in the right photo; looking east out the windows of the Firing Room, a normal occurrence after launches in the LCC



On page 6, **Buddy Air System Adapted for Moon**. In part, the article reads “a tank of compressed air on the way back to the surface is a standard emergency procedure among Scuba divers... It’s called, logically, the “buddy system.” Now the buddy system approach has been adapted to Moonwalks through the use of connecting lines that could feed cooling water from an astronaut’s backpack life support system to the space suit worn by his companion... Called the Buddy Secondary Life Support System (BSLSS), the life-sustaining pair of flexible hoses was provided for the first time in Apollo 14...”.

From The February 25, 1971, Spaceport News

The headline is, "**Apollo 14 Mission Goals Accomplished**". In part, the article reads "Apollo 14 Mission Director Chet Lee said that space vehicle prelaunch operations at KSC were nominal and that initial review indicates that all primary mission objectives were accomplished...".

On page 5.



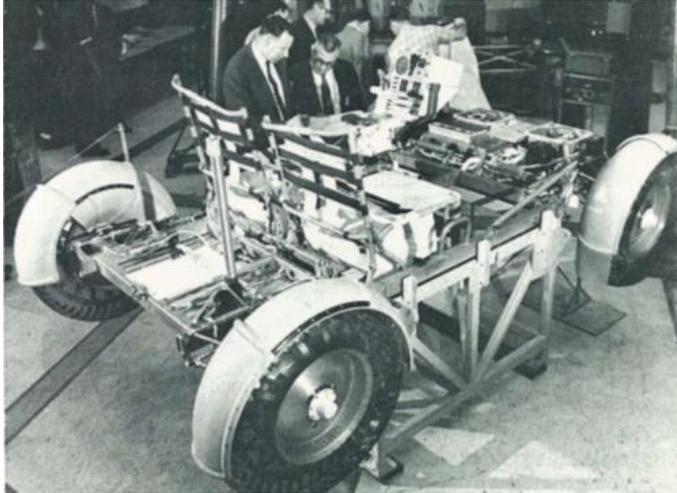
On the left, "ONBOARD USS NEW ORLEANS". On the right, "ROOSA, SHEPARD, MITCHELL".

From The March 11, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 3, "**Lunar Roving Vehicle Due Here March 15**". Part of the article reads "The first flight version of the lunar roving vehicle (LRV), which will be transported to the Moon's surface on the Apollo 15 mission, is scheduled for delivery to KSC on March 15... Three flight vehicles, seven test and training units, spare components and related equipment are being built at Boeing's Kent Space Center near Seattle...

The LRV will be able to make several sorties up to a cumulative distance of 40 miles (65 kilometers). Because of the limitations of the astronaut's portable life support systems, however, the vehicle's range will be restricted to a radius of about three miles (five kilometers) from the lunar module. From this distance the astronauts can walk back to the Lunar Module in an emergency...

The LRV will be delivered to the moon in the "cargo section" (descent stage) of the lunar module. The LRV will be folded and stowed in the stage's quadrant number one...".



“THIS LUNAR roving vehicle qualification unit is built exactly like the three flight vehicles that will arrive soon at KSC. The flight units will be used to transport astronauts over the Moon's surface during Apollo missions 15, 16 and 17.”

On page 4, **“Skylab Rescue Plan Calls For Quick Launch Capability”**. A portion of the article states “NASA has devised a plan to provide a ground-based rescue capability for Skylab, utilizing in-line flow of basic Skylab hardware at KSC to cover the most probable causes of failures. Under the plan, should a command - service module (CSM) which is docked with the Skylab cluster become disabled, a second CSM with rescue capability could be launched to return the three-man crew, which would otherwise be stranded.

One of the key elements to the plan is a modification kit approach for the CSM which converts a Skylab CSM into a rescue CSM by removing stowage lockers and substituting two additional crew couches in their place, for a total of five couches. The rescue CSM would be launched with two crew members and' returned with five...”.

On page 5, **“Apollo 16 Crew Selected”**. Part of the article reads “NASA has selected veteran space pilot John Young to command the Apollo 16 mission, scheduled for launch from Pad A in March, 1972. Prime crewmen selected to fly with Young are Thomas Mattingly, Command Module Pilot, and Charles Duke, Jr., Lunar Module Pilot. Backup crewmen are Commander Fred Haise, Jr., Command Module Pilot Stuart Roosa and Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell...”

Apollo 16 mission duration will be approximately 12 days. Young and Duke will have three extravehicular activity periods. They will use a lunar roving vehicle...”.

From The March 25, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Space Future Good, Says Apollo 14 Crew**”. In part, the article reads “The Apollo 14 astronauts returned to the point of their departure January 31 and assured the KSC Government-Industry Team that the Space Program is on the upswing. Commander Alan Shepard, Command Module Pilot Stuart Roosa and Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell were welcomed by Center Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus and greeted enthusiastically during appearances at the MSO Building and the VAB...

Launch Director Walter J. Kapryan presented each of the crewmen a framed color photograph of the liftoff. During a luncheon in the MSO Building Mission Briefing Room, the three astronauts gave a running commentary as a 20 minute film on their mission was shown...”.

On page 8.



“DR. DEBUS RECEIVES a memento from the crew for all personnel at the Spaceport. Enclosed in the frame is a photograph of Shepard implanting the U.S. Flag in lunar soil and an Apollo 14 patch that made the round trip to the Moon. At right is the Apollo 14 plaque that will be placed in the lobby of the Launch Control Center.”



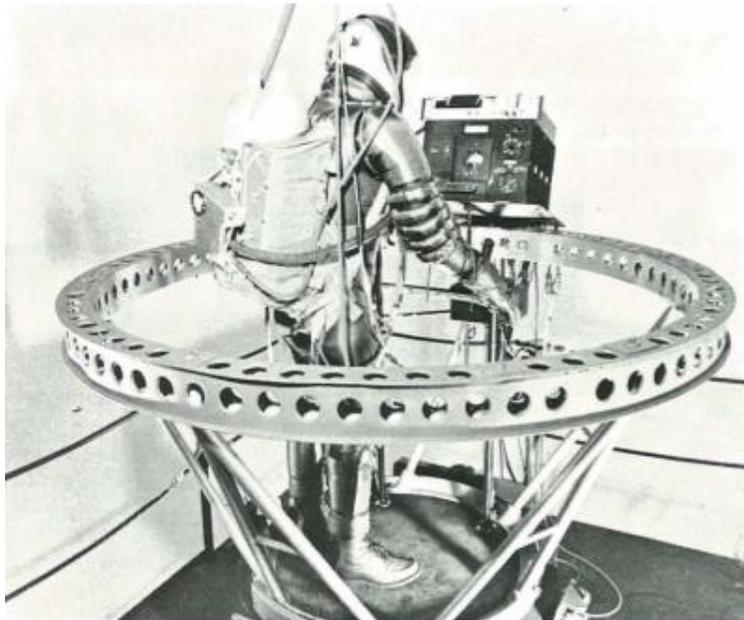
On the left, “ROOSA, MITCHELL AND SHEPARD sign autographs for employees who witnessed their return to the VAB, the place where their space vehicle was assembled for the historic lunar landing mission”. On the right, “SOME 5,000 employees at KSC came to the VAB to greet the Apollo 14 astronauts on their return to the Spaceport. The crew expressed thanks for the work here that led to their successful mission.”

On page 1.



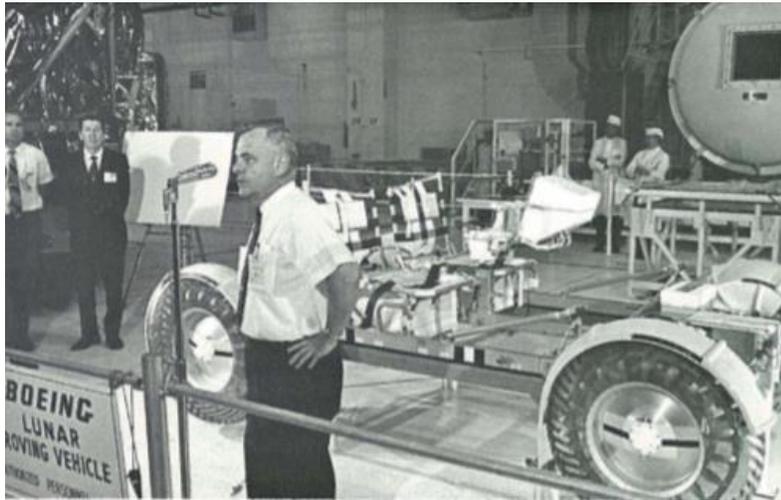
“THE APPOINTMENT of Dr. James C. Fletcher, President of the University of Utah, by President Nixon as Administrator of NASA has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Before becoming a university president in 1964, he served in dual capacities as Chairman of the Board of Space General Corporation and Systems Vice President of Aerojet General Corporation.”

On page 3; this is really interesting!



“THIS PILOT is testing a simplified lunar escape system simulator (LESS) inside a 40-foot diameter sphere at the Langley Research Center. During the simulated flight, the pilot flew the LESS vertically for about four minutes to attain 1,290 feet per second vertical velocity and then pitched over 90 degrees to fly horizontally until simulated orbital speed was attained at a height of 60 nautical miles. At that altitude the pilot could be rescued by a command spacecraft for safe return to the Earth.”

On page 5, "**KSC Lunar Roving Vehicle Press Briefing**". A series of photos are included, one of which is below.



"LAUNCH DIRECTOR KAPRYAN WELCOMES PRESS"

From The April 8, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Pace Steps Up On Apollo 15**". The article reads "The pace of the Apollo 15 launch preparations schedule stepped up this week as the flight crews and KSC launch team participated in daily manned altitude tests in the vacuum chambers of the MSO Building. The schedule called for manned runs in the lunar module (LM) on Tuesday and Wednesday, followed by altitude tests of the command-service module (CSM) today and tomorrow.

Apollo 15 commander David Scott and LM Pilot James Irwin participated in Tuesday's daylong test in the LM and were scheduled to be joined by Command Module Pilot Alfred Worden in today's altitude verification test of the CSM. Backup Commander Richard Gordon and Lunar Module Pilot Harrison Schmitt planned to test the LM on Wednesday and the CSM tomorrow with backup Command Module Pilot Vance Brand."

On page 2, "**Buckley Saves Race Driver**". The article states "Charles L. Buckley, Jr., Chief of KSC's Security Office, attended the 12-hour Sebring auto race as a spectator and came away as a hero. Buckley was watching the race from the inside of turn No. 6 when the brakes went out on race driver Greg Young's Ferrari 512M.

The car swerved around the curve and up an embankment, flipping over and trapping the driver. An assigned rescue team in the area immediately began to turn the car over. Buckley then saw the driver was helpless in his cockpit, and pulled him out as soon as the car was raised enough. Shortly after Buckley pulled Young away from the car, the

gas tank exploded and the Ferrari crashed back to its overturned position. Sebring Race Vice President Reginald Smith said Buckley's role in the rescue was being acknowledged in the National Speed Sports News and in the official Sebring Race Report along with the rescue team.”



“CHARLES L. BUCKLEY”

On page 7, “**GSA Cars at Spaceport Using No-Lead Gas to Fight Pollution**”. Part of the article reads “George Grove, Chief of GSA Operations at KSC, said that all GSA vehicles here began burning no-lead gasoline April 1 to aid in the battle against air pollution... More than one million gallons of the no-lead gasoline will will be purchased for GSA vehicles at KSC this year, he said...”.

Providing some more detail on the subject, the following is from a 2003 discussion paper: “...The reduction in lead in gasoline in the United States came in response to two main factors: (1) the mandatory use of unleaded gasoline to protect catalytic converters in all cars starting with the 1975 model year; and (2) increased awareness of the negative human health effects of lead, leading to the phasedown of lead in leaded gasoline in the 1980s...”.

From the May 6, 1971, Spaceport News

The headline is “**Shepard is Honored at 5-6 Dedication, 10th Anniversary of First American in Space Marked**”. Part of the article reads “A bronze profile of Alan Shepard was unveiled at Complex 5-6 on Cape Kennedy by two Mrs. Shepards – his wife and mother – during dedication ceremonies May 5 on the 10th Anniversary of America’s first launch of man into space. Introduced by KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus, who served as Master of Ceremony, Shepard commented the many people who made possible the first manned flight and the 10 ensuing years of manned flight activities... Shepard said he was tremendously optimistic about the future of the space program...”

Following the speaking, a tape was played back of the final few minutes preceeding the launch of Freedom 7. Those heard on the tape were Shepard, Slayton, Associate Launch Operations Director Paul Donnelly and Launch Operations Planning Chief Robert Moser...”.

Photos in the issue.



“ASTRONAUT ALAN B. SHEPARD, JR., first American in space, addresses a crowd of some 3,000 gathered at dedication ceremonies of Complex 5-6, launch site 10 years ago of Mercury-Redstone 3. Shepard’s Freedom 7 mission marked the beginning of the U.S. manned flight program, which succeeded in placing men on the Moon before the decade was out. Seated on the front row are, left to right, Dr. Abe Silverstein, Gen. David Jones, Dr. Robert Gilruth, Dr. Kurt H. Debus, Dale Myers and U.S. Rep. Olin Teague.”



“THE TWO Mrs. Shepards - Mrs. Alan B. Shepard, Jr., left, and Mrs. Alan B. Shepard, Sr. - unveil a bronze profile of the first American in space on the 10th Anniversary of the flight of Freedom 7.”

The plaque states:

“ALAN B. SHEPARD, JR.

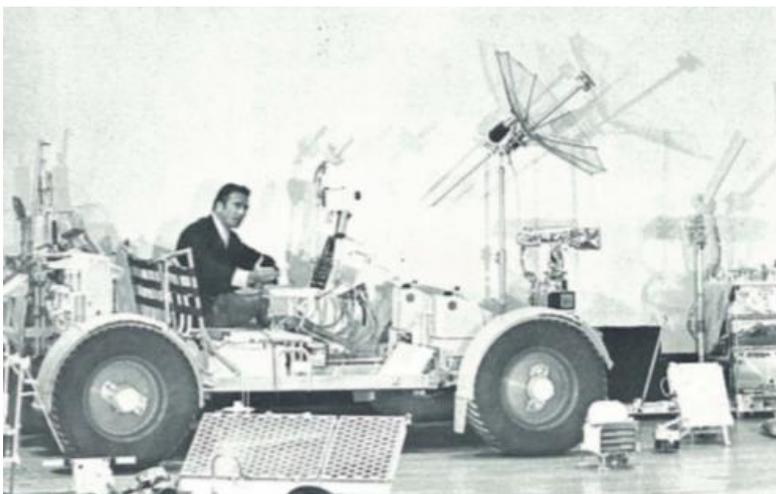
THE FIRST AMERICAN TO PENETRATE OUTER SPACE
BEGAN HIS FLIGHT FROM THIS LAUNCH COMPLEX IN
FREEDOM 7 OF MERCURY REDSTONE NO. 3 AT
9:34 A.M. MAY 5, 1961

FROM THIS BEGINNING, MAN REACHED THE MOON
JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION”

The plaque is currently displayed on the outside of the Launch Complex 5-6 blockhouse; see below photo taken a few years back, with the plaque to the left of the blockhouse doors.



On page 5, “**Press Briefed on Apollo 15 Mission at KSC**”. Several photos comprise this article, a couple of which follow.



‘IRWIN generally explained the operation of the Lunar Roving Vehicle and the Apollo Lunar Surface Experiments Package.’



“COMMANDER David Scott, right, and Irwin depart the Flight Crew Training Building for the nearby lunar surface training area in the I-G rover trainer... SCOTT AND IRWIN tell the press that learning to drive the rover was easy and that they expect good results from it on the Moon. Several newsmen were then permitted to ride and drive the rover.”

From The May 20, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Apollo 15 Checkout Switches to Pad A**”. A portion of the article reads “The KSC launch organization is proceeding with a thorough checkout of the Apollo 15 space vehicle following rollout from the VAB to Pad A on May 11. Apollo 15 Test Supervisor Jim Harrington said both the command-service and lunar modules were undergoing integrated systems tests... the Apollo 15 crew—Commander David Scott, Command Module (CM) Pilot Alfred Worden and Lunar Module (LM) Pilot James Irwin – continue training at KSC, working in the simulators and with the 1-G lunar roving vehicle (LRV) trainer... Apollo 15 is scheduled for launch on July 26 at 9:34 a.m.”



“APOLLO 15 astronauts - Commander David Scott, right, Command Module Pilot Alfred Worden, center, and Lunar Module Pilot James Irwin, left - display the emblem for their mission as the space vehicle begins its rollout from the 525-foot-tall VAB.”

On page 5, **“Renovated VIC Is Ready For Big Summer Influx”**. Part of the article reads “An estimated half-million persons are expected to visit the Spaceport's recently enlarged Visitor Information Center this summer, and the four-millionth NASA Tours patron will be recorded sometime next month... The VIC's two theater areas, which house the lecture and film programs, have been enlarged...

The enlarged VIC, which was opened to the public this past Easter, contains an air conditioned portico which provides an additional 11,000 square feet of exhibit space... Other exhibits in the spacious portico include an Apollo 11 moon rock, full-scale Mercury, Gemini and Apollo spacecraft, and a 1/10th scale Apollo/Saturn V space vehicle...”.



“VISITORS INSPECT the Apollo/Saturn V space vehicle model in the area of the Visitor Information Center renovated to accommodate larger crowds in air conditioned comfort.”

I believe the above model is the same one currently on display at the Apollo/Saturn V Center; see below photo.



From The June 17, 1971, Spaceport News

The headline is "**Apollo 15 LRR Scheduled June 21**". A portion of the article reads "The Launch Readiness Review which explores the status of KSC preparations for Apollo 15 will be conducted in the Mission Briefing Room of the MSOB June 21..."

Completion of the Flight Readiness Test, which began Monday, is a major milestone leading to the Launch Readiness Review. The FRT was delayed on Monday due to ground support equipment problems resulting from an electrical storm in the area. The test was to be completed on Wednesday...

This is interesting! Apollo Mission Director Chester M. Lee "...outlined EVA plans for Scott and Irwin..." "They have practiced sleeping in the LM at the Cape with tapes giving the valve noises and everything, just to get used to it. "They will take their suits off and sleep in coveralls. This means, of course, putting the suits on before they do the EVA. They have practiced this and, although the LM is tight quarters, they do it quite well. The period required for putting on a suit is about 15 or 20 minutes..."

On page 3, "**Corps Facility Will Close**". The article states "A deactivation ceremony will be conducted by the Corps of Engineers June 30 at the LC 39 Engineers facility. The Canaveral District, which was involved with the construction of major KSC facilities, is being phased out. Corps of Engineers functions in this vicinity will hereafter be administered by the Mobile, Ala., District."

On page 8, "**NASA-O'Brian Seminar At KSC This Week**". In part, the article reads "Seventy-one young men from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and ten foreign nations are receiving a firsthand look at America's space program this week during a seminar at the Kennedy Space Center. The seminar is sponsored by the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of Student Councils and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration..."

Former Vice President Hubert Humphrey was the guest speaker at the opening session on Monday... The youngsters, who range in age between 15-16 years old, are high school sophomores and juniors who were chosen from nearly two million boys representing 10,000 schools... The seminar opened Monday with an in-depth briefing at the crawler-transporter... On Friday, Spaceport officials briefed the participants on future activities, including the Skylab and Space Shuttle programs... The boys are housed at Patrick Air Force Base...". The article mentions other sites visited, including the Launch Control Center, the LC39 launch pads, the Flight Crew Training Building and former launch sites at Cape Kennedy.



“PARTICIPANTS IN THE NASA-HUGH O'BRIAN Youth Foundation Seminar, underway at the Kennedy Space Center this week, are photographed beside the crawler-transporter at Complex 39.”

From The July 1, 1971, Spaceport News

In this issue, the headline is “**Apollo Geared for 2 Big Milestones**”. In part, the article reads “Apollo 15 launch operations move into the final three and one-half weeks with two major milestones to be accomplished before the lengthy countdown begins. The fourth manned lunar landing mission... remains on schedule for 9:34 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, July 26... Propellant loading of the spacecraft modules and auxiliary propulsion system of the Saturn V third stage was scheduled to start late Tuesday night and continue through the weekend...”

The second milestone – the Countdown Demonstration Test is the final “dress rehearsal” for the launch count. The CDDT is scheduled to begin July 7, aiming for a T-0 on the “wet” portion at 9:34 A.M. on July 13. The Apollo 15 crew will participate in a final countdown on a “dry” portion of the test on July 14...”.



“SCOTT, WORDEN, IRWIN”

On page 5, "**Lightning Units Review Called**". The article states "The KSC Design Engineering Directorate, with support from the Launch Operations and Technical Support Directorates, has been directed by Center Director Dr. Kurt Debus to review the lightning protection systems for the mobile launchers and mobile service structure. This action followed incidents which occurred June 14 and 15 when lightning struck the launcher at Launch Complex 39 which resulted in only minor equipment damage."

On page 7, "**2 Astronauts Reassigned**". A portion of the article reads "Two veteran astronauts have received key assignments within the Manned Spacecraft Center's Flight Crew Operations Directorate. Col. Thomas P. Stafford, USAF, has been named Deputy Director, and Capt. Alan B. Shepard, USN, will resume his previous duties as Chief of the Astronaut Office."

In addition to taking part in overall management of the Directorate, Col. Stafford will assist the Director of Flight Crew Operations, Donald K. Slayton, with a broad range of technical matters relating to flight crew activities. The Deputy Director's position has been vacant.

Col. Stafford has been an astronaut since 1962. He was pilot of Gemini VI in December 1965, command pilot of Gemini IX in June 1966, and commander of Apollo 10, which orbited the Moon in May 1969. He succeeded Capt. Shepard as Chief of the Astronaut Office in August 1969. Capt. Shepard returns to an assignment he held for several years prior to commanding the recent Apollo 14 lunar landing mission. One of the original seven astronauts selected in 1959, he flew the United States' first manned space flight in May 1961. The Navy has selected Capt. Shepard for promotion to Rear Admiral...".

From The July 15, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Apollo 15 Aiming Toward Liftoff To Moon July 26**". Part of the article reads "Apollo 15, the tenth Apollo Saturn V space vehicle launched under the direction of KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus, is proceeding toward launch at 9:34 A.M. July 26 from Pad A, Launch Complex 39... Apollo 15 Commander David Scott, Command Module Pilot Alfred Worden and Lunar Module Pilot James Irwin will enter the spacecraft at about 6:54 A.M. following breakfast in the MSO Building... The actual countdown is set to start July 20, with the final countdown scheduled to begin at T-28 hours...".

On page 2.



“ASTRONAUT JOHN YOUNG, Commander for the Apollo 16 mission, receives an "I Like Lompoc" lapel pin from Mayor Art Scott, right, during an appearance at the 19th Annual Lompoc Flower Festival in California. Joseph B. Schwartz, left, Deputy Manager for KSC's Western Test Range Operations Division, looks on as co-host. Approximately 80,000 people lined the streets during the parade and Young was keynote speaker at the Festival luncheon.”

On page 6, “**Apollo 4 Returned to Spaceport**”. Part of the article states “The Apollo 4 command module has returned to KSC nearly four years after it was launched into Earth Orbit on the first unmanned test flight of an Apollo/ Saturn V space vehicle... The spacecraft is displayed in the Vehicle Assembly Building transfer aisle, visible to the glass enclosed NASA Tours visitor area. The command module will be carried on a float in the Moonwalk Festival Parade July 24, and will join other space exhibits at the Visitor Information Center in September. It is on loan from the Smithsonian Institution...”.

The Apollo 4 command module is currently located at the Infinity Science Center in Mississippi, just outside Stennis Space Center; [collectSPACE](#) has a good read about the Apollo 4 capsule. The following photo of the Apollo 4 command module, at the Infinity Science Center, is from [A Field Guide to American Spacecraft](#).



From the July 29, 1971, Spaceport News

The headline is “**KSC Launches Apollo 15 on True Trajectory for Lunar Science Mission**”. In part, the article reads “As we watch the S-IVB drift away here, how about passing along to Jim Harrington at the Cape congratulations from the crew to the launch team for a superior job. Smooth all the way and right on time. This statement from Apollo 14 Commander David Scott summed up the launch activities at KSC... Overall space vehicle operations were controlled from Firing Room No. 1 in the Launch Control Center. The spacecraft countdown was run from an ACE control room in the MSO Building...”

Walt Kapryan summed up the launch activities at the post-launch briefing: “It was the most nominal countdown that we have ever had, and I do not have a single problem to report...”.



“NASA ADMINISTRATOR Dr. James C. Fletcher, left, and members of the KSC launch team watch Apollo 15 space vehicle rise slowly into the air. At right with hand raised is Launch Operations Manager Paul Donnelly, and left of him are Chief Test Supervisor Don Phillips, Apollo 15 Test Supervisor Jim Harrington and Test Conductors Jim Pugh, Norm Carlson and Gene Sestile.”

[On page 4.](#)



“SHOWN EATING the traditional astronaut breakfast prior to launch are, left to right, Worden, Scott, Flight Crew Training Chief Donald K. Slayton and Backup Lunar Module Pilot Harrison Schmitt.”



“SCOTT, IRWIN AND WORDEN walk down a hallway of the MSO Building enroute to the van that carried them to Pad A, Launch Complex 39.”

From The August 12, 1971 Spaceport News

The headline is “**Apollo 15 Back on Earth**”. In part, the article reads “As I stand out here on the wonders of the unknown at Hadley, I sort of realize there’s a fundamental truth to our nature. Man must explore. And this is exploring at its greatest.” This eloquent statement by Apollo 15 Commander David R. Scott was made a few brief minutes after he descended to the Moon’s eerily beautiful Plain of Hadley from the lunar module Falcon and it captured perfectly the spirit of man’s most successful mission to the Moon.

Apollo 15 began at 9:34 a.m. July 26 with a flawless launch of the Apollo 15 launch space vehicle... It ended 295 hours, 11 minutes and 53 seconds later... in the calm, almost glassy, Pacific Ocean 316 miles north of Oahu at 4:45 p.m. ETD on August 7...”



“APOLLO 15 Commander David Scott, Lunar Module Pilot James Irwin and Command Module Pilot Alfred Worden appear happy to be back on the Good Earth after a highly successful 12-day lunar science mission.”

In the previous photo, notice the astronauts are not wearing masks or special suits. Apollo 15, 16 and 17 did not implement the several week post mission quarantine as did Apollo 11, 12 and 14. On the subject, a 2019 Space News article states "...after Apollo 14, NASA decided that Earth was safe from lunar bugs...".

On page 5.



"CREW GREETED ABOARD USS OKINAWA"

In the above photo, in the background, LPH on the banner stands for Landing Platform Helicopter. According to [Wikipedia](#), "...Okinawa was decommissioned and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 17 December 1992. She was transferred... and laid up in the National Defense Reserve Fleet, in Suisun Bay, Benicia, California... and ...was sunk as a target...on 6 June 2002, off the coast of Southern California, in 2,020 fathoms (3,700 m)...", or roughly 12,000 feet.

On page 3, "**Apollo 15's Saturn V Generates Most Power**". Part of the article reads "The preliminary evaluation of data indicates that the Saturn V rocket used to launch the Apollo 15 spacecraft was the most powerful rocket launched to date, reports the Marshall Space Flight Center. Thrust at liftoff was pegged at 7,840,000 pounds, and the nearest any other booster came to this level was the one that launched Apollo 8 with a thrust of 7,726,936 pounds. All others have been in the 7.5 million pound range...".

On page 7, "**Barfus Key Coordinator In Apollo Support**". A portion of the article reads "The decision to move the mobile service structure from the side of Apollo 15 at Launch Complex 39 later than had been originally planned was announced on the morning of July 23 by Launch Director Walter J. Kapryan at a meeting with key launch personnel. The man to generate and coordinate the many functions necessary to such a decision was Joe Barfus, Apollo 15 Test Support Controller. Barfus did just that.

Kapryan had desired the service structure to remain adjacent to Apollo 15 for as long as possible prior to the launch for protection against lightning. Lightning bolts had struck

the structure on June 14, 15, and 25 and on July 2, 19, 21, and 23, the last date only three days before launch. KSC engineers had designed that any lightning strike in the vicinity of Apollo 15 would hit the service structure rather than the vehicle. It worked out that way... The mobile service structure originally had been scheduled for removal from Pad A to its parking area about two miles away during the early morning of July 23. Instead, it was moved during the night before the July 26 launch...

As Test Support Controller, Barfus is the point of contact between the test supervisor, who represents the Director of Launch Operations, and all technical and installation support personnel on an Apollo launch... A graduate of Lehigh University, Barfus holds a B.S. degree in mining engineering. Before joining NASA, he was employed by private industry. His first aerospace employment was with Chrysler Corporation's Space Division at Launch Complex 34...".



"JOE BARFUS"

From The August 26, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Spaceport Now Aiming To Apollo 16 Launch**". In part, this article reads "Preparations for the launch of Apollo 16—scheduled March 17, 1972—are underway. Work on two launch vehicle stages and all major spacecraft elements, already at KSC, is now in process. The Saturn V third stage arrived July 1, 1970, and the second stage September 1, 1970. Both were stored in the VAB... With the arrival of the Saturn V first stage—scheduled on the Poseiden on September 1—and the instrument unit on September 29, all major space vehicle components will be in preparation here...

Apollo Lead Test Supervisor is Gordon Turner, who has worked as a test supervisor on every Moon launch. He is assisted by Test Supervisors Charles Henschel, Arthur Franklin, Ronald Bennti, Richard Thornburg, William Schick and Karl Striby. Eugene Sestile is the Lead Launch Vehicle Test Conductor, assisted by LV Test Conductors

James Pugh and John Copeland... Roy Tharpe, Technical Support Test Support Management, is the Support Controller, assisted by French Johnson, Support Operations; Jo Ann Morgan, Information Systems; and Bobby McMillan, Installation Support...”.

On page 8, **“Cernan, Evans and Schmitt Picked as Apollo 17 Crew”**. A portion of the article reads “NASA has named astronauts Eugene A. Cernan, Ronald Evans and Harrison (Jack) Schmitt as the prime crew for Apollo 17, the last scheduled lunar landing mission. Backup crewmen are David A. Scott, Alfred M. Worden, and James B. Irwin, who recently completed the Apollo 15 mission...”.

From The September 23, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 2, **“Films Schedule”**. In part, the article states “Two USSR-produced films, “Lunar 16” and “Lunakhod”, each with a running time of 20 minutes, will be shown for KSC employees beginning Friday, September 24. The schedule of showings is as follows. Friday, September 24 and Monday, September 27—Training auditorium... Tuesday, September 28 and Wednesday, September 29—Firing Room 4, Launch Control Center... Thursday, September 30—ULO Conference Room...”.

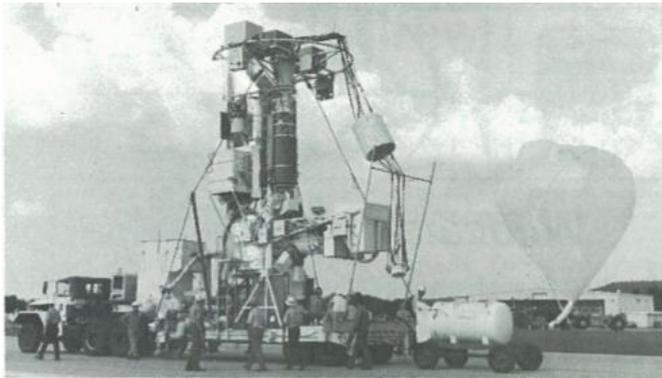
On page 6, **“Turner Likes Lead Test Supervisor Role”**. Part of the article states “Gordon Turner, after serving as a Test Supervisor on each manned mission since Apollo 8, has achieved one of his major goals. He has been selected as the Lead Test Supervisor for Apollo 16. In his new role, Turner will coordinate the efforts of five Test Supervisors who oversee key operations in Firing Room 1 of the LCC...”.

After the successful launch of Apollo 16, Turner said he will enjoy a long period of uninterrupted sleep and then a vacation to pursue his hobby of undersea movie photography... Turner graduated from Ohio State University in 1961 with a degree in Electrical Engineering. After two years with the Martin Company at Cape Kennedy on the Pershing missile project, he entered the government work force in 1963...”



“GORDON TURNER”

Also on page 6.



“STRATOSCOPE II, used to study three celestial targets September 10, is shown as it was being prepared for launch at the Marshall Space Flight Center. Scientists and engineers who operated the telescope during a night-long flight reported that it operated as expected, and a Princeton astronomer described the mission as a success. Some damage to the instrument was incurred on landing, but it will be repaired and reused.”

According to [Wikipedia](#), “...Stratoscope II, a 36-inch (91.4 cm) reflecting telescope, flew from 1963 to 1971...” and “...was managed by NASA as a beginning of its scientific ballooning program led by Nancy Grace Roman. Per [Wikipedia](#), Nancy “...was a noted American astronomer,... the first female executive at NASA... and one of the visionary founders of the US civilian space program...”.

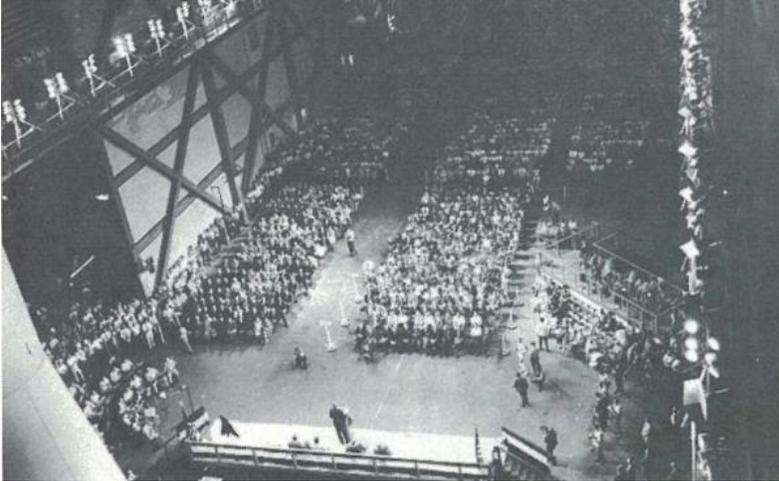
On page 8, “**127-Foot-Tall KSC Skylab Pedestal Completed in VAB**”. A portion of the article states “The 127-foot-tall pedestal designed to adapt the Apollo/Saturn V mobile launcher to the smaller Saturn 1B for use in the Skylab Program has been completed at the Spaceport, announced by Robert C. Hock, Manager of Apollo-Skylab Programs. The pedestal was built after a decision was made to conduct all future manned launches from Launch Complex 39 at the Kennedy Space Center and deactivate Launch Complexes 34 and 37 (LC-34/37)...



“SKYLAB PEDESTAL”

From The October 7, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Crew of Apollo 15 Thanks Spaceport for Good Work**". A part of the article reads "Employees at KSC enthusiastically welcomed the crew of Apollo 15 back to their launch site September 29... In introducing the astronauts, KSC Deputy Director Miles Ross said with all the talent assembled in the VAB (about 5,000 strong), "I think that this is the real Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts"... Center Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus was unable to attend because of an injured hand..."



"KSC EMPLOYEES gathered in the VAB September 29 to welcome back the Apollo 15 crew. Also on hand were Brevard County officials and school children from the northern, central and southern parts of the county. KSC Deputy Director Miles Ross expressed the Center's appreciation for the astronauts return and served as master of ceremonies."



"COMMANDER DAVID SCOTT, Command Module Pilot Alfred Worden and Lunar Module Pilot James Irwin-the crewmen of Apollo 15-display the color photographs presented to them by KSC Launch Operations Director Walter J. Kapryan on behalf of KSC employees."

On page 6, "**KSC Group Studies Saturn Sound Effects**". Part of the article states "Sound waves emitted by the launch of a Saturn V vehicle produce the loudest sustained sound ever created by man. The Saturn blastoff produces a sustained sound pressure level of 174 decibels, the term used to measure sound levels. The theoretical limit of sound pressure level is one atmosphere or 194.1 decibels..."

The Saturn V vehicle causes a tremendous variation in atmospheric pressure at the launch site-greater than one pound per square inch. This is approximately the same as the change noted in barometric pressure during a hurricane... A 12-gauge shotgun produces 165 decibels when fired... Sound from a pneumatic hammer reaches the 125 decibel level, and a loud automobile horn at one meter (39.37 inches) might produce 115 decibels..."



"DAVID R. INGALLS, right, Supervisor of the Acoustic Calibration Laboratory at KSC's Central Instrumentation Facility, conducts a pre-launch test of recording instruments that are used by Information Systems' Measurement Systems Division to measure decibel or noise levels resulting from the blastoff of Saturn V launch vehicles. Wilson R. Timmons, Chief of the Test Analysis Section, observes the results of the test."

From The October 31, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Apollo 16 Activities Here On Schedule, Rollout Dec. 13**". A portion of the article reads "Preparation for rollout of Apollo 16 to Complex 39's Pad A on December 13 continue on schedule. Manned altitude runs to verify readiness of the lunar module and the command/service module are scheduled to be completed this week... With the Apollo 16 launch vehicle fully assembled in High Bay 3 of the VAB, ground power connections to all stages and the instrument unit are installed and launch vehicle electrical integration tests involving electrical, instrumentation, propellant, RF and hydraulic systems have been completed..."

The present Apollo 16 processing schedule provides for mating of the Apollo spacecraft to the Saturn V launch vehicle December 11, two days prior to the scheduled rollout.



“APOLLO 16 Commander John Young enters the lunar module in an altitude chamber in the MSO Building where he and Lunar Module pilot Charles Duke successfully completed a verification run with the chamber pumped down to a simulated altitude of more than 200,000 feet. Command Module Pilot Thomas Mattingly will participate with Young and Duke in the command-service module altitude run.”

On page 6, **“5 Receive NASA Awards in Ceremony At Houston”**. Part of the article reads “Four KSC employees received NASA Exceptional Service Medals and the KSC Staff Meteorology Office received a NASA Group Achievement Award during a recent Apollo 15 award ceremony at the Manned Spacecraft Center.

Receiving Exceptional Service Medals were: -James F. Harrington, III, Launch Operations, who was Test Supervisor for the checkout and launch of Apollo 15. - Norman M. Carlson, Launch Vehicle Operations, who was Launch Vehicle Test Conductor. - Theodore P. Hershey, Information Systems, who directed the collection and reduction of telemetric data and operation of the television data display system during checkout and launch. -Robert B. Sieck, Spacecraft Operations, who was NASA Test Team Leader for checkout of the command and service modules...”.



JAMES HARRINGTON



NORMAN CARLSON



THEODORE HERSHEY



ROBERT SIECK

From The November 4, 1971, Spaceport News

From page 1, **“Exhibits, Rockets Attract 13,000 to Open House”**. A portion of the article reads “More than 13,000 employees and their families visited the Spaceport and Cape Kennedy last Saturday as KSC and the AFETR (Air Force Eastern Test Range) jointly sponsored an Open House. Displays and an opportunity to view the Saturn V launch vehicle scheduled to launch Apollo 16 next March 17 drew large crowds to the VAB... Open House provided a field day for amateur photographers as thousands of cameras were in evidence throughout the Center.

In the MSO Building High Bay, visitors got a good look at a “gee whiz” aspect of the Space Program. On hand was the flight version of the Apollo 16 lunar module, surrounded by strange looking supporting hardware, a decompression chamber and the altitude chambers...”.



On the left, “A YOUNG visitor communicates with a Bendix employee in a SCAPE suit outside the VAB during Open House. The SCAPE suits are worn by employees during toxic fueling operations on the space vehicle.” On the right, “YOUNGSTERS ARE awed by the ILC Industries employee demonstrating how an astronaut suit is used during lunar operations. The scene was in the MSO Building High Bay during Open House.”

On page 8, **“Pete Minderman Goes From Rockets to Orchids”**. In part, the article reads “From rockets to orchids-Peter (Pete) Minderman makes such a trip five days a week. Minderman, Deputy to Technical Support Director Raymond L. Clark, spends his working day arranging for provision of the technical support required in the conducting of all KSC launches and tests, including those at the Air Force Eastern Test Range...

Following work, he returns to the home he designed and built in Winter Park and often devotes the early evening to development of his current favorite hobby-raising orchids in trees on the property around his house and in "light" boxes inside. "I raise the plants only for enjoyment," Minderman states, "and have grown close to 100 plants."

The Assistant Director does not limit his home activities to the growing of orchids, however. He has a woodworking shop in which he has built several pieces of furniture for his home...

He came to Florida in the mid1950's when he was assigned to the Army's Missile Firing Laboratory. Minderman joined NASA in 1960 as coordinator for Centaur and Agena Instrumentation... Minderman is a graduate of Ohio State University...".



"PETE MINDERMAN, Assistant Director of Technical Support, examines an orchid from one of the some 100 plants he grows as a hobby."

From The December 2, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Apollo 16 Rollout Set December 13**". Part of the article reads "Apollo 16 launch preparations are moving at a faster tempo as the rollout date-December 13-approaches... The spacecraft is scheduled for move to the VAB for mating atop the Saturn V launch vehicle in Bay 3 next Wednesday... Ordnance loading is scheduled next Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Rollout will commence a 7 a.m., Monday, December 13..."



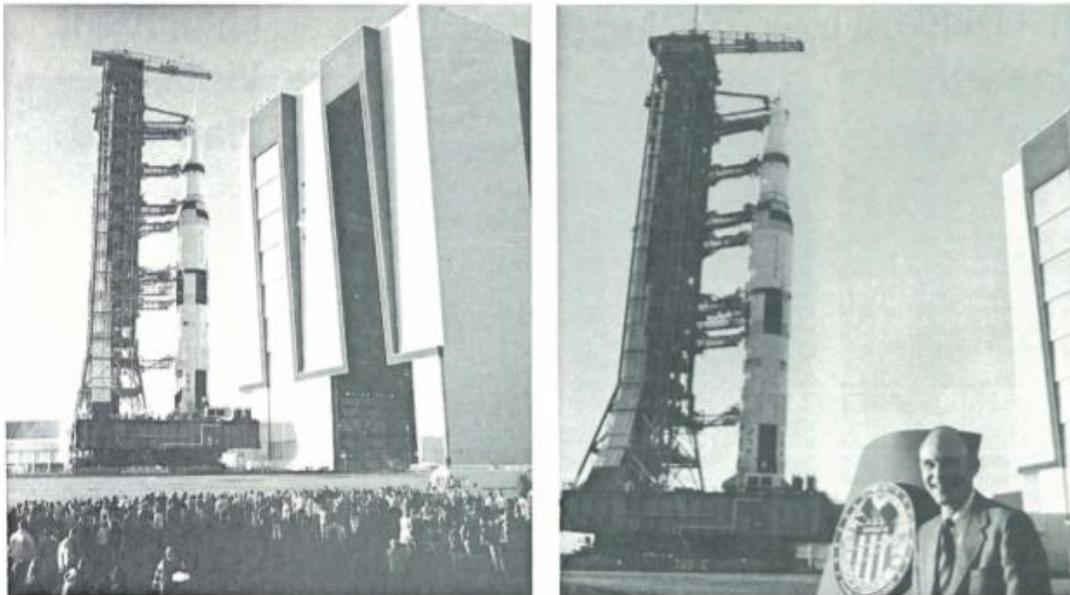
"ULTRAVIOLET CAMERA they will use on the Moon is operated by Apollo 16 LM pilot Charles Duke (left) and Commander John Young during a checkout of lunar module equipment in the MSOB."

Also on page 1, "**KSC Vehicle Service Cut**". A portion of the article states "Shuttle bus service in the Industrial Area, between the Industrial Area and Complex 39, and taxi service on Center were discontinued November 30 as a result of reduction in force instituted by the General Services Administration which provides vehicle support... The reductions at KSC were announced by GSA to Center management in late October.

At that time, GSA proposed to separate 49 employees including all 34 drivers, plus management, administrative and maintenance personnel to a total of 49. Faced with a sudden impairment in transportation which would impact daily operations, although GSA is fully reimbursed by KSC for all services, the Center vigorously protested the action to NASA. Through representations to the Office of Management and Budget, NASA and GSA were successful in obtaining modifications of the reduction. As modified, GSA reduced staffing at KSC from slightly over 100 to 67. Shuttle bus service at LC 39 and transportation support for official visitors were retained.

From The December 16, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Apollo 16 Rolls Out to Pad A For Final Checkout and Launch**". A portion of the article reads "The KSC launch team rolled out the Apollo 16 space vehicle from the VAB to Pad A Dec. 13... KSC Deputy Director Miles Ross welcomed the estimated 10,000 guests viewing the rollout... "This is a very historic event." Ross said... Ross then introduced Apollo 16 Command Module Pilot Ken Mattingly... Mattingly described the rollout as an "extremely impressive sight..."



On the left, "SOME 10,000 GUESTS VIEW FIRST BREAKAWAY". On the right, "COMMAND MODULE PILOT KEN MATTINGLY".

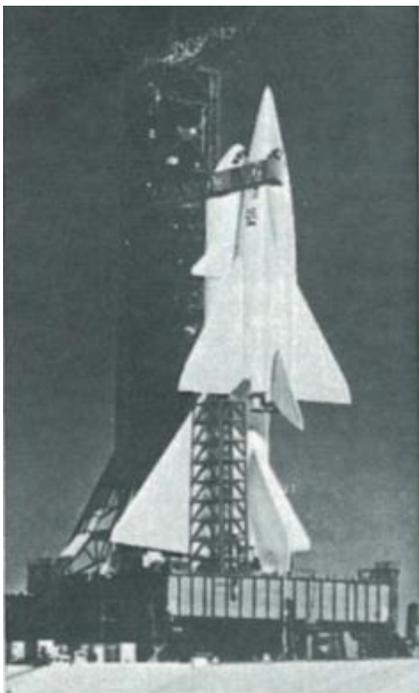
On page 6, **Various Space Shuttle Concepts Being Studied for NASA**. Various illustrations are shown, several of which are below.



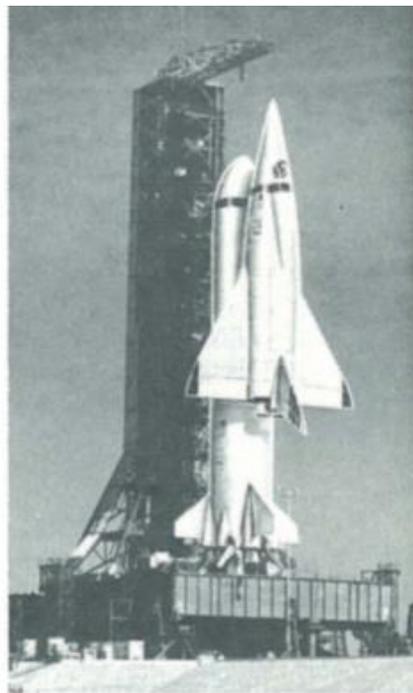
RS-1C flyable S-1C Booster, H-33 shuttle concept.



ARTIST concept of Grumman design for shuttle and S-1C stage.



CONCEPT by North American Rockwell of shuttle on pad.



DRAWING of shuttle with interim core booster.

On page 1.



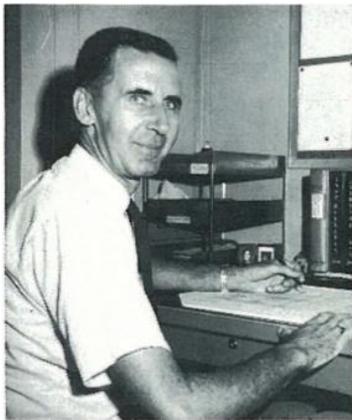
"HELPING DECORATE the living Christmas tree in front of the KSC Headquarters Building are Phyllis Gallahue, Dolores Williams, Darleen Hunt, Sharon Beyersdorf, Diana Boles and Nancy Acuna."

From the December 30, 1971, Spaceport News

On page 5.

Inquiring Photographer

***What Are Your Resolutions,
Hopes for the Coming Year?***



JOHN W. MITCHELL, North American Rockwell: Freeing of prisoners in North Vietnam.



TRUDI JOHNSON, NASA: Try to give more consideration to other people's feelings.



M. A. BOYNTON, Boeing: Be nicer to people.